



# ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

44 Bowers Street,  
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Rt. Rev. Fr. Leonard Faris, Pastor

## WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday: Matins (Orthros) Service	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School	Every other Sunday
	9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.
Divine Liturgy	10:00 a.m.
Office hours: Tuesday—Friday	9:00 am to 1:00 pm

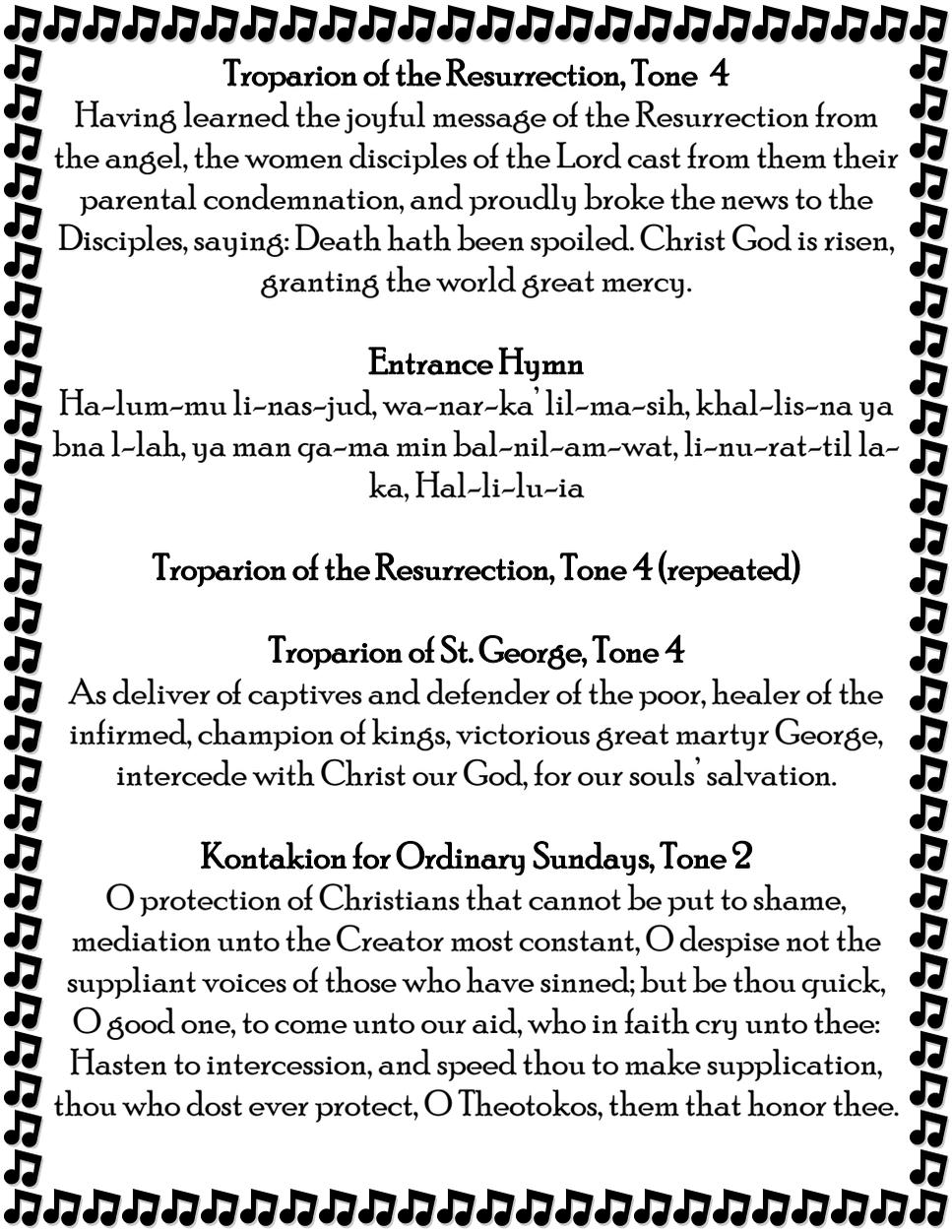
**Important Notice:** The reception of Holy Communion is limited to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and recent Confession. Confessions are heard on Sunday mornings during the Matins Service or by special appointment. The Eucharistic Fast begins at midnight on Saturday 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](mailto: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 Resurrection, Tone 4**

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel, the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation, and proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled. Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

**Entrance Hymn**

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

**Troparion of the Resurrection, 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 Ordinary Sundays, Tone 2**

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

## **Epistle: Corinthians 6:16-7:1**

*Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.  
God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.*

### **The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians**

Brethren, you are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Therefore, come out from them, and be separate from them," says the Lord, "and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters," says the Lord Almighty. Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

## **Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28**

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew**

At that time, Jesus went to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon." But He did not answer her one word. And His disciples came and begged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before Him, saying, "Lord, help me." And He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.



## ALTAR BREAD

Today's Altar Bread is being offered for all the married couples of our Parish on Valentine's Day. May God bless them all with good health and happiness!

## MEMORIAL SERVICE Next Sunday, February 21st

A 40 Day Memorial is being offered for the repose of the soul of the Handmaid of God, Frances Ellis, requested by her husband, George Ellis. May her memory be eternal

## COFFEE HOUR

Today's Coffee Hour is being sponsored by Dalia and Ronnie Tayebi for the Health and Safety of their Families. May God bless them with peace, good health and long life!

## NEXT WEEK - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST

Saidyna John will be with us to  
celebrate the Divine Liturgy

## SAINT VALENTINE

"The story of Valentine's Day begins in the third century with an oppressive Roman emperor and a humble Christian Martyr. The emperor was Claudius II. The Christian was Valentinus.

Claudius had ordered all Romans to worship twelve gods, and had made it a crime punishable by death to associate with Christians. But Valentinus was dedicated to the ideals of Christ; not even the threat of death could keep him from practicing his beliefs. He was arrested and imprisoned.

During the last weeks of Valentinus's life a remarkable thing happened. Seeing that he was a man of learning, the jailer asked whether his daughter, Julia, might be brought to Valentinus for lessons. She had been blind since birth. Julia was a pretty young girl with a quick mind. Valentinus read stories of Rome's history to her. He described the world of nature to her. He taught her arithmetic and told her about God. She saw the world through his eyes, trusted his wisdom, and found comfort in his quiet strength.

"Valentinus, does God really hear our prayers?" Julia asked one day.

"Yes, my child, He hears each one."

"Do you know what I pray for every morning and every night? I pray that I might see. I want so much to see everything you've told me about!"

"God does what is best for us if we will only believe in Him," Valentinus said.

"Oh, Valentinus, I do believe! I do!" She knelt and grasped his hand.

They sat quietly together, each praying. Suddenly there was a brilliant light in the prison cell. Radiant, Julia screamed, "Valentinus, I can see! I can see!"

"Praise be to God!" Valentinus exclaimed, and he knelt in prayer.

On the eve of his death Valentinus wrote a last note to Julia, urging her to stay close to God. He signed it, "From your Valentine." His sentence was carried out the next day, February 14, 270 A.D., near a gate that was later named Porta Valentini in his memory. He was buried at what is now the Church of Praxedes in Rome. It is said that Julia planted a pink-blossomed almond tree near his grave. Today, the almond tree remains a symbol of abiding love and friendship. On each February 14, Saint Valentine's Day, messages of affection, love, and devotion are exchanged around the world."

## January Income and Expenses

Cash receipts	\$9,920.00
Total Expenses	\$8,966.00
Net profit	\$954.00

### QUOTE OF THE DAY

We must be willing to let go of the life we planned so as to have the life that is waiting for us.

### COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS

We would like to encourage our parishioners to sign up to host a Coffee Hour after Sunday Church Services. If there is no sponsor on any given Sunday there will be no Coffee Hour. Anyone can sponsor a Coffee Hour either for the health and safety of their family or “in memory of” a loved one. They can be very simple, coffee, donuts and muffins. If you would like to sponsor a Coffee Hour please sign your name on the sign up sheet near the water bubbler.

*ICONS DONATED*

*Virgin Mary Icon on Iconostasis*  
*St. George Icon*  
*Annunciation Icon*  
*St. Peter Icon*  
*St. James the Elder Icon*

*Christ Icon*  
*St. John the Baptist Icon*  
*Last Supper Icon*  
*St. Andrew Icon*  
*St. Matthew Icon*

*ICONS TO BE DONATED - \$200 EACH*

*St. Mark*  
*St. John*  
*St. Bartholemew*  
*St. Thomas*

*St. Luke*  
*St. Philip*  
*St. Thaddeus*  
*St. James the Younger Icon*

*LITURGICAL ITEMS TO BE DONATED*

*Censer - \$300*  
*Zeon - \$225*  
*Presanctified Liturgy Box - \$420*  
*Refurbish Altar Candle Sticks (6) - \$2000*

*Holy Water Sprinkler - \$400*  
*Altar Boy Lanterns (2 sets) - \$250 / set*  
*Refurbish Iconostasis Lanterns (6) - \$2500*

*If you would like to donate any of these items, please see Father Leonard*

*For the Health & Safety of:*

*In Loving Memory of:*

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Your name:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Donation:* \_\_\_\_\_

*All donations should be made out to: St. George Antiochian Church*  
*In the Memo: 100th Anniversary Renovation Fund*

## Project Healthy Living

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your patience with my continual outreach for various nonprofit efforts. I will always put the request out there but of course there is no pressure.

As you may know one of my favorite organization is the Lowell Boys and Girls Club.

An informal program has been going on over the years to help boys and girls who may have personal hygiene needs/ education or may require supplies or resources. They have offered educational programs for girls on hygiene, puberty, etc. and for boys on hygiene, shaving, etc. Believe it or not, these basic skills or needs are sometimes taken for granted by others. The goal is to set up regular educational sessions with a health professionals from the community and give the “students” a bag of supplies as part of it. This is a discreet way to give them some things they may all need. We also want to have an inventory of toiletries, new socks (boys and girls, ages 10-18), new underwear (boys and girls, ages 10-18), that can be distributed as a need is identified.

If you are interested in supporting this cause, please gather your items and I will be happy to pick them up. If you prefer to make a cash donation, that is great as well. Make checks payable to LBGC and note “Project Healthy Living” in memo. Feel free to share this with friends and family.

I would like to get this in place by the end of February. If you have any questions, please, let me know.

Thank you so much,

Ellen Andre, 8 San Mateo Road, Chelmsford, MA 01824

### Items in need:

Feminine Hygiene products (tampons, pads, etc).

Deodorant

Shaving Cream

Razors

Anti bacterial soap

Face wash

Underwear

Socks

Travel Toothpaste

Body powder

Shampoo



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church  
44 Bowers Street  
Lowell, Massachusetts 01854  
Right Rev. Fr. Leonard Faris, Pastor



Dear St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church parishioners and vendors:

We're accepting advertisements to appear in our church bulletin (see last page). For \$250 you can advertise your business to our community weekly for one year. Our bulletin is distributed weekly in church in hard copies as well as electronically to approx. 250-300 people from the greater Lowell area.

Advertisements are approx. 3" wide x 2" high (business card size).

To submit your business card or if you have any questions please contact,  
Ron Tayebi  
978.337.0843.

We look forward to your support,

St. George's Church Parish Council



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