



# 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

## November 9, 2014

### St. Nectarios the Wonder-Worker of Pentapolis

### Seventh Sunday of Luke



#### 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 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 St. Nectarios of Pentapolis (Tone One)

The offspring of Selyvria and the guardian of Aegina, the true  
friend of virtue who didst appear in the last years, O Nektarios,  
we faithful honor thee as a Godly servant of Christ, for thou  
pourest forth healings of every kind for those who piously cry  
out: Glory to Christ Who hath glorified thee. Glory to Him Who  
hath made thee wondrous. Glory to Him Who worketh healings  
for all through thee.

## Troparion of the Dormition (Tone One)

In thy birth giving O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve vir-  
ginity; 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 Entrance of the Theotokos (Tone Four)

The all-pure temple of the Savior, the most precious bridal cham-  
ber and Virgin, the treasure-house of the glory of God, today en-  
ters the Temple of the Lord, bringing with her the grace which is  
in the Divine Spirit, whom also the angels of God do celebrate in  
song; for she is the heavenly tabernacle.

# **Epistle for St. Nectarios the Wonder-Worker of Pentapolis**

*The Saints shall be joyful in glory!*

*Sing unto the Lord a new song!*

## **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians (5:8-19).**

Brethren, walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand the will of the Lord. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

## **Gospel for the Seven Sunday of St. Luke**

### **The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (8:41-56).**

At that time, there came to Jesus a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue; and falling at Jesus' feet, he besought him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As Jesus went, the people pressed round him. And a woman who had had a flow of blood for twelve years, and had spent all her living upon physicians, and could not be healed by any one, came up behind him, and touched the fringe of his garment; and immediately her flow of blood ceased. And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the multitudes surround you and press upon you, and you say, 'Who touched me?'" But Jesus said, "Someone touched me; for I perceive that power has gone forth from me." And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. And Jesus said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace." While Jesus was speaking, a man from the ruler's house came and said, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher anymore." But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "Do not fear; only believe, and she shall be well." And when Jesus came to the house, he permitted no one to enter with him, except Peter and James and John, and the father and mother of the child. And all were weeping and bewailing her; but Jesus said, "Do not weep; for she is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. But taking her by the hand Jesus called, saying, "Child, arise." And her spirit returned, and she got up at once; and Jesus directed that something should be given her to eat. And her parents were amazed; but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.

# 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 com-

## *Holy Bread and Coffee Hour*

11/09: Feras and Jackie Salman & Family

11/16: Bishara Sweis & Family

11/23: Constantin and Rachel Kari

## Epistle Reading

11/09: Faris Samawi & Lana Sweis  
11/09: Asmahan Fakhouri & Angela Had-

## "Bible Verse of the Week"

He made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment - to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ. *(Ephesians 1:9-10)*



## OCCHY QUIZ

What do you think?

Orthodox Christian Coalition  
Healthy for Youth

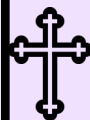
**Q:** Which smoker consumes the greater volume of smoke during one smoking session? Hookah or Cigarette?



**A:** HOOKAH! The average hookah session typically lasts over 40 minutes, and consists of 50 to 200 inhalations with each amounting to between 0.15 and 0.50 litres of smoke. During a one-hour-long session, users consume about 100 to 200 times more volume of smoke than comes out of a cigarette.

Source: <http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports>

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



**Memory Eternal!**  
Hanneh Defallah Sweis



**Wedding**  
William Bashir Sweis  
&  
Christina John Dracopoulos  
**Congratulations!**



**Engagement**  
Manar Nabil Fakhoury  
&  
Elias Joseph Namroud  
**Congratulations!**



**Removal of Crowns**  
Joshua & Christina Morgan  
**Congratulations!**

Please make sure you pick up your 2015 pledge envelopes. God bless!



## **Announcing Sunday School Christmas Pageant Details:**

November 16th

12:15PM to 1PM 1st Rehearsal

December 14th

Rehearsal during Sunday School

December 21st

Performance at the end of Liturgy

See Grace Preyma Riske for details

# "Liturgy after the Liturgy"

*Taking our faith outside the church walls*

## *St. Philothea Project*

**This Christmas we will send 1000 packages to Romanian orphans.**

**Items needed:**

- ◆ Socks (non-white)
- ◆ Underwear

**All sizes, for Kids and Teenagers**

**A cart will be located by the Sunday school entrance. We will be collecting items until Christmas.. Questions: Please see Kh. Delia or email her at [kh.delia@gmail.com](mailto:kh.delia@gmail.com).**

*God bless you for your generosity!*

# KNAFEH SALE



**!!!TODAY!!!  
AFTER  
LITURGY!!!**

# Advent Fast & Christmas Reminder!

The Nativity Fast (Advent) begins Saturday, November 15th and will end December 24th (after Christmas Eve Liturgy). We are to fast from meat and dairy. In order for fasting to be effective, it must be accompanied with prayer and acts of mercy and love. St. John Chrysostom reminds us: "What good is it to fast from meat and dairy, if we devour and eat one another." Please remember to love and forgive in this special time in which we prepare for the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.

## Important: Mark your Calendars for Christmas Liturgy

Important! Please mark your calendars for the Christmas Liturgy. It will begin at 6pm, Wednesday December 24th. How can we truly celebrate Christmas if we skip out on Christmas Liturgy? The Christmas season is a very busy time, & we have plans to be with friends & family. But, we must learn to set our priorities straight, so schedule your gatherings around the Christmas Liturgy. Can you imagine having a birthday party without the birthday boy?! That's exactly what we do when we don't attend Christmas Liturgy. Let us begin to change the secularization of Christmas & bring Christ back into the picture by remembering the reason for the season. I am looking forward to seeing you all at Christmas Liturgy. God bless!

# SOYO

movie  
Night

Friday, November 21 at 6:30pm

St. Mary's NADI

Fasting Potluck - Bring a dish to share!!!

**Questions???** Please contact any SOYO officer.



# "Liturgy after the Liturgy"

*Taking our faith outside the church walls*

## **Annual Christmas Toy Drive**

It is that time of the year again to begin preparing for our Annual Christmas Drive. We have 40 wish lists for 40 children given to us by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. For most of these children, these will be the only Christmas gifts they receive. Most of these children are young children, from newborns to teenagers. Please, if you find it in your heart to do so, take one of these wish lists and buy Christmas gifts for a child. This way, you are bringing God into someone's life and strengthening your own Christian faith. Thanks for your support!

**Please see Rachel Kari to get a list**

**\*\*\* Gifts are due by Sunday, November 16th \*\*\***



*"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." (Hebrews 13:16)*

# Upcoming Events

Thu Nov 6	7:00pm	Open Gym - Basketball
Sat Nov 8	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:00pm	Youth Sports League
Sun Nov 9	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Sunday School
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
	11:30am	SOYO Knafeh Sale
	2:00pm	Open Gym - Basketball
Tue Nov 11	6:30pm	English Bible Study
	7:00pm	St. Mary's Men's Basketball League Games
Wed Nov 12	10:00am	Morning Prayers
	10:30am	Arabic Bible Study
	7:00pm	Parish Council Meeting
Thu Nov 13	7:00pm	Open Gym - Basketball
Fri Nov 14	6:00pm	St. Mary Annual Thanksgiving Dinner
Sat Nov 15	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:00pm	Youth Sports League
	5:00pm	Great Vespers
Sun Nov 16	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Sunday School
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
	2:00pm	Open Gym - Basketball

# The 2015 St Mary Creative Arts Festival February 16-March 8

- For Ages 2 - 18
- Artwork
- Short Stories
- Poetry
- Photography



TOPIC:  
Bringing God's  
lost sheep back

100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY of the  
FALLING ASLEEP of SAINT RAPHAEL

All entries must be received by February 15th, 2015 with completed entry forms. Rules posted in Sunday School Wing. Entries by 1st thru 12th grade students will be entered in the 2015 Midwest PLC Creative Arts Festival.

Sunday School students **ONLY** may join us  
12:15PM to 1PM for workshops on the following dates:

- November 30 - Creative Arts Project 1
- December 7 - Creative Arts Project 2
- January 11 - Poetry & Creative Writing
- January 25 - Photography Mounting *come with developed photos*

See Grace Preyma Riske for details (630) 532-8640

# SAINT MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH OF PALOS HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS ANNOUNCES:



The Enthronement of our  
Newly Elected Father and Chief-Shepherd  
**His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH**  
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America



By the Hands of His Beatitude  
**Patriarch JOHN X**  
Patriarch of the Great City of God, Antioch, and all the East

**December 5-7, 2014**  
**St. Nicholas Cathedral - Brooklyn, NY**

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

- ◆ Friday, December 5th:
  - 6:30pm : Great Vespers with Artoklasia for the Feast of St. Nicholas
- ◆ Saturday, December 6th:
  - 9:00am: Orthros
  - 10:00am: Divine Liturgy for the Feast of St. Nicholas
  - 4:30pm: Great Vespers and Enthronement of Metropolitan JOSEPH
  - 7:00pm: Reception at the Brooklyn Marriott
  - 8:00pm: Gala Banquet at the Brooklyn Marriott
- ◆ Sunday, December 7th:
  - 9:15am: Orthros
  - 10:30am: Patriarchal Divine Liturgy with Patriarch JOHN X

Banquet tickets are \$200 per guest and can be obtained by mailing a check made out to "St. Nicholas Cathedral" to the following address:

St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral  
Attn: Banquet Committee  
355 State Street, Brooklyn, NY 11217

Please clearly print the names of those attending as well as a phone number and email address if possible so they can acknowledge your reservation. You may also purchase banquet tickets with a Visa or MasterCard on the Cathedral website. Be sure to note in the memo section the same information above.

**Deadline for Banquet Reservations - November 21st**

# St. Mary Orthodox Church 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)

Magida Abudayyeh  
(708-415-5040)

Doors Open at  
6:00pm.

Adults \$30.00  
Children \$15.00

# SAVE THE DATE

**St. Mary Orthodox Church**

## **9th Annual Christmas High School Retreat** **December 27 - December 29**

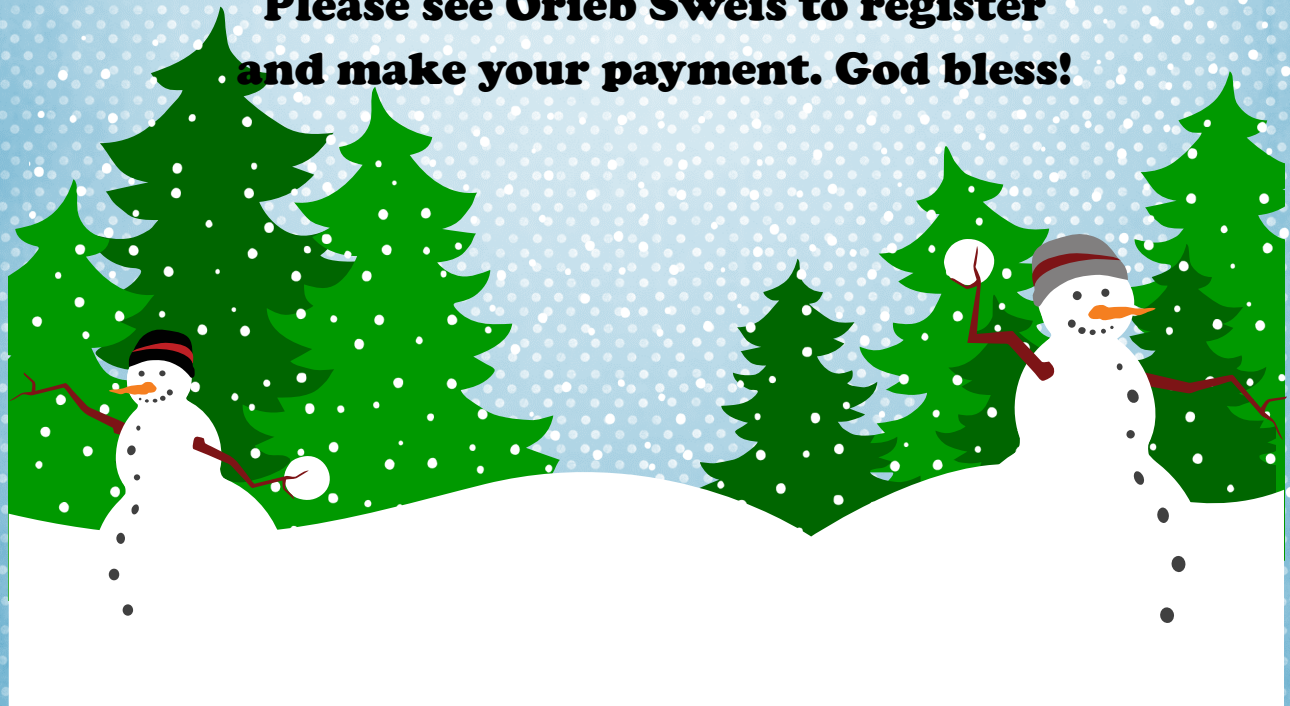
**This annual retreat is an opportunity for you to build upon your Orthodox Christian faith and learn how to apply the teachings of Jesus Christ to your own life.**

**Retreat Master Archdeacon Saed Rihani**

**\$100 per High School Student**

**Cedar Lake Ministries Retreat Center – Indiana**

**Please see Orieb Sweis to register  
and make your payment. God bless!**



# The Fellowship of St. John The Divine's Annual

**Midwest Young  
Adult Retreat  
Dec 5-7, 2014**



**Retreat Speaker:**  
**Archdeacon Saed Rihani**  
St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

**Genacle Retreat and Conference Center**  
**513 Fullerton Parkway**  
**Chicago, IL 60614**

Contact us at [midwestfellowship@gmail.com](mailto:midwestfellowship@gmail.com) for More Info



Make Checks Payable to the Midwest Fellowship

Registration: \$200.00

Mail Check to Amal Michael

4637 Market Ave

North Canton, OH 44714

Registration Includes: All Meals, Lodging and Activities

# 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.

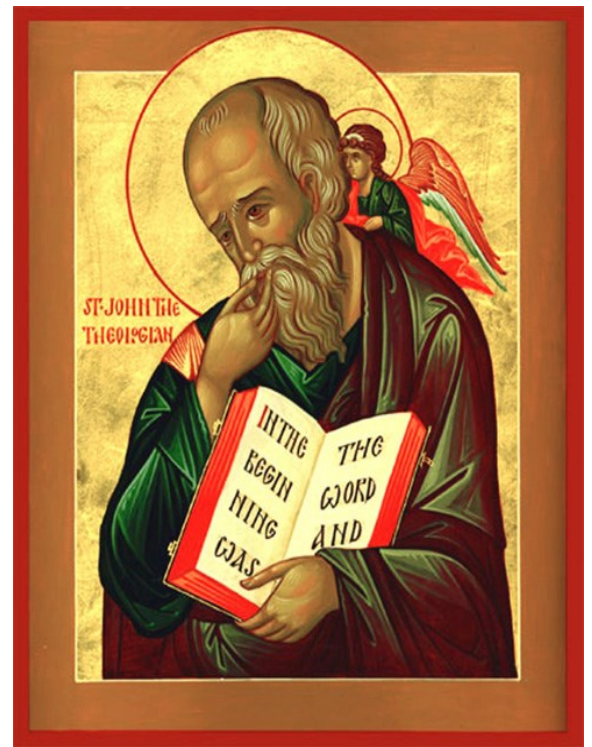
Remembering the words of St. John Chrysostom: "It is a better thing to feed the hungry than to raise the dead."



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

Arabic Bible Study  
Every Wednesday at  
10:00am

# St. Mary's Men's Basketball League

## Open Gym Schedule

Thursdays at 7:00pm

Sundays at 2:00pm

Games will be held every Tuesday night

Ages 16 and up

questions 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!

- 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  
708.257.7579  
Melad Qodsi  
Athletic Director  
708.692.0561  
[athletics@stmaryoc.org](mailto:athletics@stmaryoc.org)



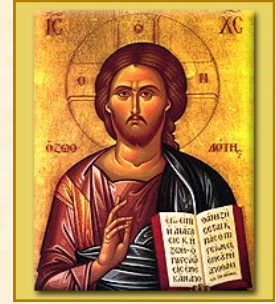
Location:

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





## Weekly Synaxarion



On November 9 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our father among the saints Nektarios of Aegina, Metropolitan of Pentapolis in Egypt, the wonderworker. Nektarios was born in Selvyria of Thrace on October 1, 1846. Because of his brilliance and holiness, Nektarios ascended in the Church of Alexandria from monk to metropolitan of Pentapolis in eastern Libya. His flock loved him. Nektarios' swift ascent aroused the envy of lesser clergy and laity. In 1890, Patriarch Sophronios relieved the innocent Metropolitan Nektarios of his duties and commanded him to leave Egypt. He became a provincial preacher and teacher around Athens. Through his eloquent sermons his untiring labors to educate fitting men for the priesthood, his generous alms and deeds despite his own poverty, and the meekness and fatherly love that were manifest in him, Nektarios became a spiritual guide to many. In 1904, he began the building of Holy Trinity Convent on the island of Aegina. Nektarios spent the rest of his life there, and through his prayers delivered the island from drought, healed the sick, and cast out demons. The saint's relics continue to work miracles since his entry into eternal life on this day in 1920. He was canonized in 1961. In 1998, Patriarch Petros VII and the Holy Synod of Alexandria begged the saint to forgive them and their predecessors. On this day, we also commemorate the Martyrs Onesiphoros and Porphyrios of Ephesus; Venerable Matrona of Constantinople; righteous mother Theoktista of Lesvos; Venerable Simeon the Translator (Metaphrastes); and Venerable Euthymios and Neophytos, founders of Docheiariou monastery on Athos. By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.