

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, March 18th: Fourth Sunday of Lent (John Climacus)
One Year Memorial Service for Georges Karam
Outreach Committee 'Soup Kitchen' 12:00-12:30pm

Tuesday, March 20th: 7:00 P.M.– Service of Great Compline at St. Mary Church

Wednesday, March 21st: 7:00 P.M.- Pre-Sanctified Liturgy at St. Mary Church

Thursday, March 22nd: 7:00 P.M.– Service of Great Compline at St. Mary Church

Friday, March 23rd: 7:00 P.M.- Akathyst Hymn at St. Mary Church followed by
Potluck Dinner at Parish Center hosted by the Ladies Society

Sunday, March 25th: Annunciation for the Theotokos with Bishop JOHN presiding
Antiochian Women Fish Luncheon following Liturgy
10 year Memorial Service for Leon Matook

Saturday, March 31st: 10:00 Liturgy for Lazarus Saturday
Breakfast hosted by Church School following Liturgy

Sunday, April 1st: Palm Sunday
8:50 A.M.– Orthros
10:00 A.M.– Divine Liturgy and Procession with Palms
6:30 P.M.– Bridegroom Service

Monday, April 2nd: Great and Holy Monday
6:30 P.M.– Bridegroom Service

Tuesday, April 3rd: Great and Holy Tuesday
6:30 P.M.– Bridegroom Service

Wednesday, April 4th: Great and Holy Wednesday
6:00 P.M.– Sacrament of Holy Unction

Thursday, April 5th: Great and Holy Thursday
10:00 A.M.– Divine Liturgy
6:30 P.M.– Service of the Twelve Passion Gospels

Friday, April 6th: Great and Holy Friday
10:00 A.M.– Royal Hours
11:00 A.M.– Great Vespers of the Taking Down of the Cross
Church School Good Friday Retreat
6:30 P.M.– Service of the Lamentations and Procession

Saturday, April 7th: Great and Holy Saturday
10:00 A.M.– Divine Liturgy
11:00 P.M.– Rush Service



SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



Sunday, March 18, 2018

Fourth Sunday of Great Lent

Saint Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church
"A parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America"

249 High Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860
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**His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York
& Metropolitan of all North America**

**His Grace Bishop JOHN, Auxiliary and Bishop of the
Diocese of Worcester and New England**

V. Rev. Father Elie Estephan
Cell- 1-(240) 205-9079

Sub-Deacon Chadi Saad & Sub-Deacon Emad Amirhom

Schedule of Services

<i>Sunday: Orthros (Matins)</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Church School</i>	<i>11:15 a.m.</i>
<i>Sunday: Divine Liturgy</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>

*Enter in Quietness, Rest in Prayer,
Worship in Reverence, Depart in Peace to Serve*

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.



Prayer Line

St. Mary ~ Internet Prayer Line
Prayer requests can be sent to us via the internet at
office@stmarypawtucket.org

All requests must be received by Wednesday noon to be included in that week's bulletin.
Any requests received after that time will be included in the following week's bulletin.

Orthodox Vocabulary

Justice

Justice: the word justice usually evokes notions of law, with appropriate punishment if the law is not obeyed. For Christians, the juridical aspect is not the most important, because the justice of God is primarily love and mercy. "Faith and love united: this is a brief phrase which summarizes all justice" (St Irenaeus).

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On March 18 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our father among the saints Cyril, patriarch of Jerusalem; Martyrs Trophymos and Eukarpos of Nicomedia and those with them; Nikolai (Velimirovic), bishop of Zhicha who labored in America.

On this same day, the Fourth Sunday of Great Lent, we make remembrance of our godly father, John, the author of *The Ladder of Divine Ascent* (or Climacus).

Verses

*John, dead in the flesh and also living,
Liveth eternally, even though appearing dead and without breath.
Leaving letters, a ladder for the journey upwards,
He showeth forth his pursuit of the journey upwards.*

The celebration of his feast on this day arose from the custom prevalent in the honorable monasteries of starting Great Lent with the reading of his lessons. John describes the method of elevating the soul to God as ascending a ladder. He teaches those who seek salvation how to lay a firm foundation for struggles, how to detect and fight every passion, how to avoid demonic snares, and how to rise from the rudimental virtues to the heights of Godlike love and humility. John of the Ladder came to Mount Sinai at age 16 and remained there, first as a novice under obedience, then as a recluse, and finally as abbot until his eightieth year. One time, his disciple, Moses, fell asleep under the shade of a large stone. John, in prayer in his cell, saw that his disciple was in danger and prayed to God for him. Later, when Moses returned, he fell on his knees and gave thanks to his spiritual father for saving him from certain death. He related how, in a dream, he heard John calling him and he jumped up and, at that moment, the stone tumbled. Had he not jumped, the stone would have crushed him. John Climacus died on March 30, 606.

Through his intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.



GREAT LENT 2018

February 19th ~ April 8th (Holy Pascha)



What is Lent?

Prayer † Fasting † Acts of Mercy



Liturgical Supplies and Offerings for Lent

During Great Lent the Church offers an intensified schedule of Divine Services and Prayers. Donations are being sought from the faithful for the many extra Liturgical Supplies needed for the Holy Season. These offerings include candles, wine, oil, incense, bread, service books, music and printed materials. Please earmark your donations and offerings "Liturgical Supplies." Along with these offerings, bring also yourselves to pray the beautiful Lenten Services.

Palm Sunday Candles

Decorated candles are available for purchase (boys/girls) for Palm Sunday. The cost is \$20. If you would like to purchase one, please see Walid Nakhoul during coffee hour.

Lent 2018 Diocese of Worcester and New England

Bishop JOHN and the clergy invite you to join us each Monday evening of the fast:

- ♦ Monday, March 19th– St. Saint John of Damascus, Dedham, 7:00 pm
- ♦ Monday, March 26th– St. George Cathedral, Worcester, 6:30 pm

RI Orthodox Clergy Fellowship Services- Great Lent 2018

~Open to All~ - 5PM- **Sunday Evenings**

Sunday March 18 - St. John's - Woonsocket, RI
501 East School Street / 401-766-3343
Preacher – Fr Demetrios Panteloukas - Norwich, CT

Sunday March 25 - St. Mary / Mena - Cranston (Hope, RI)
2433 Scituate Avenue / 401-864-7111
Preacher – Fr Samuel Hana - Boston, MA

Fourth Sunday of Great Lent

Tone 8 / Eothinon 8

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION: Tone 8

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. JOHN CLIMACUS : Tone 8

The barren wilderness thou didst make fertile with the streams of thy tears; and by thy deep sighing thou hast given fruit through thy struggles a hundredfold. Accordingly, thou hast become a star for the universe, sparkling with miracles. Therefore, O righteous Father John Climacus, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

TROPARION OF THE DORMITION: Tone 1

In giving birth, Thou didst keep Thy virginity and in thy repose, Thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos, for Thou art the mother of life, and Thou didst pass over into life; and through thy intercession from death Thou dost redeem our souls.

KONTAKION FOR THE ANNUNCIATION (AND GREAT LENT): Tone 8

To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror; but as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free: from all forms of danger free me and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: Hail, O Bride without bridegroom.



THE EPISTLE

The Lord will give strength to His people. The Lord will bless His people with peace.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (6:13-20)

Brethren, when God made a promise to Abraham, since He had no one greater by whom to swear, He swore by Himself, saying, “Surely I will bless you and multiply you.” And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by one greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of His purpose, He interposed with an oath. So that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (9:16-30)

At that time, a man came to Jesus, kneeling down and saying unto him, “Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked Thy Disciples to cast it out, and they were not able.” And Jesus answered them, “O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to Me.” And they brought the boy to Him; and when the spirit saw Jesus, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, “How long has he had this?” And he said, “From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if Thou canst do anything, have pity on us and help us.” And Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.” Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!” And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again.” And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, “He is dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when Jesus had entered the house, His Disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” And Jesus said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting.” They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And Jesus would not have anyone know it; for He was teaching His Disciples, saying to them, “The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him; and after He is killed, He will rise on the third day.”



One Year Memorial Service



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

May God grant him peace and may his memory be eternal.

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

Kevin Hashway
Mark Hashway
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Elie, Julia & Naji Karam
Offered by: John, Anita, Reyna &
Anthony Chamoun

Elie, Julia & Naji Karam
Offered by: Bassam, Pauline, Jordan &
Alex Khabbaz

The Karam Family
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

William & Louise Osborn & Family
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

Bill & Louise Osborn & Family
Evan Hallal
Offered by: Lorice Hallal

John Al-Amir
George Al-Amir
Julia Al-Amir
Offered by: Radwan & Rowida Al-Amir

William & Louise Osborn
Gary & Christina Grone
Frank & Johnna Ceroicione
David & Tina Barbar & Family
Offered by: Julia Vale

Nylah Trabulsi
Offered by: Ray, Leila & Tom Trabulsi



IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Fred Hashway Jr.
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Georges Karam
Offered by: John, Anita, Reyna &
Anthony Chamoun

Georges Karam
Offered by: Bassam, Pauline, Jordan &
Alex Khabbaz

Georges Karam
Offered by: Samy & Helen Morcos

Georges Karam
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

William Osborn Jr.
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

William Osborn Jr.
Offered by: Lorice Hallal

William Osborn Jr.
Toofik & Elizabeth Matook & their Families
Offered by: Julia Vale

Sacrament of Confessions

Great Lent is the season to “Open the Gates of Repentance”. The faithful are encouraged to enter into the sacrament of confession during the Forty-Day Fast. Confessions can be made before or after Divine Services, or by special appointment with the Priest.