Sunday, October 11, 2020

Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council

THE EPISTLE

Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.
For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to St. Titus. (3:8-15)

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissension, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (8:5-15)

The Lord spoke this parable: “A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold.” And when His Disciples asked Him what this parable meant, Jesus said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience.” As Jesus said this, He called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”
Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council

Tone: 1  Eothinon: 7

RESURRECTION 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 HOLY FATHERS: Tone 8
Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, 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.

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.

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.

Bazaar/Food Fair 2020

Bulk Order

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Subtotal</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kibbee – 24 ct.</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sfeeha – dozen</td>
<td>$36.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Grape Leaves – 100 ct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grape Leaves - 25 ct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Kabobs @ 3oz each</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homemade Cheese</td>
<td>$6.00 / ball</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Order Total: ___________________
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
- Mother Xenia Minihan
- Ed Betor
  Offered by: Elie, Julia & Naji Karam

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

- Sandra Matook
  Offered by: Nora Abdelahad
  Elaine Agaty

- Dr. Nabil & Salwa Khoury & Family
- Al & Vicki Hallal
  Offered by: Lorice Hallal

- Margaret Fores
  Offered by: Hadeel & Fadi Samaan

- Khalil Estephan
  Fr. Elie, Ruba, Tala, Chadi & Bassam Estephan
  Mirna Nakhour
  Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

- Janice Hallal
  Offered by: Her Loving Husband Ron

- Fred Hashway Jr.
  Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

- George T. Matook
  Offered by: His loving wife, children & grandchildren

- George T. Matook
  Offered by: Elaine Agaty

- Nawal Habib
  Offered by: Audrey & Wayne Kilsey

- Jacqueline Gorab
- Alice Kilsey
- Albert Alba
  Offered by: Patricia & Melissa Kilsey

- Georgette Saggal
- Jacqueline Gorab
  Offered by: Joe & Marlene Samra

- Joseph Deeb
  Offered by: Hadeel & Fadi Samaan

- Paula Hallal
- Joseph Samra
- Moses Lazieh
- Nawal Habib
- Jacqueline Gorab
  Offered by: Lorice Hallal

Visitations

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

ONLINE BULLETIN

The Bulletin is available online on our website at:

http://stmarypawtucket.org
In the past 40 years St. Mary Church has held its Annual Christmas Bazaar on the first weekend of November which is always our biggest fundraiser of the year. This year because of the Pandemic we are forced to do something completely different. So please save the date for a 2 day Food Fair on Saturday November 7th and Sunday November 8th where we will have our wonderful Arabic foods available for sale with no in hall seating but for Takeout and Bulk Sales. Because of the restrictions we will be following the guidelines set by the Governor's office of Masks, Gloves and Social Distancing. We will be sanitizing the tables and all hard surfaces of the parish center before and after all cooking sessions. More cooking dates will be advertised shortly.

The next Bazaar/Food Fair Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 28th at 7pm.
Orthodox Vocabulary

Forerunner

Forerunner: the one who “precedes,” who “announces.” John the Baptist is called the Forerunner of Our Lord, because he was the prophet who announced to humanity the appearance of the Messiah, our Lord, Jesus Christ.

When a good thought comes to your mind, turn to God and, realizing that it was sent by Him, give thanks.

~ St. Theophan the Recluse

From The Synaxarion (The Lives of the Saints) October 15th

LOUKIANOS OF ANTIOCH. Loukianos was from Syria in the second century and was orphaned at the age of twelve. He was a bright student and studied the secular and the spiritual, mastering several languages by the time he was eighteen. He supported himself through his writings and undertook the translation of the Scriptures into Syrian. After being ordained a priest, he trained himself in strict fasting, eating only small amounts of bread and water. When Maximian began persecuting Christians, Loukianos fled, but a heretical priest reported him. He was taken to the emperor by a group of soldiers, whom he converted along the way. They were martyred upon their arrival. Loukianos was tortured by flogging and left in prison to starve. Instead, he survived there, as he had already prepared for that hour of battle. On Theophany, the night before he died, the prisoners celebrated a liturgy. Since there was no altar, Loukianos lay in their midst as the altar and they encircled him to represent the Church. Loukianos said that he would be the living throne for the living God. The next day when the soldiers came for him, he shouted three times, ‘I am a Christian,’” and he gave up his soul before they could remove him from his cell.

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.
On October 11 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Apostle Philip one of the Seven Deacons; Venerable Theophanes the branded; Nektarios, Arsakios, Sisinios and Philotheos Kokkinos, patriarchs of Constantinople; and Venerable Jonah of Cyprus.

On this day we commemorate the holy and blessed 367 Fathers who came together for the second time in Nicaea, during the reign of the pious and Christ-loving Sovereigns Constantine and Irene, against those who impiously, ignorantly and foolishly asserted that the Church of God worshippeth idols, and rejected the august and holy icons.

Verses
Thy champions, O Word, with words as their weapons,
Turn to flight the foes of the venerable icons.

The Council met in 787 to refute the Iconoclast heresy, whose camp believed that all depictions of Christ, His Mother and the saints should be destroyed. The iconophiles believed that icons served to preserve the doctrinal teachings of the Church; and they considered icons to be man’s dynamic way of expressing the divine through art and beauty. The council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry (Exodus 20:4-5), because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint, but passes to the prototype, or the person depicted. It also upheld the possibility of depicting Christ, Who became man and took flesh at His Incarnation. The Father, on the other hand, cannot be represented in His eternal nature, because “no man has seen God at any time” (John 1:18).

By the intercessions of the Holy Fathers, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.