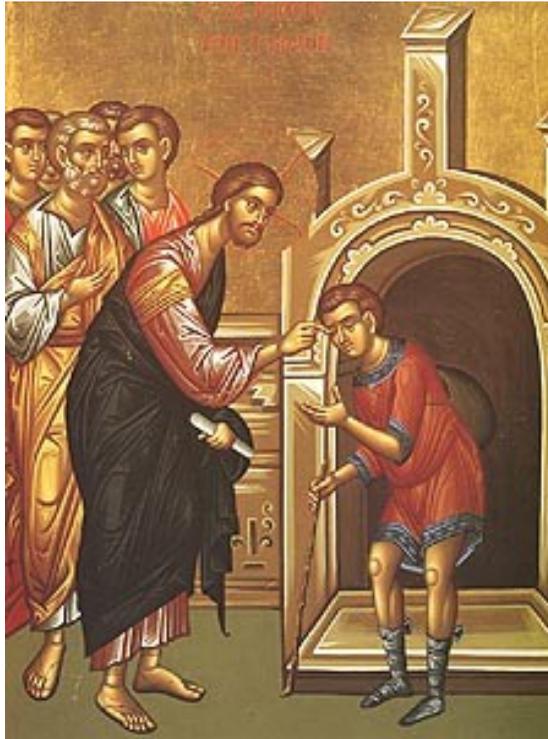


*St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church*  
*Lowell, Massachusetts*



**SIXTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA:  
SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN**

*May 29, 2022*

# ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

The Most Reverend Metropolitan JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

The Rt. Rev. Bishop JOHN, Diocese of Worcester and New England

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

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

44 Bowers Street, Lowell, MA 01854

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

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

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

INSTAGRAM: [stgeorgelowell](https://www.instagram.com/stgeorgelowell)

## 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.

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 you have left the Church.

**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!

### **Third Antiphon**

Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let them that hate  
Him flee from before His face.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon  
those in the tombs, bestowing life!

As smoke vanisheth, so let them vanish; as wax melteth before the fire.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon  
those in the tombs, bestowing life!

So let sinners perish at the presence of God, and let the righteous be glad.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death;  
and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein.

### **Entrance Hymn of Pascha**

In the gathering places bless 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 Resurrection, Tone 5**

Let us believers praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the  
Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation; for he took pleasure in ascending the  
Cross in the flesh, to suffer death, and to raise the dead by his glorious Resurrection.

### **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**

Though thou, O deathless One, didst descend into the grave, thou didst destroy the  
power of hell and, as Victor, thou didst rise again, O Christ our God. Thou didst greet the  
ointment-bearing women, saying, Rejoice! Thou didst bestow peace upon thy Disciples,  
and resurrection upon those that are fallen.

## THE EPISTLE

*You, O Lord, shall keep us and preserve us. Save me, O Lord, for the godly man has failed.*

### **The Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles. (16:16-34)**

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 attaching 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 all are 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.

## THE GOSPEL

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (9:1-38)**

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.

## THANK YOU

We would like to thank Sandy Matook for her generous donation to St. George Church for the Health and Safety of Fr. Leonard on the 27th Anniversary of his Priesthood. May God bless Fr. Leonard with peace, good health and long life and may God also bless Sandy and her family with good health, happiness and long life!

## DONATION FOR STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

We are in the process of repairing our stained glass windows and we are looking to accept donations to offset the repairs. It is going to cost \$67,000. An anonymous donor graciously provided half and we are looking for the balance.

Please see Father regarding your donation.

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

Nora Abdelahad  
Connie Abodeely  
**ANSARA:** Lorice, Yvette  
Nel Arsenault  
Siham Bahou  
**BETOR:** Ed, Paul & Kerrie  
**BORAGINE:** David & Cindy, Ida  
Sharon DeForest  
Daniella Forsley De LaFuente  
Charbel El-Hashem  
George Ellis  
Pamela Jo Forsley  
Athanasia Grivas  
Duayne Habib  
Fr. Stephen and Family  
**MANSOUR:** Joseph, Ray  
Lynn, Thomas Marcotte & Family  
Clemence Maria  
Karine Nabbout & Family  
Gwen Noonan  
Helen Poulos  
Michael Saati  
Bassam Taleb  
Amad Tayebi  
Jack Trottier  
Robert, Denise & Megan Wagstaff  
Dr. Vartan & Lisa Yeghiazarians &  
Family  
Genia Yeghiazarians  
Fr. Andrew and Khouryee Jane Zbeeb

*Prayers are being offered in Memory of:*

Charles Abdelahad  
**ABODEELY:** George, Miriam  
**ANSARA:** Andrew, Elias  
John, Maurice, Michael  
Phyllis Arsenault  
**ASSALY:** Gladys, Linda  
Yaacoub Awad  
**BAHO:** Juliette, Laurice  
Widad Batten  
James "Jimmy" Beaudry  
Lillian Betor  
**BORAGINE:** Dorothy, Sal  
Cleopatra Bouras  
**ELIAS:** Ella Jean  
**ELLIS:** Frances, Frank  
**FARIS:** George & Elsie,  
Mary T., Mary V.  
Elizabeth & Joseph Ghareeb  
Elias Grivas  
George P. Habib  
Emile & Teffaha Haddad  
Philip & Rosalind Hajjar  
Elias Hanna  
**HUSSON:** Dorothea,  
Eleanor, Joanne  
N. Mary Husson  
Joe & Terry Husson Kadir

Salim Khabazeh  
George & Rose Lowe  
**LOUH:** Amanda, Nuha Shahin  
Efthymios & Paraskevi Manolis  
Robert Maria  
Jenny Mansour  
George Matook  
Maurice Matte  
Denise McCrady  
Nafie Moses  
Elias Nabbout  
Fred Noonan  
Frederick & Matilda Noonan  
Paul Panagopoulos, Sr.  
**SAAD:** Anisse, Hanna  
Mary Saati  
George W. & Mary Saba  
Badawi Sabbouh  
Eleanor Shalhoup  
Fred Simon  
**SKAFF:** Chakeep  
Mildred & Arthur, Minnie  
Nellie, Ricky, Stephen,  
T. Michael Skaff  
J. B. Taleb  
Elaine Vieira  
Leon Yeghiazarians  
Mary Ann & Charles Zaharias  
**ZANANIRI:** Hilda, Nahil

## SCHOLARSHIPS

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 as 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.



"EVERY DAY THEY CONTINUED  
TO MEET TOGETHER IN THE  
TEMPLE COURTS.  
THEY BROKE BREAD IN THEIR  
HOMES AND ATE TOGETHER  
WITH GLAD AND  
SINCERE HEARTS"  
ACTS 2:46

Join us for an  
**AUTHENTIC  
BREAKFAST  
SUNDAY  
JUNE 12, 2022**

AT ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN  
ORTHODOX CHURCH LOWELL, MA  
FOLLOWING THE DIVINE LITURGY

For ticket information contact  
[ladies@stgeorgelowell.org](mailto:ladies@stgeorgelowell.org)  
or Eric Hassey at (603) 264-6893

There is something special for the children too!!

Art activities will be provided for the children while we all enjoy breakfast and fellowship with one another. Boys will have the opportunity to make their own tarboosh and girls will have the opportunity to make their own cone hat. All the supplies will be provided. We encourage all the boys to wear black/dark pants and a white shirt and the girls can wear a dress of their choice.

Please see one of the ladies from the Ladies Society for tickets.

Lastly, I will be sending out another email asking for some help in donations for the children's barbecue.

Thank you for your support of the Sunday School children and activities we have provided for them this year.

Yours in Christ  
Denise Oujaimi

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

**June 5th: Last day of Sunday School!!!**

We will have a barbecue for the children following Divine Liturgy AND feature Emad, the Balloon Twister (may he can make St. George's sword out of balloons and do some magic tricks, too!!) **All children are welcome to attend if they are in Sunday School or not.**

## **The Commandments of the Church**

The Church has set nine rules which all Orthodox Christians should obey, and She calls these rules Her Nine Commandments.

### **The First Commandment of the Church:**

Let everyone pray to God every day with contrition and compunction of heart, and be present at the Services of the Church every Sunday and on all Feast Days.

The First Commandment concerns Prayer. When we pray, we must pray with contrition, which means deep sorrow for our sins, a sorrow we feel because we love God. Compunction means repentant regret that we have sinned against God. When we repent, we not only regret the evil we have done, but we also resolve to mend our ways.

This Commandment teaches that every Christian must say his own prayers every day; and that he must attend Church Services both on Sundays and on those days which the Church holds especially in remembrance. The only acceptable excuse for being absent from Church is sickness; either of oneself or of some one else whose condition requires our care.

We break this Commandment whenever we come to Church late and also whenever we leave Church before a Service has ended with the closing of the Holy Doors and the Curtain.

### **The Second Commandment of the Church:**

Every Christian shall keep the Four Fasts appointed for each year. He must also fast on the 14th of September (at the Elevation of the Cross), on the 29th of August (the remembrance of the Beheading of the Forerunner), and on Wednesdays and Fridays throughout the year (excepting those Wednesdays and Fridays which are excepted by special rules.

### **Explanation:**

#### **THE FOUR FASTS ARE THESE:**

1. The Fast before the Nativity of Christ, which begins on the 15th of November and lasts until
2. Christmas.
3. The Great Fast of Forty Days, which Christ endured (St. Matthew 4:2). The Great Fast extends over the forty days preceding Palm Sunday; on the following Monday begins the Fast in honor of Christ's Passion, which lasts until Easter.
4. The Fast of the Holy Apostles, which begins on the Monday after All Saint's Sunday (one week
5. after the Feast of Holy Pentecost) and lasts until June 29, the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul.
4. The Fast before the Repose of the Theotokos, which begins on the first day of August and lasts until the day of the Feast, August 15h.

The 66th Canon of the Holy Apostles forbids us to fast on Saturdays and Sundays.

### **The Third Commandment of the Church:**

All the Clergy, and especially our Confessors, must always be treated with due respect, because they are the servants of God and because they intercede for us with God.

**Explanation:**

Respect and love for the Clergy should be rooted in our hearts and expressed in our behavior.

When we meet one of our Clergy on the street, we pay respect to our Bishop, we place the right hand palm upward on our left palm; and we bow to kiss his hand when he lays it upon our right hand. We may also greet a Priest in this way. At a Service, we kiss the hand of the Bishop or Priest whenever we receive anything from his hand (Holy Communion, Antidoron), and when we reverence the Cross which he holds for us to kiss. When a Bishop or a Priest enters a room, well-mannered people, in it, rise and remain standing until he is seated or bids them to sit.

We must have respect also for Monks and Nuns, because they have dedicated themselves completely to the service of God and the Church; and also for the President and other Officers of the Parish, because the respect we show for them is respect we owe to the Parish as well as to themselves.

**The Fourth Commandment of the Church:**

We must confess our sins four times a year before a Priest, who has been ordained lawfully and in the Orthodox manner.

**Explanation:**

The Orthodox Confession explains that this Commandment sets four times a year as a satisfactory average. Those who want to make spiritual progress should go once a month; but even the least careful people must confess once a year, and those who confess only once a year must do so during the Great Fast (in preparation for Easter).

After our seventh birthday we must never go to Holy Communion without first going to confession.

When we go to Confession we must be truly sorry for every wrong thing we have done; and we must be firmly resolved to amend our way of living. Furthermore, since we seek forgiveness from God for our own misdoings, we must freely and sincerely forgive everyone who has offended us in any way.

When we fall since, we should send for the Priest, that we may cleanse ourselves by Confession and receive Absolution (release us from our sins). Then we should be anointed with Prayer Oil, and received Holy Communion, for the healing of soul of body. This we do, not because we fear death, but because it is our duty to care for the body which God has given us.

**Notice particularly that we are strictly forbidden to receive Sacraments from Clergy who are not Orthodox Clergy ordained lawfully and in the Orthodox manner. To this law no exception is possible for any Orthodox Christian at any time.**

**The Fifth Commandment of the Church:**

Every Orthodox Christian is forbidden to read or listen to the teachings of heretics or of any other persons who have not been authorized by the Orthodox Church to teach and preach religion.

**Explanation:**

A heretic is any person who claims to be a Christian but does not belong to the Orthodox Church and does not believe in the Orthodox Faith. Instead of being Orthodox, he holds to the teachings of men who mistakenly believe that everyone has the right to explain the Holy Scripture and Christian Doctrine as seems best to him or her.

**The Sixth Commandment of the Church:**

Every Orthodox Christian must pray to God for people of every condition and station.

**Explanation:**

From our earliest years we are taught to pray for others as well as for ourselves. We pray for our parents; relatives; friends and benefactors; for those whom we have harmed and for those who have harmed us; for the poor, the sick, the sorrowing, and the afflicted among us and everywhere; for all the dead whom love and duty require us to remember; and for the conversion of all mankind to the Orthodox Faith. It is also our duty to pray for our Bishops as well as for our Pastors; for our country and those who govern us; for all the Orthodox dead and not merely for our own departed; and for the conversion of non Orthodox Christians.

**The Seventh Commandment of the Church:**

Every Orthodox Christian must keep whatever special fasts and supplications his Bishop may appoint.

**Explanation:**

To turn aside the just anger of God; a Bishop may appoint special fasts and supplications; as, for example, in time of war or when there is a famine or any other disastrous happening.

**The Eighth Commandment of the Church:**

Neither Clergy nor laymen must ever dare to use the money or the property of the Church for their own personal needs or purposes.

**Explanation:**

To steal from the Church is to steal from God. Therefore, nobody must ever turn to his own personal use or profit anything that belongs to the church. The Church's property is to be used only by and for the Church.

**The Ninth Commandment of the Church:**

Marriages must not be celebrated on days forbidden by the Church. Furthermore, Orthodox Christians must abstain with all their might from all Pagan and unchristian customs and ways, including attendance at and participation in forbidden pastimes.

**Explanation:**

This Commandment forbids us from degrading our religious life and standards of the Orthodox community by unreasonable or sinful concern for worldly interests. For everything that a Christian may properly do, there is a proper time; and only at its proper time should it be done. For things which are heathenish and unchristian, and which degrade those who participate, there is never any time that is proper; and they must not be done at all.

# Dracut House



God Bless America



## of Pizza & Seafood Restaurant

Owned and operated by the Manolis Family

Order Online at [DracutHOP.com](http://DracutHOP.com)



Visit our website at [Manolisff.org](http://Manolisff.org)

### ★ Try our Wash, Dry & Fold Service★



**\*Do your Laundry in 4 MINUTES!**

2 minutes to drop off  
and 2 minutes to pick up \*

Phone: 978-454-SPIN (7746)

Visit us on the web at:

182 Chelmsford Street  
Lowell, MA 01851

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

**Donna Christopulos and Julie Grillakis**

In Loving Memory of  
**Robert Maria.**  
Always in our Hearts!  
**The Maria Family**

978-957-0330, 0331, 0332



**DRIVE THRU WINDOW SERVICE**  
George Kontos, R.P.H.  
Jonathan Kontos, R.P.H.  
Emily Fritz, R.P.H.

Friendly, Accurate & Fast Service  
Full Grocery, Beer & Wine,  
Copies and Fax, Greeting Cards  
We Accept All Insurance!

Hours: **MON-Sat 8am-9pm, Sun 8am-6pm**



505 Nashua Rd • Dracut, Ma

At the border of Dracut, Hudson, Tyngsboro, & Pelham - Intersection Lakeview & Nashua Roads

**Our Pharmacy personnel answer all phone calls! NO AUTOMATION!**

**FEP**rovencher  
Insurance  
Agency, Inc.



**FRANK PROVENCHER**

E-mail: [fprovencher@fepins.com](mailto:fprovencher@fepins.com)

Auto • Home • Life • Business

530 ROGERS STREET • LOWELL, MA 01852

(978) 459-8681

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



## Enterprise Bank

**George L. Duncan**  
Founder and Chairman of the Board

222 Merrimack Street  
Lowell, MA 01852  
Direct: 978-656-5501  
Main: 978-459-9000  
Fax: 978-441-5937

[George.Duncan@ebtc.com](mailto:George.Duncan@ebtc.com)  
[EnterpriseBanking.com](http://EnterpriseBanking.com)

Create