



ST. MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

A PARISH OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR AUGUST 18, 2019

Our Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the family of Helen "Cookie" Toney on her passing into eternal life. May God comfort her family and friends in their sorrow and grant her memory to be eternal!

- **CONGRATULATIONS AND MANY THANKS TO OUR GOLF COMMITTEE!** We enjoyed a wonderful Parish Golf Outing on Friday at the Sand Springs Golf Course in Drums. We had good attendance and great weather ... The Faithful and our guests then enjoyed a buffet dinner and many prizes were awarded and won! We're already looking forward to next year's event and hope even more Parishioners will bring family and friends to enjoy wonderful Fellowship!

Special thanks to all who donated baskets, sponsored holes and donated prizes and supplies to the Golf Committee ... without the generous assistance of our Parishioners we could not have enjoyed such a wonderful day!

- The Parish Council gathers today after Liturgy for its monthly meeting. All interested in the working of the Council or who wish to address the Council are invited and urged to attend.
- There is an important meeting for our Festival Committee next week after Liturgy. All Parishioners involved or who want to be involved are encouraged to attend as well as anyone who can help in any way (even if its part time) ...
- Everyone should be planning on bringing family, friends and neighbors to our Parish Food Festival we are calling "A Day In Damascus" ... This is a major event for us at St. Mary. The event will cover 2 days --- Saturday and Sunday September 7 & 8 --- on the grounds of the Church and in the Hall ... We will have great food and desserts and entertainment along with a lot of great vendors ... we are also opening the doors of the Church to introduce our friends and neighbors and everyone else who comes to the beauty of Orthodoxy ... we're putting a lot of work into making this a very special event for everyone

We have applications for vendors ... we are providing covered spaces outside as well as spaces inside the Hall for people or businesses interested in selling a good or service If you are interested in selling something or know someone who might

have something to sell you should take an application and return it to Alyssa Fort as soon as possible

We also can use some help in making this event work We are asking Parishioners to sign up in two hour shifts to help on both days ... There is something for every single one of us to do ... there are big jobs and there are small jobs but every job is important ... we are approaching this as a labor of love among Family so no need feel uncomfortable or uneasy about helping ... please sign up to help ... the sign up sheets are in the Parish Hall

We are also asking for donations of baked goods ... we are hoping every family donates at least one (but hopefully more) baked goods for the Festival ... Just think of how wonderful it will be to offer our guests samples of the many different and wonderfully delicious desserts our Parishioners can make ... Please sign the sheet in the Parish Hall if you can donate baked goods. **Please Note:** We are asking that your delicious donated baked goods be prepared and dropped off at the Church kitchen on **Friday, September 6th between noon and 5 PM.**

Lastly ... everyone one of us should understand this event is a look into our Parish Family ... we want everyone who walks onto the Church grounds to feel the wonderful hospitality of our people ... it is admittedly a little about fund-raising but it is more about welcoming the community into our Parish home ... we are all a part of our Parish Family and how we do in making our guests feel welcome and making this a success says something about everyone one of us ... so join in and make it the greatest event ever!

- We continue to take additional collections over the next few Sundays to help with additional costs for landscape maintenance ... Please give generously
- Speaking of landscaping Some Parishioners have volunteered to clean the landscaping closer to the Church and Hall (not the perimeter for which we are taking donations) ... we are looking for families and friends to volunteer to weed and clean up the areas in front of the Parish Hall, at the front of the Church on either side of the entrance (around the handicap ramp as well) and along the side of the Church nearest to the office ... no planting is necessary, just a little sweat to weed and clean up ... *we already have volunteers to clean up around the sign ...* Please see John Moses, Diane Fort or Sbdcn Norm if you are interested
- We continue to invite everyone to participate in the Liturgy by volunteering to read the Epistle. It is a great way to participate in the liturgy and is really quite fulfilling. Please see Father George or Subdeacon Norman if you want to read or have a question about reading. We can select a shorter Epistle if you like and will practice with you is it would make you feel more comfortable ... it is a wonderful and spiritual experience ... think about taking a reading ...
- Please let us know if anyone can be removed from the Prayer List.
- Please keep in mind all announcements for the Bulletin and/or additions to the Prayer List should be called in or emailed to Father George or Subdeacon Norman by Friday of each week ...