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
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

February 9th, 2014

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee
Sunday after the Presentation of our Lord into the Temple

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

My heart hath poured forth a good word; I speak of my works to the king. My tongue is the pen of a swiftly writing scribe.
Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.
Grace is poured into thy lips: therefore God hath blessed thee forever.
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.
Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

Second Antiphon

Gird Thy sword upon Thy thigh, O mighty One, in Thy comeliness and Thy beauty. Bend Thy bow, and proceed prosperously, and be king.
Save us, O Son of God, Who wast carried in the arms of righteous Simeon, who sing to Thee, Alleluia!
Thine arrows are sharp, O mighty One, in the heart of the king's enemies; whereby the peoples fall under Thee.
Save us, O Son of God, Who wast carried in the arms of righteous Simeon, who sing to Thee, Alleluia!
A scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Thy kingdom.
Save us, O Son of God, Who wast carried in the arms of righteous Simeon, 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

Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house. Even the rich among the people shall entreat thy countenance. I shall commemorate thy name in every generation.

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace; for from thee arose the Sun of justice, Christ our God, lighting those who are in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous old man, carrying in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, Who granteth us Resurrection.

Hymns of the Day

Entrance Hymn

The Lord hath made known His salvation; He hath revealed His justice in the sight of the Gentiles. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone Eight)

From the heights, thou didst descend, O compassionate one, and thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that thou might deliver us from passion, thou art our life and our resurrection, O Lord, glory to thee.

Troparion of the Presentation of our Lord into the Temple (Tone One)

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace; for from thee arose the Sun of justice, Christ our God, lighting those who are in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous old man, carrying in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, Who granteth us 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 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.

Megalynarion for the Presentation of the Lord (Tone Three)

O Theotokos, thou hope of all Christians; keep and shelter and preserve them that set their hope in thee.

Let us magnify, O believers, the first-born Son, the eternal Word of the Father, first-born of a Mother who knew no man; for we have beheld in the shadow of the law and the Scriptures a sign, that every first-born male that openeth the womb is called holy to God.

Koinonikon (Communion Hymn)

I will take the cup of salvation and call upon the Name of the Lord. Alleluia!

Epistle for the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

Make vows to the Lord thy God, and perform them!
In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel!

The Reading is from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to Timothy (3:10-15).

Timothy my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, and my sufferings, and what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured; yet from them all, the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Gospel for the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (18:10-14).

The Lord spoke this parable: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

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

02/09: Fr. Malek and Kh. Dina Rihani & Family

02/16: Bishara Sweis & Family

02/23: Abdullah and Dina Tadros & Family

Epistle Reading

02/09: Khaled Salman & Rana Nino
02/16: Lily Sweiss & Futien Johnson

"Bible Verse of the Week"

He who follows righteousness and mercy Finds life, righteousness, and honor. Proverbs 21:21

!!!Reminder!!!
Dabkeh Troupe Practice
Sunday 2/9/2014 at 12:30

!!!Reminder!!!
Men's Basketball League
Open Gym
Sunday 2/9/2014 from 3pm-6pm

40 Day Memorial
Yusra Ayoub
May her memory be eternal!

1 Year Memorial
Jehad Tadros
May his memory be eternal!

St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights

"What is Love?"

Bible Study followed by Potluck

Brought to you by the Fellowship of St. John the Divine

Friday, February 7th 2014
7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Nadi
Ages 19 and older

Contact any Fellowship officer with questions.
6330 W. 127th St. Palos Heights, IL | StMaryFSJD

OCCHY Quiz
February is National Cancer Prevention Month

True or False

If current smoking patterns in the United States persist, approximately 5 million of today's children will die prematurely of tobacco-related diseases.

True! For information and reference supporting these facts please visit: www.cdc.gov/nccdphp

Upcoming Events

Fri Feb 7	7:00pm	"What is Love?" - Fellowship Bible Study - St. Mary's NADI
Sat Feb 8	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:30pm	Youth Sports League
	5:30pm	Great Vespers
	6:30pm	St. Valentine's Hafleh
Sun Feb 9	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy / Sunday School
	11:30am	Nacho Sale - SOYO
	12:30pm	St. Mary's Dabkeh Troupe Practice
	3:00pm	Open Gym - Men's Basketball League
Tue Feb 11	6:30pm	Bible Bowl Practice
Wed Feb 12	10:00am	Morning Prayers
	10:30am	Parish Bible Study
	7:00pm	Parish Council Meeting
Sat Feb 15	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:30pm	Youth Sports League
	5:30pm	Great Vespers
Sun Feb 16	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy / Sunday School
	12:30pm	St. Mary's Dabkeh Troupe Practice

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.

2014 Easter
FLOWER DONATIONS

All names will be placed in the tomb of Christ on Holy Friday. On Pascha (Easter), the names will be read privately during a special prayer service inside the Holy Altar.

Thank you for your support!
St. Mary's Antiochian Women

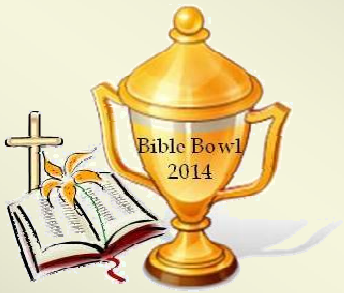
Send your donations to:
6330 W. 127th St., Palos Heights, IL 60463
(708) 239-0004 www.stmaryoc.org

Teen SOYO
Nacho Sale
Sunday, February 9th, 2014

Fellowship Hall

Do you want to be part of St. Mary's Bible Bowl team???

We need 4 teens (13-19 years old) and 3 adults (over 19) to represent our church at the Parish Life Conference in Fort Wayne, IN on June 26, 2014! All are welcome! This year's Bible Bowl theme is the **Gospel of St. Luke** (from the Orthodox Study Bible).



The deadline to sign up is Sunday, February 9th.
Please let Khourieh Delia know ASAP by emailing her at kh.delia@gmail.com
Beginning Tuesday, February 11th, Bible Bowl meetings will take place every Tuesday at 6:30pm.
PLEASE NOTE: A final test in June will determine who will represent our church at the Bible Bowl

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

INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

IOCC ANNUAL PAN-ORTHODOX GRAND BANQUET AND SILENT AUCTION

Thursday, March 20*th*, 2014

6:00pm Cocktails • 7:00pm Dinner

ROSEWOOD RESTAURANT AND BANQUETS
9421 W Higgins Road • Rosemont, Illinois 60018

Guest Speaker: Mark Gruin, IOCC Director of Strategic Initiatives

Tickets are $125 per person
Please RSVP by March 10, 2014

Net proceeds from this event will benefit IOCC's humanitarian relief work

IOCC
www.iocc.org

☐ **Yes, I'd like to attend the IOCC Chicago Grand Banquet.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

☐ Yes, I would like to save IOCC money and help preserve the environment. Please e-mail my tax receipt electronically to the address provided above.

IOCC CHICAGO METROPOLITAN COMMITTEE

Number of tickets:
_____ x $125.00 = _____

☐ My check is enclosed.

PLEASE REMIT TO:
International Orthodox Christian Charities
PO Box 7124
Prospect Heights, Illinois
60070-7124

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:
Maria Loukaki (773) 490-5569
Bonnie Popovic (847) 394-3946

"Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all peoples." Psalm 96:3

Please join us for the 17th Annual

Mission Team Chicago Benefit Dinner

Featuring Keynote Speaker

The Very Rev. Fr. Andres Girón de Leon of Guatemala

In the mountains of Guatemala & Southern Mexico, over 300 village churches are spiritual home to many thousands of indigenous Mayans currently seeking the Orthodox Faith.

Fr. Andres, a Guatemalan native, ministers among them unceasingly as leader of the Guatemalan Orthodox Church under the jurisdiction of Metropolitan Athenagoras of Mexico.

Thursday, February 27, 2014, 6:30 pm

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church
2350 East Dempster Street, Des Plaines, Illinois, 60016

$30 donation requested per person

(Proceeds to benefit Orthodox Christian Mission Center and missions in Guatemala.)

Kindly respond by February 20, 2014.

Reserve your place or make your donation by:

Mail: Click here for an RSVP card to mail in Email: Send your info to MTCBenefit@yahoo.com

Phone: Call (773) 447-3335 Online: To register or donate, click here

OCMC ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN MISSION CENTER

Thank you for your support!

We look forward to seeing you at the benefit!

Weekly Synaxarion

On February 9 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we give up the celebration of the Meeting (Presentation) of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ in the Temple. On this day, we commemorate the Martyr Nikephoros of Antioch; Hieromartyrs Markellos, bishop of Sicily, Pankratios, bishop of Taormina, Philagrios, bishop of Cyprus; and the translation of the relics of Innocent, first bishop of Irkutsk. On the Sunday which falls during the After-feast of the Presentation (Meeting) of our Lord, we commemorate the Holy and Righteous Mothers of the Three Hierarchs: Emmelia (Basil the Great), Nona (Gregory the Theologian) and Anthousa (John Chrysostom). On this day, we make remembrance of the Parable of the Pharisee and the Publican, which occurs in the Holy Gospel according to Luke the Evangelist. In our Savior's parable, Jesus uses a Pharisee, a leader of the synagogue, who was regarded in public opinion as virtuous; and a publican, a tax collector, who was regarded as oppressive, greedy and a sinner. In their prayers to God, we discover the real hearts of these two men. We thus learn of the harm that comes from pride and the good that comes from humility. The divine Church Fathers sought to alert prepare the Christ-loving clergy and laity for the upcoming period of the Great Fast. Therefore, on this Sunday we are reminded that humility is the greatest weapon against pride, as we imitate the humility of the publican to ascend to the divine heights. Through the intercessions of the wonderworking Saints, O Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.