Sunday, December 3rd: Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
   Outreach Committee “Athletic Socks & Blankets donations”
   (donations of new socks & gently used blankets accepted throughout December)

Wednesday, December 6th: Ladies Society Christmas Party at La Familia Restaurant

Sunday, December 10th: Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
   40 Day Memorial Service for George Matook
   Choir Appreciation Sunday
   Outreach Meeting during Coffee Hour

Tuesday, December 12th: 7:00P.M. - Parish Council Meeting

Sunday, December 17th: Sunday of the Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ
   Church School Pageant at the Parish Center
   12:00pm-12:30pm Outreach Committee ‘Soup Kitchen’

Sunday, December 24th: Sunday before the Nativity (Genealogy)
   10am: Divine Liturgy
   6pm: Nativity Eve Liturgy

Monday, December 25th: The Nativity of Christ (Christmas)

Saturday, December 30th: Movie Night a the Parish Center (Church School & Teens)

Sunday, December 31st: Sunday Before Theophany
   8pm-1am – New Year’s Eve Hafli at the Parish Center

Upcoming events:

**Annual Meeting- Please note date change from prior year**

Sunday, January 28th, 2018: Annual Meeting at the Parish Center following Liturgy

Sunday, February 4th, 2018: “Souper” Bowl Sunday Luncheon (soups, salad, bread)
We welcome our Visitors & Guests: Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor Card. We invite you to join us for coffee hour at the Parish Center following Liturgy.

Receiving Communion: Only those Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves may approach the chalice for Holy Communion. Everyone is welcome to partake of the Holy Bread after the Liturgy.

**Please feel free to contact Salwa Khoury at (401)434-8877 / stkhoury@cox.net or any member of the Parish Council with any questions or concerns**

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**Parish Christmas Poinsettia Fund**

In anticipation of Christmas, we present our very important “Poinsettia Fund” Project

Please accept my donation of $______ to be used in decorating the Church for Christmas. This donation is made with the following intentions:

For the Good Health and Blessing of: _____________________________

In Loving Memory of: _____________________________

From: ___________________________________________________________________________

Please remember to return the form to the Parish Office by Sunday, Dec. 10th
Christmas Blessings

Once again the holiday season is upon us, and, once again, it is time to start thinking about sending Christmas cards to those with whom we worship and love. Every year the choir sponsors a card which is sent to every family in our parish - sending your best wishes for a happy and blessed Christmas and New Year.

This letter is to ensure that all parish members are approached and have an opportunity to participate in the Christmas card being prepared - we do not wish to overlook anyone!

Below is a form, which you may complete and submit - either in person or by mail - containing your family name and your holiday greetings. Your holiday wishes will be sent to all parishioners. This is a wonderful way to be remembered by our community during this busy season - it is also an inexpensive and easy way to have your card sent to all your friends and relatives. All proceeds go into the choir fund, which is our only source of revenue to continue to upgrade our supplies and continue to provide you with meaningful liturgical music.

In order to be listed in this year's card, your response must be received no later than Sunday, December 3rd. If there are any questions, or if you wish to give your response and donation in person, please contact the church office.

Thank you for helping us in this endeavor. All of us in the choir sincerely appreciate your continued support and look forward to serving you in the coming year.

Family Name____________________________________________
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________
Amount of Donation:_______________________________________

Please remember
~LAST DATE TO SUBMIT INFORMATION AND DONATION IS DECEMBER 3RD!

By mail, send to St. Mary Orthodox Church, Choir Christmas Fund,
249 High Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860

THE EPISTLE

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (5:8-19)

Brethren, walk as children of light— for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true—and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it is said, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light.” Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:35-43)

At that time, when Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” And he cried, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?” He said, “Lord, let me receive my sight.” And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.
**One Year Memorial Service**

A One Year Memorial Service is being offered for the servant of God Sami Saad and is being offered by the Saad Family. Coffee hour will be offered in his memory following Liturgy.

**PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:**

Kevin Hashway  
Mark Hashway  
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur  
Edward & Lillian Betor  
Paul & Kerrie Betor  
Thomas & Lynn Marcotte  
Matthew & Adrienne Dykstra  
Peter Marcotte  
Laurice Zambie  
William & LaVerne Ameen  
Great-Grandchildren Daniel, Rose & Joelle Dykstra  
Offered by: Edward & Lillian Betor

Fred Kilsey  
Offered by the Outreach Committee

Fred Kilsey  
Saad Family  
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

Fred Shwaery  
Offered by: Nora Abdelahad  
Sandy Matook  
Elaine Agaty

Fouad E Khaouli & Family  
Offered by: Sandra Matook

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Fred Hashway Jr.  
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur  
Sami Saad  
Offered by: Saad Family  
Ameen and Nayfey Sabath  
Petros and Afife Betor  
Helen Betor  
Fred Sabath  
Fred “Fritzie and Jimmy Sabath  
Offered by: Edward & Lillian Betor

Sami Saad  
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

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**LADIES’ CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**DECEMBER 6th AT 6 O’CLOCK**

**LA FAMILIA RESTAURANT**

1666 DIAMOND HILL ROAD, CUMBERLAND, RI

**PRICE: $40 (INCLUDES TIP)- CHECKS MADE OUT TO:**

**ST. MARY CHURCH ~ LADIES’ SOCIETY**

~Do not forget your $10 Yankee Swap~

PLEASE FILL OUT FORM ATTACHED FOR CHOICE OF ENTRÉE WITH YOUR CHECK AND RETURN TO MARLENE SAMRA BY NOVEMBER 29, 2017.

_____ SPINACH RAVIOLI  
_____ BAKED STUFFED SHRIMP  
_____ CHIPOTLE MAPLE GLAZED SALMON  
_____ PLAIN GRILLED SALMON

**NAME:**

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Special Prayers of Good Health & Blessing are being offered for seniors 80 and older. May God grant them many more years!  

Offered by:  
The Outreach Committee
The Parish Council has decided to implement a new system to organize our coffee hours. There are two ways to handle this: when a couple, family, or an individual decides to sponsor the coffee hour, you may do it on your own which entails purchasing the pastry & juice, making the coffee, setting up the table, and cleaning up. The second option is to donate $200 to the church so that a Parish Council member will handle the coffee hour on your behalf.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sponsored by</th>
<th>Sponsored for</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 3, 2017</td>
<td>Dani Saad</td>
<td>Memory of his Sami Saad (1 year Memorial)</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 10, 2017</td>
<td>Sandra Matook &amp; Family</td>
<td>George Matook (40 Day Memorial)</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 17, 2017</td>
<td>St. Mary Church</td>
<td>Sunday School Pageant</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 24, 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 31, 2017</td>
<td>not available</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 7, 2018</td>
<td>Ghassan &amp; Fifi Alarmani</td>
<td>Health of Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 14, 2018</td>
<td>Fred Kilsey</td>
<td>Memory of Michelle Kilsey</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 28, 2018</td>
<td>St. Mary Church</td>
<td>Annual Parish Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 4, 2018</td>
<td>St. Mary Church</td>
<td>“Souper” Bowl Sunday Luncheon</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 11, 2018</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>February 18, 2018</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
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<td>February 25, 2018</td>
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<td>March 4, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 11, 2018</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 18, 2018</td>
<td>The Karam Family</td>
<td>Georges Karam (1 Year Memorial )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 25, 2018</td>
<td>Nora Matook &amp; Family</td>
<td>Leon T. Matook (10 Year Memorial)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Memory of the Deceased Members of Toofik &amp; Elizabeth Matook Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 1, 2018</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td>Palm Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 8, 2018</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td>PASCHA</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 15, 2018</td>
<td>Sam Matook &amp; Family</td>
<td>Kay Matook (1 Year Memorial)</td>
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<td>April 22, 2018</td>
<td>John &amp; Anita Chamooun</td>
<td>Wajeha Chamooun (1 Year Memorial)</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 29, 2018</td>
<td>William Salhany &amp; Family</td>
<td>Memory of Ruth Salhany</td>
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<td>May 6, 2018</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
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<td>May 13, 2018</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 20, 2018</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 27, 2018</td>
<td>Their Loving Family</td>
<td>Memory of Fred &amp; Sophie Hallal</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

There are still many open dates to sponsor a coffee hour. Either call the church office, or see Mirna or Walid Nakhou on Sunday after Liturgy.

Please consider sponsoring a coffee hour.
Happy Birthday to everyone who has a birthday during the month of December!

Nicole Baalbaki
Noelle Arrighi
Barbara Moussalli
Mary Jane Wehbe
Francis Fitzpatrick

Patricia Kilsey
Maria Amirhom
Mike Jeha
Joanne Jeha
Elie Karam

Nabil Khoury
Alexandra Ganim
Naji Karam
Claudine Wehbe

**if you have a December birthday and do not see your name– we do not have it in our database– please email or call the church office to have you and your family members added.**

Arabic Food & Pastry Sale

On Saturday, December 9th there will be a food sale at the Parish Center from 9am-1pm. Both Arabic food & pastry will be for sale. Arabic Foods available are: Sfeeha, grape leaves, kibbe, cheese. Arabic Pastries available are: date fingers, mamoul nuts, apricot cresents, rolled baklava, dates in filo dough, round kaik. Get ready for the holidays!

Visitations
Please contact Fr. Elie or Salwa Khoury with any names of parishioners that are in need of visitation either at home, in hospital or nursing homes.

St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church
Come and celebrate your New Year with us!!!
Featuring the dynamic singer Koko and his band.

Dinner & cash bar
Bring in the New Year with a Champagne Toast
Sunday, December 31st 2017 @ 8:00 pm

St. Mary Parish Center at:
1 St. Mary Way, Pawtucket, RI

Tickets: Adults: $75.00
Children: $25.00 (under 17)

For Tickets and Reservations, please contact:
Fr. Elie Estephan: (240) 205-9079, elieruba@gmail.com.
Tony Kabak: (401) 744-6317, fadiakabak@verizon.net.

**Deadline for tickets is December 10th**