

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On May 17 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Apostles Andronikos and Junia of the Seventy; Athanasios the New, bishop of Christianopolis; and Eudoxia, princess of Moscow.

On this day, the fifth Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the feast of the Samaritan Woman.

Verses

*Coming to obtain corruptible water, O woman,
Thou drawest living water, wherewith thy soul's stains thou wastest.*

The Samaritan woman—the holy and glorious Great-martyr Photeini—met Jesus at midday at Jacob's Well, which was located in the city of Sychar. And being tired from travel and the heat, Jesus sat at Jacob's Well. A little after, the Samaritan woman came to draw water, and had a long conversation with Him (it is the longest recorded discourse between Christ and a single person in the entire Bible). Photeini did not want to talk to Jesus, because the Samaritans did not have any dealings with Jews; Jews considered her people heretics because Samaritans kept only the first five books of the Old Testament. However, the Lord talked with her anyway, read her heart, revealed her secrets and gave her to drink of the "Living Water"—the grace of the Holy Spirit that leads to eternal life and flows to all humanity. Photeini immediately ran throughout the city to proclaim Christ. Through her, many other Samaritans believed in Jesus.

*By the intercessions of Thy Martyr, Photeini,
O Christ God, have mercy on us. Amen.*

Congratulations

St. Mary Church offers its congratulations to all of our young men and women who are or will be graduating from both High School and College in the next few weeks. May God bless them as they continue their education and pursue new work and careers. And may God bless their parents and families for nurturing and supporting them.



Sunday, May 17, 2020

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

CHRIST IS RISEN, TRULY HE IS RISEN!

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
Sub-Deacon Elijah Vollendorf

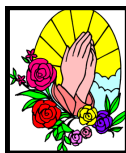
Schedule of Services

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*

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.

This is the twentieth-sixth year that Memorial Trisagion services are offered for those deceased parishioners in our Charitable Gift Program who have made their contribution to the fund.

The Trisagion service will be offered this year in memory of:

V. Rev. Isaac Crow, Assad Ayoub, Mary Ayoub, Naseem Ayoub, Joseph Bowab, Linda Salhany Bowab, Alice David, Florence David, George David, Mary Elizabeth David, Nora David, Christopher Gauthier, Ronald Gauthier, Esma Gorab, Jacqueline Gorab, John Gorab, Edward J. Hallal, Sr., Fred Hallal, Janice Bowab Hallal, Sophie Hallal, Donald Hayes, Matilda Josephs, Theodore Juczyk, Michelle Kilsey, Steven W. Kilsey, Ida Lavin, Theodore Lavin, John Massiwer, Sarah Massiwer, Esma Matoook, Wadi Matoook, Kamal Nassif, Ruth Ganim Salhany, Rita Sayegh, Joseph Samra, Mary Samra, Jameela Tahmoush and Nora Walker.

May their Memory Be Eternal!

We would also like to offer prayers for the health and safety of the following individuals who have committed to the Charitable Gift Program.

Rt. Rev. Archmandrite	Jim Hallal	Steven G. Kilsey
Leonard Faris	Keith Hallal	Robert Laffey
Rt. Rev. Fr. Timothy Ferguson	Lorice Hallal	Holly Lazieh
Anonymous- Two	Maria Hallal	Lily Massiwer
Angela Abosamra	Paula Hallal	Mary Massiwer
Charles Abosamra	Ronald Hallal	Keith Marshall
Lisa Andrews	Dianna Hashway	Marlene Marshall
Cindy Antypas	Fareed Hawwa	Mary Mechrefe
Bette Ayoub	Olga Hawwa	Louise Megalli
Edward Ayoub	Tawfik Hawwa	Melanie Ann Merner
Geoffrey Ayoub	Cindy Hayes	Barbara A. Moussalli
Philip Ayoub	Daniel Hayes	Mirna Nakhoul
Philip G. Ayoub	Donald Hayes, Jr.	Walid Nakhoul
Suzanne Ayoub	Sarah Hayes	William Salhany
Janet Bowab	Hilda Jarjoura Juczyk	Barbara M. Samra
Christine Briggs	Fadia Kabak	Joseph J. Samra
Liam Burke	Eli Karam	Joseph J. Samra III
Mary Lou Catelli	Julia Karam	Marlene Samra
William Catelli	Naji Karam	Rebecca Samra
Bryan Chowning	Nabil Khoury	Florence Spenard
Stephanie Chowning	Salwa Khoury	Phil Spenard
Linda Dvelis	Audrey Kilsey	Carol Wartenburg
Fred Elliott	Fred Kilsey	Susan Warzycha
Renda Ferrari	George Kilsey	Mary Jane Wehbe
Elaine Gauthier	Lois Kilsey	Elaine Wilbur
Maureen Gurghigian	Melissa Ann Kilsey	Our Teens
Paul Gurghigian	Patricia A. Kilsey	

Christ is Risen!

On behalf of the Parish Council and the Stewardship Committee we greet you in the Light of the Risen Lord. We pray that you and your families are well and safe. We are writing to keep you informed of what the Parish Council and Stewardship Committee are doing to manage during this unprecedented time of “social distance” and “quarantine”.

As you can imagine, the limit on gatherings and social distancing regulations imposed by state officials to slow the spread of the COVID 19 pandemic have had a profound impact on Parish activity and finances.

While orders to stay home and keep gatherings to a size below 5 persons have paused our activities, our expenses to maintain the Parish and our buildings continue. We thank those of you who have continued to send in your pledges and donations. To date, we have 97 families who have made pledges, this is below our approximately 120 families that pledge annually. As well, these pledges are down from previous years with an average pledge of approximately \$750 per family down from approximately \$1000 per family. Those of you who usually drop off your pledges at Church may mail a check to the office or pay your pledge online through the Parish website: {stmarypawtucket.org}. Donations may be made the same ways. If you have not had the opportunity to make a pledge, please consider making a pledge or donation now when the Parish is in need. We recognize that times are uncertain and some may not have the resources to do as much as they would like. Many of you have sent in donations and prayer requests and we are very grateful. Please be assured that all of you are in our prayers. If you know of anyone who is in need of help during this time, please let us know.

Historically our pledges have covered only about 1/3 of our expenses with the balance coming from activities such as Haflis, the Church Bazaar, etc. and of course donations and prayer requests. Our fundraising activities are halted for now and the prospects for them are uncertain so our pledges and donations are more important than ever. The Parish Council is also reviewing all expenses to determine what can be cut, reduced or delayed.

Our prayers continue to unite as the Body of Christ. We miss seeing one another in person but we are blessed to be able to Live Stream our Services and maintain some of our programs online. We are grateful for dedicated volunteers who have assisted us in the Live Streaming of our Liturgical Services, especially during Holy Week and Pascha. Our technical crew, chanters and altar servers have made it possible for us to pray together even as we are physically separated.

Our Parish Council has kept in touch with one another and met on line via Zoom. Our Sunday School Teachers have had several Zoom meetings and a few weeks ago each Teacher began hosting Zoom Sunday School at Noon on Sundays. Our Teens meet weekly on Zoom as well. And we host an Adult Education Class on Zoom each week. In addition to the activities noted above, we continue to explore other ways to communicate and come together.

Finally, we ask all of you to help us to fulfill our Stewardship of St. Mary's parish. The definition of “Steward” is one who is in charge of another's property. Our faith, our life, our family, our finances, our time, and our parish belong to God. They are gifts from God to us to enable us to grow ever more like Him through Jesus Christ for “every good and perfect gift is from above and comes down from the Father of Lights”.



Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

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 MID-PENTECOST: Tone 8

In the midst of this Feast, O Savior, give Thou my thirsty soul to drink of the waters of true worship; for Thou didst call out to all, saying: Whosoever is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Wherefore, O Christ our God, Fountain of life, glory to Thee.

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 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، حقاً قام.

THE EPISTLE

How great are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.
Bless the Lord, O my soul!

The Reading from the Acts of the Saintly and Pure Apostles. (11:19-30)

In those days, the Disciples, who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen, traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the Word to none except Jews. But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who, upon coming to Antioch, spoke to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number that believed turned to the Lord. News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose; for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a large company was added to the Lord. So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul; and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church, and taught a large company of people; and in Antioch the Disciples were for the first time called Christians. Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world; and this took place in the days of Claudius. And the Disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brethren who lived in Judea; and they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (4:5-42)

At that time, Jesus came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as He was with his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give Me a drink.” For His Disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to Him, “How is it that Thou, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and Who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.” The woman said to Him, “Sir, Thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water? Art Thou greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?” Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst forever; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” The woman said to Him, “Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw.” Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.” The woman answered Him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; for you have had five husbands, and he whom you now have is not your husband; this you said truly.” The woman said to Him, “Sir, I perceive that Thou art a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; and Thou sayest that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship Him. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” The woman said to Him, “I know that Mes-siah is coming [He Who is called Christ]; when He comes, He will tell us all things.” Jesus said to her, “I Who speak to you am He.” Just then His Disciples came. They marveled that He was talking with a woman, but none said, “What dost Thou wish?” or, “Why art Thou talking with her?” So the woman left her water jar, and went away into the city, and said to the people, “Come, see a man Who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?” They went out of the city and were coming to Him. Meanwhile the Disciples besought Him, saying, “Rabbi, eat.” But He said to them, “I have food to eat of which you do not know.” So the Disciples said to one another, “Has anyone brought Him food?” Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him Who sent Me, and to accomplish His work. Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, then comes the harvest’? I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest. He who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.” Many Samaritans from that city believed in Him because of the woman’s testimony, “He said to me all that I ever did.” So when the Samaritans came to Him, they asked Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His words. They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world.”

PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR
GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:

Kevin Hashway
Mark Hashway
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Victoria & Albert Hallal
Offered by: Ron Hallal

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

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

Jacob & Maria Khoury
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

Elaine Wilbur
Lorice Hallal
Offered by: Philip and Bette Ayoub

Ronald Hallal & Family
Albert & Victoria Hallal & Family
James Hallal
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

The Family of Fred & Sophie Hallal
Ron Hallal & Family
Offered by: Nora Abdelahad
Elaine Agaty
Sandra Matook

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Fred Hashway Jr.
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

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

Janice Hallal
Offered by: Her Loving Husband Ron

Janice Hallal
Offered by: Elaine Swistak

Fred & Sophie Hallal
Janice Hallal
Offered by: Nora Abdelahad
Elaine Agaty
Sandra Matook

Fred & Sophie Hallal
Offered by: Holly Lazieh & Sons & Bob Dessaint



Orthodox Vocabulary

Ascension

The feast of the Ascension commemorates the ascending of Christ into heaven witnessed by His Apostles. It took place on the Mount of Olives the fortieth day after the Resurrection. It marks the triumphant close of the post-Resurrection pe-riod during which Christ repeatedly appeared to His Disciples and spoke to them of 'the things concerning the kingdom of God'. Thus, Christ's human nature was taken into Heaven, wherefrom 'He now exercises all power in Heaven and on earth'. The Ascension is one of the principal feasts of the Christian year irrespec-tive of denominations. It falls on the 6th Thursday after the day of Easter. St. John Chrysostom gives indisputable evidence of its celebration in the later years of the 4th century.