

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, April 26th: New Sunday (St. Thomas)

Sunday, May 3rd: Sunday of the Myrrh Bearing Women



THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On April 26 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Hieromartyr Basil, bishop of Amasea with Venerable Glaphyra; Stephen, bishop of Perm; and Venerable Ioanikios of Devitch in Serbia.

On this day, the second Sunday of Pascha, we inaugurate the celebration of Christ's Resurrection, and the occasion whereon the Holy Apostle Thomas touched the Savior's side.

Verses

*If the seals of the Virgin's womb and of the grave did not hinder Thee,
How could the seals of the doors hinder Thy might, O Savior?*

This day is called New Sunday, Thomas Sunday or Anti-Pascha. The last term means "in place of Pascha" because Thomas did not immediately hear of Christ's Resurrection and disbelieved it. We remember his doubt but do not repeat it. After this Sunday, the Church dedicates Sunday to the Resurrection.

As the Disciples were gathered together on the Sunday of the Resurrection, Jesus entered and greeted them in His usual way, saying, "Peace be unto you." Then He showed them His hands, feet and side. Jesus ate before His Disciples and reassured them of His Resurrection. However, Thomas was not with them at that time, and insisted upon seeing the Savior's scars—the print of the nails in His hands and feet, and the spear in His side—before he would believe that Jesus was risen. Eight days later Christ appeared again to the Disciples, this time with Thomas present. The Master told Thomas to see and feel. Then Thomas immediately cried out, "My Lord and my God!" But Jesus tells His Disciples, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." This event also clearly illustrates the human and divine Natures of Christ.

*By the intercessions of Thine Apostle Thomas,
O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.*

SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



Sunday, April 26, 2020

Sunday of St. Thomas (New Sunday)

المسيح قام، حقا قام.

Saint Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church

"A parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America"

249 High Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860
Phone (401) 726-1202 Fax: (401) 729-1203
Parish Center Phone (401) 725-5150
Web site: <http://stmarypawtucket.org>
Email: office@stmarypawtucket.org

**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
Sub-Deacon Elijah Vollendorf

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.

CHARITABLE GIFT PROGRAM

Father Isaac was a strong proponent of the concept of the Charitable Gift Program. He encouraged parishioners to participate and valued the idea of what the program would mean for the future of our Church.

He not only encouraged parishioners to participate but he and Khourie Dolly while they were here made a gift to St. Mary to have included Father Isaac's grandmother, Kamal Nassif, memory eternal, as a participant.

To honor Father's leadership and commitment to the Charitable Gift Program, St. Mary has gratefully included *Father Isaac* as a participant. Memory Eternal!

"With the spirits of the righteous made perfect, give rest to the soul of they servant Isaac, O Savior and preserve him in that life of blessedness which is with thee."



Visitations

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

Dearly beloved, what do you see in these events? Do you really believe that it was by chance that this chosen disciple was absent, then came and heard, heard and doubted, doubted and touched, touched and believed? It was not by chance but in God's providence. In a marvelous way God's mercy arranged that the disbelieving disciple, in touching the wounds of his Master's body, should heal our wounds of disbelief. The disbelief of Thomas has done more for our faith than the faith of the other disciples. As he touches Christ and is won over to belief, every doubt is cast aside and our faith is strengthened. So the disciple who doubted, then felt Christ's wounds, becomes a witness to the reality of the resurrection.

~St. Gregory Dialogos



Orthodox Vocabulary

Parousia

Parousia: from a Greek word meaning "presence." This is the term used to refer to the second coming of the Lord. On that day, all persons will arise, their bodies transfigured, and all creation will be transformed: new earth and new heavens. This will also be the day of judgment, when the Lord "*will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead*" .
(Creed: Mt 25:31; Rom 2:5-11)

God has surrounded the tongue with a double wall— with the barrier of the teeth and fence of the lips— in order that it may not easily and heedlessly utter words it should not speak.

~St. John Chrysostom



CHRIST IS RISEN, TRULY HE IS RISEN!



“If you cannot be merciful, at least speak as though you are a sinner. If you are not a peacemaker, at least do not be a troublemaker. If you cannot be assiduous, at least in your thought be like a sluggard. If you are not victorious, do not exalt yourself over the vanquished. If you cannot close the mouth of a man who disparages his companion, at least refrain from joining him in this.”

~St. Isaac the Syrian



Sunday of St. Thomas (New Sunday)

APOLYTIKION FOR THOMAS SUNDAY IN TONE SEVEN

While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Life. While the doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy Disciples, O Christ God, Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

KONTAKION OF PASCHA: Tone 8

Though Thou didst descend into the grave, O Immortal One, yet didst Thou destroy the power of Hades, and didst arise as victor, O Christ God, calling to the myrrh-bearing women, Rejoice, and giving peace unto Thine Apostles, O Thou Who dost grant resurrection to the fallen.

CHRIST IS RISEN, TRULY HE IS RISEN!

المسيح قام، حقا قام.

The following prayers were mistakenly omitted from last week's bulletin:

PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:

The Kilsey Families
The Maurine Families
Offered by: Audrey & Wayne Kilsey



IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Frederick L. Kilsey
Mary & Ethel Kilsey
George & Alice Kilsey
Ronald & Alice Maurice
Donna Maurice
Michelle Y Kilsey
Steven W Kilsey
Offered by: Audrey & Wayne Kilsey

THE EPISTLE

Great is the Lord, and great is His power. Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good.

The Reading from the Acts of the Saintly and Pure Apostles. (5:12-20)

In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands of the Apostles. And they were all together in Solomon’s Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high honor. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the high priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the party of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they arrested the Apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said, “Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life.”

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (20:19-31)

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the Disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the Disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other Disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe.” Eight days later, His Disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, “Peace be with you.” Then He said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing.” Thomas answered Him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.” Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the Disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His Name.

PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:

Kevin Hashway
Mark Hashway
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

All Parishioners of St. Mary Church
Our Family & Friends
Kh. Dolly Crow
Edward Betor
Josephine Karam
Offered by: Elie, Julia & Naji Karam



Paula Hallal
Offered by: Holly Lazieh & Sons & Bob Dessaint

Fr. Elie, Rouba & Family
Yolla & Family
Matt Kelley & Family
Rima & Family
Maria Saad & Family
Keith Marshall & Family
Elijah Vollendorf & Family
Michael Muller & Family
All Alter Servers
Steven, Missy, Benjamin & Theodore Steven Kilsey
Lorice Hallal
George & Kim Matook
Sandra Matook
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

Fr. Elie & Rouba & Family
Altar Servers, Chanters & Technical Team & Families
George & Kim Matook & Family
Frank Votruba & Family
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

All that participated in Holy Week Services
Offered by: Philip & Bette Ayoub

Donnie, Lauren, Dan, Liz & Sarah
Offered by: Cindy Hayes

Fr. Elie, Kh. Rouba, Tala, Chadi & Bassam Estephan
Kh. Dolly & Basil Crow
Mary Massiwer & Family
Maureen, Paul & Mary Gurghigian
Mary, Bill, Bill Jr & Jon Franklin
Diane Andrew & Paul Burnier
Laura, Jim, & Noelle Arrighi
John & Patricia Massiwer
Lil Massiwer
Diana Hashway
Holly, Jordan & Alexander Lazieh & Bob Dessaint
Cheryl, Anthony, Emma & Evan Nassaney
Paula Hallal
Nancy, Demitrios, Steven & Nicholas Sterpis
George, Kim, George Frank & Kassiani Matook
Frank Votruba & Family
Sandra Matook & Family
Patricia Kilsey & Family
Steven, Missy, Benjamin & Theo Kilsey
Fred & Adele Shwaery & Family
Nabil & Salwa Khoury & Family
Offered by: Cindy Hayes & Family

George & Kim Matook & Family
Offered by: Elaine Agaty

Our Children & Grandchildren
Alan Matook
Sandra Matook
Adele Carew & Family
George & Kim Matook
Elaina & Steve Zabak
Mary Massiwer & Family
Nora Matook & Family
Bill Osborne & Family
Offered by: Flo & Phil Spenard & Family

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Fred Hashway Jr.
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

V. Rev. Fr. Isaac Crow
Lillian Betor
Georges Karam
Dr. Charles & Julia Enright
Offered by: Elie, Julia & Naji Karam

Janice Hallal
Offered by: Her Loving Husband Ron

Elizabeth Votruba
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

Elizabeth Votruba
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

Sophie Hallal (10 years)
Offered by: Holly Lazieh & Sons & Bob Dessaint

Don Hayes
John Massiwer
Tom Andrew
Sophie & Fred Hallal
Moses Lazieh
Sarah, George, Emil & Abraham Massiwer
Louis Hashway
Dawn Boukari
Elizabeth Votruba
Steven Kilsey
Offered by: Cindy Hayes & Family

George & Nora David
Offered by: Their Children & Grandchildren

Elizabeth Votruba
Offered by: Nora Abdelahad
Elaine Agaty

Elizabeth Votruba
George Matook
Alma Matook
George T. Matook
Thomas Matook
Scott Bleasdale
Christopher Spenard
Janice Hallal
All of our family members who have departed
Offered by: Flo & Phil Spenard & Family