



**ST. GEORGE EASTERN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**8 Lowell Street**

**Lawrence, MA 01840**

**Very Rev. Edward Hughes, Parish Priest**

**Church Office Phone: (978) 685-4052**

**[www.StGeorgeLawrence.org](http://www.StGeorgeLawrence.org)**

HOLY EUCHARIST (COMMUNION) is ADMINISTERED ONLY to MEMBERS of the ORTHODOX CHURCH who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting, and recent confession of sins.

“The means to confirm and strengthen Christian Hope are prayers, especially frequent and sincere prayer, confession of our sins, frequent reading of the Word of God, and above all, frequent communion of the holy life-giving sacraments of the Body and Blood of Christ.”

*St. John of Kronstad*

**December 11, 2016**

**TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**THE SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS**

Tone -8

Eothina -3

**THE TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION in Tone 8**

Thou didst come down from the Heights, O Compassionate One, that we might be delivered from suffering, Thou didst submit to be placed in the tomb for three days. Thou art our life, and our Resurrection, O Lord, Glory to Thee.

**THE TROPARION FOR THE FOREFATHERS in Tone 4**

Thou hast justified by faith the ancient forefathers and through them thou hast gone before and betrothed unto thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory; for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and she it was who gave birth to thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.

**THE TROPARION OF ST. GEORGE in Tone 4**

As Deliverer of captives, defender of the poor, healer of the infirm, champion of kings; victorious Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God for our souls' salvation.

**THE KONTAKION Preparatory to Christmas in Tone 3**

Today the Virgin cometh, cometh unto the cave, to give birth to the Word who was born before all ages, Begotten in a manner that defies description. Rejoice therefore, O Universe if thou shouldst hear, and glorify with the Angels and the shepherds. Glorify Him who by His will shall become a new-born Babe, and who is our God before all Ages.

**THOSE IN THE HOSPITAL:** Gebran Touma, Elaine Kevgas

**THOSE IN NURSING HOMES and SENIOR CARE FACILITIES:** Wadad Hamuae, Hanna Nakkoul, Joanne Samra (Florida) Michel Chuairy, Henry Hyder, Edward Haddad.

**THOSE ILL, IN PAIN, OR SHUT IN BY INFIRMITY:** Amaline Bastaty, Clara Coutermarsh, Claudette Erban, Geraldine Deschênes, Fouad Hajjar, Vivian Runions, Lorraine Kalil, Nassif Hamaoui, Jeanette Hamaoui, Christine Hassan, Gabriel Josiah Hassan, Caleb Hassan, Jessica Savory, Albert Hayek, Toni Orefice, Kim Goodspeed, Angela Scherer, Carole Farrell, Donna Najem Avakoff, Stephen Kamal, Jacob Malinchak, Charles Timko, Jr., William Haddad, Lila Haddad, Stacia Mullens, Sandra Widdall, Joanne Gray, Cheryl Brown, Joseph Palin, Christopher Boshar, Shaker Hajjar (Ohio), Ramy Bassit, and John Ayoub.

**THOSE IN DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES, FAR AWAY, OR OTHERWISE IN NEED OF PRAYER:** Brandon Touma, Tom Girardi, Warren & Elizabeth, Warren & Catherine Ferris, Carl, Lauren, Caitlin, Aalin, Aidan Bellinger, Ann Balsamo, Alice Ziady and Carol Aberizk, Maria Morales, Miguel Angel Morales, Santo Thomas Morales, Santa Maria Morales, Anderson Miguel Morales.

**FOR CONTINUED GOOD HEALTH & GOD'S BLESSINGS:** Charles Girardi, Gianna Gehringer, Libby Morley, George Touma & family; Gebran Touma & family; Jihad, Lynn, Janelle & Jacob Hajjar; Clara Coutermarsh.

**WE WELCOME** Fr. Mark Sherman who is serving today while Father Edward is leading an Advent retreat in Whittier, CA.

**THE SUNDAY SCHOOL** will present their annual Christmas program assisted by our Choir. The Ladies are sponsoring a Lenten Luncheon immediately following.

**DIVINE LITURGY** will be celebrated on Tuesday, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM for the Feast of

St. Herman the wonderworker of Alaska and all America.

**THE NATIVITY FAST** began on Tuesday, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>. We will be abstaining from Meat, Eggs, and Dairy products until Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. From then on we abstain from Fish, Olive Oil and Alcohol as well until Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>. May God grant us a spiritually profitable and peaceful fast, and bring us safely to His Glorious Nativity.

**THE PARISH COUNCIL** would like to remind our members that it is important to pay the special Archdiocese Assessment of \$100. Per pledging unit in addition to your pledge.

**HOME BLESSINGS** began in September, and usually continue throughout the year. Anyone who would like their home blessed at this time, please contact Fr. Edward.

**SPONSORS** are needed for Coffee Hour. Several families can join together. Very little is actually necessary – you don't have to serve a full luncheon. If no one has sponsored coffee hour, **please remember** to leave a donation to be used for the next week's coffee hour.

**THE PARISH WEBSITE** is a good source for information on current parish news. The website is listed at the top of the bulletin each week.

**HOLY BREAD** is available for those who would like to offer it in memory, or for the good health of someone, on anniversaries, birthdays, graduations, &cet. Anytime you would like to offer Holy Bread, consider buying from the Church rather than from one of the bakeries. Please contact Mrs. Ramza Touma for details.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER IN ARABIC

Abána ládhi fees samawát liyáta qáddas ismuk. Liyáti malakoótook. Lítakoon mashee'atook, kamá fis samá'y kadhálik 'álal 'ard. Khúbzanal jówhary á'teenal yowm; wátrook lána ma aláina, kamá nátrooku náhnu leéman lána 'aláihy. Walá tudkhílna fy tájriba, lákin nájjeena meénash shareér.

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2016

**Friday, Dec. 23: 9:00 AM Royal Hours of Christmas**

**Saturday, Dec. 24: 7:30 AM Matins of the Pre-Feast  
9:00 AM Liturgy of the Pre-Feast  
5:00 PM Great Vespers with Litya (Christmas Gospel)  
6:30 PM Matins  
8:30 AM Divine Liturgy (Adoration of Magi Gospel)**

**Monday, Dec. 26: 7:30 AM Matins  
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy for the Theotokos**

**Tuesday, Dec. 27: 7:30 AM Matins  
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy for St. Stephen**