

## CHURCH CALENDAR

**Sunday, April 18th:** Fifth Sunday of Lent

6:30 P.M.– Lenten Vespers held at St. George Cathedral, Worcester

**Tuesday, April 20th:** 7:00 P.M.- Service of the Great Compline

**Wednesday, April 21st:** 7:00 P.M.- Liturgy of the Pre-sanctified Gifts

**Thursday, April 22nd:** 7:00 P.M.-Service of the Great Compline

**Friday, April 23rd:** 7:00 P.M.- Service of the Akathyst Hymn or Madeeh

**Saturday, April 24th:** Lazarus Saturday

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

9:00-12pm Church School Lenten Retreat

**Sunday, April 25th:** Palm Sunday

8:50 A.M.– Orthros

10:00 A.M.– Divine Liturgy and Procession with Palms

7:00 P.M.– Bridegroom Service

**Monday, April 26th:** Great and Holy Monday

7:00P.M.– Bridegroom Service

**Tuesday, April 27th:** Great and Holy Tuesday

7:00 P.M.– Bridegroom Service

**Wednesday, April 28th:** Great and Holy Wednesday

7:00 P.M.– Sacrament of Holy Unction

**Thursday, April 29th:** Great and Holy Thursday

10:00 A.M.– Divine Liturgy

7:00 P.M.– Service of the Twelve Passion Gospels

**Friday, April 30th:** Great and Holy Friday

10:00 A.M.– Royal Hours

11:00 A.M.– Great Vespers of the Taking Down of the Cross

7:00 P.M.– Service of the Lamentations and Procession

**Saturday, May 1st:** Great and Holy Saturday

10:00 A.M.– Divine Liturgy

11:00 P.M.– Rush Service

**Sunday, May 2nd:** GREAT & HOLY PASCHA

12:00A.M.– Divine Liturgy followed by Agape Breakfast

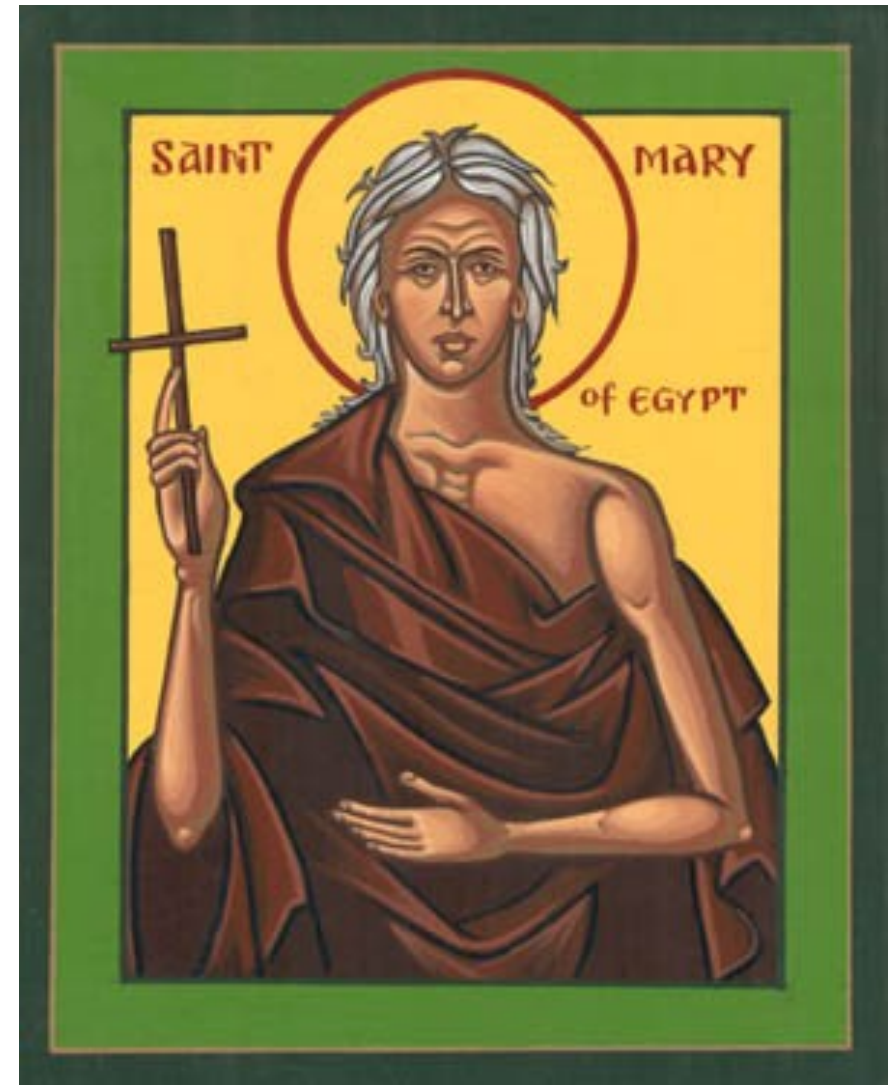
6:00 P.M.– Agape Vespers

**Saturday, May 8th:** 6:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy

**Sunday, May 9th:** Sunday of St. Thomas



## SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



*Sunday, April 18, 2021*

**Fifth Sunday of Lent:**

**The Commemoration of our Righteous  
Mother Mary of Egypt**

## 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](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**

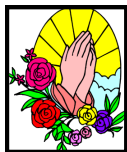
### Schedule of Services

<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](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.

## The Fifth Sunday of Lent Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

This corresponds closely to the preceding Sunday: just as the fourth Sunday is dedicated to St. John Climacus, the model of ascetics, so the fifth celebrates St. Mary of Egypt, the model of penitents. Like that of St. John Climacus, her feast has been transferred from the fixed calendar, where she is commemorated on 1 April. Her life, recounted by St. Sophronios, Patriarch of Jerusalem - it is read, as we have mentioned, on Thursday in the fifth week - sets before us a true verbal icon of the essence of repentance. In her youth St. Mary lived in a dissolute and sinful way at Alexandria. Drawn by curiosity, she journeyed with some pilgrims to Jerusalem, arriving in time for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. But when she tried to enter the Church of the Holy Sepulchre with the others, an invincible force thrust her back at the threshold. This happened three or four times. Brought to a sudden contrition by this strange experience, she prayed all night with tears to the Mother of God, and next morning she found to her joy that she could enter the church without difficulty. After venerating the Cross, she left Jerusalem on that same day, made her way over the Jordan, and settled as a solitary in a remote region of the desert. Here for forty-seven years she remained, hidden from the world, until she was eventually found by the ascetic St. Zosimas, who was able to give her Holy Communion shortly before her death. Some modern writers have questioned the historical accuracy of St. Sophronios' narrative, but there is in itself nothing impossible about such a story. In the year 1890 the Greek priest Joachim Spetsieris found a woman hermit in the desert beyond the Jordan, living almost exactly as St. Mary must have done.

The epistle (Hebrews 9:11-14) compares the ministry of Christ to that of the High Priest of the Jews. Once each year, he entered into the Tabernacle, but Christ "entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us." The High Priest purified and sanctified the faithful by sprinkling them with the blood and ashes of sacrificed animals. "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"

The gospel (Mark 10:32-45) describes Jesus' ascent to Jerusalem before His Passion. Jesus takes the twelve apostles aside and starts to tell them that he will be betrayed, condemned, and put to death, and that he will rise again from the dead. At the threshold of Holy Week could we be "taken aside" by the Savior for a talk in which he explains to us, personally, the mystery of Redemption? Do we ask the Master to help us understand at greater depth what is taking place for our sakes on Golgotha? Do we make it possible for Jesus to meet us in secret? Do we seize opportunities to be alone and quiet with the Lord? The sons of Zebedee come to Jesus and ask him to let them sit with him in his glory, one on his right and the other on his left. Jesus asks them, and puts the same question to us: "Can ye drink of the cup that I drink of?" The Master then explains to the disciples that the true glory lies in serving others. "The Son of man came not to be ministered unto but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many."

The Lenten Triodion and The Year of Grace of the Lord



Join all of us for  
*AGAPE BREAKFAST*

After Easter Liturgy- Sunday, May 2nd  
In the early morning hours at the Parish Center

We are trying a new approach this year:  
We ask that each family bring their own food basket (due to covid).

We hope you will join us as we proclaim, "Christ is Risen!"



~Today, Sunday, April 18th~

Falafel Sandwich \$7, includes drink  
Dozen Falafel \$15 with lifet & taratoor

After Liturgy today. Dine-in available.

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**The Ladies will be making some wonderful foods for your Easter table.**

Sfeeha	36.00/Dozen
Walnut Mamoul	24.00/Dozen
Pistachio Mamoul	30.00/Dozen
Date Ugwee	30.00/Dozen



**Advance orders only! No orders will be taken after April 24, 2021**

Please call or text Cindy Hayes 401-480-4306 or call the Church Office  
401-726-1202 and leave a message.

## Fifth Sunday of Great Lent

**Tone: 4 Eothinon: 1**

**RESURRECTION 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 OF ST. MARY OF EGYPT: TONE 8**

Through thee, the divine likeness was securely preserved, O mother Mary; for thou didst carry the cross and follow Christ. By example and precept thou didst teach us to ignore the body, because it is perishable, and to attend to the concerns of the undying soul. Therefore, doth thy soul rejoice with the angels.

**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.



Epistle  
Hebrews 9:11-14

Prokeimenon: Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.

Verse: God is known in Judah; his name is great in Israel.

The reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Hebrews.

Brethren, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

The Gospel  
Mark 10:32-45

At that time, Jesus took his twelve disciples, and he began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death, and deliver him to the Gentiles; and they will mock him, and spit upon him, and scourge him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee came forward to him, and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And Jesus said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus, said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man himself came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

**THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)**

On April 18 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Venerable John, disciple of Gregory of Decapolis; Venerable Euthymios and Athanasios of Aegina; Cosmas the Confessor, bishop of Chalcedon; New-martyr John of Epiros; and Venerable Euthymios, enlightener of Karelia. On this same day, the Fifth Sunday of Great Lent, it was ordained that we make remembrance of our Godly Mother Mary of Egypt. Verses Spirit rose up, flesh melted away erewhile; hide, O earth, the worn bones of Mary's body. Once, during the Honorable Fast, the priest-monk Zosimus withdrew into the wilderness. He caught sight of a withered woman named Mary; her hair was white as snow. Mary then told Zosimus that she was born in Egypt and at the age of 12 began to live a life of debauchery in Alexandria for 17 years. One day, she went to Jerusalem to enter the church to venerate the Honorable Cross. However, some invisible force restrained her. In great fear, she gazed upon the icon of the Theotokos in the vestibule and prayed that she be allowed to enter the church, all the while confessing her sinfulness. She was then permitted to enter the church. Having venerated the Cross she again entered the vestibule and, before the icon, gave thanks to the Mother of God. At that very moment she heard a voice saying: "If you cross the Jordan, you will find glorious rest!" Mary left for the wilderness and remained there for 47 years in repentance. She bade Zosimus to come back in one year with Holy Communion, which he did. The following year, on Holy Thursday, April 1, 522, Zosimus discovered Mary's lifeless body, and buried her. Thus, the Lord glorifies penitent sinners. The Church exalts and exemplifies Mary to the faithful in Great Lent as an incentive for repentance that brings entry into the Heavenly Kingdom.

**Through her intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.**



**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.



**SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**249 HIGH STREET, PAWTUCKET, RI 02860**

**Holy Week 2021**

**Saturday, April 24th  
Lazarus Saturday**

10:00 a.m. — Divine Liturgy

**Sunday, April 25th  
Palm Sunday**

8:50 a.m. — Orthros

10:00 a.m. — Divine Liturgy and  
Procession with Palms

7:00 p.m. — Bridegroom Service

**Monday, April 26th**

**Great and Holy Monday**

7:00 p.m. — Bridegroom Service

**Tuesday, April 27th**

**Great and Holy Tuesday**

7:00 p.m. — Bridegroom Service

**Wednesday, April 28th**

**Great and Holy Wednesday**

7:00 p.m. — Sacrament of Holy  
Unction

**Thursday, April 29th**

**Great and Holy Thursday**

10:00 a.m. — Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m. — Service of the Twelve  
Passion Gospels

**Friday, April 30th**

**Great and Holy Friday**

10:00 a.m. — Royal Hours

11:00 a.m. — Great Vespers of the  
Taking Down of the Cross

7:00 p.m. — Service of the  
Lamentations and Procession

**Saturday, May 1st**

**Great and Holy Saturday**

10:00 a.m. — Divine Liturgy

11:00 p.m. — Rush Service

**Sunday, May 2nd**

**Great and Holy Pascha**

12:00 a.m. — Divine Liturgy  
followed by Agape Breakfast

6:00 p.m. — Agape Vespers



**7 Day Memorial Service**



A 7 Day Memorial Service is being offered for the servant of God  
*Nouhad Al-Taweel* and is being offered by *Elias Baalbaki & 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  
Ed Betor  
Offered by: Elie, Julia & Najj Karam

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

Nabil & Salwa Khoury  
Offered by: A Friend

Elias, Samar, Nabil & Nicole Baalbaki  
Nicholas & Rodah Al-Taweel & Family  
Offered by: Elias Baalbaki & Family

Anita, John, Reyna & Anthony Chamoun  
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury



**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  
Offered by: Elie, Julia & Najj Karam



*It is no small struggle to be delivered from vainglory. One is delivered from it  
by performing his spiritual work in secret and by more frequent prayer. A  
sign that one has been delivered from vainglory is that he no longer harbors  
resentment against one who has spoken- or continues to speak- ill of him.*

*~St. Maximus the Confessor*



# GREAT LENT 2021

March 15th ~ May 2nd (Holy Pascha)



What is Lent?

Prayer † Fasting † Acts of Mercy

## AEF Scholarship

Scholarship applications are now available. Eligibility information & applications may be found on their website at [aef-ri.org](http://aef-ri.org). The application deadline is June 1st.

You may also contact AEF board member: Fadia Khoury Kabak @ (401)692-8273

## 25 Week-Multi Raffle

Tickets are now available for our Multi Raffle to begin on Sunday, May 9th.

Tickets: \$125

Prizes: \$125...plus your number can be pulled again throughout the 25 weeks!!

*To purchase a ticket, please see Edward Ayoub (401) 263-3666*

## Great Lent and Holy Pascha 2021 Easter Flowers (Holy Friday and Pascha)

Please make a donation to help decorate the Church for Holy Week and Easter.

For Good Health and Blessing of:

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In Loving Memory of:

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Your name:

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Donation:

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To all those who would like to contribute for the Easter Flowers; checks should be made out to St. Mary Orthodox Church and earmarked "Easter Flowers".

*All donations should be received by April 25th.*

