



# 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](http://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 21, 2014

### Sunday after the Elevation of the Holy Cross

### Leave-Taking of the Elevation of the Holy Cross



## 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

My God, My God, look upon me: why hast Thou forsaken me? The words of my transgressions are far from my salvation.

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

O my God, I cry in the daytime, but Thou hearest not. But Thou, the praise of Israel, dwellest in the sanctuary.

*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 ages of ages. Amen.

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

### Second Antiphon

O God, why hast Thou cast us off forever? Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast purchased of old.

*Save us O Son of God, who wast crucified in the flesh, who sing unto thee: Alleluia.*

This is Mount Zion wherein Thou has dwelt.

*Save us O Son of God, who wast crucified in the flesh, who sing unto thee: Alleluia.*

God is our King before the ages, working salvation in the midst of the earth.

*Save us O Son of God, who wast crucified in the flesh, who sing unto 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...*

### Third Antiphon

The Lord reigns, let the people tremble. The Lord is great in Zion, and He is high above all the people. Let them give thanks to Thy great name, for it is holy.

*O Lord, save thy people and bless thine inheritance, and to thy faithful people grant victory over their enemies, and by the power of thy Cross protect all those who follow Thee.*

# Changes in the Liturgy

## **Entrance Hymn**

Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship at his footstool, for he is holy. 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 Holy Cross (Tone One)**

O Lord, save thy people and bless thine inheritance, and to thy faithful people grant victory over their enemies, and by the power of thy Cross protect all those who follow Thee.

## **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 Holy Cross (Tone Four)**

Do thou, who of thine own good will wast lifted up upon the Cross, O Christ our God, bestow thy bounties upon the new Nation which is called by thy Name; make glad in thy might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries. Having in thine aid a weapon of peace and trophy invincible.

## **Epistle of the Sunday after the Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross**

*O Lord, how magnificent are thy works. Thou hast made all things in wisdom!  
Bless the Lord, O my soul!*

**The Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Galatians (2:16-20).**

Brethren, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

## **Gospel of the Sunday after the Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross**

**The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (8:34-38; 9:1).**

The Lord said, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Kingdom of God come with power."

### **Megalynarion for the Leave-Taking of Feast of the Elevation of the Cross (Tone Eight)**

*Magnify, O my soul, the Exaltation of the life-giving Cross of the Lord.*

Verily, death which befell the human race by eating from the tree, hath been abolished today by the Cross; for the curse of the first mother and all her descendants hath been undone by Him Who was born of the undefiled Theotokos, whom all the powers of Heaven do magnify.

### **Koinonikon for Feast of the Elevation of the Cross (Tone Eight)**

The light of Thy countenance, O Lord, is marked upon us. Alleluia!

# 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*

9/21: Refqa Sweis & Family

9/28: Emad & Issam Haddad & Family

10/5: Jamal & Kholoud Swais

## Epistle Reading

9/21: Nour Swaiss & Marian Fahmy

9/28: Mansoura Khouri & Reem Sweis

## “Bible Verse of the Week”

And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. **1 John 4:16**

## Annunciation Book Store

Open every Sunday after Liturgy  
and Monday - Friday

11:00am - 2:00pm

Please email Nader Haddad at  
[naderemile3@yahoo.com](mailto:naderemile3@yahoo.com) with  
any requests.



**6 Month Memorial  
Metropolitan PHILIP  
Memory Eternal!**



## Wedding

**Simon Salem & Riham Hanania  
Congratulation!**



**Removal of Crowns  
Ameer & Demma Tadros  
Congratulations!**



## Baptism

Natalia

Parents: Tarek and Haifa Fakhoury  
**Congratulations!**



## Churching

Sophia

Parents: Luay and Maaly Madain  
**Congratulations!**



## OCCHY QUIZ

**TRUE or FALSE?**

Reality Check:



Many kids have their first encounter with drugs and alcohol through someone in their family or a close friend.

**TRUE**

Source: Parents: The Anti-Drug

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

# Upcoming Events

Thu Sep 18	7:00pm	Antiochian Women Meeting
	7:00pm	Basketball Open Gym
Fri Sep 19	7:00pm	SOYO Bible Study - "I Can't Get No Satisfaction"
Sat Sep 20	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:00pm	Youth Sports League
	5:00pm	Great Vespers
	6:00pm	FSJD Game Show Night
Sun Sep 21	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Sunday School
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
	11:30am	FSJD Taco Sale
	2:00pm	Open Gym - Basketball
Sat Sep 27	8:00am	Annual IOCC Walk
	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:00pm	Youth Sports League
	5:00pm	Great Vespers
Sun Sep 28	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Sunday School
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
	11:30am	FSJD Bake Sale
	2:00pm	Open Gym - Basketball

# Fellowship Taco Sale



!!!Today!!!

After Liturgy

Sponsored by the Fellowship of St. John the Divine

# KIDS SOYO



Calling all 7-12 years olds

Details Coming Soon!!

# SAVE THE DATE

**St. Mary Orthodox Church**

**9th Annual Christmas High School Retreat**

**December 27 - December 29**

**This annual retreat is an opportunity for you to build upon your Orthodox Christian faith and learn how to apply the teachings of Jesus Christ to your own life. please see any advisors or officers for details, comments or questions.**

ST. MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH OF PALOS HEIGHTS

Save the Date

Teen SOYO Bible Study

Topic: "I Can't Get No Satisfaction"

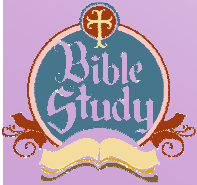
FRIDAY September 19th @ 7:00pm

Hosted at the home of

Rateb and Mansoura Khouri

10406 S Aspen Dr. Palos Hills, IL 60465

Contact any officer with questions.



6330 W. 127th St. Palos Heights, IL



# Game Show Night

*Brought to you by the FSJD*

Celebrate Fellowship Month by Joining us for Game Show Night!

Saturday, September 20th, 2014 at 5:30pm

Bring your favorite Snack!! Ages 19 and up.



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



*The Fellowship of St. John cordially invites you to their annual*

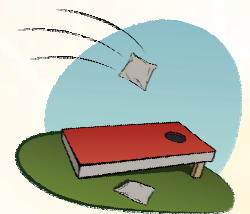
# Fall Harvest Festival

**Celebrating Godparent's Sunday**

**Sunday, October 5th, 2014**

Join the fun immediately following the Liturgy

Bags Tournament, Chili Contest,  
Pumpkin Painting, Face Painting,  
Food, Music, Games, Prizes, Cash Raffles, Petting  
Zoo, & more!



Bring your Godparent and/or Godchild  
to receive a ticket for a **FREE** lunch at the festival!

Questions??? See Rachel Kari or any of the Officers



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

# 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](mailto: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](http://www.iocc.org/chicago)  
or email [iocccchicago5k@gmail.com](mailto:iocccchicago5k@gmail.com)**

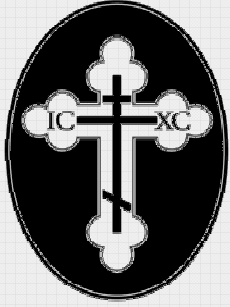
*IOCC, in the spirit of Christ's love, offers emergency relief and development programs to those in need worldwide, without discrimination, and strengthens the capacity of the Orthodox Church to so respond.*



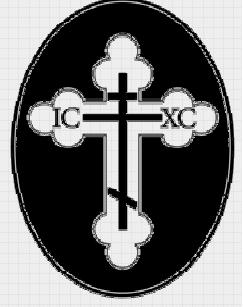
**IOCC<sup>®</sup>**

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

**[www.iocc.org](http://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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

## **Men's Basketball Open Gym Schedule**

**Tuesdays at 7:00pm**

**Sundays at 2:00pm**

- **Ages 16 and up.**
- **The Men's Basketball League begins Tuesday, October 14th, 2014. Games will be held every Tuesday night.**

**To register, contact: Melad Qodsi  
708.692.0561  
or any member of Athletics.**

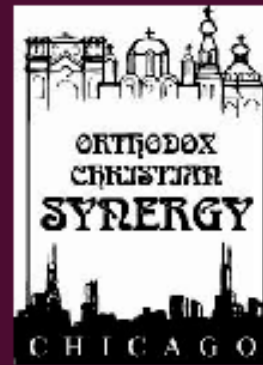


# 2014 CHICAGO SYNERGY ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

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**

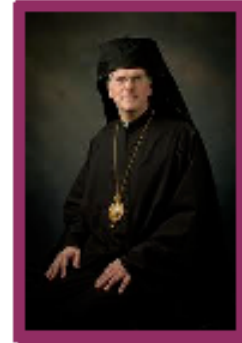
**9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**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](http://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](http://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

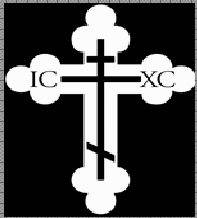
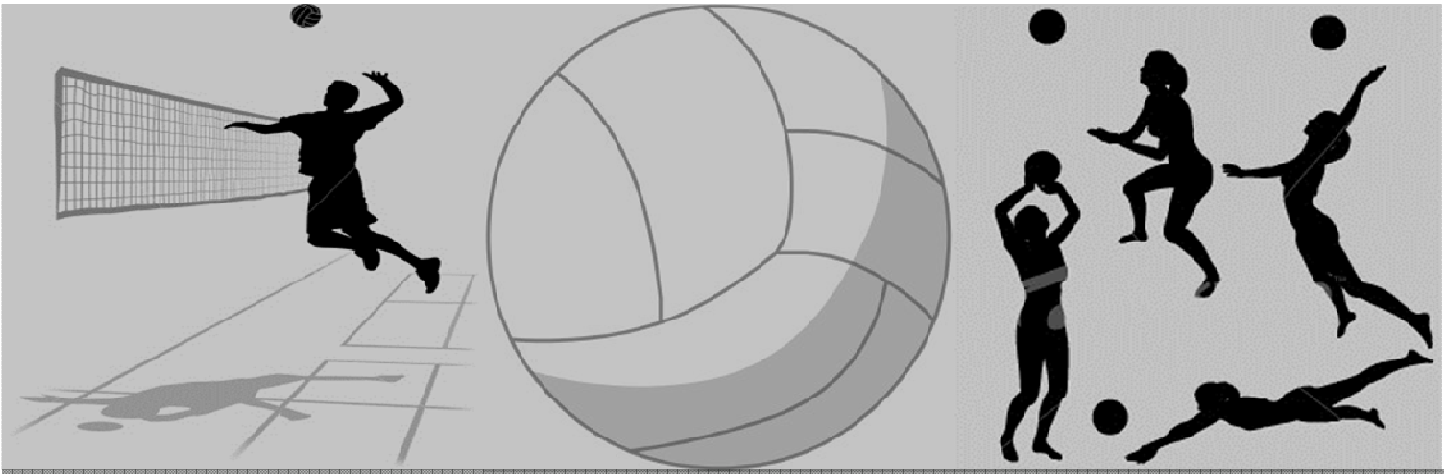
Donation \$65

For tickets or inquiries contact:

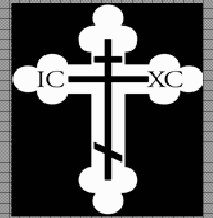
Dr. Joyce Rabbat	(630) 606-5484
Mrs. Vera Maalouf	(262) 496-9807
Fr. Nicholas Dahdal	(708) 656-2927
Fr. Musil Shehadeh	(219) 803-2389
Norma Tadros	(708) 314-5556
Summer Tadros	(708) 574-1017
Ellen Bassmaji	(224) 305-4378
Sargon Makdesi Elias	(708) 668-5428
Mr. Abgar Maloul	(848) 420-2200
Dr. John Michael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

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ebassmaji@aol.com
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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

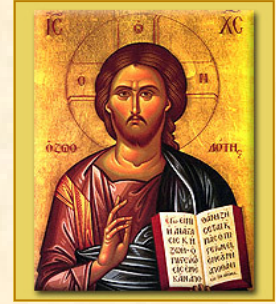
708.692.0561

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

Location: 6330 W. 127<sup>th</sup> St, Palos Heights, IL. 60463



## Weekly Synaxarion



On September 21 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we give up the celebration of the Exaltation (Elevation) of the Holy Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. On this day, we commemorate the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostle Quadratos of the Seventy. He preached the Gospel in Athens, and was at first bishop in Athens after St. Publius, and then in the city of Magnesia. Quadratos was considered a “morning star among the clouds,” shining forth the light of Christ to the Hellenes in the midst of their dark paganism and evil practices. But darkness always hates the light, and the pagans hated holy Quadratos. They first stoned him, and then imprisoned him, leaving him without bread until his holy soul left his body and entered into the Kingdom of Christ his God in 130. Before that, Quadratos wrote a defense of Christianity and gave it to the pagan Emperor Hadrian, who was so moved that he decreed that Christians should not be persecuted without special cause. On this day, we also commemorate the Prophet Jonah; and the uncovering of the relics of Demetrios, bishop of Rostov. By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.