



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

Marram Salman

administrator@stmaryoc.org

Parish Administrator

Rachel Kari

rkari@stmaryoc.org

Church Hall Rental

Call the church office or email our

Office Administrator

July 20, 2014

Feast of the Prophet Elias and Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



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

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 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 Prophet Elias (Tone Four)

O angelic of body, pillar of the Prophets and their cornerstone, the forerunner of the Second Coming of Christ, the venerable and glorious Elijah, thou didst send grace from on high to Elijah to dispel sicknesses and to purify lepers. Wherefore, he ever overflows with healing to those who honor him.

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 Theotokos (Tone Two)

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

Epistle for the Feast of the Prophet Elias

Thou art a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek!

The Lord said unto my Lord: Sit Thou on my right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool.

The Reading is from the Epistle of St. James (5:10-20).

Brethren, take as an example of suffering and patience the prophets who spoke in the Name of the Lord. Behold, we call those blessed who were steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful. But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by Heaven or by earth or with any other oath; but let your yes be yes and your no be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation. Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects. Elias was a man of like nature with ourselves and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again and the heavens gave rain, and the earth brought forth its fruit. My brethren, if any one among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Gospel for the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (9:1-8).

At that time, Jesus got into a boat, crossed over and came to His own city. And behold, they brought to Him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, “Take heart, My son; your sins are forgiven.” And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, “This man is blaspheming.” But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, “Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise and walk’? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—He then said to the paralytic—“Rise, take up your bed and go home.” And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, Who had given such authority to men.

Upcoming Events

Thu Jul 17	7:00pm	Volleyball Games
Sat Jul 19	1:00pm	Fellowship Softball Game
	5:30pm	Great Vespers
Sun Jul 20	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
	2:00pm	Open Gym - Basketball
Mon Jul 21	9:00am	St. Mary's IT Summer Camp
Tue Jul 22	9:00am	St. Mary's IT Summer Camp
	7:00pm	Open Gym - Volleyball
Wed Jul 23	9:00am	St. Mary's IT Summer Camp
	10:00am	Morning Prayers
	10:30am	Parish Bible Study
Thu Jul 24	9:00am	St. Mary's IT Summer Camp
	7:00pm	Volleyball Games
Fri Jul 25	9:00am	St. Mary's IT Summer Camp
Sat Jul 26	5:30pm	Great Vespers
Sun Jul 27	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
	11:30am	Ice Cream Social Served by Clergy
	2:00pm	Open Gym - Basketball

“Bible Verse of the Week”

If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love. **John 5:10**

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

07/20: Rashid and Suzan Sweis & Family

07/27: Bishara Sweis & Family

08/03: Emile and Eideh Haddad & Family

Epistle Reading

07/20: Norma Tadros & Subdn. Matthew Sweis

07/27: Faris Samawi & Kh. Delia Haddad



OCCHY BLURB SUMMER SERIES

4 WAYS PARENTS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN PROTECTING THEIR KIDS FROM RISKY BEHAVIORS:

#2 – MONITOR YOUR TEEN’S INTERNET USE

Many websites and online communities promote the abuse of prescription drugs and unhealthy adolescent behaviors. **Social networking sites provide kids with detailed instructions for getting high, as well as videos of teens doing these trends.** Monitor your credit card statements: teens can buy many of these drugs or equipment easily on the internet.

Look for #3 in next week's bulletin...

Parents, you have always been the best firewall to help prevent risky behaviors by your teens. *You do make a difference!* Use your influence! Meanwhile, keep repeating this mantra to your children: "Substance use has health risks that could be permanent. There are no 'take backs' or second chances."

<http://www.drugfree.org/> and <http://medicineabuseprotect.org/>

If you suspect your child might be abusing, contact [drugfree.org](http://www.drugfree.org/) or the toll-free helpline at 1-855-DRUGFREE to talk to an expert.

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



Wedding

Milad Sleiman
&
Rima Saigh

Congratulations!



Baptism



Sophia & Daniel
Parents: Ramzi and Abeer Rayahin

Congratulations!



Churching

Christos Wajih
Parents: Issa and Kathy Tadros

Congratulations!

Bookstore is open

Every Sunday after Liturgy
and
Monday - Friday
from 11:00am - 2:00pm

Please email Nader Haddad at naderemile3@yahoo.com with any special requests.

The Fellowship of St. John the Divine and the Athletics Department at St. Mary invite you to a

SOFTBALL GAME

Saturday, July 19, 2014

**Palos Heights Parks & Recreation
6601 West 127th Street
Palos Heights, IL 60463 | 5:00pm**

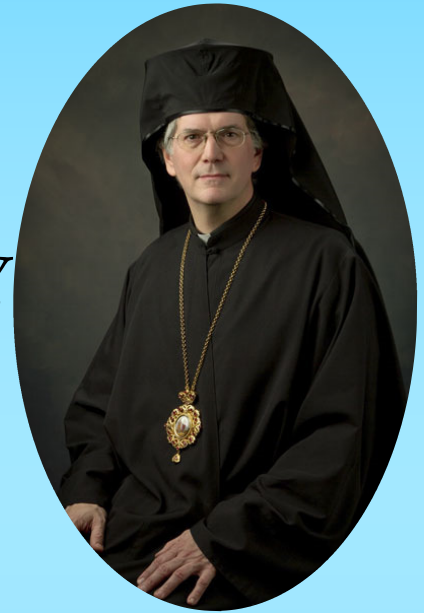
**Ages 17 and up
\$15 per person includes a
t-shirt and lunch!**

- 
- Sign up by Friday, July 11, 2014**
 - Submit registration forms to fabiolasweis@gmail.com**
 - Teams will be selected at random.**
- Contact Chuck Samawi or Jawad Salman with questions.**

SAVE THE DATE!

Annual Founders' Day Weekend with our Bishop!

His Grace Bishop ANTHONY
Bishop of Toledo and the Midwest



Saturday, August 23rd

- Humanitarian Walk

Sunday, August 24th

- Annual Founders' Day Banquet

Questions? Please contact the church office at 708-239-0004

Camp St. Mary

For Students Entering PreSchool Thru 8th Grade

What are you doing with your summer?

Gaming to improve your scores?

Twittering the day away? Snap chatting?

*How about joining us for a week of
fun, friends and fellowship!!!*

WHERE??? *St. Mary Orthodox Church*

WHEN??? *Aug 11th-15th (1PM to 4PM)*

WHO??? *Explorers Program: Entering PreK-5th Grades*

PreK must be at least 4 and potty trained

OMG Program: Entering 6th-8th Grades*

**Orthodox Middleschool Group*

HOW MUCH? *It's just \$10!!!!*

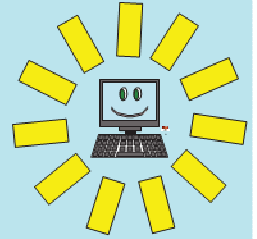
SIGN ME UP!!!!

*Registration is online or after Liturgies during
Coffee Hour every Sunday in July.*

Questions? Contact Rachel Kari
at rkari@stmaryoc.org



**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 serve

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 or contact:

Kholoud Swais [708-431-0084](tel:708-431-0084)

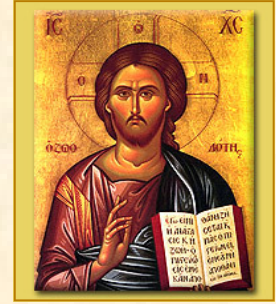
Kh.Delia Haddad [914-573-1577](tel:914-573-1577)

or contact the church office at [708-239-0004](tel:708-239-0004)

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



Weekly Synaxarion



On July 20 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the fiery ascent as it were into the Heaven of the holy and glorious Elias (Elijah) the Tishbite. Elias was born in the town of Tishba in Gilead east of the Jordan River. His father Savah saw an angel of God hovering around the child, wrapping the child in fire and giving him a flame to eat. This foreshadowed Elias's God-given fiery character and power. Elias confronted the Israelite King Ahab and his evil wife Jezebel, who persuaded her husband to erect a temple to the pagan god Baal. Through great miracles Elias displayed the power and authority of the real God: he closed up the heavens so that no rain fell for 42 months; he lowered a fire from heaven and burned the sacrifice to his God which the pagan priests could not do; he accurately prophesied to Ahab that the dogs will lick up his blood and to Jezebel that the dogs will consume her flesh. Elias took Elisha and designated him as his successor in the prophetic calling. Elias was taken up into the heavens in a fiery chariot by flaming horses, prefiguring the universal Resurrection. He appeared on Mount Tabor to our Lord Jesus Christ together with Moses on the Transfiguration. Before the end of the world Elias will appear again to put an end to the power of the anti-Christ (Revelation, Chapter 11). On this day, we also commemorate Righteous Iliya Chavchavadze of Georgia. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.