Coffee Hour Sponsorships

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 2, 2018</td>
<td>Lisa Ayoub-Parent</td>
<td>The health of her parents- Ed &amp; Sue Ayoub</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 9, 2018</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td>Choir Appreciation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 16, 2018</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td>Church School Pageant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 23, 2018</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 30, 2018</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 6, 2019</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 13, 2019</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 20, 2019</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 27, 2019</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td>Annual Parish Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 3, 2019</td>
<td>Geoff Ayoub</td>
<td>Memory of Naseem Ayoub (5 Years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 10, 2019</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td>Outreach Committee Luncheon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 17, 2019</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 24, 2019</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 3, 2019</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 10, 2019</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 17, 2019</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 24, 2019</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td>Antiochian Women Fish Dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31, 2019</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 7, 2019</td>
<td>Ed &amp; Sue Ayoub</td>
<td>Health of Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 14, 2019</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
<td>Palm Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 21, 2019</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td>PASCHA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 28, 2019</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td>Memory of Don Hayes (12 years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 5, 2019</td>
<td>Cindy Hayes</td>
<td>Charitable Gift Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 12, 2019</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 19, 2019</td>
<td>Open for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 26, 2019</td>
<td>not available</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 Nakhoul on Sunday after Liturgy.

Please consider sponsoring a coffee hour.

SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday, December 2, 2018

Upcoming events:
- December 2nd: LaSalette Shrine outing (church school) at 5pm
- December 8th: Choir Concert (in Arabic & English)
- December 9th: Choir Appreciation Day
- December 12th: Ladies Christmas Party at Twin Oaks
- December 16th: Christmas Pageant & Luncheon
- December 24th: Christmas Liturgy at 5pm
- December 31st: New Years Eve Pot-Luck Gathering (Parish Center)

LADIES’ CHRISTMAS PARTY
DECEMBER 12 AT 6 O’CLOCK
TWIN OAKS RESTAURANT
100 SABRA STREET, CRANSTON, RI
COME JOIN US FOR A FUN NIGHT OF CAMARADERIE

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 PATRICIA KILSEY OR MARLENE SAMRA BY TODAY.

Baked Scrod w/seafood dressing
Baked Stuffed Shrimp (5 pcs)
Eggplant Parmesan

NAME: ___________________ PAID: __________
Happy Birthday to everyone who has a birthday during the month of December!

Nicole Baalbaki  Noelle Arrighi  Barbara Moussalli
Mary Jane Wehbe  Patricia Kilsey  Maria Amirhom
Joanne Jeha  Mike Jeha  Nabil Khoury
Alexandra Ganim  Naji Karam  Claudine Wehbe
Francis Fitzpatrick  Elie Karam

**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 Liturgy

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

Arabic pastry will be available for purchase during coffee hour.
(date fingers, apricot crescents, graybee, rolled baklava-walnut, rolled baklava-pistachio, rolled baklava-- dates)

Orthodox Vocabulary

Sacrament

Sacrament: the possibility of “belonging to Christ,” of “participating in divine life,” is essentially revealed in the sacraments. These are ritual acts, aspects of the unique mystery which is the Church, in which God shares divine life with humanity, ransoming man from sin and death. The sacraments, as well as all liturgical celebrations, are not, and should not become, refuges from life, religious acts performed in the “spiritual” domain and totally cut off from daily life. The sacraments (mysteria in Greek) are acts of the Holy Spirit which unite humanity to Christ; they are thus privileged moments in our personal relationship with God, moments which create a vital link between him and us. The chief sacraments are: baptism, chrismation, the eucharist, repentance (with confession and absolution), and laying on of hands (ordination), marriage, and the anointing of the sick.

What are we to do then, my friends? We must bestow our love on our brothers and sisters. We must not allow any malice at all to remain in our hearts. May almighty God have regard for our love of our neighbor, so that He may pardon our iniquities! Remember what He taught us: Forgive, and you will be forgiven. People are in debt to us, and us to them. Let us forgive them their debts, so that what we owe them may be forgiven.

~St. Gregory the Great

Strong faith in a man’s heart both requires and produces prayer, and a prayer life of many years produces love. The goal of our life is nothing other than cleansing our heart to such an extent that it is able to sing with joy. Thus, prayer of the heart leads to joy of the heart. Nothing is difficult for a joyful person, because he has love.

~Elder Thaddeus of Vitounica
Visitations

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

Bulletin Submissions

Please help us provide a quality weekly bulletin by submitting all prayer requests and announcements to the church office by Noon on Wednesdays. Any requests received after this time will be in the following week’s bulletin. Thank you for your cooperation.

NEW YEAR’S EVE POTLUCK GATHERING

Join us for a wonderful New Year’s Eve Potluck gathering being held at the Parish Center on Monday, December 31st from 8pm-1am.

Bring in the New Year with a fun filled night of music, dancing, food, family & friends.

More info to follow….

St. Mary Church School & Teen SOYO News

Attention All Parents: Please bring your children to the Liturgy before Church School. Church School starts every Sunday following communion (Approx. 11:15am)

Looking ahead:
Sunday, December 2nd: Trip to La Salette-5pm
December 15th: Christmas Pageant Rehearsal in the Church Hall– 10am
December 16th: Christmas Pageant & Luncheon

Come see the lights and sights of La Salette Shrine with all your Sunday School friends! All families welcome to this FREE event. We will meet at the front gate at 5pm and walk around together. Plan to leave ample time to find parking, it can get crowded quickly.

The Church School Christmas Pageant will be held on Sunday, December 16th at the Parish Center following Liturgy.

A Complimentary Luncheon will be graciously hosted by The Order of St. Ignatius following the Pageant. The menu will include: Spinach Pies, Zaater Pie, Meatless Kibbee balls, Salad, Cheese Pies, Pizza, Eggplant Parmigiana Sandwiches.

Everyone is invited & encouraged to attend to support our Church School Children in their Pageant Performance.

Hat, Glove & Scarf Donations

The Outreach Committee is looking for donations of hats, gloves & scarfs (children & adult sizes) to be distributed to families from our “Soup Kitchen” outreach project. Please bring them to the Parish Center during Coffee Hour. Thank you!!
Christmas Greetings  
Christ is Born, Glorify Him!

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 9th. 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.

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Family Name______________________________________________
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________

Amount of Donation:_______________________________________

Please remember
~LAST DATE TO SUBMIT INFORMATION AND DONATION IS DECEMBER 9TH!

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

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2018 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. 9th