



*Sunday, January 3, 2021*

*Forefeast of E*

*Sunday before Theophany of Christ*

**Christ is Born, Glorify Him !**

## THE EPISTLE

*O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.  
Unto Thee will I cry, O Lord my God.*

### **The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (4:5-8)**

Timothy, my son, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved His appearing.

## THE GOSPEL

### **The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (1:1-8)**

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare thy way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." John the Baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes He Who is mightier than I, the strap of Whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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**Happy New Year  
2021**

*Forefeast of ℒ*  
*Sunday before Theophany of Christ*

**Tone: 5 Eothinon: 8**

**RESURRECTION APOLYTIKION: Tone 5**

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection

**APOLYTIKION OF THE FOREFEAST OF THEOPHANY: Tone 4**

(\*\**Joseph was amazed*\*\*)

Be thou ready, Zabulon; prepare thyself, O Nephthalim. \* River Jordan, stay thy course and skip for gladness to receive \* the Sovereign Master, Who cometh now to be baptized. \* O Adam, be thou glad with our first mother, Eve; \* hide not as ye did of old in Paradise. \* Seeing you naked, He hath appeared now \* to clothe you in the first robe again. \* Christ hath appeared, for He truly willeth to renew all creation.

**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 FOREFEAST OF THEOPHANY: Tone 4**

(\*\**On this day Thou hast appeared*\*\*)

In the running waters of \* the Jordan River, \* on this day the Lord of all \* crieth to John: Be not afraid \* and hesitate not to baptize Me, \* for I am come to save Adam, the first-formed man.

Dear St. Mary Parishioners,

Thank you very much for the many prayers, calls, cards, flowers and well wishes for me and my family following the falling asleep of my father *Khalil Estephan*. It is very much appreciated by myself and my family.

~Fr. Elie Estephan

*~Thank you~*

**THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)**

On January 3 in the Holy Orthodox Church, the second day of the Forefeast of the Theophany of Christ, we commemorate the holy Prophet Malachi.

**Verses**

*Malachi, who boasteth to be named Angel, boasteth  
yet more in that he standeth with Angels.  
On the third Malachi's soul flew from things fleeting.*

He was chronologically the last of the prophets, born after the return of the Jews from exile in Babylon in 538 B.C. He was unusually fair of face. According to tradition, he was nicknamed “the angel” perhaps because of his outward fairness, or because of his purity of spirit, or because of his companionship with an angel, with whom he often spoke face to face. At these times, others also heard its voice but were not worthy to look on its face. The young prophet spoke forth that which the angel revealed to him. Malachi cried out against the ingratitude of Israel and the sins of the priests. Five hundred years before Christ, he clearly foretold the coming and work of John the Baptist (Mal. 3:1). Malachi was chiefly the prophet of the Day of Judgment (Mal. 3:19-21). Malachi went to God young in years, and after him there was no prophet in Israel until John the Baptist, the last of all prophets.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Gordios of Cappadocia; Venerable Thomais the wonderworker of Lesbos; and Venerable Genevieve of Paris.

*By their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy upon us and save us.  
Amen.*

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

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Email: [office@stmarypawtucket.org](mailto: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.

**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](mailto: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.



**Memorial Service**



A Memorial Service for the servant of God *Khalil Estephan (Fr. Elie's Father)* is being offered by Fr. Elie, Kh. Rouba, Tala, Chadi & Bassam Estephan.

**May God grant him peace and may his memory be eternal**

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Sue Ayoub  
Albert Hallal  
Elaine Swistak  
Eli Kandalaf  
Yolla Aatik

Offered by: Michael, Nancy, Jacob & Victoria Muller

Yolla Aatik  
Al Hallal  
Khalil Estephan  
Elaine Swistak  
Offered by: Linda Dvelis



Janice A. Hallal  
Virginia V. Salhany  
Fr. Isaac Crow  
Elizabeth M. Votruba  
William C. Warfield  
Agnes S. Zahka

Paula A. Hallal  
Rose M. Hallal  
Helen R Gabriel  
Doris L. Chobanian  
Mary Battit Marbardi

Albert Hallal  
Eli Kandalaf  
Elaine Swistak  
Suzanne Ayoub  
Yolla Aatik  
Khalil Estephan  
Offered by: Jim & Beth Schillawski



**Orthodox Vocabulary**

**Holy Theophany**

"Epiphany" means appearance. "Theophany" means the appearance of God. After Pascha and Pentecost, Theophany is considered the third greatest feast of the Orthodox Church, greater than Christmas. It commemorates Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River by Sr. John the Baptist. St. Cyril states that the beginning of the world was water; the beginning of the Gospel was the Jordan, when the Holy Trinity was revealed to the senses. The Father spoke, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." The Holy Spirit was seen in the form of a dove hovering over the waters, and St. John the Baptist bore witness, saying, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." Jesus took on the sin of the world and symbolically died by being immersed in the Jordan, then rose again out of the Jordan.

**PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR  
GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:**

Kevin Hashway  
Mark Hashway  
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Victoria Hallal  
Offered by: Ron Hallal

Josephine Karam  
Mother Xenia Minihan  
Ed Betor  
Philip & Bette Ayoub  
Offered by: Elie, Julia & Najj Karam

Andrea Swistak  
Stephanie Swistak  
Offered by: Elaine Agaty

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

Fr. Elie & Kh. Rouba & Family  
Offered by: Lorice Hallal

Fr. Elie & Kh. Rouba & Family  
Offered by: Charles & Anglea Abosamra

Fr. Elie, Kh Rouba, Tala, Chadi & Bassam Estephan  
Walid & Mirna Nakhoul  
Offered by: Samy & Helen Morcos

Fr. Elie & Kh. Rouba & Family  
Barbara Samra  
Sandra Conca  
Philip & Bette Ayoub  
Ed & Lisa Ayoub  
Ron Hallal  
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Fr. Elie & Kh. Rouba & Family  
William Salhany  
Offered by: George & Barbara Moussalli

Antwanet Kasatli  
William Salhany  
Renna, Kenny & Joe Salhany  
Offered by: Kenneth & Rania Salhany



Fr. Elie Estephan & Family  
Lisa Ayoub  
Philip & Bette Ayoub  
Phillip G. Ayoub  
Geoffrey Ayoub  
Michael Ayoub  
Offered by: Ed & Lisa Ayoub

Fr. Elie, Kh. Rouba, Tala, Bassam & Chadi Estephan  
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

Fr. Elie, Kh. Rouba, Tala, Bassam & Chadi Estephan  
Offered by: Nora Abdelahad  
Elaine Agaty  
Sandra Matook

Donnie, Lauren and the newborn child Allison Mary  
Hayes  
Sarah, Dan & Liz  
Offered by: Cindy Hayes

Mary Massiwer & Family  
John & Patricia Massiwer  
Fr. Elie, Rouba, Tala, Chadi, Bassam  
Ed & Lisa Ayoub  
Alisar & Joe  
Walid & Mirna  
Jacob & Charlotte  
Jeanette Mogavzel & Family  
Karen & Dave  
Offered by: Cindy Hayes & Family

Fr. Elie & Kh. Rouba & Family  
Victoria Hallal  
Andrea & Stephanie Swistak  
Offered by: Linda Dvelis

Fr. Elie & Kh. Rouba Estephan & Family  
Mother Xenia Minihan  
Ed Ayoub  
Bette & Ed Ayuob & Family  
Geoffrey Ayoub  
Victoria Hallal  
Andrea Swistak  
Stephanie Swistak  
James & Paula Hallal & Family  
Joseph & Georgette Hallak  
All St. Mary's Parishioners  
Offered by: Michael, Nancy, Jacob & Victoria Muller

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Janice Hallal  
Offered by: Her Loving Husband Ron

Al Hallal  
Offered by: Ron Hallal

Georges Karam  
Elaine Swistak  
Sue Ayoub  
Offered by: Elie, Julia & Najj Karam

Elaine Swistak  
Offered by: Elaine Agaty

Fred Hashway Jr.  
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Elaine Swistak  
Sue Ayoub  
Yolla Aatik  
Offered by: Charlotte Yacoub Mitri

Yolla Aatik  
Khalil Estephan  
Offered by: Nora Abdelahad  
Elaine Agaty  
Sandra Matook

Christopher Gauthier  
Offered by: Mary Lou & Bill Catelli

Khalil Estephan  
Yolla Aatik  
Miladie Nakhoul  
Offered by: Samy & Helen Morcos

Khalil Estephan  
Yolla Aatik  
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Khalil Estephan  
Yolla Aatik  
Albert Hallal  
Eli Kandalaft  
Susan Ayoub  
Ruth Salhany  
Virginia Salhany  
Offered by: George & Barbara Moussalli



Albert Hallal  
Eli Kandalaft  
Elaine Swistak  
Sue Ayoub  
Yolla Aatik  
Khalil Estephan  
Offered by: Kenneth & Rania Salhany

Khalil Estephan  
Offered by: Joe & Marlene Samra

John Swistak  
Offered by: Elaine Agaty

Khalil Estephan  
Offered by: Salwa & Nabil Khoury

Suzanne Ayoub  
Offered by: Barbara Aubin & Family

Khalil Estephan  
Yolla Aatik  
Offered by: Lorice Hallal

Khalil Estephan  
Offered by: Charles & Anglea Abosamra

Sue Ayoub  
Al Hallal  
Elaine Swistak  
Eli Kandalaft  
Yolla Aatik  
Khalil Estephan  
Offered by: Ed & Lisa Ayoub

Don Hayes  
John Massiwer  
Tom Andrew  
Charles Mogavzel  
Sandra Lutz  
Khalil Estephan  
Yolla Aatik  
Milode Nakhoul  
Sue Ayoub  
Elaine Swistak  
Offered by: Cindy Hayes & Family

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