

# ST. MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

A PARISH OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

905 SOUTH MAIN ST. + WILKES-BARRE PA 18702



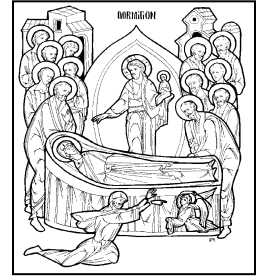
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## PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR NOVEMBER 25, 2018

- The Ladies are now taking reservations for their annual Christmas Party, which will be December 16 at 3 PM at the Wyoming Valley Country Club. Please remember this "Ladies" party is open to everyone in the Parish (including the guys). A sign up sheet along with the menu are located in the Parish Hall. Please get your tickets early!

The price of the Ladies Christmas Party is only \$35.00 per person and they have selected a wonderful menu! You have a choice of three entrees; chicken franchise, roast pork loin, or haddock with lemon butter and includes penne pasta, garden salad, potato, vegetable medley and dessert. We will have a cash bar for those of us who enjoy an adult beverage!

- We have included the text of Father George's sermon from last week for your further reflection.
- The Ladies continue to collect membership dues for 2018 – 2019 ... the dues are only \$20.00 and can be given to Eileen Attar.
- We are now in the Season of Advent, which is the 40-day period of preparation for the celebration of the Birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The Church prescribes we fast from (certain) food as well as sin during these 40 days. The Church also prescribes that we all receive the Sacrament of Confession during this Fast Period as a means of receiving forgiveness for our sins and also as a means of preparing our heart and soul to meet the Christ Child and celebrate His birth.
- Father George makes it easy for us to receive Confession. He is available to hear confessions before Saturday night Vespers from 4:30 p.m. until 5 p.m. (when Vespers begin). He is also available to hear confessions prior to the Paraclesis Service, which will be held on Wednesday evenings through Advent at 5 p.m. Lastly, he is available by appointment if the Saturday and Wednesday evening times do not work for you.
- During the Period of Advent we will once again be collecting non-perishable food items and new toys for married students and their children at St. Tikhon's Seminary. Please bring your donations with you to Church and place them in the designated boxes in the vestibule of both the Church and Parish Hall.

- We are still accepting your donated baskets for the Annual Church School Basket Raffle. We are looking forward to creative and exciting baskets and are starting earlier this year to allow more baskets to be donated and more tickets to be sold. Please bring your baskets in as soon as you can so that we can display them longer for our Parishioners and our Spaghetti guests. Please see Karen Kasko, Sbdcn Norm or any Church School parent with questions.
- Please also remember that the maintenance people in the Cemetery will be conducting a fall cleaning. Please take item away from graves that you do not want thrown out ...
- We all enjoy the coffee hour and fellowship that follows the Divine Liturgy each Sunday. This is a special time that affords us the opportunity to visit with our fellow parishioners, catch up on what happened the previous week, maybe talk about next week and welcome visitors and new Parishioners to St. Mary's. However, we need the support of all our families in the Parish to continue with this lovely custom so please consider sponsoring a coffee hour. It doesn't have to be anything elaborate --- Think about it and make a plan to step up and sponsor a Coffee Hour  
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