Sunday, January 9, 2022

Sunday after Theophany (Epiphany)

One Year Memorial Service for Elias Kandalaft
Memorial Service for Michelle Kilsey (11 years)
Memorial Service for George (58 years) & Antwanet (Kasatli Baalbaki (1 year)
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

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

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 indi- 
vidual decides to sponsor the coffee hour, you may do it on your own which en- 
tails 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

Date:  
Sponsored by:  
Sponsored for:
January 9, 2022:  
Russell & John Kandalaft  
Memory of Elias Kandalaft (1 year)

January 16, 2022:  
available for sponsorship

January 23, 2022:  
The Parish Council  
Health of the newly Chrismated Catechumens

January 30, 2022:  
not available  
General Assembly Meeting

February 6th:  
available for sponsorship

February 13th:  
available for sponsorship

February 20th:  
available for sponsorship

February 27th:  
St. Mary Church  
Luncheon for Antiochian Women Project

March 6th:  
available for sponsorship

March 13th:  
available for sponsorship

March 20th:  
available for sponsorship

March 27th:  
available for sponsorship

April 3rd:  
available for sponsorship

April 10th:  
available for sponsorship

April 17th:  
not available  
Palm Sunday

April 24th:  
not available  
Great & Holy PASCHA

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 SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)
On January 9 in the Holy Orthodox Church, the third day of the After-feast of the Theophany of Christ, we commemorate the holy Martyr Polyeuktos of Melitene in Armenia. Verses Polyeuktos, whose passion was beheading, through much prayer, O Word, had Thy grace to suffer. On the ninth, O Polyeuktos, the glaive’s stroke gave thee great glory. There were in the town two friends who were officers: Nearchus and Polyeuktos, the former baptized and the latter unbaptized. When a decree went out from the Emperor Valerian that all Christians were to be killed, Nearchus prepared himself for death. On the following day, Polyeuktos related to Nearchus a dream: the Lord Himself had appeared to him in light, stripped his old clothing from him, clothed him in new and shining raiment and set him upon the saddle of a winged horse. Polyeuktos was baptized, and then went off to the town, tore up the royal decree on the persecution of Christians and smashed many statues of idols. The blood of Polyeuktos was spilled in the year 259. Nearchus later became a martyr for Christ in the fire. On this day, we also commemorate the Venerable Eustratios the wonderworker; New-martyr Parthenas; and Philip, metropolitan of Moscow.

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

Epiphany 2022- Blessing of Homes
With the celebration of The Feast of Epiphany and the Great Sanctification of the Water, house blessings are starting for the new year. If you would like to have your house blessed, please contact Fr. Elie and schedule an appropriate time. While it is traditional to begin house blessings following Epiphany, homes may be blessed throughout the year. May the Blessing of the Jordan River sanctify and protect each and every home and family in our community.

Sunday after Theophany (Epiphany)
Tone: 4 Eothinon: 7

RESURRECTIONAL 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 THE THEOPHANY: TONE 1
When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, worship of the Trinity was made manifest; for the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the likeness of a dove confirmed the truth of His word. O Christ our God, Who hast appeared and enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF THE DORMITION: TONE 1
In thy birth-giving, O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling-asleep thou hast not forsaken the world; for thou wast translated into life, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore, by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

KONTAKION OF THE THEOPHANY: TONE 4
(**The original melody**) On this day Thou hast appeared * unto the whole world, * and Thy light, O Sovereign Lord, * is signed on us who sing Thy praise * and chant with knowledge: Thou hast now come, * Thou hast appeared, O Thou Light unapproachable.

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

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (4:7-13)

Brethren, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ’s gift. Therefore, it is said, “When He ascended on high He led a host of captives, and He gave gifts to men.” (In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that He had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is He who also ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And His gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

THE GOSPEL

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (4:12-17)

At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulon and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “The land of Zebulon and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand.”

Happy Birthday to everyone who has a birthday during the month of January.

Ghassan Alarmani
Jiana Daikh
Therese Haddad
Mary Kilsey
David Maurice
Michael Muller
Madison Saliba
Marlene Samra
Deb Whyte

Philip Ayoub
Maher Daoud
Lorice Hallal
Lily Massiwer
Anthony Mechrefe
Alexi Najjar
Joseph Samra
Fred Shwaery
Charlie Zuid

John Chamoun
George Delaleh
Jim Harvey
Mary Massiwer
Jamie Mitr
Renna Salhani
Joseph Samra III
Philip Spenard

**if you have a January birthday and do not see your name— we do not have it in our database— please email or call the church office to have you and your family members added.**
Cemetery Plots
If you wish to purchase a cemetery plot at Walnut Hill Cemetery, the cost is $1,000. Please contact Ed Ayoub for more information or to purchase a plot.

ONLINE BULLETIN
The Bulletin is available online on our website at:
http://stmarypawtucket.org

Bulletin Submissions
Please help us provide a quality weekly bulletin by submitting all prayer requests and announcements to the church office by Noon on Wednesdays. Any requests received after this time will be in the following week’s bulletin. Thank you for your cooperation.

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

Cemetery Plots
If you wish to purchase a cemetery plot at Walnut Hill Cemetery, the cost is $1,000. Please contact Ed Ayoub for more information or to purchase a plot.

Our life depends on the kind thoughts we nurture. If our thoughts are peaceful, calm, meek and kind, then that is what our life is like. If our attention is turned to the circumstances in which we live, we are drawn into a whirlpool of thoughts and can have neither peace nor tranquility.

~Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

May God grant him peace and may his memory be eternal

The Bulletin is available online on our website at:
http://stmarypawtucket.org

Bishop JOHN & Family
Lois & George Kelsey & Family
Leon & Judy Josephs & Family
Elaine Gauthier
Stephanie & Bryan Chowning & Family
Tawfik & Olga Hawwa
Offered by: Bill & Mary Lou Catelli
Bryan, Stephanie, Nick, Leila & Emily
Paul, Maureen & Mary Gurgghigian
Offered by: Elaine Gauthier
Christine Briggs & Family
Mary Jane Webbe & Family
Russell & John Kandalaft
Offered by: Nora Abdelahad
Elaine Agaty
Sandra Matook

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
Nabil Khoury
Maria Eugenia Gonzalez
Faraj Freij
Cindy Hayes
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
Madison Tucker
Offered by: Michael, Nancy, Jacob & Victoria Muller

Our life depends on the kind thoughts we nurture. If our thoughts are peaceful, calm, meek and kind, then that is what our life is like. If our attention is turned to the circumstances in which we live, we are drawn into a whirlpool of thoughts and can have neither peace nor tranquility.

~Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica
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
Elias Kandalaf
Offered by: Joe & Marlene Samra
Matilda Josephs
Christopher Gauthier
Offered by: Bill & Mary Lou Catelli
Matilda Josephs
Christopher Gauthier
Offered by: George, Lois, Christopher & Mary Kilsey
Auntie Tillie
Christopher
Offered by: Elaine Gauthier & Family
Florence David
Offered by: Nora Abdelahad
Elaine Agaty
Sandra Matook
Elias, Mary & Joyce Kandalaf
Offered by: Lorice Hallal
William & Ruth Salhany
Zaki & Mary Moussalli
Elias Kandalaf
Offered by: George & Barbara Moussalli
Annual Parish Meeting
The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 30th on Zoom at 4pm.
• All Church Organizations and standing committees are kindly reminded to submit their annual reports to the Church Office before January 20th.
• All parishioners in good standing who “accept, profess and practice the faith and discipline of the Holy Orthodox Faith” are welcome to participate and to vote at the meeting.
Practicing the discipline of the faith involves regular and consistent attendance at Divine Liturgy and participation in the Sacraments of the Church, as well as completing a stewardship pledge for the year 2021 and making a pledge commitment for the year 2022.
Orthodox Vocabulary
Paraskeve
Paraskeve: the eve of the sabbath, or Friday. The day of the sabbath, according to the Mosaic Law, is a day of rest consecrated to God. The eve, or paraskeve, is a time of preparation for this holy day. This name is particularly used to designate Holy Friday (Jn 19:14). The week always has a strong significance in the customs and practices of humanity; as well as in both the Old and New Testaments. Its prototype is the creative activity of God, who created the world in six days and rested on the seventh (Gen 1:1-31; 2:3). A woman martyr, who is venerated particularly in Russia and in Greece, is called Paraskeve (or Praskovia), in other words, "preparation." The troparion sung on her feast day (July 26) indicates that she well deserved her name, as she was always "ready" to fight for the faith.

A possession ought to belong to the possessor, not the possessor to the possession. Whosoever, therefore, does not use his patrimony as a possession, who does not know how to give and distribute to the poor, he is the servant of his wealth, not its master; because like a servant he watches over the wealth of another and not like a master does he use it of his own. Hence, in a disposition of this kind, we say that the man belongs to his riches, not the riches to the man.

The General Assembly Meeting will be held on Zoom on Sunday, January 30, 2022 at 4:00 P.M. Zoom log-in information and the General Assembly Meeting “Booklet” will be emailed to parishioners prior to the meeting.