Sunday, February 9th: Pharisee & Publican
   Second Collection for charity
   “Souper Bowl” Luncheon (Outreach Committee)
Tuesday, February 11th: 7:00 P.M.– Parish Council Meeting
Sunday, February 16th: The Prodigal Son
   Teen SOYO Bake Sale during Coffee Hour to benefit the Antiochian Village
   Outreach Committee ‘Soup Kitchen’ 11:30-12pm
Monday, February 17th: 11:30-4:30pm- Day Camp (one day)- at the Parish Center
Saturday, February 22nd: 8pm-1am Valentine Hafli
Sunday, February 23rd: Teen SOYO hosting Luncheon
Saturday, February 29th: 4pm-6pm– Church School Bowling Event (Town Hall Lanes)
Sunday, March 1st: Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheesefare)
Monday, March 2nd: Great Lent Begins
Sunday, March 8th: Orthodoxy Sunday
   Daylight Savings Time
Tuesday, March 10th: 7:00 P.M.- Parish Council Meeting
Sunday, March 15th: Second Sunday of Lent (Gregory Palamas)
   Outreach Committee ‘Soup Kitchen’ 11:30-12pm
Sunday, March 22nd: Sunday of the Holy Cross
Tuesday, March 24th: 7:00 P.M.- Liturgy for the Annunciation
Sunday, March 29th: Fourth Sunday of Lent (John Climacus)
Sunday, April 5th: 5th Sunday of Lent (Mary of Egypt)
Sunday, April 12th: Palm Sunday
Tuesday, April 14th: 7:00 P.M.- Parish Council Meeting
Sunday, April 19th: Great & Holy PASCHA
   Outreach Committee ‘Soup Kitchen’ 11:30-12pm
Sunday, April 26th: Sunday of St. Thomas

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

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: (240) 205-9079
Sub-Deacon Emad Amirhom
Sub-Deacon Elijah Vollendorf

Schedule of Services
Sunday: Orthros (Matins) 9:00 a.m.
Church School 11:15 a.m.
Sunday: Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

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

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On February 9 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we take leave of the celebration of the Meeting (Presentation) of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ in the Temple. On this day, we commemorate the Martyr Nikephoros of Antioch; Hieromartyrs Markellos, bishop of Sicily, Pankratios, bishop of Taormina, Philagrios, bishop of Cyprus; and the translation of the relics of Innocent, first bishop of Irkutsk.

On the Sunday which falls during the After-feast of the Presentation (Meeting) of our Lord, we commemorate the Holy and Righteous Mothers of the Three Hierarchs: Emmelia (Basil the Great), Nona (Gregory the Theologian) and Anthousa (John Chrysostom).

On this day, we make remembrance of the Parable of the Pharisee and the Publican, which occurs in the Holy Gospel according to Luke the Evangelist.

Verses
If you resemble the Pharisee, run far away from the Temple;
For inside is Christ before Whom only the humble are acceptable.

Verses for the Triodion
O Creator of everything heavenly and earthly, receive
Thou from the Angels a Trinitarian song,
And from us men a noble and reverent Triodion.

In our Savior’s parable, Jesus uses a Pharisee, a leader of the synagogue, who was regarded in public opinion as virtuous; and a publican, a tax collector, who was regarded as oppressive, greedy and a sinner. In their prayers to God, we discover the real hearts of these two men. We thus learn of the harm that comes from pride and the good that comes from humility. The divine Church Fathers sought to alert prepare the Christ-loving clergy and laity for the upcoming period of the Great Fast. Therefore, on this Sunday we are reminded that humility is the greatest weapon against pride, as we imitate the humility of the publican to ascend to the divine heights.

Through the intercessions of the wonderworking Saints,
O Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.
RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION: Tone 1
While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

APOLYTIKION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST: Tone 1
Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace, for from thee arose the Sun of justice, Christ our God, lighting those who are in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous elder, carrying in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, Who granteth us Resurrection.

TROPARION OF THE DORMITION: Tone 1
In giving birth, Thou didst keep Thy virginity and in thy repose, Thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos, for Thou art the mother of life, and Thou didst pass over into life; and through thy intercession from death Thou dost redeem our souls.

KONTAKION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST: Tone 1
Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin’s womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon’s arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

St. Mary Church would like to welcome back Fr. Seraphim Solof and thank him for presiding over Liturgy today while Fr. Elie is away.
THE EPISTLE

Make vows to the Lord thy God, and perform them.
In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (3:10-15)
Timothy my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, and my sufferings; and what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured; yet from them all, the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:10-14)
The Lord spoke this parable: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to Heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.'"