



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

Abdullah Y. Tadros - Chairman

Magida Abudayyeh - Vice Chair

Jason Haddad - Treasurer

Abeer Khouri - Financial Sec. / Sec.

Fadi Abu Manneh

Nidal Al-Farah

Constantin Kari

Faris Samawi

Bassam Shaheen

Luai Sweiss

Saleh Tadros

Parish Ministries

Sunday School - Philip Riske

SOYO - Jenna Riadi

Fellowship - Sally Sweis

Antiochian Women -

Magida Abudayyeh

Handmaids - Mansoura Khouri and

Lina Haddad

Humanitarian - Shireen Salman

OCLife - Nancy Cannon

Fishers of Men - John Eannace

Athletics - Nidal Haddad

Choir - Michael Rascia

Chanters - Khaled Salman and

Faris Samawi

Webmaster - Sana Sweis

Ushers - Jamal Swais, Louis Sweiss

Office

May Sweis

administrator@stmaryoc.org

Church Hall Rental

Call the church office or email our

Office Administrator

February 21st, 2016

Sunday of the Pharisee and the Publican



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 Five)

Let us believers praise and worship the Word coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For he took pleasure in ascending the cross in the flesh to suffer death and to raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

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 Pharisee and the Publican (Tone Four)

Let us flee from the boasting of the Pharisee and learn the heights of humility from the publican's words. Let us cry out in repentance: O Savior of the world be gracious to Thy servants.

Epistle for Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican

Make vows to the Lord thy God, and perform them.

In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.

The Reading is from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to Timothy (3:10-15).

Timothy my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, and my sufferings, and what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured; yet from them all, the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Gospel for Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (18:10-14).

The Lord spoke this parable: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

REMINDER:

In an effort to eliminate distractions, collection baskets will not be passed during the Divine Liturgy. Instead, we kindly ask you to make your donation or pledge before or after service by placing it in the **donation box** at the entrance of the church. Envelopes are available on both sides of the donation box. Please keep this in mind since we depend on your contributions. Thank you for your generosity!



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

02/21: Bishara Sweis & Family

02/28: Abdullah and Nader Tadros & Families

03/6: Antiochian Women

Epistle Reading

02/21: Salena Ibrahim & Nour Swaiss
02/28: Futien Johnson & Wajih Haddad



Engagement

Essa Najib Zedan
and
Christina Zaboura
Congratulations!



Engagement

Saddam Musa Sweis
and
Kati Jamal Khouri
Congratulations!



Baptism

Jacob
Parents: Gerese & Razan Tadros
Congratulations!



Baptism

Sebastian
Parents: Billy & Angela James
Congratulations!

Churching

Simon Jr.
Parents: Simon & Riham Sweis
Congratulations!



Open every Sunday after Liturgy
Monday -Friday
11:00am - 2:00pm
Please email Nader Haddad or Angela Haddad at naderemile3@yahoo.com with any requests.

Shawarma Sale

Today, after Liturgy



Sponsored by the Antiochian Women

ALTAR BOYS' SCHEDULE /NO LATE ARRIVALS

Thank you parents and sons for observing the Altar Boys' Schedule as posted in the Bulletin. We invite any other boys who wish to serve to let us know after the Liturgy, so we can add them to the appropriate team. Also, Effective Sunday February 28, All Altar Boys who are scheduled to serve MUST arrive before 10am, otherwise they will not be able to serve. We must give God our attention and be on time; late arrivals only disturb the worship service. Parents: Please arrive on time as to not discourage the boys from their service in the Holy Altar. Any questions or concerns, please see SubDeacon Matthew or Deacon Saed.

HOUSE BLESSINGS

Traditionally, at the feast of our Lord's Theophany on January 6th, we bless water which is used to sanctify the homes of all the faithful. In bringing the blessed water to our homes, and sprinkling it in each room, we rid our house of any evil influence, and rededicate it to God in a special way. As we were once renewed by the waters of our own baptism into Christ, so too our home, and our entire lives, are re-dedicated and renewed unto Christ our God each year at this time. Please contact Fr. Mousa at 708-979-3222 or Fr. Malek at 708-516-6417 if you would like your home blessed this year.



Saint Mary's ALTAR SERVERS' MINISTRY
"UPON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"



January 24, 2016 – April 24, 2016
 (Effective Sunday January 24, 2016)

The following is the NEW list of teams and schedule for Altar Servers. Please make sure that you are here and ready to serve 10 minutes before liturgy begins (9:50 AM)! GOD BLESS!

(Any questions or if your child's name is not on the list, please contact Subdeacon Matthew Sweis at mrsweis@hotmail.com or see him on Sundays after Divine Liturgy). See Schedule BELOW:

| <u>Murad Salman : Team A</u> | <u>Team A Dates</u> | <u>Sharbel Samawi : Team B:</u> | <u>Team B Dates</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Jordan Albakhit | 1/24/16 | Anthony Haddad | 1/31/16 |
| George Albakhit | 2/07/16 | Philip Haddad | 2/14/16 |
| David Sweiss | 2/21/16 | Hashem Tadros | 2/28/16 |
| Michael Sweiss | 3/06/16 | Yousef A Tadros | 3/13/16 |
| Kyse Dahdal | 3/20/16 | Yousef R Tadros | 3/27/16 |
| Joseph Fallouh | 4/03/16 | Faris Tadros | 4/10/16 |
| Joseph Haddad | 4/17/16 | Basil Tadros | 4/24/16 |
| Rami Sweis | | David Alnimri | |
| Saleem Swaiss | | Daniel Alnimri | |
| Samer Sweis | | Jai Singh Riske | |
| Christian Sweis | | Sharbel Alafnan | |
| Charlie Sayeg | | Michael Galuszynski | |
| Malik Tadros | | Nicholas Abu-Manneh | |
| Ameer Tadros | | Sleman Shaheen | |
| Faris Makhamreh | | Gus Bousheh | |
| Issa Khoury | | Nicholas Bousheh | |

John 12:26 *If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.*

Sunday School News/Event



shutterstock - 21979791

Youth Choir

Youth Choir will meet every Sunday after Liturgy from 12:15pm to 12:45pm and the **1st** Saturday of every month from 3-6pm

Middle School Lenten Retreat

Saturday, March 19th, 2016

1pm-6pm

for students in grades 6th through 8th
includes lunch and Great Vespers
more details to follow.

*Lenten
Retreat*



Holy Week Retreat

Saturday, April 23rd, 2016

for students in grades 1st through 5th
more details to follow

Sunday School Summer Programs

We're looking for volunteers 16+ to run a weekly program on Tuesday evenings also a Vacation Church School.

Both are open to 1st through 12th graders.





2016 Easter FLOWER DONATIONS

All names will be placed in the tomb of Christ on Holy Friday. On Pascha (Easter), the names will be read privately during a special prayer service inside the Holy Altar. Thank you for your support! St. Mary's Antiochian Women

Please see Shireen Salman or Kholoud Swais or

Send your donations to:

St. Mary Orthodox Church

6330 W. 127th St.

Palos Heights, IL 60463

Any questions please call (708) 239-0004



St. Mary's is thrilled to introduce the start of our

MENTORING PROGRAM

Have you been wanting to give back to your community?
Have you been thankful for all of God's blessings, and want to help the youth find success and happiness in their spiritual and professional life?

Are you a teen who has been thinking about high school, college, and your future? Have you been searching for that extra push, guidance and some helpful advice from someone experienced and trustworthy?

Search no more!

Applications for mentors and mentees will be available at the table in the hallway.

Stay tuned for more information!

Questions? Please see Fabiola Sweis, Elaine Riadi, or Deacon Saed

TEEN SOYO NIGHTS



We welcome all teens to attend our Wednesday, Teen SOYO Nights, from 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM.

The first Wednesday of each month is a Bible Study.

We enjoy fellowship, open discussions, time in the gymnasium & homework time as well!

For more information contact one of the SOYO Advisors.

Come join us for
Life After Retreat



Who: Teen SOYO members, Retreat attendees are highly encouraged to attend the LAR

When: February 24th, 2016, at 6:30 PM

Where: St. Mary's Church Nadi

Why: Reflection on Retreat Theme:

"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

Open Gym Schedule

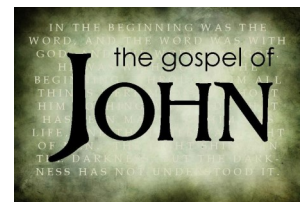
| Basketball Open Gym 3pm | Volleyball Open Gym 7pm |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sunday Feb. 21st | Tuesday Feb. 23rd |
| Sunday Feb. 28th | Tuesday Mar. 6th |
| Sunday Mar. 1st | Tuesday Mar. 13th |
| Sunday Mar. 8th | Tuesday Mar. 20th |
| Sunday Mar. 15th | Tuesday Mar. 27th |
| Sunday Mar. 22nd | |
| Sunday Mar. 29th | |

* Time change for February 21st. 5pm instead of 3pm.

2016 ADULT BIBLE BOWL TEAM

Alright Adults! Anyone 19 and older is eligible to join the Adult Bible Bowl Team.

This year's topic: Gospel of St. John.



St. Mary needs YOU! You can do it...it takes no more than 2 hours per week to study the Gospel. Our Teens have won Diocese and National Awards. WE WANT our Adults to show what THEY can do !!!! See Deacon Saed if interested. If you don't come to see him, HE will find YOU!

Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest



SPRING GATHERING 2016

Hosted by St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights, IL

March 10th -13th 2016



March 10 -11th: Clergy Retreat with his Grace,
Bishop ANTHONY

March 11-13th: Spring Gathering of the Fellowship of St.
John the Divine, Teen SOYO and the Antiochian Women

A special guest
appearance will be
made on
Saturday night by
**Tyler Mancuso: One
Man A Capella!**



Two of Tyler's YouTube Videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EwEvWxVZXb0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yTqAf4rYqsE>

The [DoubleTree by Hilton](#) is conveniently located just
over a mile from St. Mary's and 15 minutes from the
Indiana border: 5000 W. 127th St. Alsip, IL 60803

**Reserve your room by February 11th to receive the
special rate of \$109/night. To reserve online, visit:**

www.alsipdoubletree.com (use group code ORT)

or call 1-800-222-8733

Registration fee is \$35. This includes a pizza
dinner on Friday, breakfast, lunch and dinner
on Saturday and a farewell lunch on Sunday!

Weekend includes:

- Fellowship
- Business Meetings
- "Ask Sayidna" Pizza Party
- Mini-Hafleh
- Cheesefare weekend (Enjoy all the dairy you want!!!)
- Service Project
- Hierarchical Divine Liturgy/ Teens and FSJD to chant Vespers/Orthros
- Farewell Luncheon on Sunday

St. Mary Church
6330 W. 127th Pl.
Palos Heights, IL 60463
(708)239-0004
www.stmaryoc.org

The 2nd Annual NAC Teen SOYO Day of Service

Saturday, March 19th, 2016

Let's put our faith into action by participating in the Day of Service. Plan a charity oriented event in your local SOYO to serve your community.

“Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers a multitude of sins” (1 Peter 4:8)



Luke 10:25-37

What to do throughout SOYO Day of Service:

- We want to see what you are doing, so please post pictures.
- Tag @NACSOYO and use the hashtag #SOYOservice in your posts on social media(Twitter& Instagram).
- Enter your local SOYO in a contest to win a beautiful icon by simply including your parish's name in one of your posts

Pan-Orthodox Presanctified Liturgies of the Palos Churches



**Sts. Peter & Paul
Ukrainian Orthodox Church
8410 W. 131st St.
Palos Park, IL 60464**

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

**St. Luke Orthodox
Church (OCA)
10700 S. Kean Ave
Palos Hills, IL 60465**

**Sts. Constantine & Helen
Greek Orthodox Church
11025 S. Roberts Rd.
Palos Hills, IL 60465**

The Orthodox churches of the Palos area will come together to celebrate the Presanctified Liturgies of the first four Wednesdays of Lent at 7:00pm. Each parish will take turns to welcome local Orthodox clergy and laity and provide a Lenten potluck dinner after the Liturgy. Also, a brief Lenten reflection will be offered by one of our priests. Please mark your calendars. God bless!

*“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for
brethren to dwell together in unity.”
Psalm 133:1*

| Date (at 7:00pm) | Host Parish | Reflection |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Wednesday, March 16 | Sts. Peter & Paul | Fr. Paul Jannakos |
| Wednesday, March 23 | St. Mary | Fr. Nick Jonas |
| Wednesday, March 30 | St. Luke | Fr. Vasyly Sendeha |
| Wednesday, April 6 | Sts. Constantine & Helen | Fr. Mousa Haddad |

TRIUMPH OF ORTHODOXY PAN ORTHODOX VESPERS

Sponsored by
THE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CLERGY ASSOCIATION OF GREATER CHICAGO



6:30 p.m.
Sunday, March 20, 2016

St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church
893 Church Road
Elmhurst, Illinois 60126

Homilist:
His Grace Bishop PAUL
Bishop of Chicago and the Midwest (OCA)

Responses offered by
Pan Orthodox Choir of Greater Chicago
Gordana Trbuhovich, Director



Happy Mother's Day

*Honoring our Mothers on their Special Day
St. Mary Orthodox Church
Would like to invite you to attend our annual*

Mother's Day Party

Saturday, May 7th at 12:00 pm

Tickets: \$40.00 per person

Orland Chateau

14500 S LaGrange Rd

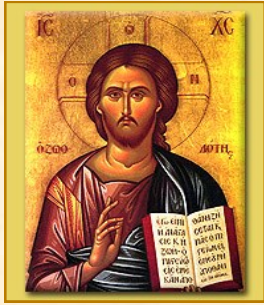
Orland Park, IL 60462

For more information please contact

Rita Sweis 773-510-4303 or

Yasmin Sweis 708-712-9502

See the Antiochian Women for tickets.



Weekly Synaxarion



On February 21 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Venerable Timothy of Symbola; Eustathios, archbishop of Antioch; Zachariah, patriarch of Jerusalem; and George, bishop of Amastris. On this day, we make remembrance of the Parable of the Pharisee and the Publican, which occurs in the Holy Gospel according to Luke the Evangelist. In the parable our Savior tells, Jesus uses a Pharisee, a leader of the synagogue, who was regarded in public opinion as virtuous; and a publican, a tax collector, who was regarded as oppressive, greedy and a sinner. In their prayers to God, we discover the real hearts of these two men. We thus learn of the harm that comes from pride and the good that comes from humility. The divine Church Fathers sought to alert prepare the Christ-loving clergy and laity for the upcoming period of the Great Fast. Therefore, on this Sunday we are reminded that humility is the greatest weapon against pride, as we imitate the humility of the publican to ascend to the divine heights. Through the intercessions of the wonderworking Saints, O Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.