

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church
Lowell, Massachusetts



*Afterfeast of the Theophany of our
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*

January 8, 2012

ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

44 Bowers Street, Lowell, MA 01854
Church Phone: (978) 452-4816 Fax: (978) 452-6041
Rt. Rev. Fr. Leonard Faris, Pastor
fatherfaris@comcast.net
www.saintgeorgelowell.org

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday: Matins (Orthros) Service 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School, Every third Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, January 8, 2012

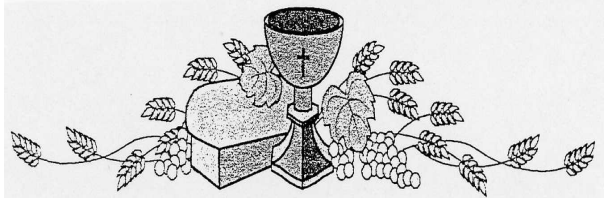
Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-17

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.





Troparion of the Resurrection in 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.

Entrance Hymn

Come let us worship and fall down before Christ, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, save us who sing unto thee: Alleluia.

Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 5 (repeated)

Epiphany in Tone 1

By thy baptism, O Lord, in the River Jordan, worship to the Trinity hath made its appearance; for the voice of the Lord did come forth to thee with the testimony, naming thee beloved Son; and the Spirit in the likeness of a dove, confirming the truth of the word. Wherefore, O thou who didst appear and lighted the world, O Christ, glory to thee.

Troparion of St. George in 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 for Epiphany

Today thou hast appeared to the universe, O Lord, and thy light hath been shed upon us, who praise thee with knowledge, saying, Thou hast come and appeared, O unapproachable Light.



Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13

Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous.

The Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

BRETHREN, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, for the equipment of the saints, for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unit of the faith and of the knowledge of the son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.



Gospel: Matthew 4:12-17

The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (4:12-17)

At that time: When he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles--the people who wait in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."



Prayers are being offered for the Health and Safety of:



Charles and Nora Abdelahad
George & Connie Abodeely
Mindy Abodeely
Thomas Archibald
Gladys Assaly
Baby Brooke Marie Benjamin
Anthony Bertos
Ed & Lillian Betor
Olga Betso
David and Cindy Boragine
Sal and Ida Boragine
Patricia Boros
Toma and Miriam Calache
Jacque and Camilla Cloutier
and Family
David DeForrest
Ghassemian Family
Elias Grivas
Duayne Habib
Dorothy Haddy
Rosalind Hajjar & Family
Mary Howie
Lloyd Jennings
Siham Khadij
Joe Kadir
Kaliopie Karagianes
Rose Lowe
Marcotte Family
Sgt. Peter Marcotte
H. John and Clemence Maria
Florence Mourlas

Colleen Olivieri
Ryan O'Malley
Elaine Panagopoulos
Paul Panagopoulos
Rita Priolisi
Joni Finegold Sachs
Freda Sadak & Family
Fred Simon
Minnie Skaff & Family
George & Anna Stewart
Peter, Jacqui, Amanda, and Peter Vitello
Joseph and Mae Vitello
Dr. Vartan & Lisa Yeghiazarians & Family
Leon & Genia Yeghiazarians
MaryAnn Zaharias
Nahil Zananiri
Sean and Family
Scott and Family
Simon
Fr. Nik Pelekoudes, Requested by Fr. Leonard
Fr. Andrew Zbeeb,
Requested by the Parishioners of St. George
Charles Panacopoulos,
Requested by Fred & Elaine Simon
Rita Beaudry, Requested by Fr. Leonard
Fr. Stephen, Presbyteria Kelley, Alec and Zack
Lawrence and Lynda and Michael Lawrence,
Requested by Fr. Leonard
Ella Rose Gaska, Requested by Fr. Leonard

May God Grant You Good Health and Long Life!!!



Prayers are being offered In Memory of:



Delia Moses Abdinoor

Mazen Alwarad

Toula Anasoulis

Andrew Ansara

Elias Ansara

John Ansara

Maurice Ansara

Linda Assaly

Juliette Bahou

Laurice Bahou

James "Jimmy" Beaudry

Dorothy Boragine

Dr. Christos Daoulas

Isa Elias

Rose "Joanne" Elias

George Faris

Mary T. Faris

Thomas Gelardares

Elizabeth Ghareeb

Joseph Ghareeb

Armenuhi Ghassemian

George Habib

Philip Hajjar

Mary Hassey

Eleanor Husson

N. Mary Husson

Terry Husson Kadir

Fr. Vartan Kassabian

George Kouloheras

Elena Lawrence

George Lowe

Elsie Faris Mansor

Edward Mansour

Faye Maria

Jalil Matta

Brian McCoy

Nafie Moses

Violet Husson Mullins

Hanna Saad

Mary Saati

George W. Saba

Mary Saba

Elaine Salameh

Eleanor Shalhoup

Janice Simon

John Simon

Judy Skaff

Nellie Skaff

Richard "Ricky" Skaff

Stephen Skaff

T. Michael Skaff

Robert and Julia Wonneberger

Charles Zaharias

Ann Attick, requested by Lynne Wade

Anthony Pandolfo, requested by Fr. Leonard

Kathy Meyer, requested by Fr. Leonard

May their Memory be Eternal!!!



MEMORIAL SERVICES

Today, January 8

A Memorial Service

*Is being offered for the repose of the soul
Of the Handmaid of God*

Kathy Meyer

*Former secretary to His Eminence, Metropolitan
Philip*

*Who passed away this week
May her memory be eternal*

A 22 Year Memorial Service

*Is being offered for the repose of the soul
Of the Handmaid of God*

Mary Ead, the grandmother of Fr. Leonard

Requested by Fr. Leonard

May her memory be eternal

Sunday, January 29th

*A memorial will be offered for the repose of the
soul of the Handmaid of God*

Terry Husson Kadir



ALTAR BREAD

Today's Altar Bread is offered in memory of the
Handmaid of God, Mary Ead

Requested by her grandson, Fr. Leonard.

May Mary's memory be eternal and may God bless
Fr. Leonard with good health and happiness always!

Commemorated on January 8th

The second day of the Afterfeast of Theophany falls on January 8. At Vespers we repeat a hymn which has already been sung at Compline for Theophany. In the hymn St John wonders in whose name he should baptize Christ. Should he baptize Him in the name of the Father? The Lord Jesus Christ already bears Him in Himself. Of the Son? He Himself is the incarnate Son of God. Of the Holy Spirit? Christ Himself sends the Spirit.

As your Pastor and Spiritual Father, I must lovingly encourage everyone first in their Faith and Spiritual Obligations to the Church then their social and financial obligations to the Church. **NO ONE IS EXEMPT FROM USING THEIR GOD-GIVEN TALENTS FOR HIS HOLY CHURCH.** With the help of God, let this year be a year for renewing our commitment to God through the participation in the Divine Liturgy and the reception of Holy Communion each and every Sunday. With all the challenges that we face in our lives and in the world, we can meet them all as long as we have Faith in Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior. May God bless us all with peace, good health and happiness as we begin this New Year! I would like to thank all those who were able to attend Church during the beginning of this glorious New Year.

+Fr. Leonard

BLESSING OF HOMES- WHY IS A HOME OR PLACE OF BUSINESS BLESSED?

We all know that when a monument is unveiled; when a building is opened; when significant undertaking is begun, it is customary for a ceremony of dedication to be held. So too, our Holy Orthodox Church has special blessings for those moving into a new home, a newly constructed or renovated home, a place of business, as well as the annual blessing of the home during the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6. With these rites the home is dedicated or rededicated and sanctified as an abode of a Christian believer under the Holy Trinity.

In the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke 19: 1-10 we read of the time our Blessed Lord visited the home of Zacchaeus, the rich publican. When Jesus entered Zacchaeus' house he said: "today salvation has come to this house since he too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save what is lost."

Therefore, during the services for the Blessing of homes, the priest prays that God will grant sanctification, blessings, purification, and health to those whose home is blest. He also prays for their spiritual and temporal welfare throughout the year. The Holy Orthodox Church sanctifies the lives of her faithful, to consecrate them, and to insure their salvation by every means at Her command.

During the Blessing of homes, please adhere to the following guidelines

1. Have as many family members there as possible.
2. Set up a place for prayers, in the dining room or kitchen, with an Icon and candle.
3. Take this time to get to know the priest better, asking any questions you may have.
4. Please don't feed the priest! We don't want to play favorites, and we also don't want to gain weight by eating everything that is offered to us.

Remember the priest will be making many visitations. A lengthy social visit may not be possible at this time. In order to make it possible to visit as many homes a possible, you may prefer a Season other than Epiphany for a visitation. This year I will also be Blessing homes between Easter and Pentecost and between the Feast of the Holy Cross, September 14 through October 1, 2012.

Dear Father Leonard,

Yes, I/we would like to have my/our home blessed in 2012. The most convenient days and times are as follows:

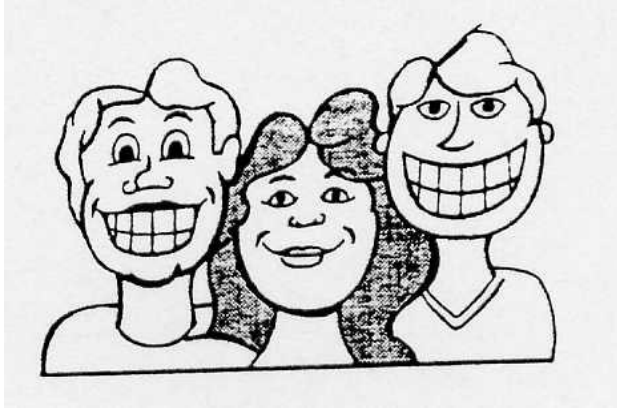
Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Best season: After Epiphany (January 6)
 (please circle one) After Easter (April 15)
 After the Feast of the Holy Cross (Sept.14)

Best day: Mon Tue Wed Thur Fri Sat

Best time: AM or PM



Recipe for a Happy New Year!

*To leave the old with a burst of song
To recall the right and forgive the wrong;
To forget the thing that binds you fast
To the vain regrets of the year that's past;
To have the strength to let go your hold
Of the not worthwhile of the days grown old,
To dare to go forth with a purpose true,
To the unknown task of the year that's new;
To help your brother along the road
To do his work and lift his load;
To add your gift to the world's good cheer,
Is to have and to give a Happy New Year!*