



# 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

*October 12, 2014*

## *Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council*



## 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

## **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 One)**

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Saviour, granting life to the world; for which cause the Heavenly Powers cried aloud unto Thee, O Giver of Life, Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom! Glory to Thy Providence! O Thou who alone art the Lover of Mankind.

## **Troparion of the Fathers (Tone Eight)**

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise who didst establish our holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to 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 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 Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council**

*Blessed are thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers!*

*For Thou are just in all that Thou hast done to us!*

**The reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to Titus (3:8-15).**

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

## **Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Luke**

**The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (8:5-15).**

The Lord spoke this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, Jesus said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As Jesus said this, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

# 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*

10/12: Refqa Sweis & Family

10/19: Hasan and Saeda Sweis & Family

10/26: Jamal and Raeda Khouri & Family

## Epistle Reading

10/12: Lily Sweiss & Subdn. Matthew

10/19: Awwan Sweis & Rana Nino

## “Bible Verse of the Week”

Joy in the Fellowship of God A Psalm of David when he was in the wilderness of Judah. O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You In a dry and thirsty land Where there is no water.

**Psalm 63:1**

## **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.



## Wedding

Joshua John Morgan

&

Christina Jamal Swais

**Congratulations**

## SAVE THE DATE

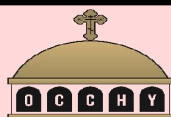
**St. Mary Orthodox Church**

**10th 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.**



Orthodox Christian Coalition  
Healthy for Youth

OCCHY BLURB

**October – National Substance Abuse Prevention Month** encourages Parish Community awareness to ensure the health of teens and young adults.

20.6 Million Americans age 12-20 are addicted to alcohol and drugs; 14.1 million alcohol, 3.9 million illicit drugs, and 2.6 million alcohol and illicit drugs.



**COMING UP: RED RIBBON WEEK  
OCTOBER 23 - 30**

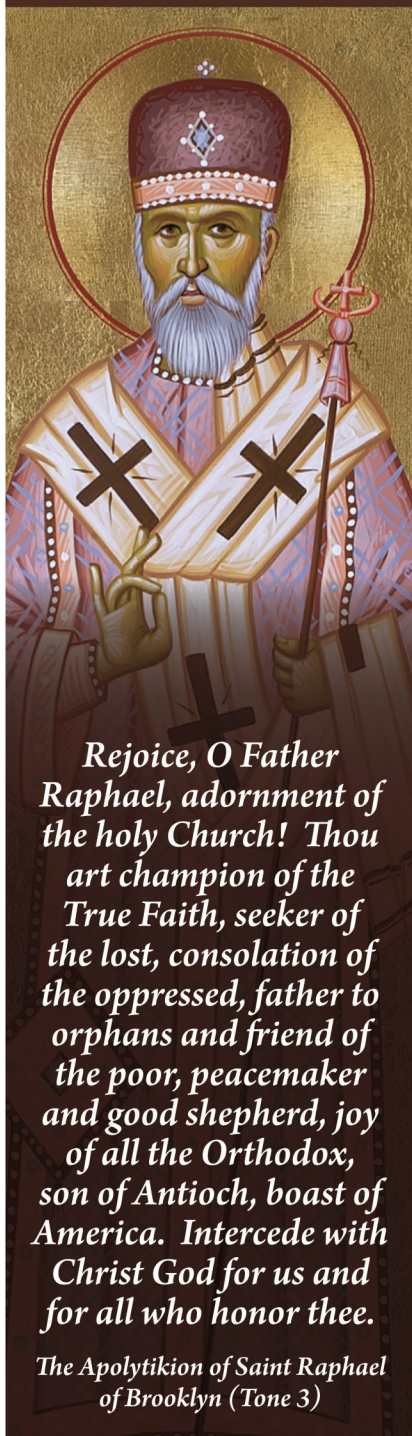
Through community-based efforts involving youth, parents, clergy, educators, and civic authorities, we can strengthen the support systems that deter our nation's young people from drug consumption and improve both academic performance and workforce readiness.

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

# Upcoming Events

Thu Oct 9	7:00pm	Open Gym - Basketball
Fri Oct 10	7:00pm	Fellowship Bible Study: Christ's Teaching on Financial Matters
Sat Oct 11	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:00pm	Youth Sports League
	5:00pm	Great Vespers
Sun Oct 12	Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council	
	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Sunday School
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
	11:30am	Homemade Apple Pie Sale - SOYO
	2:00pm	Open Gym - Basketball
Tue Oct 14	7:00pm	Men's League Basketball Game
Thu Oct 16	7:00pm	Open Gym - Basketball
Fri Oct 17	7:00pm	Noursat Benefit
Sat Oct 18	9:00am	2014 Chicago Synergy Annual Symposium
	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:00pm	Youth Sports League
	5:00pm	Great Vespers
Sun Oct 19	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Sunday School
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
	11:30am	Deli Sandwich Sale - SOYO
	2:00pm	Open Gym - Basketball

# Special Olympics AWARENESS DAY



*Rejoice, O Father Raphael, adornment of the holy Church! Thou art champion of the True Faith, seeker of the lost, consolation of the oppressed, father to orphans and friend of the poor, peacemaker and good shepherd, joy of all the Orthodox, son of Antioch, boast of America. Intercede with Christ God for us and for all who honor thee.*

*The Apolytikion of Saint Raphael of Brooklyn (Tone 3)*

As NAC Teen SOYO prepares to sponsor the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Special Olympics Sports Camp; we ask that you be generous in helping our teens in this ministry. Over 300 athletes and coaches participated in our camp this past summer. Teen SOYO members come from all over North America to volunteer their time, to reach out to others, and fulfill the Gospel: “Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.” (Matthew 25:40)

## *Did you know?*

Special Olympics Sports Camp is a premier SOYO outreach program and is now in its 34<sup>th</sup> year of service to the Special Olympic Athletes. In addition to the funds raised on Special Olympics Awareness Day, the teens provide at least half the coaching staff and many former teen volunteers, now adults, serve as adult leaders in the ministry.

On Sunday, October 19, our teens will solicit your financial donations to enable them to sponsor the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Special Olympics Sports Camp, which will be held at the Antiochian Village, in the summer of 2015. Please be generous as our teens need to raise in excess of \$60,000 to run this worthwhile ministry. As an expression of our teens’ gratitude for your support of this important ministry, you will receive a bookmark commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the falling asleep of Saint Raphael of Brooklyn.

*Thank you for your assistance. Please make checks payable to your local teen group.*

**DONATE ONLINE:** <http://www.teensoyo.org/Pages/Donate.aspx>

# Winter Food Drive 2014

October 12th - December 28th



1 out of 6 families are struggling with hunger

Remember...42 lbs of food will feed a family of 4 for 3 days!

## 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.

There will be 4 baskets outside of the Sunday School doors (in the large hall way) for drop off.

Remembering the words of St. John Chrysostom: "It is a better thing to feed the hungry than to raise the dead."

St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights

# God's Teaching on Financial Management

A Bible study brought to you by the Fellowship of St. John the Divine

Friday, October 10, 2014

6:30pm | St. Mary's Nadi

Please bring a fasting dish to share.

Questions? Please see Fr. Malek or any FSJD officer.

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



# KIDS SOYO

Get ready for an awesome time  
every Tuesday evening!!!

Earn prizes, awards and badges that Fr. Mousa will  
present in front of the whole church!!!

Kids S.O.Y.O. is for ages 7-12 years old.

Registration will begin October 12th online & after  
Liturgies. See Preyma Grace for more details.

# 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

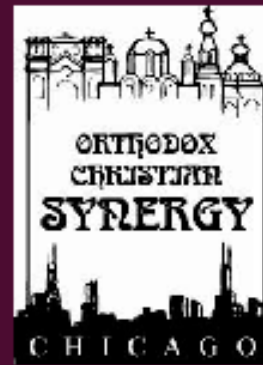


# 2014 CHICAGO SYNERGY ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

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**

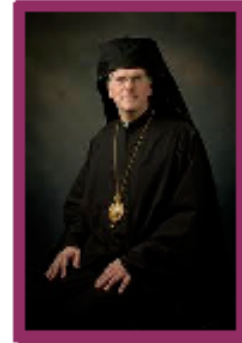
**9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**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**



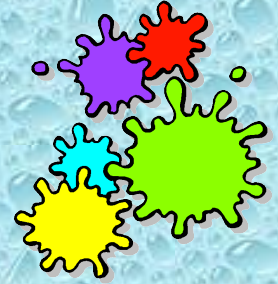
HIS GRACE BISHOP ANTHONY was born and raised in Ironwood, Michigan and attended the University of Michigan, where he received his B.A. in Literature, Science and the Arts, having a double major in History and English literature. He attended St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in Crestwood, New 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

The Fellowship of St. John the Divine is going

# PAINTBALLING



**Saturday, October 25th | 1:00pm — 4:00pm**

## Challenge Park Xtreme

**2903 Schweitzer Rd.**

**Joliet, IL 60436**

**\*Please meet at church at 11:00am if you would like to car pool.**

**\$55 per person**

**includes all equipment and lunch**

**You must RSVP to Jawad Salman or Chuck Samawi by October 12th, and you must be paid in full by October 19th, or there is an additional charge of \$10.**

**Jawad: 708.945.2276 | Chuck: 952.457.0057**

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

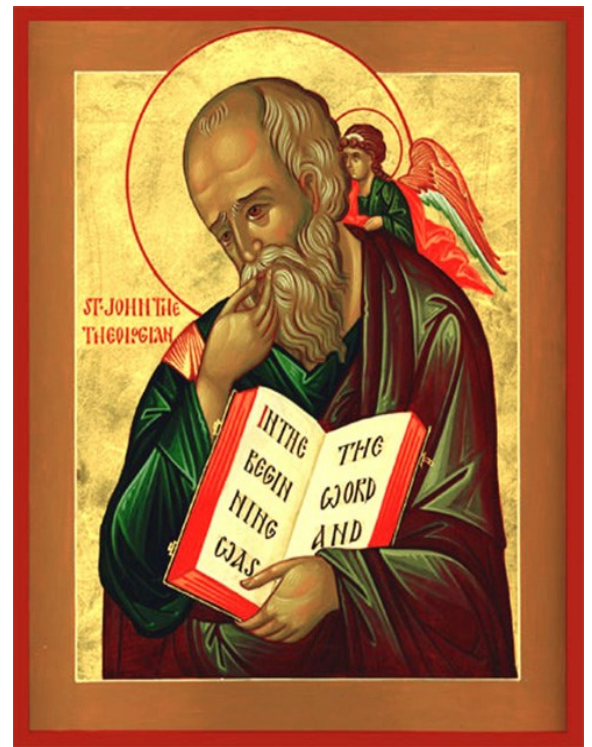




SAINT MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH  
OF PALOS HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS

# Adult Bible Study

All adults are welcome to attend our weekly Adult Bible Study, where we will be studying the Gospel of John. The class will be given in Arabic and English by Fr. Danial Doss.



## English Bible Study

Every Tuesday at  
6:30pm beginning  
October 28th.

## Arabic Bible Study

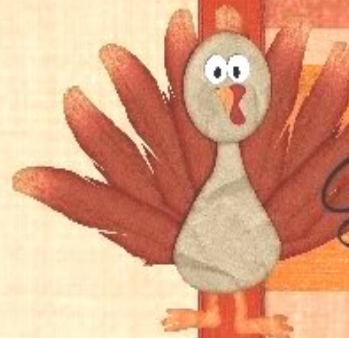
Every Wednesday at  
10:00am beginning  
October 29th.

*St. Mary's*  
**Annual Thanksgiving Dinner**

Hosted by Our Antiochian Women

**Friday**  
**November 14th, 2014**

St. Constantine and Helen  
11025 S Roberts Road  
Palos Hills, IL 60465



*Give Thanks*



**Carved Pumpkin Contest!!!**

Come prepared with a carved pumpkin to enter the contest!

For Tickets:  
please contact Nawal Sweis 708-567-3626

Doors Open at  
6:00pm.  
Adults \$30.00  
Children \$15.00



# St. Mary's Men's Basketball League



## THE MEN'S BASKETBALL LEAGUE BEGINS TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14TH, 2014

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.

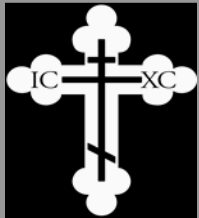
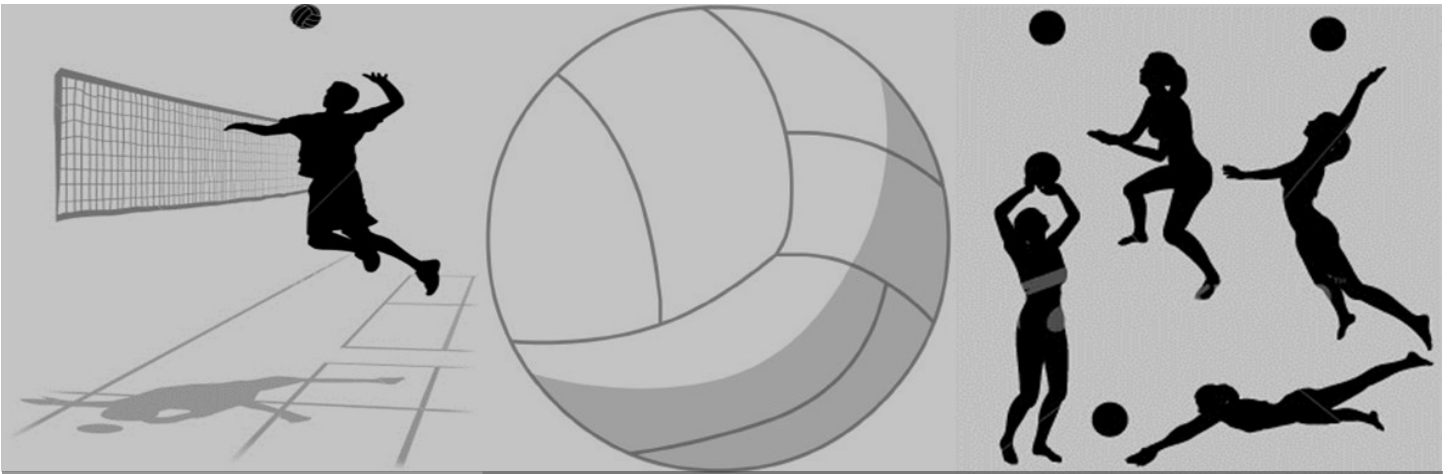
### **Men's Basketball Open Gym Schedule**

**Sundays at 2:00pm**

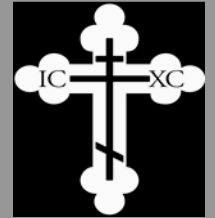
**Thursdays at 7:00pm**

**Games will be held every Tuesday night**

To register, contact: Melad Qodsi 708.692.0561  
or any member of Athletics [athletics@stmaryoc.org](mailto:athletics@stmaryoc.org)



# 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

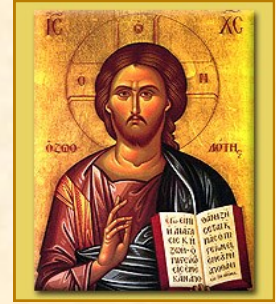
708.692.0561

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

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



## Weekly Synaxarion



On October 12 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Martyrs Probos, Andronikos and Tarachos at Tarsus; Martyr Domnina at Anazarbus in Cilicia; and Virgin Martyr Anastasia of Rome. On this day we commemorate the holy and blessed Fathers who came together for the second time in Nicaea, during the reign of the pious and Christ-loving Sovereigns Constantine and Irene, against those who impiously, ignorantly and foolishly asserted that the Church of God worshippeth idols, and rejected the august and holy icons. The Council met in 787 to refute the Iconoclast heresy, whose camp believed that all depictions of Christ, His Mother and the saints should be destroyed. The iconophiles believed that icons served to preserve the doctrinal teachings of the Church; and they considered icons to be man's dynamic way of expressing the divine through art and beauty. The council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry (Exodus 20:4-5), because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint, but passes to the prototype, or the person depicted. It also upheld the possibility of depicting Christ, Who became man and took flesh at His Incarnation. The Father, on the other hand, cannot be represented in His eternal nature, because "no man has seen God at any time" (John 1:18). By the intercessions of the Holy Fathers, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.