



Saint Mary Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

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Church Office Hours : Monday - Friday 10:00am-3:00pm

Sunday, December 12th, 2021

Sunday of the Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ & Spyridon, bishop of Trimythous, the Wonderworker

John, metropolitan of Zichnon; Hieromartyr Alexander, archbishop of Jerusalem

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!

هلم لنسجد ونركع للمسيح ملكنا والهنا، خلصنا يا ابن الله يا من قام من بين الاموات، لنرتل لك هلوليا!

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone Eight)

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

انحدرت من العلو يا متحنن، وقبلت الدفن ذا الثلاثة الأيام، لكي تُعتقنا من الآلام، فيا حياتنا وقيامتنا، يا رب المجد لك.

Troparion of the Forefathers (Tone Two)

Thou hast justified by faith the ancient Forefathers, and through them Thou hast gone before and betrothed unto Thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory; for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and it was she who gave birth to Thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.

لقد زكيت بالإيمان الآباء القدماء، وبهم سبقت فخطبت البيعة التي من الأمم، فالقديسون بالمجد يفتخرون، إذ من زرعهم أينعت ثمرة حسيبة، وهي التي ولدتك بغير زرع. فبنصرهم أيها المسيح الإله ارحمنا.

Troparion of St. Spyridon (Tone One)

Thou wast shown forth as a champion of the First Council and a wonderworker, O Spyridon, our God-bearing Father. Wherefore, thou didst speak unto one dead in the grave, and didst change a serpent to gold. And while chanting thy holy prayers, thou hadst Angels serving with thee, O most sacred one. Glory to Him that hath glorified thee. Glory to Him that hath crowned thee. Glory to Him that worketh healings for all through thee.

ناضلت بنبات عن المجمع الأول، وظهرت للمعجزات مجترياً عجيباً. فالحيّة صارت ذهباً، والميّنة خاطبتها في القبر، والملائك شاركتك في الصلوات، كليلي الطهر سبيريدون. فالمجد للرب الذي مجدك. المجد للذي كلك. المجد للمانح بك الأشفية للجميع.

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.

في ميلادِكِ حَفِظْتِ البتوليةَ وصننتِها وفي رقادِكِ ما أهملتِ العالمَ وتركتِها يا والدةَ الإله. لأنكِ انتقلتِ إلى الحياة بما أنك أم الحياة. فبشفاعتِكِ أنقذي من الموتِ نفوسنا.

Kontakion of Preparation of Christ's Nativity (Tone Three)

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to God the Word ineffably, Who was before all the ages. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the gladsome tidings; with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing to be gazed on as a young Child Who before the ages is God.

اليومَ العذراءُ تأتي إلى المغارةِ لتلدَ الكلمةَ الذي قَبْلَ الدُّهورِ، ولادةً لا تُفسَّرُ ولا يُنطقُ بها، فأفرجِي أيتها المسكونةُ إذا سمعتِ، ومجدي مع الملائكةِ والرعاةِ، الذي سيظهرُ بمشيئتهِ طفلاً جديداً وهو إلهنا الذي قَبْلَ الدُّهورِ.

Epistle for St. Spyridon

*The saints shall boast in glory.
Sing unto the Lord a new song.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (5:8-19)

Brethren, walk as children of light—for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth—proving what is acceptable to the Lord; and have no communion with the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them; for it is a shame even to speak of the things which they do in secret. But all things when they are exposed are made manifest by the light, for everything that is made manifest is light. Therefore, he says: “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine upon thee.” See then that you walk circumspectly, not as unwise, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit; speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and chanting in your heart to the Lord.

يفتخرُ الأبرارُ بالمجد. رنموا للربِّ ترنيمةً جديدةً.

فصلٌ من رسالةِ القديسِ بولسِ الرسولِ إلى أهلِ أفسس.

يا إخوة، اسلكوا كأولادٍ للنورِ - فإنَّ ثمرَ الروحِ هو في كلِّ صلاحٍ وبرٍّ وحقٍّ - مختبرين ما هو مرضيٌّ لدى الربِّ ولا تشتركوا في أعمالِ الظلمةِ غيرِ المثمرةِ، بل بالأحرى وبخوا عليها. فإنَّ الأفعالَ التي يفعلونها سرّاً، يقبَحُ نكرها أيضاً لكنَّ كلَّ ما يُوبَّخُ عليه، يُعلنُ بالنورِ فإنَّ كلَّ ما يُعلنُ هو نورٌ ولذلك يقول: استيقظْ أيها النائمُ وقم من بينِ الأمواتِ، فيضيءَ لك المسيحُ. فانظروا إذن أن تسلكوا بحذرٍ، لا كجهلاء، بل كحكماء، مُفندينِ الوقتِ فإنَّ الأيامَ شريرةٌ. فلذلك لا تكونوا أغبياء، بل أفهموا ما مشيئةُ الربِّ. ولا تسكروا بالخمِرِ التي فيها الدعاضةُ، بل امتلئوا بالروحِ. مكلِّمينَ بعضُكم بعضاً بمزاميرَ وتسابيحَ وأغانيٍ روحيةٍ مرتمينَ ومرتلينَ في قلوبِكُم للربِّ.

Gospel for the Holy Forefathers

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (14:16-24)

The Lord spoke this parable: “A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come; for all is now ready.’ But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.’ And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ لَوْقَا الْإِنْجِيلِي
النَّبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ.

قَالَ الرَّبُّ هَذَا الْمَثَلُ: إِنْسَانٌ صَنَعَ عَشَاءً عَظِيمًا وَدَعَا
كَثِيرِينَ. فَأَرْسَلَ عَبْدَهُ فِي سَاعَةِ الْعَشَاءِ يَقُولُ
لِلْمَدْعُوعِينَ: تَعَالَوْا فَإِنَّ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ قَدْ أُعِدَّ. فَطَفِقَ كُلُّهُمْ
وَاحِدًا فَوَاحِدًا يَسْتَعْفُونَ. فَقَالَ لَهُ الْأَوَّلُ: قَدْ اشْتَرَيْتُ
حَقْلًا، وَلَا بُدَّ لِي أَنْ أَخْرُجَ وَأَنْظُرَهُ، فَاسْأَلْكَ أَنْ تَعْفِيَنِي.
وَقَالَ الْآخَرُ: قَدْ اشْتَرَيْتُ خَمْسَةَ فِدَادِينَ بَقَرٍ وَأَنَا مَاضٍ
لِأَجْرِبِهَا، فَاسْأَلْكَ أَنْ تَعْفِيَنِي. وَقَالَ الْآخَرُ: قَدْ تَزَوَّجْتُ
امْرَأَةً، فَذَلِكَ لَا أَسْتَطِيعُ أَنْ أَجِيءَ. فَأَتَى الْعَبْدُ وَأَخْبَرَ
سَيِّدَهُ بِذَلِكَ. فَحِينَئِذٍ، غَضِبَ رَبُّ الْبَيْتِ، وَقَالَ لِعَبْدِهِ:
أَخْرُجْ سَرِيعًا إِلَى شَوَارِعِ الْمَدِينَةِ وَأَرْقِفْهَا وَأَدْخِلِ
الْمَسَاكِينَ وَالْجُدَعَ وَالْعُمِيَانَ وَالْعُرْجَ إِلَى هَهُنَا. فَقَالَ
الْعَبْدُ: يَا سَيِّدُ، قَدْ قُضِيَ مَا أَمَرْتَ بِهِ، وَيَبْقَى أَيْضًا
مَحَلٌّ. فَقَالَ السَيِّدُ لِلْعَبْدِ: أَخْرُجْ إِلَى الطَّرِيقِ وَالْأَسْجِجَةِ
وَاضْطَرِّرْهُمْ إِلَى الدُّخُولِ حَتَّى يَمْتَلِئَ بَيْتِي. فَإِنِّي أَقُولُ
لَكُمْ إِنَّهُ لَا يَذُوقُ عَشَائِي أَحَدًا مِنْ أَوْلِيكَ الرِّجَالِ
الْمَدْعُوعِينَ. لِأَنَّ الْمَدْعُوعِينَ كَثِيرُونَ وَالْمُخْتَارِينَ قَلِيلُونَ.

	3rd & 9th Day Memorial Khalil Rabadi Memory Eternal!
	3rd & 9th Day Memorial Ibrahim Nemri Memory Eternal!
	1 Year Memorial Hani Fakhoury Memory Eternal!

	3rd & 9th Day Memorial Jalileh Alsahoury Memory Eternal!
	3rd & 9th Memorial Yacoub Sweis Memory Eternal!

Upcoming Services & Events		
Date	Time	Event
12/10/2021	5:30pm	Nativity Compline
12/11/2021	10:00am	Arabic School
	5:00pm	Great Vespers
12/12/2021	8:45am	Orthros
	10:00am	Liturgy
	10:00am	Sunday School (starts with Liturgy at 10:00 am)
12/15/2021	10:00am	Morning Prayers
	10:30am	Arabic Bible Study
	5:30pm	Nativity Compline
	6:00pm	SOYO Night
12/16/2021	6:00pm	Liturgy for the Prophet Daniel
12/17/2021	5:30pm	Nativity Compline

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

December 12, 2021

Choir and Chanter Appreciation Sunday

Be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

St. Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians 5:18–20

Beloved Brother Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy and Christ-Loving Faithful of our Archdiocese:

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, as we prepare ourselves in eager anticipation of the feast of His glorious Nativity in the flesh.

In the above quotation, St. Paul describes the Christian life itself as essentially musical. It is a life of holy joy, which naturally draws melodies of praise and thanksgiving up from the heart to the lips, so that every corner of Creation might resound with the glories of God. This musical way of life is taught us, first and foremost, by the choirs and chanters who week after week—and sometime day after day—fill our ears with the sweet hymnography of the Church. From the earliest age, these melodies sink into our hearts, so that it is not unusual to hear Orthodox Christians, from toddlers to seniors, spontaneously bursting into sacred song as they go about their daily life. These hymns are the spiritual air we breathe, and they stick with us thanks to the work of all our chanters and choirs.

While we set aside this Sunday in December each year to recognize these dedicated chanters, we strive throughout the year as an archdiocese to give them the resources and support they need, by providing the proper liturgical texts for each service, a growing online library of sacred music, and two annual Sacred Music Institutes (SMIs). This year's SMIs will be in Wichita, KS, (Feb. 17–20) and at the Antiochian Village (July 14–17). We encourage all our parishes to likewise support their choirs and chanters locally, especially by helping them attend training events such as the SMIs.

We truly want to thank the chair of our archdiocesan Department of Sacred Music, Ms. Mareena Boosamra-Ball, and all her team, as well as all our choir directors, chanters and choir members throughout our archdiocese, for their dedicated ministry. Most of you serve on a volunteer basis, and the time and talents you share, each and every week, are an inestimable blessing.

Wishing you and your families a blessed remainder of the Nativity Fast and a joyous feast, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Metropolitan Joseph". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

+JOSEPH
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

358 Mountain Road, P.O. Box 5238, Englewood, NJ 07631-5238
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Annual Winter Food Drive

October 31st thru January 9th



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."



SOYO

Sunday, December 19th after Liturgy

SOYO will be packing lunch for the homeless then the officers will go downtown to distribute

December 27th-29th

16th Annual SOYO Christmas Retreat
Retreat Master: His Grace Bishop ANTHONY

Important: Mark your Calendars for Christmas Liturgy

Important! Please mark your calendars for the Christmas Liturgy. Great Hours and Typika for the Nativity of Christ begins at 10:00am, Orthros at 4:30pm followed by Liturgy at 6pm, Friday 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!



SAINT MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH
PALOS HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS

YOUNG ADULT CHRISTMAS GATHERING

It is finally that time of year!
All young adults ages 18+ are invited to join us for a
Christmas Gathering on
Sunday, December 19th at 6:00 PM.

Wear your ugliest Christmas sweater & bring your
favorite fasting dish to share!
There will be tons of fun games and activities, an
Ugly Christmas Sweater contest, yummy fasting
food, and more!

PLEASE USE THE ATTACHED LINK TO RSVP.
QUESTIONS? CONTACT FABIOLA SWEIS
(FSWEIS@STMARYOC.ORG), MARRAM SALMAN (+1 (708) 307-7473)
OR DENAH SWEIS (+1 (708) 830-0834)

16th Annual SOYO Christmas Retreat

December 27th-29th
Dickson Valley

This year we will be learning
about the virtues with
His Grace Bishop ANTHONY!



All teens 13 years old and over are invited to our Annual Christmas Retreat! Join us for an amazing experience where you will grow in your faith and have a great time with your friends! The retreat schedule includes sessions with Sayidna, basketball, rock-climbing, snow tubing, laser tag, and much more.

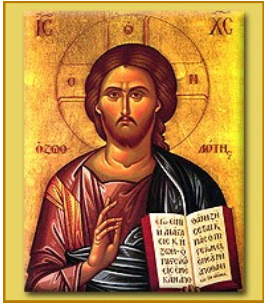
Cost per participant - \$150

If you are in need of financial assistance contact Fr. Mousa directly.

[Click here to register](#)

[All registrations must be submitted by Dec 12th](#)

Contact Fabiola with any questions
fsweis@stmaryoc.org



Weekly Synaxarion



On December 12 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate John, metropolitan of Zichnon; and Hieromartyr Alexander, archbishop of Jerusalem. On this day, we commemorate our righteous Father Spyridon the Wonderworker, Bishop of Trimythous in Cyprus. Spyridon was of simple farming stock, and remained simple and humble to the end of his days. He married young and had children, but, when his wife died, he devoted himself entirely to the service of God. When he became Bishop of Trimythous, Spyridon did not change his simple style of life, taking charge of his cattle himself and tilling his own land. He consumed very little of his own produce, giving the greater part to the poor. Spyridon performed great wonders by God's power, making rain fall in a drought, stopping the course of a river, raising several of the dead, healing the Emperor Constans of a grave sickness, seeing and hearing angels, foreseeing future events and penetrating the secrets of the human heart. Spyridon was present at the first Ecumenical Council in Nicaea in 325, and, by his simple and clear expositions of the Faith, as well as by convincing miracles, brought back many heretics to Orthodoxy. He entered into rest in the Lord in 348, and his wonderworking relics now lie on the island of Corfu. On this day, we celebrate the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers (Ancestors) of our Lord Jesus. We remember all the holy Patriarchs of the Old Testament who prefigured or foretold Christ: Adam the first Father, Enoch, Melchizedek, Abraham, the friend of God, Isaac, the fruit of the Promise, Jacob and the twelve patriarchs. We then commemorate those who lived under the Law: Moses, Aaron, Joshua, Samuel, David, and the Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel; the twelve minor prophets; Elijah, Elisha, Zachariah, and John the Baptist; and finally the Virgin Mary, the intermediary between mankind and her divine Son. Indeed, the Lord Jesus did not come to abolish the Law and the Prophets, but to redeem humanity which bemoaned the weight of evil since Adam; to realize the promise made to Abraham; to change the Law of Fear into the Law of Love; and to give Resurrection and Life to mankind. This feast prepares us for the Nativity of Jesus Christ, placing before us the anticipation and hope for His coming among us. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.