

# SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



*Sunday, February 1, 2026*

*Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican &  
Forefeast of the Presentation (Meeting) of Christ*

# ***Saint Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church***

***"A parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America"***

Church Office hours: Monday– Friday 9am-2pm

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 SABA, 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 Cory Dupont**

## **Schedule of Services**

<i>Sunday: Orthros (Matins)</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Sunday: Divine Liturgy</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Church School</i>	<i>11:15 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.

# **DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES**

## **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 01, 2026**

**TONE 1 / EOTHINON 1**

### **SUNDAY OF THE PHARISEE AND PUBLICAN & FOREFEAST OF THE PRESENTATION (MEETING) OF CHRIST**

*During the Little Entrance, chant the Resurrectional Apolytikion. The Eisodikon (Entrance Hymn) is “O come, let us worship... save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead...” After the Little Entrance, sing these hymns in the following order:*

#### **RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION: TONE 1**

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

#### **APOLYTIKION OF THE FOREFEAST OF THE PRESENTATION: TONE 1**

*(\*\*The soldiers standing guard\*\*)*

The Heavens’ choir looked down from the vaults of the Heavens, \* and gazing on the earth, they beheld with amazement \* the First-born of all creation brought forth as a suckling babe \* to the Temple by a pure and virginal mother; \* and with us, they now do sing a hymn for the Forefeast, \* astonished and full of awe.

#### **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.

#### **KONTAKION OF THE FOREFEAST OF THE PRESENTATION: TONE 4**

*(\*\*On this day Thou hast appeared\*\*)*

On this day doth Simeon \* receive with gladness \* God, the giver of the Law; \* and he doth cry to Him in fear: \* Let me depart now, O Master Christ, \* for I have seen Thee, the glory of Israel.



## **THE EPISTLE**

(For Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican)

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

### ***The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (3:10-15)***

My son Timothy, you have followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, patience, persecutions, sufferings, what things befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured! And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Indeed all who would live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. But people who are wicked and deceivers will proceed from worse to worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in the things which you have learned and have been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and how from infancy you have known the sacred temple writings which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

## **THE GOSPEL**

(For Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican)

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:10-14)**

The Lord spoke this parable: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”



**PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR  
GOOD HEALTH AND BLESSING OF:**

Mark Hashway  
Barbara Samra  
Sandra Conca  
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur



Victoria Hallal  
Offered by: Ron Hallal

Jacob, Maria, Sofia & Emilia Khoury  
Nouhad Kardous  
Linda Dvelis  
Kristen Silva  
Paul, Maureen & Mary Gurghigian  
Offered by: Salwa Khoury

Paul, Maureen & Mary Gurghigian  
Cindy Hayes & Family  
Mack and Louise Megalli  
Mother Xenia Minihan  
Jacob Muller  
Ronald Muller  
Victoria Muller  
Michelle Saliba  
Kristen Anne Silva  
Phil Spenard  
Madison Tucker  
Offered by: Michael & Nancy Muller

Kristen Silva & Family  
Jacob Khoury & Family  
Salwa Khoury & Family  
Offered by: Linda Dvelis

Salwa Khoury  
Jacob, Maria, Sophia, Emilia Khoury  
Offered by: John & Anita Chamoun

Elizabeth Edes  
Offered by: Fred Elliott

Philip Ayoub  
Ray Trabulsi  
Offered by: Joe & Marlene Samra

**PRAYERS ARE BEING OFFERED FOR  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

Janice Hallal  
Offered by: Her Loving Husband Ron

Mary Hallal  
Offered by: Her Loving Son Ron

Fred Hashway  
Kevin Hashway  
Lorice Hallal  
Robert Laffey  
Offered by: Elaine Wilbur

Fred & Adele Shwaery  
Offered by: Linda Dvelis & Family

Nabil Khoury  
George Kardous  
Offered by: Salwa Khoury

Arthur Abbood  
Offered by: Joe & Marlene Samra

Marie Haddad  
Elias Morcos  
Offered by: Dr. Zeyad Morcos & Family



**Annual Meeting**

**Today during Coffee  
Hour- following Liturgy.**

Prayers of Good Health & Blessing are  
being lovingly offered to *Anita Chamoun*  
on the occasion of her Birthday.

Offered by: Mom



# Ladies Society News

## **Please Join Us for Our Annual SOUP-er Bowl of Caring Luncheon**

**RESCHEDULED to February 8th**

Enjoy an endless Variety of Soups and Chili  
A wonderful Children's Menu  
Beverages & Dessert

**Suggested Donation \$10.00 per Person  
Children under 5 free**

The Soup-er Bowl of Caring helps fund our Box Lunch Outreach. We prepare 65 box lunches on the last Sunday of each month. This program costs our group approximately \$200.00 a month. Our Outreach partners with the Teens to make the sandwiches and to feed those in need in our local community. We have continued to be generous and offer this outreach to the local Soup Kitchen through the generosity of our wonderful parishioners! Thank you for your support of this program!



*"You shall be to Me a royal priesthood and a holy nation." -Exodus 19:6*

**2026**

The Antiochian Women of the  
Diocese of Worcester and New England

# LENTEN RETREAT



"Raising Children with Guidance from St. Olga of Alaska,  
the first Orthodox female saint in North America."

**SATURDAY MARCH 7, 2026**

St. George Orthodox Church  
55 Emmonsedale Rd, West Roxbury, MA 02132

**9:00 AM** Divine Liturgy  
**10:30 AM** Registration & Coffee Hour  
**11:00 AM – 12:15 PM** Session 1  
**12:30 PM** Lunch  
**1:30 PM – 2:45 PM** Session 2

*Breakfast and lunch will be served*



**REGISTER TODAY!**

[2026LentenRetreat.eventbrite.com](https://2026LentenRetreat.eventbrite.com)



**Speaker:** Fr. George Parsenios,  
Professor at Holy Cross Greek  
Orthodox School of Theology

**Admission is \$30.00**

Contact Amal Hourani  
for questions  
(617) 930-7745

# CHADI NADDAF



## Valentine's Day Party

**DANCE, MUSIC & MEZZA**

**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 14TH- 8PM**

**REGULAR \$100 / VIP \$125**

ST MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
1 ST. MARY'S WAY, PAWTUCKET, RI 02860

For Reservation Call

Walid Nakhoul: 401-692-1250 • Ghassan Alarmani: 781-414-1091 • Maria Saad 508-380-1113





## 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).

- ♦ **Please support our bake sale fundraiser TODAY during the Annual Meeting**

### **Sunday School Pasta Lunch Fundraiser**

***Sunday, February 15th***

**Menu:** Pasta, Meatballs, Salad, Garlic Bread & Dessert

Adults- \$10   Children- \$5   Children under 5— free

*Please come support our Sunday School Fundraiser*

### **THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)**

In our Savior's parable, Jesus uses a Pharisee, a leader of the synagogue, who was regarded in public opinion as virtuous; and a publican, a tax collector, who was regarded as oppressive, greedy and a sinner. In their prayers to God, we discover the real hearts of these two men. We thus learn of the harm that comes from pride and the good that comes from humility. The divine Church Fathers sought to alert and prepare the Christ-loving clergy and laity for the upcoming period of the Great Fast. Therefore, on this Sunday we are reminded that humility is the greatest weapon against pride, as we imitate the humility of the publican to ascend to the divine heights. Through the intercessions of the wonderworking Saints, O Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.

## Orthodox Vocabulary

### **Triodion**

**Triodion:** literally, this word means a "canon of three odes." Canons of this type are found in the liturgical books to which they gave their name:

1.) *Lenten Triodion:* this book contains all the texts for Great Lent and its preparatory period, as well as for Holy Week. The dominant trait of these texts is their penitential character, since Lent is offered to the faithful so that they can purify themselves and prepare for the solemnities of the passion and the resurrection of the Savior.

2.) *Bright Triodion* or *Pentecostarion:* this contains the texts used between Pascha and the Sunday following Pentecost (these two feasts included). These texts are characterized by the joy of the resurrection of the Savior, which makes possible the resurrection of all humanity. The various themes which surface during this period reveal, each in its own way, the mystery of redemption and salvation, which is fulfilled with Ascension and Pentecost.

On earth, everything is temporary- brief, transitory. Soon, everything will pass by- that which is pleasant and delightful, as well as what is lamentable and sorrowful. If we have chosen for ourselves the path of piety, then we must remember and not forget the words of the Apostle: 'All that will live godly in Christ shall suffer persecution' (2 Timothy 3:12).

~St. Ambrose of Optina



### **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.

### **Visitations**

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

## **Coffee Hour Update**

Contact Ghassan Alarmani (Gus) to sponsor a coffee hour- (781)414-1091

For those who are sponsoring a coffee hour, the contribution is \$200, including food, paper goods and beverage.

### **Memorial coffee hour:**

Family providing food, we kindly request a contribution of \$250.00. All necessary supplies will be provided at no extra cost to you. Your contribution will be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

## **Coffee Hour Sponsorships**

### **Date:**

### **Sponsored by:**

### **Sponsored for:**

February 1, 2026	General Annual Meeting	
February 8, 2026	Ladies Society	"Souper Bowl of Caring" Fundraiser
February 15, 2026	Church School	Pasta Luncheon (Camp Fundraiser)
February 22, 2026	Walid & Mirna Nakhoul	Health of Family
March 1, 2026	Saliba, Robin, Bianca & Michelle	Health of Family
March 8, 2026	Her Loving Family	Memory of Lorice Hallal (2 years)
March 15, 2026	Dr. Zeyad Morcos & Family	Marie Haddad (40 Day Memorial)
March 22, 2026	available for sponsorship	
March 29, 2026	available for sponsorship	
April 5, 2026	<i>not available</i>	
April 12, 2026	<i>not available</i>	<b>Palm Sunday</b>
April 19, 2026	Lindsey's Birthday	<b>PASCHA</b>
April 26, 2026	Church School	
May 3, 2026	Her Loving Family	Pancake Breakfast (Camp Fundraiser)
May 10, 2026	No Coffee Hour	Memory of Doha Geha Chamas
May 17, 2026	Charitable Gift Program	
May 24, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	Charitable Gift Participants
May 31, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
June 7, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
June 14, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
June 21, 2026	Salwa Khoury	
June 28, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	Memory of Dr. Nabil Khoury
July 5, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
July 12, 2026	<i>not available</i>	
July 19, 2026	<i>not available</i>	
July 26, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	

# CHURCH CALENDAR

**Sunday, February 1, 2026:** Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican  
Annual General Meeting

**Saturday, February 7, 2026:** 6:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy

**Sunday, February 8, 2026:** Sunday of the Prodigal Son  
Ladies Society “Souper Bowl of Caring” Fundraiser

**Tuesday, February 10, 2026:** 7:00 P.M.– Parish Council Meeting

**Saturday, February 14, 2026:** 8:00 P.M.– Valentine’s Day Hafli

**Sunday, February 15, 2026:** Judgement Sunday (Meatfare)  
Church School Pasta Lunch (Camp Fundraiser)

**Sunday, February 22, 2026:** Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare)

**Monday, February 23rd, 2026:** Lent Begins

**Sunday, March 1, 2026:** Sunday of Orthodoxy

**Saturday, March 7, 2026:** 6:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy

**Sunday, March 8, 2026:** Sunday of Gregory Palamas

**Tuesday, March 10, 2026:** 7:00 P.M.– Parish Council Meeting

**Sunday, March 15, 2026:** Veneration of the Cross

**Sunday, March 22, 2026:** John of the Ladder



## PLEDGE 2026

Our 2026 pledge drive has started. Please begin to prayerfully consider your pledge commitment for this year. For your convenience, Pledge cards are available at the back of the church and in the parish center.

Giving is easy through our church app, with options for a one-time donation or weekly/biweekly/monthly donations. In addition to your personal donation, an often overlooked option is to inquire as to whether your employer offers a matching gift program for any charitable donation(s) that you make. Many larger employers offer this benefit which will effectively double the amount of your gift! We can assist with any verifications your company needs to facilitate the matching gift. Please make every effort to complete and return the Pledge card ASAP so we can have an accurate representation of the planned giving for 2026.