

SAINT MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



Sunday, April 26, 2026

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing women

المسيح قام، حقا قام.

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

**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

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 FOR THIRD SUNDAY OF PASCHA
SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026; TONE 2 / EOTHINON 4
SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN,
PIOUS JOSEPH OF ARIMATHAEA & RIGHTEOUS NICODEMUS**

The Priest begins Divine Liturgy with “Blessed is the Kingdom” and the choir responds “Amen.” Bearing the Paschal Candle, the priest then leads the singing of the Paschal Apolytikion and censes the west side of the altar.

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

The choir then sings this twice, and the Liturgy continues with the great litany.

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

Shout with joy to God, all the earth; sing to His Name, give glory to His praises.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Say to God: How awesome are Thy works; let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee. Let it sing a song to Thy Name, O Most High. (**Refrain**)

Glory... Both now... (**Refrain**)

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

May God have mercy upon us, and bless us, and may He cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy upon us.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

That Thy way may be known upon earth, Thy salvation among all nations; let the peoples give thanks to Thee, O God, let all the peoples give thanks to Thee. (**Refrain**)

May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear Him. (**Refrain**)

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let them that hate Him flee from before His face.

As smoke vanisheth, so let them vanish; as wax melteth before the fire. (**Refrain**)

So let sinners perish at the presence of God, and let the righteous be glad. (**Refrain**)

This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein. (**Refrain**)

After the verses of the third antiphon, chant the following:

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF PASCHA

In the gathering places bless God the Lord, from the springs of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

After the Little Entrance (Eisodos), sing these hymns in the following order.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE TWO

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hades 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 JOSEPH OF ARIMATHAEA IN TONE TWO

The noble Joseph, taking Thine immaculate Body down from the Tree, and having wrapped It in pure linen and spices, laid It for burial in a new tomb. But on the third day Thou didst arise, O Lord, granting to the world Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN IN TONE TWO

Unto the myrrh-bearing women did the Angel cry out as he stood by the grave: Myrrh-oils are meet for the dead, but Christ hath proved to be a stranger to corruption. But cry out: The Lord is risen, granting to the world Great Mercy.

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.

THE KONTAKION OF PASCHA IN TONE EIGHT

Though Thou didst descend into the grave, O Immortal One, yet didst Thou destroy the power of Hades, and didst arise as victor, O Christ God, calling to the myrrh-bearing women, Rejoice, and giving peace unto Thine Apostles, O Thou Who dost grant resurrection to the fallen.



THE EPISTLE

The Lord is my strength and my song. With chastisement has the Lord chastened me.

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (6:1-7)

In those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily ministry. And the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said: "It is not right that we should forsake the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good report, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. And we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And the saying pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Próchoros, and Nikánor, and Tímon, and Parmenás, and Nikólaos a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem exceedingly, and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (15:43-16:8)

At that time, Joseph of Arimathaea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the Kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if He were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether Jesus was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that He was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking Him down, wrapped Him in the linen shroud, and laid Him in a tomb, which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where He was laid. And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb at the rising of the sun. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back – it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a long white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, Who was crucified. He is risen; He is not here; see the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter that He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see Him, as He told you." And they went out quickly and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

**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
Bryan Boulis & Family
Offered by: Fred Elliott

Kristen Silva & Family
Jacob Khoury & Family
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

Esma Gorab
Offered by: Joe & Marlene Samra



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.

Cemetery information

If you are in need of a cemetery lot, please contact Flo Spenard at 508-930-6630 or Linda Dvelis at 401-749-1278.



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).

May Breakfast Fundraiser for Summer Camp ~ TODAY-*April 26th*

Menu: Scrambled Eggs, Pancakes, Bacon, Sausage, Fruit, Danish, Orange Juice and Coffee

Adults/Teens: \$10 Children 12 years & under-\$5

Children 5 years & under -free

Please come support our Sunday School Fundraiser



Arabic Educational Foundation

Arabic Educational Foundation of RI is now accepting college scholarship applications.

High school seniors and current undergraduates of Arabic decent who are or will be enrolled as full-time students at an accredited college for the 2026-2027 academic year are encouraged to apply.

Eligibility information and applications can be found on our website:

www.aef-ri.org

~Save the date~

St. Mary Family Fun Day

Sunday, July 12, 2026 (rain date July 19th) @ 1:00 pm

Buttonwoods (Masonic Youth Center) 116 Long St., Warwick, RI

We will provide (Free): Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips, Watermelon, Hot Grill, Games for everyone!

For more information contact-
Walid Nakhoul (401)692-1250



Visitations

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

SAVE THE DATE

Feast Day Weekend (Mahrajan)

Saturday, August 15th & Sunday, August 16th

We are planning a Fun Weekend Music and Ethnic food such as SAJ, Zaater and Cheese, Shawarma, Falafel, Knafee, HOOKA and much more.





2026 Annual Bazaar News...

Christ is Risen!

We have officially started preparations for our Annual Holiday Bazaar being held on November 6th, 7th & 8th. As you may know, this is our biggest fundraiser of the year and would deeply appreciate all the help that you can offer either cooking beforehand, setting up, helping with booths, donating items for the penny social & silent auction, or being a Sponsor for the Bazaar. *The first Bazaar meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 29th at 7pm in the Church Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.*

Thank you,
Salwa Khoury
Bazaar Committee Chairwoman



Bazaar Committee Meeting

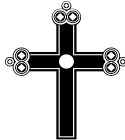
The first Bazaar meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 29th in the church hall at 7:00 pm. Please plan to join us and remember ***SUCCESS starts with YOU!*** If you have any questions, please contact Bazaar Chair Salwa Khoury. ***EVERYONE is invited to attend.*** We look forward to seeing you.

Orthodox Vocabulary

Doctrine of Immortality

In pre-Christian times, the Greeks, especially, reasoned out a doctrine of immortality. They showed an essential connection of the soul with the principles governing reasoning and they took both to be eternal. Plato inferred from this believed kinship the existence of the soul before birth as well as its survival after death. On the other hand the constant striving of the virtuous man after the eternally valid principles of morality was thought to point to the same belief Plato and other Greek philosophers dwelt on the fact that matter imposes limitations on the soul. The body was believed to be a prison-house, from which death released the soul into a fuller and more perfect existence. The doctrine of immortality in Christianity arose from the fact of Christ's Resurrection. Thus, man's highest destiny was more than the mere survival of an immortal soul. Rather, it was a life of continued union with the risen Christ which reached its completion only by the reunion of body and soul after death. St. Paul sketches in his First Epistle to the Corinthians and elsewhere the essence of this Christian belief The Fathers explain the hope of immortality only in relation with the redemptive work of Christ. The Fall of Adam had brought death and it was only through the Second Adam (Christ) that life was regained (St. Athanasios, Gregory of Nyssa.) Later theological developments on the concept of immortality reached the stage by which the resurrection of the body was necessary for a full human life in the world to come; else, a disembodied soul was no true being.

CHRIST IS RISEN, TRULY HE IS RISEN!



Because of the Resurrection of Christ, because of His victory over death, men have become, continue to become, and will continue becoming Christians. The entire history of Christianity is nothing other than the history of a unique miracle, namely, the Resurrection of Christ, which is unbrokenly threaded through the hearts of Christians from one day to the next, from year to year, across the centuries, until the dreaded judgment.

~St. Justin Popovich



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.

Coffee Hour Sponsorships

Date:

Sponsored by:

Sponsored for:

April 26, 2026	Church School	Pancake Breakfast (Camp Fundraiser)
May 3, 2026	Her Loving Family	Memory of Doha Geha Chammas
May 10, 2026	No Coffee Hour	
May 17, 2026	Charitable Gift Program	Charitable Gift Participants
May 24, 2026	Sean & Kayla Joaseus	The Catechumens
May 31, 2026	Emile Sarkis & Family	The Health of Family
June 7, 2026	The Order of St. Ignatius	Last Day of Church School Luncheon
June 14, 2026	Will Small	Memory of Fr. Isaac
June 21, 2026	Salwa Khoury	Memory of Dr. Nabil Khoury
June 28, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
July 5, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
July 12, 2026	<i>not available</i>	Family Day at Buttonwoods Park
July 19, 2026	<i>not available</i>	(raindate for Family Day)
July 26, 2026	Dr. Zeyad & Norma Morcos	my son, (ST Elias) & dad
August 2, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
August 9, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
August 16, 2026	<i>not available</i>	Feast Day Weekend
August 23, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
August 30, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
September 6, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
September 13, 2026	The Order of St. Ignatius	First Day of Church School Luncheon
September 20, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
September 27, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
October 4, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
October 11, 2026	<i>not available</i>	Bazaar Kick-off Luncheon
October 18, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
October 25, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
November 8, 2026	<i>not available</i>	Bazaar Weekend
November 15, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
November 22, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
November 29, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	
December 6, 2026	<i>available for sponsorship</i>	

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, April 26, 2026: Third Sunday of Pascha (Myrrh-bearers)
Church School Pancake Breakfast Camp Fundraiser

Wednesday, April 29, 2026: 7:00 P.M.– First Bazaar Meeting

Saturday, May 2, 2026: 6:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy

Sunday, May 3, 2026: Fourth Sunday of Pascha (Paralytic)

Sunday, May 10, 2026: Fifth Sunday of Pascha (Samaritan Woman)

Tuesday, May 12, 2026: 7:00P.M.- Parish Council Meeting

Sunday, May 17, 2026: Sixth Sunday of Pascha (Blind Man)

Sunday, May 24, 2026: Fathers of 1st Ecumenical Council

Sunday, May 31, 2026: Holy Pentecost

Saturday, June 6, 2026: 6:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy

Sunday, June 7, 2026: First Sunday after Pentecost (All Saints)

Last day of Church School & Luncheon

Tuesday, June 9, 2026: 7:00 P.M.– Parish Council Meeting

Sunday, June 14, 2026: All Saints of Antioch



Parish Life Conference ~ Saturday, June 20th

Holy Transfiguration Church Hall (Lowell, MA)

hosted by: St. George Church (Lowell, MA)

Sunday, June 21, 2026: Third Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, June 28, 2026: Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday, July 4, 2026: 6:00 P.M.– Arabic Liturgy

Sunday, July 5, 2026: Athanasios of Athos

Sunday, July 12, 2026: Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Tuesday, July 14, 2026: 7:00 P.M.– Parish Council Meeting

Sunday, July 19, 2026: Fathers of 4th Ecumenical Council

Sunday, July 26, 2026: Paraskeva of Rome

Feast Day Weekend- August 15th & 16th