

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, February 20th: The Prodigal Son

Sunday, February 27th: Sunday of Meatfare

Luncheon for the Antiochian Women Project & Lorda's Tuiton

Saturday, March 5th: 6:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy

Sunday, March 6th: Sunday of Cheesefare (Forgiveness)

Tuesday, March 8th: 7:00 P.M.– Parish Council Meeting

Sunday, March 13th: Sunday of Orthodoxy– First Sunday of Lent

Daylight Savings Time

5:00 P.M.– St. Mary Church Hosting R.I Clergy Fellowship (Liturgy and Coffee Hour)

Sunday, March 20th: Gregory Palamas– Second Sunday of Lent

Friday, March 25th: 9:00 A.M.- Liturgy for the Annunciation of the Theotokos

Sunday, March 27th: Holy Cross– Third Sunday of Lent

Saturday, April 2nd: 6:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy

Sunday, April 3rd: John Climacus– Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sunday, April 10th: Mary of Egypt– Fifth Sunday of Lent

Memorial Service for Ruth Salhany (12 years)

Memorial Service for William Salhany (6 months)

Tuesday, April 12th: 7:00 P.M.– Parish Council Meeting

Sunday, April 17th: Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 24th: Great & Holy PASCHA

Sunday, May 1st: Sunday of St. Thomas

Saturday, May 7th: 6:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy

Spring Hafli (save the date– more info to follow)

Sunday, May 8th: Sunday of Myrrh-bearers

Mother's Day

Tuesday, May 10th: 7:00 P.M.– Parish Council Meeting

Sunday, May 15th: Sunday of the Paralytic

Sunday, May 22nd: Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Sunday, May 29th: Sunday of the Blind Man

Memorial Service for Charitable Gift Participants

Monday, May 30th: Memorial Day

9:00 A.M.- Prayers at Walnut Hill Cemetery

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



SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



Sunday, February 20, 2022

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

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 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.

Date:

Sponsored by:

Sponsored for:

February 20th:	Matt & Megan Duncan & Family	Health of Family
February 27th:	St. Mary Church	Luncheon for Antiochian Women Project
March 6th:	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
March 13th:	Emile, Ling.H & Emilio Sarkis	Health of Family
March 20th:	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
March 27th:	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
April 3rd:	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
April 10th:	Their Loving Family	Ruth Ganim Salhany (12 years) William Salhany (6 months)
	(Barbara & George Moussalli & Family, Ken & Rania Salhany & Family, Bill & Susan Salhany & Family)	
April 17th:	<i>not available</i>	Palm Sunday
April 24th:	<i>not available</i>	Great & Holy PASCHA
May 1st:	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
May 8th:	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
May 15th:	Their Loving Family	Memory of Fred, Sophie and Paula Hallal
May 22nd:	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
May 29th:	Charitable Gift Program	Charitable Gift Program Participants
June 5th:	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
June 12th:	St. Mary Church	Last Day of Church School & Luncheon
June 19th:	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
June 26th:	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
July 3rd:	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
July 10th:	<i>not available</i>	
July 17th:	<i>not available</i>	
July 24th:	Dr. Zeyad & Norma Morcos	Health of Elias Morcos (son) Memory of Elias Morcos (father)
July 31st:	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
August 7th:	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
August 14th:	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	

Orthodox Vocabulary

Economy

Economy: in contemporary life, this term refers to the avoidance of unnecessary expenses, or the art of administering a household. In the Church, the term is used on the one hand to designate God's plan for the salvation of man, *the whole divine plan from creation to the end of time*, accomplished by the redemptive incarnation of Jesus Christ, his death, and his resurrection. The work of Christ "*is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God*" (Eph 3:9). On the other hand, "economy" also refers to the totality of the decisions which the Church makes—in the face of certain problems—in the application of rules and canons. In the case of specific persons or situations, the bishop can waive strict rules. The "law" is needed, but it must be tempered by mercy; but these special cases can never themselves change the law. According to an expression by Patriarch Nicholas Mystikos (10th century), economy in this case is an "imitation of the love of God for man," and not a simple exception to the rule.

Moderation adorns all things; for without moderation even things deemed good become harmful.

~St. Isaac the Syrian



Bulletins are available on our website. Other important information, flyers, recipes, etc. can also be found on our website at www.stmarypawtucket.org

ONLINE BULLETIN

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

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Tone: 2 Eothinon: 2

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION: TONE 2

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, 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 FOR THE PRODIGAL SON: TONE 3

(**On this day the Virgin**) Foolishly I sprang away * from Thy great fatherly glory, * and dispersed in wicked deeds * the riches that Thou didst give me. * With the Prodigal I therefore * cry unto Thee now: * I have sinned against Thee, O compassionate Father. * But receive me in repentance; * make me as one of * Thy hired servants, O Lord.



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 First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (6:12-20)

Brethren, all things are lawful for me, but not all things are expedient. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the authority of anything. Foods are for the belly, and the belly for foods; but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body; and God both raised up the Lord, and will also raise us up through His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take away the members of Christ, and make them members of a harlot? God forbid! Or, do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For, “The two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit. Flee fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body, but whoever commits fornication sins against his own body. Or, do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have received from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s. February 20, 2022 Liturgy Variables 2 The Prodigal Son

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (15:11-32)

The Lord spoke this parable: “There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.’ And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.”’” And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.’ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, ‘Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!’ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)

On February 20 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our father among the saints Leo, bishop of Catania in Sicily; Venerable Vissarion the Great of Egypt; and Agathon, pope of Rome. On this day, we make remembrance of the Parable of the Prodigal Son, which occurs in the noble Gospel and which our deified Fathers reinstituted in the Triodion. Verses O thou who art like me, a prodigal, come forward with confidence and tranquility; For unto all has been opened the door of Divine Mercy. In the parable our Savior tells, Jesus illustrates three things: the condition of the sinner, the canon of repentance and the knowledge of God’s compassion. For in the person of the prodigal son, we view the wretched condition that sin creates for us, distant from God and His Sacraments. However, we become aware of ourselves and awaken, hastening with hope to return to Him through repentance. Our Savior wants to call back to His mansions all those who have been overtaken by despair, lacking hope of forgiveness for their grave sins. The Father encourages all of his lost children to remove the desperation from their hearts, and revive their energies for virtuous deeds. Through Thine ineffable love for mankind, O Christ our 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.





St. Mary Church School & Teen SOYO News

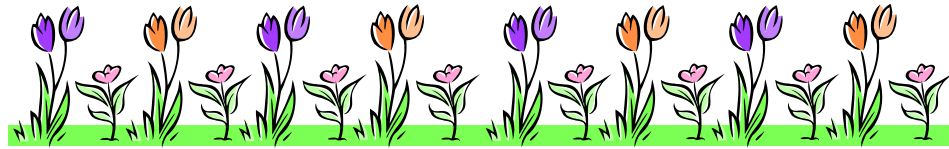
Attention All Parents: Please bring your children to the Liturgy before Church School. Church School starts every Sunday following communion (Approx. 11:15am).

Upcoming events:

Saturday, March 12th: 4pm-Bowling at Town Hall Lanes in Johnston, RI

Sunday, March 13th: Sunday of Orthodoxy-no Sunday School, bring an icon to Liturgy

Saturday, April 16th: 9am-Lenten Retreat (before and after Liturgy)



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.

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: Flo & Phil Spenard & Family

Nabil Khoury
Najla Estephan
Fr. Elie, Kh. Rouba, Tala, Chadi & Bassam Estephan
Carlos, Maria Eugenia, Carlos Eduardo &
Eugenia Carrascosa
Maria Khoury
Saliba, Robin, Bianca, Michelle Saliba
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury

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

Alan Matook
Offered by: Nora Abdelahad
Elaine Agaty
Sandra Matook

Alan Matook
Offered by: Patricia Kilsey



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

Rosemary Khoury Freij
Offered by: Nabil & Salwa Khoury



Coffee Hour

Today, Coffee Hour is being offered by Matt & Megan Duncan & Family for the Health of their Family. Coffee Hour will be held at the Parish Center following Liturgy. All are welcome to attend.



Congratulations & Blessings

St. Mary Church offers congratulations and prayers for the blessing of the newly elected and appointed members of the Parish Council, and their officers:

President: Walid Nakhoul
Vice-President: Ghassan Alarmani
Treasurer: Salwa Khoury
Secretary: Cindy Hayes

Parish Council Members: Fouad Alzaibak, Ed Ayoub, Scott Barnes, Jiana Diakh, Cory Dupont, Matt Duncan, Matt Kelley, Maria Saad, William Small, Jr., Eric Wilmot

May God bless them, strengthen and guide them, that together with their Pastor, Fr. Elie, and with the Arch-Pastoral guidance of Bishop JOHN, they may in unity and concord under take their Ministry to the Glory of God.

St. Mary Church would also like to thank the outgoing members of the Parish Council, Fadia Kabak Florence Spenard and Yacoub (Jacob) Mitri, for their hard work and dedication throughout their terms.

Fr. Elie will bless the Parish Council Members during Liturgy TODAY.



Save the date!

Saturday, May 7th

Spring Hafli

(more info to follow)



There are many unsponsored Coffee Hours. If you would like to sponsor one, please contact:

Latifa Alarmani- (781)414-6281

Thank you for your support.



Fr. Elie and My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Since 1974 the Antiochian Women of North America have raised over 4 million dollars for major charitable projects as tasked by +Metropolitan PHILIP, thrice Blessed Memory and Metropolitan JOSEPH. The projects, both locally and globally, have given support to Balamand, Orphanages, St. George Hospital Lebanon, Syrian Relief, Clergy Retirement fund, Seminarians, the Antiochian Village and now to Fulfilling the Vision of Building a Cathedral at the Antiochian Village. During March, Antiochian Women's Month, St Mary Church along with our sister parishes of the Diocese of Worcester and New England and all around North America are raising funds for this most worthy project. For those of us who have been to the Antiochian Village and who Love its mission to the Archdiocese and our youth, this project is a wonderful way to support the place we now fondly refer to as our Holy Mountain.

The Ladies of St Mary Church also support a young child, "Lorda" who lives in Palestine. We have committed to provide for her education through grade 12 and pay her tuition each year. In the past few years we have been blessed with some wonderful donations for this endeavor and thank everyone who has generously helped us.

We hope you can join us for the Luncheon on February 27th and help St Mary Ladies with their two worthy projects this year.

Thank you,
Your Sister in Christ
Cindy Hayes

Luncheon for the Antiochian Women Project & Lorda's Tuition

Sunday February 27th 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.

We would appreciate you making a reservation for the Dinner (so that we can plan on food) and also that To-Go Plates are available by Pre-order only.

Reservations can be sent to the church office 401-7261202 or text to Cindy Hayes 401-480-4306 by Friday February 25th