



**Celebrating our
100th Anniversary
St. George
Antiochian Orthodox Church of Lowell**

**Remember Our Past, Celebrate Our Present,
Secure Our Future**



*4th Sunday of Great Lent: St. John Climacus (of the Ladder)
and Leavetaking of the Annunciation*

March 26, 2017

ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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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.

Church Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

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.

*Thank you,
+ Father Leonard*

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.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

If anyone is in the hospital it is the duty of the family to inform the priest so that he can visit the patient. Also, if anyone is homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion, he/she or a family member should contact Fr. Leonard to make arrangements to bring the Sacrament to the shut-in. Fr. Leonard is always happy to bring the Sacraments to those in Hospitals, Nursing Homes or at home. Thank you and God bless!

Troparion of the Annunciation, Tone 4

Today is the beginning of our salvation and the manifestation of the mystery from the ages; for the Son of God becometh the Son of the Virgin, and Gabriel proclaimeth grace. Wherefore, do we shout with him to the Theotokos: Rejoice, O full of grace! The Lord is with thee.

Entrance Hymn of the Leave-taking of the Annunciation

Tell forth from day to day the glad tidings of the salvation of our God. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; save us who sing, unto thee. Alleluia.

Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 7

Thou didst shatter death by thy Cross; Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy, and didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning that Thou hast risen, O Christ, granting to the world great mercy.

Troparion of the Annunciation, Tone 4 (repeated)

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 for the Annunciation, Tone 8

To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror; but as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free: from all forms of danger free me and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom.

Epistle: Paul 6:13-20

The Lord will give strength to His people. The Lord will bless His people with peace.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews

Brethren, when God made a promise to Abraham, since He had no one greater by whom to swear, He swore by Himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by one greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of His purpose, He interposed with an oath. So that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

Gospel: Mark 9:16-30

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark

At that time, a man came to Jesus, kneeling down and saying unto him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked Thy Disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And Jesus answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to Me." And they brought the boy to Him; and when the spirit saw Jesus, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if Thou canst do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when Jesus had entered the house, His Disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And Jesus said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And Jesus would not have anyone know it; for He was teaching His Disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him; and after He is killed, He will rise on the third day."



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

Nora Abdelahad
 Connie Abodeely
 Lorice Ansara
 Yvette Ansara
 Ed & Lillian Betor
 David and Cindy Boragine
 Ida Boragine
 George Ellis
 Connie Gholias
 Mr. & Mrs. Elias Grivas
 Nicholas, Veronique, Annabelle
 & Chloe Groff
 Duayne Habib
 Rosalind Hajjar & Family
 Elaine Hamwey
 Mary Howie
 Lloyd Jennings
 Fr. Stephen, and Family
 Rose Lowe
 Marcotte Family
 Thomas Marcotte
 Paul & Lillian Panagopoulos
 Freda Sadak & Family
 Fred Simon
 Amad Tayebi
 Jack Trottier
 Dr. Vartan & Lisa
 Yeghiazarians & Family
 Genia Yeghiazarians
 Christian Yianopoulos
 Nahil Zananiri

Prayers are being offered in Memory of:

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

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

ALTAR BREAD



Today's Altar Bread is given for the health and safety of the Maria, Rizos, Christopulos, and Grillakis Families, requested by Bob and Elaine Maria. May God bless them all with good health, happiness, and long life!



MEMORIALS - Today, March 26th

A 29 Year Memorial Service is being offered for the repose of the soul of the Handmaid of God, Freeda Faris, the grandmother of Fr. Leonard, requested by Fr. Leonard. May her memory be eternal!



COFFEE HOUR

Today's Coffee Hour is being sponsored by Bob and Elaine Maria for the health and safety of the Maria, Rizos, Christopulos, and Grillakis Families. May God bless them all with peace, good health and happiness!

THIS WEEK

This evening	3/26	6:00 pm	Lenten Vespers St. George Greek Church with the participation of the local Orthodox Clergy
Wed.	3/29	6:00 pm	Compline Service
Fri.	3/31	6:00 pm	Lenten Supper
		7:00 pm	Final Madayeh Service
Sun	4/2	6:00 pm	Lenten Vespers at Assumption of the Virgin Mary in Dracut

The flowers adorning the Icon of the Blessed Virgin, for the final Madayeh, have been given for the repose of the soul of Stephen Skaff and for the health and safety of the Skaff Family, requested by Sharkey and Laurence Skaff. May Stephen's memory be eternal and may God bless the Skaff Family with peace, good health and happiness!

March is Antiochian Women's Month

We would like to welcome the Ladies of St. George who will be reading the Epistles, ushering and collecting during this month. We would also like to thank the Ladies for volunteering. May God Bless all our Ladies with health and happiness for all the work they do for the "Glory of God" and St. George Church.

March 26th

Epistle-Arabic

Hala Abousekeh

Epistle-English

Gwen Noonan

1st Collectors/Ushers

Kerri Noonan / Martha Stewart

2nd Collectors

Henrietta Zananiri / Zena Freije



Please see any of the St. George Ladies
to purchase your tickets.
Available until TODAY.

Save the Date ~ Friday, May 19, 2017 ANNUAL COCKTAIL RAFFLE

This year we will be celebrating our 34th annual Cocktail Raffle fundraiser on May 19th at the Andover Country Club. Please help us make this a joyous and successful evening as we continue our year-long celebration in commemoration of our 100th year anniversary.

Thank you,
Hilda Zananiri, Chairwoman





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