



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

Rev. Archdeacon Saed 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

August 16th, 2015

*Feast of the Falling Asleep of our Lady
The Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary*



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.

Changes in the Liturgy

First Antiphon

Shout with joy to God, all the earth, give thanks unto the Lord and call upon His name; declare among the nations His works.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us!

In the city of our God, in His holy mountain, His place has been made in peace, and His dwelling in Zion.

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 ages of ages. Amen.

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

Second Antiphon

The Lord loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob. Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God.

Save us, O Son of God, Who art Risen from the dead, who sing to Thee, Alleluia!

God has laid her foundation unto eternity. We have thought, O God, of Thy mercy in the midst of Thy people.

Save us, O Son of God, Who art Risen from the dead, who sing to Thee, Alleluia!

The most-high has hallowed His tabernacle.

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 and word of God...

Third Antiphon

Ready is my heart, O God, ready is my heart; I will sing and chant in my glory. What shall I render unto the Lord for all that He hath given me? I will receive the cup of salvation, and I will call upon the Name of the Lord.

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.

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 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 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 Dormition of our Lady the Theotokos (Tone Two)

Verily, the Theotokos, who is ever watchful in intercessions, who is never rejected, neither tomb nor death could control. But being the Mother of Life, He who dwelt in her ever-Virgin womb did translate her to life.

Epistle for the Dormition of our Lady the Theotokos

*My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!
For he has regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden!*

The Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Philippians (2:5-11).

Brethren, have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, Who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the Name which is above every name, that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel for the Dormition of our Lady the Theotokos

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (10:38-42; 11:27-28).

At that time, Jesus entered a village; and a woman named Martha received him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at Jesus' feet and listened to his teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to Jesus and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But Jesus answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her." As Jesus said this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts that you sucked!" But Jesus said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it."

Megalynarion for the Dormition of our Lady the Theotokos (Tone One)

All generations bless thee, O thou only Theotokos.

In thee, O spotless Virgin, the laws of nature were suspended; for thy virginity was preserved in thy child-bearing, and Life is joined with death. Thou, O Theotokos, didst remain a Virgin after child-birth, and after death thou art still alive and dost ever deliver thy heritage.

Koinonikon for the Dormition of our Lady the Theotokos (Tone Eight)

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

08/16: Joseph and Muna Makri & Family

08/23: Bishara Sweis & Family

08/30: Ala and Neveen Swais & Family

Epistle Reading

08/16: Nour Swaiss & Elaine Riadi

08/23: Norma Tadros & Delia Haddad

Annunciation Book Store

Open every Sunday after Liturgy

Monday -Friday

11:00am - 2:00

Please email Nader Haddad at naderemile3@yahoo.com with any requests.



6 Month Memorial

Fouad Ghattas

May his memory be eternal!



Removal of Crowns

George and Sandrella Jafilan

Congratulations!



Churching

Yara

Parents: Nader and Haneen Tadros

Congratulations!



OCCHY BLURB

2nd ANNUAL
NOBODY QUILTS LIKE CHICAGO
MORE CHICAGOANS THAN EVER BEFORE ARE CHOOSING A SMOKE-FREE LIFE. YOU CAN TOO.
SMOKING CESSATION AWARENESS WEEK
AUGUST 17 TO 21, 2015

Talk to your doctor or healthcare provider today about help quitting
Find helpful resources online at www.PlanMyQuit.com
Call the Illinois Tobacco Quitline at 866-784-8937 to access FREE smoking cessation resources
Use #ChicagoQuits to share your quit story on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook

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

Understanding the TEN COMMANDMENTS

Fifth Commandment

“Honor your father and mother”

Have I respected my parents and been obedient to them? Have I been guilty of deception, or caused them pain by my words or actions? Have I neglected them or failed to help them? Have I done my duty towards my family? Have I been wanting in love or kindness towards my husband (or wife), or harmed him (or her) in any way? Have I set my children a good example and tried to bring them up properly? Have I corrected their faults with patience and not with anger? Have I over-indulged or spoiled them? Have I neglected my Godchildren and failed in my obligations towards them? Have I worked for my employer honestly and diligently? Have I treated fairly all those who have worked for me? Have I honored God as my heavenly father by treating others as my brothers, and have I honored the church as my spiritual mother by honoring and practicing my religion in accordance with their teachings?



*St. Mary Orthodox Church
of Palos Heights invites you to our*

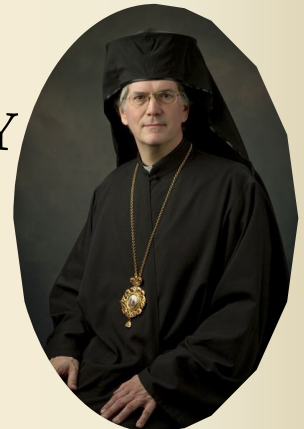
Annual Founders' Day Weekend

August 15th & 16th - Celebrating our Patronal Feast of the Dormition



Join us as we celebrate the visit of
His Grace Bishop ANTHONY
Bishop of Toledo and the Midwest

and as we welcome back our beloved
Rev. Archdeacon Saed Rihani



Saturday, August 15th

- 5:00 pm Great Vespers with Artoklasia for the Feast of the Dormition
- 6:00 pm Fasting Pot Luck Dinner hosted by our Antiochian Women in the Fellowship Hall

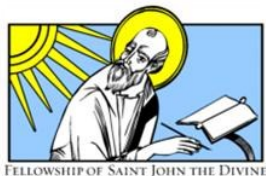
Sunday, August 16th

- 8:45 am Matins for the Feast of the Dormition
- 10:00 am Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with Bishop ANTHONY for the Feast of the Dormition
- 12:00 pm Luncheon to follow Liturgy in the Fellowship Hall

Join us as we give thanks!

Saint Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights

Fellowship of St. John the Divine General Meeting



Tuesday, August 18, 2015

6:30 pm in the Nadi

(before Volleyball open gym)

Calling all Fellowship and future Fellowship members! Please join us at our general meeting open to anyone ages 19 and older. If you are interested in learning about Fellowship, our future events, or would like to take a more active role this is the meeting for you! Following the meeting will be volleyball open gym!



Fellowship of St. John the Divine (Fellowship) is the young adult group at St. Mary's open to anyone ages 19 and up (or college age). Together we help bring the entire community together by hosting spiritual and social gatherings.

Questions? Please see Fabiola Sweis or any Fellowship officer.

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



Miracle Icon of Iveron visiting St. Mary



*Service to the Theotokos
on
August 22nd at 9 a.m.*

*There will be anointing of the faithful
with the holy oil from the Miracle Icon of Iveron*



**Fuheis American Association
and St. Mary Orthodox Church
invites you to a**



Mediterranean Festival

**Free Admission
August 21-23, 2015**

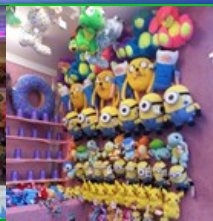
Friday: 2pm-11pm, Saturday 11am-11pm, Sunday: 11:30am-8pm

**A FUN-FILLED
FESTIVAL**



**FOR THE WHOLE
FAMILY!**

*** Food * Drinks * Camel Rides * Music * Games * Vendors ***



**St. Mary Orthodox Church
6330 W. 127th St., Palos Heights, IL 60463**

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





- ◆ Provide your children with an outstanding Orthodox Christian education.
- ◆ Let your children become more well rounded with their Faith , community, and culture.
- ◆ Set your kids on the right path to success!

SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS SEPTEMBER 13th

Please see Philip Riske to register your children!

“Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven” “ - Matthew 19:14

St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights

St. Mary's Arabic School

Dear families and friends, we are glad to announce that Arabic school will be starting September 12th and it will be held on Saturdays from 11:00am to 1:00pm. An e-mail with additional information will go out in July.

العربية



!!!Register Today!!!

Please see Lamees Ammari after Liturgy to register your child or if you have any questions please call the Arabic School Director Elia Sweiss at 708-707-1395.



Assembly of Bishops to Host September Youth Gathering in Conjunction with Chicago Meeting

When: Tuesday evening, September 15, 2015

Where: Holy Resurrection Serbian Orthodox Cathedral
5701 North Redwood Drive
Chicago, IL 60631

Who: High school and college students from the
Greater Chicago area with the bishops of the
Assembly of Canonical Orthodox bishops of the
United States

What: A dialogue between our Orthodox youth and the
bishops of the Assembly



The evening will consist of:

- ♦ A service led by the Assembly of Bishops
- ♦ A discussion with the youth prior to the service to gather questions and prepare them for the event and help them to get to know each other
- ♦ A Question and Answer period with a panel of bishops and the high school and college students
- ♦ Food to follow

Contact Fr. Mousa with any questions.



St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights

2nd Annual

Humanitarian Walk

Saturday, September 19th 2015

8:00am - 12:00pm

Lake Katherine Nature Center and Botanic Gardens

7402 Lake Katherine Dr.

Palos Heights, IL 60463

Registration Fees

Adults: \$20

Children: \$10 (10 & under)

Sponsors

If you are interested in sponsoring this event please contact
Shireen Salman.

Benefiting

St. Mary's Orthodox Church Humanitarian Fund

Contact

Shireen Salman at 708-717-9640

*Have Faith. Give generously. Spread hope. Laugh frequently.
Love unconditionally. Live fully.*

St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church 2nd Annual Humanitarian Walk

**Saturday, September 19, 2015
8:00am – 12:00am**

**Lake Katherine Nature Center and Botanic Gardens
7402 Lake Katherine Dr., Palos Heights, IL 60463**

Gold Sponsors - \$1,000

- ◆ Recognition at event as Gold Sponsor.
- ◆ Opportunity for 5 company team members to participate in walk. Each team member will receive a T-shirt.
- ◆ Recognition as Sponsor with company logo on t-shirt.
- ◆ Listing in all media releases as a Gold Sponsor.
- ◆ Company logo on St. Mary's web page.
- ◆ Opportunity to distribute promotional items in gift bag provided to all walkers.
- ◆ Recognition in the church weekly bulletin.

Silver Sponsors - \$500

- ◆ Recognition at the event as Silver Sponsor.
- ◆ Opportunity for 3 company team members to participate in walk. Each team member will receive a T-shirt.
- ◆ Recognition as Sponsor with company logo on t-shirt.
- ◆ Listing in all media releases as a Silver Sponsor.
- ◆ Company logo on St. Mary's web page.
- ◆ Opportunity to distribute promotional items in gift bag provided to all walkers.
- ◆ Recognition in the church weekly bulletin.

Bronze Sponsors - \$250

- ◆ Recognition at the event as Bronze Sponsor.
- ◆ Opportunity for 2 company team members to participate in walk. Each team member will receive a T-shirt.
- ◆ Recognition as Sponsor with company logo on t-shirt.
- ◆ Listing in all media releases as a Bronze Sponsor.
- ◆ Company logo on St. Mary's web page.
- ◆ Opportunity to distribute promotional items in gift bag provided to all walkers.
- ◆ Recognition in the church weekly bulletin.

St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights

**The Fellowship of St. John the Divine cordially invite you to
their First Annual**

Gala
A black tie event

Saturday, September 26th 2015

Doors open at 6:00 pm

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

10301 Kolmar Ave

Oak Lawn, IL

\$50 per person

This event is for anyone ages 18 and over

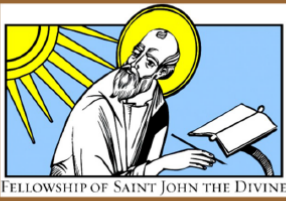
Dinner | Dancing | Open bar | Comedian | Live DJ | Raffle

Comedic performance by Omid Singh

To purchase your tickets contact

Chuck Samawi 952.457.0057 | Danny Sweis 708.638.6796

All proceeds go to the Annual Fellowship retreat sponsored by the Fellowship of St. John the Divine.



St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights



“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Mark 10:45

This Fall you do not want to miss the...

Fellowship Retreat

Hosted by the Fellowship of St. John the Divine

October 9th – 11th 2015

St. Iakovos Retreat Center

Kansasville, WI

The Fellowship at St. Mary invites everyone ages 19-99 to experience the weekend of a lifetime! The keynote speaker for the weekend will be our beloved Archdeacon Saed Rihani. During the Fellowship Retreat we will partake in church services, interactive sessions, indoor/outdoor leisure activities, and much more. We will be surrounded by nothing but Orthodoxy and beauty in the newly built retreat center opened by the Greek Archdiocese.

\$200 (per person) will cover the cost of the entire weekend including meals, lodging, and transportation.

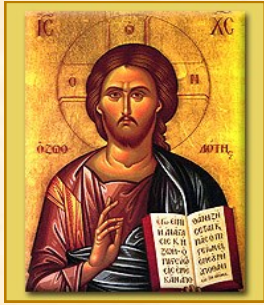
EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

\$175 if you sign up and pay a \$50 non-refundable deposit by July 26th!

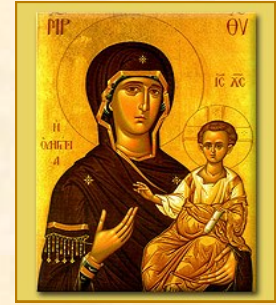
As with all events at St. Mary, if you would like to participate but need financial assistance, please see Fr. Mousa.

To sign up or address any questions, contact
Fabiola Sweis at fabiolasweis@gmail.com





Weekly Synaxarion



On August 16 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we continue to celebrate the Dormition of the Theotokos, and we commemorate the Recovery from Edessa to Constantinople of the Icon of Christ Not Made by Hands, known as ‘The Holy Napkin.’ Prince Avgar of Edessa sent a portrait-painter, Ananias, to Palestine with a letter to Christ our Savior, in which he begged the Lord to come and heal him of his leprosy. In the event that Lord was unable to come, the prince commanded Ananias to paint His likeness and bring it, believing that the portrait would heal him. The Lord replied that he could not come, as the time of His Passion was at hand. Our Savior took a napkin and wiped His face, leaving a perfect reproduction of His most pure face on it. The Lord gave this napkin to Ananias, with a message that the prince would be healed by it, but not entirely, and He would later send him an envoy that would rid him of the remainder of the disease. Receiving the napkin, Avgar kissed it and the leprosy fell from his body, with just a little remaining on his face. Later, the Apostle Thaddaeus came to Avgar, fully healed him and baptized him. Then the prince smashed the idols that stood at the city’s gateway and placed the napkin with the face of Christ above the entrance, stuck onto wood, surrounded with a gold frame and ornamented with pearls. The city eventually fell to Arab conquest, and the Holy Napkin was translated to Constantinople in 944. On this day, we also commemorate the Martyrs Diomedes the physician of Tarsus in Cilicia and Alkiviades; Venerable Gerasimos the New Ascetic of Kephallenia; Timothy, bishop of Epiros; New-martyrs Nikodemos of Meteora and Apostolos (Stamatios) of St. Laurence; and the New-martyrs of Megaris. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O God, have mercy on us. Amen.