St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

Lowell, Massachusetts

Thirty-first Sunday after Pentecost &
Fourteenth Sunday of Luke
Blessed Xenia of St. Petersburg, fool-for-Christ

January 24, 2021

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 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!

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

Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 8 (repeated)

Troparion of St. Xenia of St. Petersburg, Tone 8

In thee, O wandering stranger, Christ the Lord hath given us an ardent intercessor for our kind. For having received in thy life sufferings and grief and served God and men with love, thou didst acquire great boldness. Wherefore, we fervently hasten to thee in temptations and grief, crying out from the depths of our hearts: Put not our hope to shame, O Blessed Xenia.

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 Presentation of Christ, Tone 1

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

THE EPISTLE

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance.
Unto Thee have I cried, O Lord, my God.
The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (1:15-17)

Timothy, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. And I am the foremost of sinners; but I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display His perfect patience for an example to those who were to believe in Him for eternal life. To the King of Ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory to the ages of ages. Amen. January 24, 2021 Liturgy Variables 2 31st Sun. of Pentecost

THE GOSPEL

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:35-43)

At that time, as Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to Him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

Prayers are being offered for the Health and Safety of:

Nora Abdelahad
Connie Abodeely
Virginia Andersson
Lorice Ansara
William Ansara
Phyllis & Nel Arsenault
Siham Bahou
Charles Behrakis
Ed Betor
Paul & Kerrie Betor
David and Cindy Boragine
Ida Boragine
George Ead
George Ellis
Michael Faris
Michael Forsley
Athanasia Grivas
Duayne Habib
Sam Halperin & Family
Elias Hanna & Family
Joe Kadir
Fr. Stephen and Family
Rose Lowe
Joseph Mansour
Lynn, Thomas Marcotte & Family
Clemence Maria
Karine Nabbout & Family
Gwen Noonan
Helen Poulos
Lilanne Saad
Amad Tayebi
Jack Trottier
Dr. Vartan & Lisa Yeghiazarians & Family
Genia Yeghiazarians
Fr. Andrew and Khouryee Jane Zbeeb

Prayers are being offered in Memory of:

Charles Abdelahad
George Abodeely
Miriam Abodeely
Andrew Ansara
Elias Ansara
John Ansara
Maurice Ansara
Michael Ansara
Gladys Assaly
Linda Assaly
Yaacoub Awad
Juliette Bahou
Laurice Bahou
Widad Batten
James "Jimmy" Beaudry
Calvin Beede
June Behrakis
Lillian Betor
Dorothy Boragine
Sal Boragine
Cleopatra Bouras
Ella Jean Elias
Rosalind Elias
Frances Ellis
Frank Ellis
George & Elsie Faris
Mary T. Faris
Mary V. Faris
Phillip George
Elizabeth & Joseph Ghareeb
Elias Grivas
George P. Habib
Afaff Haddad, mother of Hanna Bahou who passed Away in California
Emile & Teffaha Haddad
Philip & Rosalind Hajjar
Charles & Annie Hamwey
Bernice Higgins
Dorothea Husson
Eleanor Husson
Joanne Husson
N. Mary Husson
Terry Husson Kadir
Siham Khadij
George Lowe
Amanda Louh
Efthymios & Paraskevi Manolis
Robert Maria
George Matook
Denise McCrady
Nafie Moses
Elias Nabbout
Fred Noonan
Frederick & Matilda Noonan
Paul Panagopoulos, Sr.
Anisse Saad
Hanna Saad
Mary Saati
George W. & Mary Saba
Badawi Sabbouh
Eleanor Shalhoup
Fred Simon
Chakeep Skaff
Judy Skaff
Mildred & Arthur Skaff
Minnie Skaff
Nellie Husson Skaff
Ricky Skaff
Stephen Skaff
T. Michael Skaff
J. B. Taleb
Elaine Vieira
Leon Yeghiazarians
Mary Ann & Charles Zaharias
Hilda Zananiri
Nahil Zananiri

ALTAR BREAD

Today's Altar Bread is being offered in memory of the Servant of God,
Dr. Elias Nabbout, requested by his wife Karine and his children,
Charlie, Mikey, Justin and Zara.

MEMORIAL ~ Today, January 24th

A One Year Memorial Service is being offered for the repose of the soul of the Servant of God, Dr. Elias Nabbout, requested by his wife Karine and his children,
Charlie, Mikey, Justin and Zara.
May Elias' memory be eternal!

NEXT SUNDAY, January 31st

A Memorial Service will be held for the repose of the souls of the Servants of God,
Alma Habib and George Habib, the Godmother and Cousin on Fr. Leonard.
May their memories be eternal!

COMING UP

Mon	2/1	7:00 pm	Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Presentation of Christ to the Temple and Blessing of Candles.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

During this Season of Epiphany Fr. Leonard will not be blessing homes as it customary, during this time, due to the pandemic. However, bottles of Holy Water are in the vestibule for anyone to take home and sprinkle their homes. Hopefully, when the pandemic is over Father will be able to resume blessing of homes. Praying that all of our parishioners remain healthy and safe during these difficult times and wishing everyone all the Blessings of this Holy Season.

With Love,
+Abouna Lenny

Venerable Xenia of Rome, and her two female servants

Saint Xenia of Rome, in the world Eusebia, was the only daughter of an eminent Roman senator. From her youth she loved God, and wished to avoid the marriage arranged for her. She secretly left her parental home with two servants devoted to her, and set sail upon a ship. Through the Providence of God she met the head of the monastery of the holy Apostle Andrew in Milassa, a town of Caria (Asia Minor). She besought him to take her and her companions to Milassa. She also changed her name, calling herself Xenia [which means "stranger" or "foreigner" in Greek].

At Milassa she bought land, built a church dedicated to Saint Stephen, and founded a woman's monastery. Soon after this, Bishop Paul of Milassa made Xenia a deaconess, because of her virtuous life. The saint helped everyone: for the destitute, she was a benefactress; for the grief-stricken, a comforter; for sinners, a guide to repentance. She possessed a deep humility, accounting herself the worst and most sinful of all.

In her ascetic deeds she was guided by the counsels of the Palestinian ascetic, Saint Euthymius. The sublime life of Saint Xenia drew many souls to Christ. The holy virgin died in 450 while she was praying. During her funeral, a luminous wreath of stars surrounding a radiant cross appeared over the monastery in the heavens. This sign accompanied the body of the saint when it was carried into the city, and remained until the saint's burial. Many of the sick received healing after touching the relics of the saint.

Following the death of Saint Xenia, first one of her former servants died, then the other. They were buried at the saint's feet.

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