



SAINT MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH

The Self-Ruled Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

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

6330 W. 127th St., Palos Heights, IL 60463

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

www.virginmaryoc.org (virginmary@virginmaryoc.org)

Church Office Hours : Monday - Friday 10:00am-3:00pm

St. Mary Parish Clergy

Rev. Fr. Mousa Haddad, Pastor

Rev. Fr. Malek Rihani

Subdeacon Matthew Sweis

Subdeacon Ameer Tadros

Parish Council

Fr. Mousa - Presiding Officer

Fadi Abu Manneh - Chairman

Feras Sweis - Vice Chairman

Abdullah Tadros - Treasurer

Constantin Kari - Financial Sec.

Abeer Khouri - Secretary

Nidal Al-Farah

George Barakat

Bassam Salman

Feras Salman

Faris Samawi

Samer Tadros

Parish Ministries

Sunday School - Omar Sweis

SOYO - Marram Salman

Fellowship - Khalil Haddad

Antiochian Women - Susan Sweis

Handmaids - Mansoura Khouri

and Lina Haddad

Humanitarian - Shireen Salman

OCLife - Nancy Cannon

Fishers of Men - John Eannace

Athletics - Melad Qodsi

Choir - Michael Rascia

Chanters - Khaled Salman and

Faris Samawi

Webmaster - Sana Sweis

Office Administrator

Katia Haddad

katiahaddad@virginmaryoc.org

Building Engineer

Peter Butera

Church Hall Rental

Call the church office or email
our Office Administrator

May 12th, 2013

Today in the Holy Church is:

The Sunday of St. Thomas (New Sunday)

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

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



Welcome to St. Mary Orthodox Church! 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. For more information, please see one of the ushers at the end of the service for a "Welcome Packet." May God bless you and give you many healthy years in His service.

HYMNS OF THE DAY

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!

Paschal Troparion (Tone Five): Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

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.

Kontakion of Pascha (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.

Epistle of St. Thomas

*Great is our Lord, and great is his power!
Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good!*

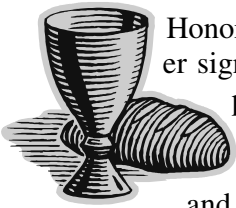
The Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles (5:12-20).

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."

Gospel of St. Thomas

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.



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.

Holy Bread and Coffee Hour

05/12: Bishara Sweis & Family

05/19: Kamal and Nawal Sweis & Family

5/26: Elia and Lily Sweiss & Family



Baptism

Adrian Alhourani

Parents: Shamel & Souna Alhourani

Congratulations !

Graduation



Kati Jamal Khouri

Doctor of Pharmacy

University of Illinois at Chicago

Congratulations !

“Bible Verse of the Week”

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

Luke 19:10

“Gospel in an Hour”

an adult Bible class ministry

We invite adults to strengthen their knowledge of the Holy Bible through regular weekly sessions. Classes held every Tuesday evening. Dinner served promptly at 6:00pm, class from 6:30pm-7:30pm. Bring the whole family: baby-sitting, tutoring, and study hall available.

2013 Parish Life Conference

Hosted by

St. Michael Orthodox Church

Louisville, Kentucky

(June 19 – 23, 2013)

For Registration & Schedule

www.stmichaelorthodoxchurch.org/plc

51st Antiochian

Archdiocese Convention

Hosted by

St. George Orthodox Church

Houston, Texas

(July 21-28th, 2013)

For Registration & Schedule

<http://www.achouston2013.com/>

OCCHY BULLETIN BLURB

May 12, 2013

PROM NIGHT is not a special occasion which permits you to serve alcohol to your kids.



St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights

FELLOWSHIP RETREAT

Knowing God's will and living it one day at a time.

May 17th-19th 2013

Marantha Bible and Mission: Muskegon, MI

Retreat Master-Dn. Saed Rihani

Sign up today with any Fellowship Officer!

See Asimt Sweis or Fr. Mousa with any questions

*"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."
Romans 12:2*

Be a voice for the babies...



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



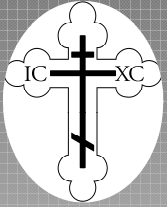
Baby Bottle Drive 2013

May 12 - June 16

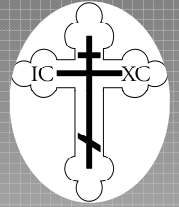
to benefit the

Martha and Mary House





St. Mary Men's Basketball League



Visit our online web registration: <https://smathletics.sportngin.com/register/form/436067683>



Season begins May 12, 2013

The time has finally come for family, friends, and lots of fun! We are pleased to present the 2nd Annual Men's Basketball League. The games will be held in the gymnasium of St. Mary Orthodox Church. This league will be open to members of the community and to our sister churches. The timing of this league couldn't be better as we try to come together as a community to enjoy companionship and some friendly competition. Please spread the word as much as possible, as we get things started to have another successful season! Sign-ups will be held during coffee hour and open gyms.

Forms, Fees, and Teams due on May 10, 2013

Requirements:

- Signed waiver
- Team registration sheet
- Fees
- \$100- No Purchase of Jersey
- \$125- With Purchase of Jersey

Information:

- Ages 16 and up
- Make your own team
- Min members per team - 6
- Max members per team - 8

Contact: Melad Qodsi @ 708-692-0561 or athletics@stmaryoc.org

You Are Cordially Invited To Celebrate
St. Mary's 10th Year Anniversary
Weekend Celebration

June 15-16, 2013

Schedule of Events:

Saturday, June 15th

6:30pm - Banquet & Hafleh

St. Mary's Gymnasium

Tickets - \$40/person

Children ages 5 & younger free

Sunday, June 16th

8:45am - Matins

10:00am - Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with
His Eminence METROPOLITAN PHILIP

Followed by Groundbreaking Ceremony
and a Luncheon at St. Mary's Gymnasium



With His Eminence
METROPOLITAN PHILIP
Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of All North America

**St. Mary Orthodox Church
\$100 Raffle**

Grand Prize:



2013 Toyota Camry LE.

**Second Prize: 5 Night Stay in a
private pent house suite in Puerto
Vallarta.**



Third Prize: \$1,000 Cash

Fourth Prize: iPad Mini



**Drawing will take place at St. Mary's
10th Year Anniversary Celebration on
Saturday June 15th, 2013**

**St. Mary's Antiochian Women Annual
Mother's Day Luncheon**



Saturday, May 11, 2013

12:00pm - 5:00pm

St. Mary Fellowship Hall

**Celebrating our mothers with an
Arabic Folklore Fashion Show**

Tickets: Adults - \$25

Children ages 12 & younger - \$10

The drawing of the \$10 Raffle will also take place.

**For tickets contact:
Saeda Sweis or Shireen Salman**