

## CHURCH CALENDAR

**Sunday, December 16th:** Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ  
Church School Pageant & Luncheon  
Outreach Committee 'Soup Kitchen' 12:00-12:30pm

**Wednesday, December 19th:** 7:00 P.M.– Adult Bible Studay

**Sunday, December 23rd:** Sunday before the Nativity (Genealogy)

**Monday, December 24th:** 4:00 P.M.– Matins

5:00 P.M.- Liturgy of John Chrysostom

**Tuesday, December 25th:** Christmas Day (church office closed)

**Saturday, December 29th:** Church School Parent/Teach get-together at the Parish Center

**Sunday, December 30th:** Sunday after the Nativity

**Monday, December 31st:** 5:00P.M.– Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

New Year's Eve

8pm-1am– New Year's Eve Pot Luck Gathering

**Tuesday, January 1st:** New Year's Day (church office closed)

### Upcoming events:

**January 27, 2019:** Annual Parish Meeting

**February 16, 2019:** Hafli 8pm-1am

**February 10, 2019:** "Souper Bowl" Luncheon hosted by the Outreach Committee



# Keep Christ in Christmas



Our Creator already rules, at the beginning and the end of our lives; why not allow Him to rule our entire lives from start to end? He is the Master of birth and death; may He rule over all the time between birth and death.

~St. Nikolai Velimovich



## SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



*Sunday, December 16, 2018*

**Sunday of the Forefathers  
(Ancestors) of Christ**

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

249 High Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860  
Phone (401) 726-1202 Fax: (401) 729-1203  
Parish Center Phone (401) 725-5150  
Web site: <http://stmarypawtucket.org>  
Email: [office@stmarypawtucket.org](mailto:office@stmarypawtucket.org)

**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 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](mailto: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.

**THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)**

On December 16 in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate the holy and glorious Prophet Haggai; Theophania the empress; and Modestos, archbishop of Jerusalem. On this day we celebrate the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers (Ancestors) of our Lord Jesus.

***Verses***

*Receive joy, O Forefathers which lived aforetime,  
As now ye behold at hand Christ the Messiah.  
Be glad, O Abraham, for thou art shown to be the forefather of Christ.*

We remember all the holy Patriarchs of the Old Testament who prefigured or foretold Christ: Adam the first Father, Enoch, Melchizedek, Abraham, the friend of God, Isaac, the fruit of the Promise, Jacob and the twelve patriarchs. We then commemorate those who lived under the Law: Moses, Aaron, Joshua, Samuel, David, and the Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel; the twelve minor prophets; Elijah, Elisha, Zachariah, and John the Baptist; and finally the Virgin Mary, the intermediary between mankind and her divine Son. Indeed, the Lord Jesus did not come to abolish the Law and the Prophets, but to redeem humanity which bemoaned the weight of evil since Adam; to realize the promise made to Abraham; to change the Law of Fear into the Law of Love; and to give Resurrection and Life to mankind. This feast prepares us for the Nativity of Jesus Christ, placing before us the anticipation and hope for His coming among us.

*By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O God, have mercy upon us. Amen.*



**Antiochian Village Winter Family Camp**

Antiochian Village Winter Family Camp program to be held January 18-21 (MLK Jr. weekend), 2019! It is a wonderful opportunity for families to spend a weekend growing closer to Christ together. Please visit [avcamp.org](http://avcamp.org) to register. Please feel free to contact us at (724)-238-9565 or e-mail [office@avcamp.org](mailto:office@avcamp.org). (optional snowtubing)

## Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

### Liturgical Schedule 2018

**Sunday, December 16th:** Church School Nativity Pageant following Liturgy & Luncheon hosted by The Order of St. Ignatius

**Monday, December 24th:** 10:00 A.M.-Royal Hours

4:00 P.M.- Matins

5:00 P.M.- Liturgy of John Chrysostom

**Monday, December 31st:** 5:00P.M.- Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

**\*\*Note: From Christmas Day until January 6th inclusive, there is a general dispensation from all fasting\*\***



### Arabic Liturgy

Arabic Liturgy is being offered the first Saturday of each month at 6:00 P.M. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

### Visitations

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

“St. Mary's phone app coming soon!  
Stay tuned for more details...”

## THE EPISTLE

*Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.  
For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Colossians. (3:4-11)**

Brethren, when Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

## THE GOSPEL

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (14:16-24)**

The Lord spoke this parable: “A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come; for all is now ready.’ But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.’ And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”





# Sunday of the Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ

*Tone: 4 Eothinon: 7*

## **APOLYTIKION OF THE RESURRECTION: Tone 4**

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

## **APOLYTIKION OF THE FOREFATHERS: Tone 2**

Thou hast justified by faith the ancient Forefathers, and through them Thou hast gone before and betrothed unto Thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory; for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and it was she who gave birth to Thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.

## **APOLYTIKION OF THE DORMITION: Tone 1**

In thy birth-giving, O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling-asleep thou hast not forsaken the world; for thou wast translated into life, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore, by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

## **KONTAKION OF PREPARATION OF CHRISTS NATIVITY: Tone 3**

*(\*\*The original melody\*\*)*

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to \* God the Word ineffably, \* Who was before all the ages. \* Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing \* the gladsome tidings; \* with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him \* Who is willing to be gazed on \* as a young Child Who \* before the ages is God.

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

Kevin Hashway  
Mark Hashway  
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

George & Lois Kilsey & Family  
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

George & Lois Kilsey  
Offered by: Ron & Janice Hallal

Samra Family  
Marshall Family  
Lorice Hallal  
Barbara Samra  
Sandra Conca  
Pappas Family  
Julia Vale  
Mary Massiwer

Charlotte & Yacoub Mitri  
Sue Ayoub  
George & Lois Kilsey & Family  
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Nabil & Salwa Khoury  
Offered by: A Friend

George & Lois Kilsey & Family  
Audrey, Wayne & Deborah Kilsey  
Nabil & Salwa Khoury  
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

Mary Massiwer  
Julia Vale  
Salwa Khoury  
William Osborne & Family  
Joe & Marlene Samra  
George & Lois Kilsey & Family  
Offered by: Elaine Gauthier

Julia Vale  
Nabil & Salwa Khoury  
Jacob & Charlotte Mitri  
Offered by: Joe & Marlene Samra  
George & Lois Kilsey  
Offered by: Linda Dvelis



Joe Samra  
Offered by: Samy & Helen Morcos

Samaan Family  
Offered by: Hadeel Samaan

## **IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Fred Hashway Jr.  
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Camelia Koury  
Offered by: Ray & Leila Trabulsi

Mary Masry  
Camelia Koury  
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

Camelia Koury  
Offered by: Ron & Janice Hallal

Camelia Koury  
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Mary Masry  
Offered by: Samy & Helen Morcos

John Swistak  
Camelia Koury  
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

Louise Osborne  
Camelia Koury  
Offered by: Elaine Gauthier

Camelia Koury  
Offered by: Linda Dvelis

