Sunday, January 5, 2020: Sunday before Theophany (Epiphany)
Sunday, January 12th: Sunday after Theophany (Epiphany)
Tuesday, January 14th: 7:00 P.M.– Parish Council Meeting
Saturday, January 18th: Teens/Church School Movie night at the Parish Center
Sunday, January 19th: 29th Sunday after Pentecost
  Outreach Committee ‘Soup Kitchen’ 11:30-12pm
Sunday, January 26th: 32nd Sunday after Pentecost
  Annual Meeting
  Outreach Committee ‘Food Bag Donations’ 11:30-12pm
Sunday, February 2nd: Presentation (Meeting) of Christ
Sunday, February 9th: Pharisee & Publican
  “Souper Bowl” Luncheon
Tuesday, February 11th: 7:00 P.M.– Parish Council Meeting
Sunday, February 16th: The Prodigal Son
  Outreach Committee ‘Soup Kitchen’ 11:30-12pm
Saturday, February 22nd: Haflı
Sunday, February 23rd: Teen SOYO hosting Luncheon & Bake Sale
  Outreach Committee ‘Food Bag Donations’ 11:30-12pm
Sunday, March 1st: Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheesefare)
Monday, March 2nd: Great Lent Begins
Sunday, March 8th: Orthodoxy Sunday
  Daylight Savings Time
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.

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

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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)

Today in the Holy Orthodox Church is the Paramon (Eve) of the Theophany (Epiphany) of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. On January 5, we commemorate the holy Martyrs Theopemptos, bishop of Nicomedia, and Theonas the former magician.

Verses
That Theopemptos might die, let him say:
Contesting, I die, my head by the sword severed.
Martyr Theonas cried out with the Psalter:
They laid me in the lowest pit, as saith David.
On the fifth, Theopemptos left life with a sword’s help.

Theopemptos was among the first to suffer martyrdom under Emperor Diocletian, who threatened Theopemptos with death if he did not deny Christ. The courageous bishop responded to the emperor: “It stands written, ‘Do not be afraid of those who kill the body’ (Luke 12:4), ‘but cannot kill the soul’ (Matthew 10:28).” Theopemptos suffered from hunger and was tortured in various ways. Finally, the emperor summoned the magician Theonas to outwit this Godly man through magic. Theonas dissolved the most potent poison in water and gave it to Theopemptos to drink. Theopemptos traced the sign of the cross over the glass and drank the poison. Theonas, upon seeing that the poison had no effect on Theopemptos, turned to the emperor and shouted, “I, too, am a Christian and bow down before the Crucified One.” Theopemptos died by the sword, and Theonas was buried alive. Both entered the Kingdom in 298.

On this day, we also commemorate Venerable Syncletica of Alexandria and Venerable-martyr Romanos of Athos.

By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

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.
Charitable Gift Program
It is with appreciation and gratitude that we announce the reception of a gift to the Charitable Gift Program from:

Barbara M. Samra
Barbara, a lifelong parishioner, demonstrates with this gift her love of our church, as the body of Christ.

May God Grant Her Many Years!

Coffee Hour
Today, Coffee Hour is being offered by Coffee Hour will be held at the Parish Center following Liturgy.

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.

Sunday after Theophany (Epiphany)
Tone: 4 / Eothinon: 7

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION: 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 FOR THE PARAMON (EVE) OF THEOPHANY: Tone 4
(**Joseph was amazed**)
River Jordan was turned back by Elisseus’ mantle once, * when the fiery man of zeal Elias had been taken up; * then were its waters divided hither and thither. * The running streams became dry passage unto him. * truly as a sign and type of Baptism, * whereby we pass to the other side of * the shifting stream of this fleeting life. * Christ hath appeared in the Jordan River, to sanctify the waters.

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 FOREFEAST OF THEOPHANY: Tone 4
(**On this day Thou hast appeared**)
In the running waters of * the Jordan River, * on this day the Lord of all * crieth to John: Be not afraid * and hesitate not to baptize Me, * for I am come to save Adam, the first-formed man.
THE EPISTLE

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.
Unto Thee, O Lord, will I cry, O my God.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy, (4:5-8)
My child Timothy, be watchful in all things, suffer hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the season of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, and I have guarded the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will reward me at that day, and not to me only, but also to all those who have loved His appearing.

THE GOSPEL

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, (1:1-8)
The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, “Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare thy way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.” John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, “After me comes He Who is mightier than I, the strap of Whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Memorial Services
A Forty-Day Memorial Service is being offered for the servant of God Hilaneh Al-Khouli and a Six Year Memorial is being offered for Sub-Deacon Nicholas El Khaouli by Fouad & Houaida El Khaouli. Coffee Hour will be held at the Parish Center in their memories following Liturgy.

May God grant them peace and may their memories be eternal.

PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:
Kevin Hashway
Mark Hashway
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur
Elizabeth Votruba
Offered by: Sandra Matook
Fr. Isaac & Kh. Dolly Crow
Simon Karam
Edward Betor
Josephine Karam
Offered by: Elie, Julia & Najj Karam
Philip Ayoub
Offered by: Bette Ayoub
Philip G Ayoub
Philip Ayoub
Offered by: Susan Warzycha & Family
Charlie Abosamra
Offered by: St. Mary Choir
Philip Ayoub (80th Birthday)
Offered by: Nancy, Lisa, Jim & Judy
Fouad & Houaida
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
Fred Hashway Jr.
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur
Lillian Betor
Georges Karam
Offered by: Elie, Julia & Najj Karam
Hilaneh Al-Khouli
Sub-Deacon Nicholas El Khaouli
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

May God grant them peace and may their memories be eternal.