

SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday, December 9, 2018

Upcoming events:

- ♦ 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)
- ♦ January 27, 2019: Annual General Meeting
- ♦ February 9, 2019: Hafli 8pm-1am
- ♦ February 10, 2019: "Souper Bowl" Luncheon hosted by the Outreach Committee

Our vintage Christmas Table was a big success that we are asking you to save your Christmas items for us again. As you rummage through your boxes to decorate your house please put aside anything you do not think you will use. We will take whatever you do not need.

For example:

- ♦ Christmas trees
- ♦ Tree ornaments
- ♦ Santa
- ♦ Snowmen
- ♦ Lights
- ♦ Dishes
- ♦ Garland
- ♦ Etc.



If you would like to bring them down after the holidays, please label and leave in the coat room in the Parish Center. You can also keep them until next year and bring them down then.

Thank you,
Vintage table

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.

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Sponsored by:</u>	<u>Sponsored for:</u>
December 9, 2018	<i>not available</i>	Choir Appreciation
December 16 2018	<i>not available</i>	Church School Pageant
December 23, 2018	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
December 30, 2018	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
January 6, 2019	Ghassan & Latifeh Alarmani	Health of Family
January 13, 2019	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
January 20, 2019	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
January 27, 2019	<i>not available</i>	Annual Parish Meeting
February 3, 2019	Geoff Ayoub	Memory of Naseem Ayoub (5 Years)
February 10, 2019	<i>not available</i>	Outreach Committee Luncheon
February 17, 2019	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
February 24, 2019	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
March 3, 2019	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
March 10, 2019	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
March 17, 2019	Fred Kilsey	Michelle Kilsey (8 years)
March 24, 2019	<i>not available</i>	Antiochian Women Fish Dinner
March 31, 2019	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
April 7, 2019	Ed & Sue Ayoub	Health of Family
April 14, 2019	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
April 21, 2019	<i>not available</i>	Palm Sunday
April 28, 2019	<i>not available</i>	PASCHA
May 5, 2019	Cindy Hayes	Memory of Don Hayes (12 years)
May 12, 2019	William Salhany & Family	Memory of Ruth Salhany (9 years)
May 19, 2019	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
May 26, 2019	<i>not available</i>	Charitable Gift Program
June 2, 2019	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	
June 9, 2019	<i>Open for sponsorship</i>	

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.

Choir and Chanter Appreciation Sunday

Beloved Brother Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy and Christ-loving Faithful of our Archdiocese:

Greetings in the Name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! I pray you and your families are well as we prepare to receive the incarnate Lord in our midst and in our hearts. As we make our way through this beautiful season of fasting and preparation for the Nativity of our Lord in the flesh, we cannot but feel inspired by the beautiful hymns of our Church that are an integral part of this season. The Christmas Canon, "Christ is Born, glorify Him!" and the beautiful Kontakion of this holy period, "Today the Virgin comes unto the cave" are but two of many such hymns that we love to sing and hear. For us as Orthodox Christians, these hymns give depth and meaning to the season and to what we believe about the God-man. As we listen to these hymns and others throughout the Church year, we are so grateful to our choirs and chanters, and especially to those who lead them. The work and effort they put into preparing for the services is a labor of love. On the archdiocesan level, we have promoted the continued education of these leaders through our Sacred Music Institute so that they can become more and more educated in the music and traditions of our Church. Through such institutes and workshops, they are also able to share their experiences with others so that, together, we can build strong choirs and chanters throughout the archdiocese. To this end, we are grateful to our department chairman, Mr. Paul Jabara, and all who help him in the Department of Sacred Music. With that in mind, we set aside one Sunday in December each year to honor our choirs and chanters. This year, that day is Sunday, December 9th. Let us use this day to honor them and say thank you for their effort to enrich our worship through the proper singing of our sacred music throughout the year. May God grant them many years! Wishing you all a blessed remainder of the Fast and, in advance, a blessed feast, I remain, Your Father in Christ,

+JOSEPH Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America



Orthodox Vocabulary

Iconostasis

Screen of ICONS separating the ALTAR from the NAOS in Byzantine rite churches. The haikal screen dividing the sanctuary or haikal from the nave of a Coptic church may be of carved wood or may take the form of an iconostasis. In Byzantine churches, larger screens usually have three doors: a northern leading to the PROTHESIS, a southern to the DIAKONIKON, and the central holy doors, the gates leading into the sanctuary. Small chapels, as in Athonite monasteries, often have only a central and a north door. Small, low screens may have just the central doors, or a hanging curtain. (ROYAL DOORS). Icons were being hung on the sanctuary barrier by the sixth century and on the VLADIMIR Dormition cathedral of 1408 Andrei RUBLEV and Daniil Cherny added a tier of prophets. In the seventeenth century another two rows were added. Only ordained clergy may use the holy doors. In the case of a Byzantine rite priest he must be wearing at least EPITRACHELION and PHELONION, a deacon the STICHARI ON and ORARION. Coptic Orthodox clergy entering the haikal remove their shoes before doing so. The word iconostasis has a second use to describe the domestic icon stand used in many private houses.

Those things we don't have the strength to perform on our own, we can accomplish easily through persevering prayer. For we have the duty to pray without ceasing. Those in pain and those spared from pain must pray. So must those in danger and those in prosperity. For those who have ease and wealth must pray that these things may never change. Those in pain and in danger must pray that some favorable change will come to them, so that they may move into a comfortable, calm state.

~ Saint John Chrysostom



ONLINE BULLETIN

The Bulletin is available online on our website at:
<http://stmarypawtucket.org>

The Outreach Committee will be meeting
after Liturgy today during Coffee Hour.

Save the Date!

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....



We are pleased to announce The Outreach Ministry of St. Mary is finally ready to start implementing our non-perishable food pantry. A room in the Parish Center is all set up with shelves to put our non-perishable food items. There will be a list of food items placed inside a bag that will be distributed to parishioners after Liturgy on Sunday, December 30th and Sunday, January 5th. Please return filled bags back to the Parish Center.

Thank you and God Bless,
The Outreach Ministry of St. Mary



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:

December 15th: Christmas Pageant Rehearsal in the Church Hall– 10am

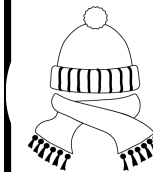
December 16th: Christmas Pageant & Luncheon

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.



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

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:

<div>From: _____</div> <div>Please remember to return the form to the Parish Office by Sunday, Dec. 9th</div>	