



# Saint Mary Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

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

Sunday, October 12th, 2025

## Sunday of Holy Fathers of Seventh Ecumenical Council & Fourth Sunday of Luke

Martyrs Probos, Andronikos and Tarachos at Tarsus; Martyr Domnina at Anazarbus in Cilicia;  
Virgin Martyr Anastasia of Rome

### 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!

هَلُمَّ لِنَسْجُدْ وَنَرْكَعْ لِلْمَسِيحِ مَلَكُنَا وَالْهَنَا، خَلَصَنَا يَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ يَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنَ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، لِنُرْتَلِ لَكَ هَلْلُويَا!

### Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone One)

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body,  
Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the  
heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ,  
glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

إِنَّ الْحَجَرَ لَمَّا خُتِمَ مِنَ الْيَهُودِ، وَجَسَدَكَ الطَّاهِرَ حَفِظَ مِنَ الْجُنْدِ، قُمْتَ فِي الْيَوْمِ الثَّالِثِ أَيُّهَا الْمُخَلِّصُ، مَانِحاً  
العَالَمَ الْحَيَاةَ. لِذَلِكَ قُوَّتُ السَّمَاوَاتِ، هَتُّفُوا إِلَيْكَ يَا وَاهِبَ الْحَيَاةِ: الْمَجْدُ لِقِيَامَتِكَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ، الْمَجْدُ لِمُلْكِكَ،  
الْمَجْدُ لِتَدْبِيرِكَ، يَا مُحِبَّ الْبَشَرِ وَحَدَّكَ.

### Troparion of the Holy Fathers (Tone Eight)

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our holy Fathers as  
luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most  
merciful One, glory to Thee.

أَنْتَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُنَا الْفَائِقُ التَّسْبِيحِ، يَا مَنْ أَسَّسْتَ آبَاءَنَا الْقِدِّيسِينَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ كَوَاكِبَ لَامِعَةٍ، وَبِهِمْ  
هَدَيْتَنَا جَمِيعاً إِلَى الْإِيمَانِ الْحَقِيقِيِّ، يَا جَزِيلَ الرَّحْمَةِ، الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

### 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 وَصَنَّتْهَا وَفِي رِقَادِكَ مَا أَهْمَلْتِ الْعَالَمَ وَتَرَكْتِهِ يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ. لِأَنَّكَ انْتَقَلْتِ إِلَى  
الْحَيَاةِ بِمَا أَنْكَ أُمُّ الْحَيَاةِ. فَبِشَفَاعَاتِكَ أَنْقِذِي مِنَ الْمَوْتِ نَفُوسَنَا.

## Kontakion of the Theotokos (Tone Two)

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

يا شفيعَةَ الْمَسِيحِيِّينَ غَيْرَ الْخَازِيَةِ، الْوَسِيطَةَ لَدَى الْخَالِقِ غَيْرَ الْمَرْذُودَةِ، لَا تُعْرِضِي عَنْ أَصْوَابِ طَلِبَاتِنَا  
نَحْنُ الْخَطَّاءَةُ، بَلْ تَدَارِكِينَا بِالْمَعُونَةِ بِمَا أَتَكَ صَالِحَةً، نَحْنُ الصَّارِخِينَ إِلَيْكَ بِإِيمَانٍ: بَادِرِي إِلَى الشَّفَاعَةِ  
وَأَسْرِعِي فِي الطَّلِبَةِ، يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ، الْمُتَشَفِّعَةَ دَائِمًا بِمُكْرَمِيكَ.

## The Epistle for the Holy Fathers

*Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers. For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done to us.*

### The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to St. Titus. (3:8-15)

Titus, my son, faithful is the saying, and concerning these things I desire you to affirm confidently, that those who have believed in God may be thoughtful of how to preside in honorable occupations. These things are good and profitable to men. But avoid foolish disputes, and genealogies, and contentions, and controversies about the Law; for they are unprofitable and vain. A man who is a heretic after the first and second admonition reject, knowing that such a one is subverted, and sins, being self-condemned. When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicós, give diligence to come to me to Nicopolis; for I have determined to winter there. Set forward Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently, that they may be lacking in nothing. And let our people also learn how to preside in honorable occupations, so as to help in cases of urgent need, that they should not be unfruitful. All who are with me salute you. Salute those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

مُبَارَكٌ أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ إِلَهَ آبَائِنَا.

لَأَنَّكَ عَدْلٌ فِي كُلِّ مَا صَنَعْتَ بِنَا.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ بُولُسَ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى تَيْطُسَ.

يَا وَلَدِي تَيْطُسَ، صَادِقَةٌ هِيَ الْكَلِمَةُ وَإِيَّاهَا أُرِيدُ أَنْ  
تُقَرَّرَ حَتَّى يَهْتَمَّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا بِاللَّهِ فِي الْقِيَامِ بِالْأَعْمَالِ  
الْحَسَنَةِ، فَهَذِهِ هِيَ الْأَعْمَالُ الْحَسَنَةُ وَالنَّافِعَةُ. أَمَّا  
الْمُبَاحَثَاتُ الْهَدْيَانِيَّةُ وَالْأَنْسَابُ وَالْخُصُومَاتُ  
وَالْمُمَاحَكَاتُ النَّامُوسِيَّةُ فَاجْتَنِبْهَا، فَإِنَّهَا غَيْرُ نَافِعَةٍ  
وَبَاطِلَةٌ. وَرَجُلٌ الْبِدْعَةَ بَعْدَ الْإِنْذَارِ مَرَّةً وَأُخْرَى أَعْرِضْ  
عَنْهُ. عَالِمًا أَنَّ مَنْ هُوَ كَذَلِكَ قَدْ اعْتَسَفَ، وَهُوَ فِي  
الْخَطِيئَةِ يَقْضِي بِنَفْسِهِ عَلَى نَفْسِهِ. وَمَتَى أَرْسَلْتُ إِلَيْكَ  
أَرْتِيمَاسَ أَوْ تِيخِيكُسَ، فَبَادِرْ أَنْ تَأْتِيَنِي إِلَى نِيكُوبُولِسَ  
لَأَنِّي قَدْ عَزَمْتُ أَنْ أَشْتَبِي هُنَاكَ. أَمَّا زِينَاسُ مُعَلِّمُ  
النَّامُوسِ وَأَبْلُوسُ، فَاجْتَهِدْ أَنْ تُشَيِّعَهُمَا مُتَأَهِّبِينَ لِنَلَّا  
يُعَوِّزُهُمَا شَيْءٌ. وَلِيَتَعَلَّمْ دُونَا أَنْ يَقُومُوا بِالْأَعْمَالِ  
الصَّالِحَةِ لِلْحَاجَاتِ الضَّرُورِيَّةِ حَتَّى لَا يَكُونُوا غَيْرَ  
مُثْمِرِينَ. يُسَلِّمُ عَلَيْكَ جَمِيعُ الَّذِينَ مَعِي، سَلِّمٌ عَلَى الَّذِينَ  
يُحِبُّونَنَا فِي الْإِيمَانِ، النَّعْمَةُ مَعَكُمْ أَجْمَعِينَ. آمِينَ.

## The Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Luke

### The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (8:5-15)

The Lord spoke this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when His Disciples asked Him what this parable meant, Jesus said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As Jesus said this, He called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس لوقا الإنجيلي  
البشير والتلميذ الطاهر.

قال الرب هذا المثل: خرج الزارع ليزرع زرعته. وفيما هو يزرع، سقط بعض على الطريق، فوطئ وأكلته طيور السماء. والبعض سقط على الصخر، فلما نبت يبس لأنه لم تكن له رطوبة. وبعض سقط بين الشوك، فنبت الشوك معه فخنقه. وبعض سقط في الأرض الصالحة، فلما نبت أثمر مائة ضعف. فسأله تلاميذه ما عسى أن يكون هذا المثل. فقال: لكم قد أعطي أن تعرفوا أسرار ملكوت الله، وأما الباقون فبأمثال، لكي لا ينظروا وهم ناظرون، ولا يفهموا وهم سامعون. وهذا هو المثل: الزرع هو كلمة الله. والذين على الطريق هم الذين يسمعون، ثم يأتي إبليس وينزع الكلمة من قلوبهم لئلا يؤمنوا فيخلصوا. والذين على الصخر هم الذين يسمعون الكلمة ويقبلونها بفرح، ولكن ليس لهم أصل، وإنما يؤمنون إلى حين، وفي وقت التجربة يرتدون. والذي سقط في الشوك، هم الذين يسمعون ثم يذهبون فيختنقون بهموم هذه الحياة وغناها وملذاتها، فلا يأتون بثمر. وأما الذي سقط في الأرض الجيدة، فهم الذين يسمعون الكلمة فيحفظونها في قلب جيد صالح، ويثرون بالصبر. ولما قال هذا نادى: من له أذنان للسمع فليسمع.



**Memory Eternal**  
Fadwa Nichola Sweis



**Removal of Crowns**  
Issa and Rawan Haddad  
**Congratulations!**

## Upcoming Services & Events

Date	Time	Event
10/12/2025	8:15am	Prayers before Holy Communion
	8:45am	Orthros
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
	12:00pm	Fall Harvest Festival
10/13/2025	8:30am	Prayers before Holy Communion
	9:00am	Liturgy for St Jacob of Hamatoura
10/14/2025	9:00am	Orthros
	6:30pm	Catechism Class
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
10/15/2025	7:00am	Orthros
	10:00am	Arabic Bible Study
	6:00pm	Paraklesis
	6:00pm	Teen SOYO
10/16/2025	9:00am	Orthros
10/17/2025	7:00am	Orthros
	6:00pm	Great Vespers for St. Luke the Evangelist
10/18/2025	8:30am	Prayers Before Holy Communion
	9:00am	Orthros
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy for St. Luke
	10:00am	Arabic School
	5:00pm	Great Vespers
	6:00pm	Compline with Canon for Holy Communion

*St. Mary's Sunday School invites you to our*

# **Godparent Sunday & Fall Harvest Festival**

## **Sunday, October 12th, 2025**

Godparents and your Godchildren are encouraged to attend Divine Liturgy at 10:00am followed by a fun filled afternoon! There will not be Sunday School. All students will remain in the church for the prayer with their Godparents, then go outside for the festival after the dismissal.

**Food Truck | Ice Cream | Bake Sale  
Games | Basketball | 4 Square  
Bags Tournament | Photo Booth**

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS

## Awareness Day

AS NAC TEEN SOYO PREPARES TO SPONSOR THE HISTORIC **45TH ANNUAL SPECIAL OLYMPICS SPORTS CAMP** AT ANTIOCHIAN VILLAGE IN AUGUST 2026, WE ASK FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT TO HELP MAKE THIS BELOVED MINISTRY POSSIBLE.

EACH YEAR, APPROXIMATELY 300 SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETES AND COACHES PARTICIPATE IN THE CAMP. TEEN SOYO MEMBERS FROM ACROSS OUR ARCHDIOCESE VOLUNTEER A WEEK OF THEIR TIME AND LIVE IN SERVICE TO THE ATHLETES—FULFILLING THE SCRIPTURAL CALL TO SERVE "AS WORKING FOR THE LORD, NOT FOR MEN" *Colossians 3:23*.



Next Sunday, October 19, our teens will be collecting financial donations to help sponsor this remarkable event. Your contributions make it possible for every athlete, coach, and teen volunteer to attend the camp at no cost. They also help cover travel expenses for the SOYO members who come to serve.

As a token of appreciation, our teens will offer bookmarks featuring the icon of Christ the High Priest to all who contribute.

Thank you for prayerfully considering a gift to this ministry. Your support helps our youth grow in Christ by giving them a unique opportunity to love and care for others. Checks may be made payable to your local Teen SOYO group, with "SOAD 2025" in the memo line.

Donations can also be made online at [www.teensoyo.org/special-olympics](http://www.teensoyo.org/special-olympics).

Venmo @NAC-SOYO

### DID YOU KNOW?

Each year, NAC Teen SOYO covers the cost of the camp, approximately \$75,000, through the generosity of our fellow parishioners. Through the years, we have hosted more than 8,500 athletes and coaches. Around 1,200 of our teens have had the unique experience of being a coach or volunteer at the camp.



venmo



**Special Olympics**

ST MARY YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

# UPCOMING EVENTS!

THURS  
SEPT 25

YAM PUMPKIN PAINTING CONTEST

SUN  
OCT 5

YAM COFFEE HOUR

OCT  
18

YAM DEANERY RETREAT

SAT  
OCT 25

BENGTSON'S FARM OUTING

SUN  
NOV 2

YAM COFFEE HOUR

TUES  
NOV 25

YAM MOVIE NIGHT

# St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights



## Arabic School المدرسة العربية

كنيسة رقاد السيدة الأنطاكية الأرثوذكسية

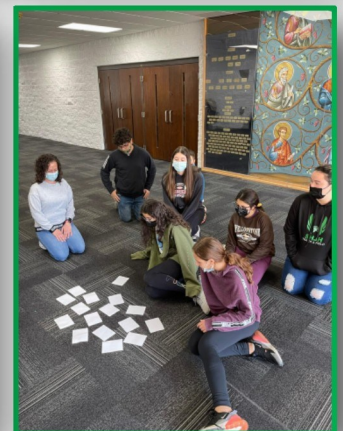
**Arabic School will be every Saturday starting October 4<sup>th</sup> from 10am-12pm!**

Ages 5 & up!  
(Must be 5 by end of 2025)  
Adults are welcome!

1st student - \$275  
2nd student - \$225  
3rd student - \$175  
4th student - free

[Click here](#) or scan the QR code to register.

For questions, contact Randa Muasher at [arabic@stmaryoc.org](mailto:arabic@stmaryoc.org)



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.



**October 5 -  
January 4**

## **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**

# Food Drive for Hunger



**It's  
Easy**  
to  
Help !



- Water, Hand Sanitizer, Masks
- Canned Soups (include a can opener)
- Pasta Meals & Canned Sauce
- Canned Meat & Fish
- Canned Fruit & Vegetables
- Fresh Produce & Fruit
- Allergy Friendly Food Options
  - Gluten Free, Nut Free, Dairy Free
- Flour, Cornmeal, Rice, Dry Beans, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Crackers
- Shelf Stable Milk, Cereals, Cooking Oils, Boxed Meals
- Pancake & Muffin Mix that Only Require Water, Instant Foods
- Baby Food, Juice Boxes, Apples Sauce & Granola Bars
- Baby Clothes, Baby Diapers & Wipes
- Clothing, Hats, Coats, Gloves, Pants, Shirts, Sweaters
- Blankets, Underwear, Shoes and Socks (Socks #1 requested item)
- Household Cleaning Supplies & Paper Products
- Hand Soap, Shampoo, Body Wash, Deodorant, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Floss, Body Wipes, Mouthwash, Gloves, Razors, Shaving Cream, Feminine Hygiene Products, Lotion, Powder, Combs & Brushes
- Backpacks, Duffle bags, Portable Chargers
- First Aid Kit & Flash Lights

**Most Needed  
Items in 2025:**

# YAM DEANERY RETREAT

Saturday,  
October 18th

St. Mary Orthodox Church  
6330 W 127<sup>th</sup> St.  
Palos Heights IL

## Chicago YAM Deanery event!

All young adults in  
the Chicago-land  
area are welcome  
to join us Saturday,  
October 18<sup>th</sup> for an  
all day retreat!

### *“Reorienting the Heart”*

Keynote Speaker:  
Fr. Athanasios  
Papagiannis

### Schedule:

10:00am: Divine Liturgy for  
St. Luke the Evangelist  
11:30am: Breakfast  
12:30pm: Session 1  
1:30pm: Breakout activities  
2:30pm: Session 2  
3:30pm: Break  
4:00pm: Q&A  
5:00pm: Vespers and Compline  
6:30pm: Dinner at Porfillo's

Register Here:



\$25 per  
person



Join us at  
**BENGTSONS**  
Farm

Saturday, October 25

All young adults are welcome to join  
us at BENGTONS farm from 12:00-  
4:30pm

Please join us afterwards at the  
church for Vespers and Compline at  
5:00pm

@saintmaryyam



# *St. Mary's Annual Thanksgiving Dinner*

*Hosted by Our Antiochian Women*

*Saturday, November 8, 2025*

*St. Mary Orthodox Church*

*6330 W. 127th St.*

*Palos Heights, IL 60463*

*Join us for food, music, and raffle!*

*Doors open at 6:00pm*

*Tickets: Adults - \$40*

*Children (5-12yrs) - \$20*

*(Tickets are non-refundable)*

*Live entertainment - Our very own Saed Kfoury*

*Please contact Shireen Salman 708-717-9640, Kholoud Swais*

*708-431-0084, Nina Atiyeh 708-768-4614, Rita Sweis*

*773-510-4303 or any of the Antiochian Women.*

***"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord"***

***Psalm 92:1***



# ODEH and JAMILEH

– AKKAWI FOUNDATION –  
SINCE 2015

**The Odeh and Jamileh Akkawi Foundation is now accepting applicants for its annual scholarship.**

This scholarship is intended to provide our children with the resources they need to reach their God-given potential. The future prosperity of our beloved communities depends on educated leaders who are well-rounded, and are not afraid to take risks in order to advance themselves – and all of us – to the highest levels possible.

**PLEASE APPLY HERE: <https://forms.gle/su55m6iy5vRj3pPD7>**

### **Important Notes:**

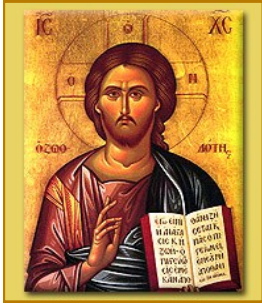
1. Each student selected to participate in the scholarship program will be awarded a \$1,000 annually through the 12th grade, as long as the requirements are met each year.
2. The scholarship includes \$500 for tuition, books, school supplies, \$500 for extra-curricular activities, and access to a curated monthly enrichment program.  
Selected students will receive the funds at the beginning of the following academic year.

Selection is based on three criteria: academic potential, character, and financial need.  
Selected recipients will be notified by email no later than July 1, 2026

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: March 1, 2026**

Questions? Please email Dr. Kayed Odeh Akkawi at [akkawifoundation@gmail.com](mailto:akkawifoundation@gmail.com)  
Learn more about the Akkawi Foundation at [www.akkawifoundation.org](http://www.akkawifoundation.org)





## Weekly Synaxarion



On October 12 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Martyrs Probos, Andronikos and Tarachos at Tarsus; Martyr Domnina at Anazarbus in Cilicia; and Virgin Martyr Anastasia of Rome. On this day we commemorate the holy and blessed Fathers who came together for the second time in Nicaea, during the reign of the pious and Christ-loving Sovereigns Constantine and Irene, against those who impiously, ignorantly and foolishly asserted that the Church of God worshippeth idols, and rejected the august and holy icons. The Council met in 787 to refute the Iconoclast heresy, whose camp believed that all depictions of Christ, His Mother and the saints should be destroyed. The iconophiles believed that icons served to preserve the doctrinal teachings of the Church; and they considered icons to be man's dynamic way of expressing the divine through art and beauty. The council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry (Exodus 20:4-5), because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint, but passes to the prototype, or the person depicted. It also upheld the possibility of depicting Christ, Who became man and took flesh at His Incarnation. The Father, on the other hand, cannot be represented in His eternal nature, because "no man has seen God at any time" (John 1:18). By the intercessions of the Holy Fathers, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.