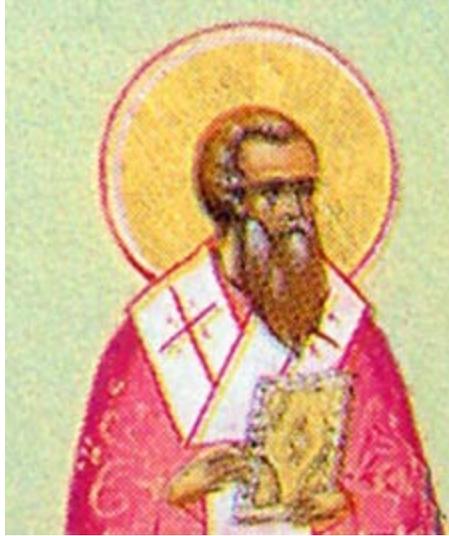


St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church
Lowell, Massachusetts



*Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost &
Eleventh Sunday of Matthew
Hieromartyr Babylas of Antioch
September 4, 2016*

ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

44 Bowers Street,
Phone: (978) 452-4816

Lowell, MA 01854
Fax: (978) 452-6041

Email: fatherfaris@comcast.net

Web: www.saintgeorgelowell.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/saintgeorgelowell

Rt. Rev. Fr. Leonard Faris, Pastor

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday: Matins (Orthros) Service 9:00 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School, Every other Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Divine Liturgy begins at 10:00 a.m. and we should not arrive late. When we do arrive late and the Epistle or Gospel is being read or the priest is preaching the sermon or the Great Entrance is taking place, please **REMAIN** in the Vestibule until it is finished before entering the Church. At the end of the Divine Liturgy please keep your conversation until the "Coffee Hour". We should leave the Church in silence.

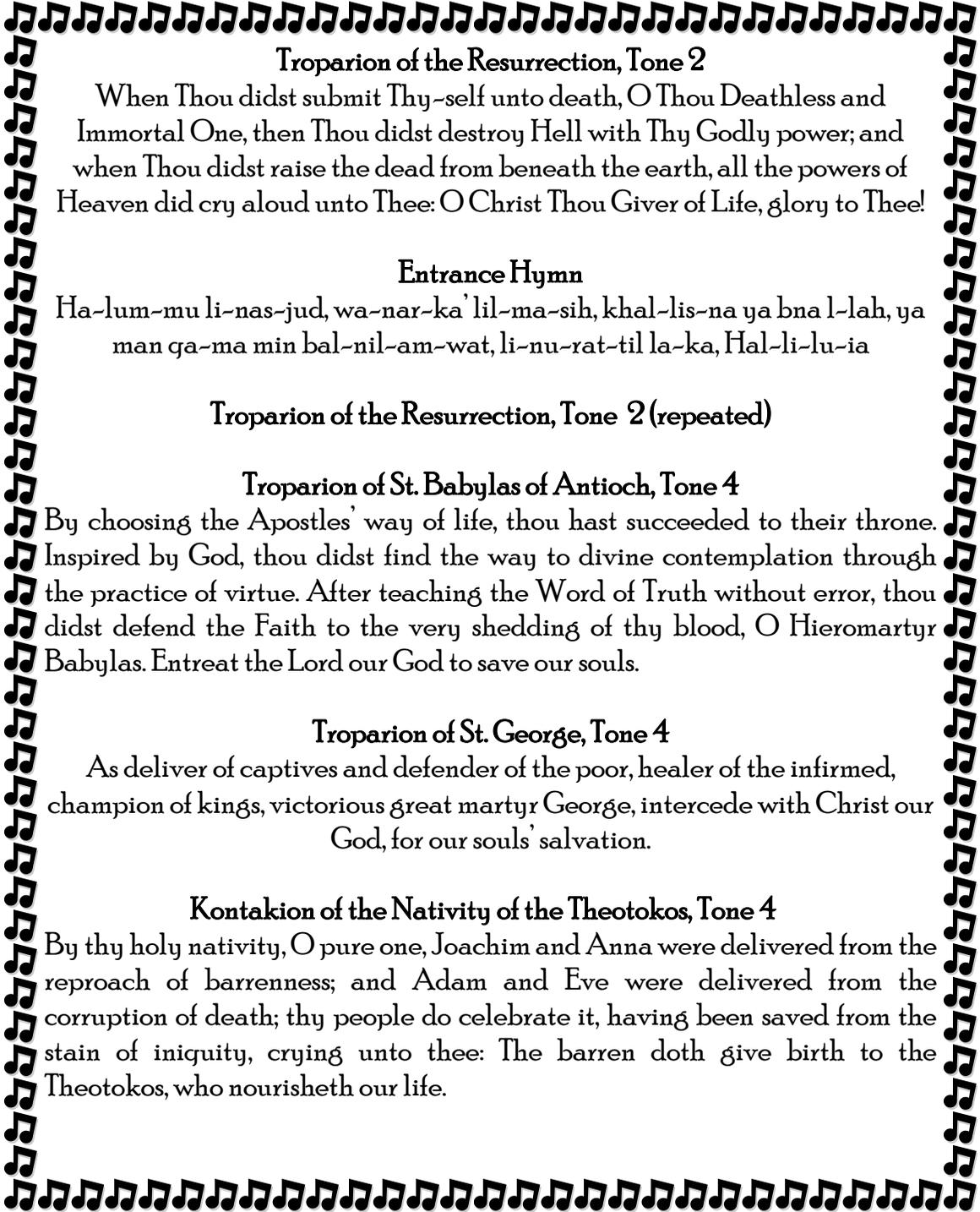
Important Notice: The reception of Holy Communion is limited to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and recent Confession. Confessions are heard on Sunday mornings during the Matins Service or by special appointment. The Eucharistic Fast begins at midnight on Saturday and ends up with the receiving of Holy Communion. If you are on medication or a young child, you can have a light breakfast before coming to church. If you have any questions, please call Fr. Leonard.

Our faithful are reminded that as you leave the sanctuary, to do so **reverently and quietly**. Properly, one should approach the celebrant to receive his blessings, kiss the cross, depart and **then greet neighbors and friends at fellowship hour**. We must never lose reverence for our church sanctuary as the house of God simply because services have ended. Also, please take the Sunday bulletins with you or return them to the Vestry Committee rather than leaving them in the pews or bookracks. Also, out of respect to your fellow parishioners and to God, **please turn off all electronic devices such as cell phones before entering** the church so as to not interrupt the solemnity of our prayers.

*Thank you,
+ Father Leonard*

Church Office Hours: If you would like to meet with the Pastor, please call the office to set up an appointment. Office hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Prayer Requests and Bulletin News: All prayer requests and articles for the weekly bulletin must be submitted each week by **Noon, Tuesday**: emailed to Fr. Leonard at fatherfaris@comcast.net or call 978-452-4816, otherwise, the requests and articles will be published the following week.



Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 2

When Thou didst submit Thy-self 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!

Entrance Hymn

Ha-lum-mu li-nas-jud, wa-nar-ka' lil-ma-sih, khal-lis-na ya bna l-lah, ya man qa-ma min bal-nil-am-wat, li-nu-rat-til la-ka, Hal-li-lu-ia

Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 2 (repeated)

Troparion of St. Babylas of Antioch, Tone 4

By choosing the Apostles' way of life, thou hast succeeded to their throne. Inspired by God, thou didst find the way to divine contemplation through the practice of virtue. After teaching the Word of Truth without error, thou didst defend the Faith to the very shedding of thy blood, O Hieromartyr Babylas. Entreat the Lord our God to save our souls.

Troparion of St. George, Tone 4

As deliver of captives and defender of the poor, healer of the infirmed, champion of kings, victorious great martyr George, intercede with Christ our God, for our souls' salvation.

Kontakion of the Nativity of the Theotokos, Tone 4

By thy holy nativity, O pure one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness; and Adam and Eve were delivered from the corruption of death; thy people do celebrate it, having been saved from the stain of iniquity, crying unto thee: The barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, who nourisheth our life.

Epistle: Corinthians 9:2-12

The Lord is my strength and my song. The Lord has chastened me severely.

The Reading is from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brethren, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is written in the Law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the Gospel of Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 18:23-35

The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

The Lord spoke this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also My heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."



*Prayers are being offered for the
Health and Safety of:*

Nora Abdelahad
 Connie Abodeely
 Ed & Lillian Betor
 Boshar Family
 David and Cindy Boragine
 Ida Boragine
 Jacque and Camilla Cloutier and
 Family
 George Ellis
 Mr. & Mrs. Elias Grivas
 Nicholas, Veronique, Annabelle
 & Chloe Groff
 Duayne Habib
 Rosalind Hajjar & Family
 Elaine Hamwey
 Mary Howie
 Dorothea Husson
 Lloyd Jennings
 Joe Kadir
 Fr. Stephen, and Family
 Rose Lowe
 Nick Manolis
 Marcotte Family
 Thomas Marcotte
 George Matook
 Denise Oujami
 Paul & Lillian Panagopoulos
 Tommy Quinn
 Freda Sadak & Family
 Amad Tayebi
 Jack Trottier
 Dr. Vartan & Lisa
 Yeghiazarians & Family
 Genia Yeghiazarians
 Christian Yianopoulos
 Mary Ann Zaharias
 Nahil Zananiri

Prayers are being offered in Memory of:

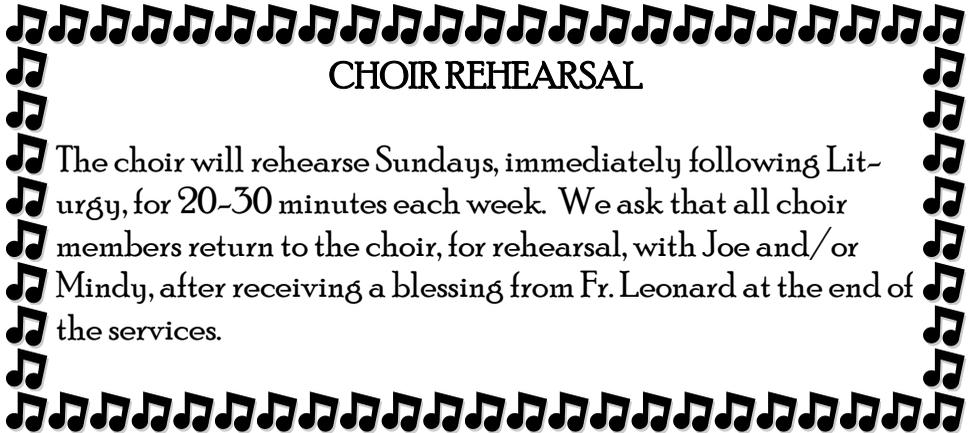
Charles Abdelahad	Philip Hajjar
Michael Abisi	Eleanor Husson
George Abodeely	N. Mary Husson
Miriam Abodeely	Terry Husson Kadir
Mazen Alwarad	Emtisal & Musalam Kazmeh
Toula Anasoulis	Siham Khadij
Andrew Ansara	George Lowe
Elias Ansara	Jack Mahoney
John Ansara	Efthymios & Paraskevi Manolis
Maurice Ansara	Elsie Faris Mansor
Gladys Assaly	Nafie Moses
Linda Assaly	Frederick & Matilda Noonan
Jacob Awad	Hanna Saad
Juliette Bahou	Mary Saati
Laurice Bahou	George W. & Mary Saba
Widad Batten	Badwi Sabbouh
James "Jimmy" Beaudry	Veto & Vasiliki Selvagio
Mary Bogosian	Eleanor Shalhoup
Dorothy Boragine	Judy Skaff
Sal Boragine	Mildred & Arthur Skaff
John Boshar	Minnie Skaff
Cleopatra Bouras	Nellie Husson Skaff
Sofie & Paul Brown	Ricky Skaff
Toma Calache	Stephen Skaff
Dr. Christos Daoulas	T. Michael Skaff
Fred Ead	George B. Stewart
Frances Ellis	Elaine Viera
Frank Ellis	Tony Yacoub
George & Elsie Faris	Leon Yeghiazarians
Mary T. Faris	Charles Zaharias
Connie Fumia	
Elizabeth & Joseph Ghareeb	
John & Irene Gkolias	
George P. Habib	

++++
 + MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE ETERNAL! +
 ++++

COMING UP

Sun. 9/11 9:30 am 1st day of Sunday School

Wed. 9/14 6:30 pm Parish Council Meeting



CHOIR REHEARSAL

The choir will rehearse Sundays, immediately following Liturgy, for 20-30 minutes each week. We ask that all choir members return to the choir, for rehearsal, with Joe and/or Mindy, after receiving a blessing from Fr. Leonard at the end of the services.

“IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT”

Next Sunday, September 11th, we welcome back our Sunday School children for another year of learning about their faith. Classes will be held every other Sunday from 9:30 am until 10:15 am. If you haven't already enrolled your children please do so today. Remember it is the duty of every parent to teach their children about the Faith and to bring them to Church faithfully. If you have any questions, please speak with Marwan Sabbouh, the Sunday School Superintendent.

Happy New Year!

سنة جديدة سعيدة

Make Yours Acceptable to the Lord!

It seems odd saying "Happy New Year" in September, but that's when the Church marks Her annual beginning. September 1st is, for the Church, the first day of a New Year. A pious tradition of the Church holds that Jesus of Nazareth began preaching the good news of His mission on September 1st. When our Lord entered the Synagogue, He was given the book of the Prophet Isaiah to read, and He opened it and found the place where it is written: *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord. And he closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing".*

Tradition also holds that it was during the month of September that the Hebrews entered the Promised Land. And, the custom of beginning a new year with autumn was common in Biblical and Mediterranean lands because the summer harvest was completed, the crops were stored, and it was a time when people began preparing for a new agricultural cycle. It was an appropriate time for a new beginning. This is evident in the services for the New Year as the Church beseeches God for fair weather, seasonable rains, and an abundance of the fruits of the earth.

As we begin this new year it should be noted that the Church Calendar is loaded with important events -- especially the 12 Great Feasts, the Four Fasts, and PASCHA. Also, each day of the Church Year is set aside to honor Saints; many of whom died on that particular date. Similar to our personal calendars where we mark the earthly birth-days of family and friends, the Church remembers the Saints on their "heavenly birth-day" -- the day they passed from this life to Paradise. Liturgically, the Church Year begins and ends with the Mother of God. The first Great Feast of the Year, September 8th, honors her birth; the last Great Feast of the Year, August 15th, remembers her falling asleep. Between these two Great Feasts the Church marks 10 other major Feasts and PASCHA, the Feast of Feasts.

Feast of the Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary September 8th

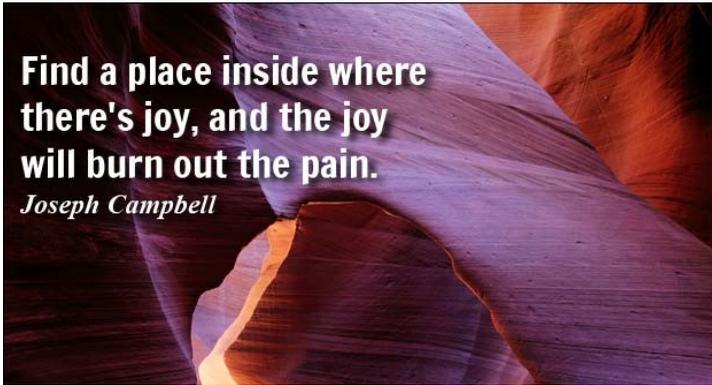
The Feast of the Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary is celebrated on September 8 each year. The Feast commemorates the birth of the Mother of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Background

The birth and early life of the Virgin Mary is not recorded in the Gospels or other books of the New Testament, however this information can be found in a work dating from the second century known as the Book of James or Protevangelion.

According to the story found in this book, Mary's parents, Joachim and Anna, were childless for many years. They remained faithful to God, but their prayers for a child were unanswered. One day, when Joachim came to the temple to make an offering, he was turned away by the High Priest who chastised him for his lack of children. To hide his shame, Joachim retreated to the hill country to live among the shepherds and their flocks.

As Joachim was praying, his wife Anna was praying at the same time at their house in Jerusalem. An angel appeared to both of them and announced that Anna would have a child whose name would be known throughout the world. Anna promised to offer her child as a gift to the Lord. Joachim returned home, and in due time Anna bore a daughter, Mary.



**Find a place inside where
there's joy, and the joy
will burn out the pain.**

Joseph Campbell

*St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church
44 Bowers St., Lowell, MA 01854*

Annual Raffle/Cocktail Party

*Friday, September 16, 2016 at the Andover Country Club
60 Canterbury Road Andover, MA 01810
from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.*

*First Prize ----- \$2,000
Second Prize ----- \$1,000
Third Prize ----- \$500*

*Donation
\$65.00 Dollars*

*Live Music, Hors d'oeuvres, Cash Bar, Coffee and Pastry
Checks are payable to St. George Orthodox Church*

Please present ticket at door

**PLEASE SEE HILDA ZANANIRI IF YOU ARE
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Middle Eastern Food Sale
Cocktail Hour 5:30 p.m.
Hor d'oeuvres

Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Salad • Surf & Turf • Dessert/Coffee

Fashion Show 8:00 p.m.

Sponsorships Are Welcomed

Your names will be listed in the weekly bulletin with prayers for the health of, or in memory of a loved one.

\$45
per person

\$1000 Gold Sponsor receive 8 complimentary dinner tickets

\$500 Silver Sponsor receive 4 complimentary dinner tickets

\$100 Patron Sponsor receive 1 complimentary dinner ticket

Reservations

NAME _____ PHONE # _____ Email/mobile _____

NUMBER ATTENDING _____

\$1000 Sponsor _____ \$500 sponsor _____ \$100 sponsor _____

In Memory of or for the Health of (*circle one*) _____

\$45.00 Regular Ticket _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____

No reservations or tables will be accepted without payment

Reply to **Pam @508-769-8338** or **pms@townisp.com** or tickets can be purchased by mailing this completed form, along with a check to:

St. George Orthodox Cathedral, ATTN: FASHION SHOW, 30 Anna St., Worcester, MA 01604

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STS CONSTANTINE AND HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 10TH

11:00am - 11:00pm

&

SEPTEMBER 11TH

11:30am - 4:30pm



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