

ST. MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
A PARISH OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA
PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MARCH 31, 2019

Our Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the family of Elizabeth Kuhl who has recently departed this life. May God comfort her family and friends in their sorrow and grant her memory to be eternal !"

- March is Women's Month throughout our Antiochian Archdiocese. The women of our Parish continue to read the Epistle and pass the trays. Please remember ALL of the women of our church are members of the Antiochian Women. All women from 19 to 99 are welcome and are urged to join the Antiochian Women in their ministry, remembering that EVERY woman in the Antiochian Archdiocese is an "Antiochian Woman"!
- Today is the Sunday of the Holy Cross that marks the mid-point of Great Lent. There will be No Church School as we want our children to remain in Church for the Service of the Cross that follows the Divine Liturgy.
- Bishop THOMAS expects to make his annual visit to our parish of St. Mary over the Mother's Day Weekend, May 10-12. During his visit, he would also like to meet with our Parish Council either on Friday evening or perhaps Saturday evening after Vespers. We can work out that schedule at our upcoming parish council meeting. Also, as a reminder, Bishop THOMAS will be with us for the services of Holy Thursday this year.
- The Teens are offering Ornaments for sale for a Parish "Pascha Tree". We have a lovely golden tree we will decorate with Ornaments throughout the Lenten Season. Ornaments may be purchased in the name of your loved one who will then be included on the Prayer List for the Divine Liturgy on Pascha. The price of an ornament is only \$5.00. Everyone will take their Ornaments home after Pascha. Don't wait to get your Ornament for the good health or in loving memory of a loved one. Ornaments will be on sale today and through Palm Sunday!
- Lent is a natural and perfect time to reassess where we are in terms of our spiritual life. We realize we are "preaching to the choir" to those who are in Church However, those of us who are here have an obligation to be evangelists. Lets start with those whom we love first. Reach out to your families to bring them to Church!

- We have a full schedule of services this week. Please make an effort to attend as many as possible. If you plan on receiving Communion during the Presanctified Liturgy on Wednesday, we ask you fast from the time of your lunch time meal.
- Food For Hungry People boxes are in the Vestibule of the Church. Please take one for your family.
- *A reminder from Father George* We should all make plans to receive the Sacrament of Confession at least once during Great Lent as an important part of our preparation to celebrate Christ's Resurrection from the Dead.
- We also have an "Ask Abounda" box with paper and pencil on the table in the Church Hall. Please write questions you would like to discuss at the Lenten Covered Dish following the Wednesday Evening Pre-Sanctified Liturgy on the paper provided and place them in this box.
- A reminder about the Cemetery – Please remove any Christmas decorations you want to save. Clean up of the cemetery will begin shortly and anything left will likely be thrown in the trash.
- Our Parish Life Conference will be held again this year at the Antiochian Village. Father George encourages all of our parishioners to consider attending with your families (though it there are a lot of events and activities for children its also for adults). There is something for the entire family at the conference.
- Our spaghetti crew can use a little help. Please see Joanne Tenneriello if you can help. We can use workers even if you could only give an hour a week. Please consider helping out if you can.
- Please also consider helping out with the choir. The choir sounds great every week, but more voices are always better. You do not have to read music and do not have to have a professional singer's voice. Rather, you just need to show up and sing along. Please feel free to see Amber to sing with the choir. And also, please do not forget everyone is encouraged to sing from their seats as well.
- We will have signup sheets available for all Parishioners who will help with the Parish Festival ... "A Day in Damascus" we are planning for September We ill need everyone to help in one way or another ... please sign up s we can include you in our planning
- Diocesan High School Students Scholarships: Each year our Diocese offers scholarships for high school students who will be entering college next fall. Please see Father George for an application.