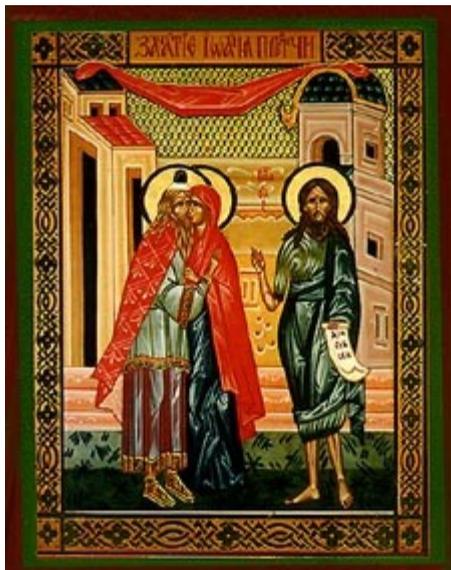


St. George Antiochian  
Orthodox Church  
Lowell, Massachusetts



**CONCEPTION OF THE FORERUNNER AND BAPTIST JOHN &  
FIRST SUNDAY OF LUKE**

MARTYR RAIDOS OF EGYPT; NEW-MARTYRS NICHOLAS THE GROCER AND JOHN OF  
BRACHORION;

VENERABLE XANTHIPPA AND POLYXENA OF SPAIN

*September 23, 2018*

**ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
The Most Reverend Metropolitan JOSEPH  
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

The Right Reverend Bishop JOHN, Diocese of Worcester and New England

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

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**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.**

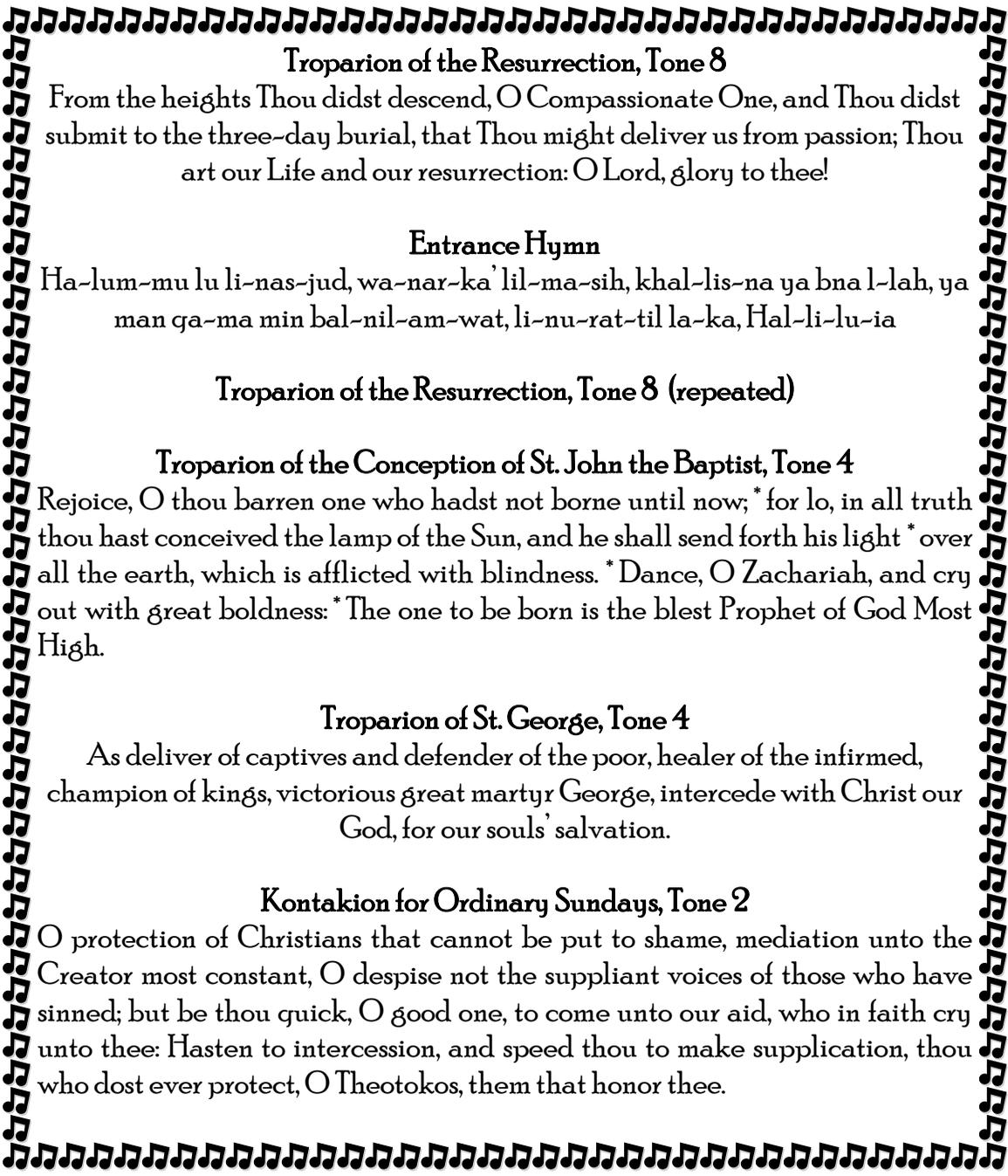
**Important Notice:** The reception of Holy Communion is limited to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and recent Confession. Confessions are heard on Sunday mornings during the Matins Service or by special appointment. The Eucharistic Fast begins at midnight on Saturday 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](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 8**

From the heights Thou didst descend, O Compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our Life and our resurrection: O Lord, glory to thee!

**Entrance Hymn**

Ha-lum-mu lu 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 8 (repeated)**

**Troparion of the Conception of St. John the Baptist, Tone 4**

Rejoice, O thou barren one who hadst not borne until now; \* for lo, in all truth thou hast conceived the lamp of the Sun, and he shall send forth his light \* over all the earth, which is afflicted with blindness. \* Dance, O Zachariah, and cry out with great boldness: \* The one to be born is the blest Prophet of God Most High.

**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 for Ordinary Sundays, Tone 2**

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

## THE EPISTLE

*The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord. O God, hear my prayer.*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (4:22-27)**

Brethren, Abraham had two sons, one by a slave and one by a free woman. But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, the son of the free woman through promise. Now this is an allegory: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. For it is written, "Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and shout, you who are not in travail; for the children of the desolate one are many more than the children of her that is married."

## THE GOSPEL

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (5:1-11)**

At that time, Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. And He saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, Jesus asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when Jesus had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at Thy word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish, which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.





## MEMORIAL SERVICE ~ Next Sunday, September 30

A 40 Day Memorial Service will be offered for the repose of the Soul of the Servant of God, Jack Saad, Uncle of Elias Saad, requested by Elias Saad and Family. May Jack's memory be eternal.

A 40 Day Memorial Service will be offered for the repose of the Soul of the Servant of God, Zaven Bogosian, requested by Fr. Leonard. May Zaven's memory be eternal.

A One Year Memorial Service will be offered for the repose of the Souls of the Servants of God, Edmond Solomon and Mary V. Faris, cousin and aunt of Fr. Leonard, requested by Fr. Leonard.



### Welcome Back to Sunday School Cookout

The Parish Council and Folk Festival Committee would like to welcome all the Sunday School children and Teen Soyo back to church. There will be a cookout for the kids, parents, and teachers, immediately following the service in the church parking lot.

We would like to welcome all the children of our community to attend regardless of age or if they are registered for Sunday school. We have reserved a face-painter to make the day extra special for the kids. Please help us make this event a success and join us for a fun afternoon.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The Lowell Transitional Living Center serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner to over one hundred people at each meal daily! I volunteer to help serve dinner the first Tuesday of every month. Won't you join me? If you'd like to help in this very rewarding experience, see Lisa Ansara or email me at [lisaansara17@gmail.com](mailto:lisaansara17@gmail.com).

As you are aware, feeding over 100 people a hot, full meal is expensive! If you'd like to donate towards the meal, checks can be made to LTLC and given to Lisa. It costs approximately \$350 for each dinner so any and all donations are appreciated.

## COFFEE HOURS

For those interested in signing up to host a coffee hour please put your name and the reason you are hosting it on the calendar in the back of the hall. If no one sponsors a coffee hour there will NOT be any for that day. Please see Fr. Leonard if you have any questions.

## COFFEE HOUR ITEMS

Thank you all for hosting your coffee hours throughout the year. We ask that after coffee hour is over please take any food and drinks, left over, with you. Please do not leave anything in the refrigerator. Thank you.

# CHURCH ETIQUETTE

During Liturgy, the Priest or Deacon says,  
“With the fear of God, and with faith and love, draw near!”  
Let this be the way believers approach the Church to worship.

## WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT CHURCH:

- Remind yourself why you are here: Jesus Christ. You have an appointment every Sunday morning at 10:00am with Him, so you should not be late. Would you be late to any other
- appointment? Get extra rest so that you can make it to Church on time.
- Shut off all beepers, phones, and electronic devices. NO text messaging!
- As we sing in the Liturgy, “Let us lay aside all earthly care.”
- When entering the Church, venerate/kiss the icon at the entrance, cross yourself in prayer, and light a candle.

## YOU MAY NOT ENTER THE CHURCH AT THE FOLLOWING PERIODS:

- During the Entrance of the Holy Gospel
- During the reading of the Epistle and the Holy Gospel
- During the Sermon
- During the Entrance of the Gifts (bread and wine)

If you arrive during the above mentioned times, please wait in the Narthex (back) until the particular period is over.

When you enter or exit the Church, use only the side aisles. No one is to use the middle aisle at any time during the service, except for the Communion line.

## YOU SHOULD NOT BE SEATED DURING THE FOLLOWING MOMENTS:

- The singing of the Great Doxology (“Glory to Thee who has shown us the Light”)
- At “Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father, Son, and of the Holy Spirit...”
- During the Entrance of the Holy Gospel
- During the reading of the Holy Gospel
- During the Entrance of the Gifts
- During the Consecration of the Gifts
- During the Creed and the Lord’s Prayer (“Our Father”)
- While the priest and deacon are distributing Holy Communion
- Any time the priest blesses you with his hand or the cross

## CONDUCT IN CHURCH:

It is important to keep a reverent attitude and demeanor in Church at all times.

- Be on time! The proper time to arrive is before the service begins before the bells are rung.
- Should you have an emergency and think you will be late to Church, still come, pray, and give thanks to God for all things!
- You are there to pray, so focus on the prayers and hymns of the Liturgy
- Do not cross your legs while seated; please be firm while standing
- Do not stand with your hands in your pockets or your arms crossed
- Do not chew gum; absolutely no eating or drinking
- Do not talk during the Divine Liturgy, especially during the Gospel reading and in Communion line (wait until Coffee Hour to say hello)
- If your child is being disruptive and you cannot contain him, please calmly take your child out of the Church and calm him down without disturbing others and then RETURN to the Church.

Communion is not the end of Liturgy; do not leave until Liturgy is completely over and you have kissed the cross. You may not go to the Hall during Liturgy.

## MAKING THE SIGN OF THE CROSS:

The sign of the Cross is extremely powerful due to the reminder it gives of Christ's sacrifice. Tracing the sign of the Cross on ourselves serves as the accepting of that sacrifice and the blessing to emulate it in our everyday life. Making the sign of the Cross is the reception of the blessing bestowed on you by the Bishop or the Priest. It is the pious custom of devout people to trace themselves with the sign of the cross at important parts of the Divine Liturgy. The fingers put together first touch the forehead, then the chest, then the right shoulder, and finally the left shoulder (the heart). This can only be a reminder that we should love the Lord our God with all our mind, our soul, our strength, and our heart.

### **WHEN TO MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS:**

- At the beginning and end of prayers and services
- Upon entering Church and leaving Church
- At the mention of the “Father, Son, and Holy Spirit”
- When offering glory or blessedness to God
- At any prayerful invocation of God
- When the priest exclaims “Peace be to all”
- When the priest blesses the faithful with his hand or cross
- When the priest censures the people
- During the Entrance of the Holy Gospel
- During the Trisagion Prayers or Hymn (Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy...)

After receiving Holy Communion (after you have taken a few steps away from the chalice)

### **BOWING YOUR HEAD:**

There are certain times in the service when parishioners should bow their heads:

- When the priest exclaims “Peace be to all”
- At the exclamation “Bow your heads unto the Lord”
- When the priest blesses the faithful with his hand or cross or censer
- When the priest or deacon bows toward the people during the services
- During the Entrance of the Holy Gospel
- When the Holy Gospel is read
- During the Entrance of the Gifts
- During the Consecration of the Gifts
- When you feel you need to focus on the service as to not get distracted

## RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION:

To receive Holy Communion a person should:

- Prepare by prayer, by repentance, ultimately by receiving the Sacrament of Confession
- Prepare by fasting from food and drink (except for those with medical reasons) upon rising in the morning
- Refrain from smoking or chewing gum upon rising in the morning
- Ask forgiveness of anyone you have wronged
- Offer forgiveness to anyone who has wronged you
- Approach the chalice with reverence and thanksgiving, with arms crossed or hands folded with one's mind on Christ
- Say your name to the priest as you approach the Holy Chalice
- Tilt your head back and open your mouth as wide as you can

You should NOT receive Holy Communion if you arrive to Church after the reading of the Gospel.

## CHURCH ATTIRE:

Use Good Judgment! Common Sense!

We should offer Christ our "Sunday Best", not our everyday or common wear. Our dress should always be becoming of a Christian, and exemplify Christian values.

- No Jeans, No T-Shirts, No Tank-tops, No Sunglasses on head (or baseball caps)
- No Gym Shoes, No shorts, No Sandals, No Flip-Flops
- Dresses and skirts must fall below the knee and must be worn loosely; not tight
- Ladies' blouses should not be revealing and must cover the chest and shoulders
- Excessive make-up must be avoided. Women who wear lipstick should make sure lips are dry before receiving Communion, kissing cross or the priest's hand.
- This attire is to be for all ages!
- This attire is to help us realize how to respect our bodies, the Church, and to properly offer up prayer for our sins
- This attire is to help us NOT become a distraction to others who are trying to focus themselves

Help lead others to salvation, NOT sin.

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**Good Health to All !**

**Robert and Elaine Maria &  
Family**