



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

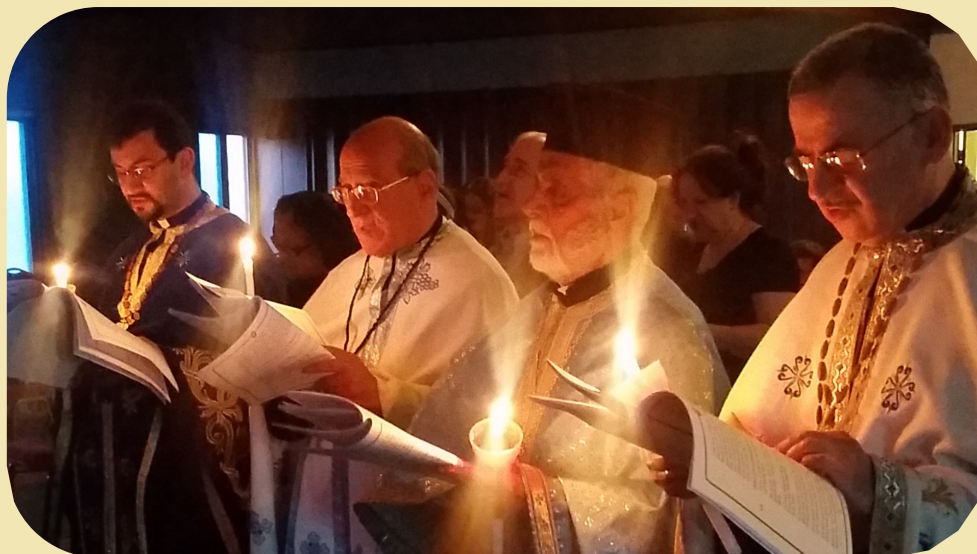
May Sweis
administrator@stmaryoc.org

Church Hall Rental

Call the church office or email our
Office Administrator

November 8th, 2015

*The Synaxis of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel,
Raphael and all the Bodiless Powers of Heaven
Seventh Sunday of Luke*



V. Rev. Fr. Elias Sweis
Memory Eternal!

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 Six)

When Mary stood at Thy grave looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb, and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led hades captive and wast not tempted thereby, Thou didst meet the virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Troparion of the Archangels (Tone Four)

O ye foremost of the heavenly hosts, we who are unworthy, beseech you that by your petitions ye encompass us with the shadow of your immaterial glory, preserving us who kneel and cry ceaselessly: Deliver us from oppressions, since ye art the princes of the ranks of dominions on high.

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 Entrance of the Theotokos (Tone Four)

The all-pure temple of the Savior, the most precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the treasure-house of the glory of God, today enters the Temple of the Lord, bringing with her the grace which is in the Divine Spirit, whom also the angels of God do celebrate in song; for she is the heavenly tabernacle.

Epistle for the Feast of the Archangels

He makes His angels spirits, and His ministers flames of fire.

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The Reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews (2:2-10).

Brethren, if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard Him, while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to His own Will. For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. It has been testified somewhere, "What is man that Thou art mindful of him, or the Son of man, that Thou carest for Him? Thou didst make Him for a little while lower than the angels; Thou hast crowned Him with glory and honor, putting everything in subjection under His feet." Now in putting everything in subjection to Him, He left nothing outside His control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to Him. But we see Jesus, Who for a little while was made lower than the angels, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone. For it was fitting that He, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the Pioneer of their salvation perfect through suffering.

Gospel for the Seventh Sunday of Luke

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Luke (8:41-56).

At that time, there came to Jesus a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue; and falling at Jesus' feet, he besought him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As Jesus went, the people pressed round him. And a woman who had had a flow of blood for twelve years, and had spent all her living upon physicians, and could not be healed by any one, came up behind him, and touched the fringe of his garment; and immediately her flow of blood ceased. And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the multitudes surround you and press upon you, and you say, 'Who touched me?'" But Jesus said, "Someone touched me; for I perceive that power has gone forth from me." And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. And Jesus said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace." While Jesus was speaking, a man from the ruler's

house came and said, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher anymore." But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "Do not fear; only believe, and she shall be well." And when Jesus came to the house, he permitted no one to enter with him, except Peter and James and John, and the father and mother of the child. And all were weeping and bewailing her; but Jesus said, "Do not weep; for she is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. But taking her by the hand Jesus called, saying, "Child, arise." And her spirit returned, and she got up at once; and Jesus directed that something should be given her to eat. And her parents were amazed; but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.

Koinonikon (Communion Hymn) for the Archangels (Tone Eight)

He makes His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire. Alleluia.

Advent Fast & Christmas Reminder!

The Nativity Fast (Advent) begins Sunday, November 15th and will end December 24th (after Christmas Eve Liturgy). We are to fast from meat and dairy. In order for fasting to be effective, it must be accompanied with prayer and acts of mercy and love. St. John Chrysostom reminds us: "What good is it to fast from meat and dairy, if we devour and eat one another." Please remember to love and forgive in this special time in which we prepare for the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Important: Mark your Calendars for Christmas Liturgy

Important! Please mark your calendars for the Christmas Liturgy. Matins will begin at 5pm followed by Liturgy at 6pm, Thursday December 24th. How can we truly celebrate Christmas if we skip out on Christmas Liturgy? The Christmas season is a very busy time, & we have plans to be with friends & family. But, we must learn to set our priorities straight, so schedule your gatherings around the Christmas Liturgy. Can you imagine having a birthday party without the birthday boy?! That's exactly what we do when we don't attend Christmas Liturgy. Let us begin to change the secularization of Christmas & bring Christ back into the picture by remembering the reason for the season. We look forward to seeing you all at Christmas Liturgy. God bless!

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

11/08: Issa and Shahla Sweis & Family

11/15: Ghaleb and Rita Sweis & Family

11/22: Sakher and Faryel Sweis & Family

Epistle Reading

11/08: Scott Abdo & Rima Sleiman

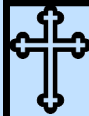
11/15: Angela Haddad & Lily Sweiss



3rd & 9th Day Memorial

V. Rev. Fr. Elias Sweis

Memory Eternal!



40 Day Memorial

Elaine Sweis

Memory Eternal!



Removal of Crowns

Khaldoun and Rain Haddad

Congratulations!



Baptism

Alex

Parents: Simon and Sasha Hanna

Congratulations!



Newborn

Ephraim Malek

Parents: Gary and Linda Rihani

Congratulations!

Bible Study verse of the week (from the Orthodox Study Bible).



Matthew 10:34 "Do not think I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword."

In this age where the 'sword' has become the only tool in solving problems, it's important to understand what Jesus meant by these words. The Orthodox Study Bible explains that just before Christ's violent death on the cross, He promised peace to His disciples. But the existence of evil necessitates spiritual warfare. The earth to which Christ came was under the authority of Satan (Jn 12:31; 2Cor 4:4). It is therefore essential that Christ wage war against the leader of vice with weapons of virtue (Eph 6:11-18).

Miracle-Working Icon of Iveron at St. Mary

Saturday, November 7th at 9:30 a.m.



Service of the Paraklesis to the Theotokos

*The faithful will be anointed
with oil from the Holy Icon of Iveron*

Winter Food Drive 2015

November 8th - December 27th



1 out of 6 families are struggling with hunger

Remember...42 lbs of food will feed a family of 4 for 3 days!

Food Drive Grocery List:

Beans, Chili, Cereal, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Jelly, Peanut Butter, Rice, Shelf Stable Milk, Soup, Tuna, Stew, Canned Vegetables Canned Fruit, Mac & Cheese.

Remember to bring items for the Food Drive this Sunday. Each Sunday School class will compete to raise the most food.

The winning class will receive a Pizza Party!

Sunday School Students should drop off their food items in one of the carts just outside of the Sunday School's main entrance (in the large hall way). Each cart will be labeled by grade.

Remembering the words of St. John Chrysostom: "It is a better thing to feed the hungry than to raise the dead."

ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING

Attention all parents: We are collecting data on all the altar boys so we can schedule training during the month of December. We will start with two different teams in January of 2016. Please see Subdeacon Matthew Sweis or Dn. Saed to give us your son's information.

We will have two different dates for training. ALL altar boys will be required to attend. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS RETREAT & CHRISTMAS CARD SIGN-UP

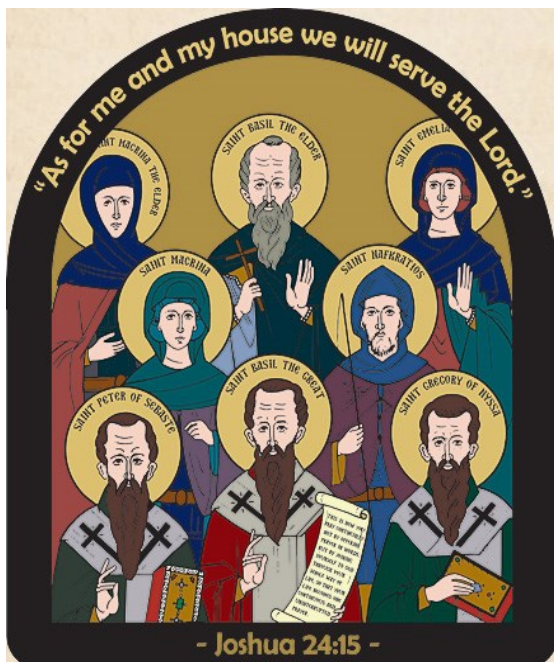
SOYO will have a table in the main hallway for parents to sign up their High Schoolers for the Christmas Retreat. ALSO, at the same table, we encourage all parishioners to sign up for the Community Christmas Card. Anyone who would like to sponsor someone for the Retreat, please see Fr. Mousa, Fr. Malek or Dn. Saed.

Sunday School Registration

Online registration is at www.StMaryOC.org/sunday_school.html

OR

Register on a computer outside of the Church Gym.



November

15th: 1st Practice for Christmas Pageant
at 12noon in Christian Education wing

21st: 3rd-5th Confession Workshop
1 p.m. - 4 p.m. at Church

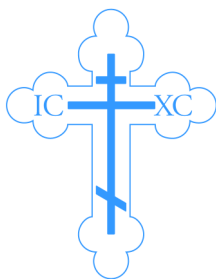
December

6th: Breakfast with Saint Nicholas
After Liturgy at Church

13th: Sunday School Christmas Presentation
at the end of Liturgy

21st-23rd: Creative Projects Camp
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

27th - Jan 3rd, Christmas Break



"Liturgy after the Liturgy"

Taking our faith outside the church walls



**The Fellowship of Saint John the Di-
vine**

Date:

Saturday, November 7th, 2015

Time:

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Location:

Feed My Starving Children,
555 Exchange Court, Aurora, IL

Purpose: Pack meals for starving children

Feed My Starving Children is a Christian nonprofit hunger relief organization.

Anyone **ages 19 years and older** are welcomed to join the Fellowship. Volunteer hours will be granted upon request.

You need to register in order to attend. All volunteers are encouraged to donate at least \$7 (which will feed a child for an entire month!)

To register, please contact:

Fabiola Sweis at (708)-715-3229|fabiolasweis@gmail.com

Khader Al-Sahoury at al-sahoury.j01@mymail.sxu.edu

On behalf of God's children, thank you in advance for your commitment.

Martha and Mary Maternity House Grand Opening Celebration



There is much to celebrate, and we truly hope you will be able to join us.

Tuesday, November 10, 2015

6 PM Social Hour

7 PM Celebratory Thanksgiving Dinner

9 PM Silent Auction Concludes

Saint John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church

2350 East Dempster Street

Des Plaines, IL 60016

Come to learn more about this live-giving, Pan-Orthodox Christian ministry in the Northwest Suburbs of Chicago!

Please, share this invitation with others. We need your help to spread the word!



HAPPY THANKSGIVING

ST. MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

PRESENTS

THE ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DINNER

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH, 2015

CHICAGO'S SINGER

FEATURING



SAED KHOURY



**ST. MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH
6330 W 127TH STREET
PALOS HEIGHTS, IL 60463**

DOORS OPEN @ 6:00 P.M

TICKETS:

ADULTS \$30

CHILDREN \$20



For tickets contact: Kholoud Swais 708-431-0084, Shireen Salman 708-717-9640, or Magida Abudayyeh 708-415-5040.



THANKSGIVING DAY PAN-ORTHODOX DIVINE LITURGY

**Sponsored by
THE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CLERGY ASSOCIATION OF GREATER CHICAGO
AND
ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN SYNERGY**



**9:00 am
Thanksgiving Day
Thursday, November 26, 2015**

**Holy Virgin Protection
Russian Orthodox Cathedral
1800 Lee Street
Des Plaines, Illinois**

**Responses offered by
Holy Virgin Protection Cathedral Choir
Dr. Misha Gill, Director**

SOYO 10TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS RETREAT



“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

ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO JOIN SAINT MARY’S SOYO AT OUR TENTH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS RETREAT!

Come get inspired and reconnected with your faith. Special sessions with Fr. Malek Rihani, Fr. Mousa Haddad, and Dn. Saed Rihani!

- What:** Christmas Retreat 2015
Where: St. Iakovos Retreat Center, Kansasville, WI
When: December 28th - December 30th, 2015
Who: All High School Students are welcome
Cost: \$200 per teen
\$150 for second teen from the same family
\$100 for third teen from the same family

For Information Contact: Rima Sleiman at (708) 590-9559

" For Scholarships or Financial Assistance, please contact Fr. Mousa Haddad directly."

DEADLINE: December 20, 2015

\$50 DEPOSIT REQUIRED

Space is Limited

Annual General Assembly Meeting and Parish Council Nominations



If you are interested in nominating yourself or another person for St. Mary's Parish Council, please let Fr. Mousa or Luai Sweiss know by Sunday, December 20th. Nominations will not be considered after that date.

Our Annual General Assembly Meeting will take place Sunday, January 10th immediately following the Divine Liturgy. Mark your calendars and make every effort to attend.

Please make sure your 2015 pledge is paid in full by Sunday, December 27th, so that you can participate in the General Assembly.

Thanks and God bless!

18th Annual Midwest Diocese Basketball Tournament Canton, Ohio January 15-17, 2016

Division I: Ages 12-15 / Division II: Ages 15-18 / Division III: Ages 19-26

Friday, January 15

7 pm: Registration begins (Hotel Lobby)

8 pm: Pizza (Registration area)

8:30pm: Retreat (Hotel Ballroom)

Saturday, January 16

**7 am: Morning prayers/Light Breakfast/Tournament Brackets
(Hotel Ballroom)**

8 am: Basketball Tournament begins

12 pm: Lunch (at Basketball locations)

6 pm: Great Vespers (St. George Serbian)

7 pm: Banquet/ Awards Presentation/Hafli (St. George Serbian)

Sunday, January 17

8:45 am: Matins (St. George Antiochian)

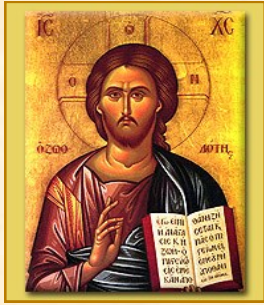
10 am: Hierarchal Divine Liturgy (St. George Antiochian)

Brunch and Farewell (St. George Antiochian)

**Early Registration: \$50 by January 8 Registration: \$60
(Includes all meals and events)**

**St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church
1118 Cherry Ave. NE Canton, OH 44704
330-455-8482 stgeorgecanton@sbcglobal.net**

**Hotel Information: Courtyard by Marriott
4375 Metro Circle NW N. Canton, OH 44720 330-494-6494
Group Rate: \$85/night (mention St. George Canton)
Our block of rooms will be reserved for us until Jan. 3**



Weekly Synaxarion



On November 8 in the Holy Orthodox Church we celebrate the Synaxis of the Supreme Commanders Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, and of the other bodiless and heavenly orders, the Seraphim, Cherubim, Thrones, Dominions, Powers, Authorities, Principalities, Archangels and Angels. Dionysius the Areopagite, a disciple of the Apostle Paul who was taken up into the third heaven (II Cor. 12:2), described the nine orders of angels in his book, *On the Celestial Hierarchies*. The Apostle Paul says all angels are ministering spirits to them who shall be heirs of salvation (Heb. 1:14). The Archangel Michael leads the angelic hosts. When Satan fell away from God and drew a third of the angels with him to destruction, Michael stood up and cried out before the faithful angels: “Let us stand aright! Let us stand with fear! Let us attend!” and all of the faithful angelic heavenly hosts cried out: “Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord God of Sabaoth! Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory!” The Archangel Gabriel proclaimed the news of the conceptions of John the Baptist and our Lord Jesus Christ to their mothers, Elizabeth and the Ever-virgin Mary (Luke 1). The Archangel Raphael healed Tobit of his blindness (Tobit 11) and freed his daughter-in-law, Sarah, from a demon (Tobit 6). Every nation and Christian has a guardian angel. We must always remember that whatever we do, in open or in secret, we do in the presence of our guardian angel. By their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy upon us. Amen.