



Celebrating our
100th Anniversary
St. George
Antiochian Orthodox Church of Lowell

Remember Our Past, Celebrate Our Present,
Secure Our Future

St. George
Antiochian Orthodox Church



Lowell, Massachusetts



Afterfeast of the Meeting of our Lord in the Temple

January 8, 2017

ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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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.

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.

Our faithful are reminded that as you leave the sanctuary, to do so **reverently and quietly**. Properly, one should approach the celebrant to receive his blessings, kiss the cross, depart and **then greet neighbors and friends at fellowship hour**. We must never lose reverence for our church sanctuary as the house of God simply because services have ended. Also, please take the Sunday bulletins with you or return them to the Vestry Committee rather than leaving them in the pews or bookracks. Also, out of respect to your fellow parishioners and to God, **please turn off all electronic devices such as cell phones before entering** the church so as to not interrupt the solemnity of our prayers.

Thank you,
+ Father Leonard

Church Office Hours: If you would like to meet with the Pastor, please call the office to set up an appointment. Office hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

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.

Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 4

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel, the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation, and proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying:
Death hath been spoiled. Christ God is risen, granting the world
great mercy.

Entrance Hymn

Ha-lum-mu li-nas-jud, wa-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 4 (repeated)

Troparion of the Theophany of Christ, Tone 1

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, worship of the Trinity wast made manifest; for the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truth of His word. O Christ our God, Who hath appeared and enlightened the world, 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 Theophany of Christ, Tone 4

On this day Thou hast appeared unto the whole world, and Thy light, O Sovereign Lord, is signed on us who sing Thy praise and chant with knowledge: Thou hast now come, Thou hast appeared, O Thou Light unapproachable

Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous

The Reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul 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, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity 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

At that time, when Jesus 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, so 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 sat 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."

ALTAR BREAD

Today's Altar Bread is being given for the Glory of God and for a New Year of peace, good health and happiness for all the people of the World.

MEMORIALS

Next Sunday, January 15

A 40 Day Memorial Service will be offered for the repose of the soul of the Handmaid of God, Anisse Saad, the Mother of Ines Saad, who passed away in Lebanon, requested by her daughter and son-in-law, Ines & Elias Saad and Family. May Anisse's memory be eternal!

A One Year Memorial Service will be offered for the repose of the soul of the Handmaid of God, Frances Ellis, requested by her husband, George Ellis May Frances' memory be eternal!

COFFEE HOUR

Today's Coffee Hour is being sponsored by the Parish Council for the health and safety of all St. George Parishioners and their families. May God bless everyone with peace, good health and long life.

THIS WEEK

Wed. 1/11 6:30pm First Parish Council Meeting of the New Year

SPECIAL THANK YOU

We would like to thank the O'Donnell Funeral Home for their generous donation to St. George Church, in memory of Frances Ellis, MaryAnn Zaharias, and Mafouz Zananiri. May their memories be eternal and may God bless the O'Donnell Family with peace, good health and happiness during the New Year.

Afterfeast of the Meeting of our Lord in the Temple

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 Saint 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.



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