



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
Abdullah Tadros - Vice Chairman
Jason Haddad - Treasurer
Ramiz Sweiss - Financial Secretary
Fabiola Sweis - Secretary
Nidal Al-Farrah
Constantin Kari
Abeer Khouri
Faris Samawi
Bassam Shaheen
Feras Sweis

Parish Ministries

Sunday School - Philip Riske
SOYO - Murad Salman
Fellowship - Rachel Kari
Antiochian Women -
Magida Abudayyeh
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

February 1st, 2015

Sunday of the Pharisee and the Publican Feast of the Presentation of our Lord into the Temple



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 heart hath poured forth a good word; I speak of my works to the king.
My tongue is the pen
of a swiftly writing scribe.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

Grace is poured into thy lips: therefore God hath blessed thee forever.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and
unto ages of ages.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour, save us.

Second Antiphon

Gird Thy sword upon Thy thigh, O mighty One, in Thy comeliness and Thy
beauty. Bend Thy bow, and proceed prosperously, and be king.

*Save us, O Son of God, Who wast carried in the arms of righteous Simeon, who sing to Thee,
Alleluia!*

Thine arrows are sharp, O mighty One, in the heart of the king's enemies;
whereby the peoples fall under Thee.

*Save us, O Son of God, Who wast carried in the arms of righteous Simeon, who sing to Thee,
Alleluia!*

A scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Thy kingdom.

*Save us, O Son of God, Who wast carried in the arms of righteous Simeon, 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

Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own
people, and thy father's house. Even the rich among the people shall entreat thy
countenance. I shall commemorate thy name in every generation.

*Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace; for from thee arose the Sun of justice, Christ our
God, lighting those who are in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous old man, carrying
in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, Who granteth us Resurrection.*

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 Presentation of our Lord into the Temple (Tone One)

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace, for from thee arose
the Sun of justice, Christ our God, lighting those who are in
darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous elder, carrying in
thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, Who granteth us
Resurrection.

Kontakion of the Presentation of Christ (Tone One)

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the
Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and
didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and
confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the
Lover of mankind.

Epistle for the Presentation of Christ into the Temple

*My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior!
For He hath regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden!*

The Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews (7:7-17).

Brethren, it is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. Here tithes are received by mortal men; there, by one of whom it is testified that he lives. One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him. Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron? For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well. For the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek, who has become a priest, not according to a legal requirement concerning bodily descent but by the power of an indestructible life. For it is witnessed of him, "Thou art a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek."

Gospel for the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (18:10-14).

The Lord spoke this parable: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to Heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Megalynarion for the Presentation of the Lord (Tone Three)

*O Theotokos, thou hope of all Christians; keep and shelter and preserve them that set their
hope in thee.*

Let us magnify, O believers, the first-born Son, the eternal Word of the Father, first-born of a Mother who knew no man; for we have beheld in the shadow of the law and the Scriptures a sign, that every first-born male that openeth the womb is called holy to God.

Koinonikon (Communion Hymn)

I will receive the cup of salvation, and call upon the Name of the Lord. 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

02/01: Issa and Shahla Sweis & Family

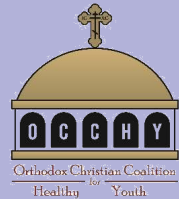
02/08: Emad and Issam Haddad & Family

02/15: Mazen Ammari & Family

Epistle Reading

02/01: Lana Sweis & Nour Swaiss

02/08: Elaine Riadi & Faris Samawi



OCCHY QUIZ

National Drug Facts Week
Jan. 31-Feb. 1, 2015



Vaping 3 milliliters (ml) of e-cigarette liquid at a high voltage can generate how many milligrams (mg) of "hidden" formaldehyde?

- A. 0.1 mg
- B. 14 mg
- C. 5 mg
- D. 9 mg



Answer: B. Researchers estimate a tobacco smoker would get 0.15 mg of formaldehyde per cigarette or 3 mg in a 20-pack. Vaping 3 ml of e-cigarette liquid at a high voltage generates **more than 4 times** the amount of formaldehyde as an entire pack of cigarettes. According to the American Cancer Society, exposure to formaldehyde has been shown to cause cancer in laboratory animals and has also been linked to some cancers in humans.

Sources: <http://www.aje.org/doi/pdf/10.1093/AJEP/141/3069>
<http://www.nbcnews.com/health/cancer/you-vape-high-levels-formaldehyde-hidden-e-cigs-n290826>

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

Removal of Crowns
Khalil and Samar Haddad
Congratulation!



Baptism

Jacob

Parents: Steve & Hana Haddad

Congratulation!

Antiochian Women Tea Party

Friday, January 30th at 6:00pm

Bring a friend and join the Antiochian

Women for Coffee, Tea, and Sweets

Ladies Only

Leave your man at home :)



Chili Sale



Sunday

February 1st, 2015

Sponsored by our Antiochian Women

"Bible Verse of the Week"

God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." **John 4:24**

KIDNEY DONOR NEEDED

- Someone in the St. Mary community is in great need of a kidney.
- They have been on the donor list for a year, and the estimated wait time is 5-7 years.
- Both kidneys are functioning at 13%. If they drop to 10% they will need to begin dialysis.
- They have a blood type of O positive.
- If you find it in your heart to donate, please contact Fr. Mousa.



Annunciation Bookstore

Open every Sunday after Liturgy
Monday - Friday from 11:00am 2:00pm
Please email Nader Haddad at naderemile3@yahoo.com
with any requests.

St. Mary Orthodox Church

Super Bowl Party

Brought to you by the Fellowship of St. John the Divine



Sunday, February 1st 2015

5:00pm | St. Mary Nadi

Everyone ages 19 and older are invited to join us as we watch the Super Bowl and enjoy fellowship over a potluck dinner in the Nadi!

Fellowship of St. John the Divine (FSJD) is an organization for adults ages 19 and older. We focus on serving and bringing the community together through spiritual, humanitarian, and social events. Approach an officer today to learn more!

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



Newly Elected Officers

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of Fellowship of St. John the Divine who will be installed today during the Divine Liturgy.

2015 Fellowship Officers

President- Fabiola Sweis

Vice president- Reem Sweis

Treasurer- Chuck Samawi

Secretary- Rachel Kari

Public relations- Marram Salman

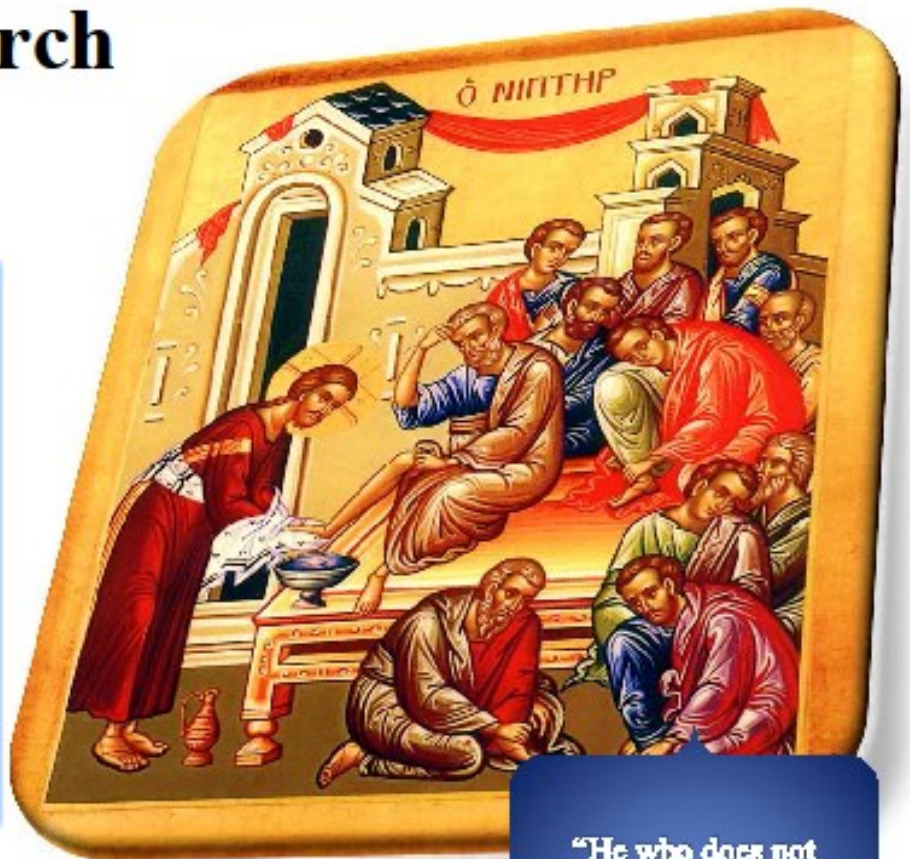
Congratulations

1st Annual NAC Teen SOYO Day of Service

**Saturday, March
21st 2015**

In reverence to the fundamental virtue of love, NAC Teen SOYO charges its chapters across the country to dedicate a common day to the service of their local communities.

Work with your local SOYO to organize an event on this date that will enable you to show Christ-like charity to your neighbors.



**“He who does not love does not know God, for God is love”
(1 Jn 4:8).**

- Capture and post pictures of your day
- Tag @NACSOYO in your posts on Twitter and Instagram and use the hashtag #SDS2015
- Include your parish's name in one of your posts to enter your chapter in a contest for a beautiful icon

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!!!!

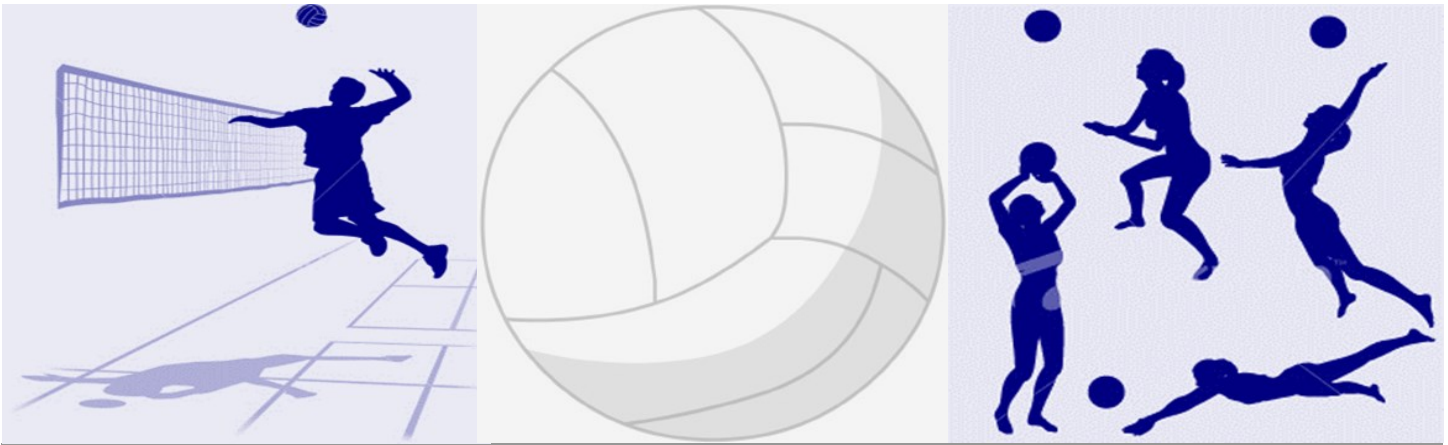
Register in Fellowship Hall or with
Preyma Grace at CraftieGracie@gmail.com

Registration is required and closes Feb. 8th.

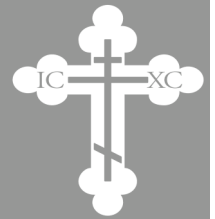
You are invited to view the gallery of our student work

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 Co-Ed Volleyball League



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 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. 127th St, Palos Heights, IL, 60463

Kati Khouri- Volleyball Coordinator

708.257.7579

Melad Qodsi- Athletic Director

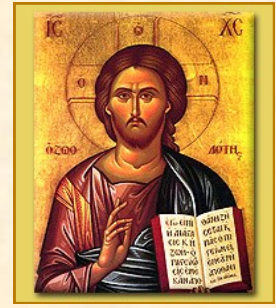
708.692.0561

Upcoming Events

Fri Jan 30	6:00pm	Antiochian Women Tea Party
Sat Jan 31	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:00pm	Youth Sports League
Sun Feb 1	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Sunday School
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy for the Presentation of our Lord
	10:00am	Sunday School
	12:30pm	Antiochian Women Chili Sale
	2:00pm	Open Gym - Volleyball
	3:00pm	Fellowship Officers Meeting
	5:00pm	Super Bowl Party (Potluck)
Wed Feb 4	5:00pm	SOYO Officers to Meeting
	6:00pm	SOYO Night (every Wednesday in the Nadi)
Sat Feb 7	10:00am	Fishers of Men Monthly Breakfast
	11:00am	Arabic School
	1:00pm	Youth Sports League
	5:00pm	Great Vespers
Sun Feb 8	8:45am	Matins
	10:00am	Sunday School
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy - Sunday of the Prodigal Son
	2:00pm	Open Gym - Volleyball



Weekly Synaxarion



On this day in the Holy Orthodox Church, we celebrate the Meeting (Presentation) of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ in the Temple, wherein the righteous Simeon received Him into his arms. This feast, which closes the cycle of the Nativity of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ, reminds us that on the fortieth day after the birth of her first-born Son, Mary carried Him to the Temple in accordance with the Mosaic Law to offer Him to the Lord, and to ransom Him by the sacrifice of a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons (Luke 2:22-37). This is Jesus' first official encounter and manifestation with His people in the person of Simeon. On this day, we make remembrance of the Parable of the Pharisee and the Publican, which occurs in the Holy Gospel according to Luke the Evangelist. In our Savior's parable, Jesus uses a Pharisee, a leader of the synagogue, who was regarded in public opinion as virtuous; and a publican, a tax collector, who was regarded as oppressive, greedy and a sinner. In their prayers to God, we discover the real hearts of these two men. We thus learn of the harm that comes from pride and the good that comes from humility. The divine Church Fathers sought to alert prepare the Christ-loving clergy and laity for the upcoming period of the Great Fast. Therefore, on this Sunday we are reminded that humility is the greatest weapon against pride, as we imitate the humility of the publican to ascend to the divine heights. Through the intercessions of the wonderworking Saints, O Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.