

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On July 26 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy Righteous Martyr of Christ, Paraskeva of Rome.

Verses

*O modest maid, thou didst prepare thyself through contests
As a house all-unsullied for God's inhabitation.*

Born in Rome of Christian parents, she was brought up from her earliest youth in the Christian faith and gave herself wholeheartedly to the fulfilling of God's commandments in her life. When her parents died, Paraskeva gave all her goods away to the poor and received the monastic habit. As a nun, she preached the truth of Christ with ever more burning zeal, neither hiding from anyone nor fearing persecution. Paraskeva was brought to trial before the Emperor Antoninus then ordered a white-hot helmet placed on her head. But God saved her miraculously and she escaped and left Rome. She again began to go from city to city to bring the pagans to the true Faith. In two more cities she was brought before princes and judges and tortured for her Lord, performing on these occasions great miracles by the power of God and quickly recovering from her wounds. The pagans ascribed her recovery to the power and mercy of their gods. Paraskeva once said to a prince who was torturing her: "It is not your gods, O Prince, who heal me, but my Christ, the true God." She was finally beheaded by a Prince Tarasius. She suffered for Christ in the second century and received her heavenly reward.

On this day, we also commemorate the Hieromartyrs Hermolaus, Hermippus and Hermocrates of Nicomedia; Venerable Gerontios, first settler of St. Anne Skete on Athos; Moses the Hungarian; Sabbas III, archbishop of Serbia; and Priest Jacob Netsvetov, enlightener of the peoples of Alaska.

By their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy on us. Amen.



Sunday, July 26, 2020

*The Holy Righteous Martyr Paraskeva of Rome
& Seventh Sunday of Matthew*

THE EPISTLE

God is wondrous in His saints. Bless God in the congregations.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (3:23-4:5)

Brethren, before faith came, we were confined under the Law, kept under restraint until faith should be revealed. So that the Law was our custodian until Christ came, that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a custodian; for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no better than a slave, though he is the owner of all the estate; but he is under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; when we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe. But when the time had fully come, God sent forth His Son, to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (9:27-35)

At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud: "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When He entered the house, the blind men came to Him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread His fame through all that district. As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to Him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons." And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity.

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We pray and hope that you have been enjoying this beautiful summer with your loved ones.

We are pleased to announce that the Parish Council and Father Elie are assuming the responsibility of returning everyone to Church in a safe and responsible way.

We are trying to make our church safer in this time of Coronavirus to alleviate the anxiety and fear stemming from it in the mind of the parishioners.

COVID-19 is an extremely serious situation and we want you to know that the health and safety of you and your family is our goal.

We are using the "fogging" method which is the most effective way to combat COVID-19 by reducing the risks associated with it and limiting its further spread. (This was done this past Tuesday.)

Our hopes are that you feel safe to come back and join us. We are allowed to have 125 parishioners attend Liturgy and in addition to the "fogging" we had done this week, we are sanitizing the church weekly.

We are ready to welcome everyone back to church, (please wear your mask throughout Liturgy.)

May God grant you wisdom and love!

Fr. Elie & The Parish Council

St Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church Falafel Sale Sunday, August 2nd after Liturgy

Falafel Sandwich \$7.00 includes a Drink or
A Dozen Falafel \$15.00 with Fixins on the side

Reservations are strongly recommended for Take Out/ Pick-up at Noon
Please Leave a message with your order by Friday July 31st at the church
401-726-1202 or with Cindy Hayes 401-480-4306

Please support this fundraiser for the Church as we begin the Dormition Fast



ST MARY
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



Multi-week Raffle

- As most of you are aware, due to COVID-19 crisis, St. Mary will be unable to have the fundraising activities that we would have during a normal year (haflas, the bazaar, etc.)
- This has had a detrimental effect on church finances
- To help make up the shortfall, we would like to offer a multi-week raffle
- Tickets will cost \$5 per week, and the raffle will run for 25 weeks (15 Aug-15 Jan 2021)
- Tickets must be purchased for the full period of the raffle (25 weeks=\$125 per ticket)
- Multiple tickets may be purchased per family
- There will be a weekly prize of \$125 (one ticket will be drawn, winner will be notified by phone or email) and a final grand prizes at year end of 2 X \$250, \$500 and \$1,000.
- In order for this to work, a minimum of 50 tickets must be sold. If 50 tickets are not sold by 15 August 2020, all payments will be refunded and the raffle will not be held.
- Depending on the total number of tickets sold and the COVID-19 situation at the end of December, we may have a celebratory dinner where we award the grand prizes.
- Tickets will be sent via email (or if you do not have an email account, snail (postal) mail after receipt of payment (via check or Tithely-“2020 Raffle”)
- Please contact Ed Ayoub (edthedriver@gmail.com/401-263-3666) or Matt Kelley (mdk653@yahoo.com/401-935-8411) if you are interested.

The Holy Righteous Martyr Paraskeva of Rome & Seventh Sunday of Matthew

Tone: 6 Eothinon: 7

RESURRECTION APOLYTIKION: Tone 6

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. PARASKEVA: Tone 1

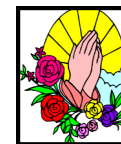
Showing a diligence befitting thy calling, O namesake of preparedness, thou hast gained, as thy dwelling, a faith worthy of thy name, O prize-winning Paraskeva. Hence, thou pourest forth healings and intercedest for our souls.

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.

ORDINARY KONTAKION: Tone 2

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.



**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

Josephine Karam
Offered by: Elie, Julia & Naji Karam

Ron Hallal
Offered by: Rhonda Hallal, Bob Lienert, Hanna &
Emma, Sharyn Hallal, Keith & Maria Hallal, Isabel
& Matthew

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Janice Hallal
Offered by: Her Loving Husband Ron

Fred Hashway Jr.
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Georges Karam
Dani Karam
Offered by: Elie, Julia & Naji Karam

Fred Hallal
Offered by: Lorice Hallal

Donald Ballan
Offered by: The Trabulsi Family

Julia & Robert Vale
Leon T. Matook
Paula S. Hallal
Offered by: Nora Matook & Family

Mary & Ethel Kilsey
Offered by: Audrey & Wayne Kilsey
George, Lois, Mary & Christopher Kilsey
Deborah Kilsey & Victoria Azar

Saleem, Rajaa, Hanneh, Dakhil
Offered by: Walid & Mirna Nakhoul

Arabic Liturgy

Arabic Liturgy is being offered
the first Saturday of each
month at 6:00 P.M. All are wel-
come and encouraged to attend.

Orthodox Vocabulary

Agape

Agape: "love." The last and most beautiful name for God in the New Testament:
"God is Agape" (1 John 4:8, Agape is love that springs from goodness, from
pure grace, without any non-volitional cause; it is life-giving; it renders its object lov-
able and gives it a participation in the communion that is the Blessed Trinity. This is
why agape is the mystery at the heart of the Church and why the Eucharist, which
is the liturgical reality of the Church, is likewise called agape.

This is the nature of love: to the extent that we distance ourselves from the cen-
tre [of the circle] and do not love God, we distance ourselves from our neigh-
bor; but if we love God, then the nearer we draw to him in love, the more we
are united with our neighbor in love.

~Dorotheus of Gaza



Saint Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church
"A parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America"

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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

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.