



# 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, November 16th, 2025

## The Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew

Martyr Ephygenia of Ethiopia, disciple of St. Matthew; Fulvian, prince of Ethiopia

### 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 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.

إِنَّ الْقَوَاتِ الْمَلَائِكِيَّةَ ظَهَرُوا عَلَى قَبْرِكَ الْمُوقَّرِ، وَالْحُرَّاسَ صَارُوا كَالْأَمْوَاتِ، وَمَرِيَمَ وَقَفَتْ عِنْدَ الْقَبْرِ طَالِبَةً جَسَدَكَ الطَّاهِرَ، فَسَبَّيْتَ الْجَحِيمَ وَلَمْ تُجَرَّبْ مِنْهَا، وَصَادَفْتَ الْبَتُولَ مَانِحاً الْحَيَاةَ. فَيَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، يَا رَبُّ الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

### Troparion of St. Matthew the Evangelist (Tone Three)

O holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew, intercede with the merciful God, to grant our souls forgiveness of sins.

أَيُّهَا الرَّسُولُ الْقَدِيسُ مَتَّى الْإِنْجِيلِي، تَشَفَّعْ إِلَى الْإِلَهِ الرَّحِيمِ، أَنْ يُنْعِمَ بِغُفْرَانِ الزَّلَّاتِ لِنُفُوسِنَا.

### 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 الْإِلَهِ. لِأَنَّكَ انْتَقَلْتِ إِلَى الْحَيَاةِ بِمَا أَنْكَ أُمَّ الْحَيَاةِ. فَبِشَفَاعَاتِكَ أَنْقِذِي مِنَ الْمَوْتِ نَفُوسَنَا.

### Kontakion of Entrance of the Theotokos (Tone Four)

The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the Savior's most pure temple, free of stain and undefiled, into the House of the Lord on this day is brought forward and bringeth with herself the grace of the Most Divine Spirit; her do God's Angels hymn with songs of praise, for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

اليَوْمَ الهَيْكَلُ الَّذِي لِلْمُخَلَّصِ، الْكَلْبِيُّ النَّقَاءِ، الْعَذْرَاءُ الْخِذْرُ ذُو الثَّمَنِ الْجَزِيلِ، وَهِيَ الْكَنْزُ الطَّاهِرُ لِمَجْدِ الْإِلَهِ، إِذْ تَدْخُلُ بَيْتَ الرَّبِّ، تَدْخُلُ نِعْمَةَ الرُّوحِ الْإِلَهِيِّ مَعَهَا. فَلْتَسْبِحْهَا مَلَائِكَةُ اللَّهِ، لِأَنَّهَا الْمِظْلَةُ السَّمَاوِيَّة.

### The Epistle for St. Matthew

*His sound hath gone forth into all the earth.  
The heavens show forth the glory of God.*

#### **The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (4:9-16)**

Brethren, I think that God has exhibited us Apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the scourge of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. Though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. I became your father in Christ Jesus through the Gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

فِي كُلِّ الْأَرْضِ خَرَجَ صَوْتُهُ.

السَّمَاوَاتُ تُذِيعُ مَجْدَ اللَّهِ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسِ الرَّسُولِ الْأُولَى إِلَى  
أَهْلِ كورِنْثُوس.

يَا إِخْوَةٌ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ أَبْرَزَنَا نَحْنُ الرُّسُلُ آخِرِي النَّاسِ، كَأَنَّا  
مَجْعُولُونَ لِلْمَوْتِ. لِأَنَّا قَدْ صِرْنَا مَشْهَدًا لِلْعَالَمِ  
وَالْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالْبَشَرِ. نَحْنُ جُهَالٌ مِنْ أَجْلِ الْمَسِيحِ، أَمَّا  
أَنْتُمْ فَحُكَمَاءُ فِي الْمَسِيحِ. نَحْنُ ضِعْفَاءُ، وَأَنْتُمْ أَقْوِيَاءُ.  
أَنْتُمْ مُكْرَمُونَ، وَنَحْنُ مُهَانُونَ. وَإِلَى هَذِهِ السَّاعَةِ، نَحْنُ  
نَجْوَعُ وَنَعْطَشُ وَنَعْرَى وَنُلْطَمُ وَلَا قَرَارَ لَنَا. وَنَتَعَبُ  
عَامِلِينَ. نُسْتَمُّ فَنُبَارِكُ، نُضْطَهَدُ فَنَحْتَمِلُ. يُشْتَعُّ عَلَيْنَا  
فَنَتَضَرَّعُ. قَدْ صِرْنَا كَأَقْدَارِ الْعَالَمِ وَكَأَوْسَاخٍ يَسْتَحْبِثُهَا  
الْجَمِيعُ إِلَى الْآنِ. وَلَسْتُ لِأَخْجَلِكُمْ أَكْتُبُ هَذَا، وَإِنَّمَا  
أَعْظَمُكُمْ كَأَوْلَادِي الْأَحِبَّاءِ. لِأَنَّهُ وَلَوْ كَانَ لَكُمْ رَبُّوَةٌ مِنْ  
الْمُرْشِدِينَ فِي الْمَسِيحِ، لَيْسَ لَكُمْ آبَاءٌ كَثِيرُونَ. لِأَنِّي  
أَنَا وَلَدْتُكُمْ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ بِالْإِنْجِيلِ. فَأَطْلُبُ إِلَيْكُمْ  
أَنْ تَكُونُوا مُقْتَدِينَ بِي.

## The Gospel for St. Matthew

### The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (9:9-13)

At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax office; and He said to him, "Follow Me." And he rose and followed Him. And as He sat at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Jesus and His disciples. And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when Jesus heard it, He said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

فصلٌ من بشارَةِ القديسِ مَتَّى الإنجيليِّ البشيرِ والتلميذِ الطاهرِ.

في ذَلِكَ الزَّمانِ، فيما يسوعُ مجتازٌ رأى إنساناً جالساً على مائدةِ الجبايةِ اسمُهُ مَتَّى، فقالَ لَهُ: "اتبعني". فقام وتبعَهُ. وفيما كانَ مَتَكُناً في البيتِ إذا بعشَّارينَ كثيرينَ وخطاةً جاؤوا واتَّكأوا مَعَ يسوعَ وتلاميذِهِ. فلَمَّا نظرَ الفريسيونَ قالوا لتلاميذِهِ: "لماذا معلِّمُكم يأكلُ مع العَشَّارينَ والخطاة؟" فلَمَّا سمعَ يسوعُ قالَ: "لا يحتاجُ الأصِحَّاءُ إلى طبيبٍ لَكِنْ ذوو الأَسقامِ. فاذهبوا واعلموا ما هو إنِّي أريدُ رحمةً لا ذبيحةً. لأنِّي لم آتِ لأدعو صِدِّيقينَ بل خطاةً إلى التوبة."

### Koinonikon (Communion Hymn) for St. Matthew (Tone Eight)

His sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.  
Alleluia.

في كُلِّ الأَرْضِ خَرَجَ صَوْتُهُ، وإلى أَقاصي المَسكونَةِ كَلامُهُ. هَللويَا.



### 3rd & 9th Day Memorial

Clodia Dahdal

**Memory Eternal!**



### Memory Eternal

Fahim Saliba Makhamreh



### Engagement

Elias Jalil Atiyeh  
and  
Angeline Peter Sayegh  
**Congratulations!**



### Removal of Crowns

Saif and Sally Ziadat  
**Congratulations!**

# Upcoming Services & Events

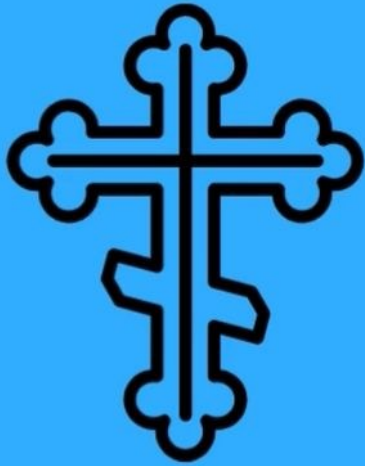
Date	Time	Event
11/16/2025	8:15am	Prayers before Holy Communion
	8:45am	Orthros
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
	10:00am	Sunday School
11/17/2025	6:00pm	Antiochian Women Meeting
11/18/2025	9:00am	Orthros
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
11/19/2025	7:00am	Orthros
	10:00am	Arabic Bible Study
	6:00pm	Paraklesis
	6:00pm	SOYO Night
11/20/2025	9:00am	Orthros
	4:00pm	Prayers before Holy Communion
	4:30pm	Compline
	5:00pm	Great Vespers w/ Artoklasia for the Entrance of the Theotokos
	6:00pm	Orthros for the Entrance of the Theotokos
	7:00pm	Liturgy for the Entrance of the Theotokos
11/21/2025	6:00pm	Adult Education and Kids SOYO
11/22/2025	10:00am	Arabic School
	5:00pm	Great Vespers
	6:00pm	Compline with Canon for Holy Communion

# Advent Fast & Christmas Reminder!

The Nativity Fast (Advent) began Saturday, 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 8pm followed by Liturgy at 9:30pm, Wednesday 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!



# *Upcoming events*

St Mary's Young Adult Ministry

TUES  
NOV **25**

**YAM Movie Night: St Luke the Surgeon**

6:00pm

WED  
NOV **26**

**SOYO & YAM Friendsgiving**

6:00pm

TUES  
DEC **30**

**YAM Christmas Party**

6:30pm

SAT  
JAN **3**

**Deanery Puttshack Social**

7:00pm-9:00pm

1828 Oakbrook Center, Oak Brook, IL 60523

@saintmaryyam



# "Liturgy after the Liturgy"

*Taking our faith outside the church walls*

## **Annual Christmas Toy Drive**

*"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." (Hebrews 13:16)*

It is that time of the year again to begin preparing for our Annual Christmas Drive. The wish lists for 100 children given to us by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services have been distributed. For most of these children, these will be the only Christmas gifts they receive.

**Please drop off your gifts on Sundays or at the church office during regular business hours:  
Monday - Friday, 10am - 3pm**

**Due November 30<sup>th</sup>**

# Annual General Assembly Meeting and Parish Council Nominations



Our Annual General Assembly Meeting will take place Sunday, November 16th immediately following the Divine Liturgy. Mark your calendars and make every effort to attend.

Please make sure your up to date on your 2025 pledge, so that you can participate in the General Assembly.

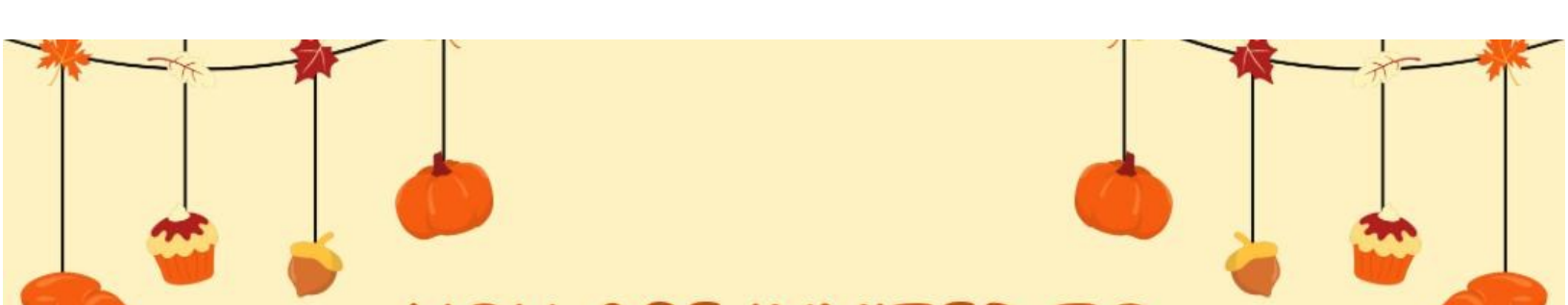
Thanks and God bless!

A vibrant, stylized illustration for a movie night event. The background is a light green color. At the top left, there's a film reel with a film strip winding through it. To the right of the reel is a clapperboard with a black and white striped top edge and some scribbled text. In the center, a large red popcorn bucket is overflowing with yellow popcorn. The words 'POP CORN' are written in white on the side of the bucket. Below the popcorn bucket, the word 'YAM' is written in large, bold, yellow letters with a black outline. Below 'YAM', the word 'MOVIE' is written in even larger, bold, yellow letters with a black outline. Underneath 'MOVIE', the word 'Night' is written in a light blue, cursive script. In the bottom left corner, there's a red bowl filled with yellow potato chips, with a few chips scattered around it. In the bottom right corner, there's a red cup with a black lid and a white straw. The text 'TUESDAY NOVEMBER 25 @ 6:00PM HEALING FEAR: ST LUKE THE SURGEON' is centered in the lower half of the poster. At the very bottom, the location 'ST MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH, PALOS HEIGHTS, IL' is written in a dark green, sans-serif font.


# YAM MOVIE *Night*

**TUESDAY  
NOVEMBER 25  
@ 6:00PM  
HEALING FEAR:  
ST LUKE THE SURGEON**

**ST MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH,  
PALOS HEIGHTS, IL**



YOU ARE INVITED TO  
**SOYO &  
YAM**



*Friends Giving*



**NOVEMBER 26, 2025  
@ 6:00PM**

**PLEASE BRING A FASTING DISH FOR OUR POTLUCK!**

**ST. MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH**



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

**Most Needed  
Items in 2025:**

- 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

# ST. MARY'S CHURCH NEW YEAR 2026

*Family Celebration*

Dinner - Hafleh - Raffle

## TICKETS

ADULTS 12+: \$100

AGES 7-11: \$60

6 & UNDER: \$25

KIDS TICKET INCLUDES THEIR OWN  
SUPERVISED PARTY DOWNSTAIRS WITH  
DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT! BUBBLE  
SHOW, BALLOON TWISTING AND MORE.  
THE KIDS PARTY WILL END AT 11:30PM IN  
TIME FOR FAMILIES TO RING IN THE NEW  
YEAR TOGETHER.

**6330 W 127TH ST  
PALOS HEIGHTS, IL 60463**

*Purchase Online*



For tickets call  
Danny Haddad: 708-927-3608  
Elias Zaboura: 708-296-5394  
Saed Khoury: 708-769-3993

<https://pci.jotform.com/form/252690959850168>

**All proceeds go to St. Mary's Building Fund**

*December 31 At 7:30 Pm*

*Star Singer*

**SAED KHOURY**

**DJ SULTAN**



# 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:**

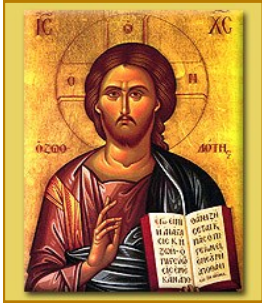
1. Each student selected to participate in the scholarship program will be awarded a \$1,000 annually through the 12th grade, as long as the requirements are met each year.
2. The scholarship includes \$500 for tuition, books, school supplies, \$500 for extra-curricular activities, and access to a curated 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 November 16 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew. He was the son of Alphaeus, and a tax collector when the Lord saw him in Capernaum and said: “Follow Me. And he arose, and followed Him (Matthew 9:9).” After that, Matthew received the Lord in his home and thus provided the occasion for the Lord to express several great truths about His coming to earth. After receiving the Holy Spirit, Matthew preached the Gospel to the Parthians, Medes and Ethiopians. Matthew baptized the wife and the son of the prince of Ethiopia, at which the prince became greatly enraged and dispatched a guard to bring Matthew to him for trial. The soldiers returned to the prince saying that they had heard Matthew’s voice, but could not see him with their eyes. The prince then sent a second guard. When this guard approached the apostle, he shone with a heavenly light so powerful that the soldiers could not look at him; filled with fear, they threw down their weapons and returned. The prince then went himself. Matthew radiated such light that the prince was instantly blinded. However, the holy apostle had a compassionate heart; he prayed to God, and the prince was given back his sight. Unfortunately, he arrested Matthew and subjected him to cruel tortures. Eventually, after Matthew’s death, the prince repented, was baptized, taking the name “Matthew,” and served as a priest, giving up his princely wealth. Matthew the Apostle wrote his Gospel in the Aramaic language. It was soon translated into Greek and the Greek text has come down to us, while the Aramaic text has been lost. On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Ephygenia of Ethiopia, disciple of St. Matthew; and Fulvian, prince of Ethiopia. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.