

AL-NOUR

النور

The Light of Christ

October 31, 2021
Issue 808



*His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH,
Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of All North America*

*His Grace Bishop ANTHONY,
Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of
Toledo and the Midwest*

Fr. George H. Shalhoub, Pastor

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY: كنيسة السيدة الانطاكية للروم الأرثوذكس

THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX BASILICA OF ST. MARY

▪ 18100 Merriman Road ▪ Livonia, Michigan 48152 ▪ www.stmarylivonia.com ▪ Office: (734)-422-0010 ▪

Sunday Services
Confession: 8:30AM
Matins: 9:00AM
Divine Liturgy: 10:00AM

St. Mary's Cultural
and Banquet Center
(734) 421-9220

ودعي التلاميذ مسيحيين في انطاكية أولاً

“And the disciples were first called
Christians in Antioch.” Acts 11:26



Daily Confession by Appointment - Call the Church Office

October 31, 2021

HALLOWEEN

St. Nikolai of Zhicha



As Orthodox Christians we must carefully examine every aspect of our involvement in the world, its activities, holidays and festivals, to be certain whether or not these involvements are compatible with our Holy Orthodox Faith. For a while now everything in the outside world is reminding us that Halloween is near: at school our children are busy painting pumpkins, cutting and pasting bats, ghosts and witches and planning the ideal costume in which to go trick-or-treating. Most of our schools, local community organizations and entertainment on television, radio and press will share in and capitalize upon the festival of Halloween. Many of us will participate in this festival by going to costume parties, or by taking our children trick-or-treating in our neighborhood after dark on October 31st. Most of us will take part in the Halloween festivities believing that it has no deeper meaning than fun and excitement for the children. Most of us do not know the historical background of the festival of Halloween and its customs. The feast of Halloween began in pre-Christian times among the Celtic peoples of Britain, Ireland and Northern France. These pagan peoples believed that physical life was born from death. Therefore, they celebrated the beginning of the “new year” in the fall, on the eve of October 31st and into the day of November 1st, when, as they believed the season of cold, darkness, decay and death began. Instructed by their priests, the Druids, the people extinguished all hearth fires and lights and darkness prevailed. According to pagan Celtic tradition, the souls of the dead had entered into the world of darkness, decay and death and made total communion with Samhain, the Lord of death, who could be appeased and cajoled by burnt offerings to allow the souls of the dead to return home for a festal visit on this day. The belief led to the ritual practice of wandering about in the dark dressed in costumes indicating witches, hobgoblins, fairies and demons. The living entered into fellowship and communion with the dead by this ritual act of imitation, through costume and the wandering about in the darkness. They also believed that the souls of the dead bore the affliction of great hunger on this festal visit. This belief brought about the practice of begging as another ritual imitation of the activities of the souls of the dead on their festal visit.

(Continued on page 5)

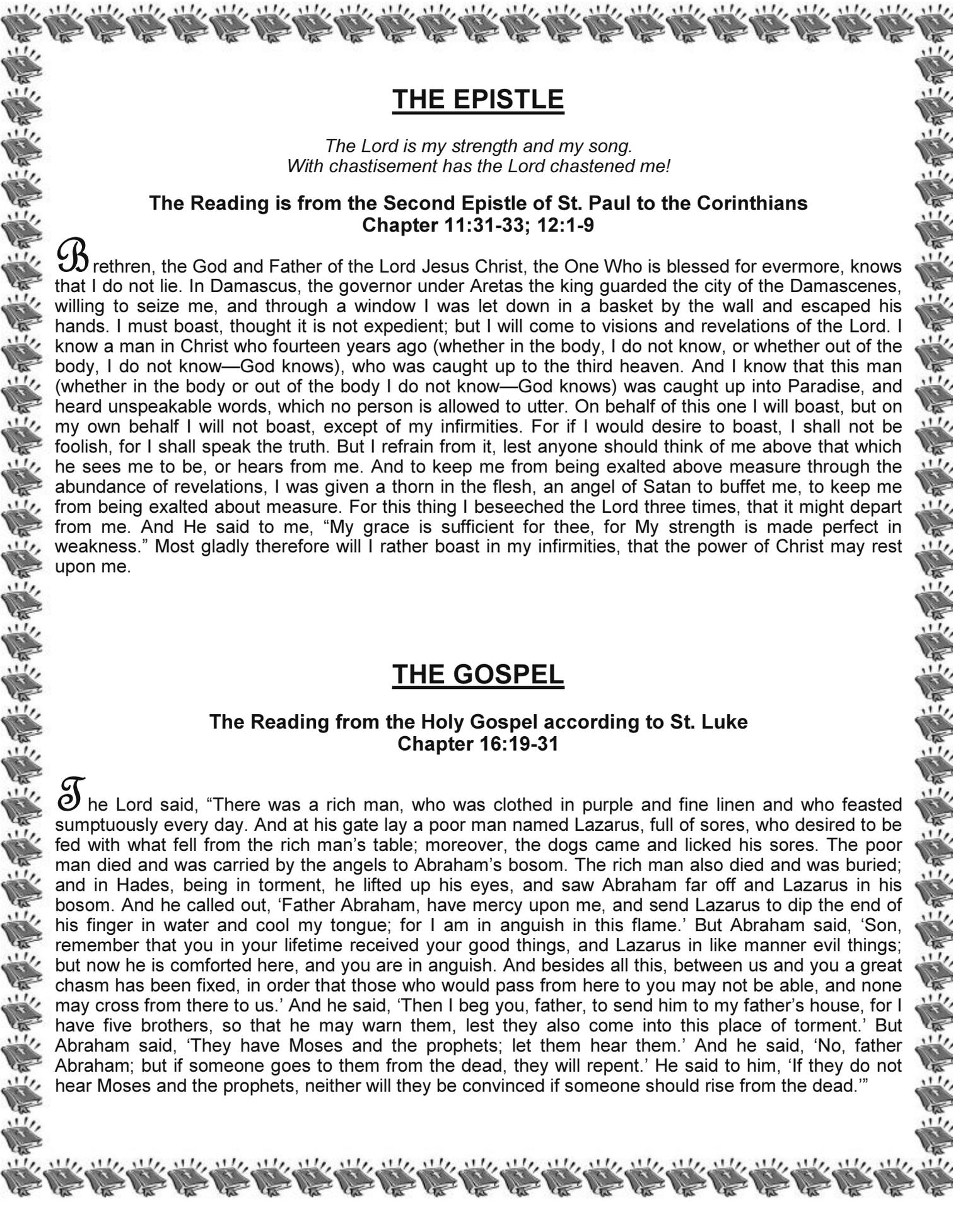
Reminder:

Daylight Saving Time ends Sunday, November 7th.
Set your clocks BACK one hour.



The Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of St. Mary

Fr. George Shalhoub - Pastor
Fr. Jim King - Pastor of Youth &
Pastoral Outreach Programs
Archdeacon Issa Rizkallah †
Deacon Dr. Dennis Bojrab
Deacon Samer Hanna
Nancy Ghannam - Parish Council
Chairwoman
Melanie Makool - Choir Director
Stacey Badeen - Church Administrator
Sonya Kassis - Parish Ministries
Coordinator
Olive Awad - Administrative Assistant
Sami Azzouz/Ziad Abojamra/
Nabeel Mashni - Ushers
Dr. Tom Saba - Young Adults-
St. John Divine
Saada Matta - Ladies Society
President
Lina Nunu-Matta - Arabic School
Abeer Samaan - Montessori School
Director - 734-743-5601

A decorative border of small, stylized book icons surrounds the text. The books are arranged in a rectangular frame, with some icons having rays emanating from them, suggesting light or inspiration.

THE EPISTLE

*The Lord is my strength and my song.
With chastisement has the Lord chastened me!*

The Reading is from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians Chapter 11:31-33; 12:1-9

Brethren, the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, the One Who is blessed for evermore, knows that I do not lie. In Damascus, the governor under Aretas the king guarded the city of the Damascenes, willing to seize me, and through a window I was let down in a basket by the wall and escaped his hands. I must boast, thought it is not expedient; but I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago (whether in the body, I do not know, or whether out of the body, I do not know—God knows), who was caught up to the third heaven. And I know that this man (whether in the body or out of the body I do not know—God knows) was caught up into Paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which no person is allowed to utter. On behalf of this one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my infirmities. For if I would desire to boast, I shall not be foolish, for I shall speak the truth. But I refrain from it, lest anyone should think of me above that which he sees me to be, or hears from me. And to keep me from being exalted above measure through the abundance of revelations, I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to buffet me, to keep me from being exalted about measure. For this thing I beseeched the Lord three times, that it might depart from me. And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for thee, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Most gladly therefore will I rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke Chapter 16:19-31

The Lord said, “There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man’s table; moreover, the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.’ But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.’ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’”



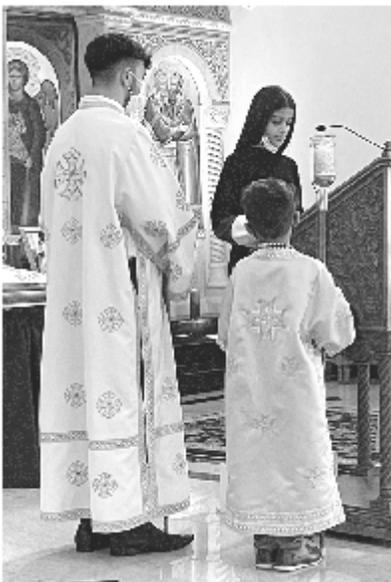
The Basilica of Saint Mary

October Events

It's been a busy few weeks at the Basilica! We thank the Ansara Family for hosting a family retreat day at their ranch in Northville. Also, a big thanks to Dr. Osama Nunu for filling in as speaker on the topic of practicing a life of discipline and commitment to Christ. October was also Antiochian Youth Month. Thanks to one of this month's youth epistle readers, Gina Azar. The SOYO held another meeting this month, including vespers and fellowship. Thanks to all our families and volunteers for their work in making these events possible. Glory to God!



FAMILY RETREAT & ANTIOCHIAN YOUTH MONTH



Please visit www.stmarylivonia.com for details about ministry activities and events happening at the Basilica of Saint Mary. If you have any questions regarding Youth and Outreach Ministries, please contact Fr. Jim King or Sonya Kassis at (734) 422-0010.

AE Auto Care ASE
Complete Auto & Truck Repair
 Art Elliason-Owner
 17175 Middlebelt • Livonia, MI 48152
 (734) 522-7222

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!
ADVERTISE HERE NOW!
 Contact **Dom DiPasqua** to place an ad today!
 ddipasqua@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6637

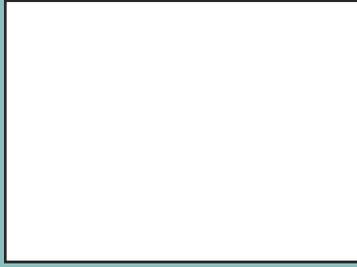
ROB'S HEATING & COOLING LLC
 We service all makes and models
 Furnaces • AC • Humidifiers
 Boilers • Water Heaters
734-728-5717

BUDGET TREE SERVICE
 Over 20 Years Experience • Licensed & Fully Insured
 TREE & SHRUB REMOVAL
 LOT CLEARINGS
 TREE & SHRUB TRIMMING
 STORM DAMAGE
 FIREWOOD
 24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE
 *Not affiliated with any other budget tree service

FREE ESTIMATES
 800-964-7785 - ASK FOR AXEL OR ERIC

30% OFF FOR SENIORS
 WITH COUPON, LIMIT 1 COUPON PER JOB, LIMITED TIME OFFER ON COUPON.

PARKVIEW MEMORIAL CEMETERY
 Serving the Community since 1926
 34205 Five Mile Rd.
 Just west of Farmington Rd.
734.421.6120



VERMEULEN-SAJEWSKI
 FUNERAL HOMES
 CREMATION SERVICES
 PLYMOUTH WESTLAND
 46401 Ann Arbor Rd. W Plymouth MI, 48170 734-459-2250
 980 N. Newburgh Rd. Westland MI, 48185 734-326-1300
 www.vermeulenfh.com

CARPETS • LAMINATES HARDWOOD • FLOORS
CARPET ONE FLOOR & HOME
 1400 N. Wayne Westland
734-729-6200
10% DISCOUNT ON LABOR

360 Risk Management
 INSURANCE • HR • LEGAL
Proud to Support St. Mary's Church
 21500 Haggerty Rd., Suite 140 • Northville, MI
248-360-4100 • www.360rmi.com

MECHANICAL HEATING & COOLING
313-395-1144
TOO HOT? TOO COLD? NO HOT WATER? DUCTWORK DIRTY? CALL US WE CAN HELP!

JAN DOOR
 WE FIX BROKEN SPRINGS
 RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL - INDUSTRIAL
 Garage Doors, Openers, Steel & Fiberglass Entry Doors
 14351 W. WARREN, DEARBORN
 313.581.7300 SINCE 1955 www.jandoor.com

HOUSE OF FALAFEL
 21095 Farmington Rd • Farmington Hills
CATERING AVAILABLE
 248-579-6858
 www.houseoffalafelmi.com
 DAVID AND RANIA KHARSA - PARISHIONERS

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!
 LPi

\$20 OFF ANY SERVICE
WATERWORK PLUMBING
 LICENSED & INSURED MASTER PLUMBER
 Senior Discounts • 24 Hr. Emergency Service
734-526-4176
 WaterWorkPlumbing.com

ADT-Monitored Home Security
 Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide

ADT Authorized Provider SafeStreets 1-855-225-4251

We've Missed You!
 Welcome Back to Mass
 Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!
 www.ParishesOnline.com

GLEN EDEN MEMORIAL PARK
 Livonia, Michigan
 Craig R. Zitterman
 GENERAL MANAGER
 35667 W. Eight Mile Rd., Livonia
248-477-4460
 GlenEdenMemorialPark.org
Where Families of Faith Remember Christ's Promises

FREE AD DESIGN
 WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE
 LPi CALL **800.477.4574**

Will Harry J. Will Kevin Bullock, MGR
 Funeral Homes
 Wayne & Redford Chapels
 Ask about our Silver & Gold Trips
 37000 Six Mile Rd., Livonia
734-591-3700
 harrywillfuneralhome.com

PRAYER CORNER

Lord, You are the physician of our souls and body. We pray You grant the following parishioners good health and blessings and for the safety of our homes and nation from the coronavirus:

Metropolitan PAUL Yazigi, Archbishop Youhanna Ibrahim, all those suffering from the Coronavirus, all doctors and nurses, all first responders, Dr. Mathew Beshara, Martha Burkmyre, Michael Isa Khoury, Danny Abraham, Violet, Bill DeMuro, Anwar Khoury, Raffie Mackie, Gail Worth, Waleed Kassabri, Mary Fakhoury, Lew Ansara, Najah Fakhoury,

HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION

Holy Bread of Oblation is offered by the families in loving memory of:

Sami and Asma Harb
Eid Kakish
Ibrahim Kakish
Lydia Kakish
Naim Kawwas
James Kawwas
Mary Harb Melof
Shauqi Mughannem
Jerry Mughannem
Zade Julian Shamma
Jalil and Nahil Warra

Thought for the Day

A child is like a butterfly
in the wind.
Some can fly higher than others,
but each one flies the best it can.
Why compare one against the other?
Each one is different.
Each one is special.
Each one is beautiful.

~Anonymus~

Thank You

The following parishioners and friends of the Basilica of St. Mary have given special donations to the Church in the past few weeks:

\$100-In loving memory of Carleen Ajlouny Shaheen offered by Nicholas and Donna Maloof,

\$100-In loving memory of Carleen Ajlouny Shaheen offered by Dr. Elie and Farideh Khoury,

\$100-In loving memory of Carleen Ajlouny Shaheen offered by Terrence and Hanan Flood,

\$100-In loving memory of Carleen Ajlouny Shaheen offered by Suham Ghannam,

\$100-In loving memory of Carleen Ajlouny Shaheen offered by the family of Saied and Suad Ghannam,

\$100-In loving memory of Carleen Ajlouny Shaheen offered by Salwa Ajlouny,

\$100-In loving memory of Carleen Ajlouny Shaheen offered by Gloria Ajlouny,

\$150-In loving memory of Carleen Ajlouny Shaheen offered by Dr. Peter and Judy Ajluni,

\$200-In loving memory of Carleen Ajlouny Shaheen offered by Dr. Steve and Samar Ajluni,

\$200-In loving memory of Carleen Ajlouny Shaheen offered by Sami and Hala Harb,

\$500-For the health and well being of newlyweds Fadi and Monica Ackall offered by parents Hanna and Reem Ackall,

\$500-For the health and well being of newly baptized Olivia Grace offered by Brett and Rosanna Cummins,

\$500-In loving memory of Anton Khashan offered by Firial Zarou,

\$1000-In loving memory of Elaine Darany offered by her husband Joseph Darany and family,

MEMORIALS

قال يسوع: أنا القيامة والحياة من
آمن بي يحيى الى الأبد.

I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me shall never die.”
(John 11:25)



Oct. 31st - 40-day memorial in loving memory of Boulos Mashni offered by his wife Rouba Mashni and family,

Nov. 7th - 6-month memorial in loving memory of Ibtisam Kandah Field offered by the family,

Nov. 7th - 1 year memorial in loving memory of Farid Haddad offered by the family,

Nov. 14th - 6-month memorial in loving memory of Ernest Yatros offered by Michael and Feryal Obeidi and the Yatros family,

Nov. 14th - 6-month memorial in loving memory of Nawal Rizqalla offered by her children,

Nov. 14th - 1 year memorial in loving memory of Saied Ghannam offered by the family,

فليكن ذكركم مؤبداً



“A Vigil Light is Burning”
In Loving Devotion

For The Health and Well Being Of:

In Loving Memory Of: Joseph Michael Mouaikel, George Abodeely,

Condolences

The clergy and parishioners at the Basilica of St. Mary extend their deepest sympathy to husband Joseph Darany, children Gail (Wesley) Worth, Salem (Lillian) Darany, Jeanne (Michael) Weatherhead, and Mary Rose Bristow, the 10 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren, siblings Mary Rose Borgatti and Victor and William George and their families and the entire Darany family on the passing of Elaine Darany.



May her memory be eternal.

visit our website: www.stmarylivonia.com

The Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of St. Mary

18100 MERRIMAN ROAD ▪ LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48152

Return service requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

LIVONIA, MI
PERMIT NO. 413

Dated Material

(continued from page 1)

The implication was that that any souls of the dead and their imitators who are not appeased with "treats", i.e. offerings, will provoke the wrath of Samhain, whose angels and servants could retaliate through a system of "tricks", or curses. In the strictly Orthodox early Celtic Church, the Holy Fathers tried to counteract this pagan new year festival by establishing the feast of All Saints on that same day (in the East, this feast is celebrated on another day). The night before the feast (on "All Hallows Eve"), a vigil service was held and a morning celebration of the Eucharist. This custom created the term Halloween. But the remaining pagan and therefore anti-Christian people reacted to the Church's attempt to supplant their festival by increased fervor on this evening, so that the night before the Christian feast of All Saints became a night of sorcery, witchcraft and other occult practices, many of which involved desecration and mockery of Christian practices and beliefs. Costumes of skeletons, for example, developed as a mockery of the Church's reverence for holy relics. Holy things were stolen and used in sacrilegious rituals. The practice of begging became a system of persecution of Christians who refused to take part in these festivities. And so the Church's attempt to counteract this unholy festival failed. In today's world of spiritual apathy and listlessness, which are the roots of atheism and turning away from God, one is urged to disregard the spiritual roots and origins of secular practices when their outward forms seem ordinary, entertaining and harmless. Let us light vigil lamps in front of our icons, and together with our families, ask God to grant us faith and courage to preserve as Orthodox Christians in these very difficult times, and to deliver us from the evil one.