



# 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

## April 27, 2014

### 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!



#### 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

### 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

Shout with joy to God, all the earth. Sing to His name; give glory to His praises.

***Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour save us!***

Say to God: "How awesome are thy works." Let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee.

***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. Amen.

***Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour save us!***

### Second Antiphon

May God have mercy upon us, and bless us, and may He cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy on us.

***Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, who sing to thee, Alleluia!***

That thy way may be known upon earth, thy salvation among all nations. Let the peoples give thanks to Thee, O God; let all the peoples give thanks to Thee.

***Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, who sing to thee, Alleluia!***

May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear Him.

***Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, 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. Amen.

***O only-begotten Son, etc.***

### Third Antiphon

Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered, and let those who hate Him flee from his face.

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

As smoke vanishes, let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire.

***Christ is risen, etc.***

So let the sinners perish before God, but let the righteous rejoice.

***Christ is risen, etc.***

This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

***Christ is risen, etc.***

# Changes in the Liturgy

## 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) 3x

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 Easter (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 the Sunday 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 the Sunday 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.

## Megalynarion (Tone One)

O most radiant lamp, the Theotokos, the immeasurable honor, which is more exalted than all creatures, with praises do we magnify thee.

## Koinonikon (Communion Hymn)

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise thy God, O Zion.  
Alleluia!

Instead of “We have seen the true light”, we sing  
“Christ is Risen” (Once)

# Upcoming Events

Fri Apr 25	7:00pm	Antiochian Women Meeting
Sat Apr 26	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:30pm	Youth Sports League
	5:30pm	Great Vespers
Sun Apr 27		Thomas Sunday
	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy / Sunday School
	11:30am	St. Thomas Sunday School Celebration (Ice Cream with "Prince of Egypt" movie)
	12:00pm	OCLife Meeting
Wed Apr 30	10:00am	Morning Prayers
	10:30am	Parish Bible Study
Sat May 3	9:00am	Annual Marriage Retreat
	10:00am	Fishers of Men Monthly Breakfast
	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:30pm	Youth Sports League
	5:30pm	Great Vespers
Sun May 4		Handmaids of the Lord Sunday
	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy / Sunday School
Wed May 7	10:00am	Morning Prayers
	10:30am	Parish Bible Study

# 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*

04/27: Emile and Eideh Haddad & Family

05/04: Ghaleb and Rita Sweis & Family

05/11: Bishara Sweis & Family

## Epistle Reading

04/27: Lily Sweiss & Fabiola Sweis

05/04: Handmaids of the Lord

## O. C. Life REMINDER

Our next meeting is scheduled for this Sunday **April 27, 2014**, after Liturgy and coffee hour. Even if you haven't attended a meeting yet, you are welcome and encouraged to join us. There is much to do and your involvement would be appreciated -- men, women, adults, teens.

Thank you, Nancy, 708-834-0680

Nc316grace@aol.com



## “Bible Verse of the Week”

For it is written: “As I live, says the Lord, Every knee shall bow to Me, And every tongue shall confess to God.”

Romans 14:11

## Antiochian Women Meeting Friday

04/25/2014

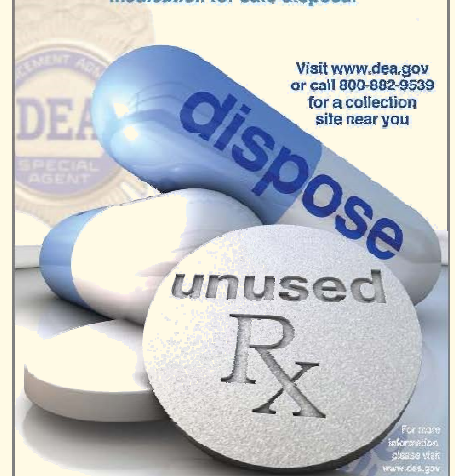
St. Mary's Conference Room



## OCCHYBLURB

### Got Drugs?

Turn in your unused or expired medication for safe disposal



Like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/OCCHYChicago>

# Food Drive

Sunday School is hosting a Food Drive! Each class will compete to raise the most food.

**Winning class for the Pizza Party will be announced next Sunday!!!**

## Food Drive Grocery List:

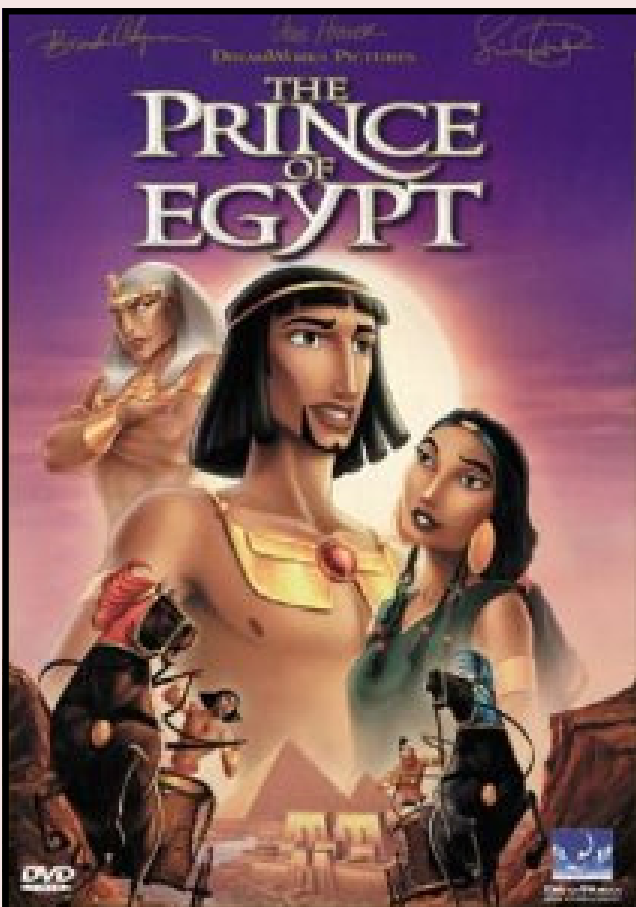
Beans, Chili, Cereal, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Jelly, Peanut Butter, Rice, Shelf Stable Milk, Soup, Tuna, Stew, Canned Vegetables Canned Fruit, Mac & Cheese.



Sunday School Student should drop their food items in the cart in their classroom. Any questions please see Hanada Sweis.



# All Boxes are due Thank You!



## St. Thomas Sunday School Celebration

Ice Cream and a Movie  
**"Prince of Egypt"**  
Sunday  
April 27th, 2014  
11:30am - 1:30pm  
St. Mary's Gymnasium

# ST. MARY

## FOOD PANTRY

FEEDING THE HUNGRY, HELPING THE HOPELESS



## COMING SOON!!!

If you are interested in being a part of the Food Pantry staff and you are available to volunteer a few hours every week or every month, please send an email to

[foodpantry@stmaryoc.org](mailto:foodpantry@stmaryoc.org) or contact:

Kholoud Swais 708-431-0084

Kh.Delia Haddad 914-573-1577

or contact the church office at 708-239-0004

There will be many volunteering positions available, including food pickup, registration, loading and unloading, distribution, packing, sorting, etc.



# Fishers of Men Monthly Breakfast



Saturday, May 3rd  
St. Mary's Nadi

Topic:

"How much drinking is okay?"

## Baby Bottle Drive 2014

May 11 - June 15

To benefit the  
Martha and Mary Maternity  
Your spare change makes a big difference!

*Be a voice for the babies...*



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





WE HONOR AND LOVE YOU

*Honoring our Mothers on their Special Day  
St. Mary Orthodox Church*

*Would like to invite you to attend our annual*

## *2014 Mother's Day Party*

**Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am (sharp)**

*Fashion Show (Elegant Couture Boutique)  
Jewelry show (LaBelle Jewelry & Repair)  
DJ & Lunch*

**Girls participating in the Fashion Show:**

*Please visit Elegant Couture Boutique Located at 12236 S. Harlem in Palos Heights to choose your dress. Also, please contact Hiam's Touch at (708) 429-4949 to schedule an appointment for hair and make-up for a reasonable price!*

**Tickets: \$30.00 per person  
please contact any of the ladies for tickets  
6330 W. 127th St., Palos Heights, IL 60463 / Gym Hall**

# Annual Antiochian Women's Retreat

**Friday May 16th & Saturday May 17th**

Retreat at Cedar Lake Ministries, Indiana

Retreat Master: Fr. Danial Doss

Visit to The Shrine of Christ's Passion  
&

Our Lady of The Millennium

**Cost is \$125 which includes:**

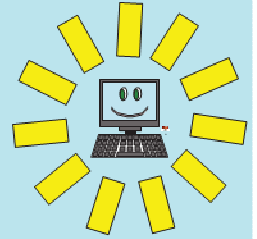
Transportation, stay and food at Cedar Lake Ministries, Indiana

Questions, Please contact Shireen Salman at 708-717-9640





**St. Mary's  
Fishers of Men Ministry  
Introduces the 2014**



# **IT Summer Camp**

**AGE: 13-18 years old**

Come and learn from the best

**July 21- August 1**

Monday through Friday  
9AM- 3PM

Robert Morris University  
Orland Park Campus  
43 Orland Square  
Orland Park, IL 60462

Sign up for:	<u>Member</u>	<u>Non-member</u>
Week 1: 7/21- 7/25	\$300	\$400
Week 2: 7/28- 8/1	\$300	\$400
2 Weeks: 7/21- 8/1	\$500	\$750

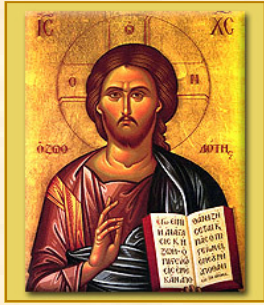
\*\* A non-refundable deposit of \$100 is due at the time of registration.

\*\* Make Checks Payable to: St. Mary Orthodox Church

Take the IT challenge and make the most out of this summer!

**Seats are limited to 24**

first come, first served



## Weekly Synaxarion



On April 27 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Hieromartyr Simeon, Bishop of Jerusalem and the kinsman of the Lord; John the Confessor, Abbot of the Monastery of the Chaste; Eulogios the Hospitable of Egypt; and Stephen, Abbot of the Kiev Caves and Bishop of Vladimir. On this day, the second Sunday of Pascha, we inaugurate the celebration of Christ's Resurrection, and the occasion whereon the Holy Apostle Thomas touched the Savior's side. This day is called New Sunday, Thomas Sunday or Anti-Pascha. The last term means "in place of Pascha" because Thomas did not immediately hear of Christ's Resurrection and disbelieved it. We remember his doubt but do not repeat it. After this Sunday, the Church dedicates Sunday to the Resurrection. As the Disciples were gathered together on the Sunday of the Resurrection, Jesus entered and greeted them in His usual way, saying, "Peace be unto you." Then He showed them His hands, feet and side. Jesus ate before His Disciples and reassured them of His Resurrection. However, Thomas was not with them at that time, and insisted upon seeing the Savior's scars—the print of the nails in His hands and feet, and the spear in His side—before he would believe that Jesus was risen. Eight days later Christ appeared again to the Disciples, this time with Thomas present. The Master told Thomas to see and feel. Then Thomas immediately cried out, "My Lord and my God!" But Jesus tells His Disciples, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." This event also clearly illustrates the human and divine Natures of Christ. By the intercessions of Thine Apostle Thomas, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.