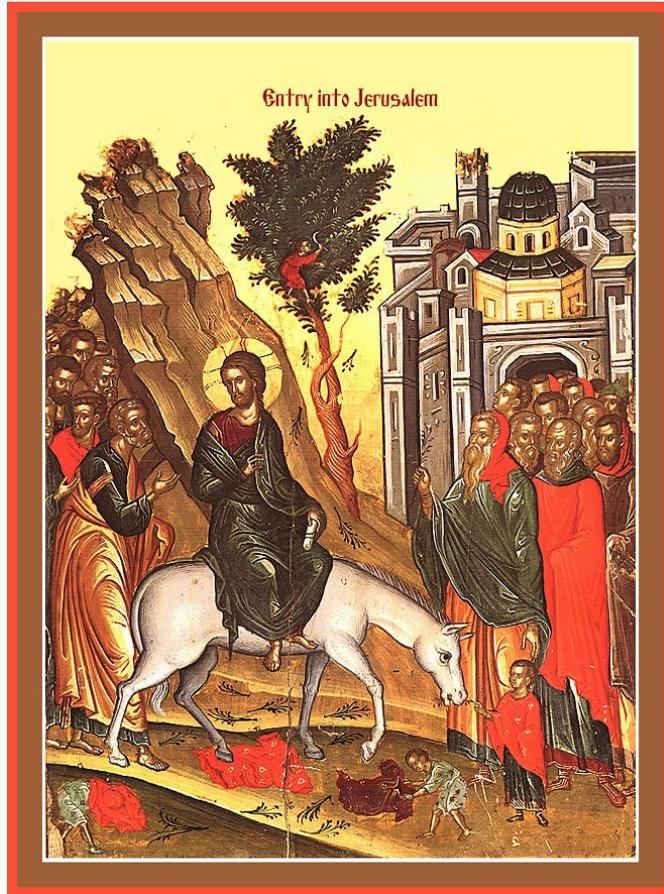


St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church
Lowell, Massachusetts



PALM SUNDAY

April 21, 2019

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.**

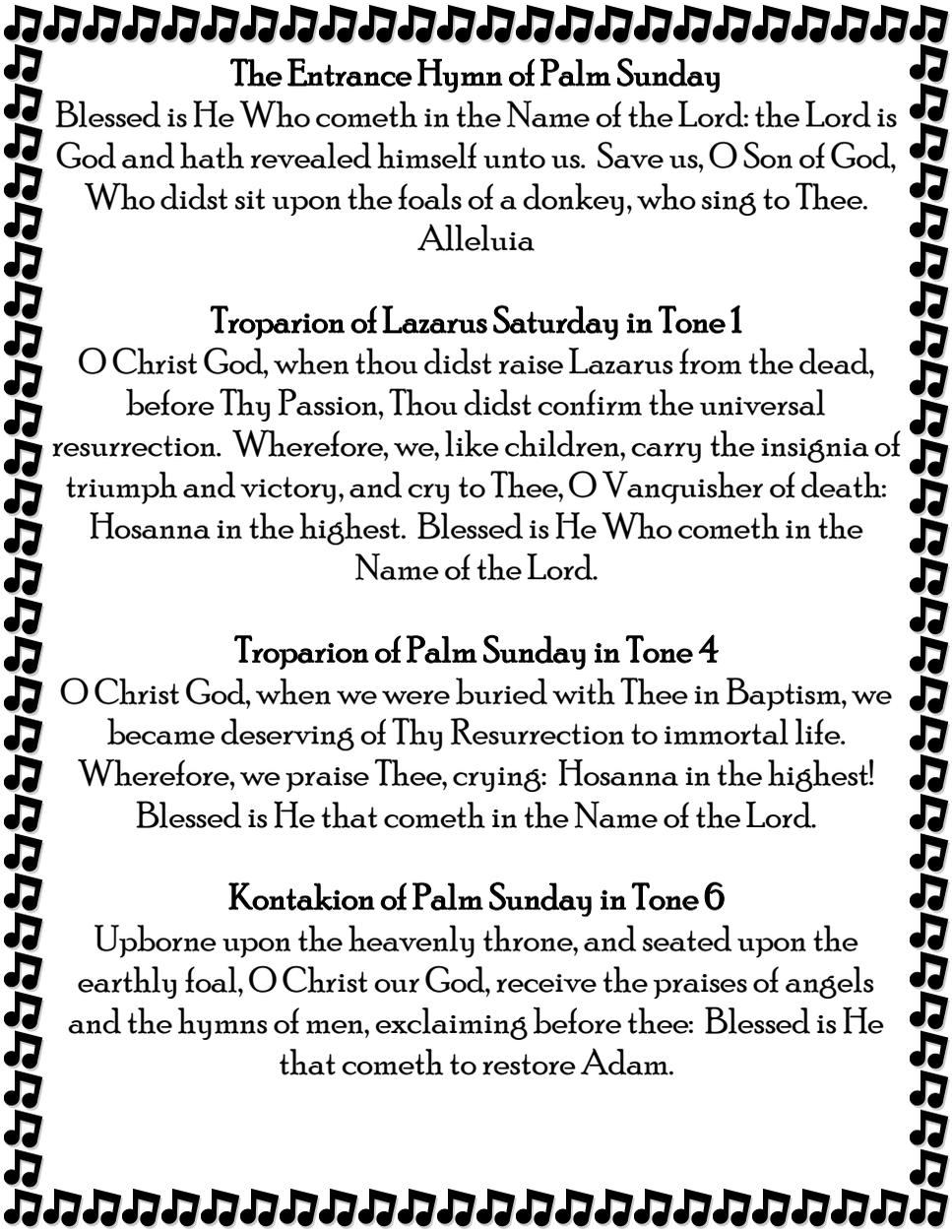
Important Notice: The reception of Holy Communion is limited to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and recent Confession. Confessions are heard on Sunday mornings during the Matins Service or by special appointment. The Eucharistic Fast begins at midnight on Saturday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

A decorative border of musical notes surrounds the text. The notes are arranged in a rectangular frame, with a thicker line of notes at the top and bottom, and thinner lines on the sides. The notes are black on a white background.

The Entrance Hymn of Palm Sunday

Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord: the Lord is God and hath revealed himself unto us. Save us, O Son of God, Who didst sit upon the foals of a donkey, who sing to Thee.
Alleluia

Troparion of Lazarus Saturday in Tone 1

O Christ God, when thou didst raise Lazarus from the dead, before Thy Passion, Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection. Wherefore, we, like children, carry the insignia of triumph and victory, and cry to Thee, O Vanguisher of death: Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Troparion of Palm Sunday in Tone 4

O Christ God, when we were buried with Thee in Baptism, we became deserving of Thy Resurrection to immortal life. Wherefore, we praise Thee, crying: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Kontakion of Palm Sunday in Tone 6

Upborne upon the heavenly throne, and seated upon the earthly foal, O Christ our God, receive the praises of angels and the hymns of men, exclaiming before thee: Blessed is He that cometh to restore Adam.

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Philippians

Brethren, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, these do; and the God of peace will be with you.



Gospel: John 12:1 - 18

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus who had died was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made Him a supper; Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at table with Him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, one of His Disciples (he who was to betray Jesus), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not because he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the moneybox he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of My burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have Me." When the great crowd of the Jews learned that He was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus. The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His Disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of Him and had been done to Him. The crowd that had been with Jesus when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Jesus was that they heard He had done this sign.

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

Nora Abdelahad
Connie Abodeely
Kathy Ansara
Lorice Ansara
Phyllis Arsenault
Siham Bahou
Ray & Barbara Beaudry
June Behrakis
Ed & Lillian Betor
David and Cindy Boragine
Ida Boragine
April Bouras
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
Julia and Brian Sapienza
Amad Tayebi
Jack Trotter
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
Juliette Bahou
Laurice Bahou
Widad Batten
James "Jimmy" Beaudry
Dorothy Boragine
Sal Boragine
Cleopatra Bouras
David Burs
Robert Coviello
Linda Deeb
Austin Dufault
Fred Ead
Ella Jean Elias
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
Terry Husson Kadir
Lissa Kowalski
George Lowe
Efthymios & Paraskevi Manolis
George Matook
Anthony Matysczak
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
Chakeep Skaff
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, in loving memory of Joseph and Elizabeth Ghareeb, is offered by the Ghareeb family. May their memories be eternal.

Today's Altar Bread is being offered for the Health and Safety of the Parishioners of St. George and their Families. May God bless them all with good health, happiness and long life.

PALMS

The Palms are donated by Gladys Tracana for the health and safety of her family.

They are also donated by two anonymous donors for the health and safety of their families.

May God bless the Tracanna family and the other families with peace, good health and happiness!



*Quote of
the Week*

"The rich man is not the one who has collected many possessions, but the one who needs few possessions"

- St. John Chrysostom

"ليس الغني هو الشخص الذي جمع أملاكاً كثيرة، لكنه الشخص الذي لا يحتاج إلا إلى أملاك قليلة."
القديس يوحنا فم الذهب

A Reminder on Palm Sunday

Enter into His Sanctuary with thanksgiving and into His Courts with praise... (Psalm 100)

We respectfully request that there be no unnecessary talking or noise during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. If children become excessively noisy or distracting for others it is perfectly permissible to take them to the Bengarri area or the hall if necessary. This is the House of God and it is incumbent upon everyone of us to show all due respect to the One we have gathered to worship and for whom the Church exists. Please turn off Cell phones and other devices when in God's House.

Please make an effort to clean up. Do not leave palms, bulletins and bread in your seat or on the floor.

This Week

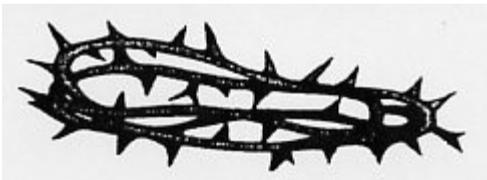
Beloved in Christ, beginning tonight and continuing until next Saturday evening, Services will be held each evening commemorating the betrayal, suffering and death of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Please look at the Holy Week Services for the particular Services and times. I urge all our faithful to come and walk with Christ as He journeys to Calvary this week for our salvation. Come and experience the immense pain and suffering that He endured for us. Experience the love and compassion He showed for all mankind. Make this Holy Pascha a special Resurrection for all of us!!!

+Fr. Leonard

**Confessions During the Lenten Season
Important!**

Confessions during the Lenten Season will be heard before or after all Lenten Services as well as before and after Sunday Divine Liturgy. Remember the rule of the Church is to have your Confession heard at least once a year during the Easter. If you are planning on receiving Holy Unction on Holy Wednesday, April 24th and Holy Communion on either Holy Thursday, April 25th, Holy Saturday morning, April 27th, or Easter Midnight Liturgy, April 28th, you must come to Confession before Holy Wednesday, April 24th.

**THERE WILL BE NO CONFESSIONS HEARD AFTER HOLY WEDNESDAY
DURING HOLY WEEK!!!**



Important!

For those who haven't had their Confessions heard, Confessions will be heard before or after the Services on Palm Sunday, Holy Monday and Holy Tuesday.

**THERE WILL BE NO CONFESSIONS HEARD AFTER HOLY
TUESDAY DURING HOLY WEEK!!!**

A VERY SPECIAL "THANK YOU" TO THE FOLLOWING PARISHIONERS WHO HAVE SUBMITTED THEIR PLEDGE CARDS FOR 2019. AS YOU KNOW, IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EVERY MEMBER OF ST. GEORGE TO SUPPORT THE CHURCH. OUR ANNUAL BUDGET IS \$160,000.00 AND WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO SUPPORT THIS BUDGET WITH THE PLEDGES WE RECEIVE. EVERY PARISHIONERS, OVER THE AGE OF 21, WHO HAS A FULL-TIME JOB, SHOULD BE SUPPORTING THE CHURCH. IF YOU HAVE NOT FILLED OUT A PLEDGE CARD, SEE MACK LOUH AND HE WILL GIVE YOU ONE. REMEMBER, THIS IS OUR SPIRITUAL HOME AND WE ARE ALL RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS UPKEEP.

MAY OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST, WHOSE DEATH AND RESURRECTION WE ARE CELEBRATING THIS WEEK, BLESS ALL OUR PARISHIONERS WITH PEACE, GOOD HEALTH AND HAPPINESS.

Laurie & Bob Andersson
Ellen Andre
Lionel & Phyllis Arsenault
Peter Arsenault
Gary & Tina Aswad
Nicole Awad
David Elias
George Ellis
Fr. Leonard Faris
Judy Foley
Michael Forsley
Roseanne Galvin
Alan Hamwey
Nadia & Donald Hassey
Eric & Rona Hassey
Joseph & Joan Husson
Lindsay Noonan Kett
Deborah Korovas
Robin Lemons
Lila & Marty Lorrey
Azar & Stephanie Louh

Chris Louh
Mack & Beth Louh
Steven Louh
Zaki & Juliette Louh
Bob & Elaine Maria
John & Clemence Maria
Donna McGarry
Rhonda & Greg Murray
Fred & Gwen Noonan
Lillian Panagopoulos
Ines & Elias Saad
Marwan & Carla Sabbouh
Andrew & Donna Saati
Michael & Mary Saati
Nicole Skaff
Kerri Noonan Steele
Martha Stewart
Alexa & Amad Tayebi
Ron and Dalia Tayebi
Gladys Tracana
Henrietta Zananiri
Alice Zerriny

THIS WEEK

Tonight	4-21	7:00 pm	Bridegroom Matins
Mon.	4-22	7:00 pm	Bridegroom Matins
Tue.	4-23	7:00 pm	Bridegroom Matins
Wed.	4-24	7:00 pm	Holy Unction Service
Thu.	4-25	9:00 am 7:00 pm	Divine Liturgy of the Mystical Supper The Service of the Twelve Passion Gospels with Procession with the Cross
Fri.	4-26	3:00 pm 7:00 pm	Service of the Descent from the Cross Lamentation Service
Sat.	4-27	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 pm	Vesper Liturgy of St. Basil the Great Communion breakfast and Children's Easter Service: Coffee Hour & Egg Hunt Hajme, Matins and Divine Liturgy of Pascha

Passion of Christ



Surely one of the obligations of the believing Christian during the Great Lent is to spiritually climb the Mount of Golgotha and see the suffering and death of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. If we are to understand the solemn drama that unfolded there we must take a serious look at the Person involved there and of what happened to him.

The central character of the crucifixion was Jesus of Nazareth, that's how the sign attached to the cross identified Him. Who was He? This is not a simple question. But it is a necessary one. Every person must answer it one way or another. It was a burning question 2,000 years ago, and it is today.

Jesus Himself wanted people to answer it. One day He came to His apostles and asked, "Whom do people say I am?" Some answered saying that a number of people claimed Jesus to be Elias, or John, or one of the prophets. But then the Lord got personal: "Whom do you say I am?" And Peter answered: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

That is one answer. Christ is God, who took upon Himself human form in the person of Jesus. But there are other persons who gave other answers. Remember the chief priests who came to Pilate asking that a guard be placed at the tomb of Christ because "that deceiver said, after three days I will rise again." So, some called Him "deceiver", and still others "blasphemer".

And so this Lent, we renew our answer and confess the one who suffers and dies on the Cross to be the Christ, the Son of the living God. "His own claims, His words, His teachings, all give testimony that Jesus was very God of Very God, consubstantial with the father.

Now what happened to Christ? Crucifixion was the inhumane Roman method of executing the worst condemned criminals. Roman citizens were not crucified, this was too horrible for them. Only slaves and the scum of the earth were treated this way. Such persons sometimes hung on the cross for days, slowly and cruelly dying of thirst, starvation, pain, loss of blood and exhaustion. Usually the criminals were first scourged with whips containing pieces of metal. At times the condemned died during the whipping.

Jesus was not a Roman Citizen, so He was crucified among outcasts and worst criminals of the day. Besides the pain and agony, it was shameful to die this way. No wonder St. Paul says that Jesus "Humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

It is all but impossible for us to visualize the repugnance and horror associated with the cross when Jesus died. Perhaps the gallows is as near as we can get to the ancient world's idea of the cross.

Of course, our idea of the cross is now completely different. It is now the world's beloved symbol. Even the international organizations of mercy adopted this symbol in red for its own sign. And nations, when they honor their most illustrious sons and daughters, who have offered sacrifices, often reward them with medals in the shape of the cross. It was precisely the death of Christ that so dramatically transformed the cross from an emblem of horror to one of glory.

There is one more thing we must say about the crucifixion, and that is that somehow, in some way, we are all involved in it. Christ did something for us ~ when He died. Otherwise, there would be no real need to talk about the Crucifixion. There have been thousands of persons who have been put to death in this way but we remember and concern ourselves with this one. Why? Because we are involved. That's what the Black Spiritual speaks of when it asks, "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?" The answer of the believing Christian's heart is, yes my sins helped crucify the Lord. He died for me to save me.

As we prepare, again, through our Church's rituals, to relive the events of Great and Holy Friday, let us take the time to think of the Person involved in Golgotha and of what happened to Him there.

Prayers Can't Be Answered Unless They Are Prayed

Life without purpose
 Is barren indeed ~
There can't be a harvest
 Unless you plant seed.
There can't be attainment
 Unless there's a goal,
And man's but a robot
 Unless there's a soul ...
If we send no ships out,
 No ships will come in,
And unless there's a contest,
 Nobody can win ...
For games can't be won
 Unless they are played,
And Prayers can't be answered
 Unless they are prayed...
So whatever is wrong
 With your life today,
You'll find a solution
 If you kneel down and pray.
Not just for pleasure,
 Enjoyment and health,
Not just for honors
 And prestige and wealth...
But Pray for a Purpose
 To make life worth living,
And Pray for the Joy
 Of unselfish giving.
For Great is your Gladness
 And Rich your Reward
When you make your Life's Purpose
 The choice of the Lord

The Magic of Love

LOVE is like MAGIC
And it always will be,
For love still remains
LIFE'S SWEET MYSTERY!



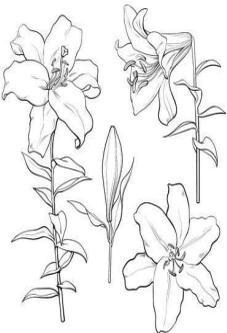
LOVE works in ways
That are wondrous and strange,
And there's NOTHING IN LIFE
That LOVE CANNOT CHANGE!

LOVE can transform
The most commonplace
Into beauty and splendor
And sweetness and grace!

LOVE is unselfish,
Understanding and kind,
For it sees with its HEART
And not with its mind!

LOVE is the answer,
That everyone seeks ~
LOVE is the language
That every heart speaks.

LOVE can't be bought,
It is priceless and free.
LOVE like pur MAGIC
Is a SWEET MYSTERY!



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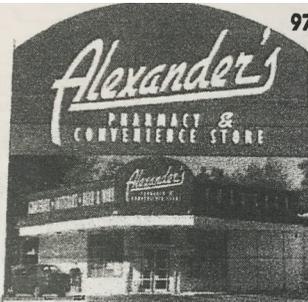
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Donna Christopulos and Julie Grillakis

Good Health to All !

Robert and Elaine Maria &
Family

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