



# 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.stmaryoc.org](http://www.stmaryoc.org) (office@stmaryoc.org)

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

## St. Mary Parish Clergy

Rev. Fr. Mousa Haddad, Pastor

Very 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

administrator@stmaryoc.org

## Parish Administrator

Rachel Kari

rkari@stmaryoc.org

## Church Hall Rental

Call the church office or email our

Office Administrator

## January 12, 2014

# Sunday after the Theophany of Christ



## Weekly Schedule of Services

Saturday: 5:30 p.m. -- Great Vespers

Sunday: 8:45 a.m. Matins -- 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. Matins -- 10:30 a.m. Bible Study  
(Confessions by Appointment)

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.

# Changes in the Liturgy

## First Antiphon

When Israel went forth from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a strange people.  
*Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.*

The sea looked and fled, Jordan turned back.  
*Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.  
*Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.*

## Second Antiphon

I am well pleased for the Lord has heard my voice and my supplication.  
*Save us, O Son of God, Who wast baptized by John in the Jordan, who sing to Thee, Alleluia!*

The sorrows of death encompassed me; the pains of hell took hold of me. I found trouble and sorrow, and I called upon the Name of the Lord.  
*Save us, O Son of God, Who wast baptized by John in the Jordan, who sing to Thee, Alleluia!*

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; and our God is Merciful.  
*Save us, O Son of God, Who wast baptized by John in the Jordan, 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.  
*O only-begotten son and word of God...*

## Third Antiphon

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. Let the house of Israel now confess that He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. Let the house of Aaron confess that He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. Let them now who fear the Lord confess that He is good; for His mercy endureth forever.

*When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest; for the voice of the Father bore witness unto Thee, by calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlighten the world, glory to Thee!*

# **Hymns of the Day**

## **Entrance Hymn**

O Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ.  
Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, who sing  
to Thee: Alleluia!

## **Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone Four)**

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from  
the angel, the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their  
parental condemnation and proudly broke the news to the dis-  
ciples, saying death hath been spoiled, Christ God is risen,  
granting the world great mercy.

## **Troparion of the Theophany (Tone One)**

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship  
of the Trinity was made manifest; for the voice of the Father  
bore witness unto Thee, by calling Thee His beloved Son. And  
the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truthfulness of  
His word. O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself and  
hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee!

## **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 the Theophany of our Lord (Tone Four)**

Today thou hast appeared to the universe, O Lord, and thy light  
hath been shed upon us, who praise thee with knowledge, say-  
ing: Thou hast come and appeared, O unapproachable Light.

## **Epistle for the Sunday after the Theophany of Christ**

*Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us!*

*Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous!*

**The Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Ephesians (4:7-13).**

Brethren, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore, it is said, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (In saying "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

## **Gospel for the Sunday after the Theophany of Christ**

**The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (4:12-17).**

At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulon and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: The land of Zebulon and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

# 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*

01/12: Ghaleb and Rita Sweis & Family

01/19: Awan Sweis & Family

01/26: Samir and Eman Batarseh & Family

## Epistle Reading

01/12: Fares Samawi & Matthew Sweis

01/19: Lily Sweiss & Salena Ibrahim

## “Bible Verse of the Week”

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:19-21”



## Churching

Eva

Parents: Faris and Chantal Sweis  
Congratulations!

## SOYO General Meeting

(1st Meeting of the Year)

Friday

**January 10, 2014**

6pm

St. Mary Nadi

Our Annual General Assembly Meeting will take place Sunday, January 12th immediately following the Divine Liturgy. Mark your calendars and make every effort to attend.

Please make sure your 2013 pledge is paid in full, so that you can participate in the General Assembly.

Thanks and God bless!

# Upcoming Events

<b>Fri Jan 10</b>	6:00pm	SOYO General Meeting (1st Meeting of the Year)
<b>Sat Jan 11</b>	11:00am –	Arabic School
	1:30pm	Youth Sports League
	5:30pm	Great Vespers
<b>Sun Jan 12</b>		Annual General Assembly
	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy / Sunday School
	2:00pm	Volleyball 3 on 3 Tournament
<b>Tue Jan 14</b>	6:30pm	"Gospel in an Hour"
<b>Wed Jan 15</b>	10:00am	Morning Prayers
	10:30am	Parish Bible Study
<b>Fri Jan 17</b>		Midwest Basketball Tournament - Canton, Ohio
<b>Sat Jan 18</b>	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:30pm	Youth Sports League
	5:30pm	Great Vespers
<b>Sun Jan 19</b>	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy / Sunday School
<b>Tue Jan 21</b>	6:30pm	"Gospel in an Hour"
<b>Wed Jan 22</b>	10:00am	Morning Prayers
	10:30am	Parish Bible Study

## HOUSE BLESSINGS

Traditionally, at the feast of our Lord's Theophany on January 6th, we bless water which is used to sanctify the homes of all the faithful. In bringing the blessed water to our homes, and sprinkling it in each room, we rid our house of any evil influence, and rededicate it to God in a special way. As we were once renewed by the waters of our own baptism into Christ, so too our home, and our entire lives, are re-dedicated and renewed unto Christ our God each year at this time. Please contact Fr. Mousa at 708-979-3222 or Fr. Malek at 708-516-6417 if you would like your home blessed this year.



## SAVE THE DATE



- Saturday, February 8th 2014 -

The Fellowship of St. John the Divine will be hosting the  
*St. Valentine's Day Hafleh.*

More details to come!



OCCHY – ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN COALITION FOR HEALTHY YOUTH

INVITES ALL PARENTS TO THE 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL

## ORTHODOX PARENT BREAKFAST FORUM

# “Talk to Your Kids...”

...and save your child from **SUBSTANCE USE/ABUSE**”

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2014**

**9:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.**

### Presentations:

- ✦ **YOUTH AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES IN HARM REDUCTION**  
Dr. Lisa A. Razzano, Ph.D., CPRP, Associate Professor of Psychiatry  
UIC Center on Mental Health Services Research & Policy
- ✦ **ALCOHOLISM AND THE FAMILY**  
V. Rev. Andrew Harrison, Alcoholism Ministry Leader  
St. Luke the Evangelist Orthodox Church, Palos Hills
- ✦ **THE BEST ANTI-DRUG IS YOU**  
District Law Enforcement Officer - Youth Substance Prevention

### **ST. SPYRIDON HELLENIC ORTHODOX CHURCH**

12307 S. Ridgeland Ave. • Palos Heights, IL 60463

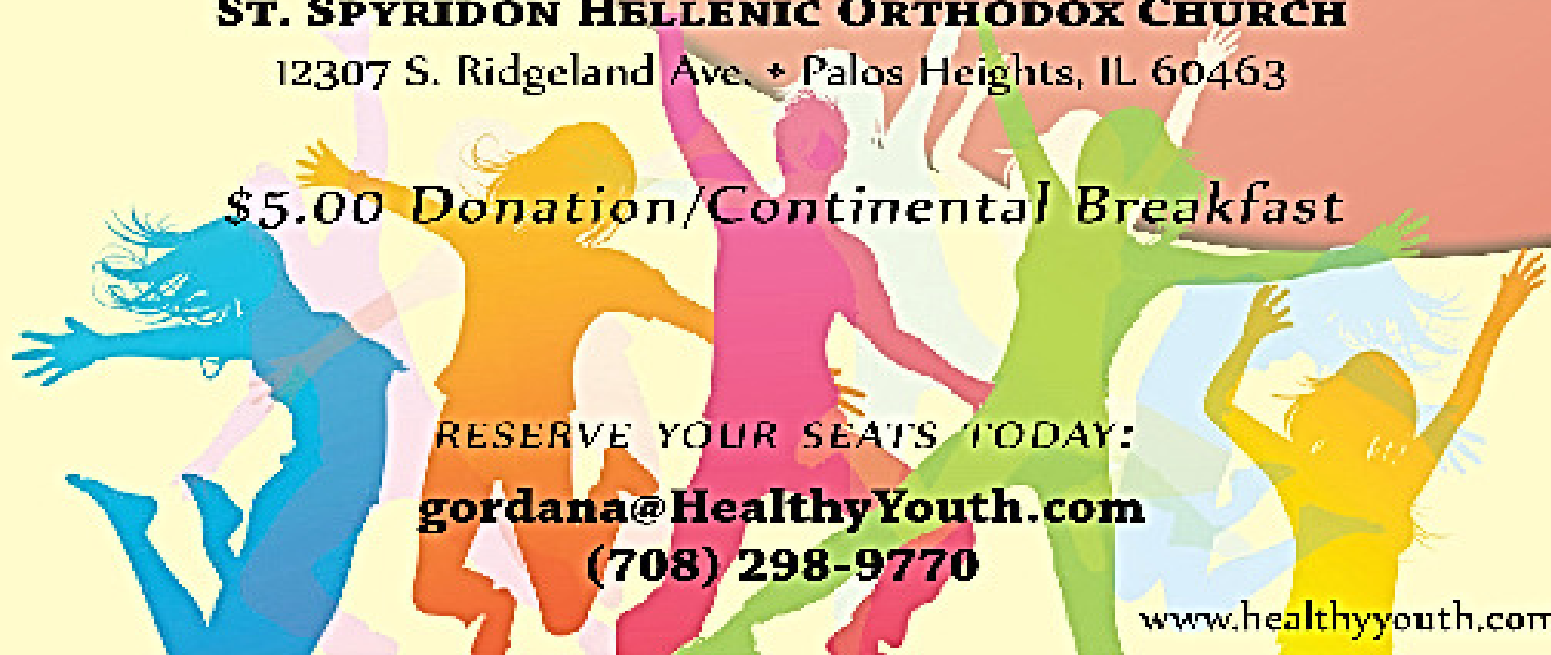
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S u n d a y  
January 26, 2014  
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St Demetrios  
Greek Orthodox Church  
893 Church Road  
Elmhurst, IL

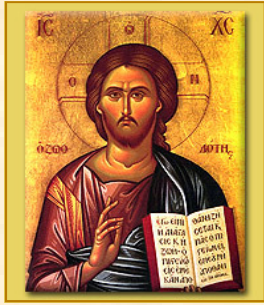
## THE 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL PAN-ORTHODOX SANCTITY OF LIFE PRAYER SERVICE AND PRESENTATION

Organized by OCCA and Orthodox Christians for Life

“The mission work of the  
Martha & Mary House”  
*Speaker:* Nicholas Hantel

Nicholas Hantel is the Vice President of the Martha & Mary House, a Pan-Orthodox maternity home opening this year in the western suburbs. He is an attorney by profession, and serves as the General Counsel to the Diocese of Chicago & Mid-America of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia. Mr. Hantel also practices Immigration Law as the founder of Hantel Law, Ltd., a Chicago-based law firm. Together with his wife Katya and daughter Nadia he attends the Holy Virgin Protection Cathedral in Des Plaines, where he serves as a subdeacon.

For more information, please contact OCCA Committee at [nilesgoc@aol.com](mailto:nilesgoc@aol.com)



## Weekly Synaxarion



On January 12, we continue to celebrate the Theophany (Epiphany) of our Lord Jesus Christ, and we commemorate the holy Martyr Tatiana of Rome, the Deaconess, and those with her. Tatiana lived during the reign of Emperor Alexander Severus, whose chief assistants persecuted Christians without the emperor's orders. When they brought out the virgin Tatiana for torture, she prayed to God for her torturers. And behold, their eyes were opened and they saw four angels around the martyr. Seeing this, eight of them believed in Christ for which they also were tortured and slain. The tormentors continued to disfigure Tatiana, but God sent His angels to the dungeon to encourage her and to heal her wounds. Each morning, Tatiana appeared before the torturers completely healed. Finally, Tatiana and her father were both beheaded in about the year 225. Thus, this heroic woman and those with her were crowned with immortal wreaths of glory. On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Peter Absalom of Palestine; Virgimartyr Euthasia; and Martyr Mertios of Mauretania. By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.