

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church
Lowell, Massachusetts



Sunday of the Blind Man

June 5, 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 frfaris@verizon.net or call 978-452-4816, otherwise, the requests and articles will be published the following week.

Entrance Hymn

In the gathering places bless ye 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.

Troparion of the Apolytikion, Tone 5

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy Disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, having become confident of the blessing. Verily, Thou art the Son of God, and Deliverer of the world.

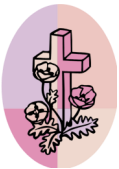
Troparion of St. George, Tone 4

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 Pascha, Tone 8

O Immortal One, when Thou didst descend into the tomb, Thou didst destroy the power of Hades; and Thou didst rise victorious, O Christ God. Thou hast said to the ointment-bearing women: Rejoice! And Thou gavest peace to Thy Disciples, O Bestower of Resurrection to those Who had fallen.

MEMORIALS NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 12



A Memorial Service will be offered for the repose of the soul of the Servant of God, David Saba, requested by his family. May his memory be eternal!

A 6 Month Memorial Service will be offered for the repose of the soul of the Handmaid of God, Frances Ellis, requested by her husband, George, and a One Year Memorial Service will be offered for the repose of the soul of the Servant of God, Frank Ellis, requested by his brother, George Ellis. May their memories be eternal!

A Memorial Service will be offered for the repose of the soul of the Handmaid of God, Jeannette Horne, requested by George Saba. May her memory be eternal!

Epistle: Apostles 16:16-34

*Thou, O Lord, shalt keep us and preserve us.
Save me, O Lord, for the godly man hath disappeared.*

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In those days, as we Apostles were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the Name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

Gospel: John 9:1 -38

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John

At that time, when Jesus was passing, He saw a man blind from his birth. And His Disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. I must work the works of Him Who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As He said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" [which means Sent]. So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for He does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about Him, since He has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether He is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become His disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are His disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where He comes from, and yet He opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, He could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him He said, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered, "And Who is He, Sir, that I may believe in Him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen Him, and it is He who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped Him.



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

Nora Abdelahad
 Lionel Arsenault
 Ed & Lillian Betor
 David and Cindy Boragine
 Ida Boragine
 Jacque and Camilla Cloutier and
 Family
 Ralph Carnevale
 George Ellis
 Mr. & Mrs. Elias Grivas
 Nicholas, Veronique, Annabelle
 & Chloe Groff
 Duayne Habib
 Rosalind Hajjar & Family
 Mary Howie
 Lloyd Jennings
 Joe Kadir
 Fr. Stephen, and Family
 Rose Lowe
 Nick Manolis
 Marcotte Family &
 Sgt. Peter Marcotte
 Thomas Marcotte
 Denise Oujami
 Paul & Lillian Panagopoulos
 Freda Sadak & Family
 Amad Tayebi
 Jack Trottier
 Dr. Vartan & Lisa
 Yeghiazarians & Family
 Genia Yeghiazarians
 Christian Yianopoulos
 Mary Ann Zaharias
 Steve Zaharoulis
 Nahil Zananiri
 Fr. Leonard, requested by
 George and Sandra Matook

Prayers are being offered in Memory of:

Charles Abdelahad	John & Irene Gkolias
George Abodeely	George P. Habib
Miriam Abodeely	Philip Hajjar
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	Elsie Faris Mansor
Jacob Awad	Nafie Moses
Juliette Bahou	Frederick & Matilda Noonan
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 Faris	George B. Stewart
Mary T. Faris	Elaine Viera
Connie Fumia	Tony Yacoub
Elizabeth & Joseph	Leon Yeghiazarians
Ghareeb	Charles Zaharias

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

NEXT WEEK

Wed 6/8 6:00 pm Ascension Day Divine Liturgy
7:00 pm Parish Council Meeting

Sat 6/11 Parish Life Conference meetings at
St. George Church, Lawrence, MA

Andrew Ansara Memorial Scholarship

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.

SAVE THE DATE:



The Fifth Annual Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church Night at the Lowell Spinner Baseball Game will be held on Saturday, August 20, 2016. Please take a flyer in the back of the church for further details and see Alan Hamwey who will be coordinating this event.



DIOCESE OF WORCESTER PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE
 Hosted by: St. George Church, Lawrence, MA June 11 & 25, 2016

Registration Form

Register On-line:

www.antiochianevents.com/worcester.html

Please mail completed form to:

Diocese of Worcester PLC 2016
 St. George Orthodox Church
 8 Lowell St, Lawrence, MA 01840
 Church Office Phone: 978-685-4052
PLC2016@staeoraelawrence.org

Deadline: June 1, 2016

Pre-Conference Events
(Saturday, June 11, 2016)

Conference Events
(Saturday, June 25, 2016)

FEES

Please write your name as you would like it to appear on your badge.

Anyone under the age of 18 **MUST** submit completed and signed Parent Consent Form and Teen Code of Conduct (Teens only) in order to receive their Badge.

Place an X in the appropriate boxes for each listed person.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.

1	2	3	4	5	6	Male	Female	Child (12 & under)	Teen (13-19)	Adult	Clergy/Clergy Wife	Young Adults	Order of St. Ignatius	Antiochian Women	Teen SOYO	Creative Arts Festival (included with registration)	Oratorical Festival (included with registration)	Luncheon (included with registration)	Organizational Meetings (included with registration)	Awards Lunch (Child \$10, All Others \$15)	Keynote Address (included with registration)	Workshop Session (included with registration)	Bible Bowl (included with registration)	Family Dinner/Dance (Child \$15, All Others \$30)	Mandatory Registration Fee (Ages 12 & older) Pay \$10 fee once, for June 11 and/or June 25	Total
																										\$
																										\$
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																										\$
																										\$
Parish Name: _____						Children (Ages 4-12)						-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	15	-				\$	
Parish City: _____ State: _____						Teens (Ages 13-19)						-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	30	\$10				\$	
						Adults/Clergy						-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	30	\$10			\$		

Diocese: _____ Phone: _____
 Name: _____ Email: _____
 Address: _____ Date: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

We encourage everyone to pre-register in order for us to prepare for meal and facilities requirements.

Make checks payable to: "St. George Orthodox Church" and mail to the above address. For credit card payments, please register online (link above).

I acknowledge and understand that all Charges and/or Donations are non-refundable.
 Refer to policy statement: www.antiochianevents.org/privacy/132

100th Year Celebration (1917-2017) - October 2017

We are in the very early stages of planning our 100th Year Celebration. The committees listed below have been formed so that we can start to get organized. Although we do not have an exact date, we do know it will take place October 2017. As it stands now, this will be a two day celebration: Saturday night, the Historical Committee will do a presentation, many details on this evening need to be worked out, including which venue it will be held at. On Sunday, following church services, there will be a luncheon held at a venue that will be determined. Please note that this is an entire parish endeavor and we need the assistance of everyone. If you have any thoughts please share your ideas with the appropriate committee members. There are two areas in which we need your help now:

1. **The Historical Committee** will be asking parishioners for pictures, newspaper clippings, documents, letters etc. reflecting our 100 years. Anything that you have that will help to enhance their Saturday evening presentation is needed. In addition, it is possible that the committee may be interviewing parishioners for additional information.
2. **The Publicity Committee** will need your help when it is time to promote our celebration. But starting now, a mass mailing list is needed with names extending further than our regular parishioners. If you have anyone that you would like added to the mass mailing list please forward those names and addresses to Laurie Andersson as soon as possible, (LaurieAndersson@comcast.net) or call 978-441-1322

100 Year Anniversary Committee Members

Chairperson:	Laurie Andersson (Joseph Awad, Fr. Lenny)
Historical Committee:	Lisa Ansara, Azar Louh, Chakeep Skaff, Nicole Skaff, Amad Tayebi
Publicity Committee:	Mindy Abodeely, Nicole Awad, Fred Simon, Lynne Wade
Venue Committee:	Joanne Doulames, Voula Manolis, Hilda Zananiri
Ticket Committee:	Gwen Noonan

100th Anniversary Help Needed!

The Historical Committee is gathering pictures, letters, documents, etc. for the historical presentation during our anniversary celebration. Your families are important to us and we are looking for information from all 10 decades. Please submit copies or originals, labeled with your name, address and phone number on the back and any relevant information that would tell us about your submission.

Historical Committee Members:

Lisa Ansara, Azar Louh, Chakeep Skaff, Nicole Skaff, Amad Tayebi

Chairperson:

Laurie Andersson

100th Year Anniversary Mailing Addresses Needed

We are in need of home addresses of past and present patrons of our church ~ anyone that has had something to do with our church! Think about children, grandchildren, or even people that may have drifted away for awhile. All our people have a place in the history of our church and we would like to include them in our 100th Year Anniversary Celebration.

Please send addresses to chairperson: Laurie Andersson

LaurieAndersson@comcast.net

12 Stonebridge Drive

Dracut, MA 01826

(If you receive home mailings from our church,
we already have your address)

LOWELL FOLK FESTIVAL JULY 29, 30, AND 31, 2016

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

As in prior years, we will participate in the Lowell Folk Festival which is scheduled for July 29-31, 2016. The Folk Festival is great way to exhibit our ethnic pride by selling our natural homemade ethnic food to the Lowell community. The Folk Festival is St. George's biggest fundraiser each year. Last year's Folk Festival expenses were approximately \$6,500. We welcome all donations from our parishioners and friends to defray these expenses. Our goal is to defray all expenses and make this a very successful event with a huge profit. Please help us to achieve this goal.

If you would like to donate this year, please make your check payable to St. George Church. We appreciate your support and dedication.

Thank you,
Hilda Zananiri, Chairwoman

Please send your donations to:
Saint George Antiochian Church – Folk Festival Donation
Attention: Hilda
44 Bower St.
Lowell, MA 01854

A copy of the Volunteer Schedule will be on the table as you enter the church hall. Please see the schedule to sign up.

Folk Festival Volunteers NEEDED

Shifts will be:	<u>Friday</u>	<u>4:30 pm - 10:30 pm</u>
	Saturday	10:00 am - 2:00 pm 1:45 pm - 6:00 pm <u>5:30 pm - 10:30 pm</u>
	<u>Sunday</u>	10:00 am - 2:00 pm 1:30 pm - 6:30 pm

If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, please see
Hilda Zananiri (978-328-7582) or Martha Stewart (978-397-4376).

You can also email Hilda at hzananiri@verizon.net or
Martha at marthaestewart@gmail.com



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