



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

April 26th, 2015

*Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women and
Saints Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus*



Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

*Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!*

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

Shout with joy to God, all the earth. Sing to His name; give glory to His praises.

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

Say to God: How awesome are Thy works; let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee. Let it sing a song to Thy Name, O Most High.

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. Amen.

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

Second Antiphon

May God have mercy upon us, and bless us, and may He cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy on us.

Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, who sing to thee, Alleluia!

That thy way may be known upon earth, thy salvation among all nations. Let the peoples give thanks to Thee, O God; let all the peoples give thanks to Thee.

Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, who sing to thee, Alleluia!

May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear Him.

Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, 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. Amen.

O only-begotten Son, etc.

Third Antiphon

Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered, and let those who hate Him flee from his face.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

As smoke vanishes, let them vanish; as wax melteth before the fire.

Christ is risen, etc.

So let sinners perish at the presence of God, and let the righteous be glad.

Christ is risen, etc.

This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad therein.

Christ is risen, etc.

Entrance Hymn (Tone Two)

In the gathering places, bless ye God the Lord from the springs of Israel. Save us O Son of God, Who art Risen from the dead, who sing unto thee: Alleluia!

Paschal Troparion (Tone Five)

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life! (3x)

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone Two)

When thou didst submit thyself unto death, O thou deathless and immortal one, then thou didst destroy Hell with thy Godly power, and when thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of heaven did cry aloud unto thee, O Christ, thou giver of life, glory to thee.

Troparion of St. Joseph (Tone Two)

The pious Joseph, having brought down thy pure body from the Tree, wrapped it in fine linen, embalmed it with ointment, provided for it, and laid it in a new tomb. But thou didst verily rise, after three days, O Lord, granting the world the Great Mercy.

Troparion of Myrrh-Bearing Women (Tone Two)

Verily, the angel came to the tomb and said to the ointment-bearing women, the ointment is meet for the dead, but Christ is shown to be remote from corruption. But cry ye, the Lord is risen, granting the world the Great Mercy.

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 Pascha (Tone Eight)

Though thou, O deathless One, didst descend into the grave, thou didst destroy the power of hell and, as Victor, thou didst rise again, O Christ our God. Thou didst greet the ointment-bearing women, saying, Rejoice! Thou didst bestow peace upon Thy Disciples, and resurrection upon those that are fallen.

Epistle for the Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women

The Lord is my strength and my song!

The Lord has chastened me sorely!

The Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles (6:1-7).

In those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the apostles and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochoros, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaos, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid hands upon them. And the word of the God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Gospel for the Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (15:43-16:8).

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether Jesus was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid. When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back—it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid.

Megalynarion (Tone One)

The angel spake to her that is full of grace, saying, O pure Virgin, rejoice. And I say also, Rejoice. For thy son is risen from the tomb on the third day. Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem; for the glory of the Lord hath risen upon thee. Rejoice and exult now, O Zion, and thou, O pure one; Theotokos, rejoice at the Resurrection of thy Son.

Koinonikon (Communion Hymn)

Receive ye the Body of Christ, and taste ye Him who is the Fountain of Immortality. Alleluia!

Instead of “We have seen the true light”, we sing “Christ is Risen” (Once)

St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights

“Preparing Ourselves to Address Atheism”

Bible Study followed by lunch provided in the Nadi

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

Sunday, April 26th 2015

12:30 p.m. (after Liturgy) in the Nadi at St. Mary

Ages 19 and older

Contact any Fellowship officer with questions.

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



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

04/26: Romel and Nabeela Sweis & Family

05/03: Kamal and Nawal Sweis & Family

05/10: Bishara Sweis & Family

Epistle Reading

04/26: Awan Sweis & Marian Fahmy

05/03: Lily Sweis & Reem Sweis

“Bible Verse of the Week”

And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. I and My Father are one.”

John 10:28-30



Wedding

Samer Ghassan Nemri

&

Diane Bashir Sweis

Congratulations!



Removal of Crowns

Andrew & Rawan McCarty

Congratulations!

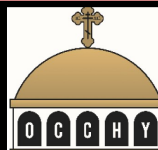


Baptism

Olivia

Parents: Daniel & Rolla Sweis

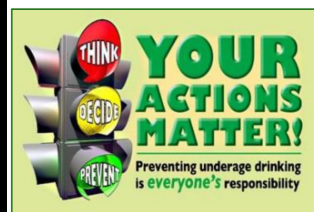
Congratulations!



Orthodox Christian Coalition
Healthy for Youth

OCCHY TEEN ACTIVITY EARNS H.S. COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

In recognition of April's Alcohol Awareness Month, OCCHY joins Ted Penesis, Education Manager, IL Liquor Control Commission, in ILCC's annual 'Your Actions Matter/Sticker Shock' campaign.



Here's how you can participate:

Get a group of 4-6 teens with an adult leader, over 21, to visit liquor stores & alcohol selling establishments, for a few hours, any day in APRIL/MAY.

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 for a packet of materials and instructions.



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

Reminder!

All *Food for Hungry People* Boxes
are due.

Thank You!



Mother's Day Raffle Ticket Sale

Tickets are being sold from
Palm Sunday thru Mother's Day

5 tickets for \$10

Buy your tickets from any of the
Antiochian Women today!

CHERUB CHOIR

Starting Saturday, May 2nd

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





ST. MARY'S ATHLETIC'S

6330 West 127th St. Palos Heights, IL

3-on-3 Basketball Tournament

St. Mary is hosting their annual 3-on-3 basketball tournament! Get your starting line-ups ready for a weekend full of family, friends and FUN!!! Come support your community and enjoy some friendly competition.

The tournament will be held on **Saturday, May 9th 2015 at 10:00am.**

SEE YOU THERE!



Requirements:

- Completed Registration/Waiver Form
- Registration Fee \$25/person
- Ages 14+
- 3 players per team
Men's and women's bracket
- All forms and fees due by:
May 3rd 2015

For questions contact:

Melad Qodsi
708-692-0561
athletics@stmaryoc.org

Nidal Haddad
708-691-8849

Fabiola Sweis
708-715-3229



St. Mary's Men's Basketball League



The time has finally come for family, friends, and lots of fun! We are pleased to present the 4th 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. We 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.

Season begins on June 2nd 2015

***Forms, Teams, and Fees due by May 17th 2015**

Requirements:

- Signed waiver
- Team registration sheet
- Fees
- \$75/ person- No Purchase of Jersey
- \$100/ person- With Purchase of Jersey

Information:

- Ages 16 and up
- Make your own team
- Min members per team -- 7
- Max members per team -- 9

Contact: athletics@stmaryoc.org

Nidal Haddad 708-691-8849 or Melad Qodsi 708-692-0561

DodgeBall

- What:** Dodge Ball Tournament Presented by St. Mary's Orthodox Athletic Ministry
- Who:** Ages 14 and up, 5 players per team; *1 must be female*
- Fee:** \$20 per person/\$100 per team
- When:** Sunday, September 6th 2015 at 3:00 PM
- Where:** The Gymnasium of St. Mary Orthodox Church at 6330 W, 127th St., Palos Heights, IL, 60463



FOR
REGISTRATION
FORMS AND MORE
INFORMATION,
CONTACT US AT
athletics@stmaryoc.org





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



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



Grand Rapids, PURE MICHIGAN[®]

 facebook.com/midwestPLC

DANCING WITH OUR
STARS HAFLI

BIBLE BOWL

CELEBRATION ON
THE GRAND

GAME SHOW

TEEN
ORATORICAL

SERVICE PROJECT

REUNION ON THE
GRAND

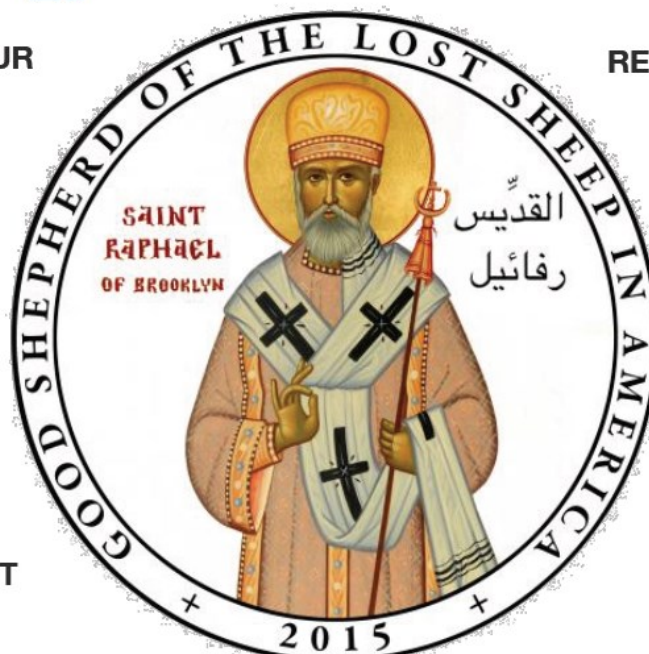
GOLF OUTING

PARISH SPORTS
COMPETITION

URBAN MARKET

PICNIC AT THE
ZOO

LITURGICAL SERVICES



100TH ANNIVERSARY of the
FALLING ASLEEP of SAINT RAPHAEL

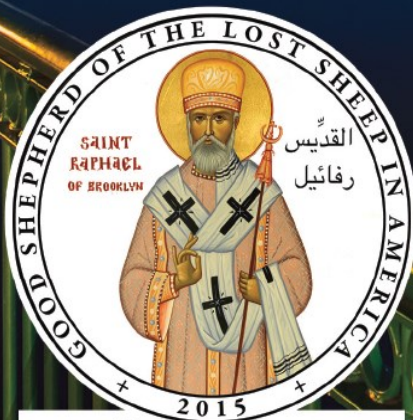
Something for Everyone!

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

Boston 52ND ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE CONVENTION

2015

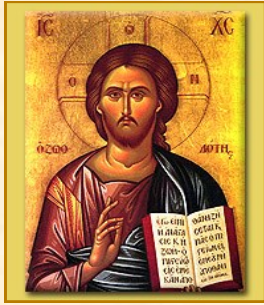
July 20-26
Sheraton Boston Hotel



100TH ANNIVERSARY of the
FALLING ASLEEP of SAINT RAPHAEL

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

Go to www.acboston2015.com for more information and to register



Weekly Synaxarion



On April 26 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Hieromartyr Basil, bishop of Amasea with Venerable Glaphyra; Stephen, bishop of Perm; and Venerable Ioanikios of Devitch in Serbia. On this day, the third Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the feast of the holy Myrrh-bearing women. And we also make commemoration of Joseph of Arimathea, who was a secret disciple, and Nicodemus, who was a disciple by night. The women went to Christ's tomb on Holy Pascha to anoint His body, only to discover it empty. We know the names of only eight of these women: Mary the Theotokos, the "mother" of James and Joses, who were the sons of Joseph the Betrothed from his previous marriage (Matt. 27:56 and Mark 15:40); Mary Magdalene; Mary, the wife of Cleopas; Joanna the wife of Chuza; Salome the mother of the sons of Zebedee; Susanna; and Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus. Joseph was a rich and noble man, and a member of the Privy Council of Jerusalem. He dared to ask Pilate for the undefiled body of our Savior, which he took and buried in his own new tomb. Accompanying Joseph to the sepulcher was Nicodemus, a Jerusalemite who was one of the leaders of the Pharisees. Nicodemus brought 100 pounds of myrrh and aloes to scent and embalm the body of Christ. By the intercessions of the holy Myrrh-bearers, Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus, O God, have mercy on us. Amen.