



# 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

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## 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!

### **Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 6**

When Mary stood at thy grave looking for thy sacred Body, angelic powers shone above thy revered tomb, and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby; Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world; O thou Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

### **Entrance Hymn**

Ha-lum-mu li-nas-judu, wal-nar-ka' lil-ma-sih, khal-lis-na ya bna l-lah, ya man  
ga-ma min by-nil-am-wat, li-nu-rat-til la-ka, Hal-li-lu-ia

### **Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 6 (repeated)**

### **Troparion of the Ascension, Tone 4**

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy Disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, making them confident through the blessing that Thou art the Son of God, and Deliverer of the world.

### **Troparion of the Holy Fathers, Tone 8**

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

### **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 Ascension, Tone 6**

When Thou didst fulfill Thy dispensation for our sakes, uniting the terrestrials with the celestials, Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, inseparable in space, but constant without separation, and crying unto Thy beloved: I am with you, and no one shall be against you.

## THE EPISTLE

*Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers. For you are just in all you have done.*

**The Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles. (20.16-18, 28-36)**

Brethren. In those days, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesos, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. And from Miletos he sent to Ephesos and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore, be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted to one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hand ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive' ". And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

## THE GOSPEL

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (17:1-13)**

Let Us Attend. At that time, Jesus lifted up His eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Thy Son that the Son may glorify Thee, since Thou hast given Him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom Thou hast given Him. And this is eternal life, that they know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ Whom Thou hast sent. I glorified Thee on earth, having accomplished the work which Thou gavest Me to do; and now, Father, glorify Thou Me in Thy own presence with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was made. I have manifested Thy Name to the men whom Thou gavest Me out of the world; Thine they were, and Thou gavest them to Me, and they have kept Thy word. Now they know that everything that Thou hast given Me is from Thee; for I have given them the words which Thou gavest Me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from Thee; and they have believed that Thou didst send Me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom Thou hast given Me, for they are Thine; all Mine are Thine, and Thine are Mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to Thee. Holy Father, keep them in Thy Name, which Thou hast given Me, that they may be one, even as We are one. While I was with them, I kept them in Thy Name, which Thou have given Me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to Thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves."

### **MEMORIAL - Next Sunday, June 12**

A Three Year Memorial will be offered for the repose of the souls of the Handmaids of God, Amanda and Virginia Louh, requested by the Louh Families. May Amanda and Virginia's memories be eternal!

*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  
Michael Lakkis  
**MANSOUR:** Joseph, Ray  
Lynn, Thomas Marcotte & Family  
Clemence Maria  
Karine Nabbout & Family  
Gwen Noonan  
Arthur Palumbo  
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

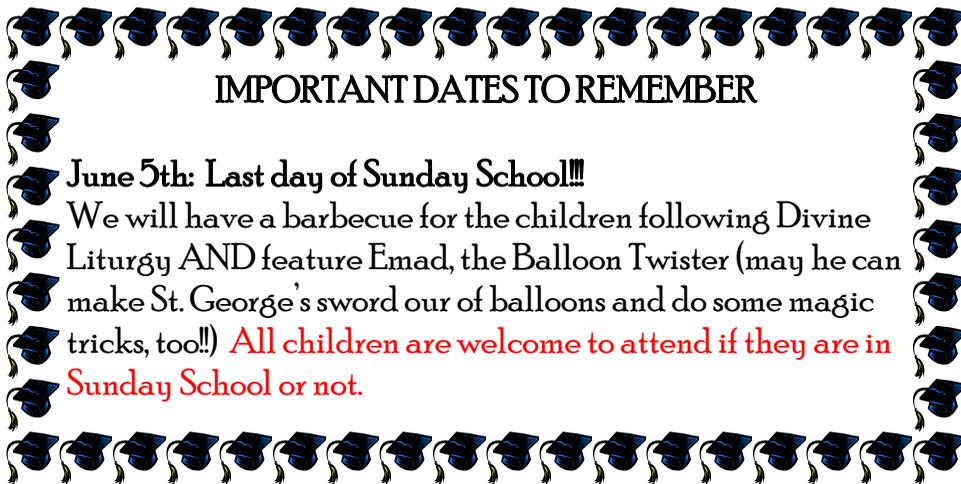
*Prayers are being offered in Memory of:*

Charles Abdelahad  
**ABODEELY:** George, Miriam  
**ANSARA:** Andrew, Elias  
John, Maurice, Michael  
Phyllis Arsenault  
**ASSALY:** Gladys, Linda  
Yaacoub Awad  
**BAHOU:** 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

**THIS WEEK**

Tue 6/7 6:30 pm Parish Council Meeting



## 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.**

## 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.

## 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

## **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.

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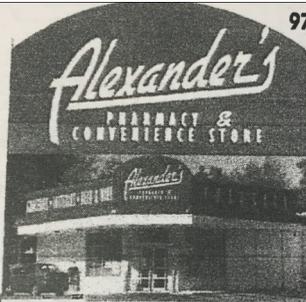
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