



# 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

## January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015

# Sunday after the Theophany of Christ Feast of the Theodosios the Great



## Weekly Schedule of Services

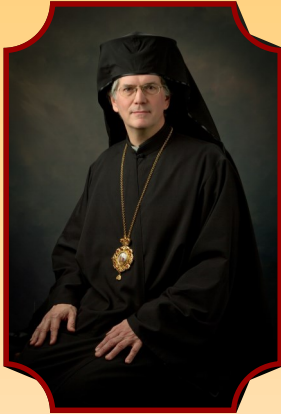
Saturday: 5:00p.m. -- Great Vespers

Sunday: 8:45 a.m. Matins -- 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. Matins -- 10:30 a.m. Bible Study

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.

St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights  
**JOIN US AS WE WELCOME**



His Grace Bishop  
**ANTHONY**

Bishop of Toledo and the Midwest



His Grace Bishop  
**NICHOLAS**

Bishop of Brooklyn

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

Saturday, January 17th, 2015

- ♦ 11:00 a.m. — Metropolitan Joseph meets with the community
- ♦ 4:30 p.m. — Great Vespers
- ♦ 6:00 p.m. — Banquet and Hafleh



Chateau Del Mar



8301 W. 95th St., Hickory Hills

Tickets: \$65 per person, \$40 for 9 years and younger

Sunday, January 18th, 2015

- ♦ 8:45 a.m. — Matins
- ♦ 10:00 a.m. — Hierarchical Divine Liturgy

## Changes in the Liturgy

### First Antiphon

When Israel went forth from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a strange people.

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

The sea looked and fled, Jordan turned back.

*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

I am well pleased for the Lord has heard my voice and my supplication.

*Save us, O Son of God, Who was baptized by John in the Jordan, who sing to Thee, Alleluia!*

The sorrows of death encompassed me; the pains of hell took hold of me. I found trouble and sorrow, and I called upon the Name of the Lord.

*Save us, O Son of God, Who was baptized by John in the Jordan, who sing to Thee, Alleluia!*

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; and our God is Merciful.

*Save us, O Son of God, Who was baptized by John in the Jordan, 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

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. Let the house of Israel now confess that He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. Let the house of Aaron confess that He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. Let them now who fear the Lord confess that He is good; for His mercy endureth forever.

*When Thou, O Lord, was baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest; for the voice of the Father bore witness unto Thee, by calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlighten the world, glory to Thee!*

## **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 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 Theophany (Tone One)**

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest; for the voice of the Father bore witness unto Thee, by calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee!

### **Troparion of St. Theodosios (Tone Eight)**

The barren wilderness thou didst make fertile with the streams of thy tears; and by thy deep sighing thou hast given fruit through thy struggles a hundred-fold. Accordingly, thou hast become a star for the universe, sparkling with miracles. Therefore, O righteous Father Theodosios, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

### **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 Theophany of our Lord (Tone Four)**

Today thou hast appeared to the universe, O Lord, and thy light hath been shed upon us, who praise thee with knowledge, saying: Thou hast come and appeared, O unapproachable Light.

## Epistle For St. Theodosios

*Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.*

*What shall I render to the Lord for all that he has given me?*

**The reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Hebrews (13:7-16).**

Brethren, remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings; for it is well that the heart be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited their adherents. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. Therefore let us go forth to him outside the camp and bear the abuse he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come. Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

## Gospel for the Sunday after the Theophany of Christ

**The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (4:12-17).**

At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulon and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulon and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

# 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*

01/11: Ghaleb and Rita Sweis & Family

01/18: Antiochian Women

01/25: Ziad and Magida Abudayyeh

## Epistle Reading

01/11: Rana Nino & Awan Sweis  
01/18: Faris Samawi & Rassem El Massih

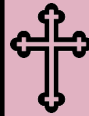
## “Bible Verse of the Week”

Seek good and not evil, That you may live;  
So the Lord God of hosts will be with you,  
As you have spoken. Hate evil, love good;  
Establish justice in the gate. It may be that  
the Lord God of hosts Will be gracious to  
the remnant of Joseph. [Amos 5:14-15](#)

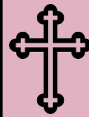
## **Annunciation Bookstore**

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

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



**3rd & 9th Day Memorial**  
**Ramzieh Rabadi**  
**May her memory be eternal!**



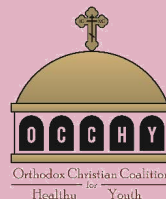
**3rd & 9th Day Memorial**  
**Issa Salman**  
**May his memory be eternal!**



**Churching**  
**Juliana**  
**Parents: Jamil & Sarah Salman**  
**Congratulation!**

**General Assembly Today**  
**Immediately after Liturgy**

The 2015 Holy Bread & Coffee Hour sign-up sheet is available in the Church hall. Please take time to sign up for a Sunday. God bless!



OCCHY BLURB

Did you know, in Illinois, on average, kids start to drink alcohol in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade!

**YOU ARE THEIR FIRST HERO!**

Talk early and often with your kid about **NOT** drinking.

Learn More: [ILCC.Illinois.gov](http://ILCC.Illinois.gov)



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

# SOYO Newly Elected Officers

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of the Teen SOYO who will be sworn in today during Divine Liturgy.

## The Teen SOYO Officers for 2015

Murad Salman - President

Jackie Tadros - Vice President

Simon Tadros - Treasurer

Jenna Riadi - Secretary

Lily Tadros - Public Relations

*Congratulations*

## HOUSE BLESSINGS



Traditionally, at the feast of our Lord's Theophany on January 6th, we bless water which is used to sanctify the homes of all the faithful. In bringing the blessed water to our homes, and sprinkling it in each room, we rid our house of any evil influence, and rededicate it to God in a special way. As we were once renewed by the waters of our own baptism into Christ, so too our home, and our entire lives, are re-dedicated and renewed unto Christ our God each year at this time. Please contact Fr. Mousa at 708-979-3222 or Fr. Malek at 708-516-6417 if you would like your home blessed this year.

# 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:

- January 11 - Poetry & Creative Writing
- January 25 - Photography Mounting *come with developed photos*

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

**Sign Up for the 1st EVER Creative Arts Camp**  
On February 16, 2015 (President's Day) 10AM-3PM

1st through 8th grade students are invited to join us at church for a day focusing on Creative Arts entries.

- Lots of surprises & prizes in store!
- Work on photography, artwork, writing & more!
  - Lunch & Snack PROVIDED!!!!
- Prizes will be given every 30 minutes to attendees!
- All work complete this day will be eligible to win awards in the St. Mary Creative Arts Festival
  - NO REGISTRATION FEES!!!!

Register in Fellowship Hall or with  
Preyma Grace at [CraftieGracie@gmail.com](mailto:CraftieGracie@gmail.com)

**Registration is required and closes Feb. 8th.**

You are invited to view the gallery of our student work

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

All entries must be received by February 15th, 21015 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.

# St. Mary's Fishers of Men Monthly Breakfast



## Saturday

## January 10th, 2015

## 10am

## St. Mary Fellowship Hall

# 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

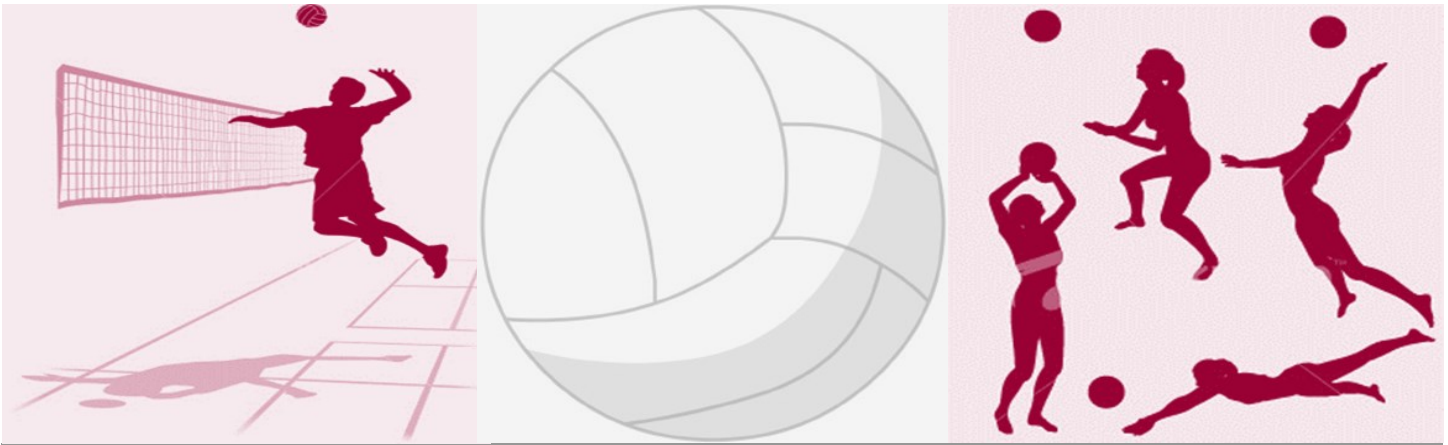
Every Tuesday at  
6:30pm

Arabic Bible Study

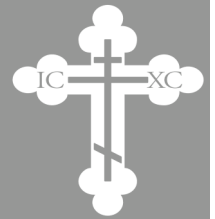
Every Wednesday at  
10:00am

**SAINT MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH**

OF PALOS HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS



# ***St. Mary's Co-Ed Volleyball League***



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 25, 2015\***
- ⇒ **End date is March 15, 2015\***
- ⇒ **Must be 14 years or older**
- ⇒ **\$100.00 per player (Cash or Check)**
- ⇒ **Deadline: January 18, 2015**
- ⇒ **Teams must be Co-ed (Minimum 7 players/team)**
- ⇒ **Games will be Sunday afternoons (Times TBD)**

**\*Schedule is subject to change**

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

Kati Khouri- Volleyball Coordinator

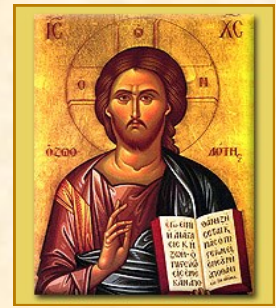
708.257.7579

Melad Qodsi- Athletic Director

708.692.0561



## Weekly Synaxarion



On January 11 in the Holy Orthodox Church we continue to celebrate the Theophany (Epiphany) of our Lord Jesus Christ, and we commemorate our righteous Father Theodosius the Cenobiarch, the instructor of the wilderness. Theodosios the Great lived in Palestine. The founder and organizer of cenobitic (communal) monasticism, as a young man he visited Simeon Stylites, who blessed him and predicted for him great spiritual glory. Once Theodosios founded his monastery, many monks of different nationalities and languages quickly gathered around him. He built churches for each language group, but on a day when they were to receive Communion, all the brethren gathered in the great church. Together with Saint Sabbas, he defended Palestine from the heresy of the Monophysites. God endowed Theodosios with the gifts of wonderworking, to heal the sick, to be present and help from a distance, to tame wild beasts, among other gifts. Theodosios entered peacefully into rest in the Lord in the year 529, at the age of 105. On this day, we also commemorate the Venerable Theodosios of Philotheou monastery on Athos; Venerable Agapios of Apamea in Syria; and Venerable Michael of Klops, fool-for-Christ. By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.