



# 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

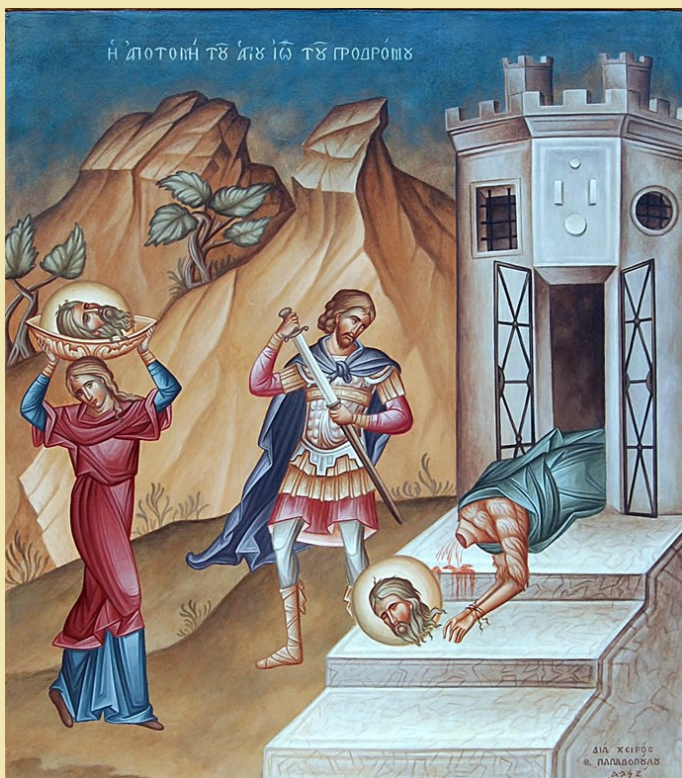
administrator@stmaryoc.org

### Church Hall Rental

Call the church office or email our  
Office Administrator

August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015

*Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost & Thirteenth Sunday of Matthew  
Leave-Taking of the Commemoration of the  
Beheading of St. John the Baptist*



### 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**

### **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 Four)**

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel, the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation and proudly broke the news to the disciples, saying death hath been spoiled, Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

### **Troparion of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist (Tone Two)**

The memory of the righteous is celebrated with songs of praise, but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for thee, O Forerunner. Thou wast shown indeed to be the most honorable of the prophets, for in the waters thou didst baptize Him Who had been proclaimed. After suffering with joy in behalf of the truth, thou didst proclaim even to those in Hades the God Who appeared in the flesh, Who takes away the sin of the world, and grants us 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 the Nativity of the Theotokos (Tone Four)**

By thy holy birth-giving, O pure one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness; and Adam and Eve were delivered from the corruption of death; thy people do celebrate it, having been saved from the stain of iniquity, crying unto thee, the barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, who nourishes our life.

## Epistle of the Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*O Lord, how magnificent are your works. You have made all things in wisdom. Bless the Lord, O my soul.*

**The reading is from Saint Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (16: 13-24).**

Brethren, be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brethren, you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicos, because they have made up for the absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. If anyone has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

## Gospel of the Thirteenth Sunday of Matthew

**The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (21:33-42)**

The Lord spoke this parable: "There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

# 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*

08/30: Ala and Neveen Swais & Family

09/06: Bishara Sweis & Family

09/13: Jamileh Zedan Sweis & Family

## Epistle Reading

08/30: Subdn. Matthew & Faris Samawi

09/06: Rana Nino & Khaled Salman

## **Annunciation Book Store**

Open every Sunday after Liturgy

Monday -Friday

11:00am - 2:00

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



## **1 Year Memorial**

Yasmin Hayel Swais

**May her memory be eternal!**



## **25 Year Memorial**

Hayel Qustandi Swais

**May his memory be eternal!**



## **Baptism**

Senad and Ameer Salem

Parents: Geries and Hanan Salem

**Congratulations!**



## **Newborn**

Mia Jordan

Parents: Adeeb and Jazmine Tadros

**Congratulations!**



## **Newborn**

Alexander

Parents: Omar and Christine Sweiss

**Congratulations!**

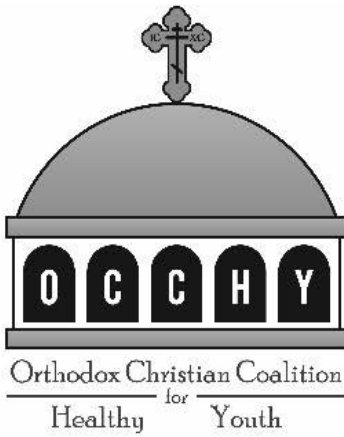
## *Understanding the TEN COMMANDMENTS*

### *Seventh Commandment*

**“Thou shall not commit adultery ”**



Have I given way to impure thoughts, words, or deeds? Have I committed any unworthy actions alone or with others? Have I degraded myself in any way or forgotten human dignity? Have I read immoral books or magazines, or delighted in obscenity of any kind? Have I associated with bad companions or frequented unsavory places? Have I eaten or drunk or smoked too much? Have I been lazy, idle, or wasted my time? Have I led others to commit sinful acts? Have I been unfaithful to any trust confided in me?



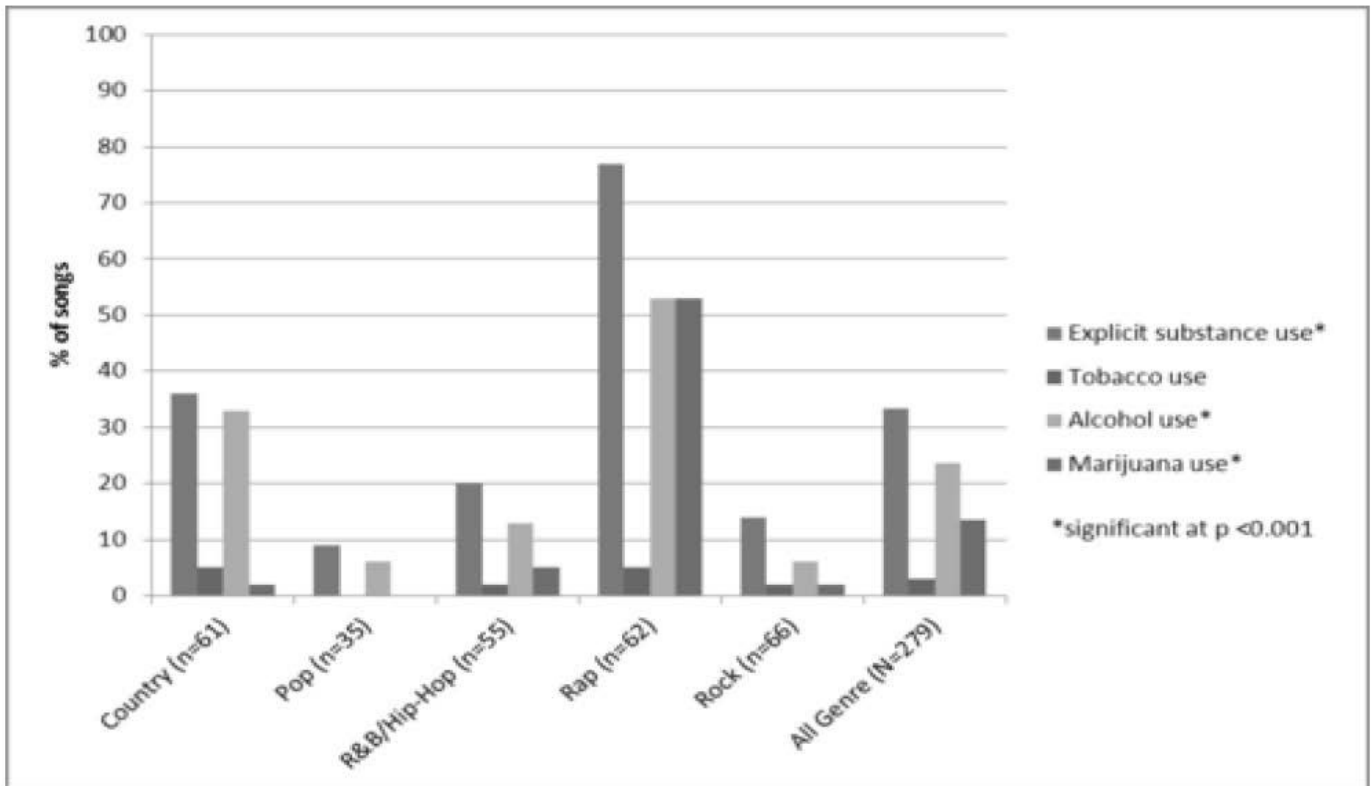
# OCCHY QUIZ

A recent study of the most popular songs listened to by youth found how many songs mention sex, drugs, alcohol, or tobacco?

- A. 1 in 20
- B. 1 in 3
- C. 1 in 8
- D. 1 in 14

**B: 1 in 3!** Also, about 3 out of 4 rap songs mention sex, drugs, alcohol, or tobacco. Get the facts, and make your own decisions.

Source: NIH Publication No. 12-7589, Drugs: Shatter the Myths.



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

# 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 6<sup>th</sup> 2015 at 3:00 PM
- Where:** The Gymnasium of St. Mary Orthodox Church at 6330 W, 127<sup>th</sup> St., Palos Heights, IL, 60463



FOR  
REGISTRATION  
FORMS AND MORE  
INFORMATION,  
CONTACT US AT  
[athletics@stmaryoc.org](mailto: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 go to [www.StMaryOC.org/sunday\\_school.html](http://www.StMaryOC.org/sunday_school.html) 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 12<sup>th</sup> and it will be held on Saturdays from 10:45am 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 CANONICAL  
ORTHODOX BISHOPS  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

# PAN-ORTHODOX YOUTH GATHERING

## TUESDAY SEP. 15

### DIALOGUE WITH THE BISHOPS OF THE ASSEMBLY

All Orthodox high school and college students from the Greater Chicago area are invited to participate.

**6:00-6:30**

Welcome and Orientation

**6:30-7:00**

Service of Thanksgiving

**7:00-8:30**

Dialogue with the Bishops  
of the Assembly

**8:30-10:00**

Refreshments

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



*St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights*

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

---

*Gala*  
*A black tie event*

---

**Saturday, September 26th 2015**

**Doors open at 6:00 pm**

**St. Mary Orthodox Church**

**6330 W. 127th St.**

**Palos Heights, IL**

**\$50 per person**

*This event is for anyone ages 18 and over*

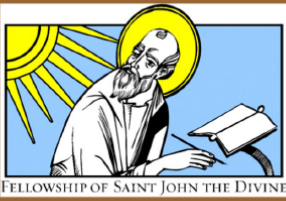
**Dinner | Dancing | Open bar | Comedian | Live DJ | Raffle**

*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 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:fabiolasweis@gmail.com)



CLERGY AND LAITY  
FALL GATHERING  
DIOCESE OF TOLEDO  
AND THE MIDWEST

**INDIANAPOLIS**

OCTOBER 16-18

St George Orthodox Church  
10748 E 116th St.  
Fishers, IN 46037



Village @ Home theme featuring  
Fr. Anthony Yazge and staff from  
the Antiochian Village

- ◆ Color Wars!
- ◆ Camp-style Services
- ◆ Evening Programs
- ◆ Afternoon Program
- ◆ Hierarchal Liturgy
- ◆ Great Fellowship
- ◆ Much More!

**ONLY \$35!\***  
(\$25 for children 8-11  
Children 7 and under  
free. Daycare provided)

\*if registered by Oct. 1, then  
add \$5

**Plus** special sessions with Fr. Anthony Yazge, the  
Antiochian Village Staff, and Bishop ANTHONY

Hotel reservations at the Hampton INN  
6817 82nd St. Indianapolis, IN 46250

\$94/night—2 Double or King rooms.  
Breakfast included - Reserve by October 1 by  
visiting <http://tinyurl.com/mwfall2015>



PROGRAMS FOR THE  
WHOLE FAMILY

- ◆ Children 8-12
- ◆ Teens 13-19
- ◆ Young Adults 20+
- ◆ Antiochian Women
- ◆ Men
- ◆ Clergy

Special Clergy meetings Oct.  
15-16 with Bishop ANTHONY  
and seminars on Youth and Young  
Adult ministries by Fr. Anthony  
Yazge.

Families, and Diocesan  
Organizations, and clergy meet  
Oct. 16-18



# **St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual**

**Humanitarian Walk**

**Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Humanitarian Walk**

**Saturday, October 17, 2015  
8:00am – 12:00am**

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

## **Gold Sponsors - \$1,000**

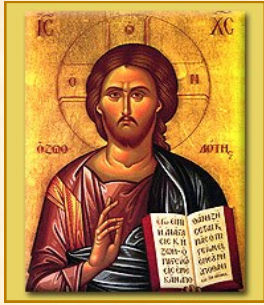
- ◆ Recognition at event as Gold Sponsor.
- ◆ Opportunity for 5 company team members to participate in walk. Each team member will receive a T-shirt.
- ◆ Recognition as Sponsor with company logo on t-shirt.
- ◆ Listing in all media releases as a Gold Sponsor.
- ◆ Company logo on St. Mary's web page.
- ◆ 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.



## Weekly Synaxarion



On August 30 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we take leave of the commemoration of the honorable, glorious prophet, forerunner and Baptist John. We also commemorate our fathers among the saints Alexander, Paul the New, and John, Patriarchs of Constantinople. Alexander took part in the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea in 325, in place of the aged Patriarch Metrophanes, whom he then succeeded. When certain philosophers tried to dispute with him about faith, he said to one of them: “In the name of my Lord Jesus Christ, I command you to remain silent!” The philosophers became dumb from that moment. Alexander died at the age of 98 in the year 340. Paul the New governed the Church for almost six years and renounced the throne to receive the Great Habit secretly, to repent of his sins when he first supported the iconoclasts. He was the predecessor of the great Tarasius, and entered into rest in 784. John was nicknamed “Scholasticus” because he was originally a lawyer. He became Patriarch in 565. He wrote Canons which have been included in the Nomocanon. In his day, the Cherubic Hymn and the prayer “At Thy mystical supper” were introduced into the Liturgy. He departed this life peacefully and gave his soul to God in 577. On this day, we also commemorate the Venerable Phantinos of Calabria; the repose of Venerable Alexander of Svir; translation of the relics of Alexander Nevsky, prince of Novgorod; and Cyril and Makarios, patriarchs of Serbia. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O God, have mercy on us. Amen.