

ST. MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
A PARISH OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA  
PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR APRIL 7, 2019

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*Our Sympathy*

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

*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 !'*

- We were happy to receive word of the birth of a baby boy for Dn. Joseph and Sh. Rebecca. Their son, Edward Douglas Joseph Clark II, was born 21.5 inches and 8 pounds and 6 ounces. May God grant him and them many, many years!
- Today is the Sunday of St. John of the Ladder. We have two Sundays, including this one, before the glorious Feast of Palm Sunday. We then begin the observation of Holy Week and embark on the solemn journey from the joy of Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem to his Crucifixion and Resurrection.

A little forethought and planning is appropriate now. To those who have been regularly attending our Lenten services -- we pray that you continue to join us on our journey to the Cross and Christ's glorious Resurrection. For those who have unable to participate thus far, it is not too late.

Please plan ahead and select services you can attend through the remainder of Lent and Holy Week and focus on your spiritual growth. And to those of you who are here, please bring your friends, neighbors and families to Church with you. Invite to join us and experience the beauty of our Lenten and Holy Week services.

- Subdeacon George (Marshall) will be speaking with our Teen Class. We ask ALL of our Teens to plan to attend this class following Holy Communion on Sunday.
- We also want to remind our Teens and College students Father George will be conducting a Lenten Retreat on Saturday, April 13th at our Church. We invite and encourage ALL of our Teens and College Students to attend. The Topic is Attaining Grace.

- Bishop THOMAS expects to make his annual visit to our parish of St. Mary over the Mother's Day Weekend, May 10-12. 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!
- 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 Abouna" 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.
- 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.