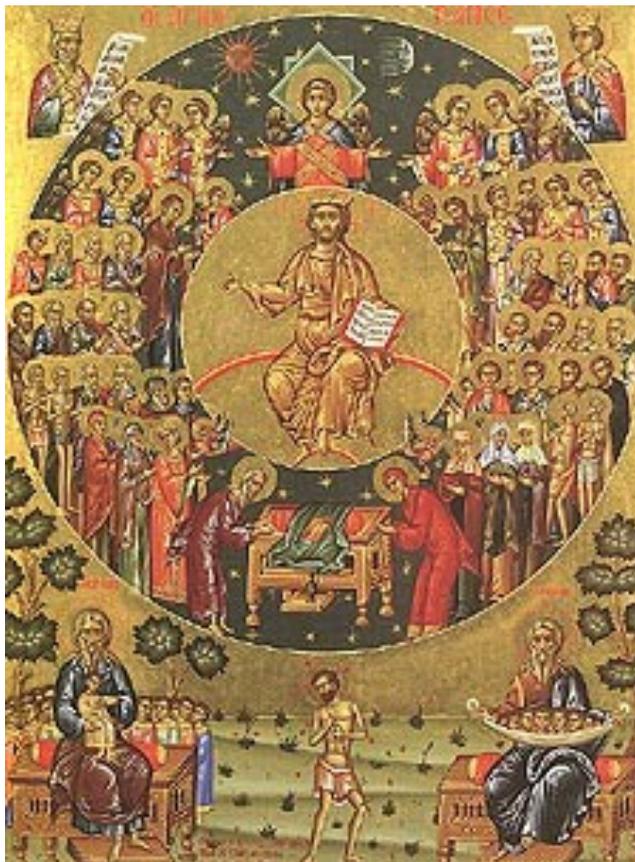


St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church
Lowell, Massachusetts



Synaxis of All Saints

June 26, 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.

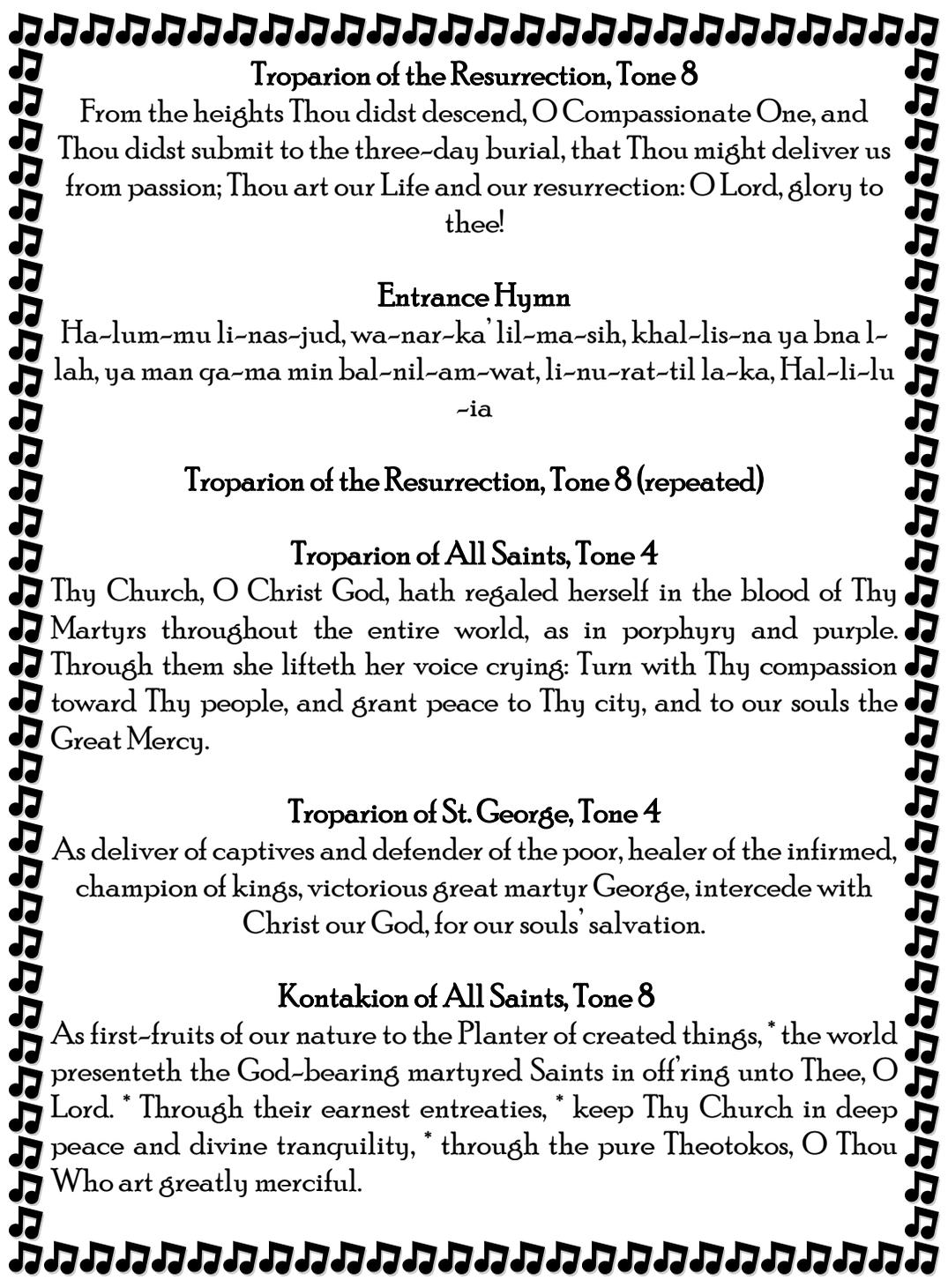
Important Notice: The reception of Holy Communion is limited to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and recent Confession. Confessions are heard on Sunday mornings during the Matins Service or by special appointment. The Eucharistic Fast begins at midnight on Saturday 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 8

From the heights Thou didst descend, O Compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our Life and our resurrection: O Lord, 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 8 (repeated)

Troparion of All Saints, Tone 4

Thy Church, O Christ God, hath regaled herself in the blood of Thy Martyrs throughout the entire world, as in porphyry and purple. Through them she lifteth her voice crying: Turn with Thy compassion toward Thy people, and grant peace to Thy city, and to our souls the Great Mercy.

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 All Saints, Tone 8

As first-fruits of our nature to the Planter of created things, * the world presenteth the God-bearing martyred Saints in off'ring unto Thee, O Lord. * Through their earnest entreaties, * keep Thy Church in deep peace and divine tranquility, * through the pure Theotokos, O Thou Who art greatly merciful.

Epistle: Paul 11:33-12:2

God is wonderful among His saints. Bless God in the congregations.

The Reading is from St. Paul to the Hebrews

Brethren, all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfection of our faith.

Gospel: Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30

The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

The Lord said to His disciples, “Everyone who acknowledges Me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father Who is in heaven; but whoever denies Me before men, I also will deny before My Father Who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me.” Then Peter said in reply, “Lo, we have left everything and followed Thee. What then shall we have?” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, in the New World, when the Son of Man shall sit on His glorious throne, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My Name’s sake, will receive a hundred fold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first.”



ALTAR BREAD

Today's Altar Bread is being offered in memory of the Servant of God Stephen Skaff, requested by his parents, Sharkey and Laurence Skaff and family. May Stephen's memory be eternal!

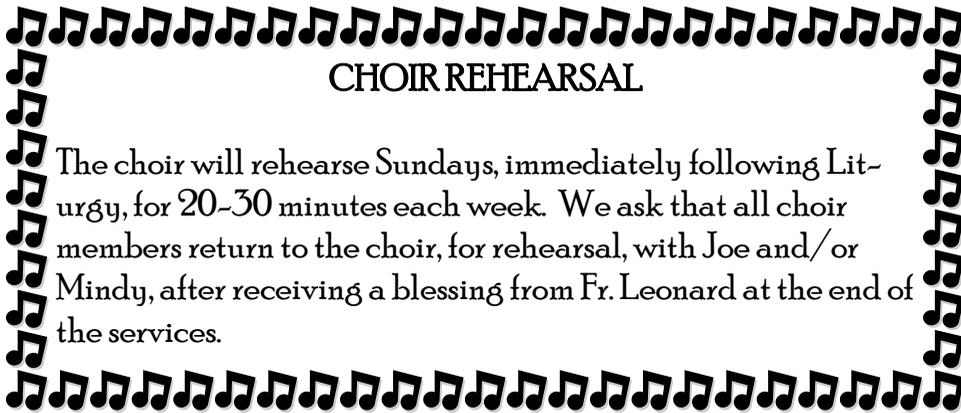


MEMORIAL

A 5 Year Memorial Service is being offered for the repose of the soul of the Servant of God, Stephen Skaff, requested by his parents, Sharkey and Laurence Skaff and family. May Stephen's memory be eternal!



Today's Coffee Hour is being sponsored in memory of the Servant of God Stephen Skaff, requested by his parents, Sharkey and Laurence Skaff and family. May Stephen's memory be eternal and may God bless Sharkey, Laurence and their family with peace, good health and happiness!



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.

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.



COMING SOON

Let's Party

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!!

ANNUAL Raffle / Cocktail party
Friday, September 16, 2016
Andover Country Club
7:00 pm to 11:00 pm

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

Honoring the friends of God with much reverence, the Prophet-King David says, "But to me, exceedingly honorable are Thy friends, O Lord" (Ps. 138:16). And the Apostle Paul, recounting the achievements of the Saints, and setting forth their memorial as an example that we might turn away from earthly things and from sin, and emulate their patience and courage in the struggles for virtue, says, "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every burden, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us"

This commemoration began as the Sunday (Synaxis) of All Martyrs; to them were added all the ranks of Saints who bore witness (the meaning of "Martyr" in Greek) to Christ in manifold ways, even if occasion did not require the shedding of their blood.

Therefore, guided by the teaching of the Divine Scriptures and Apostolic Tradition, we honor all the Saints, the friends of God, for they are keepers of God's commandments, shining examples of virtue, and benefactors of mankind. Of course, we honor the known Saints especially on their own day of the year, as is evident in the Menologion. But since many Saints are unknown, and their number has increased with time, and will continue to increase until the end of time, the Church has appointed that once a year a common commemoration be made of all the Saints. This is the feast that we celebrate today. It is the harvest of the coming of the Holy Spirit into the world; it is the "much fruit" brought forth by that "Grain of wheat that fell into the earth and died" (John 12:24); it is the glorification of the Saints as "the foundation of the Church, the perfection of the Gospel, they who fulfilled in deed the sayings of the Savior".

In this celebration, then, we reverently honor and call blessed all the Righteous, the Prophets, Apostles, Martyrs, Confessors, Shepherds, Teachers, and Holy Monastics, both men and women alike, known and unknown, who have been added to the choirs of the Saints and shall be added, from the time of Adam until the end of the world, who have been perfected in piety and have glorified God by their holy lives. All these, as well as the orders of the Angels, and especially our most holy Lady and Queen, the Ever-virgin Theotokos Mary, do we honor on this day, setting their life before us as an example of virtue, and entreating them to intercede in our behalf with God, Whose grace and boundless mercy be with us all. Amen.

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, Lily Lorrey, 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)



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