



ST. MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

A PARISH OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR NOVEMBER 10, 2019

- Thanks to all the Parishioners who gave to, and worked at, the Ladies Rummage Sale ...
- Please keep in mind **Advent** begins this Friday (November 15th). Advent is the 40-day period of preparation preceding the Nativity and is marked by the Advent Fast.

The Nativity Fast is one of the four Canonical Fasting Seasons in the Church year. This is a joyous fast in anticipation of the Nativity of Christ and is less strict than other fasting periods. The fast is divided into two periods: (1) November 15th through December 19th when the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, dairy, fish, wine, and oil) is observed. There is dispensation given for wine and oil on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Similarly, fish, wine, and oil are permitted on Saturdays and Sundays; and (2) December 20th through 24th when the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, dairy, fish, wine, and oil) is observed. There is dispensation given for wine and oil only on Saturday and Sunday during this period. Please see Father George if you have questions.

The Feast of the Nativity is celebrated for twelve days culminating in the Feast of Epiphany, or Theophany. We will be holding the Advent Paracletis Service on Wednesday evenings during Advent unless otherwise listed on the calendar or in the bulletin.

- Please also keep in mind and mark your calendars The **Feast of the Entry of the Theotokos** will be celebrated on the first Wednesday of Advent, November 20th, the Eve of the Feast, with Matins at 6 p.m. and Divine Liturgy at 7 p.m. Fasting for Holy Communion should be from the Noon meal.
- Our Ladies will also host the **Parish Christmas Gathering** on Sunday, December 15th at the Country Club as we did last year.
- **St. Nicholas Sunday** this year will be on Sunday, December 8th. Please make plans to have your children, grandchildren and god children in Church to greet St. Nicholas
- We are pleased to inform everyone that we now have a "donation" button on our website. Donations can be made directly to our Church Bank Account through the use of a credit card by clicking on this button.

