



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 18th, 2022

Sunday before the Nativity of Christ (The Genealogy)

Martyrs Sebastian and Zoe of Rome, and Those with Them

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!

هَلْمُ لِنَسْجُدْ وَنَرْكِعْ لِلْمَسِيحِ مَلَكْنَا وَالْهَنَا، خَلَصْنَا يَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ يَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، لِنُرْتَلِ لَكَ هَلْلُويَا!

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.

عِنْدَمَا انْحَدَرْتَ إِلَى الْمَوْتِ، أَيُّهَا الْحَيَاءُ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ، حِينَئِذٍ أَمَتَّ الْجَحِيمَ بِبِرِّقِ لَاهُوتِكَ. وَعِنْدَمَا أَقَمْتَ الْأَمْوَاتِ مِنْ تَحْتِ الثَّرَى، صَرَخَ نَحْوِكَ جَمِيعُ الْقُوَّاتِ السَّمَاوِيِّينَ: أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهُ، مُعْطِي الْحَيَاةِ الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

Troparion for Sunday Before the Nativity (Tone Two)

Great are the accomplishments of faith; for the three holy youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as though at waters of rest. And the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. Wherefore, by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

عَظِيمَةٌ هِيَ أَعْمَالُ الْإِيمَانِ، لِأَنَّ الْفَتْيَةَ الثَّلَاثَةَ الْقَدِيسِينَ قَدِ ابْتَهَجُوا فِي يَنْبُوعِ اللَّهْيَبِ كَأَنَّهُمْ عَلَى مَاءِ الرَّاحَةِ، وَالنَّبِيُّ دَانِيَالُ ظَهَرَ رَاعِيًا لِلسَّبَاعِ كَأَنَّهُمْ غَنَمٌ، فَبِتَضَرُّعِهِمْ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهُ خَلِّصْ نُفُوسَنَا.

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.

فِي مِيلَادِكَ حَفِظْتَ الْبَتُولِيَّةَ وَصَنَنْتَهَا وَفِي رِقَادِكَ مَا أَهْمَلْتِ الْعَالَمَ وَتَرَكْتِهِ يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهُ. لِأَنَّكَ انْتَقَلْتِ إِلَى الْحَيَاةِ بِمَا أَنْكَ أُمَّ الْحَيَاةِ. فَبِشَفَاعَاتِكَ أَنْقِذِي مِنَ الْمَوْتِ نُفُوسَنَا.

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 المغارة لتلد الكلمة الذي قبل الدهور، ولادة لا تُفسر ولا يُنطقُ بها، فأفرجِي أيتها المسكونة إذا سمعت، ومجدي مع الملائكة والرعاة، الذي سيظهر بمشيئته طفلاً جديداً وهو إلهنا الذي قبل الدهور.

Epistle for the Sunday before the Nativity

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.

For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (11:9-10; 32-40)

Brethren, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not

مُباركٌ أنت يا ربُّ إله آباءنا.

لأنك عدلٌ في كلِّ ما صنعت بنا.

فصلٌ من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى العبرانيين.

يا إخوة، بالإيمان نزل إبراهيم في أرض الميعاد نُزولَهُ في أرضٍ غريبة، وسكن في خيامٍ مع اسحق ويعقوب الوارثين معه للموعِدِ بعينه. لأنه انتظر المدينة ذات الأسس التي الله صانعها وبارئها. وماذا أقول أيضاً؟ إنهُ يضيق بي الوقت إن أخبرت عن جَدعون، وباراق، وشمشون، ويفتاح، وداود، وصموئيل، والأنبياء، الذين بالإيمان قهرُوا الممالك، وعمَلُوا البر، ونالوا المواعِدَ، وسَدُّوا أفواه الأسود. وأطفأوا جِدَّة النار، ونَجَّوا من حدِّ السيف، ونَقَّووا من ضَعْفٍ، وصاروا أشداءً في الحرب، وكَسَرُوا مُعَسَّكَراتِ الأجنبي، وأخذت نساءً أمواتهنَّ بقيامة. وعُذِّب آخرون بتوتير الأعضاء والضرب، ولم يقبلوا بالنجاة ليحصلوا على قيامة أفضل. وآخرون ذاقوا الهُزءَ، والجلدَ، والقُيودَ أيضاً والسجن. ورُجِمُوا، ونُشِرُوا، وامْتَحِنُوا، وماتوا بِحدِّ السيف، وساحوا في جلود غنمٍ ومعزٍ، وهُم

receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

مُعَوَّزُونَ مُضَايِقُونَ مَجْهُودُونَ — وَلَمْ يَكُنِ الْعَالَمُ
مُسْتَحِقًّا لَهُمْ — وَكَانُوا تَائِهِينَ فِي الْبَرَارِي، وَالْجِبَالِ،
وَالْمَغَاوِرِ، وَكُهُوفِ الْأَرْضِ. فَهَؤُلَاءِ كُلُّهُمْ مَشْهُودًا لَهُمْ
بِالْإِيمَانِ، لَمْ يَنَالُوا الْمَوَاعِدَ، لِأَنَّ اللَّهَ سَبَقَ فَتَنَظَرَ لَنَا
شَيْئًا أَفْضَلَ، أَنْ لَا يَكْمُلُوا بَدُونَنَا.

Gospel for the Sunday before the Nativity: “The Genealogy”

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (1:1-25)

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفًا مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ.

كِتَابُ مِيلَادِ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ ابْنِ دَاوُدَ ابْنِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ.
فِإِبْرَاهِيمَ وَوَلَدَ إِسْحَاقَ، وَإِسْحَاقُ وَوَلَدَ يَعْقُوبَ، وَيَعْقُوبُ وَوَلَدَ
يَهُوذَا وَإِخْوَتَهُ. وَيَهُوذَا وَوَلَدَ فَارِصَ، وَزَارِحَ مِنْ تَامَارَ،
وَفَارِصُ وَوَلَدَ حَضْرُونَ، وَحَضْرُونَ وَوَلَدَ أَرَامَ. وَأَرَامُ وَوَلَدَ
عَمِينَادَابَ، وَعَمِينَادَابُ وَوَلَدَ نَحْشُونَ، وَنَحْشُونَ وَوَلَدَ
سَلْمُونَ. وَسَلْمُونَ وَوَلَدَ بُوعَزَ مِنْ رَا حَابَ، وَبُوعَزُ وَوَلَدَ
عُوبِيدَ مِنْ رَاعُوثَ، وَعُوبِيدُ وَوَلَدَ يَسَى، وَيَسَى وَوَلَدَ دَاوُدَ
الْمَلِكِ. وَدَاوُدُ الْمَلِكُ وَوَلَدَ سُلَيْمَانَ مِنَ التِّي كَانَتْ
لَأُورِيَا. وَسُلَيْمَانُ وَوَلَدَ رَحْبَعَامَ، وَرَحْبَعَامُ وَوَلَدَ أَبِيَا، وَأَبِيَا
وَوَلَدَ آسَا. وَآسَا وَوَلَدَ يَوْشَافَاطَ، وَيَوْشَافَاطُ وَوَلَدَ يُوْرَامَ،
ويُوْرَامُ وَوَلَدَ عَزْرِيَا. وَعَزْرِيَا وَوَلَدَ يُوْتَامَ، وَيُوْتَامُ وَوَلَدَ آحَازَ،
وَآحَازُ وَوَلَدَ حَزْقِيَا. وَحَزْقِيَا وَوَلَدَ مَنَسَى، وَمَنَسَى وَوَلَدَ
أَمُونَ، وَأَمُونَ وَوَلَدَ يَوْشِيَا. وَيَوْشِيَا وَوَلَدَ يَكُنْيَا وَإِخْوَتَهُ فِي
جَلَاءِ بَابِلَ. وَمِنْ بَعْدِ جَلَاءِ بَابِلَ، يَكُنْيَا وَوَلَدَ شَأَلْتَيْلَ،
وَشَأَلْتَيْلُ وَوَلَدَ زَرْبَابَيْلَ. وَزَرْبَابَيْلُ وَوَلَدَ أَبِيهُودَ، وَأَبِيهُودُ وَوَلَدَ
أَلْيَاقِيمَ، وَالْأَلْيَاقِيمُ وَوَلَدَ عَازُورَ. وَعَازُورُ وَوَلَدَ صَادُوقَ،
وَصَادُوقُ وَوَلَدَ أُخِيمَ، وَأُخِيمُ وَوَلَدَ أَلْيَهُودَ. وَأَلْيَهُودُ وَوَلَدَ
أَلْعَازَارَ، وَالْأَلْعَازَارُ وَوَلَدَ مَتَّانَ، وَمَتَّانُ وَوَلَدَ يَعْقُوبَ.

father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, Who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ were fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and His Name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called His Name Jesus.

وَيَعْقُوبُ وَآدَمُ يَوْسُفَ رَجُلٍ مَرِيَمَ الَّتِي وُلِدَ مِنْهَا يَسُوعُ،
الَّذِي يُدْعَى الْمَسِيحَ. فَكُلُّ الْأَجْيَالِ مِنْ إِبْرَاهِيمَ إِلَى
دَاوُدَ أَرْبَعَةَ عَشَرَ جِيلًا، وَمِنْ دَاوُدَ إِلَى جَلَاءِ بَابِلَ
أَرْبَعَةَ عَشَرَ جِيلًا، وَمِنْ جَلَاءِ بَابِلَ إِلَى الْمَسِيحِ أَرْبَعَةَ
عَشَرَ جِيلًا. أَمَّا مَوْلُدُ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ فَكَانَ هَكَذَا. لَمَّا
خُطِبَتْ مَرِيَمُ أُمُّهُ لِيَوْسُفَ، وَجِدَتْ مِنْ قَبْلِ أَنْ يَجْتَمِعَا
حُبْلَى مِنَ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ. وَإِذْ كَانَ يَوْسُفُ رَجُلًا
صِدِّيقًا، وَلَمْ يُرِدْ أَنْ يُشْهَرَهَا، هَمَّ بِتَخْلِيَتِهَا سِرًّا. وَفِيمَا
هُوَ مُتَّفَكِّرٌ فِي ذَلِكَ، إِذَا بِمَلَاكِ الرَّبِّ ظَهَرَ لَهُ فِي
الْحُلْمِ، قَائِلًا: يَا يَوْسُفُ ابْنَ دَاوُدَ، لَا تَخَفْ أَنْ تَأْخُذَ
امْرَأَتَكَ مَرِيَمَ. فَإِنَّ الْمَوْلُودَ فِيهَا إِنَّمَا هُوَ مِنَ الرُّوحِ
الْقُدُسِ. وَسَتَلِدُ ابْنًا فَتُسَمِّيهِ يَسُوعَ، فَإِنَّهُ هُوَ يُخَلِّصُ
شَعْبَهُ مِنْ خَطَايَاهُمْ. وَكَانَ هَذَا كُلُّهُ لِيَتِمَّ مَا قِيلَ مِنَ
الرَّبِّ بِالنَّبِيِّ الْقَائِلِ: هَا إِنَّ الْعَذْرَاءَ تَحْبِلُ، وَتَلِدُ ابْنًا،
وَيُدْعَى عِمَّا نُؤْيِيلَ (الَّذِي تَفْسِيرُهُ اللَّهُ مَعَنَا). فَلَمَّا نَهَضَ
يَوْسُفُ مِنَ النَّوْمِ، صَنَعَ كَمَا أَمَرَهُ مَلَاكُ الرَّبِّ. فَآخَذَ
امْرَأَتَهُ. وَلَمْ يَعْرِفْهَا حَتَّى وَلَدَتْ ابْنَهَا الْبِكْرَ، وَسَمَّاهُ
يَسُوعَ.



1 Year Memorial
Raedah Tadros
Memory Eternal!



Wedding
Labeeb Ansemoss Haddad
and
Tamara Amjad Alqazaha
Congratulations!



David Amjad Sweiss
Bachelor Degree in
Finance/Business Management
University of Illinois in Chicago
Congratulations!

Upcoming Services & Events

Date	Time	Event
12/15/2022	7:00pm	Choir Practice
12/16/2022	5:00pm	Nativity Compline
	6:00pm	Jr. SOYO Night
	6:00pm	Kids SOYO Night
	7:00pm	Adult Education
12/17/2022	10:00am	Arabic School/Christmas Program
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy for the Prophet Daniel
	5:00pm	Great Vespers
	5:45pm	Compline with Canon for Holy Communion
12/18/2022	8:15am	Prayers before Holy Communion
	8:45am	Orthros
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
	10:00am	Sunday School
	12:30pm	Antiochian Women Ghraibeh Sale
12/19/2022	5:00pm	Nativity Compline
	6:30pm	Adult Open Gym
12/21/2022	10:00am	Morning Prayers
	10:30am	Arabic Bible Study
	5:30pm	Prayers before Holy Communion
	6:00pm	Divine Liturgy for St. Anastasia the Great Martyr
	6:00pm	Teen SOYO Night



St Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights

Antiochian Women

Ghraibeh Sale Sunday, December 18th

The Antiochian Women will be making fresh homemade ghraibeh. You can purchase these delicious cookies at church after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, December 18th.



**\$15
Per Box**

If you have any questions please call Rita Sweis at 773-510-4303 or see to any of the Antiochian Women.

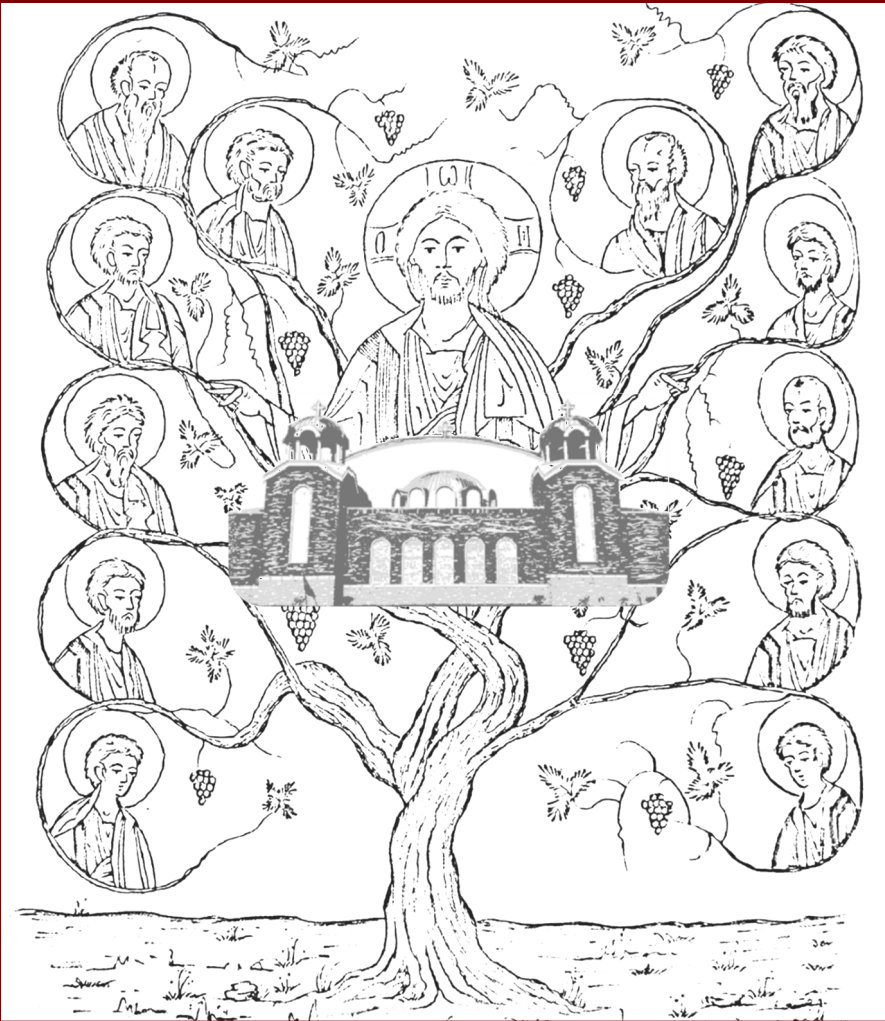
Nativity Fast & Christmas Reminder!

The Nativity Fast (Advent) began Tuesday, 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. Starting with Orthros at 4:30pm followed by Liturgy at 6pm, Saturday 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!

St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights Adult Education with Fr. Mousa



The Orthodox Church

Join Fr. Mousa twice a month to learn more about the teachings of the Orthodox Faith!

*Beginning Friday,
September 9th, 2022
at 7:00pm*

This class is open to all adults who are desiring to learn and grow in the Orthodox Faith. For those of you with children, this class will be in conjunction with Jr SOYO and Kids SOYO! The schedule is listed below. Contact Fabiola with any questions at fsweis@stmaryoc.org.

Dates of Class	Topic
09/09/2022	The True God
09/23/2022	The Human Being
10/14/2022	Sin
10/28/2022	Jesus Christ the Son of God
11/04/2022	Jesus Christ the Savior of the World
11/18/2022	Repentance and Faith
12/02/2022	The Holy Spirit
12/16/2022	The Church & the Mother of God

**The schedule for the new year will be released during class.*

“The person who loves God values knowledge of God more than anything created by God, and pursues such knowledge ardently and ceaselessly.”

+ St. Maximos the Confessor

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

FOOD DRIVE

**NON-PERISHABLE
FOOD ITEMS ONLY**

ITEMS ACCEPTED:

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



**Oct. 2nd
to Jan. 8th**

Drop Off Times

**Sunday Mornings &
Mon. - Fri. 10am - 3pm**

**HELP DONATE
TO THOSE IN
HUNGER!**

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

6330 W. 127th St., Palos Heights, IL 60463 708-239-0004

17th Annual SOYO Christmas Retreat

December 27th-29th
Dickson Valley

"Reach for the Star"

Keynote speaker:
Fr John Mahfouz
St Matthew Church, Torrance CA



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 Fr John, prayer, basketball, rock-climbing, snow tubing, laser tag, and much more.

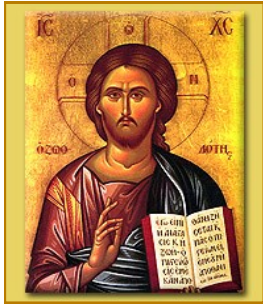
Cost per participant - \$150

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

[Click here to register](#)

[All registrations must be submitted by Dec 1st](#)

Contact Fabiola with any questions
fsweis@stmaryoc.org



Weekly Synaxarion



On December 18 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy, glorious and rightvictorious Martyrs Sebastian and Zoe of Rome, and those with them. On this day, the Sunday before the Nativity of Christ, we have been enjoined by our holy and God-bearing Fathers to make commemoration of all them that from the beginning of time have been well-pleasing unto God, from Adam even unto Joseph the Betrothed of the Most Holy Theotokos, according to genealogy, as Luke the Evangelist hath recounted historically; and likewise for the Prophets and Prophetesses, especially of Daniel the Prophet and the three holy youths. It is also known as the Sunday of the Holy Genealogy. We remember the aforementioned names, those in the Old Testament who were related to Christ by blood, and those who spoke of His Birth as a man. In the Divine Liturgy, we shall read of Jesus Christ's lineage from the Gospel of Saint Matthew. In this way, the Church shows us that Christ truly became a man, taking on human nature. He was not a ghost, an apparition, a myth, a distant imagined god, or the abstract god of philosophers; such a god does not have a family tree. Our God is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. He has flesh and blood, human ancestors—many of whom sinned greatly, but like David, also repented greatly. Yet, all of these righteous ones in every age had been wellpleasing to God because they loved Him. By taking on human nature, the Son of God became like us in all ways, in flesh and blood, in mind and soul, and in heart and will. He differed from us in only one way: He could not sin. Since we know that Christ's human nature remained sinless, He is also fully divine, and He shows us the way in which we can avoid sin, and so improve and transform our human nature. By their holy intercessions, O God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.