

مبروك!

Congratulations St. Mary's!

First Liturgy at our new facility

Next Sunday

April 29th, 2012



Thank you for your support!

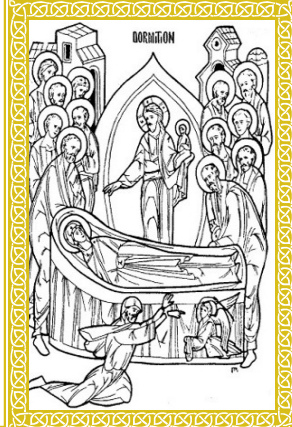
نشكرکم علی دعمکم!



Church of the Virgin Mary

كنيسة العذراء مريم الأنطاكية الأرثوذكسية

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese
of North America



“The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.” (Acts 11:26)

April 22, 2012

Sunday of St. Thomas (New Sunday)

الأحد الجديد أو أحد القديس توما الرسول

CHRIST is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

المسيح قام! حقاً قام!

12147 S. Cicero Avenue, Alsip, IL 60803

Phone : (708) 239-0004 Fax : (708) 221-6449

www.virginmaryoc.org

Fr. Mousa Haddad - cell phone: (708) 979-3222, email: fr.mousa@gmail.com

Fr. Malek Rihani - cell phone: (708) 516-6417, email: myrihani@hotmail.com

Dn. Saed Rihani - cell phone: (773) 454-2191, email: srihani6@cs.com

Weekly Schedule of Services

Saturday: 5:30 p.m. Great Vespers

Sunday: 9:15 a.m. Matins -- 10:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. Matins -- 10:30 a.m. Bible Study

(Confessions by Appointment)

Welcome to the Church of the Virgin Mary! We extend our warmest and heartfelt greetings to you and your family. If this is your first time with us, we pray that you feel at home. After all, we are gathered together in our Father's house. Please see one of the ushers at the end of the service for a "Welcome Packet" for more information. May God bless you and give you many healthy years in His service.

أهلاً بكم في كنيسة العذراء مريم! يُسعدنا أن نُقدّم لكم ولعائلاتكم تحياتنا القلبية الحارّة. إذا كانت هذه زيارتكم الأولى لكنيستنا، نرجو أن تشعروا بأنكم في بيتكم الذي هو بيت أبنينا جميعاً. أَلرّجاء أن تسألوا أحد المساعدين في الكنيسة في نهاية الخدمة الالهية عن "رزمة معلومات الترحيب" التي تحتوي على المعلومات المطلوبة. اللهُ يبارككم وينعم عليكم بالصحة لسنين عديدة في خدمة الرب.

Clergy, Parish Council, Committees, and Ministries

Parish Clergy:

Rev. Fr. Mousa Haddad, Pastor
Rev. Fr. Malek Rihani
Rev. Dn. Saed Rihani
Subdeacon Matthew Sweis

Parish Council:

Presiding Officer

Rev. Fr. Mousa Haddad

Chairman

Fadi Abu Manneh

Vice Chairman

Rashid Sweis

Treasurer

Abdullah Tadros

Financial Secretary

Samer Tadros

Secretary

Abeer Khouri

Council Members:

George Barakat

Maher Ibrahim

CJ Kari

Bassam Salman

Faris Samawi

Ramzi Sweis

Committees:

Altar / Liturgics

Mazen Ammari & Steve Rihani

PLC 2012

Abdullah Tadros & CJ Kari

Expansion & Maintenance

Luai Sweiss

Fundraising & Stewardship

Rashid Sweis & Bassam Salman

Financial

Abdullah Tadros

Communication

Abeer Khouri

Constitution

Ramzi Sweis

Humanitarian

Shireen Salman

Ushering

Fadi Abu Manneh

Web Master

Sana Sweis

Office Secretary

Katia Haddad

Organizations and Ministries:

Sunday School Director

Omar Sweiss

Sunday School Spiritual Director

Fr. Mousa Haddad

Ladies Guild President

Kholoud Swais

Ladies Guild Spiritual Director

Fr. Mousa Haddad

Fellowship President

Khalil Haddad

Fellowship Spiritual Director

Fr. Mousa Haddad

SOYO President

Hadeel Sweis

SOYO Advisor

Orieb Sweis & Steve Rihani

SOYO Spiritual Director

Fr. Malek Rihani

Handmaids of the Lord

Mansoura Khouri & Lina Haddad

Handmaids Spiritual Director

Fr. Malek Rihani

Choir Director

Michael Rascia

Chanter

Khaled Salman & Faris Samawi

Church Hall Rental - Call: 708-691-0827 or email: katiahaddad@virginmaryoc.org

المسيح قام! حقاً قام!

CHRIST is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

المسيح قام من بين الأموات، ووطىء الموت بالموت، وهب الحياة للذين في القبور!

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

Changes in the Liturgy

تغييرات في القداس

First Antiphon

Shout with joy to God, all the earth. Sing to His name; give glory to His praises.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour save us!

Say to God: "How awesome are thy works." Let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour save us!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour save us!

الانتيفونة الأولى

هللوا لله يا جميع الأرض، زتلوا لاسمِهِ أعطوا مجداً لتسبحتِهِ.

بشفاعاتِ والدَةِ الإلهِ يا مخلصِ خلصنا!

قولوا لله ما أرهَبَ أعمالك، كلُّ مَنْ في الأرضِ يسجدونَ لك ويرتلونَ لاسمِكَ أيها العلي.

بشفاعاتِ والدَةِ الإلهِ يا مخلصِ خلصنا!

المجد للآبِ والإبْنِ والروحِ القدسِ الآنِ وكلِّ أوانٍ وإلى دهرِ الداهرينِ آمين.

بشفاعاتِ والدَةِ الإلهِ يا مخلصِ خلصنا!

Second Antiphon

May God have mercy upon us, and bless us, and may He cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy on us.

Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, who sing to thee, Alleluia!

That thy way may be known upon earth, thy salvation among all nations. Let the peoples give thanks to Thee, O God; let all the peoples give thanks to Thee.

Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, who sing to thee, Alleluia!

May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear Him.

Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, who sing to thee, Alleluia!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O only-begotten Son, etc.

الانتيفونا الثانية

ليترأف الله علينا وبياركنا، وليضئ بوجهه علينا ويرحمنا.

خلصنا يا ابن الله يا من قام من بين الأموات لترتل لك هللويا!

لتُعرف في الأرض طريقك وفي جميع الأمم خلاصك.

خلصنا يا ابن الله يا من قام من بين الأموات لترتل لك هللويا!

تعترف لك الشعوب يا الله تعترف لك.

خلصنا يا ابن الله يا من قام من بين الأموات لترتل لك هللويا!

المجد للآبِ والإبْنِ والروحِ القدسِ، الآنِ وكلِّ أوانٍ وإلى دهرِ الداهرينِ، آمين.

يا كلمةَ اللهِ الابنِ الوحيدِ ...

Third Antiphon

Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered,
and let those who hate Him flee from his face.

*Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down
death by death, and upon those in the tombs,
bestowing life!*

As smoke vanishes, let them vanish; as wax
melts before the fire.

Christ is risen, etc.

So let the sinners perish before God, but let the
righteous rejoice.

Christ is risen, etc.

This is the day which the Lord has made; let us
rejoice and be glad in it.

Christ is risen, etc.

الانتيفونا الثالثة

ليقم الله ويتبدد جميع أعدائه ويهرب مبغضوه من أمام
وجهه.

المسيح قام من بين الأموات، ووطئ الموت بالموت،
ووهب الحياة للذين في القبور!

كما يباد الدخان يبادون وكما يذوب الشمع من أمام وجه
النار.

المسيح قام من بين الأموات ...

كذلك تهلك الخطاة من أمام وجه الله والصديقون يفرحون
ويتהלلون أمام الله ويتنعمون بالسرور.

المسيح قام من بين الأموات ...

هذا هو اليوم الذي صنعه الرب لنفرح ونتهلل به.

المسيح قام من بين الأموات ...

التعظيمة لوالدة الإله (بالحن الأول)

أيتها المصباح الساطع الضياء، وأمُّ الإله والشرف الذي لا قياس له، الأرفع من الخلاق
جميعها، بالتسابيح نعظمك.

Megalynarion (Tone One)

O most radiant lamp, the Theotokos, the immeasurable honor, which is more
exalted than all creatures, with praises do we magnify thee.

الكينونيكون

امدحي يا اورشليم للرب، سبحي الهك يا صهيون. هلوليا!

Koinonikon (Communion Hymn)

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise thy God, O Zion. Alleluia!

وبدلاً من "قد نظرنا"، نرتل "المسيح قام" (مرة واحدة)

Instead of "We have seen the true light",
we sing "Christ is Risen" (Once)

تغييرات في القداس Changes in the Liturgy

Entrance Hymn (Tone Two)

In the gathering places, bless ye God the Lord from the springs of Israel. Save us O Son of God, Who art Risen from the dead, who sing unto thee: Alleluia!

في المجامع باركوا الله، الربّ من ينابيع إسرائيل. خلصنا يا ابن الله، يا مَنْ قام من بين الأموات، لنرتل لك هلوليا!

Troparion of the Sunday of St. Thomas (Tone Seven)

While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Light. While the doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy Disciples, O Christ God, Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

إذ كانَ القبرُ مختوماً أشرقتَ منه أيها النور. ولما كانتِ الأبوابُ مغلقةً وافيتَ التلاميذَ أيها المسيحُ الإلهُ قيامةً الكل. وجددتَ لنا بهم روحاً مستقيماً بحسبِ عظيم رحمتك.

Kontakion of Easter (Tone Eight)

Though thou, O deathless One, didst descend into the grave, thou didst destroy the power of hell and, as Victor, thou didst rise again, O Christ our God. Thou didst greet the ointment-bearing women, saying, Rejoice! Thou didst bestow peace upon Thy Disciples, and resurrection upon those that are fallen.

ولئن كنتَ نزلتَ إلى قبرٍ يا مَنْ لا يموت. إلا أنكَ حطمتَ قوّةَ الجحيمِ وقُمتَ غالباً أيها المسيحُ الإله. وللنسوةِ الحاملاتِ الطيبِ قلتَ افرحنَ ولرُسُلكَ وهبتَ السلام. يا مانحَ الواقعينَ القيام.

Epistle of St. Thomas

الرسالة لأحد القديس توما

Great is our Lord, and great is his power!

Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good!

The Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles (5:12-20).

In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands of the Apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high honor. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the high priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the party of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

عَظِيمٌ هُوَ رَبُّنَا وَعَظِيمَةٌ هِيَ قُوَّتُهُ!

سَبِّحُوا الرَّبَّ فَإِنَّهُ صَالِحٌ!

فصلٌ من أعمال الرُّسُلِ القديسينَ الأطهار (5:12-20).

في تلك الأيام جرت على أيدي الرُّسُلِ آياتٌ وعجائبٌ كثيرةٌ في الشعب. (وكانوا كلُّهم بنفْسٍ واحدةٍ في رواقِ سليمان * ولم يكن أحدٌ من الآخرين يجترئ أن يخالطهم. لكن كان الشعب يُعظمهم * وكان جماعاتٌ من رجالٍ ونساءٍ يَنضمُّونَ بكثرةٍ مؤمنينَ بالرب) * حتى إنَّ الناسَ كانوا يخرجونَ بالمرضى إلى الشوارعِ ويضعونهم على فرشٍ وأسرةٍ ليقعَ ولو ظلُّ بطرسَ عند اجتيازِهِ على بعضٍ منهم فيببرأوا من كلِّ علةٍ بهم * وكان يجتمعُ أيضاً إلى أورشليمَ جمهورُ المدنِ التي حولها يحملونَ مرضىً ومُعذِّبينَ من أرواحِ نجسةٍ. فكانوا يُشَفِّونَ جميعهم * فقامَ رئيسُ الكهنةِ وكلُّ الذين معه وهم من شيعَةِ الصدِّوقيينَ وامتلاوا غيرةً * فألقوا أيديهم على الرُّسُلِ وجعلوهم في الحبسِ العام * ففتحَ ملاكُ الربِّ أبوابَ السجنِ ليلاً وأخرجهم وقال * امضوا وقفوا في الهيكلِ وكلِّموا الشعبَ بجميعِ كلماتِ هذه الحياة.

Gospel of the Sunday of St. Thomas

الأنجيل لأحد القديس توما

The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. John (20:19-31).

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe." Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless but believing." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

* فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارة القديس يوحنا الإنجيليِّ البشيرِ والتلميذِ الطاهر (20:19-31) *

لما كانت عشيةً ذلك اليوم وهو أولُ الأسبوعِ والأبوابُ مُغلقةٌ حيثُ كانَ التلاميذُ مجتمعينَ خوفاً من اليهودِ جاءَ يسوعُ ووقفَ في الوَسْطِ * وقالَ لهمُ السلامُ لكم * فلما قالَ هذا أراهمُ يديهِ وجَنبَهُ. ففرحَ التلاميذُ حينَ أبصروا الرَّبَّ * وقالَ لهمُ ثانيةً السلامُ لكم كما أرسلَني الأبُ كذلكُ أنا أرسلُكمُ * ولما قالَ هذا نفخَ فيهمُ وقالَ لهمُ خذوا الروحَ القدسَ * مَنْ غَفَرْتُمْ خطاياهمُ تُغْفَرْ لهمُ وَمَنْ أَمْسَكْتُمْ خطاياهمُ أَمْسِكْتُمْ * أما توما أحدُ الاثني عَشَرَ الذي يُقالُ لهُ التَّوأمُ فلم يَكُنْ مَعَهُمْ حينَ جاءَ يسوعُ * فقالَ لهُ التلاميذُ الآخرونَ إننا قد رأينا الرَّبَّ. فقالَ لهمُ إن لم أعاينُ أثرَ المساميرِ في يديهِ وأضعُ يدي في جنبِهِ لا أؤمنُ * وبعدَ ثمانيةِ أيامٍ كانَ تلاميذُهُ أيضاً داخلاً وتوما مَعَهُمْ فاتى يسوعُ والأبوابُ مُغلقةٌ ووقفَ في الوَسْطِ وقالَ السلامُ لكم * ثم قالَ لتوما هاتِ إصبعَكَ إلى ههنا وعابنِ يديَّ وهاتِ يدَكَ وَضَعْها في جنبِي ولا تُكُنْ غيرَ مُؤمِنٍ بل مؤمناً * أجابَ توما وقالَ لهُ رَبِّي والهي * قالَ لهُ يسوعُ لأنك رأيتني آمنت. طوبى للذين لم يروا وأمنوا * وآياتٍ أُخَرَ كثيرةً صَنَعَ يسوعُ أمامَ تلاميذِهِ لم تُكْتَبْ في هذا الكتابِ. وأما هذه فقد كُتِبَتْ لِتُؤْمِنُوا بأنَّ يسوعَ هو المسيحُ ابنُ الله. ولكي تكونَ لكم إذا آمنتم حياةً باسمِهِ.



Honoring your loved ones: Please consider signing up for one or more Sundays to provide Holy Bread and Coffee hour. It's this gift of Holy Bread that we use to prepare communion and to share with our parishioners at the end of the service.

What better way to honor your loved ones on their birthday, anniversary, graduation or memorial. It takes minimal effort, and it encourages fellowship among our community.

Hospitality Teams

“Let us love one another that with one mind we may confess, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; the Trinity one in essence and undivided.” - From the Divine Liturgy

<i>Holy Bread and Coffee Hour</i>	القداس والقهوة
04/22: Emile and Eideh Haddad & Family	04/22: اميل وعيدة حداد والعائلة
04/29: Amjad Sweiss & Family	04/29: امجد صويص والعائلة
05/06: Bishara Sweis & Family	05/06: بشارة صويص والعائلة

Epistle Readers:

Today: English - Rachel Tadros, Arabic - Mansoura Khouri
Next Week: English - Elaine Riadi, Arabic - Mazen Ammari

Altar Server Ministry:

04/22: Team A (Captain Jordan Rihani): Odei Sweis, Yousif Saigh, Jimmy Salman, Jai Riske, Sean Rihani, Daniel Al- Nemri, Joseph Sweis, Matthew Ibrahim, Gabe Corey, Sam Corey, David Sweis
04/29: Team B (Captain Ramiz Riadi): Rami Sweis, , Yazen Swais, Anthony Rihani, Saleem Swais, Sharbel Samawi, Kyse Dahdal, Joseph Fallouh, Louis Corey, Alexander Corey
05/06 Team C (Captain Murad Salman): Omar Nemri, Mathew Nemri, Samer Sweis , Elia Sweis, Simon Tadros, , George Corey, Woody Corey, Mark Sweis

“Bible Verse of the Week”

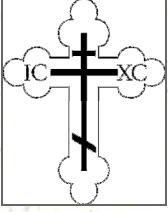
For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

Luke 19:10

فَإِنَّ ابْنَ الْإِنْسَانِ قَدْ جَاءَ لِيَبْحَثَ عَنِ الْهَالِكِينَ وَيُخَلِّصَهُمْ.

لوقا 19:10

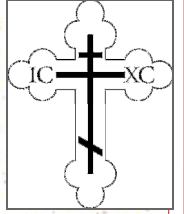
Parish News



Our deepest and sincere condolences to the Sweis family on the loss of Sweis Sweis (Abu Odeh) who departed this life in California. May the Lord give rest to the soul of His servant Sweis, and may He give peace and comfort to his family. May his memory be eternal!

تعازينا الى عائلة صويص بوفاة صويص صويص (أبو عودة) الذي انتقل الى رحمته تعالى في كاليفورنيا. نسأل الله ان يرتب نفسه في مصاف القديسين ويلهم ذويه الصبر والسلوان. فليكن ذكره مؤبداً!

Our deepest and sincere condolences to the Salman family on the loss of Siham Michael Salman who departed this life in Jordan. May the Lord give rest to the soul of His handmaid Siham, and may He give peace and comfort to her family. May her memory be eternal!



تعازينا الى عائلة سلمان بوفاة سهام ميخائيل سلمان التي انتقلت الى رحمتها تعالى في الأردن. نسأل الله ان يرتب نفسها في مصاف القديسين ويلهم ذويها الصبر والسلوان. ليكن ذكرها مؤبداً!

Congratulations to Khalil Hanna Sweis and Eleni Anagnopoulos who are being united in Holy Matrimony today. May God grant them many years of health and happiness together. Mabrouk!



تهانينا الى خليل حنا صويص وإيليني أناجنوبولوس اللذان يتحدان اليوم بشركة الزواج المقدس. نسأل الله ان يمنحهما الصحة والسعادة لسنين عديدة. مبروك!



Congratulations to Bisher Elias Hanania and Amanda Ousama Makhamre on their engagement today. May God grant them many years of health and happiness together. Mabrouk!

تهانينا الى بشر إلياس حنانيا وأماندا أسامة مخامرة بمناسبة خطوبتهما. نسأل الله ان يمنحهما الصحة والسعادة لسنين عديدة. مبروك!

St. Mary's Spring Basketball League

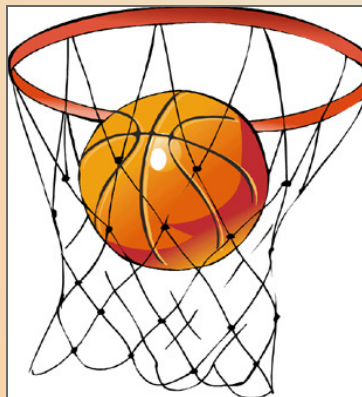


Join St. Mary's Spring Basketball League! You must be at least 16 years of age or older. We have a



fine program planned and we welcome you to join us. We are currently accepting registration and we anticipate the league will start mid-April, after Pascha. The games will be played at St. Mary Orthodox Church, 6330 W. 127th St., Palos Heights, IL 60463. The start times will vary, and are to be determined, pending final registration counts. At the present time, games are slated to be played weekday evenings, or weekend afternoons. Please spread the word quickly and encourage others to sign-up as well. We look forward to your participation in the 2012 Spring Basketball League.

If you have any questions please call Samer Tadros at 708.289.6982 or samertadros78@gmail.com.



Be a voice for the babies...



Behold,
children are a
gift
of the Lord...



Baby Bottle Drive

ends May 13th

to benefit the

Martha and Mary House

Your spare change makes a big difference!



Giving is as easy as 1-2-3:

1. Pick up baby bottles after Divine Liturgy on [your parish's bottle distribution dates.](#)
2. Take the bottles home and drop in your spare change.
3. Return filled bottles through [May 20th](#) at the drop-off location designated by your parish.

*...the fruit of the womb
is His reward.
Psalm 127:3*



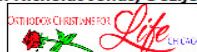
"[Mary] entered the house of Zachariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she exclaimed with a loud cry, Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy."
Luke 1:40-44

"With the loving guidance and leadership of His Grace Bishop Demetrios of Mokissos, Chancellor of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago, along with the enthusiastic support of fellow Orthodox Bishops across several jurisdictions of the Midwest, Orthodox Christians for Life-Chicago is drawing closer to realizing their long-time dream of opening the first Orthodox Christian maternity home for pregnant women in crisis to be located in the Midwest. The maternity home will be called the Martha and Mary House and will be modeled after the Martha and Mary House location in Escondido, CA.

At the Martha and Mary House, we plan to offer practical, emotional and spiritual support during that crucial period of the mother's life, while providing residential housing, with privacy and confidentiality. As a Martha and Mary House 'Daughter' she will experience Orthodox family-style living with resident House Mothers or House Parents, and a daily schedule that includes work, study and morning and evening prayer.

We will welcome pregnant women in crisis of all ethnic, cultural, religious and social backgrounds. While at Martha and Mary House, we plan for them to pursue a program of study or vocational training, be actively seeking employment or be employed. They will share responsibility for housekeeping duties, live by the House Rules and participate in Martha and Mary House programs which include Bible study and Church attendance, pre-natal and birthing classes, and career and open adoption counseling.

OCLife-Chicago has obtained a 501c3 status as a "Pan-Orthodox Ministry" under the "Omoforion" of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago. His Grace Bishop Demetrios of Mokissos, is our guiding shepherd in this ministry. For more information contact Fr. [Nicholas Jonas](#), OCLife-Chicago Spiritual Director at fnwi@aol.com or Mr. Nicholas Cavaligos, OCLife-Chicago president at cavaligos@comcast.net"



Any questions please contact Grace Preyma Riske
Grace@GraceRiske.com or 630-532-8640

IOCC's 18th Annual Pan-Orthodox Grand Banquet & Silent Auction



Thursday, May 10th, 2012

6:00pm Cocktails/7:00pm Dinner

ROSEWOOD RESTAURANT AND BANQUETS

9421W Higgins Road • Rosemont, IL 60018

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Rada K. Tierney, IOCC Communications Manager

IOCC

20TH ANNIVERSARY www.iocc.org

Tickets are \$125 per person

Please RSVP by April 30, 2012

*All proceeds from this event will benefit IOCC's
humanitarian relief fund*

**For tickets please see Grace Preyma Riske
grace@graceriske.com or 630-532-8640**

2012 Midwest Parish Life Conference

Diocese of Toledo & the Midwest

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

June 27th - July 1st, 2012

Save the Date! Reserve Your Room NOW!

DoubleTree by Hilton

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*PLC Room Rate Ends June 6

Special \$99 (plus taxes)

for 2 Doubles or 1 King

PLC Room Rate Code: CVM

800-222-8733

OR

DoubleTreeOakBrook.com

See www.VirginMaryOC.org for event information!

*Hosted by Saint Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church
Palos Heights, IL (formerly of Alsip, IL)*

www.VirginMaryOC.org VirginMary@VirginMaryOC.org (708)239-0004



Midwest Parish Life Conference 2012

Commemorative Journal

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

Church of the Virgin Mary, Alsip, IL, Host Parish

June 27 - July 1, 2012



Pages range from
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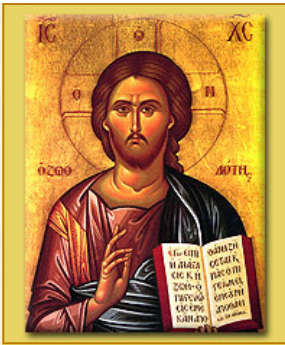
**DEADLINE FOR AD MATERIAL
AND DONATION IS
MAY 1, 2012**

Would you like to commemorate
someone special, living or dead?

Would you like to advertise your
business or company to
hundreds and hundreds
of people?

Would you like to
simply give thanks to a group or
individual?

Questions? Contact Isa Riadi
(219-985-4433) or you can email
adbook2012@aol.com



Weekly Synaxarion



On April 22 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our righteous father Theodore of Sykeon, bishop of Anastasiopolis; Apostle Nathanael; Martyr Nearchos; Vsevolod, prince of Pskov; and the Martyr Epipodios of Lyons. On this day, the second Sunday of Pascha, we inaugurate the celebration of Christ's Resurrection, and the occasion whereon the Holy Apostle Thomas touched the Savior's side. This day is called New Sunday, Thomas Sunday or Anti-Pascha. The last term means "in place of Pascha", because Thomas did not hear of Christ's Resurrection and disbelieved it. We remember his doubt but do not repeat it. After this Sunday, the Church dedicates Sunday to the Resurrection. As the Disciples were gathered together on the Sunday following the Resurrection, Jesus entered and greeted them in His usual way, saying, "Peace be unto you." Then He showed them His hands, feet and side. Jesus ate before His Disciples and reassured them of His Resurrection. However, Thomas was not with them at that time, and insisted upon seeing the Savior's scars—the print of the nails in His hands and feet, and the spear in His side—before he would believe that Jesus was risen. The Master told Thomas to see and feel. Then Thomas immediately cried out, "My Lord and my God!" But Jesus tells His Disciples, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." This also clearly illustrates the two Natures of Christ: the human and the divine. By the intercessions of Thine Apostle Thomas, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.