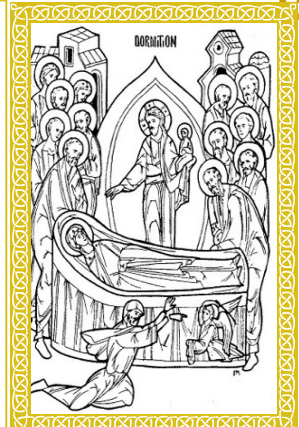




# Church of the Virgin Mary

كنيسة العذراء مريم الأنطاكية الأرثوذكسية

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese  
of North America



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

## April 1, 2012

### Fifth Sunday of Lent

### and the Commemoration of St. Mary of Egypt

### الأحد الخامس من الصوم وأحد تكريم القديسة مريم المصرية

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Fr. Malek Rihani - cell phone: (708) 516-6417, email: myrihani@hotmail.com

Dn. Saed Rihani - cell phone: (773) 454-2191, email: srihani6@cs.com

### Weekly Schedule of Services

*Saturday: 5:30 p.m. Great Vespers*

*Sunday: 9:15 a.m. Matins -- 10:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy*

*Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. Matins -- 10:30 a.m. Bible Study*

*(Confessions by Appointment)*

Welcome to the Church of the Virgin Mary! 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. Please see one of the ushers at the end of the service for a "Welcome Packet" for more information. May God bless you and give you many healthy years in His service.

أهلاً بكم في كنيسة العذراء مريم! يُسعدنا أن نُقدّم لكم ولعائلاتكم تحياتنا القلبية الحارّة. إذا كانت هذه زيارتكم الأولى لكنيستنا، نرجو أن تشعروا بأنكم في بيتكم الذي هو بيت أبينا جميعاً. أَلرّجاء أن تسألوا أحد المساعدين في الكنيسة في نهاية الخدمة الالهية عن "رزمة معلومات الترحيب" التي تحتوي على المعلومات المطلوبة. اللهُ يبارككم وينعم عليكم بالصحة لسنين عديدة في خدمة الرب.

## Clergy, Parish Council, Committees, and Ministries

### Parish Clergy:

*Rev. Fr. Mousa Haddad, Pastor*  
*Rev. Fr. Malek Rihani*  
*Rev. Dn. Saed Rihani*  
*Subdeacon Matthew Sweis*

### Parish Council:

#### **Presiding Officer**

*Rev. Fr. Mousa Haddad*

#### **Chairman**

*Fadi Abu Manneh*

#### **Vice Chairman**

*Rashid Sweis*

#### **Treasurer**

*Abdullah Tadros*

#### **Financial Secretary**

*Samer Tadros*

#### **Secretary**

*Abeer Khouri*

#### **Council Members:**

*George Barakat*

*Maher Ibrahim*

*CJ Kari*

*Bassam Salman*

*Faris Samawi*

*Ramzi Sweis*

### Committees:

#### **Altar / Liturgics**

*Mazen Ammari & Steve Rihani*

#### **PLC 2012**

*Abdullah Tadros & CJ Kari*

#### **Expansion & Maintenance**

*Luai Sweiss*

#### **Fundraising & Stewardship**

*Rashid Sweis & Bassam Salman*

#### **Financial**

*Abdullah Tadros*

#### **Communication**

*Abeer Khouri*

#### **Constitution**

*Ramzi Sweis*

#### **Humanitarian**

*Shireen Salman*

#### **Ushering**

*Fadi Abu Manneh*

#### **Web Master**

*Sana Sweis*

#### **Office Secretary**

*Katia Haddad*

### Organizations and Ministries:

#### **Sunday School Director**

*Omar Sweiss*

#### **Sunday School Spiritual Director**

*Fr. Mousa Haddad*

#### **Ladies Guild President**

*Kholoud Swais*

#### **Ladies Guild Spiritual Director**

*Fr. Mousa Haddad*

#### **Fellowship President**

*Khalil Haddad*

#### **Fellowship Spiritual Director**

*Fr. Mousa Haddad*

#### **SOYO President**

*Hadeel Sweis*

#### **SOYO Advisor**

*Orieb Sweis & Steve Rihani*

#### **SOYO Spiritual Director**

*Fr. Malek Rihani*

#### **Handmaids of the Lord**

*Mansoura Khouri & Lina Haddad*

#### **Handmaids Spiritual Director**

*Fr. Malek Rihani*

#### **Choir Director**

*Michael Rascia*

#### **Chanter**

*Khaled Salman & Faris Samawi*

**Church Hall Rental** - Call: 708-691-0827 or email: [katiahaddad@virginmaryoc.org](mailto:katiahaddad@virginmaryoc.org)

# Changes in the Liturgy

## تغييرات في القداس

### 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 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 Saviour, 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 أَيْهَا الْمَخْلُصُ، مَانِحاً الْعَالَمَ الْحَيَاةَ. لِأَجْلِ ذَلِكَ قَوَّاتُ السَّمَاوَاتِ هَتَفُوا إِلَيْكَ يَا وَاهِبَ الْحَيَاةَ. الْمَجْدُ لِقِيَامَتِكَ أَيْهَا الْمَسِيحُ، الْمَجْدُ لِمُلْكِكَ، الْمَجْدُ لِتَدْبِيرِكَ، يَا مُحِبَّ الْبَشَرِ وَحَدِكَ.

### Troparion of St. Mary of Egypt (Tone Eight)

Through thee, the divine likeness was securely preserved, O Mother Mary; for thou didst carry the cross and follow Christ. By example and precept thou didst teach us to ignore the body, because it is perishable, and to attend to the concerns of the undying soul. Therefore, doth thy soul rejoice with the angels.

بِكَ حَفِظَ التَّمَثَالُ بِاحْتِرَاسٍ وَثِيقٍ أَيْتَهَا الْأُمُّ الْبَارَةُ مَرْيَمَ. لِأَنَّكَ قَدْ حَمَلْتِ الصَّلِيبَ فَتَبَعْتَ الْمَسِيحَ. وَعَمَلْتِ وَعَلَّمْتِ أَنْ يُتَغَاضَى عَنِ الْجَسَدِ لِأَنَّهُ يَزُولُ. وَأَنْ يُهْتَمَّ بِأُمُورِ النَّفْسِ غَيْرِ الْمَائِتَةِ. فَلِذَلِكَ أَيْتَهَا الْبَارَةُ تَبْتَهِّجُ رُوحَكَ مَعَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ.

### 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 حَفِظْتِ الْبَتُولِيَّةَ وَصَنَنْتِهَا وَفِي رَقَادِكَ 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 Four)

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.

يَا شَفِيعَةَ الْمَسِيحِيِّينَ غَيْرِ الْخَازِيَةِ، الْوَسِيطَةَ لَدَى الْخَالِقِ غَيْرِ الْمَرْدُودَةِ. لَا تُعْرِضِي عَنِ أَصْوَاتِ طَلِبَاتِنَا نَحْنُ الْخَطَاةَ، بَلْ تَدَارِكِينَا بِالْمَعُونَةِ بِمَا أَنْكَ صَالِحَةٌ، نَحْنُ الصَّارِخِينَ نَحْوَكِ بِإِيمَانٍ. بَادِرِي إِلَى الشَّفَاعَةِ وَأَسْرِعِي فِي الطَّلْبَةِ يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ، الْمَتَشَفِّعَةَ دَائِمًا فِي مُكْرَمِيكَ.

### Megalynarion for the Theotokos from the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great (Tone Eight)

In thee all creation rejoices, O Full of Grace; the assembly of angels and the race of men; O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise; the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a child; our God before the ages, He made thy womb a throne, and thy body He made more spacious than the heavens. In thee all creation rejoices, O Full of Grace, glory to thee.

إِنَّ الْبَرَايَا بِأَسْرِهِا تَفْرَحُ بِكَ يَا مَمْتَلَنَةً نِعْمَةً، مُحَافِلِ الْمَلَائِكَةِ وَأَجْنَاسِ الْبَشَرِ، أَيْتَهَا الْهَيْكَلُ الْمُتَقَدِّسُ وَالْفَرْدُوسُ الْنَاطِقُ، فَخَرَ الْبَتُولِيَّةِ مَرْيَمَ الَّتِي مِنْهَا تَجَسَّدَ الْإِلَهِ وَصَارَ طِفْلاً وَهُوَ الْإِلَهِ الَّذِي قَبْلَ الدُّهُورِ، لِأَنَّهُ صَنَعَ مُسْتَوْدَعَكَ عَرْشاً وَجَعَلَ بَطْنَكَ أَرْحَبَ مِنَ السَّمَاوَاتِ، لِذَلِكَ يَا مَمْتَلَنَةً نِعْمَةً تَفْرَحُ بِكَ كُلُّ الْبَرَايَا وَتُجَدِّدُكَ.

# Epistle of the Fifth Sunday of Lent

## الرسالة للأحد الخامس من الصوم

*Make your vows to the Lord our God, and perform them!*

*God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel!*

**The Reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews (9:11-14).**

Brethren, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), He entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

صَلُّوا وَأَوْفُوا الرَّبَّ إِلَهَنَا نُذَوِّرْكُمْ!

الله معروف في أرض يهوذا، واسمه عظيم في إسرائيل!

**\*فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى العبرانيين (9:11-14)\***

يا اخوة إنَّ المسيحَ إذ قد جاءَ رئيسَ كهنةٍ للخيراتِ المستقبلةِ فَبِمَسْكِنٍ أعظمَ واكْمَلٍ غيرِ

مصنوعٍ بأيدي أيِّ ليس من هذه الخليقة \* وليسَ بدمِ ثيوسٍ وَعُجُولٍ بَلْ بدمِ نفسهِ دَخَلَ

الأقداسَ مرَّةً واحدةً فوجدَ فداءً أبدياً \* لأنه إن كانَ دمُ ثيرانٍ وثيوسٍ ورمادُ عجلةٍ يُرشُّ

على المُنجسينَ فيقدِّسُهُم لتطهيرِ الجسدِ \* فكَم بالأحرى دمُ المسيحِ الذي بالروحِ الأزليِّ

قربَ نفسهِ لله بلا عيبٍ يُطهِّرُ ضمائرَكم من الأعمالِ الميتةِ لتعبدوا الله الحيَّ؟

# Gospel of the Fifth Sunday of Lent

## الإنجيل للأحد الخامس من الصوم

**The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (10:32-45).**

At that time, Jesus took His twelve Disciples, and began to tell them what was to happen to Him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles. And they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit upon Him, and kill Him; and after three days He will rise." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Him, and said to Him, "Teacher, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall desire" And Jesus said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" And they said to Him, "Grant us to sit, one at Thy right hand and one at Thy left, in Thy glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to Him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized. But to sit at My right hand or at My left is not Mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

**\*فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارة القديس مرقس الإنجيلي البشير, التلميذ الطاهر (10:32-45)\***

في ذلك الزمان أخذ يسوع تلاميذه الاثني عشر وابتدأ يقول لهم ما سيعرضُ له \* هوذا نحن صاعدون إلى اورشليم وابن البشر سيُسَلَّمُ إلى رؤساء الكهنة والكتبة فيحكمون عليه بالموت ويُسلمونه إلى الأمم \* فيهزأون به ويبصقون عليه ويجلدونه ويقتلونه وفي اليوم الثالث يقوم \* فدنا إليه يعقوب ويوحنا ابنا زبدي قائلين يا معلم نريد أن تصنع لنا مهما طلبنا \* فقال لهما ماذا تريدان أن أصنع لكما \* قالا له أعطنا أن يجلس أحدنا عن يمينك والآخر عن يسارك في مجدك \* فقال لهما يسوع إنكما لا تعلمان ما تطلبان. أتستطيعان أن تشربا الكأس التي أشربها أنا وأن تصطبغا بالصبغة التي أصطبغ بها أنا \* فقالا له نستطيع. فقال لهما يسوع أما الكأس التي أشربها فتشربانها وبالصبغة التي أصطبغ بها فتصطبغان. وأما جلوسكما عن يميني وعن يساري فليس لي أن أعطيه إلا للذين أعد لهم \* فلما سمع العشرة ابتدأوا يغضبون على يعقوب ويوحنا \* فدعاهم يسوع وقال لهم قد علمتم أن الذين يُحسبون رؤساء الأمم يسودونهم وعظماؤهم يتسلطون عليهم \* وأما أنتم فلا يكون فيكم هكذا \* ولكن من أراد أن يكون فيكم كبيراً فليكن لكم خادماً \* ومن أراد أن يكون فيكم أولاً فليكن للجميع عبداً \* فإن ابن البشر لم يأت ليخدم بل ليخدم وليبذل نفسه فداءً عن كثيرين.



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.*

### Hospitality Teams

*“Let us love one another that with one mind we may confess, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; the Trinity one in essence and undivided.” - From the Divine Liturgy*

<i>Holy Bread and Coffee Hour</i>	<b>القداس والقهوة</b>
<b>04/01:</b> Wajih Tadros & Family	<b>4/01:</b> وجيه تادرس والعائلة
<b>04/08:</b> Issa Eid Sweis & Family	<b>04/08:</b> عيسى عيد صويص والعائلة
<b>04/15:</b> Fr. Mousa and Delia Haddad & Family	<b>04/15:</b> الاب موسى وداليا حداد والعائلة

### Epistle Readers:

**Today:** *English* - Grace Riske, *Arabic* - Fares Samawi  
**Next Week:** *English* - Lana Sweis, *Arabic* - Asmahan Fakhouri

### Altar Server Ministry:

**04/01 Team A (Captain Jordan Rihani):** Odei Sweis, Yousif Saigh, Jimmy Salman, Jai Riske, Sean Rihani, Daniel Al- Nemri, Joseph Sweis, Matthew Ibrahim, Gabe Corey, Sam Corey, David Sweis  
**04/08: Team B (Captain Ramiz Riadi):** Rami Sweis, , Yazen Swais, Anthony Rihani, Saleem Swais, Sharbel Samawi, Kyse Dahdal, Joseph Fallouh, Louis Corey, Alexander Corey  
**0 4/15 Team C (Captain Murad Salman):** Omar Nemri, Mathew Nemri, Samer Sweis , Elia Sweis, Simon Tadros, , George Corey, Woody Corey, Mark Sweis

## “Bible Verse of the Week”

My victory and honor come from God. He is the mighty Rock, where I am safe.

[Psalm 62:7](#)

عَلَى اللَّهِ تَعْتَمِدُ كِرَامَتِي وَخَلَاصِي. هُوَ حِصْنِي وَقَلْعَتِي الْمُرْتَفَعَةُ.

[المزامير 62:7](#)



## Lenten Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian

O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, faint-heartedness, lust of power and idle talk.  
(prostration)

أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ وَسَيِّدُ حَيَاتِي، أَعْتِقْنِي مِنْ رُوحِ الْبَطَالَةِ وَالْفُضُولِ  
وَحُبِّ الرَّئِيسَةِ وَالْكَلامِ الْبَطَالِ. (مطانية)

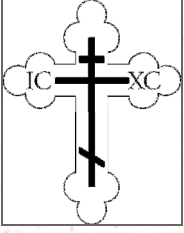
But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant. (prostration)

وَأَنْعِمْ عَلَيَّ أَنَا عَبْدُكَ، بِرُوحِ الْعِفَّةِ وَاتِّضَاعِ الْفِكْرِ وَالصَّبْرِ  
وَالْمَحَبَّةِ. (مطانية)

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins and not to judge my brother, for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages.  
Amen. (prostration)

نَعَمْ يَا مَلِكِي وَالْهَيَّ هَبْ لِي أَنْ أَعْرِفَ ذُنُوبِي وَعُيُوبِي، وَأَنْ لَا  
أَدِينَ إِخْوَتِي، فَإِنَّكَ مُبَارَكٌ إِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ. آمين. (مطانية)

# Parish News



Please join us today immediately following the Divine Liturgy for the 6 month memorial service for the departed handmaid of God Mary Wajih Tadros. Our deepest and sincere condolences to the Tadros family. May the Lord give rest to the soul of His handmaid Mary, and may He give peace and comfort to her family. May her memory be eternal!

نرجو مشاركتنا بعد القداس الالهي مباشرة في ذكرانية نصف السنة عن نفس المرحومه ماري وجيه تادرس. تعازينا الى عائلة تادرس جميعاً سائلين الله ان يتغمدها برحمته ويلهم ذويها الصبر والسلوان. ليكن ذكرها مؤبداً!

Congratulations to Jehad and Jennifer Al-Swais on the baptism of their son Jad. May God grant many years to Jad, his parents and their entire family. Mabrouk!

تهانينا الى جهاد وجينيفر صويص بمناسبة عماد ابنهما جاد. نسأل الله ان يمنح الطفل ووالديه والعائلة الصحة والسعادة لسنين عديدة. مبروك!



## 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





# Parish News

## Great Lent!

We are currently in the Lenten Fast and it will continue until Pascha (Easter), April 15<sup>th</sup>. Please do not forget that in order for our fasting to be effective and beneficial to our souls, it must be accompanied by prayer, repentance, forgiveness, alms-giving (giving to the poor), and good works. The fast is not a “diet” so that one could lose weight. What good is the fast if it does not change us and strengthen our relationship with Jesus Christ and with one another? Fast from anger, judging, pride, gossip, and lust. If you are not able to keep the discipline of fasting as prescribed by the church for health reasons, please speak to Fr. Mousa and he will give you a discipline you can handle. Remember the words of St. John Chrysostom:

“Let the ear fast, by not listening to evil talk and gossip...”

“Let the mouth fast from foul words and unjust criticism...”

“For what good is it if we abstain from birds and fishes, but bite and devour our brothers?”

نحن الان في فترة الصوم الذي يستمر حتى عيد الفصح 15-4-2012. نرجو أن تتذكروا انه حتى يكون صيامكم مقبولاً ومفيداً لأرواحكم, يجب أن يقترن بالصلاة والندامة والمسامحة ومساعدة الفقراء والمحتاجين وكافة الاعمال الصالحة. الصيام ليس وسيلة لتخفيف الوزن. ما الفائدة منه إذا لم نتغيّر ونُقويّ علاقتنا مع السيد يسوع المسيح ومع بعضنا البعض. الصيام هو الابتعاد عن الغضب والعصبية والحكم على الآخرين والغرور والقيل والقال والشهوة. إذا كان لأي منكم اسباب تمنعه من الصيام كما اوصت الكنيسة, يُرجى التكلم مع الاب موسى حداد الذي سيساعدكم على معالجة الامر. تذكروا ما قاله القديس يوحنا الذهبي الفم:

" لتصم أذانكم عن سماع أقوال الشر وكلام الثرثرة... "

" لتصم أفواهكم عن الكلام البطال وأنتقاد الآخرين... "

" لانه أية مئة لكم إذا أمتنعتم عن أكل اللحوم والاسماك, بنما تتهشون أخوانكم؟ "

Pan - Orthodox  
**AKATHIST HYMN**

Sponsored by the Orthodox Christian Clergy Association of Greater Chicago



**7:00 pm**  
**Tuesday, April 3, 2012**

**2 services will take place; North side and South side:**

**NORTH:**

**Holy Protection of the Mother of God  
Serbian Orthodox Monastery  
"New Gracanica"**  
35240 W. Grant Avenue, Lake Villa, IL  
(Route 45, 1 mile south of Route 132)

**Homilist: Fr. Sam Sherry**  
Pastor, St. Michael Orthodox Church,  
Niles, Illinois

Responses by  
**The Pan-Orthodox Choir of Greater Chicago**

**SOUTH:**

**St. Spyridon**  
**Greek Orthodox Church**  
12307 S. Ridgeland  
Palos Heights, Illinois

**Homilist: Fr. Mousa Haddad,**  
Pastor, Holy Virgin Mary Antiochian  
Orthodox Church, Alsip, Illinois

Responses by  
**Choir of St. Spyridon Church**

# St. Mary's Spring Basketball League

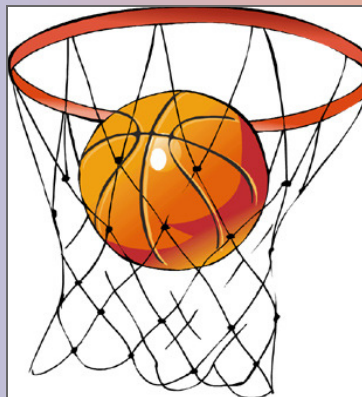


Join St. Mary's Spring Basketball League! You must be at least 16 years of age or older. We have a



fine program planned and we welcome you to join us. We are currently accepting registration and we anticipate the league will start mid-April, after Pascha. The games will be played at St. Mary Orthodox Church, 6330 W. 127<sup>th</sup> St., Palos Heights, IL 60463. The start times will vary, and are to be determined, pending final registration counts. At the present time, games are slated to be played weekday evenings, or weekend afternoons. Please spread the word quickly and encourage others to sign-up as well. We look forward to your participation in the 2012 Spring Basketball League.

If you have any questions please call Samer Tadros at 708.289.6982 or [samertadros78@gmail.com](mailto:samertadros78@gmail.com).



# Kaek and Mamoul Sale



**\*\*\*Starting Next Sunday\*\*\***  
Sunday April 8, 2012  
Ladies Guild will begin selling  
Kaek & Mamoul for Easter.  
(\$35 Big Tray & \$20 Small Tray)

# CHURCH OF THE VIRGIN MARY CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Attention all boys and girls 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade  
Practices have begun...hope to see you this Saturday

\*Parents are asked to stay downstairs during practice but are encouraged to join us at 5:30pm for Great Vespers

## Practices

When: Every Saturday

Time: 5:00 to 6:15pm

Place: Church of the Virgin Mary

?s contact Angela Sweis at [angelasweis@msn.com](mailto:angelasweis@msn.com) or 708.715.9057 or Grace Riske at [grace@graceriske.com](mailto:grace@graceriske.com) or 630.532.8640

# Scholarship

Through a generous gift of the Francis Maria Foundation for Justice and Peace, the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America will once again grant several scholarships in the amount of \$2,500 to students attending an accredited College. Scholarships will be granted each July. Completed [2012 Francis Maria Scholarship Application](#) and all supporting documentation must be post-marked by May 15, 2012 and received by May 22.

<http://www.teensoyo.org/Pages/Scholarships.aspx>

# 2012 Midwest Parish Life Conference

Diocese of Toledo & the Midwest

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

*June 27th - July 1st, 2012*

*Save the Date! Reserve Your Room NOW!*

## DoubleTree by Hilton

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Oak Brook, IL 60523



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\*PLC Room Rate Ends June 6

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for 2 Doubles or 1 King

PLC Room Rate Code: CVM

800-222-8733

OR

DoubleTreeOakBrook.com

See [www.2012MidwestPLC.org](http://www.2012MidwestPLC.org) for event information!

Hosted by Church of the Virgin Mary Antiochian Church  
Palos Heights, IL (formerly of Alsip, IL)  
[www.VirginMaryOC.org](http://www.VirginMaryOC.org) [VirginMary@VirginMaryOC.org](mailto:VirginMary@VirginMaryOC.org) (708)239-0004



# Midwest Parish Life Conference 2012

Commemorative Journal

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

Church of the Virgin Mary, Alsip, IL, Host Parish

June 27 - July 1, 2012



Pages range from  
\$200 - \$1500

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(219-985-4433) or you can email  
[adbook2012@aol.com](mailto:adbook2012@aol.com)



## Weekly Synaxarion



On April 1 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Martyrs Gerontios and Basilides; and Venerable Euthymios, wonder-worker of Suzdal. On this same day, the Fifth Sunday of Great Lent, it was ordained that we make remembrance of our Godly Mother Mary of Egypt. Once, during the Honorable Fast, the priest-monk Zosimus withdrew into the wilderness beyond the Jordan. Suddenly, he caught sight of a human being with a withered and naked body whose hair was as white as snow. Zosimus then tossed his outer garment to her which she wrapped around herself and then showed herself to him. Mary then told Zosimus that she was born in Egypt and at the age of 12 began to live a life of debauchery in Alexandria for 17 years. One day, she went to Jerusalem to enter the church to venerate the Honorable Cross. However, some invisible force restrained her and prevented her from entering. In great fear, she gazed upon the icon of the Theotokos in the vestibule and prayed that she be allowed to enter the church, all the while confessing her sinfulness and uncleanness. She was then permitted to enter the church. Having venerated the Cross she again entered the vestibule and, before the icon, gave thanks to the Mother of God. At that very moment she heard a voice saying: “If you cross the Jordan, you will find glorious rest!” Mary left for the wilderness and remained there for 47 years in repentance. When she encountered Zosimus, Mary told him of her life story. She bade him to come back in one year with Holy Communion, which he did. The following year, on Holy Thursday, April 1, 522 A.D., Zosimus discovered Mary’s lifeless body, and buried her. Thus, the Lord glorifies penitent sinners. The Church exalts and exemplifies Mary to the faithful in Great Lent as an incentive for repentance that brings entry into the Heavenly Kingdom. Through her intercessions, O God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.