



# 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 (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  
Luai Sweiss - Chairman  
Constantin Kari - Vice Chairman  
Louis Sweiss - Treasurer  
Jason Haddad - Financial Secretary  
Lana Sweis - Secretary  
Nidal Al-Farah  
Feras Salman  
Faris Samawi  
Bassam Shaheen  
Feras Sweis

## Parish Ministries

Sunday School - Hanada Sweis  
SOYO - Jasmine Sweis  
Fellowship - Rachel Kari  
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 26th, 2014 Thirty-Second Sunday after Pentecost Fifteenth Sunday of Luke – Zacchaeus Sunday



## 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.

# 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 Six)

When Mary stood at Thy grave looking for Thy sacred  
body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb,  
and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead  
men. Thou led hades captive and wast not tempted  
thereby, Thou didst meet the virgin and didst give life to  
the world, O Thou who art risen from the dead, O Lord,  
glory to Thee.

## Troparion of the Dormition (Tone One)

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

## Kontakion of the Presentation of our Lord to the Temple (Tone One)

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify  
the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's  
arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold  
in peace, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for  
Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

## **Epistle for the Thirty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**

*The Lord will give strength to his people!*

*Bring to the Lord, O sons of God, bring to the Lord honor and glory!*

**The Reading is from the First Epistle of St. Paul to Timothy (4:9-15).**

Timothy, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance. For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. Command and teach these things. Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Till I come, attend to the public reading of scripture, to preaching, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophetic utterance when the council of elders laid their hands upon you. Practice these duties, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress.

## **Gospel for the Fifteenth Sunday of Luke (Zacchaeus Sunday)**

**The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (19:1-10).**

At that time, Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Jesus, for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."



# SACRED GIFT OF LIFE SUNDAY

PROTECTING THE LIFE OF THE UNBORN

## PRAYER FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

**Deacon:** Let us pray to the Lord!

**All:** Lord, have mercy!

**Priest:** O Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the Only-begotten Son of the Father; Who took on our Human nature to restore its sanctity. Do Thou the same Lord, enlighten Thy people here present and throughout the world, with the knowledge that all life is a sacred gift from Thee, from the instant of conception, to the last breath. Dispel from our minds the subjective concept of quality of life, and implant the objective truth of its preciousness. When we consider abortion, remind us that Thou wast conceived and grew in Thy mother's womb. When we consider euthanasia, call to mind the leper, the paralytic, and Thy friend Lazarus, and how Thy greatness was revealed through their suffering. When we consider the elderly, call to mind Simeon and Anna the Prophetess who proclaimed Thee to the world before the Forerunner, and Thy grandparents Joachim and Anna, who bore and reared Thy most pure mother, despite their advanced age, preparing her to be Thy living Temple. When we consider criminals to be executed, call to mind not only the penitent Thief, but also that Thou wast executed though beyond innocent. As at the tower of Babel, and in the wilderness of Sinai, have we Thy people lost sight of Thy Truth, but restore us in Thy mercy O Lord. Make us instruments of Thy Will, that by loving example, we may lead our misguided brethren to Thee, unworthy as we are. Dispel also from us, over zealousness and aggressive acts, for Thou saved us, not by summoning twelve legions of angels, but by healing the ear of the chief priest's servant and teaching and adjuring the people in love, even from the Cross. Grant this, we entreat Thee, O Thou who lovest mankind, for Thou alone art the Creator and Master of all, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory, together with Thine unoriginate Father and Thine All-holy, good and life giving Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen!

# 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*

01/26: Samir and Eman Batarseh & Family

02/02: Laith and Nour Swaiss & Family

02/09: Emad and Nabila Haddad & Family



SOYO Parent and Teen  
General Meeting  
Sunday, January 26th at 11:30am

**Antiochian Women Meeting**  
Friday, January 31, 2014  
7:00pm  
St. Mary's Fellowship Hall

## Epistle Reading

01/26: Mansoura Khouri & Scott Abdo

02/02: Norma Tadros & Abeer Khouri

## “Bible Verse of the Week”

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

Galatians 6:7-8

\$2,500

**Scholarships Available**  
**Francis Maria Scholarship**  
The Antiochian Archdiocese Department of Youth and Parish Ministry announces that the 2014 Francis Maria Application is now available online at <http://www.teensoyo.org/Pages/Scholarships.aspx> .

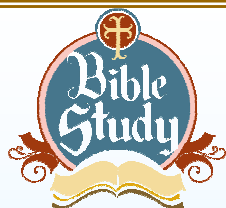
Scholarship Deadline is  
May 15, 2014.

# Upcoming Events

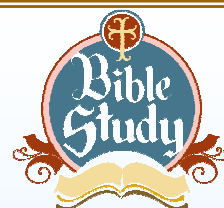
Sat Jan 25	9:30am	OCCHY 2nd Annual Parent Breakfast Forum
	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:30pm	Youth Sports League
	5:30pm	Great Vespers
Sun Jan 26	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy / Sunday School
	11:30am	SOYO Parent and Teen General Meeting
	6:00pm	5th Annual Pan-Orthodox Sanctity of Life Prayer Service and Presentation
Mon Jan 27	6:00pm	PADS Shelter Volunteering
Fri Jan 31	7:00pm	Antiochian Women Meeting
Sat Feb 1	9:30am	St. Mary's Fishers of Men Monthly Breakfast
	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:30pm	Youth Sports League
	4:30pm	SOYO Officer meeting
	5:30pm	Great Vespers
	5:30pm	SOYO Bible Study
Sun Feb 2	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy / Sunday School
	4:30pm	Fellowship Super Bowl Bash
Wed Feb 5	10:00am	Morning Prayers
	10:30am	Parish Bible Study
Fri Feb 7	7:00pm	"What is Love?" - Fellowship Bible Study
Sat Feb 8	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:30pm	Youth Sports League
	5:30pm	Great Vespers
	6:30pm	St. Valentine's Hafleh

# 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.



## Teen SOYO



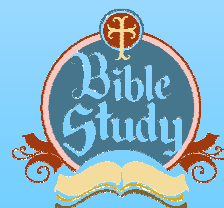
## Officer Meeting & Bible Study

### Saturday, February 1st, 2014

### Fellowship Hall

### Meeting at 4:30pm

### Bible Study at 5:30pm





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

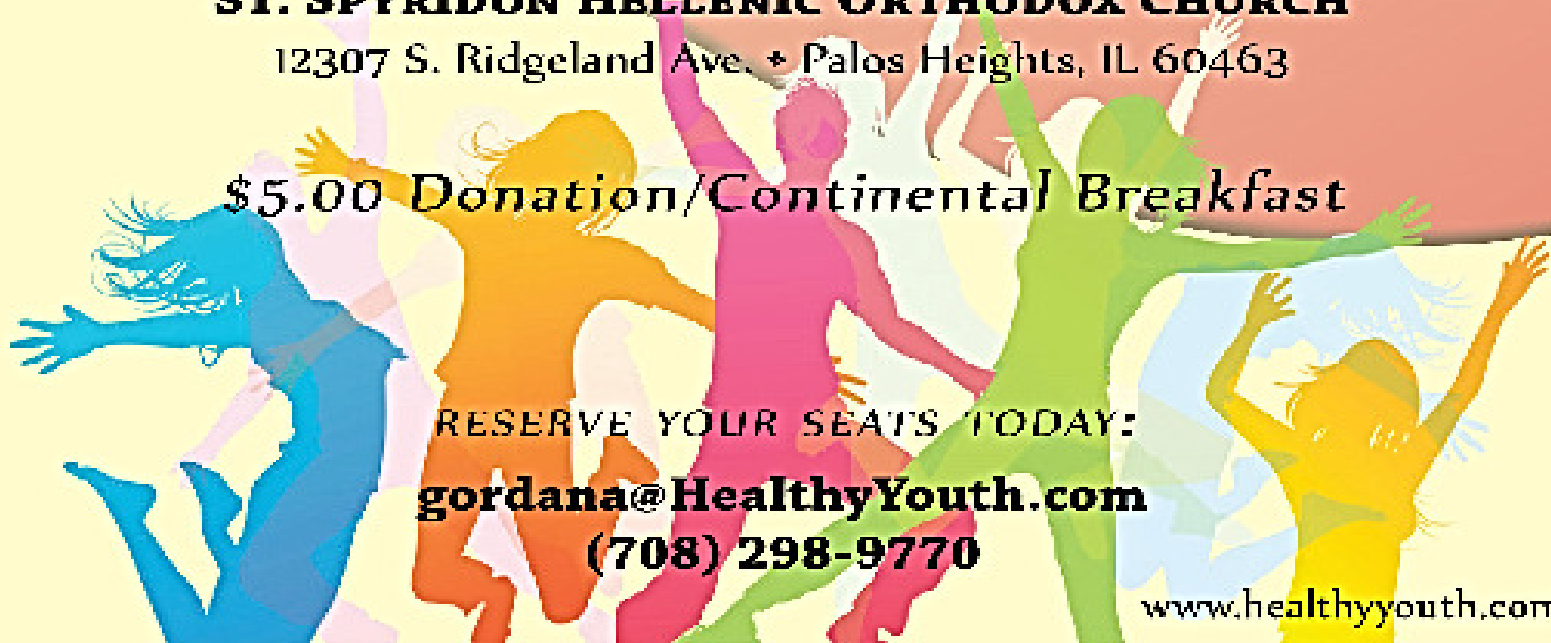
**\$5.00 Donation/Continental Breakfast**

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S u n d a y  
January 26, 2014  
6 : 0 0 P M

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)



# SUPERBOWL XLVIII PARTY

PRESENTED BY:

The Fellowship of St. John the Divine

Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014

Pre-game is at 4:30PM/ Kickoff is at 5:25PM

### General Information

We are pleased to present Superbowl XLVIII, which will take place in our newly blessed Nadi! This event will consist of family, friends, food, drinks, and fun! Come join us and enjoy the fellowship of your community members.

Admission: \$10 per person

Ages: 18 and older

For more information, please email us your questions or concerns.

| [athletics@stmaryoc.org](mailto:athletics@stmaryoc.org)

*You are cordially invited to the Annual*  
***St. Valentine's Day Hafleh***

*Hosted by the Fellowship of St. John the Divine*

*Saturday, February 8th 2014 at 6:30 p.m.*



*St. Mary Orthodox Church  
6330 West 127th Street  
Palos Heights, IL 60643*



***Live Entertainment by Saed Khoury & Band***

*\$40 per person*

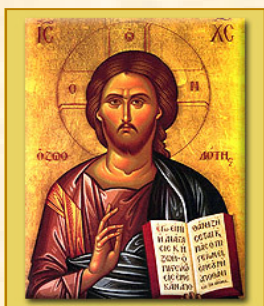
*\$20 per child 12 & under*

*To purchase tickets please contact:*

*Jawad Salman 708.945.2276 or Rachel Kari 630.391.3009*

*"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."*

*1 Corinthians 13:4-7*



## Weekly Synaxarion



On January 26 in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate our righteous Father Xenophon of Constantinople, along with his wife, Mary, and their two sons, Arkadios and John. Prominent and wealthy citizens of the fifth century, Xenophon and Mary lived a God-pleasing life and dedicated all their attention to the Christian upbringing of their sons. When their sons reached adulthood, they were sent to study in Beirut; but it so happened that a storm capsized their boat. John and Arkadios were tossed ashore by the waves but in two different places so that each thought the other was drowned. Out of grief for each other, they both became monks in two different monasteries. After two years, their grieving parents came to Jerusalem on a pilgrimage to pay homage before the holy shrines. There, with the help of a spiritual father, first the brothers met and, after that, the parents with their sons. Out of gratitude to God, Xenophon and Mary distributed their entire estate to the poor and both of them were tonsured. Thus the Lord wonderfully guides the destiny of those who believe in Him. He permits pain and sorrow upon them that they may, later on, be strengthened in faith, in order to lead them into still greater joy. On this day, we also commemorate the translation of the relics of Venerable Theodore the Studite. By their intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.