



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

June 9th, 2013

Today in the Holy Church is the

Sunday of the Blind Man

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!

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone Five)

Let us believers praise and worship the Word coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For he took pleasure in ascending the cross in the flesh to suffer death and to raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

Troparion of the Dormition (Tone One)

In thy birth giving O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling asleep thou hast not forsaken the world; for thou wast translated into life, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

Kontakion of Pascha (Tone Eight)

O Immortal One, when Thou didst descend into the tomb, Thou didst destroy the power of Hades; and Thou didst rise victorious, O Christ God. Thou hast said to the ointment bearing women: Rejoice! And Thou gavest peace to Thy Disciples, O Bestower of Resurrection to those Who had fallen.

Epistle of the Sunday of the Blind Man

*Thou, O Lord, shalt keep us and preserve us!
Save me, O Lord, for the godly man has failed!*

The Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles (16:16-34).

In those days, as we apostles were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

Gospel of the Sunday of the Blind Man

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (9:1-38)*

At that time, when Jesus was passing, he saw a man blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. I must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "he put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if any one should confess him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore, his parents said, "He is of age, ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Why this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if any one is a worshipper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that any one opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshipped him.

Upcoming Events

Friday, June 7, 2013 - 7:00pm	Open Gym - Men's Basketball League
Sunday, June 9, 2013 - 2:00pm	Open Gym - Men's Basketball League
Tuesday, June 11, 2013 - 6:00pm	"Gospel in an Hour" Bible Class
Wednesday, June 12, 2013 - 10:00am	Parish Bible Study
Saturday, June 15, 2013 - 11:00am	Youth, SOYO, Fellowship Gathering His Eminence Metropolitan PHILIP
Saturday, June 15, 2013 - 6:30pm	10 Year Anniversary Banquet & Hafleh
Sunday, June 16, 2013 - 8:45am	Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with His Eminence METROPOLITAN PHILIP
Sunday, June 16, 2013 - 12:00pm	Ground Breaking Ceremony followed by luncheon with Metropolitan PHILIP
Sunday, June 16, 2013 - 4:00pm	Men's Basketball League Games
Tuesday, June 18, 2013 - 6:00pm	"Gospel in an Hour" Bible Class
Wednesday, June 19, 2013 - 10:00am	Parish Bible Study
Wednesday, June 19 - 23, 2013	Parish Life Conference in KY
Saturday, June 22, 2013 - 5:30pm	Great Vespers
Sunday, June 23, 2013 - 2:00pm	Open Gym - Men's Basketball League
Tuesday, June 25, 2013 - 6:00pm	"Gospel in an Hour" Bible Class
Wednesday, June 26, 2013 - 10:00am	Parish Bible Study
Friday, June 28, 2013 - 7:00pm	Open Gym - Men's Basketball League
Friday, June 28, 2013 - 7:00pm	Antiochian Women Meeting
Saturday, June 29, 2013 - 5:30pm	Great Vespers
Saturday, June 29, 2013 - 6:30pm	SOYO Volleyball Tournament with St. Mary Clergy
Sunday, June 30, 2013 - 2:00pm	Men's Basketball League Games

PARISH NEWS



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

06/09: Eid Swais & Family

06/16: Kameel and Siham Nino & Family

06/23: Wajih and Suhad Haddad & Family

Epistle Reading

Today - Mansoura Khouri & Scott Abdo

"Bible Verse of the Week"

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, The power and the glory, The victory and the majesty; For all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, And You are exalted as head over all.

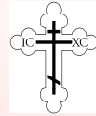
1 Chronicles 29:11



**"Food For Hungry"
boxes are Due.
Thank You!**

"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.



**1 Year Memorial
Asma Swais**



May her memory be eternal!



Wedding



Gerese Nabil Tadros

&

Razan Adel Fakhoury

Congratulations!



Baptism



Karmin & Carla Khoury

Parents: Saed & Rasha Khoury

Congratulations!



Churching



Sophia Abu Manneh

Parents: Fadi and Natalie Abu Manneh

Congratulations!

Graduation



Sandy Samir Haddad

Swan Valley HS Saginaw, MI

Congratulations!

**Baby Bottles Due
Father's Day June 16th**

SOYO Volleyball Tournament with St. Mary Clergy



Saturday, June 29th, 2013
6:30pm - 9:30pm
St. Mary's Gymnasium

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



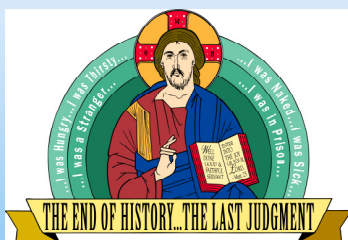
**Drawing will take place at
St. Mary's 10th Year
Anniversary Celebration
Saturday June 15th, 2013**

2013 Parish Life Conference

Hosted by

St. Michael Orthodox Church
Louisville, Kentucky
(June 19 – 23, 2013)

For Registration & Schedule
www.stmichaelorthodoxchurch.org/plc



*Bus will be leaving from church on
Thursday, June 20th at 7:00am sharp and
coming back Sunday after Liturgy*

To RSVP a spot please contact CJ Kari at
ckari@comcast.net

51st Antiochian Archdiocese Convention

Hosted by

St. George Orthodox Church
Houston, Texas

(July 21-28th, 2013)



For Registration & Schedule
<http://www.achouston2013.com/>

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Fellowship of St. John the Divine

BLOOD DRIVE

WHEN - Sunday, July 14, 2013

LOCATION - St. Mary Orthodox Church – Gym

TIME - 8:00am-1:00pm

**Please make sure to eat a proper breakfast before giving blood;
Holy Communion will still be allowed.*

Questions? Contact any Fellowship officer.



Weekly Synaxarion

On June 9 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Cyril, archbishop of Alexandria; Pelagia and the three Virgin-martyrs of Chios; Venerable Cyril of Belozersk; and Venerable Columba, enlightener of Scotland. On this day, the sixth Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the miracle wrought by our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ upon the man who was blind from his birth. The Savior met this man, born blind and incurable after every human effort, while leaving the Temple on the Sabbath. Saints John Chrysostom, Basil the Great and Irenaeus teach that the man was born without eyes. Jesus spat into the dirt, made clay, rubbed it in his eye sockets and told him to wash in the pool of Siloam, a famous water spring in Jerusalem. The Savior did not send him there because his eye sockets were covered in clay, nor did the pool have healing power, but instead to test his faith and obedience. The blind man proclaimed that Jesus healed him, but this confession caused him to be cast out by the enemies of the truth. Even his own parents would not defend him. However, the blind man followed Jesus from that moment forward. By Thy boundless mercy, O Christ our God, Giver of light, have mercy on us. Amen.

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



With His Eminence
METROPOLITAN PHILIP
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese

***Banquet & Hafleh Tickets are now
available for purchase***

Schedule of Events:

Saturday, June 15th

- 11:00am - Youth, SOYO, Fellowship Gathering with His Eminence Metropolitan PHILIP
- 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 (St. Mary's Gymnasium)