

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

Lowell, Massachusetts



*Sunday of Thomas, the Apostle, called "The Twin" and
Great-Martyr George the Trophy-Bearer*

April 23, 2017

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.

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!



Entrance Hymn

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

Troparion for Thomas Sunday, Tone 7

While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Life. While the doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy Disciples, O Christ God, Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

Troparion for St. George, Tone 4

Since thou art a liberator and deliverer of captives, a help and support of the poor and needy, a healing physician of the sick, a contender and fighter for kings, O great among Martyrs, the victory-clad George; intercede with Christ God for the salvation of our souls.

Kontakion of Easter in Tone 8

Though thou, O deathless One, didst descend into the grave, thou didst destroy the power of hell and, as Victor, thou didst rise again, O Christ our God. Thou didst greet the ointment-bearing women, saying, Rejoice! Thou didst bestow peace upon thy Disciples, and resurrection upon those that are fallen..



Epistle Acts 12:1-11

In those days, Herod the king laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He killed James the brother of John with the sword; and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. So Peter was kept in prison; but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the Church. The very night when Herod was about to bring him out, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison; and behold, an angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, "Wrap your mantle around you and follow me." And he went out and followed him; he did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened to them of its own accord, and they went out and passed on through one street; and immediately the angel left him. And Peter came to himself, and said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."






Gospel John 20:19-31

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the Disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the Disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other Disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe." Eight days later, His Disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the Disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His Name.





*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
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	John Hallal
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	Efthymios & 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	Freda Sadak
Sal Boragine	Veto & Vasiliki Selvagio
Cleopatra Bouras	Eleanor Shalhoup
Sofie & Paul Brown	Judy Skaff
Toma Calache	Mildred & Arthur Skaff
Dr. Christos Daoulas	Minnie Skaff
Fred Ead	Nellie Husson Skaff
Frances Ellis	Ricky Skaff
Frank Ellis	Stephen Skaff
George & Elsie Faris	T. Michael Skaff
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!!
+++++



PASTOR'S COMMENTS



As Pastor and Spiritual Father of St. George Parish, for the last fifteen years, I feel compelled to write this comment. This year the attendance at Lenten and Holy Week Services was at an all time low. Our Lord ascended the Cross for our salvation and we couldn't make an effort to come to church and receive the Sacraments of Confession, Anointing and Holy Communion. I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT EXCUSE WOULD BE JUSTIFIED FOR NOT ATTENDING CHURCH DURING THESE HOLY DAYS. I PRAY THAT OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST WILL MOVE YOUR HEARTS TO PARTICIPATE MORE FULLY IN THE LITURGICAL AND SACRAMENTAL LIFE OF THE CHURCH. To those who came to church, God bless you and may Our Risen Lord fill your hearts with joy and gladness. And to those who, for whatever reason, did not come, may Our Risen Lord move you to accept Him as your Lord and Savior and recommit yourselves to the Holy Orthodox Faith.



Yours in The Risen Lord
+Fr. Leonard



ALTAR BREAD

Today's Holy Bread is given in memory of Joseph and Elizabeth Ghareeb. May their memories be eternal!

REMEMBER TO GREET ONE ANOTHER DURING THIS SEASON OF
RESURRECTION WITH:

Christ is Risen!

Al Maseeh Qam!

Kristos Anesti!

Kristos A Inviat!

Kristos Voskresy!

Krisdos Haryav ee Merelotz!

Truly, He is Risen!

Haqan Qam!

Alithos Anesti!

Adeverat A Inviat!

Voyistino Voskresey!

Orhnyal eh Harootiunun Krisdosee

FOOD FOR HUNGRY CAMPAIGN

Please bring your Mite boxes and/or checks for the Food for Hungry Campaign and give them to me after church or at a coffee hour.

Please make your checks payable to **Saint George Antiochian Church** and in the memo write: **Food for Hungry Campaign**. Or if you prefer, mail your check to:

Alan Hamwey

One Hugo Lane

Chelmsford, MA 01824

The deadline for turning in your donations to the **Food for Hungry Campaign** is **Sunday, April 30, 2017**. Any questions, please contact me.

Alan Hamwey

Chairman

alanhamwey@comcast.net

Scholarships

Applications are now being accepted for the Andrew W. Ansara Memorial Scholarship. First time applicants only. Eligible applicants must be a graduating senior in high school, continuing his/her education or a college student already in a degree program. The applicant must also be in good standing with St. George Church. See Fr. Leonard or any member of the Ansara family for further details. Application deadline is June 5th.

Applications are now being accepted for the "St. George Ladies Society" Scholarship. Eligible applicants must be female, 22 years of age or older, be a member in good standing in the church, be actively involved in the worship, service, and social life of the church, be applying for, or registered in, an academic or trade study program, and demonstrate financial need. See Fr. Leonard or Martha Stewart for further details and an application. Application deadline is June 18th.

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church



Teen SOYO

Where: Parish Hall

When: Saturday, April 29, 2017

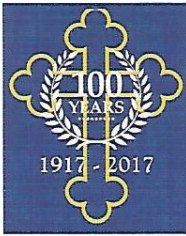
Time: 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Cost: \$12.00 per person
\$6.00 for children 12 and under

Tickets will be sold every Sunday through TODAY and at the door the night of the dinner. See Denise Oujaimi or the Teen SOYO members for tickets.

We will have spaghetti, eggplant parmesan, meat and vegetarian sauce, salad, bread, beverages and dessert.

Come join us for a fun evening out with the family for fellowship and delicious food, while supporting the teens, of our Parish, for their one and only fundraiser of the year!



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

Annual Raffle/Cocktail Party

*Friday, May 19, 2017 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*

COMING SOON

Let's Party

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!! FUN EVENING, MUSIC, 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.

If you need additional tickets, please feel free to contact Hilda Zananiri at 978-328-7582. Please mail all ticket returns and checks no later than May 6, 2017 to Hilda at 16 Dover Street, Lowell, MA 01851 or you can see her in church.

Hilda Zananiri
Chairwoman

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