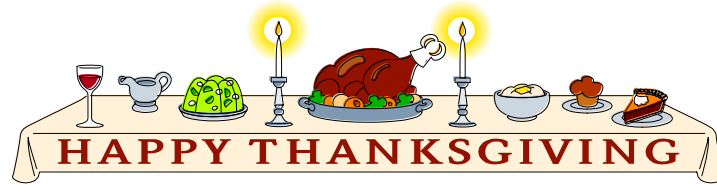


CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, November 21st: Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos

Thursday, November 25th: Happy Thanksgiving (office closed)



Sunday, November 28th: Twenty Third after Pentecost

One Year Memorial Service for Albert Hallal

Thursday, December 2nd: Ladies Christmas Dinner

Saturday, December 4th: 6:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy

Sunday, December 5th: Tenth Sunday of Luke

Sunday, December 12th: Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ

Choir Appreciation Sunday

Tuesday, December 14th: 7:00pm– Parish Council Meeting

Sunday, December 19th: Sunday before the Nativity (Genealogy)

Sunday School Pageant & Luncheon

Bishop JOHN visit

One Year Memorial Service for Sue Ayoub

Friday, December 24th: 5:00 P.M.- Christmas Eve Liturgy

Sunday, December 26th: Sunday After the Nativity

One Year Memorial for Elaine Swistak

Sunday, January 2nd:

Sunday, January 9th:

One Year Memorial Service for Elias Kandalaft

Sunday, January 16th:

Sunday, January 23rd:

Sunday, January 30th: General Assembly Meeting at the Parish Center

Sunday, February 6th:

Saturday, February 12th: 6:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy

Valentines Hafleh



SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



Sunday, November 21, 2021

Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos

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

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.

Coffee Hour Committee: Latifa Alarmani- (781)414-6281
 (Please contact her to sponsor a coffee hour.)

The Parish Council has decided to implement a new system to organize our coffee hours. There are two ways to handle this: when a couple, family, or an individual decides to sponsor the coffee hour, you may do it on your own which entails purchasing the pastry & juice, making the coffee, setting up the table, and cleaning up. The second option is to donate \$200 to the church so that a Parish Council member will handle the coffee hour on your behalf.



Coffee Hour Sponsorships

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Sponsored by:</u>	<u>Sponsored for:</u>
November 21, 2021:	Mery Deeb & Family	Health of Family
November 28, 2021:	His Loving Family	Memory of Albert Hallal (1 year)
December 5, 2021:	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
December 12, 2021:	St. Mary Church Choir Appreciation	
December 19, 2021:	St. Mary Church	Sunday School Pageant & Luncheon Memory of Sue Ayoub (1 year)
December 26, 2021:	Ghassan, Latifa, Elissa & Elias	Health of Family
January 2, 2022:	Ricky, Roula, Randy & Rani Greigre	Health of Family
January 9, 2022:	Russell & John Kandalaft	Memory of Elias Kandalaft (1 year)
January 16, 2022:	Fred Kilsey & Family	Michelle Kilsey (11 years)
January 23, 2022:	Her Loving Family	Antwanet Kasatli Baalbaki (1 year)
January 30, 2022:	<i>not available</i>	General Assembly Meeting
February 6th:	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	

Dear St. Mary Parishioners & Friends,

I would like to thank everyone for the many calls, cards, flowers and prayers during my recovery from surgery. I am doing well, but still have a bit of recovering to do.

My heart swells with joy to see how many wonderful people God has put into my life. I appreciate each and every one of you!

Love,
 Salwa Khoury



**From The Synaxarion (The Lives of the Saints)
November 30th: Andrew the First Called of the Apostles**

ANDREW, THE FIRST-CALLED APOSTLE. Andrew was at first a disciple of Saint John the Baptist, along with Saint John the Theologian. Later, they both became disciples of Jesus. After Pentecost, Andrew taught in Byzantium, Thrace, Scythia, Epiros, and Peloponnesus. In Amisos, he converted the Jews in the temple, baptized them, healed their sick, built a church, and left a priest for them. In Bithynia, he taught, healed the sick, and drove away the wild beasts that bothered them. In Sinope, he prayed for the imprisoned Apostle Matthias, his chains fell from him, and the cell door opened. The people beat Andrew, breaking his teeth and cutting his fingers, and left him for dead in a dung heap. Jesus appeared to him and healed him, telling him to be of good cheer. When the people saw him the next day, they were amazed and believed. In Patras, Andrew healed the wife of the proconsul Aegeates of an incurable disease of the eyes. He healed a paralytic, lepers, and all manner of disease. Aegeates heard all of this and arrested Andrew. He tried to compel him through beatings to sacrifice to idols and so restore idolatry to his country. When Andrew refused, he was tied to a cross upside down so that he would live longer and suffer more. Twenty thousand of the faithful stood by and mourned. Even then, Andrew taught and exhorted them to endure temporary sufferings for the kingdom of heaven. Fearing the people, Aegeates removed Andrew from the cross. However, Andrew said that Aegeates could still become a Christian, but that he had already seen Jesus and would not allow himself to be removed from the cross. Suddenly, a heavenly light illumined Andrew for about half an hour, and then he gave up his spirit. The prelate's wife prepared Andrew's body for burial, and a demon fell upon Aegeates and tormented him until he died. Andrew's relics are housed in the Church of the Holy Apostles in Constantinople.



Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos

Tone: 5 Eothinon: 11

RESURRECTIONAL 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 ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS TONE: 4
(CHANT) (CHORAL)

Today the Virgin is the foreshadowing of the pleasure of God, and the beginning of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. Thou hast appeared in the Temple of God openly and hast gone before, preaching Christ to all. Let us shout with one thrilling voice, saying: Rejoice, O thou who art the fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation.

KONTAKION OF ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS: 4

(**Thou Who wast raised up**) (CHANT) (CHORAL)

The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, * the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, * the Savior's most pure temple, free of stain and undefiled, * into the House of the Lord * on this day is brought forward * and bringeth with herself the grace * of the Most Divine Spirit; * her do God's Angels hymn with songs of praise, * for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.



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.

THE EPISTLE

*My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
He hath regarded the lowliness of His servant.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (9:1-7)

Brethren, the first tabernacle had ordinances of the divine services and an earthly sanctuary. For the first tabernacle was prepared, in which were the candlestick, and the table, and the bread of the offering, which is called the Sanctuary. And behind the second veil stood the tabernacle which is called the Holy of Holies; having a golden altar of incense, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, which contained a golden jar holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the two tablets of the covenant; and above it the two Cherubim of glory overshadowing the Ark's lid; of these things, we cannot now speak in particular. Now these things having been thus prepared, the priests go in continually into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the divine services; but into the second the high priest enters alone, once in the year, not without blood, which he offers for himself, and for the ignorances of the people.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (10:38-42; 11:27-28)

At that time, Jesus entered a certain village; and a woman named Martha received Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to His teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to Him and said, "Lord, dost Thou not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her." As He said this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore Thee, and the breasts that Thou didst suck!" But He said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"



St. Mary Church School & Teen SOYO News

Attention All Parents: Please bring your children to the Liturgy before Church School. Church School starts every Sunday following communion (Approx. 11:15am).

* **Sunday, December 19th:** Sunday School Pageant & Luncheon
Bishop JOHN visit

THANK YOU to everyone who donated food, time and monetary donations to give 58 Thanksgiving Baskets to families in need.

We are collecting Christmas gifts for Children's Wishes, an organization that helps children with life-threatening illnesses. Look for the Christmas trees in the Parish Center with gift ideas, purchase a gift, and bring it back to church by Sunday, December 12.

The Sunday School children appreciate your help as we give to others this year! Please contact Matt Duncan with any questions.



Save the date...

Ladies Society Christmas Party
~ Thursday, December 2nd~
more info to follow





Christ is Born, Glorify Him!

Once again the holiday season is upon us, and, once again, it is time to start thinking about sending Christmas cards to those with whom we worship and love. Every year the choir sponsors a card which is sent to every family in our parish—sending **your** best wishes for a happy and blessed Christmas and New Year.

This letter is to ensure that **all** parish members are approached and have an opportunity to participate in the Christmas card being prepared—we do not wish to overlook anyone!

Below is a form, which you may complete and submit—either in person or by mail—containing your family name and your holiday greetings. Your holiday wishes will be sent to all parishioners. This is a wonderful way to be remembered by our community during this busy season—it is also an inexpensive and easy way to have your card sent to all your friends and relatives. All proceeds go into the choir fund, which is our only source of revenue to continue to upgrade our supplies and continue to provide you with meaningful liturgical music.

In order to be listed in this year's card, your response must be received no later than Sunday, December 7th. If there are any questions, or if you wish to give your response and donation in person, please contact the church office.

Thank you for helping us in this endeavor. All of us in the choir sincerely appreciate your continued support and look forward to serving you in the coming year.

Sincerely,

The St. Mary Liturgical Choir

FAMILY NAME(S) _____

AMOUNT OF DONATION: _____

Please Remember

— **LAST DATE TO SUBMIT INFORMATION AND DONATION IS DECEMBER 7th!**

By mail, send to: St. Mary Orthodox Church, Choir Christmas Card Fund,
249 High Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860.

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 & Naji Karam

Faraj Freij
Fr. Elie (Happy Birthday)
Tony & Fadia Kabak
Saliba, Robin, Bianca, Michelle Saliba
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

Tony and Fadia Kabak
Nabil and Salwa Khoury
Mack and Louise Megalli
Mother Xenia Minihan
Ronald Muller
Elmer and Cheryl Stanley and Family
Offered by: Michael, Nancy, Jacob & Victoria Muller

Salwa Khoury
Offered by: A Friend

Mark Hashway
Patricia Cioe
Carol Jenks
Offered by: Lorice Hallal

Laura Arrighi
Salwa and Nabil Khoury and family
Tawfik and Olga Hawwa and family
Salhany and Moussalli family
Victoria Hallal and family
Zaky Nassaney and family
Tony and Fadia Kabak and family
Patricia Kilsey and family
Muller family
Offered by: Paul, Maureen & Mary Gurghigian



IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Janice Hallal
Offered by: Her Loving Husband Ron

Fred Hashway
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

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

William Salhany
Offered by: Nora Abdelahad
Elaine Agaty
Sandra Matook

Nellie Hallal
Offered by: Lorice Hallal

William Salhany
Steven Kilsey
Lillian Nassaney
Nabil and Farid Hawwa
Albert Hallal
Janice Hallal
Offered by: Paul, Maureen & Mary Gurghigian



Coffee Hour

Today, Coffee Hour is being sponsored by Mery Deeb & Family for the Health of the Family. Coffee hour will be held at the Parish Center following Liturgy. All are welcome to attend.



Arabic Food/Pastry Sale at Coffee Hour today....

There will be limited quantities of Mamoul Date, Graybee, Sfeeha, String Cheese & Kibbee Trays for sale after Liturgy today at Coffee Hour.



Christmas Liturgy

Christmas Liturgy this year will be on Friday, December 24th at 5:00 P.M.

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On November 21 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we celebrate the Entrance of the Mother of God into the Temple. Verses Within the temple, Gabriel feedeth thee, O Maid, And shortly he shall come and shall say to thee: Rejoice. On the twenty-first Mary entereth the sacred fane. Leading the procession into the Temple were virgins with lighted tapers in their hands, then the three-year-old Most-holy Virgin, led by her father and mother. The Virgin was clad in vesture of royal magnificence and adornments as was befitting the “King’s daughter, the Bride of God” (Psalm 44:13-15). Following them were many kinsmen and friends, all with lighted tapers. Fifteen steps led up to the Temple. Joachim and Anna lifted the Virgin onto the first step, then she ran quickly to the top herself, where she was met by the High Priest Zachariah, who was to be the father of St. John the Forerunner. Taking her by the hand, he led her not only into the Temple, but into the “Holy of Holies,” the holiest of holy places, into which no one but the high priest ever entered, and only once each year, at that. Zachariah “was outside himself and possessed by God” when he led the Virgin into the holiest place in the Temple, beyond the second curtain—otherwise, his action could not be explained. The Most-holy Virgin remained in the Temple and dwelt there for nine full years. While her parents were alive, they visited her often. When God called her parents from this world, the Most-holy Virgin was left an orphan and did not wish to leave the Temple until death or to enter into marriage. The Most-holy Virgin Mary was the first of such lifevowed virgins, of the thousands and thousands of virgin men and women who would follow her in the Church of Christ.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

2021

Parish Christmas Poinsettia Fund

*In anticipation of Christmas, we present our very important
“Poinsettia Fund” Project*

Please accept my donation of \$ _____
to be used in decorating the Church for Christmas.
This donation is made with the following intentions.



For the Good Health and Blessing of:

In Loving Memory of:

From: _____

Please remember to return the form to the Parish Office by Sunday, Dec. 12th