

# ST. MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

A PARISH OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

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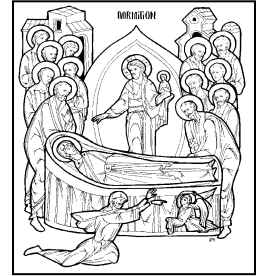
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## *Our Sympathy*

*We extend our sympathy to the family of George Morrash who has recently departed this life. May God comfort his family and friends in their sorrow and grant his memory to be eternal!*

## PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 23, 2018

- We have attached Metropolitan JOSEPH's Christmas Message to today's Bulletin.
- The Nativity Services will be celebrated as follows: Royal Hours for the Nativity at 9:00 am on Monday morning December 24 and then we celebrate Orthros at 10:00 pm followed immediately (@ 11:00 pm) by the Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ .... Please make every effort to attend the Nativity services so that we may greet the birth of our Savior together as a Parish Family ....
- We observe St. Ignatius Sunday ... Please consider the Order of St. Ignatius ... information concerning the vital work done by the Order throughout the Archdiocese is attached. Please see Father George if are interested in joining the Order ...
- The Basket Raffle is today during Coffee Hour! Please get your last-minute tickets and try to win your favorite Basket !!!
- Today is the 1-year anniversary of the passing into eternal life of Bishop THOMAS' mother, Sylvia Jean. We will be remembering her at the Divine Liturgy here at St. Mary as well.
- Thank you to all those who donated toys for the seminarians. We had 2 carloads of toys from the church and Toys for Tots that we delivered to the St. Tikhon's. A thank you note from one of the families is posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule of the Church Hall.
- If you have not yet picked up your Church Calendar, please do so. They are in the Vestibule of the Church.
- The Annual Parish Meeting will be convened this year of Sunday January 20, 2019 after the Divine Liturgy. Anyone interested in serving on the Parish Council and wanting to run for a position on the Council should see Father George or John Moses to have your name included on the ballot.

- The 2019 Church Envelopes are in the back of Church. Please take your own envelopes as well as those of your family.
- Statements will not be prepared for Parishioners unless requested. Please see Suanne Moses if you need a 2018 Statement printed.
- All of us should make time to receive the Sacrament of Confession some time during the Advent Fast in order to be properly prepared to celebrate the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord. Father will hear confessions after Royal Hours on Monday – Christmas Eve.
- Please note there will be NO Spaghetti Dinner on December r 27<sup>th</sup> so our Spaghetti Crew can enjoy a well-deserved break .
- The Ladies continue to collect membership dues for 2018 and 2019 ... the dues are only \$20.00 and can be given to Eileen Attar.
- 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 .....
- *Thinking ahead ....* A Golf Committee meeting for the 2019 Parish Golf Event will be held on January 16, 2019 at 5:30 in the Parish Hall ... mark your calendars and if you are interested in helping please attend ....

.... *and finally* .... The Parish Council recently met for the last time for 2018 ... we had a busy and (at times) difficult year with many issues to address ... we face many difficult issues in the new year to come and pray for God's blessings that we can meet and overcome those issues ... The Council thanks everyone who participated in the life of the Parish for their time, talents and financial support ....