



# SAINT MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH

The Self-Ruled Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

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

6330 W. 127th St., Palos Heights, IL 60463

Phone : (708) 239-0004, Fax : (708) 221-6449

[www.stmaryoc.org](http://www.stmaryoc.org) (office@stmaryoc.org)

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

## St. Mary Parish Clergy

V. Rev. Fr. Mousa Haddad, Pastor

V. Rev. Fr. Malek Rihani

Subdeacon Matthew Sweis

Subdeacon Ameer Tadros

## Parish Council

Luai Sweis - Chairman

Abdullah Tadros - Vice Chairman

Jason Haddad - Treasurer

Ramiz Sweis - Financial Secretary

Fabiola Sweis - Secretary

Nidal Al-Farah

Constantin Kari

Abeer Khouri

Faris Samawi

Bassam Shaheen

Feras Sweis

## Parish Ministries

Sunday School - Philip Riske

SOYO - Murad Salman

Fellowship - Fabiola Sweis

Antiochian Women -

Magida Abudayyeh

Handmaids - Mansoura Khouri and

Lina Haddad

Humanitarian - Shireen Salman

OCLife - Nancy Cannon

Fishers of Men - John Eannace

Athletics - Melad Qodsi

Choir - Michael Rascia

Chanters - Khaled Salman and

Faris Samawi

Webmaster - Sana Sweis

## Office

May Sweis

administrator@stmaryoc.org

## Church Hall Rental

Call the church office or email our

Office Administrator

*April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015*

*Sunday of St. Thomas (New Sunday)*

*Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!*

*Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!*



## Weekly Schedule of Services

Saturday: 5:00p.m. -- Great Vespers

Sunday: 8:45 a.m. Matins -- 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. Matins -- 10:30 a.m. Bible Study  
(Confessions by Appointment)

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

## Changes in the Liturgy

### First Antiphon

Shout with joy to God, all the earth. Sing to His name; give glory to His praises.

***Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour save us!***

Say to God: How awesome are Thy works; let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee.

Let it sing a song to Thy Name, O Most High.

***Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour save us!***

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

***Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Saviour save us!***

### Second Antiphon

May God have mercy upon us, and bless us, and may He cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy on us.

***Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, who sing to thee, Alleluia!***

That thy way may be known upon earth, thy salvation among all nations. Let the peoples give thanks to Thee, O God; let all the peoples give thanks to Thee.

***Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, who sing to thee, Alleluia!***

May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear Him.

***Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, who sing to thee, Alleluia!***

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

***O only-begotten Son, etc.***

### Third Antiphon

Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered, and let those who hate Him flee from his face.

***Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!***

As smoke vanishes, let them vanish; as wax melteth before the fire.

***Christ is risen, etc.***

So let sinners perish at the presence of God, and let the righteous be glad.

***Christ is risen, etc.***

This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad therein.

***Christ is risen, etc.***

### **Entrance Hymn (Tone Two)**

In the gathering places, bless ye God the Lord from the springs of Israel. Save us  
O Son of God, Who art Risen from the dead, who sing unto thee: Alleluia!

### **Paschal Troparion (Tone Five)**

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in  
the tombs, bestowing life!

### **Troparion of the Sunday of St. Thomas (Tone Seven)**

While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Light. While the  
doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy Disciples, O Christ God,  
Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to  
the greatness of Thy mercy.

### **Kontakion of Pascha (Tone Eight)**

O Immortal One, when Thou didst descend into the tomb, Thou didst destroy the  
power of Hades; and Thou didst rise victorious, O Christ God. Thou hast said to  
the ointment bearing women: Rejoice! And Thou gavest peace to Thy Disciples,  
O Bestower of Resurrection to those Who had fallen.

### **Epistle of the Sunday of St. Thomas**

*Great is our Lord, and great is his power!*

*Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good!*

**The Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles (5:12-20).**

In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands  
of the Apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the  
rest dared join them, but the people held them in high honor. And more than ever  
believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, so that  
they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets,  
that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people  
also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those af-  
flicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the high priest rose up  
and all who were with him, that is, the party of the Sadducees, and filled with  
jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at  
night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and  
said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this  
Life."

## **Gospel of the Sunday of St. Thomas**

### **The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. John (20:19-31).**

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe." Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless but believing." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

### **Megalynarion (Tone One)**

O most radiant lamp, the Theotokos, the immeasurable honor, which is more exalted than all creatures, with praises do we magnify thee.

### **Koinonikon (Communion Hymn)**

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise thy God, O Zion. Alleluia!

**Instead of "We have seen the true light", we sing "Christ is Risen" (Once)**

# PARISH NEWS



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.

## *Holy Bread and Coffee Hour*

04/19: Emile and Wajih Haddad & Families

04/26: Romel and Nabeela Sweis & Family

05/03: Kamal and Nawal Sweis & Family

## Epistle Reading

04/19: Khaled Salman & Maram Salman

04/26: Awan Sweis & Marian Fahmy

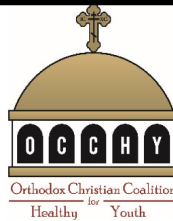
## "Bible Verse of the Week"

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

*Romans 3:23-24*



**Wedding**  
**Andrew McCarty**  
&  
**Rawan Muti Fakhouri**  
**Congratulations!**



## OCCHY BLURB

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN COALITION FOR HEALTHY YOUTH

**OCCHY invites All Parents to its  
3<sup>rd</sup> Annual**

**ORTHODOX PARENT BREAKFAST FORUM**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2015  
9:30 A.M. - NOON**

**WHAT YOUR KIDS SAID ABOUT TEEN SUBSTANCE USE & ABUSE  
.....2014 Parish Youth Survey Results**

Presented by Youth Survey Analyst and Evaluator,  
**Dr. Lisa A. Razzano, PhD, CPRP**  
Associate Professor of Psychiatry  
UIC Center on Mental Health Services Research & Policy

**PRESENTATION OF OCCHY VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION CERTIFICATES**

**ST. GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
1220 S. 60<sup>th</sup> Court • Cicero, IL 60804  
Ample Parking

**Free Will Donation**

RESERVATIONS APPRECIATED  
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www.healthyouth.com

Like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/OCCHYChicago>

*Christ is Risen!*  
*Indeed He is Risen!*



# Shawerma Sale Today after Liturgy



Sponsored by  
Teen SOYO

## Mother's Day Raffle Ticket Sale

Tickets are being sold from  
Palm Sunday thru Mother's Day

5 tickets for \$10

Buy your tickets from any of the  
Antiochian Women today!

# KORAE'S SCHOOL

Orthodox Christian

Preschool—Elementary—Middle School

Enroll Today!

[www.koraes.org](http://www.koraes.org) or call (708)974-3402

## **St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights**

**The Fellowship of St. John the Divine invites you to  
come Xtreme Trampolining!**

**Join us after the  
ice and pizza that**



**event, for a mov-  
will be provided**

**When: Friday, April 17th, 2015**

**Time: Meet at church at 6PM, carpooling at 6:15PM  
sharp, begin at 7PM.**

**Where: Xtreme Trampolines,  
485 Mission Street  
Carol Stream, IL 60188**

**Cost: \$25 \*includes special socks\*  
Ages 19 and older**



**Join us**

**at St. Mary's Nadi!**

**RSVP with Reem Sweis (708)-522-9477 by April 16!**

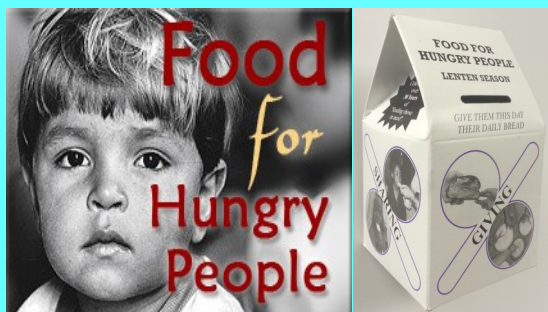
**6330 W. 127th St. Palos Heights, IL | @StMaryFSJD**



# Reminder!

*All Food for Hungry People Boxes*  
are due.

Thank You!



Starting Saturday, April 25th

**Saturdays 4PM-6PM for 1st through 8th Grades**

Learn the basics of music, church music & sing/chant Vespers.  
You don't need to know how to read music, WE WILL TEACH YOU!!!

Questions or Concerns? See Preyma Grace or Angela







# ST. MARY'S ATHLETIC'S

6330 West 127th St. Palos Heights, IL

## 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament

St. Mary is hosting their annual 3-on-3 basketball tournament! Get your starting line-ups ready for a weekend full of family, friends and FUN!!! Come support your community and enjoy some friendly competition.

The tournament will be held on **Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> 2015 at 10:00am.**

**SEE YOU THERE!**



### Requirements:

- Completed Registration/Waiver Form
- Registration Fee \$25/person
- Ages 14+
- 3 players per team  
Men's and women's bracket
- All forms and fees due by:  
**May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2015**

### For questions contact:

Melad Qodsi  
708-692-0561  
athletics@stmaryoc.org

Nidal Haddad  
708-691-8849

Fabiola Sweis  
708-715-3229



# St. Mary's Men's Basketball League



The time has finally come for family, friends, and lots of fun! We are pleased to present the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Men's Basketball League. The games will be held in the gymnasium of St. Mary's Orthodox Church. This league will be open to members of the community and to our sister churches. The timing of this league couldn't be better as we try to come together as a community to enjoy companionship and some friendly competition. We ask that you all spread the word as much as possible, as we get things started to have another successful season! There will be sign-ups held during coffee hour and open gyms.

**Season begins on June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2015**

**\*Forms, Teams, and Fees due by May 17<sup>th</sup> 2015**

**Requirements:**

- Signed waiver
- Team registration sheet
- Fees
- \$75/ person- No Purchase of Jersey
- \$100/ person- With Purchase of Jersey

**Information:**

- Ages 16 and up
- Make your own team
- Min members per team -- 7
- Max members per team -- 9

Contact: [athletics@stmaryoc.org](mailto:athletics@stmaryoc.org)

Nidal Haddad 708-691-8849 or Melad Qodsi 708-692-0561

# DodgeBall

- What:** Dodge Ball Tournament Presented by St. Mary's Orthodox Athletic Ministry
- Who:** Ages 14 and up, 5 players per team; *1 must be female*
- Fee:** \$20 per person/\$100 per team
- When:** Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup> 2015 at 3:00 PM
- Where:** The Gymnasium of St. Mary Orthodox Church at 6330 W, 127<sup>th</sup> St., Palos Heights, IL, 60463



FOR  
REGISTRATION  
FORMS AND MORE  
INFORMATION,  
CONTACT US AT  
[athletics@stmaryoc.org](mailto:athletics@stmaryoc.org)





# IOCC ANNUAL PAN-ORTHODOX GRAND BANQUET AND SILENT AUCTION

Thursday, April 30, 2015

6:00pm Cocktails • 7:00pm Dinner

CAFÉ LA CAVE

2777 Mannheim Road • Des Plaines, IL 60018

*Join us for a special IOCC presentation!*

Tickets are \$125 per person  
Please RSVP by April 17, 2015

*Net proceeds from this event will benefit  
IOCC's humanitarian relief work*



# IOCC

**Registration online at [ioccc.org/chicago](http://ioccc.org/chicago)**





# Midwest Parish Life Conference 2015

Host: St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church

June 24-28 Amway Grand Plaza: \$118/night

Buy a ticket book by April 1st for a chance to win a Free Night Stay  
[www.midwestplc2015.com](http://www.midwestplc2015.com)



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STARS HAFLI

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CELEBRATION ON  
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GAME SHOW

TEEN  
ORATORICAL

SERVICE PROJECT

REUNION ON THE  
GRAND

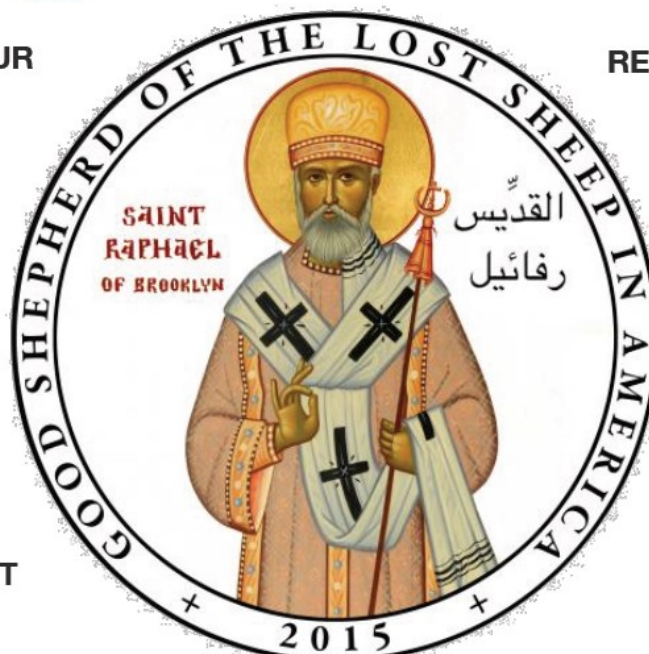
GOLF OUTING

PARISH SPORTS  
COMPETITION

URBAN MARKET

PICNIC AT THE  
ZOO

LITURGICAL SERVICES



100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY of the  
FALLING ASLEEP of SAINT RAPHAEL



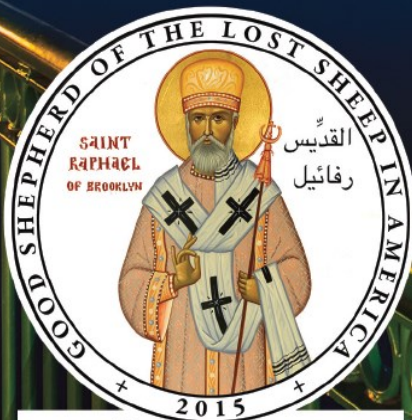
# Something for Everyone!

St. Mary, Cambridge MA invites you  
to join us for the

## *Boston* 52<sup>ND</sup> ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE CONVENTION

2015

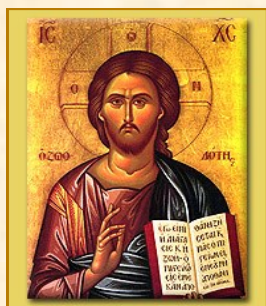
July 20-26  
Sheraton Boston Hotel



100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY of the  
FALLING ASLEEP of SAINT RAPHAEL

Kids Club/Tween Club  
Bible Bowl  
Oratorical Festival  
Enliven to Christ  
Daily Bible Study  
Department Meetings  
An Enchanting Evening over Boston  
A Night to Celebrate our Archdiocese  
Cabaret & Hufli  
Grand Banquet  
Teen Banquet/Pool Party  
21/40 Event

Go to [www.acboston2015.com](http://www.acboston2015.com) for more information and to register



## Weekly Synaxarion



On April 19 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate of the Hieromartyr Paphnoutios of Jerusalem; Tryphon, patriarch of Constantinople; Venerable Martyr Agathangelos of Esphigmenou monastery on Athos; Venerable Simeon of Philotheou monastery on Athos; and Venerable John of Old Lavra in Palestine. On this day, the second Sunday of Pascha, we inaugurate the celebration of Christ's Resurrection, and the occasion whereon the Holy Apostle Thomas touched the Savior's side. This day is called New Sunday, Thomas Sunday or Anti-Pascha. The last term means "in place of Pascha" because Thomas did not immediately hear of Christ's Resurrection and disbelieved it. We remember his doubt but do not repeat it. After this Sunday, the Church dedicates Sunday to the Resurrection. As the Disciples were gathered together on the Sunday of the Resurrection, Jesus entered and greeted them in His usual way, saying, "Peace be unto you." Then He showed them His hands, feet and side. Jesus ate before His Disciples and reassured them of His Resurrection. However, Thomas was not with them at that time, and insisted upon seeing the Savior's scars—the print of the nails in His hands and feet, and the spear in His side—before he would believe that Jesus was risen. Eight days later Christ appeared again to the Disciples, this time with Thomas present. The Master told Thomas to see and feel. Then Thomas immediately cried out, "My Lord and my God!" But Jesus tells His Disciples, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." This event also clearly illustrates the human and divine Natures of Christ. By the intercessions of Thine Apostle Thomas, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.