Sunday, January 16, 2022

Twenty-Ninth Sunday After Pentecost
Saint Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church
“An archdiocese in 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 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sponsored by</th>
<th>Sponsored for</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 16, 2022</td>
<td>No Coffee Hour Today</td>
<td>Health of the newly Chrismated Catechumens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 23, 2022</td>
<td>The Parish Council</td>
<td>General Assembly Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 30, 2022</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 6th</td>
<td>Russell &amp; John Kandalaft</td>
<td>Memory of Elias Kandalaft (1 year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 13th</td>
<td>available for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 20th</td>
<td>available for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 27th</td>
<td>available for sponsorship</td>
<td>St. Mary Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 6th</td>
<td>available for sponsorship</td>
<td>Luncheon for Antiochian Women Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 13th</td>
<td>available for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 20th</td>
<td>available for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 27th</td>
<td>available for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 3rd</td>
<td>available for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 10th</td>
<td>available for sponsorship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 17th</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td>Palm Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 24th</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td>Great &amp; Holy PASCHA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When you hear the songs of birds in the trees in springtime, or other sweet singing, raise your mind to the sweetest songs of paradise and think how the heavens echo forever with Alleluia and other angelic praises, and pray God to let you sing His praises forever, in company with those heavenly spirits, of whom Revelation says: “And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God”.

~St. Theophan the Recluse
On January 16 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we celebrate the veneration of the precious chains of the holy and glorious Apostle Peter. Verses Release me from the long chain of mine offenses, as I worship thine honorable chain, O Peter. On the sixteenth I worship Peter’s chain. As Peter sat in prison shackled by the lawless Herod, an angel appeared to him: “Suddenly the angel of the Lord stood by him and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and awakened him, saying: ‘Get up quickly.’ The chains fell from his wrists” (Acts 12:7). The chains were preserved by Christians as much for the memory of this great Apostle as well as for their healing power, for many of the sick were healed by touching them as well as with the towel of the Apostle Paul, “then when the face cloths or aprons that touched his skin were applied to the sick, their diseases left them and the evil spirits came out of them” (Acts 19:12). Juvenal, the Patriarch of Jerusalem gave these chains as a gift to the Empress Eudocia, the exiled wife of the Emperor Theodosius the Younger. She divided them into two and sent one half to the Church of the Holy Apostle in Constantinople and the other half to her daughter Empress Eudoxia in Rome, the wife of Valentinian. Eudoxia built the Church of St. Peter and deposited these chains in it, together with those chains with which Peter was shackled before his death under Emperor Nero. On this day, we also commemorate Peusippos and Neonilla, and the martyrs of Cappadocia; and Hieromartyr Damaskinos of Hilandar monastery on Athos.

By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O God, have mercy upon 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.

**Twenty-Ninth Sunday After Pentecost**

**Tone: 5  Eothinon: 8**

**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 ST. PETER THE APOSTLE: TONE 4**

Thou hast come to us without leaving Rome, O thou who dost preside over the Apostles, by the power of the venerable chains thou didst bear. While honoring them with Faith, we beseech thee, that through thine intercessions, God may grant us great mercy.

**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 PRESENTATION OF CHRIST: TONE 1**

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin’s womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon’s arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

**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.
Epistle
Colossians 3:4-11

Prokeimenon: O Lord, how magnificent are your works. You have made all things in wisdom.
Verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul.
The reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Colossians.

Brethren, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.
Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

The Gospel
Luke 17:12-19

At that time, as Jesus entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then said Jesus, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

Orthodox Vocabulary

Christians

Christians: in the primitive Church, those who followed Christ and who "were of one heart and soul" (Acts 4:32) were called disciples, believers, saints, brethren. It seems that it was from non-Christian surroundings that the term "Christian" originated: it meant a partisan, a follower of Christ (from the Greek christos, "Christ", "anointed").

In the Acts of the Apostles, St. Luke writes: "And it was at Antioch that, for the first time, the name of ‘Christians’ was first given to the disciples."

At the end of our every petition, we should say: “Not as I will, but as you will” (Matthew 26:39). There is only one petition where we do not need to add this: in that petition for our salvation, because God “wishes all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Timothy 2:4).

~ Father Epiphanios Theodoropoulos

From the Calendar of The Lives of the Saints

January 10th

Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa. Gregory was a force for Orthodoxy in the fourth century. He was part of the triumvirate, including his brother St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory the Theologian, which helped to defeat Arianism and other heresies of the time. Arians believed that Jesus was created by God, and therefore not equal to God, and this distorted the truth of the Holy Trinity. Gregory was a translator of Holy Scripture, as well as a priest, and traveled the empire with his wife teaching Christianity. After her death, Basil ordained Gregory Bishop of Nyssa. Following a trip to Constantinople, where he spoke against the Arians before the Arian Emperor Valerian, Gregory was exiled for several years. He returned when Valerian and his army were killed in battle. Gregory participated in the Second Ecumenical Council. He is credited with writing the section of the Creed that includes the Holy Spirit.
Luncheon for the Antiochian Women Project & Lorda's Tuition

Sunday February 26th immediately following Liturgy.

The menu will include:
Kibbe, Grape leaves, Lubia, Rice and Salad

$15.00 for adults,
$5.00 children 10 under
Under 5 free.

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.

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.

Memorial Services

- A Memorial Service is being offered for the servant of God Michelle Kilsey (11 years) and is being offered by Fred Kilsey & Family.
- A Memorial Service is being offered for the servants of God (our beloved parents, grandparents & great-grandparents) George (58 years) & Antwanet (Kasalti) Baalbaki (1 year) and is being offered by their Children.

May God grant them peace and may their memories 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 & Naji Karam

Alan Matook
Offered by: Sandra Matook & Family

Nabil Khoury
Emilia Khoury
Faraj Freij
Cindy Hayes
Fred Kilsey & Family
The Baalbaki Family
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

Fred Kilsey & Family
Offered by: Nora Abdelahad
Elaine Agaty
Sandra Matook

Renna, Kenny & Joe Salhany
The Baalbaki Family
Offered by: Ken & Rania Salhany

Coffee Hour

There will be NO Coffee Hour Today.
Teaching Children to Pray

The most important thing we can do for our children is to teach them to love God and talk to Him in prayer, and to teach them how to find the will of God for themselves. They need to know that they can talk to God as to a living father and have a personal relationship with Him. We should emphasize the lesson from St. Matthew that tells us to seek first the Kingdom of God and all else will follow.

We must teach our children to know God, to love God, and to turn to Him daily and regularly in prayer. By teaching them to pray we are teaching them to cope with all that may happen in life.