

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

Beloved in Christ,

I commend you for your ministry during this tumultuous time, as most of you have been cooperative to our directives. It has been and remains an ever-changing situation, yet with God's help, we will continue to work together based on the best information we have. I am dedicated to provide the best directives possible for your spiritual and physical well-being. With that in mind, as we begin our journey to Pascha, I offer the following directives as we move forward. These supersede all previous directives for both the clergy and faithful: **1. First and foremost**, we must focus on Christ and His Resurrection. This past year has been a divisive and passionate one. The goal of the fast is to be dispassionate and focused on our own sins. By being obedient to Christ and the Church we share in God's grace instead of our pride and self-direction. Let us be good examples to our faithful and teach them to do the same. Let's heal our divisions and be examples to our nation. **2. Masks:** Masks should continue to be worn in church, however, in those areas of greatly decreasing numbers, where the state government allows, the faithful may lower or remove their masks for periods of time. When people move about the church or enter or exit, masks should continue to be worn. Clergy should continue to wear masks while interacting closely with parishioners before and after services. As we will be having many more services during this time, we are to remain vigilant. We would like to avoid getting sick and having to close any church during this holy season. **3. Social Distancing:** Social distancing and capacity controls are to be followed according to the maximum capacity that the parish can properly socially distance. (with certain exceptions for Canada where the laws are more restrictive). Parishioners should continue to refrain from close contact outside their family pods (e.g. no kiss of peace, modified rite of Forgiveness whereby people prostrate and bow with their hands crossed over their chests, etc.). **4. Church Schools:** They may resume (or continue) with the guidance of the local bishop with all precautions in place including proper ventilation, cleaning, etc. **5. Coffee Hours, meetings, Lenten potlucks, meals, etc.:** Unless they can be done outside or safely in a well-ventilated hall with proper distancing, etc. they are still not allowed. There should be no buffet lines in any case. **6. Hall and Room Rentals:** For parishes with commercial rental facilities, you may resume business operations in accordance with the local and state laws with regard to reception halls, schools, and other public gatherings after Pascha with the blessing of the local bishop. This directive represents how we are to enter the Great Fast with regard to the pandemic. If you have questions, please seek the guidance of your local bishop or email us and we will do our best to help you. Again, we want our focus during this time to be on piety and overcoming the passions. Therefore, implement these directives in a positive light with the idea that while we are doing what we can to return to "normal", we continue to be cautious and vigilant, so we do not have to close even a single church during the fast due to an exposure in one of our parishes. Then turn your entire focus to prayer, fasting and almsgiving and encourage your parishioners to do the same. As we approach Holy Week and Pascha, we will continue to monitor the situation and give further direction as to processions and increased capacities if things continue to improve. Wishing you, your families, and your faithful a blessed Fast, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

+JOSEPH Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



Sunday, March 7, 2021

**Sunday of the Last Judgment
(Meat Fare)**

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

Church Office hours: Monday– Friday 9am-1pm
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.

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.

Ladies Society News

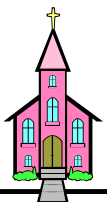
Dear Fr. Elie and my Fellow Parishioners of St Mary Church,
Christ is in our Midst!

As we begin Ladies Month this year we are still looking at continued limited church attendance and social distancing. While our parish is offering all services, Bible Studies, Church School and Meetings remotely, our ability to get back to some state of normalcy is only to be determined by the distribution of the Vaccines. I pray that we are all able to get vaccinated and are able to be back in our pews for our journey through Great Lent, Holy Week and Pascha.

The NAB Project of "Fulfilling the Vision - Building a Cathedral at the Antiochian Village" continues into this next year. The Antiochian Women continue to support this much needed project in which we are ensuring the expansion of the Village as the Holy Mountain for our Clergy, our families and especially our campers; a place we can all call home.

Our Annual Lenten Retreat is scheduled for Saturday March 27th, 2021. You can attend the Diocese Lenten Retreat sponsored by the Diocese of Worcester & New England Antiochian Women either in-person or on-line. We are very excited to welcome Dr. Gregory Abdalah, Pastoral Assistant at St. George Orthodox Church in Phoenix, AZ, as the Keynote Speaker for 2021! The topic for the retreat is "Don't Stop Believin': A Journey to the Kingdom of Heaven." For more details and to register for free, please go to <http://downe2021.eventbrite.com>

In His Service,
Your Sister in Christ,
Cindy Hayes



- Save the Date for the Parish Life Conference on June 4 & 5 to be held at the Cathedral
- Our Lenten Recipe resource tab is on our Church Website. If anyone has recipes that they would like to share, you can send them to Cindy Hayes (hayescindylee@gmail.com) or to the church office: (office@stmarypawtucket.org)

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On March 7 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Hieromartyrs of Cherson: Basil, Ephraim, Eugene, Kapiton, Elpidios, Agathodoros and Aetherios; Venerable Laurence; and Venerable Paul the Simple, disciple of Venerable Anthony the Great.

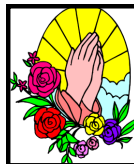
Today, we commemorate the Second and impartial Coming
of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Verses

*When the Judge of all sitteth to judge the earth,
Come now! Mayest Thou judge me worthy of Thy voice!*

It is the Sunday of the Last Judgment- known also as Meat Fare Sunday- the lesson of which occurs in today's Holy Gospel. Jesus illustrates to us God's ineffable goodness and His great love for mankind. And so lest some who are lazy should loiter and spend the time appropriate to their salvation in the pursuit of sin, and be suddenly overtaken by death, the divine Fathers decree that on this day the remembrance of the Second Appearance of Christ may be celebrated. The intention is to remind them that, as God is good and loving to mankind, He is also a very righteous Judge Who recompenses each according to his deeds. Our Lord teaches us that when we minister to our brother or sister, we really minister to Him. This brings us righteousness and life eternal.

By Thine ineffable love for mankind, O Christ God, make us worthy of Thy devoted voice, number us among Thy righteous ones and have mercy on us. Amen.



Sunday of Meat Fare

Tone: 6 Eothinon: 6

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.

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 FOR SUNDAY OF LAST JUDGMENT: Tone 1

When Thou comest, O God, to earth with glory, and all creatures tremble before Thee, and the river of fire floweth before the Altar, and the books are opened and sins revealed, deliver me then from that unquenchable fire, and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, O righteous Judge.



CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, March 7th: Sunday of Last Judgment (Meat Fare)
1 Year Memorial Service for Janice Hallal

Sunday, March 14th: Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheese Fare)

Monday, March 15th: Great Lent Begins

Sunday, March 21st: Sunday of Orthodoxy

Sunday, March 28th: Second Sunday of Lent (Gregory Palamas)

Palm Sunday– April 25th
PASCHA– May 2nd





Memorial Service

A One-Year Memorial Service for the servant of God *Janice Hallal* is being offered by her husband Ron Hallal & Family.

May God grant her peace and may her memory be eternal

**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
Offered by: Elie, Julia & Naji Karam

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

Victoria Hallal
Offered by: Rhonda, Keith & Sharyn Hallal & Family

Ron Hallal, Rhonda, Sharyn & Keith Hallal
& Families
Elaine Wilbur
Offered by: Lorice Hallal

Uncle Ron Hallal
Offered by: Lauren Hallal, Jerry, Cole & Audrey Brightbill

Fr. Elie, Kh. Rouba Estephan & Family
Mother Xenia Minihan
Keith, Maria, Isabelle & Matthew Hallal
Rhonda Hallal & Family
Sharyn Hallal
Paul & Maureen Gurghigian
Mary Gugrhigian
Lace Nawar
All St. Mary's Parishioners
Offered by: Michael, Nancy, Jacob & Victoria Muller

Nabil & Salwa Khoury
Reyna & Anthony Chamoun
Ron
Rhonda Hallal, Bob Lienert, Hanna & Emma
Sharyn Hallal
Keith, Maria, Isabel & Matthew Hallal
Ed Ayoub
All the Parishioners of St. Mary
Offered by: John, Anita, Reyna & Anthony Chamoun

Donnie, Lauren, Allison, Dan, Liz and Sarah
Offered by: Cindy Hayes

Mary Massiwer
John & Patricia Massiwer
Maureen, Paul & Mary Gurghigian
Mary & Bill Franklin
Billy & Britt, Jon & Meagan
Diane Andrew & Paul Burnier
Laura, Jim & Noelle Arrighi
Ron Hallal
Sharyn Hallal
Keith, Maria, Isabell and Matthew Hallal
Rhonda, Hallal, Bob, Hanna & Emma Leinert
Victoria Hallal & Family
Janet Bowab & Family
Michael Bowab & Family
Joyce Hanna & Family
Victoria Muller
Offered by: Cindy Hayes & Family

Jacob, Maria, Sofia & Emelia Khoury
Ron Hallal & Family
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

Ron Hallal & Family
Offered by: Walid & Mirna Nakhoul

RoseAnn Maldera
Offered by: Jim & Beth Schillawski

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Janice Hallal
Offered by: Her Loving Husband Ron

Al Hallal
Offered by: Ron Hallal

Albert Hallal
Offered by: Rhonda, Keith & Sharyn Hallal
& Family

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

Georges Karam
Elaine Swistak
Julia Enright
Offered by: Elie, Julia & Naji Karam

Janice Hallal
Offered by: Jim & Beth Schillawski

Janice Hallal
Fred Hashway
Offered by: Lorice Hallal

Auntie Janice Hallal
You are always in our hearts.
Offered by: Lauren Hallal, Jerry, Cole & Audrey Brightbill

Janice Hallal
Offered by: Michael, Nancy, Jacob & Victoria Muller

Charles Agaty
Offered by: Leila & Ray Trabulsi

Janice Hallal
Albert Hallal
Sue Ayoub
Elaine Swistak
Offered by: John, Anita, Reyna & Anthony Chamoun

Janice Hallal
Offered by: St Mary Ladies Society

Don Hayes
John Massiwer
Tom Andrew
Janice Hallal
Albert Hallal
Jack Hanna
Offered by: Cindy Hayes & Family

Janice Hallal
Offered by: Walid & Mirna Nakhoul



John Massiwer
Don Hayes
Tom Andrew
Janice Hallal
Albert Hallal
Offered by: Mary Massiwer & Family

Janice Hallal
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

John Massiwer
Tom Andrew
Don Hayes
Antwanet Baalbaki
Khalil Estephan
Janice Hallal
Elaine Swistak
Albert Hallal
Sue Ayoub
Eli Kandalaft
Dawn Boukari
Yolla Atik
Offered by: Paul, Maureen & Mary Gurghigian

Janice Hallal
Albert Hallal
Ruth Salhany
Offered by: Barbara & George Moussalli

Ruth Salhany
Ethyl & Kamal Salhany
Victoria & Dimitri Ganim
Antwanet & George Baalbaki
Nazira & Gergi Kasatli
Mary & Abdullah Shagouri
Aboud & Fouad Shoa
Samar Radwan
Offered by: Ken & Rania Salhany

Janice Hallal (our dear Aunt)
Offered by: Karen, Linus, Katie & Lauren Vachon
James, Paula & Joshua Hallal
David, Terrie, Jonathan, Nicholas & Jack Hallal

Janice Hallal
Offered by: Victoria Hallal

Albert Hallal (our dear Father & Grandfather)
Offered by: Karen, Linus, Katie & Lauren Vachon
James, Paula & Joshua Hallal
David, Terrie, Jonathan, Nicholas & Jack Hallal

Albert Hallal (my dear Husband)
Offered by: Victoria Hallal

THE EPISTLE

The Lord is my strength and my song. With chastisement has the Lord chastened me!

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (8:8-9:2)

Brethren, food will not bring us closer to God; for neither if we eat, are we the better, nor if we do not eat, are we the worse. But take heed lest by any means this authority of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. For if any one sees you, as someone who has knowledge, reclining at a table in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of the one who is weak be emboldened to eat of the things sacrificed to idols, and through your knowledge the weak brother perishes, for whom Christ died? And thus, sinning against the brethren, and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food causes my brother to stumble, I will not eat meat forever, lest I cause my brother to stumble. Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are not you my work in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, yet at least I am to you; for the seal of my apostleship are you in the Lord.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (25:31-46)

The Lord said, "When the Son of man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. Before Him will be gathered all the nations, and He will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and He will place the sheep at His right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at His right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed Me, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you visited Me, I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see Thee hungry and feed Thee, or thirsty and give Thee drink? And when did we see Thee a stranger and welcome Thee, or naked and clothe Thee? And when did we see Thee sick or in prison and visit Thee?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' Then He will say to those at his left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave Me no food, I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome Me, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see Thee hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to Thee?' Then He will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to Me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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.

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS PHOTO ALBUM?

A family photo album with great sentimental value is missing from our Sunday School. We are asking anyone who remembers seeing it to let us know. The album is approximately 9" by 9", creme color and includes pictures of Three Adult Baptisms at our Church. A family loaned the album to Sunday School for a unit on Baptism. It was last seen in one of the classrooms prior to the "stay at home" order last March. If you recall seeing it or have any other information that may be helpful, please contact Sheryl at the office ([401-726-1202](tel:401-726-1202)), Matt Duncan (714-686-0541) or Maureen Gurghigian (401-486-3711). **Dear Parents: as you read this bulletin, please ask your children if they have seen this photo album. Thank you very much.**



Arabic Educational Foundation

Arabic Educational Foundation of RI is now accepting college scholarship applications.

High school seniors and current undergraduates of Arabic decent who are or will be enrolled as full-time students at an accredited college for the 2021-2022 academic year are encouraged to apply. The deadline for all applications is June 1, 2021.

Eligibility information and applications can be found on our website: www.aef-ri.org or on our facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/aefrhodeisland> or contact AEF board member: Fadia Khoury Kabak @ 401-692-8273

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

John & Patricia Massiwer
Maureen, Paul & Mary Gurghigian
Cindy Hayes, Donnie, Lauren, Allison, Dan, Liz
and Sarah
Mary & Bill Franklin
Billy & Britt, Jon & Meagan
Diane Andrew & Paul Burnier
Laura, Jm & Noelle Arrighi
Ron Hallal
Sharyn Hallal
Keith, Maria, Isabell and Matthew Hallal
Rhonda, Hallal, Bob, Hanna & Emma Leinert
Victoria Hallal & Family
Janet Bowab & Family
Michael Bowab & Family
Offered by: Mary Massiwer & Family



Mary Massiwer and family
John and Patricia Massiwer and family
Cindy, Sarah and Daniel Hayes
Donald and Lauren and baby Allison Hayes
Lily Massiwer
Diana Hashway
Baalbaki and Salhany families
V. Rev Elie Estephan and Kh. Rouba and family
Offered by: Paul, Maureen & Mary Gurghigian

Ron Hallal & Family
Offered by: Barbara & George Moussalli

Renna, Kenny & Joe Salhany
Offered by: Ken & Rania Salhany

Ronald Hallal
Offered by: Victoria Hallal
Karen & Linus Vachon
James & Paula Hallal
David & Terrie Hallal
Sharyn Hallal
Keith & Maria Hallal & Family
Rhonda & Bob Lienert & Family

Angela & Charles Abosamra & Family
Nabil & Salwa Khoury
Offered by: Victoria Hallal



Special Prayers of good health & blessing are being offered for Mary Gurghigian on the occasion of her 21st Birthday.

Lovingly offered by her parents,
Paul & Maureen Gurghigian



God is kind; He wants us all to be saved. If only a few were to be saved, why then was Christ crucified? The gate into Paradise is not narrow. There is room for all those who bow humbly, and are not puffed up with pride, as long as they repent and give the burden of their sins to Christ; then there is plenty of room to pass through the gate. Man can be saved with a single humble thought, or with a proud one lose everything.

+Elder Paisios of Mount Athos



ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

Great Fast, 2021

No one can say, "I am poor and hence I have no means of giving alms." For even if you cannot give as the rich gave their gifts into the temple treasury, give two farthings as the poor widow did, and from you God will consider it a greater gift than the gifts of the rich. And if you do not have as much as two farthings? You can take pity on the sick and give alms by ministering to them. And if you cannot do even this? You can comfort your brother by your words. "A good word is better than the best of gifts." -----St. Dorotheos of Gaza Beloved in Christ, Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I pray that you and your families are safe and in good health as we prepare to begin another Lenten journey that culminates in the death and resurrection of our Lord. Last year at this time we were just becoming aware of a virus that started to rear its ugly face on the shores of North America. Just as we began our holy Lenten season, our journey to Pascha was interrupted, and our rhythm of prayer, fasting and almsgiving suffered. Nevertheless, we persevered thinking this interruption to our "normal" way of life would soon be over and we would quickly resume our daily routines as usual. Here we are a year later and, while there is hope now that a vaccine is available and being distributed, we nevertheless will once again have a different Lenten experience. Despite this different time in which we live, there is one program that should never suffer due to our modified way of life, that program is the Food for Hungry and Charitable Outreach Program. This outreach, under the guidance of Ms. Robin Nicholas, has helped countless numbers of people for the past 47 years! People now, more than ever, are in need depend on our pennies, nickels and dimes that we collect from all over the archdiocese. ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA His Eminence The Most Reverend Metropolitan JOSEPH Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America "The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26) 358 Mountain Road, P.O. Box 5238, Englewood, NJ 07631-5238 (201) 871-1355 T Archdiocese@antiochian.org (201) 871-7954 F As we begin a new fast, let us this year more than ever, be vigilant in our effort to give alms. While we might not be able to participate as fully as usual in the liturgical and prayer life of the Church because of the pandemic, let us increase our efforts in helping the poor and others in need. Let us emulate the words of St. Dorotheos of Gaza quoted above remembering that, even if we ourselves are experiencing some economic difficulty during this time, let us give what we can and if we cannot give, let us minister to the poor in other ways. Let us strive to reach out and help our brothers and sisters who are in need at this trying time as we examine our hearts and souls in order to cleanse them as we approach the feast of our Lord's glorious resurrection from the dead.

Wishing you all a fruitful and spiritually rewarding fast, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

+JOSEPH Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

