



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 - Philip Riské

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

Jehan Haddad

Katia Haddad

administrator@stmaryoc.org

Church Hall Rental

Call the church office or email our

Office Administrator

September 07, 2014

Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos



Weekly Schedule of Services

Saturday: 5:00p.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

O Lord, remember David and all his meekness. Lo, we heard of it at Ephrata; we found it in the fields of the wood.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.

Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God shall help her, and that right early.

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

The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; and He will not turn from it. Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.

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

There will I make the horn of David to bud; I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed.

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

For the Lord hath chosen Zion; He hath desired it for His habitation.

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.

O only-begotten son and word of God...

Third Antiphon

Here will I dwell, for I have desired it. The Most High hath sanctified His tabernacle. Holy is Thy temple, and wonderful in righteousness.

Thy nativity, O Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to the whole universe; for from thee did shine forth the Sun of justice, Christ our God, annulling the curse, and bestowing the blessing, abolishing death and granting us life everlasting.

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 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 disciples, saying death hath been spoiled, Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

Troparion of the Nativity of the Theotokos (Tone Four)

Thy nativity, O Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to the whole universe; for from thee did shine forth the Sun of justice, Christ our God, annulling the curse, and bestowing the blessing, abolishing death and granting us life everlasting.

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 Nativity of the Theotokos (Tone Four)

By thy holy nativity, O pure one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness; and Adam and Eve were delivered from the corruption of death; thy people do celebrate it, having been saved from the stain of iniquity, crying unto thee: The barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, who nourisheth our life.

Epistle for the Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy

O Lord, save thy people and bless thine inheritance!

To thee, O Lord, I have cried, O my God!

The Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Galatians (6:11-18).

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and not only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world had been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

Gospel for the Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (3:13-17).

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

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

9/7: Bishara Sweis & Family

9/14: Daniel and Shahd Sweis & Family

9/21: Refqa Sweis & Family

Epistle Reading

9/7: Faris Samawi & Elaine Riadi

9/14: Asmahan Fakhouri & Lana Sweis

Annunciation Bookstore

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

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

“Bible Verse of the Week”

Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer,
The Holy One of Israel:
“I am the Lord your God, Who teaches
you to profit, Who leads you by the
way you should go. [Isaiah 48:17](#)



3rd & 9th Day Memorial
Yasmine Swais
May her memory be eternal!



Memory Eternal
Sami Ghaleb Salman
May his memory be eternal!



Wedding
Ameer Zahi Tadros
&
Demma Munther Tadros
Congratulations!



Baptism
Stella
Parents: Joseph & Lubna Sweis
Congratulations!



OCCHY BLURB – PEER PRESSURE

WHEN FACED WITH PEER PRESSURE, **STICK UP FOR YOURSELF!** 10 WAYS TO SAY NO WHEN BEING PRESSURED TO USE SUBSTANCES:



1. My parents will kick my butt!
2. The coach will kick me off the team.
3. I like you, but don't like drugs/alcohol/cigarettes.
4. I want to stay healthy for *[fill in the blank]*.
5. Ugh, don't like the taste.
6. I don't need it.
7. I don't like how it makes you act crazy.
8. I don't have any money.
9. I don't want to get caught. I'll lose my job.
10. I'll have to confess it to the priest!



The best way to refuse Alcohol, Tobacco, and/or Drugs is to spend time with people who don't use these substances.
YOUR PARISH YOUTH GROUP WELCOMES YOU!

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

Upcoming Events

Sat Sep 6	9:30am	Sunday School Staff Workshop
	10:00am	Fishers of Men Monthly Breakfast - Topic: Christ's Teaching on Financial Management
	5:00pm	Great Vespers
Sun Sep 7	12:00pm	FSJD Baked Potato Sale
	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of the Theotokos
	2:00pm	Open Gym - Basketball
Wed Sep 10	10:00am	Morning Prayers
	10:30am	Parish Bible Study
Fri Sep 12	6:30pm	Fellowship Bible Study
Sat Sep 13	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:30pm	Youth Sports League
	5:00pm	Great Vespers
Sun Sep 14	All day	FSJD Falafel Sandwich Sale
	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Sunday School Orientation & Student Procession with the Holy Cross
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy for the Elevation of the Holy Cross
	2:00pm	Open Gym - Basketball
Thu Sep 18	7:00pm	Antiochian Women Meeting
Sat Sep 20	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:30pm	Youth Sports League
	5:00pm	Great Vespers
	6:00pm	FSJD Game Show Night

Baked Potato Sale

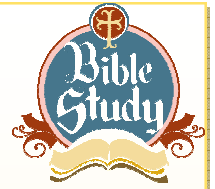


Sunday
September 7
11:30am

Sponsored by the Fellowship of St. John the Divine



ST. MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH OF PALOS HEIGHTS



Save the Date
FRIDAY September 12th
6:30pm

**Join the Fellowship of St. John the
Divine for a Bible Study and potluck in the Nadi.**

Topic:
Christ's Teaching on Financial Management

Ages 19 and older

Contact any officer with questions.

6330 W. 127th St. Palos Heights, IL | StMaryFSJD



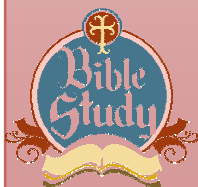
ST. MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH OF PALOS HEIGHTS

Save the Date
Teen SOYO Bible Study
Topic: "I Can't Get No Satisfaction"

FRIDAY September 19th @ 7:00pm

Hosted at the home of
Rateb and Mansoura Khouri
10406 S Aspen Dr. Palos Hills, IL 60465

Contact any officer with questions.



SUNDAY SCHOOL



- Provide your children with an outstanding Orthodox Christian education.
- Let your children become more well rounded with their faith and community
- Set your kids on the right path to success!

SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS SEPTEMBER 14th

Please see Philip Riske to register your children!

“Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven” - Matthew 19:14

St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights

St. Mary Arabic School

Join us for a new and improved Arabic school year!

- ◆ Arabic School Director: Elia Sweiss
- ◆ Improved Curriculum
- ◆ Monthly Professional Development Workshops for all teachers lead by Professor Maha Sweis-Dababneh, PhD.
- ◆ Information Desk / Hall Monitor present during school hours.
- ◆ Students will not be allowed to leave the school premises.
- ◆ Adult class available again this year.

Saturdays from 11:00am to 1:00pm

- ◆ **First Day** - September 13th, 2014
- ◆ **Last Day** - May 16th, 2015

The following fees include all textbooks:



◆ 1st Student	\$250
◆ 2nd Student	\$200
◆ 3rd Student	\$150
◆ 4th Student	Free



Register in the Fellowship Hall

For more information, please contact Arabic School Director,
Elia Sweis at arabic@stmaryoc.org or (708) 707-1395.

St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights

YOUTH LEAGUE



Youth League

is back for the

2014-2015 Season!

- League will be every Saturday starting September 13th
- 1:00pm-3:00pm
- Ages 5-12
- \$80 for your first child, \$70 for the second child, and \$60 for the third child.
- All games and open gyms will be held at St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights.

REGISTER TODAY!!!

Youth League will be held from 1:00pm-3:00pm. During this time your young athletes will be learning the fundamentals of basketball, teamwork, and respect. Throughout the season there will be days designated for free play. Please make sure your athletes come dressed appropriately in gym shoes and comfortable clothes. If anyone is interested in making a donation or volunteering on Saturday afternoons please contact Fr. Mousa or Fabiola Sweis.

Contact
Fabiola Sweis
fabiolasweis@gmail.com
with any questions.

*St. Mary
Orthodox Church
6330 W. 127th St
Palos Heights, IL 60463*

Thank you for your ongoing support!

INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES



WALK THE WALK FOR IOCC

**JOIN US FOR OUR EIGHT ANNUAL
5K WALK/RUN TO SUPPORT IOCC GLOBAL
HUMANITARIAN RELIEF PROGRAMS!**

Saturday, September 27, 2014

**St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church
5649 N. Sheridan Rd. • Chicago, IL 60660**

**REGISTRATION: 8:00 AM • WALK/RUN BEGINS: 9:00 AM
BREAKFAST: FOLLOWING THE RACE**

**For more information, visit www.iocc.org/chicago
or email iocccchicago5k@gmail.com**

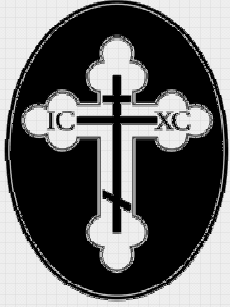
IOCC, in the spirit of Christ's love, offers emergency relief and development programs to those in need worldwide, without discrimination, and strengthens the capacity of the Orthodox Church to so respond.



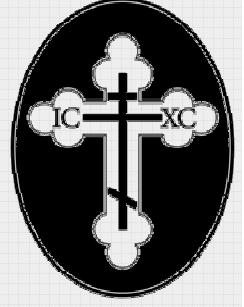
IOCC[®]

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

www.iocc.org



St. Mary's Men's Basketball League



The time has finally come for family, friends, and lots of fun! I am pleased to present the 3rd Annual Men's Basketball League. The games will be held in the gymnasium of St. Mary's Orthodox Church. This league will be open to members of the community and to our sister churches. The timing of this league couldn't be better as we try to come together as a community to enjoy companionship and some friendly competition. I do ask that you all spread the word as much as possible, as we get things started to have another successful season! There will be sign-ups held during coffee hour and open gyms.

Season begins on September 28th, 2014

Forms, Teams, and Fees due on September 20th, 2014

Requirements:

- Signed Waiver
- Team Registration Sheet
- Fees
- \$75 - No Purchase of Jersey

Information:

- Ages 16 and up
- Make your own team
- Min. members per team: 6
- Max members per team: 9

Contact: Melad Qodsi

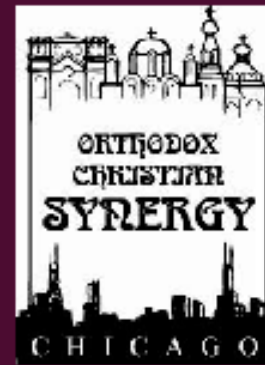
Text or call 708.692.0561
athletics@stmaryoc.org

2014 CHICAGO SYNERGY ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

OCTOBER 18, 2014

OPERATION THY KINGDOM COME

*HOW DO WE LIVE OUR FAITH IN A
SECULAR AGE?*



- God's Kingdom has **POWER** to Take Back His People from the Secular World
- God's Kingdom has **GLORY** to Fill the Empty Secular Heart

Saturday, October 18, 2014

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Holy Resurrection Serbian Orthodox Cathedral

5701 N. Redwood Drive, Chicago, Illinois

Speaker: HIS GRACE BISHOP ANTHONY

**Bishop of the Antiochian Orthodox Diocese of
Toledo and the Midwest**



HIS GRACE BISHOP ANTHONY was born and raised in Ironwood, Michigan and attended the University of Michigan, where he received his B.A. in Literature, Science and the Arts, having a double major in History and English literature. He attended St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in Crestwood, New York. Bishop Anthony grew up in a Pan-Orthodox community, was a football star and as a youth worker, toured with a Christian rock group. Today, Bishop Anthony is a popular and effective speaker.
www.antiochian.org/BishopAnthony

Registration and payment prior to October 9: \$35. (Husband and wife couples: \$50.) October 10 –18: \$40 per person. High School and College Students: \$20.00. Registration includes coffee service and lunch. For more information, Please see Synergy's website chicagosynergy.org/symposium or call (847) 647-8880 or (630) 230-0079.

Orthodox Christian SYNERGY consists of clergy and lay representative of Chicago-area Orthodox Christian parishes who seek to project awareness of Orthodox Christianity to the public at large. SYNERGY works together with its parent organization, the Orthodox Christian Clergy Association of Greater Chicago, and with the blessings of the Chicago area Orthodox Hierarchs

TELE LUMIERE AND NOURSAT USA

Invites you to join us for a

Benefit and Gathering of Eastern Churches Uniting:

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church
St. John the Baptist Melkite Catholic Church
Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church
St. John the Baptist Syriac Orthodox Church
St. Afrem Syriac Orthodox Church
St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church
St. Michael the Archangel Melkite Catholic Church
Assyrian Church of the East

Featuring a guest speaker delivering a keynote address
on the state of Christians in the Middle East
followed by entertainment by Miss Doris Farhat

DIPLOMAT WEST BANQUETS

681 W North Ave, Elmhurst, IL 60126

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2014

7:00 pm cocktail hour 8:00 pm dinner

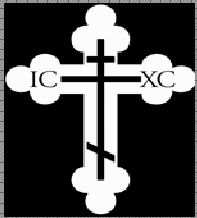
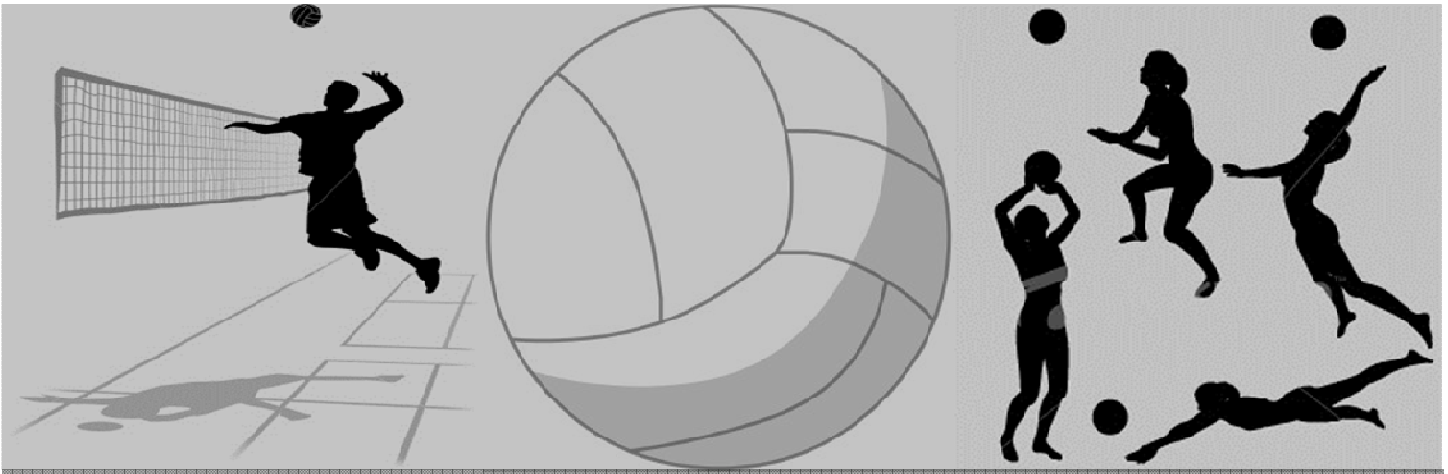
Donation \$65

For tickets or inquiries contact:

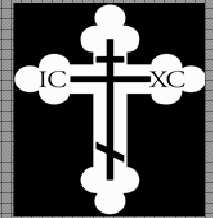
Dr. Joyce Rabbat	(630) 606-5484
Mrs. Vera Maalouf	(262) 496-9807
Fr. Nicholas Dahdal	(708) 656-2927
Fr. Musil Shehadeh	(219) 803-2389
Norma Tadros	(708) 314-5556
Summer Tadros	(708) 574-1017
Ellen Bassmaji	(224) 305-4378
Sargon Makdesi Elias	(708) 668-5428
Mr. Abgar Maloul	(848) 420-2200
Dr. John Michael	(847) 791-7288

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sargonelias@hotmail.com
abgarmaloul@yahoo.com
johncmichael@aol.com





St. Mary's Co-Ed Volleyball League



The time has finally come! Our volleyball season is near and the excitement is building. St. Mary's Orthodox Church is proud to present our 3rd annual Co-Ed Volleyball League. What better way to enjoy yourself then with family, friends, and fun! This season will be a great one and you will not want to miss out. So spread the word and come join us!

General Information:

- Start date is January 11, 2015*
- End date is March of 2015*
- Must be 14 years or older
- Deadline: December 14, 2014
- Teams will be Co-ed
- Games will be Sunday afternoons (Times TBD)

* Schedule is subject to change

Kati Khouri- Volleyball Coordinator
Melad Qodsi- Athletic Director

708.257.7579

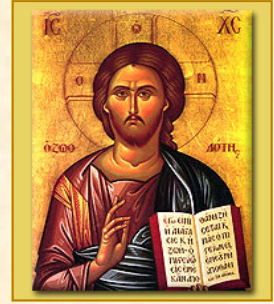
708.692.0561

athletics@stmaryoc.org

Location: 6330 W. 127th St, Palos Heights, IL. 60463



Weekly Synaxarion



On September 7 in the Holy Orthodox Church we celebrate the Fore-feast of the Nativity of the Most-holy Theotokos, and we commemorate the holy Martyr Sozon of Cilicia (Lycaonia). Sozon endured a great persecution of Christians near the city of Pompeiopolis on the part of Maximian, the governor of Cilicia. There was a golden idol which the pagans worshipped. The shepherd Sozon left his sheep, went to the city, entered the pagan temple and knocked an arm off the golden idol, melting it down and giving the gold to the poor. The enraged pagans searched for him, but Sozon went to the governor and declared he was a Christian and the performer of that act. After many tortures, Sozon gave his soul to God in 304.

On this day, we also commemorate the Apostles Euodos and Onesiphoros of the Seventy; John, archbishop of Novgorod; and Venerable Cloud of Nogent-sur-Seine. By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.