

CHURCH CALENDAR

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

2019:

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

Saturday, January 5th: 6:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy

Sunday, January 6th: Ladies Meeting during Coffee Hour at the Parish Center

Sunday, January 13th: Outreach Meeting during Coffee Hour at the Parish Center

Sunday, January 20th: Stewardship Sunday

Outreach Committee 'Soup Kitchen' 12:00-12:30pm

Monday, January 21st: 7:00 P.M.– Parish Council Meeting **note date change**

Sunday, January 27th: Annual Parish Meeting

Sunday, February 10th: "Souper Bowl" Luncheon hosted by the Outreach Committee

February 16th: Hafli 8pm-1am

Sunday, February 17th: Outreach Committee 'Soup Kitchen' 12:00-12:30pm

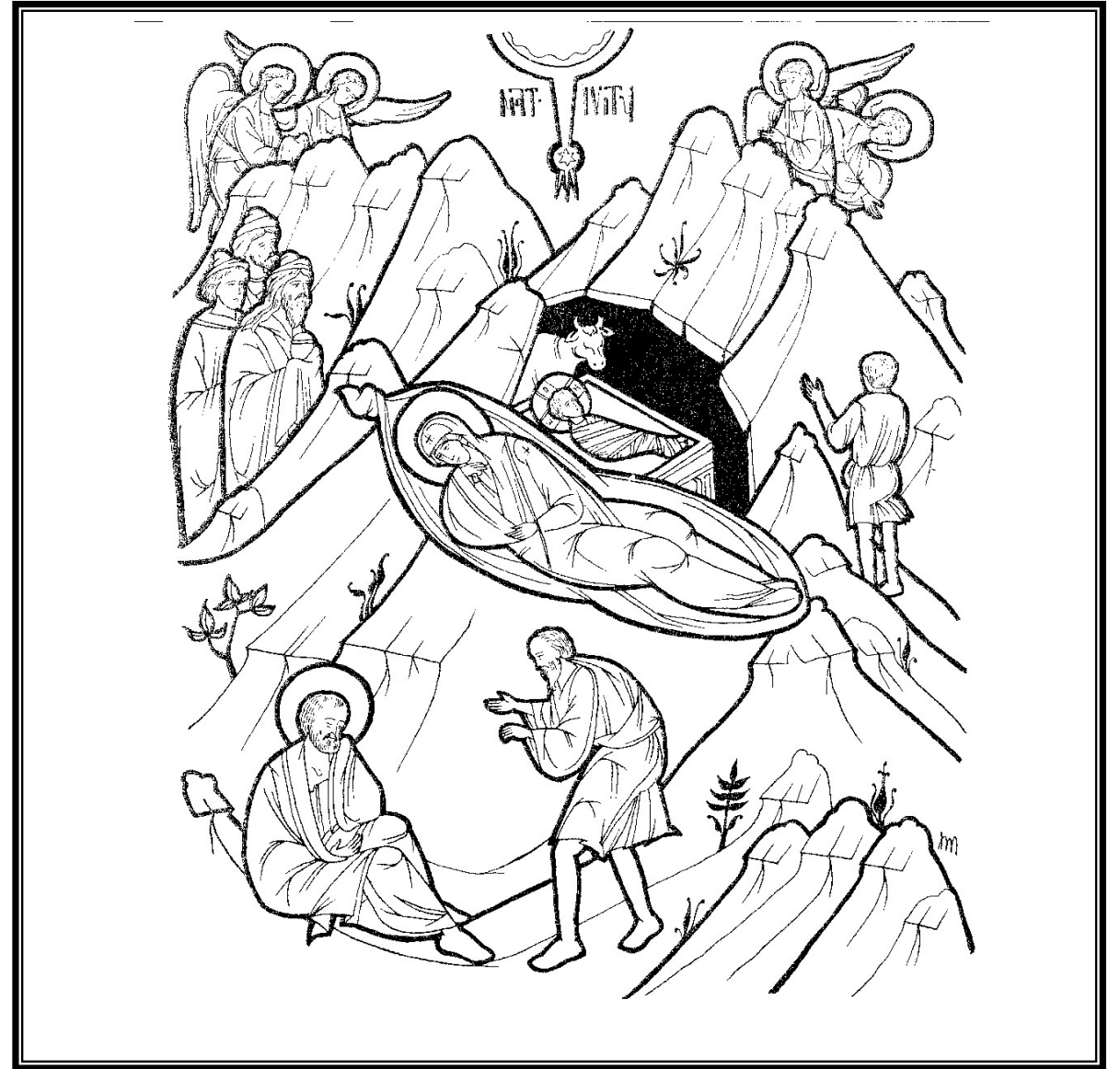
Wishing you a happy and healthy New Year

Orthodox Vocabulary

Prayer to the Saints

Prayer to the Saints is encouraged by the Orthodox Church. Why? Because physical death is not a defeat for a Christian. It is a glorious passage into heaven. The Christian does not cease to be a part of the Church at death. God forbid! Nor is he set aside, idle until the Day of Judgment. The True Church is composed of all who are in Christ--in heaven and on earth. It is not limited in membership to those presently alive. Those in heaven with Christ are alive, in communion with God, worshiping God, doing their part in the Body of Christ. They actively pray to God for all those in the Church--and perhaps, indeed, for the whole world, So we pray to the saints who have departed this life seeking their prayers, even as we ask Christian friends on earth to pray for us.

SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



Sunday, December 30, 2018

Sunday After the Nativity

Christ is Born, Glorify Him !

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

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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 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.

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On December 30 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Virgin-martyr Anysia of Thessalonica; Martyr Philetairos of Nicomedia; Venerable Leon the Archimandrite; Venerable-martyr Gideon of Karakallou monastery on Athos; and Makarios, Metropolitan of Moscow.

On the Sunday after the Nativity of Christ, we commemorate the holy and just Ancestors of God: Joseph the Betrothed of the Holy Virgin, our Lady the Theotokos; James the Brother of the Lord and the First Bishop of Jerusalem; and David the Prophet and King.

Verses

*I honor Joseph, the Betrothed of the Virgin, who to be her protector was alone chosen.
Thou art a carpenter's son, but also the brother of the Lord that built all with a word, O blest James.
What shall I say, seeing that the Lord testifieth, as a man after Mine own heart, I have found David.*

David committed adultery and murder, yet God forgave him and glorified him above all the kings of Israel. He gave him the great grace to compose the most beautiful penitential prayers (the Psalms) and to prophesy the coming of Christ. Thus, God was not ashamed to take upon Himself flesh from David's seed. God designated Joseph to protect the Most-holy Virgin, and imparted to him great honor in the plan of the salvation of mankind. Although Joseph was of the royal lineage of David, he was a humble carpenter in Nazareth. At the age of 80, Joseph took the Most-holy Virgin from the Temple in Jerusalem and into his home. He entered into rest at the age of 110. The Apostle James is called the "Brother of the Lord" because he was the son of the righteous Joseph the Betrothed. James greatly loved Jesus and, according to tradition, he traveled to Egypt with the Most-holy Virgin and Joseph, when Herod sought to slay the newborn King.

By their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.

Young people must be made to distinguish between helpful and injurious knowledge, keeping clearly in mind the Christian's purpose in life. So, like the athlete or the musician, they must bend every energy to one task, the winning of the heavenly crown.

~St. Basil the Great



Coffee Hour

Today, Coffee Hour is being offered by Fadi & Maria Saad for the health of their family. Coffee Hour will be held at the Parish Center following Liturgy.



The Twelve Days of Christmas

Please remember that in our Orthodox Christian Tradition, the Great Feast of the Nativity is a 12 day observance that is linked directly to the Great Feast of Theophany, The Baptism of Christ, held on January 6th.



During the 12 days of Christmas there is no fasting, not even on Wednesday and Fridays. This is the true “Time of the Feast”, when visitations and family celebrations should occur.

The season of the Feast ends on January 6, with the great blessing of the Waters of Epiphany.

Christ is Born, Glorify Him !

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.

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

Epistle

Galatians 1:11-19

Prokeimenon: Sing praises to our God, sing praises.

Verse: Clap your hands, all you nations.

The reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Galatians.

Brethren, I would have you know that the Gospel which was prepared by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely jealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then, after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

The Gospel

Matthew 2:13-23

When the wise men had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him" And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called my son." Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more." But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." And he rose and took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

Sunday After the Nativity

Tone: 6 Eothinon: 9

APOLYTIKION OF THE RESURRECTION: Tone 6

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST: Tone 4

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath given rise to the light of knowledge in the world; for they that worshipped the stars did learn there from to worship Thee, O Sun of justice, and to know that from the east of the Highest Thou didst come. O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY: Tone 2

Proclaim, O Joseph, to David, the grandparent of God, the amazing wonders; for thou hast seen a Virgin great with child; for with the shepherds thou didst give glory, with the Magi thou didst worship, and by the angel it was revealed to thee. Wherefore, plead thou with Christ God to 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 THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST: Tone 3

*(**The original melody**)*

On this day the Virgin beareth the Transcendent in Essence; * to the Unapproachable, * the earth doth offer a small cave; * Angels join in choir with shepherds * in giving glory; * with a star the Magi travel upon their journey; * for our sakes is born a young Child, * He Who existed * before the ages as God.

PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:

Kevin Hashway
Mark Hashway
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur



Mary Lou Catelli
Wayne Kilsey
Offered by: Lois & George Kilsey & Family

Walid & Mirna Nakhoul
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury



IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Fred Hashway Jr.
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Charles Abdelahad
Charles Agary
George T. Matook
Offered by: Nora Abdelahad
Elaine Agaty
Sandra Matook & Family

Camelia Koury
Offered by: Joseph & Marlene Yammine

Matilda Josephs
Louis Josephs
Christopher Gauthier
Offered by: Lois & George Kilsey & Family

Prayer for the Blessing of the New Year

O Lord our God, who hast established all seasons and times by thine own authority, who art unoriginate and unending, who conceivest existing things beyond all time, who art thyself without change or alteration yet art the fullness of times which have been, which are and are yet to be, who, with ineffable long-suffering, dost vouchsafe us to come to this new year: Do thou thyself O all-good Master, bless the beginning thereof by thy divine grace. Grant gentle showers unto fruitfulness of the earth. Send healthful and seasonable weather for man and beast. Grant us to begin the new year in steadfast peace and harmony, crowned with the glory of earthly good things and, by the light of thy commandments, to graciously pass the days with a seemly disposition, leading a virtuous life. Preserve well our holy Church. Strengthen and confirm by the might of thy hand our nation. Rear the infants, guide the young, support the aged, collect the scattered and unite them to thy holy Church. May thy kingdom come upon us, the kingdom of all the ages, the kingdom of goodness, righteousness and peace. And vouchsafe that, with one mouth and one heart, we may praise and glorify thee, the unoriginate and everlasting God, in Trinity, unto ages of ages.

Christ is Born, Glorify Him !