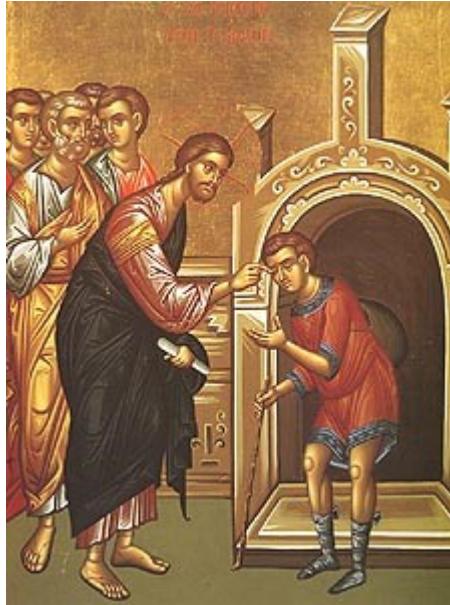


St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church
Lowell, Massachusetts



Sunday of the Blindman

May 21, 2017

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.**

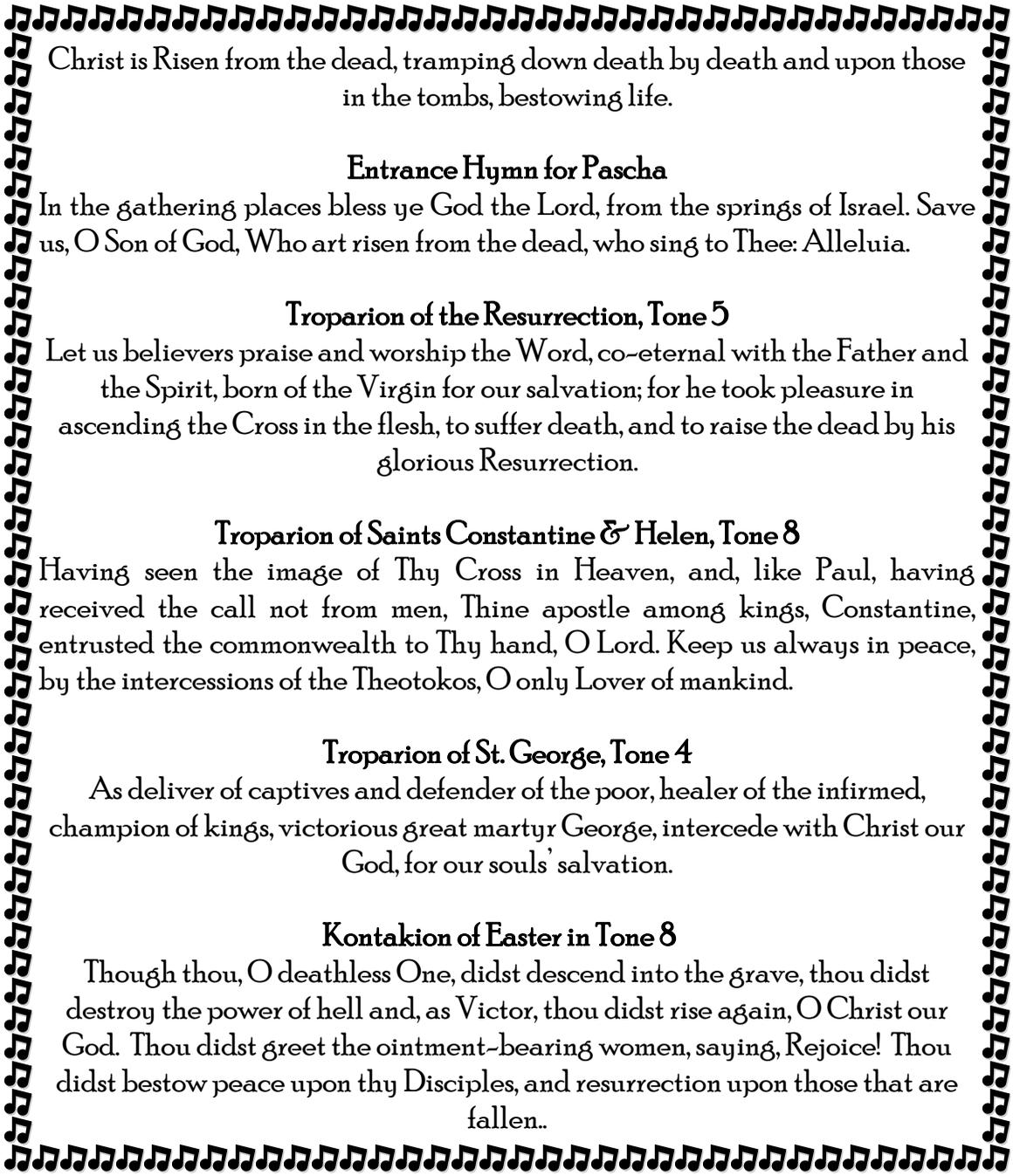
Important Notice: The reception of Holy Communion is limited to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and recent Confession. Confessions are heard on Sunday mornings during the Matins Service or by special appointment. The Eucharistic Fast begins at midnight on Saturday 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 consisting of a series of musical notes and stems, resembling a staff with a treble clef, framing the entire page.

Christ is Risen from the dead, tramping down death by death and upon those
in the tombs, bestowing life.

Entrance Hymn for Pascha

In the gathering places bless ye 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 Saints Constantine & Helen, Tone 8

Having seen the image of Thy Cross in Heaven, and, like Paul, having
received the call not from men, Thine apostle among kings, Constantine,
entrusted the commonwealth to Thy hand, O Lord. Keep us always in peace,
by the intercessions of the Theotokos, O only Lover of mankind.

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 Easter in 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..

Epistle: Apostles 26:1, 12-20

Their voice has gone out into all the earth. The heavens declare the glory of God.

The Reading from the Acts of the Saintly and Pure Apostles

In those days, King Agrippa said to Paul, "You have permission to speak for yourself." Then Paul stretched out his hand and made his defense: "I journeyed to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. At midday, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining round me and those who journeyed with me. And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It hurts you to kick against the goads.' And I said, 'Who art Thou, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus Whom you are persecuting. But rise and stand upon your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and bear witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, delivering you from the people and from the Gentiles, to whom I send you to open their eyes, that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.' Wherefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those at Damascus, then at Jerusalem and throughout all the country of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and perform deeds worthy of their repentance."

Gospel: John 9:1 -38

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John

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.



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

Prayers are being offered in Memory of:

Nora Abdelahad
 Connie Abodeely
 Lorice Ansara
 Ray Beaudry
 Ed & Lillian Betor
 David and Cindy Boragine
 Ida Boragine
 Miriam Calache
 George Ellis
 Mr. & Mrs. Elias Grivas
 Veronique, Annabelle & Chloe
 Groff
 Duayne Habib
 Rosalind Hajjar & Family
 Mary Howie
 Joanne Husson
 Lloyd Jennings
 Joe Kadir
 Fr. Stephen, and Family
 Charlie Kanavos
 Rose Lowe
 Marcotte Family
 Thomas Marcotte
 Eric Soucy
 Amad Tayebi
 Jack Trottier
 Dr. Vartan & Lisa
 Yeghiazarians & Family
 Genia Yeghiazarians
 Christian Yianopoulos
 Nahil Zanani

Charles Abdelahad
 George Abodeely
 Miriam Abodeely
 Mazen Alwarad
 Toulia Anasoulis
 Andrew Ansara
 Elias Ansara
 John Ansara
 Maurice Ansara
 Gladys Assaly
 Linda Assaly
 Yaacoub Awad
 Juliette Bahou
 Laurice Bahou
 Widad Batten
 James "Jimmy" Beaudry
 Mary Bogosian
 Dorothy Boragine
 Sal Boragine
 Cleopatra Bouras
 Sofie & Paul Brown
 Toma Calache
 Dr. Christos Daoulas
 Fred Ead
 Frances Ellis
 Frank Ellis
 George & Elsie Faris
 Mary T. Faris
 Connie Fumia
 Elizabeth & Joseph
 Ghareeb
 John & Irene Gkolias

George P. Habib
 Philip Hajjar
 Eleanor Husson
 N. Mary Husson
 Terry Husson Kadir
 Emtisal & Musalam Kazmeh
 Siham Khadij
 Lynda Lawrence
 George Lowe
 Efthymios & Paraskevi Manolis
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 Anisse Saad
 Hanna Saad
 Mary Saati
 George W. & Mary Saba
 Badwi Sabbouh
 Freda Sadak
 Veto & Vasiliki Selvagio
 Eleanor Shalhoup
 Fred Simon
 Judy Skaff
 Mildred & Arthur Skaff
 Minnie Skaff
 Nellie Husson Skaff
 Ricky Skaff
 Stephen Skaff
 T. Michael Skaff
 Elaine Viera
 Leon Yeghiazarians
 Charles Zaharias
 Mary Ann Zaharias

++++
 MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE ETERNAL!
 ++++



ALTAR BREAD

Today's Altar Bread is given in memory of the Servant of God, J.B. Taleb, requested by his parents, Bassam and Susan Taleb. May J.B.'s memory be eternal and may God grant comfort and strength to his parents.



MEMORIALS ~ Today, May 21st

A Memorial Service is being offered for the repose of the soul of the Servant of God, J. B. (Joseph Bassam) Taleb, requested by his parents, Bassam and Susan Taleb. May J. B.'s memory be eternal!



COFFEE HOUR

Today's Coffee Hour is sponsored by Bassam and Susan Taleb in memory of their beloved son, J. B. on his birthday. May J. B.'s memory be eternal and may God bless Bassam and Susan with good health, happiness and long life!

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 or 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.

Applications are now being accepted for the "St. George Ladies Society" Scholarship. Eligible applicants must be female, 22 years of age or older, be a member in good standing in the church, be actively involved in the worship, service, and social life of the church, be applying for, or registered in, an academic or trade study program, and demonstrate financial need. See Fr. Leonard or Martha Stewart for further details and an application. Application deadline is June 18th.



SAVE THE DATES
Lowell Folk Festival
July 28, 29 and 30, 2017

As in prior years, we will participate in the Lowell Folk Festival which is scheduled for July 28-30, 2017. Please save these dates as we all depend on your help that weekend. If you would like make a donation towards the Folk Festival expenses please see Azar Louh, Mack Louh, or Ron Tayebi.

SAVE THE DATE

The Sixth Annual Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church Night At The Lowell Spinners Baseball Game will be held on Saturday, August 12, 2017, at 5:30 PM at LeLacheur Park in Lowell MA. Further details will follow.

Andrew Saati
Chairman

*To our wonderful parishioners, family and friends of St. George
Antiochian Church:*

Teen SOYO would like to thank all of you for your continued support of our spaghetti dinner fundraiser. The money we raise helps us to do community service activities helping others in need, pay our dues to the diocese, and to participate in fellowship activities that bring us closer to God and each other. We are so blessed to have so much love and kindness. We want to first thank God, the Father Almighty for his many blessings. We thank Father Leonard for his love and support. We thank Mr. William Ansara for his many hours of cooking and preparing the delicious meal and Mr. Pierre Oujaimi for his cooking and serving the day of the event. They make a great team! A very special thank you goes out to Mr. & Mrs. Frank Nackel for their very generous donation and to Mr. & Mrs. Nick Manolis for their generous donation as well. We thank Lisa Ansara for the donation of beer and wine. We especially thank the Teen SOYO parents for all of their donations towards the dinner, for their time helping, and especially for their love!

Denise Oujaimi

2017 Food For Hungry People Campaign



The Parishioners of Saint George Antiochian Church donated in total \$1,074.55 towards the 2017 Food For Hungry People Campaign. Their names are listed below:

Anonymous
Yvette Ansara
Phyllis and Lionel Arsenault
Jacob Awad
Nicole Awad
June and Charles Behrakis
Elias Dickmak
George Ellis
Roseanne Galvin
Robert Gendron
Alan and Elaine Hamwey

Dorothea Husson
Zaki and Juliette Louh
Robert and Elaine Maria
John and Clemence Maria
Gwen and Fred Noonan
Andrew and Donna Saati
Michael and Mary Saati
Chakeep and Laurence Skaff
Luke Stachowski
Amad and Alexa Tayebi

We thank for your support.

Alan Hamwey
Chairman



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