



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

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 Kronstadt

December 17th, 2017

28th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Sunday of the Holy Forefathers

The Holy Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Children

Tone -3

Eothina -6

THE TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION in tone 3

Let the Heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own hand. He has trampled death by His death, and has become the first born from the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of Hades, Granting to the people of the world His Great Mercy.

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 NURSING HOMES and SENIOR CARE FACILITIES: Amaline Bastaty, Wadad Hamuae, Hanna Nakkoul, Joanne Samra (Florida) Michel Chuairy, Henry Hyder,

THOSE ILL, IN PAIN, OR SHUT IN BY INFIRMITY: Lorraine Kalil, Claudette Erban, Geraldine Deschênes, Fouad Hajjar, Vivian Runions, 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, Fran Brown, Anita Brown, Andrew Brown, Christopher Boshar, 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; Naime Touma & family; Jihad, Lynn, Janelle & Jacob Hajjar.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHOIR Christmas program will be held **today** immediately following Divine Liturgy.

The PARISH COUNCIL is scheduled to meet on Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM.

DIVINE LITURGY will be celebrated on Wednesday morning at 9:00 AM for the feast of St. Ignatius of Antioch.

THE NATIVITY FAST began on Wednesday, Nov. 15th and lasts through Dec. 24th. From Nov. 15th through Dec. 13th, we abstain from meat, dairy products, and eggs. From

then on we abstain from Fish, Olive Oil and Alcohol as well until Dec. 25th. (Olive oil and Alcohol are allowed on weekends.) May God grant us a spiritually profitable and peaceful fast, and bring us safely to His Glorious Nativity.

CREDIT CARDS are now accepted at St. George. If you prefer, we are able to accept all major credit cards in lieu of cash. However, if you prefer not, cash will always be gratefully accepted as well.

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.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2017

Friday, Dec. 22:	9:00 AM Royal Hours of Christmas
Saturday, Dec. 23:	5:00 PM Great Vespers
Sunday, Dec. 24:	8:30 AM Noctourns 8:50 AM Matins of the Pre-Feast 10:00 AM Liturgy of the Pre-Feast 5:00 PM Great Vespers with Litya (Christmas Gospel) 6:30 PM Matins (Joseph's Dream Gospel) 8:30 PM Divine Liturgy (Adoration of Magi Gospel)
Tuesday, Dec. 26:	7:30 AM Matins 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy for the Theotokos
Wednesday, Dec. 27	7:30 AM Matins 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy for St. Stephen

THE LORD'S PRAYER IN ARABIC

Abána ládhi fees samawát liyáta qáddas ismuk.
Liyáti malakoótook.
Lítakoon masheé'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.