



ST. GEORGE EASTERN ORTHODOX CHURCH

8 Lowell Street

Lawrence, MA 01840

Very Rev. Edward Hughes, Parish Priest

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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 16th, 2018

THE TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Sunday of the Holy Forefathers

Tone – 4

Eothina – 6

THE TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION in tone 4

When the women disciples learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the Angel, they cast away parental sin, and proudly told the message to the disciples, proclaiming that death hath been spoiled and Christ our God hath risen, granting to the world 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 REHAB FACILITIES, NURSING HOMES and SENIOR CARE FACILITIES, Geraldine Deschênes, Norma Samra, Amaline Bastaty, Joanne Samra (Florida), Michel Chuairy, Henry Hyder, Vivian Runions

THOSE ILL, IN PAIN, OR SHUT IN BY INFIRMITY: Elizabeth Ferris, Khalil Touma, Lorraine Kalil, Claudette Erban, 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, 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, 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, Kenneth Keamy, 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, Theresa Girardi, Gianna Gehringer, Libby Morley, George Touma & Family; Naime Touma & Family, Jihad, Lynn, Janelle Hajjar, Joshua Linnie, Kate Gaiver & Jacob Hajjar.

TODAY the Choir and the Sunday School will present a Christmas program for all of us immediately following Divine Liturgy

TODAY the Ladies of St. George are offering a **BAKE SALE** Immediately following the Christmas program. Many people have made their favorite recipes to share with us. Please be generous in your support.

THE PARISH COUNCIL will meet on Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM.

DIVINE LITURGY will be celebrated on Thursday at 9:00 AM for the feast of St. Ignatius of Antioch and the first day of the Nativity Pre-feast.

THE NATIVITY FAST began on Thursday, 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.

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 begin 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 2018

Monday, Dec. 24: 9:00 AM Royal Hours of the Nativity
11:00 AM Vespers Liturgy of St. Basil (Christmas Gospel)
5:00 PM Great Compline with Litya
6:30 PM Matins
8:30 Divine Liturgy (Adoration of Magi Gospel)

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

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