



# 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

V. Rev. Fr. Mousa Haddad, Pastor  
V. 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-Farah  
Constantin Kari  
Abeer Khouri  
Faris Samawi  
Bassam Shaheen  
Feras Sweis

#### Parish Ministries

Sunday School - Philip Riske  
SOYO - Murad Salman  
Fellowship - Fabiola Sweis  
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

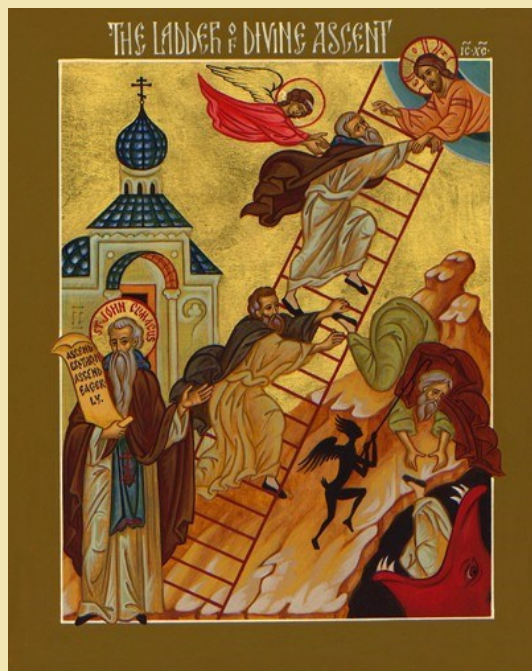
May Sweis  
administrator@stmaryoc.org

#### Church Hall Rental

Call the church office or email our  
Office Administrator

## March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

### Fourth Sunday of Great Lent St. John of the Ladder



### 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.

# His Eminence Metropolitan PHILIP

## Archbishop of New York

### Metropolitan of All North America

1931-2014



Today we will have the One Year Memorial service for our Father in Christ, **METROPOLITAN PHILIP**, Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America. May the Lord give rest to the soul of his servant, Sayidna PHILIP, and grant peace and comfort to all Antiochian Orthodox Christians. May his memory be eternal with all the saints!

## Biography of Metropolitan PHILIP

Metropolitan Philip was born on June 10, 1931, in Abou Mizan, Lebanon, the fourth of five children to Elias and Saleema Saliba. After completing his primary education at the Shouier Elementary School, he entered the Balamand Orthodox Seminary, near Tripoli, Lebanon, at the age of fourteen. He subsequently attended and was graduated from the Orthodox Secondary School in Homs, Syria, and the Assiyeh Orthodox College in Damascus, Syria.

Ordained to the holy diaconate in 1949, he was assigned to serve as secretary to His Beatitude, Alexander III (Tahan), the Patriarch of Antioch and all the East. In 1952, he was appointed lecturer in Arabic language and literature and student advisor at the Balamand Orthodox Seminary.

While a deacon, Metropolitan Philip was awarded a scholarship and invitation to undertake studies in Great Britain at the Kelham Theological School and the University of London. In 1956, he arrived in the United States and enrolled at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, Massachusetts. Assigned to a position at St. George Church in Detroit, Michigan, he entered Wayne State University from which he was graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1959.

On March 1, 1959, he was ordained to the holy priesthood by Metropolitan Antony (Bashir) and assigned to the pastorate at Saint George Church in Cleveland, Ohio. While serving in this capacity, he carried to completion the building of an educational and cultural center for the parish. He also served in many religious and civic posts while in Cleveland, among them the Eastern Orthodox Welfare Council, the Television and Radio Commission of the Cleveland Area Church Federation, and the Mayor's Civic Committee. He undertook graduate theological studies at Saint Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in Crestwood, New York, and was graduated from that institution with a Master of Divinity degree in 1965.

In March of 1966, the Antiochian Archdiocese, meeting in special convention, nominated Philip Saliba to succeed the late Metropolitan Antony (Bashir) as Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America. In July of that year, the Patriarchal Vicar for the widowed See of New York, Metropolitan Ilyas(Kurban), Archbishop of Tripoli, Lebanon, elevated Philip Saliba to the dignity of Archimandrite. He was elected for the See of New York by the Holy Synod of the Antiochian Patriarchate on August 5, 1966, and on August 14 was consecrated to the episcopacy by Patriarch Theodosios VI (Abourjaily) at the Monastery of the Prophet Elias in Dhour Shouier, Lebanon. Metropolitan Philip was enthroned at his Cathedral of Saint Nicholas in Brooklyn, New York, on October 13, 1966.

On June 24, 1975, Metropolitan Philip and Archbishop Michael (Shaheen) of Toledo, Ohio, accomplished the administrative and jurisdictional unity of the Antiochian Orthodox faithful in North America. This unity was ratified by the Holy Synod of the Patriarchate on August 19, 1975. The canonical praxis, issued by Patriarch Elias IV (Mou'awad), named Metropolitan Philip as Primate of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America.

Metropolitan Philip has a keen interest in Middle Eastern affairs and is recognized as an expert in this field. As a student at Wayne State University, he served as President of the Arab Student Federation and in Cleveland, he was a member of the Committee on American Policy in the Near East. He has met with United States Presidents, Eisenhower, Johnson, Ford, Carter and Reagan, as well as with Pope Paul VI and Pope John Paul, II and many other world leaders on behalf of a just and durable peace in the Middle East. At present, he serves as chairman of the Standing Conference of American-Middle Eastern Christian and Moslem Leaders which represents the two million Americans of Arabic heritage.

In 1968, he established a \$100,000 Trust Fund to provide scholarships to Arab refugees studying in the fields of science, medicine, economics and technology. In 1977, he established a \$500,000 endowment fund for the support of the Orthodox Theological Academy of St. John of Damascus at Balamand Lebanon, the sole remaining Orthodox Seminary in the Middle East.

Since the Israeli-Arab conflict of 1967, Metropolitan Philip has inaugurated a number of fund-raising campaigns to provide food, shelter and medical assistance to Arab refugees and victims of war. Under his leadership, the Archdiocese has also undertaken numerous charitable campaigns to aid victims of disasters in the United States and throughout the world.

For his many charitable deeds and renowned humanitarian concern, Metropolitan Philip has been commended and decorated by many governments. Some of these awards include the Commander's Badge of the Lebanese Order of the Cedars and the First Class of the Order of Civil Merit of the Syrian Arab Republic. Awards presented to him by ecclesiastical authorities include the Order of the Bush Unburned from the Archbishopric of Mount Sinai, the Cross of Lebanon from the Archdiocese of Mount Lebanon and the Order of Saint Mark from the Patriarchate of Alexandria and all of Africa.

In 1981, the Trustees and faculty of Saint Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary awarded Metropolitan Philip the degree of Doctor of Divinity, honoris causa.

On May 5, 1986, the Metropolitan's Alma Mater, Wayne State University of Detroit, Michigan, awarded him an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters. On May 20, 1995, The Holy Cross School of Theology bestowed upon Metropolitan Philip, the Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree in recognition of his sterling leadership provided to the Antiochian Archdiocese and Orthodoxy at large. On May 26th, 2007, he was awarded the Doctor of Divinity "honoris causa" by St. Tikhon's Orthodox Seminary in South Canaan, Pennsylvania. In conjunction with the 100th Anniversary of the Statue of Liberty in 1986, he was one of the few Americans chosen to receive the cherished "Liberty Award" which was presented to him by Mayor Koch of New York City on July 1st. On May 21, 1994, His Eminence received the Ellis Island Medal of Honor. On September 27, 2007, His Eminence was awarded the Lebanese Order of Merit by President Emile Lahoud of Lebanon.

His Eminence is the author of *The Eucharist in the Primitive Church*, *Feed My Sheep, He Leads Them*, and a number of poems and meditations, and is the co-author of *Out of the Depths Have I Cried*. He has also written many articles and monographs in the fields of theology and Middle Eastern affairs. Fluent in English and Arabic, and having a knowledge of French and Greek, His Eminence has translated many literary works into Arabic.

In February 1987, some two thousand (2,000) Evangelical Christians embraced the canonical Orthodox Church and the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America. This was made possible through the leadership of the Evangelical churches and His Eminence, Metropolitan Philip. They bring with them their strong desire to bring Orthodoxy to America.

In 2003, a truly historic event occurred under the leadership of Metropolitan Philip. The Archdiocese of North America requested, and was granted by the Holy Synod of Antioch the status of a self-ruling archdiocese. In conjunction with this event, the archdiocese established a diocesan structure, and elected three new Diocesan Bishops who were consecrated by His Beatitude Ignatius IV in the Patriarchal Cathedral in Damascus, Syria.

Metropolitan Philip serves as First Vice Chairman of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of North and Central America, Vice President and Vice Chairman of Saint Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary Board of Trustees, and Chairman of the Orthodox Christian Education Commission.

**MAY HIS MEMORY BE ETERNAL WITH  
ALL THE SAINTS!**

## **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 Eight)**

From the heights, thou didst descend, O compassionate one, and thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that thou might deliver us from passion, thou art our life and our resurrection, O Lord, glory to thee.

### **Troparion of St. John of the Ladder (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 John, 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 Theotokos for the Sundays of Lent (Tone Eight)**

To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror; but as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free: from all forms of danger free me and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: "Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom."

## Epistle of the Fourth Sunday of Lent

*The Lord will give strength to his people!*

*The Lord will bless His people with peace!*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (6:13-20)**

Brethren, when God made a promise to Abraham, since He had no one greater by whom to swear, He swore by Himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by one greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of His purpose, He interposed with an oath. So that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

## Gospel of the Fourth Sunday of Lent

### **The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (9:16-30).**

At that time, a man came to Jesus, kneeling down and saying unto him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out and they were not able." And Jesus answered him, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him, and when the spirit saw Jesus, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when Jesus had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And Jesus said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went out from there and passed through Galilee. And Jesus would not have any one know it; for He was teaching His Disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him; and after He is killed, He will rise on the third day."

### **Megalynarion for the Theotokos from the Liturgy of St. Basil (Tone Eight)**

In thee all creation rejoices, O Full of Grace; the assembly of angels and the race of men; O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise; the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a child; our God before the ages, He made thy womb a throne, and thy body He made more spacious than the heavens. In thee all creation rejoices, O Full of Grace, glory to thee.

## **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



# **Lenten Luncheon**

## **Immediately After Liturgy**

Join us and help support your Antiochian Women by enjoying a Lenten Lunch!

# 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*

03/22: Ghaleb and Rita Sweis & Family

03/29: Elia and Lily Sweiss & Family

04/05: Philip and Grace Riske & Family

## Epistle Reading

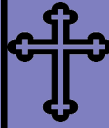
03/22: Rima Sleiman & Salena Ibrahim

03/29: Lily Sweis & Futien Johnson

## “Bible Verse of the Week”

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

Psalm 23:1-3



## Memory Eternal

Fouad Ghattas



## Holy Week Ushers Meeting

Sunday, March 22nd

Immediately following the Liturgy today, there will be a short meeting to discuss the ushering and processions for **Palm Sunday, Holy Friday, and Pascha.** We would appreciate any volunteers who can help. We will assign positions and responsibilities.

Thank you for your commitment!



## OCCHY TEEN ACTIVITY EARNS COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

OCCHY joins Ted Penesis, Education Manager of the Illinois Liquor Control Commission, in ILCC's annual 'Your Actions Matter/Sticker Shock' campaign.



Get a group (groups) of 4-6 teens and an adult, over 21, to visit liquor stores and other alcohol selling establishments, for a few hours, any day in APRIL. Three (3) community volunteer credit hours are awarded for this activity.

You will be asking business owners to allow you to apply & display bottle tags & window posters supporting prevention of underage drinking and reminding adults not to provide alcohol to minors. <http://www.youractionsmatter.org>

Contact: 708-298-9770 or [gordana@healthyouth.com](mailto:gordana@healthyouth.com) for a packet of materials and instructions.



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

## خدمات الصيام والاسبوع العظيم 2015 Lent & Holy Week Services

شباط 23 February	Monday: Great Compline الإثنين: صلاة النوم الكبرى	مساء 7:00pm
شباط 25 February	Wednesday: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy الأربعاء: القداس السابق تقديسه	مساء 7:00pm
شباط 27 February	Friday: Akathist w/ Potluck Dinner الجمعة: خدمة مديح والدة الإله	مساء 7:00pm
آذار 2 March	Monday: Great Compline الإثنين: صلاة النوم الكبرى	مساء 7:00pm
آذار 4 March	Wednesday: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy الأربعاء: القداس السابق تقديسه	مساء 7:00pm
آذار 6 March	Friday: Akathist w/ Potluck Dinner الجمعة: خدمة مديح والدة الإله	مساء 7:00pm
آذار 9 March	Monday: Great Compline الإثنين: صلاة النوم الكبرى	مساء 7:00pm
آذار 11 March	Wednesday: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy الأربعاء: القداس السابق تقديسه	مساء 7:00pm
آذار 13 March	Friday: Akathist w/ Potluck Dinner الجمعة: خدمة مديح والدة الإله	مساء 7:00pm
آذار 16 March	Monday: Great Compline الإثنين: صلاة النوم الكبرى	مساء 7:00pm
آذار 18 March	Wednesday: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy الأربعاء: القداس السابق تقديسه	مساء 7:00pm
آذار 20 March	Friday: Akathist w/ Potluck Dinner الجمعة: خدمة مديح والدة الإله	مساء 7:00pm
آذار 23 March	Monday: Great Compline الإثنين: صلاة النوم الكبرى	مساء 7:00pm
آذار 25 March	Wednesday: Annunciation Liturgy الأربعاء: خدمة القداس لعيد البشارة	مساء 7:00pm
آذار 27 March	Friday: Akathist w/ Potluck Dinner الجمعة: خدمة مديح والدة الإله	مساء 7:00pm
آذار 30 March	Monday: Great Compline الإثنين: صلاة النوم الكبرى	مساء 7:00pm
نيسان 1 April	Wednesday: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy الأربعاء: القداس السابق تقديسه	مساء 7:00pm
نيسان 3 April	Friday: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy الجمعة: القداس السابق تقديسه	مساء 7:00pm
نيسان 4 April	Saturday: Lazarus Saturday Liturgy السبت: القداس لسبت اليعازر	صباحا 10:00am

## خدمات الصيام والاسبوع العظيم 2015 Lent & Holy Week Services

نيسان 5 April	الأحد: خدمة القديس لعيد الشعانين Sunday: Palm Sunday Liturgy الأحد: الختن الأولى Sunday: 1st Bridegroom Service	صباحا 10:00am مساء 7:00pm
نيسان 6 April	الاثنين: الختن الثانية Monday: 2nd Bridegroom Service	مساء 7:00pm
نيسان 7 April	الثلاثاء: الختن الثالثة Tuesday: 3rd Bridegroom Service	مساء 7:00pm
نيسان 8 April	الأربعاء: صلاة الزيت المقدس Wednesday: Holy Unction Service	مساء 7:00pm
نيسان 9 April	الخميس: قداس باسيليوس العظيم Thursday: Divine Liturgy of St. Basil الخميس: خدمة ١٢ انجيل والصلب Thursday: 12 Passion Gospels	صباحا 10:00am مساء 7:00pm
نيسان 10 April	الجمعة: خدمة الساعات Friday: Royal Hours الجمعة: خدمة انزال المصلوب Friday: Taking Down From the Cross الجمعة: جناز المسيح Friday: Lamentations (سهرانية العيد (GOOD FRIDAY All-Night VIGIL to follow	صباحا 10:00am مساء 3:00pm مساء 7:00pm
نيسان 11 April	السبت: قداس سبت النور Saturday: Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil السبت: سحرية العيد، الهجمة وقداس القيامة Saturday: Rush Procession & Matins followed by Paschal Liturgy	صباحا 10:00am مساء 10:00pm
نيسان 12 April	الأحد: صلاة الباعوث Sunday: AGAPE VESPERS	ظهرا 1:00pm



## St. Mary's Fishers of Men Monthly Breakfast

April 4th, 2015

Liturgy at 10:00am for Lazarus Saturday

Followed by Lenten Lunch

*Topic:*

*“The meaning and importance of Holy Week Services”*

# Kaek and Mamoul Sale

## Order Sheet



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

### Full Sheet - \$40

صينية حجم كبير - \$40

\_\_\_\_\_ Walnut Mamoul

\_\_\_\_\_ معمول بالجوز

\_\_\_\_\_ Pistachio Mamoul

\_\_\_\_\_ معمول بالفستق الحلبي

\_\_\_\_\_ Kaek

\_\_\_\_\_ كعك

\_\_\_\_\_ Mix

\_\_\_\_\_ مختلطة

### Half Sheet - \$25

صينية حجم متوسط - \$25

\_\_\_\_\_ Walnut Mamoul

\_\_\_\_\_ معمول بالجوز

\_\_\_\_\_ Pistachio Mamoul

\_\_\_\_\_ معمول بالفستق الحلبي

\_\_\_\_\_ Kaek

\_\_\_\_\_ كعك

\_\_\_\_\_ Mix

\_\_\_\_\_ مختلطة

Please, write down the number of sheets you would like next to the type of Kaek or Mamoul you want to order. Last day to place your order is March 23, 2015. If you have any questions please call, Rita at 1-773-510-4303 or Saeda at 1-708-307-9906.

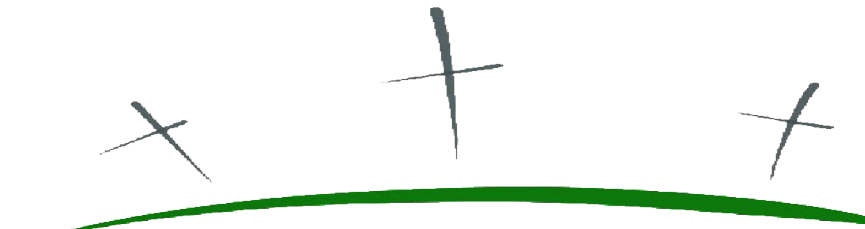
# Registration Open NOW for Youth Good Friday Retreat Friday, April 10th \* 10AM-4PM

Take a day away from earthly cares and join us!

Open to all youth in 1st through 8th Grades\*

(there will be 2 separate groups with age appropriate activities)

Traditional Ukrainian Egg Decorating, Easter Egg Hunt, Crafts, Bible Study, Games, Lunch & Snacks Provided



Registration Requests at [SundaySchool@StMaryOC.org](mailto:SundaySchool@StMaryOC.org)

# cherub choir

Starting Saturday, April 25th

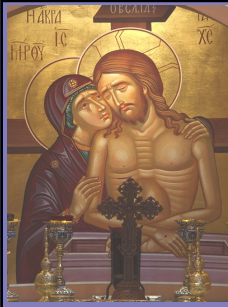
**Saturdays 4PM-6PM for 1st through 8th Grades**

Learn the basics of music, church music & sing/chant Vespers.

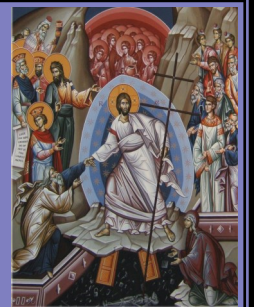
You don't need to know how to read music, WE WILL TEACH YOU!!!

Questions or Concerns? See Preyma Grace or Angela





Chicago-area Antiochian Churches present  
**2015 Lenten Lecture Series**  
*Uniting our faithful; and together sharing in the  
 Passion of our Lord, and celebrating  
 His Glorious Resurrection*



All lectures will begin promptly at 7:00pm and will last for 45 minutes, followed by a 15 minute Q&A.  
 Fellowship and light refreshments will follow.

Please join us for these discussions and let's travel together on a meaningful journey through this Holy Season of Lent

Date / Time	Presenter	Topic	Name and Location of Host Parish
Thursday, February 26th	Rev. Fr. Sharbel Bcheiry, Ph.D. St. Afrem Syriac Orthodox Church  <i>(Lecture in Arabic with English summary)</i>	"The Mystical Experience and Enlightenment of Gregory Bar Hebraeus: A Syriac Father from the 13th Century"	Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church 950 N Grace St., Lombard, IL 60148
Thursday, March 12th	V. Rev. Fr. Malek Rihani, M.Th., C.M.F.T. St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church  <i>(Lecture in English)</i>	"Using Finances in our Pursuit of Holiness"	St. John Syriac Orthodox Church 250 S. Villa Ave. Villa Park, IL 60181
Thursday, March 26th	Rev. Dn. William Nijm, Ph.D., M.D. St. John the Baptist Melkite Church  <i>(Lecture in English)</i>	"Pain, Suffering, and Heaven"	St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church 1220 S. 60th Ct. Cicero, IL 60804

*"For what good is it if we abstain from birds and fishes, but bite and devour our brothers and sisters?" St. John Chrysostom*



# 2015 SPRING DELEGATES' MEETING

Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest

*His Grace Bishop Anthony Presiding*



**March 27-29**



**GOT SOCKS?**  
Bring a pair of socks for our sock drive to benefit the Fratnrite Notre Dame in Chicago!

**Hosted by St. George Cicero, IL**

*Fellowship of St. John the Divine, Teen SOYO,  
Antiochian Orthodox Women of North America*

Go to <http://dotamregistration.wordpress.com> to register.



**Chicago Marriott Oak Brook**

**Room rate: \$102/night; Make reservations by March 13 by calling 630-573-8555.**

**Registration: \$40 (includes meals/activities) + one pair of socks.**

**All events held at St. George Cicero.**

# CHICAGO'S PAN-ORTHODOX AKATHIST HYMN

SPONSORED BY  
THE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CLERGY ASSOCIATION



**TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2015  
7:00 P.M.**

## NORTH:

Holy Protection of the Mother of God  
Serbian Orthodox Monastery  
“New Gracanica”  
35240 W. Grant Avenue, Lake Villa, IL  
(Route 45, 1 mile south of Route 132)

Homilist: Fr. George Lamberis

## SOUTH:

St. Luke Orthodox Church (OCA)  
10700 S Kean Avenue  
Palos Hills, Illinois

Homilist: Fr. Nikolaj Kostur

# Midwest Parish Life Conference 2015

Host: St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church

June 24-28 Amway Grand Plaza: \$118/night

Buy a ticket book by April 1st for a chance to win a Free Night Stay  
[www.midwestplc2015.com](http://www.midwestplc2015.com)



## Grand Rapids, PURE MICHIGAN®

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BIBLE BOWL

CELEBRATION ON THE GRAND

GAME SHOW

TEEN ORATORICAL

SERVICE PROJECT

REUNION ON THE GRAND

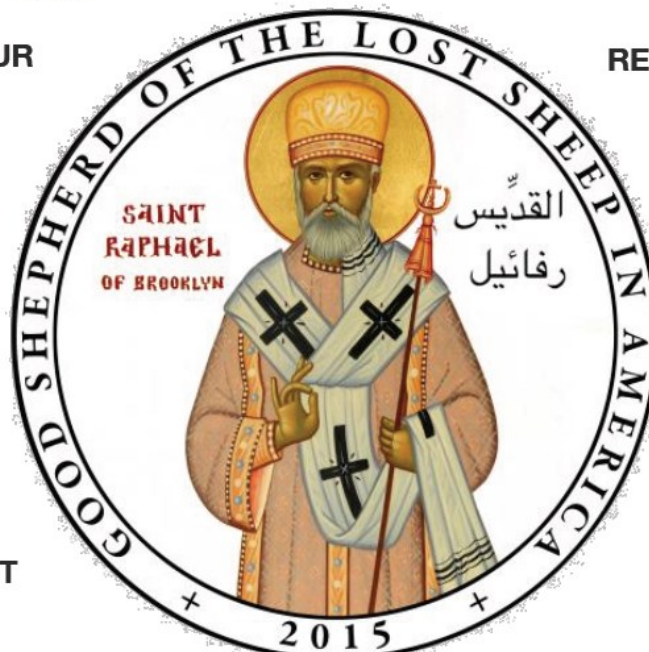
GOLF OUTING

PARISH SPORTS COMPETITION

URBAN MARKET

PICNIC AT THE ZOO

LITURGICAL SERVICES



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



# IOCC ANNUAL PAN-ORTHODOX GRAND BANQUET AND SILENT AUCTION

Thursday, April 30, 2015

6:00pm Cocktails • 7:00pm Dinner

CAFÉ LA CAVE

2777 Mannheim Road • Des Plaines, IL 60018

*Join us for a special IOCC presentation!*

Tickets are \$125 per person  
Please RSVP by April 17, 2015  
Net proceeds from this event will benefit  
IOCC's humanitarian relief work



# IOCC

**Registration online at [ioccc.org/chicago](http://ioccc.org/chicago)**



# Something for Everyone!

St. Mary, Cambridge MA invites you  
to join us for the

## *Boston* 52<sup>ND</sup> ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE CONVENTION

2015

July 20-26  
Sheraton Boston Hotel

Kids Club/Tween Club

Bible Bowl

Oratorical Festival

Enliven to Christ

Daily Bible Study

Department Meetings

An Enchanting Evening over Boston

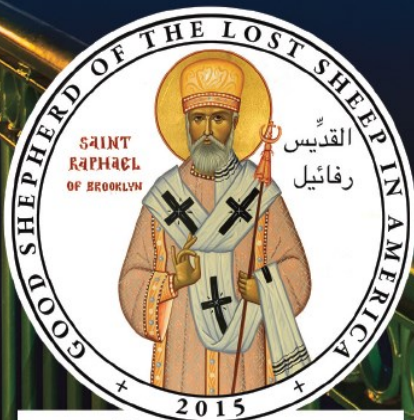
A Night to Celebrate our Archdiocese

Cabaret & Hufi

Grand Banquet

Teen Banquet/Pool Party

21/40 Event

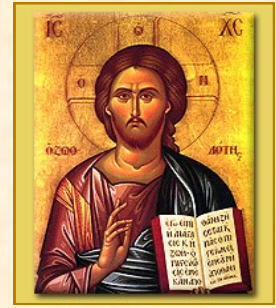


100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY of the  
FALLING ASLEEP of SAINT RAPHAEL

Go to [www.acboston2015.com](http://www.acboston2015.com) for more information and to register



## Weekly Synaxarion



On March 22 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Hieromartyr Basil of Ancyra; Martyr Kallinika of Rome; and Venerable-martyr Euthymios of Prodromou Skete on Athos. On this same day, the Fourth Sunday of Great Lent, we make remembrance of our godly father, John, the author of *The Ladder of Divine Ascent* (or *Climacus*). The celebration of his feast on this day arose from the custom prevalent in the honorable monasteries of starting Great Lent with the reading of his lessons. John describes the method of elevating the soul to God as ascending a ladder. He teaches those who seek salvation how to lay a firm foundation for struggles, how to detect and fight every passion, how to avoid demonic snares, and how to rise from the rudimentary virtues to the heights of Godlike love and humility. John of the Ladder came to Mount Sinai at age 16 and remained there, first as a novice under obedience, then as a recluse, and finally as abbot until his eightieth year. One time, his disciple, Moses, fell asleep under the shade of a large stone. John, in prayer in his cell, saw that his disciple was in danger and prayed to God for him. Later, when Moses returned, he fell on his knees and gave thanks to his spiritual father for saving him from certain death. He related how, in a dream, he heard John calling him and he jumped up and, at that moment, the stone tumbled. Had he not jumped, the stone would have crushed him. John Climacus died on March 30, 606. Through his intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.