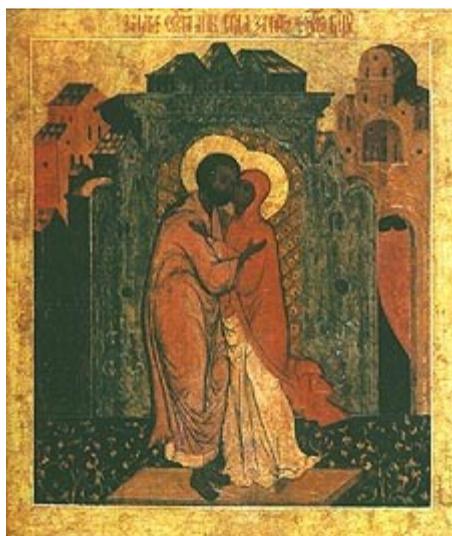


St. George Antiochian  
Orthodox Church  
Lowell, Massachusetts



**CONCEPTION OF THE THEOTOKOS BY RIGHTEOUS  
ANNA & TENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE**

*December 9, 2018*

**ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
The Most Reverend Metropolitan JOSEPH  
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

The Right Revered Bishop JOHN, Diocese of Worcester and New England

Rt. Rev. Archmandrite Leonard Faris  
Pastor of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

Email: [fatherfaris@comcast.net](mailto:fatherfaris@comcast.net)

44 Bowers Street, Lowell, MA 01854

Web: [www.saintgeorgelowell.org](http://www.saintgeorgelowell.org)

Phone: (978) 452-4816 Fax: (978) 452-6041

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/saintgeorgelowell](http://www.facebook.com/saintgeorgelowell)

**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](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 3**

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad; for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm; He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first born from the dead; He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting world great mercy.

**Entrance Hymn**

Ha-lum-mu lu li-nas-judu, lil-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 3 (repeated)**

**Troparion of Conception of the Theotokos by St. Anna, Tone 4**

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad; for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm; He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first born from the dead; He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting world 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 the Conception of the Theotokos by St. Anna, Tone 4**

All the world doth celebrate Anna's conception on this day with festive joy, because it came to pass through God; for by divine grace she hath conceived her that beyond words conceiveth the Word of God.



## THE EPISTLE

*God is wondrous in His saints. Bless God in the congregations.*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (4:22-27)**

Brethren, Abraham had two sons, one by a slave and one by a free woman. But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, the son of the free woman through promise. Now this is an allegory: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. For it is written, "Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and shout, you who are not in travail; for the children of the desolate one are many more than the children of her that is married."

## THE GOSPEL

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (13:10-17)**

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" As Jesus said this, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him.

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

Nora Abdelahad  
Connie Abodeely  
Kathy Ansara  
Lorice Ansara  
Phyllis Arsenault  
Siham Bahou  
Ray Beaudry  
June Behrakis  
Ed & Lillian Betor  
David and Cindy Boragine  
Ida Boragine  
George Ellis  
Athanasia Grivas  
Veronique, Annabelle & Chloe Groff  
Duayne Habib  
Rosalind Hajjar & Family  
Sam Halperin & Family  
Lloyd Jennings  
Joe Kadir  
Nabil Khoury  
Fr. Stephen and Family  
Rose Lowe  
Marcotte Family  
Lynn Marcotte  
Thomas Marcotte  
Clemence Maria  
Robert Maria  
Megan MacDonald  
Fred Noonan  
Helen Poulos  
Chakeep Skaff  
Julia and Brian Sapienza  
Amad Tayebi  
Jack Trottier  
Dr. Vartan & Lisa Yeghiazarians &  
Family  
Michael Wade  
Genia Yeghiazarians

*Prayers are being offered in Memory of:*

Charles Abdelahad  
George Abodeely  
Miriam Abodeely  
Toula Anasoulis  
Andrew Ansara  
Elias Ansara  
John Ansara  
Maurice Ansara  
Michael Ansara  
Gladys Assaly  
Linda Assaly  
Yaacoub Awad  
Zaven Bogosian  
Juliette Bahou  
Laurice Bahou  
Widad Batten  
James "Jimmy" Beaudry  
Dorothy Boragine  
Sal Boragine  
Cleopatra Bouras  
David Burs  
Habib Chala  
Robert Coviello  
Austin Dufault  
Fred Ead  
Frances Ellis  
Frank Ellis  
George & Elsie Faris  
Mary T. Faris  
Mary V. Faris  
Elizabeth & Joseph Ghareeb  
Elias Grivas  
George P. Habib  
Philip Hajjar  
Dorothea Husson  
Eleanor Husson  
N. Mary Husson  
Ollie Husson  
Terry Husson Kadir  
Lissa Kowalski  
George Lowe  
Efthymios & Paraskevi Manolis  
George Matook  
Anthony Matysczak  
Adeb Mechrefe  
Nafie Moses  
Kay Moulton  
Frederick & Matilda Noonan  
Paul Panagopoulos, Sr.  
Anisse Saad  
Hanna Saad  
Mary Saati  
George W. & Mary Saba  
Badawi Sabbouh  
Eleanor Shalhoup  
Fred Simon  
Judy Skaff  
Mildred & Arthur Skaff  
Minnie Skaff  
Nellie Husson Skaff  
Ricky Skaff  
Stephen Skaff  
T. Michael Skaff  
Edmond Solomon  
J. B. Taleb  
Elaine Vieira  
Robert & Julia Wonneberger  
Leon Yeghiazarians  
Charles Zaharias  
Mary Ann Zaharias  
Hilda Zananiri  
Nahil Zananiri

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



## ALTAR BREAD

Today's Altar Bread is being offered for the Health and Safety of the Choir and chanters, since it is "Choir Appreciation Sunday". May God bless them all with peace good health and happiness



## MEMORIAL SERVICE - Next Sunday, December 16th

A Memorial Service will be offered for the repose of the soul of the Handmaid of God, Lara Nassar, cousin of Dalia Tayebi, who passed away in Lebanon. May Lara's memory be eternal.



## COFFEE HOUR

Today's Coffee Hour is being sponsored by the Parish Council in honor of "CHOIR APPRECIATION DAY". May God continue to bless our Choir and Chanter with good health, happiness and long life so they may faithfully serve the church.

## NATIVITY FAST

This fast is divided into two periods: The first period is **November 15th through December 19th**, when the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine and oil) is observed on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, but with allowance for fish, wine, and oil on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday. The second period is **December 20th to 24th**, when the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine and oil) is observed Monday through Friday, but with allowance for wine and oil on Saturday and Sunday.

PLEASE NOTE THAT WHAT IS GIVEN HERE IS THE TRADITIONAL DISCIPLINE OF THE FAST. YOU MAY HAVE TO ADOPT THESE RULES TO YOUR PARTICULAR SITUATION.

HOWEVER, EVERYONE SHOULD ADOPT SOME REGIMEN OF FASTING IN PREPARATION FOR THE GREAT FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

## COMING UP

Today	12/9	after Liturgy	Sunday School Christmas Party with Santa
Wed.	12/12	6:30 pm	Parish Council meeting
Sat.	12/15	4:00 pm	Ladies Arabic Dinner in Church Hall

## DUES

As we are closing in on the end of 2018, I wanted to send a reminder to those who have not fully paid their pledges. To get the full tax benefit, please have your donation made no later than December 9th.

For those who have not committed a pledge but would still like to submit a donation please send a check via mail to the address below or place it in the basket when you enter the church.

St. George Church  
Attn: Treasurer  
44 Bowers Street  
Lowell, MA 01854

As a way to better communicate and manage questions I have created a mailbox. Please feel free to ask questions, provide feedback or submit requests by email at [stgeorgeTreasurerlowell@gmail.com](mailto:stgeorgeTreasurerlowell@gmail.com)

Thank you  
Mack Louh

## THANK YOU

I would like to thank Steve, Joe, Alan, Azar and Ron for attending and participating at the Manolis Thanksgiving project.

We wish to thank George Ellis for his donation to the Men's Club.

God Bless you

William Ansara

Christmas Eve Service will be held on Monday,  
December 24th at 5:00 pm  
Divine Liturgy at 6:00 pm  
In case of a major snow storm,  
the Christmas Service will be held on  
Tuesday, December 25th at 10:00 am.



**WISH TREE**

Beginning November 25th, we will once again be sponsoring the Wish Tree for underprivileged children.

See William Ansara for names and details

*St. George Antiochian Church  
Ladies Society*

*Invites you to attend our*

*ARABIC DINNER*

*Come join us for a delicious meal with  
Family and Friends*

*Saturday, December 15, 2018 - 4:00pm*

*St. George Antiochian Church Hall*

*Tickets: Adults: \$20.00*

*Children 12 & under: \$10.00*

*Appetizers, Dinner, Dessert, Raffle*

*See any of the Ladies for Tickets*

*Or call Martha at 978-397-4376*

**Today is the last day to  
purchase your tickets.  
No tickets sold at the door.**

## COFFEE HOURS

For those interested in signing up to host a coffee hour please put your name and the reason you are hosting it on the calendar in the back of the hall. If no one sponsors a coffee hour there will NOT be any for that day. Please see Fr. Leonard if you have any questions.

## COFFEE HOUR ITEMS

Thank you all for hosting your coffee hours throughout the year. We ask that after coffee hour is over please clean the coffee pots, clean off the tables, hall counters, kitchen counters, pick up any food or trash on the floor, garbage disposed of, and take any food and drinks, left over, with you. Please do not leave anything in the refrigerator. Thank you.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The Lowell Transitional Living Center serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner to over one hundred people at each meal daily! I volunteer to help serve dinner the first Tuesday of every month. Won't you join me? If you'd like to help in this very rewarding experience, see Lisa Ansara or email me at [lisaansara17@gmail.com](mailto:lisaansara17@gmail.com).

As you are aware, feeding over 100 people a hot, full meal is expensive! If you'd like to donate towards the meal, checks can be made to LTLC and given to Lisa. It costs approximately \$350 for each dinner so any and all donations are appreciated.



## COME AND CELEBRATE THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST

Beloved in Christ,

On Tuesday, December 25, 2018, we will celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. "The Word was made Flesh and Dwelt among us!"

You are all invited to come and attend Christmas Eve Services and receive Holy Communion on this Great Feast!

Festal Orthros (Matins)	5:00 pm
Procession to the Creche and Blessing	5:45 pm
Solemn Candlelight Divine Liturgy of St. Basil	6:00 pm

Begin your Christmas celebration by coming to church first and wishing Our Lord "Happy Birthday"! May the Prince of Peace, Whose Birth we are celebrating, fill your hearts with joy and gladness during this Holy Season and may the New Year bring us all peace, good health and spiritual happiness!

With Love,  
+Fr. Leonard



*Today the grace of the Holy Spirit hath descended on the waters in the likeness of a dove...  
Today the waters of the Jordan are changed to healing by the presence of the Lord...  
Today hath paradise been opened to men ...*

--Prayer for the Great Blessing of the Waters



# FEAST OF THEOPHANY

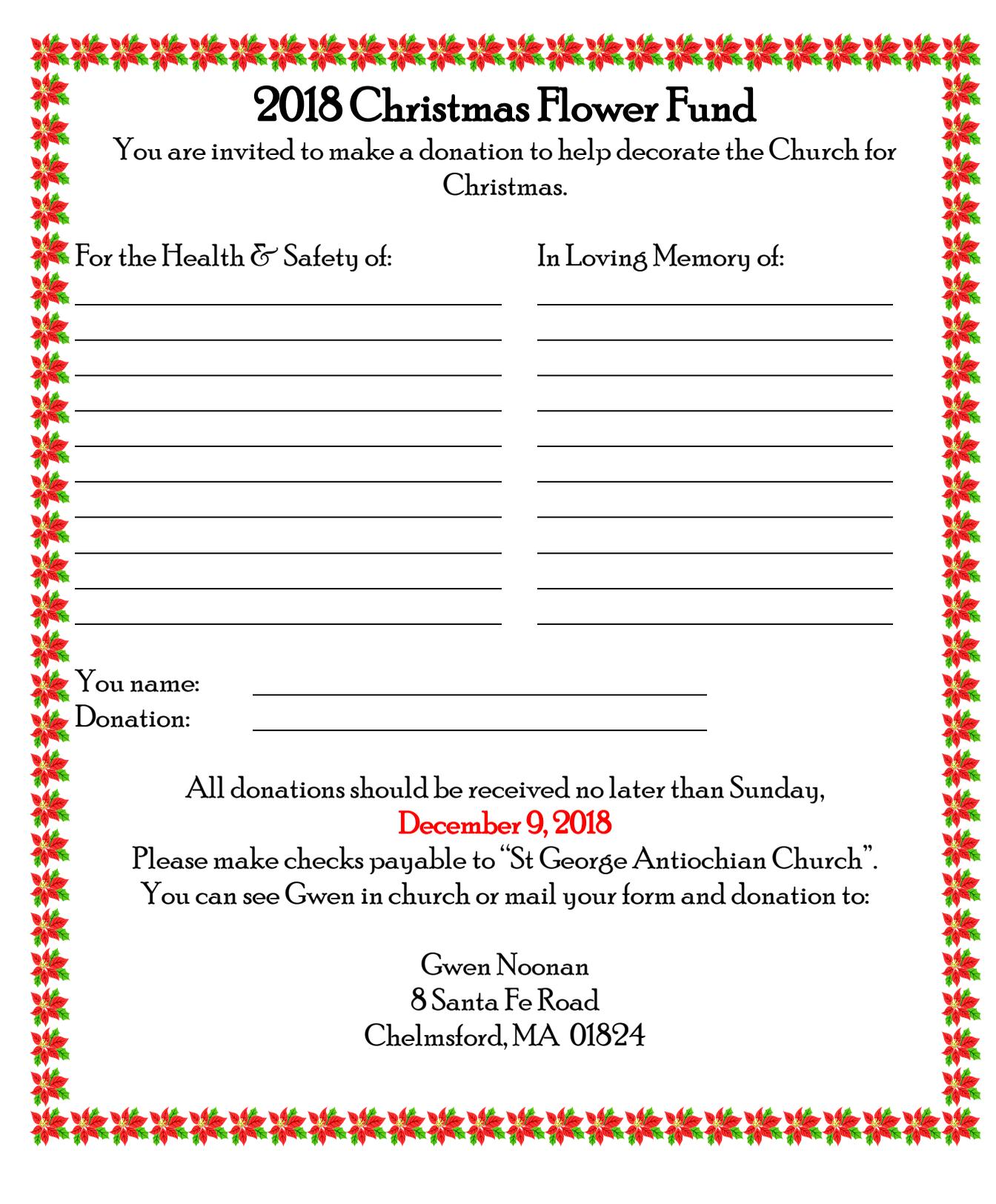


**MATINS  
HIERARCHICAL LITURGY  
AND THE  
BLESSING OF WATERS**



**SATURDAY, JANUARY 5<sup>TH</sup>  
9:00 / 10:00 AM  
SAINT GEORGE CATHEDRAL,  
WORCESTER**

Join His Grace Bishop JOHN  
and the clergy of the New England Deanery for our annual celebration.  
A reception will follow.



# 2018 Christmas Flower Fund

You are invited to make a donation to help decorate the Church for Christmas.

For the Health & Safety of:

In Loving Memory of:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

You name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

All donations should be received no later than Sunday,

**December 9, 2018**

Please make checks payable to "St George Antiochian Church".

You can see Gwen in church or mail your form and donation to:

Gwen Noonan  
8 Santa Fe Road  
Chelmsford, MA 01824

## 2018 PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

Once again the Ladies Society is sponsoring a Parish Christmas Card to send your Christmas greetings to your parish family and friends. It is a way of helping to raise money.

Here's how it works. For a donation of \$15.00 (or more):

We will purchase a beautiful Icon Christmas Card.

We will have your name printed on the card in the manner of your choosing.

We will address the cards.

We will mail the cards to all who gave a donation.

If you would like your name to appear on this year's Christmas card, please complete this form (please **print** names - include your address so that we may mail the card to you!) and return the form to Gwen Noonan by December 2nd. Checks should be made to "St. George Ladies Society".

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s)\* as you wish them to appear on the Christmas card.

---

**\*Follow the formal below:**

Mr. & Mrs. John Doe and family

The Doe family, John, Mary, Laura and Elias

John, Mary, Laura and Elias Doe

John and Mary Doe, Laura and Elias

John Doe

Mary Doe

You can see Gwen in church or please return this form to

Gwen Noonan by **Sunday, December 9, 2018**

8 Santa Fe Road

Chelmsford, MA 01824

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 and 2 minutes to pick up \*

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 Lowell, MA 01851

[www.spincitylaundromatlowell.com](http://www.spincitylaundromatlowell.com)

**Donna Christopulos and Julie Grillakis**

**978-957-0330, 0331, 0332**

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**Good Health to All !**

**Robert and Elaine Maria & Family**