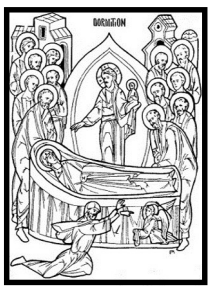
St. Mary Orthodox Church

The Self-Ruled Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America
Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest

كنيسة العذراء مريم الأنطاكية الأرثوذكسية



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

December 16, 2012

Sunday of the Holy Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ

أحد الأجداد القديسين

Weekly Schedule of Services

Saturday: 5:30 p.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)

6330 W. 127th St., Palos Heights, IL 60463
Phone : (708) 239-0004, Fax : (708) 221-6449
www.virginmaryoc.org (virginmary@virginmaryoc.org)

Fr. Mousa Haddad - cell phone: (708) 979-3222, email: fr.mousa@gmail.com
Fr. Malek Rihani - cell phone: (708) 516-6417, email: myrihani@hotmail.com

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

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. 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 الأنطاكية الأرثوذكسية! يُسعدنا أن نُقَدِّم لكم ولعائلاتكم تحياتنا القلبية الحارَّة. إذا كانت هذه زيارتكم الاولى لكنيستنا, نرجو أن تشعروا بأنكم في بيتكم الذي هو بيت أبينا جميعاً. ألرجاء أن تسألوا أحد المساعدين في الكنيسة في نهاية الخدمة الالهية عن "رزمة معلومات الترحيب" التي تحتوي على المعلومات المطلوبة. ألله 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
Subdeacon Matthew Sweis
Subdeacon Ameer Tadros

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
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 Administrator
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
Marram Salman
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 the church office or email: 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!

هلمُ لنسجد ونركع للمسيح ملكنا والهنا، خلصنا يا ابن الله يا من قام من بين الاموات، لنرتل لك هللويا!

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone Three)

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and became the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

لِتَفْرَحِ السماوياتُ وتبتهِجُ الأرضيات. لأنَّ الربَّ صنَعَ عِزاً بِساعدِهِ، ووطِئَ الموتَ بالموتِ وصارَ بِكْرَ الأمواتِ. وأنقَذَنا مِنْ جَوْفِ الجحيمِ. ومَنَحَ العالمَ الرحمةَ العظمى.

Troparion of the Forefathers (Tone Two)

Thou hast justified by faith the ancient Forefathers, and through them thou hast gone before and betrothed unto thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory; for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and she it was who gave birth to thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.

لقد زكيتَ بالإيمانِ الآباءَ القدماء, وبِهِمْ سبَقْتَ فخَطَبْتَ البيعةَ التي من الأمم. فلْيَفْتَخِرِ القديسونَ بالمجدِ, لأنَّ من زرْعِهِمْ أينَعَ ثمرٌ حسيبٌ. وهو الأمُّ التي ولدَتْكَ بغيرِ زرْعٍ. فبتوَسُلاتِهِم أيُّها المسيحُ الإله خَلِّصْ نفوسنا.

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.

في ميلادِكِ حفِظْتِ البتوليةَ وصنتِها وفي رقادِكِ ما أهمَلْتِ العالمَ وتركتِهِ يا والدةَ الإله. لأنكِ انتقلْتِ إلى الحياة بما أنك أمُّ الحياة. فبشفاعاتِكِ أنقذي من الموتِ نفوسَنا.

Kontakion of the Forefeast of the Nativity (Tone Three)

Today the Virgin cometh unto the cave to give birth to the Word who was born before all ages, begotten in a manner that defies description. Rejoice, therefore, O universe if thou shouldst hear and glorify with the Angels and the shepherds. Glorify Him who by His will shall become a new-born Babe and who is our God before all ages.

اليومَ العذراء تأتي إلى المغارة، لِتَلِدَ الكلمة، الذي قبْلَ الدُّهُورِ، ولادةً لا تُفَسَّر ولا يُنْطَق بها، فافرَحِي أيتها المسكونة إذا سَمِعْتِ، ومجّدي معَ الملائكةِ والرعاة، الذي سَيَظْهَرُ بمشيئَتِهِ طفْلاً جديداً وهو الإله الذي قبْلَ الدُّهُور.

Epistle for the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers
الرسالة للأحد الأجداد القديسين

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers!
For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us!

The Reading is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Colossians (3:4-11).

Brethren, when Christ, Who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away; anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

مبارك أنت يارب اله آبائنا!

لأنك عدل في كل ما صنعت بنا!

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول الى اهل كولوسي (3:4-11)*

يا اخوة متى ظهر المسيح الذي هو حياتنا فانتم ايضا تظهرون حينئذ معه في المجد * فأميتوا اعضاءكم التي على الارض الزنى والنجاسة والهوى والشهوة الردية والطمع الذي هو عبادة وثن * لانه لاجل هذه يأتي غضب الله على ابناء العصيان * وفي هذه انتم ايضا سلكتم حينا اذ كنتم عائشين فيها* اما الان فانتم أيضا اطرحوا الكل الغضب والسخط والخبث والتجديف والكلام القبيح من افواهكم * ولا يكذب بعضكم بعضا بل اخلعوا الانسان العتيق مع اعماله * والبسوا الانسان الجديد الذي يتجدد للمعرفة على صورة خالقه * حيث ليس يوناني ولا يهودي لا ختان ولا قلف لا بربري ولا اسكيثي لا عبد ولا حر بل المسيح هو كل شئ وفي الجميع.

Gospel for the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers

الإنجيل للأحد الأجداد القديسين

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (14:16-24).
The Lord spoke this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come for all is now ready.' But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet. For many are called, but few are chosen.'"

فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارةِ القديسِ لوقا الإنجيليِّ البشيرِ, التلميذِ الطاهر (14:16-24)*

قالَ الربُّ هذا الْمَثَل. إنسانٌ صَنَعَ عَشاءً عَظِيماً ودَعَا كثيرين* فأرسَل عبْدَهُ في ساعةِ العشاءِ يقولُ لِلْمَدْعُوّينَ تعالُوُا فإنَّ كُلَّ شيءٍ قَد أُعِدَّ* فَطَفِقَ كُلُّهُم واحِدٌ فواحِدٌ يَسْتَعْفُون. فقالَ لَهُ الأولُ قد اشتريْتُ حَقْلاً ولا بُدَّ لي أنْ أَخْرُجَ وأنظُرَهُ فأسألُكَ أنْ تَعْفِيَني* وقالَ الآخَرُ قَدِ اشتريْتُ خَمْسَةَ فدادينِ بَقَرٍ وأنا ماضٍ لأُجَرِّبَها فأسألُكَ أنْ تَعْفِيَني* وقال الآخَرُ قد تزوجْتُ امرأةً فلذلِكَ لا أستَطيعُ أنْ أجيءَ* فأَتَى العَبْدُ وأخبَرَ سيِّدَهُ بذلِكَ* فحينئِذٍ غَضِبَ رَبُّ البيْتِ وقالَ لِعَبْدِهِ أُخْرُجْ سَريعاً إلى شوارِعِ المدينةِ وأزِقَّتِها وأَدْخِلِ المساكينَ والْجُدْعَ والعُميانَ والعُرْجَ إلى هَهُنَا* فقالَ العبْدُ يا سَيِّدُ قد قُضِيَ ما أمَرْتَ به ويبقى أيضاً مَحَلٌّ* فقالَ السيِّدُ للعبْدِ أُخْرُجْ إلى الطُرُقِ والأسيجَةِ واضطَرِرْهُم إلى الدخولِ حتى يَمْتَلِئ بيْتِي*فإنِّي أقولُ لَكُمْ إنَّهُ لا يذوقُ عشائِي أحَدٌ مِنْ أولئِكَ الرِجَالِ المدعوِّين* لأنَّ المدعوِّينَ كثيرونَ والْمُختارينَ قَلِيلُون.

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

Holy Bread and Coffee Hour	القداس والقهوة
12/16: Eid Swais & Family	**12/16:** عيد صويص والعائلة
12/23: Jason & Katia Haddad & Family	**12/23:** جيسن وكاتيا حداد والعائلة
12/24: Ladies Guild	**12/24:** سيدات الكنيسة

Epistle Readers:

Today: English - Fabiola Sweis , Arabic - Fares Samawi
Next Week: English - Omar Sweiss , Arabic - Asmahan Fakhouri

"Bible Verse of the Week"

When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: "'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'"" Matthew 2:4-6

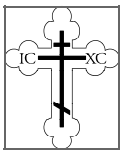
فَجَمَعَ هِيرُودُسُ كُلَّ كِبارِ الكَهَنَةِ وَمُعَلِّمِي الشَّرِيعَةِ، وَسَأَلَهُمْ عَنْ مَكانِ وِلادَةِ المَسِيحِ. فَقالُوا لَهُ: «فِي مَدِينَةِ بَيتَ لَحْمَ فِي إِقلِيمِ اليَهُودِيَّةِ، لِأَنَّ هَذا هُوَ المَكْتُوبُ بِيَدِ النَّبِيِّ: ‹أَنتِ يا بَيتَ لَحْمَ الواقِعَةَ فِي أَرْضِ اليَهُودِيَّةِ، لَسْتِ قَلِيلَةَ الأَهَمِّيَّةِ بَينَ حُكّامِ يَهُوذا، لِأَنَّهُ مِنْكِ سَيَخْرُجُ حاكِمٌ، يَرْعَى شَعبِي بَنِي إِسْرائِيلَ.متى 2:4-6

Parish News

6 Month Memorial

Asma Swais

May her memory be eternal!



ذكرانية نصف السنة

أسما صويص

ليكن ذكرها مؤبداً!

The 2013 Holy Bread & Coffee Hour sign-up sheet is available in the Church hall. Please take time to sign up for a Sunday. God bless!

يُرجى ممن يرغب بتقديم القُدَّاس والقهوة لأيٍّ من أيام ألاحد لعام 2013, أن يقوم بتسجيل إسمه في السجل المخصص لذلك في قاعة الكنيسة. أللهُ يبارككم!

Please make sure you pick up your 2013 St. Mary's Calendar after Liturgy. God bless!

تذكروا أن تأخذوا رزنامة 2013 بعد القداس الالهي اليوم. أللهُ يبارككم!

OCCHY BULLETIN QUIZ … 12/16/12
OCCHY Quiz for Teens

Q: **WHAT IS VICODIN?**
A: **VICODIN** is a medication prescribed to relieve pain. When taken AS PRESCRIBED it can be very effective.

Q: Is true that it comes from the same class of drugs as heroin ?
A: **TRUE:** It is a FACT that in 2007, prescription pain medications like Vicodion & OxyContin were involved in more overdose deaths than heroin and cocaine combined.

NIDA – National Institute on Drug Abuse, www.nida.nih.gov

St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights
Calendar of Events

Every Week (unless otherwise noted)

- **Sun - 8:45am Matins, 10:00am Divine Liturgy/Sunday School**
- **Wed -10:00am Morning Prayers, 10:30am Parish Bible Study**
  3:30pm, Arabic School
  5:30pm, Great Vespers

December 2012

Fri - 12/14	**6:30pm: Fellowship Christmas Gathering**
Fri - 12/21	**6:30pm: SOYO Christmas Gathering**
Sat - 12/22	**No Arabic School**
Sun - 12/23	**11:30am: Arabic School Christmas Pageant**
Mon - 12/24	**6:00pm: Christmas Services**
Wed - 12/26	**SOYO Christmas Retreat**
Fri - 12/28	**6:00pm: Ladies After Christmas Party**
Sat - 12/29	**No Arabic School**
Sun - 12/30	**No Sunday School (Christmas Break)**
Mon - 12/31	**7:00pm: Liturgy for the New Year and Feast of the Circumcision of our Lord**

January 2013

Sat - 01/05	**No Arabic School**
Sun - 01/06	**No Sunday School (Christmas Break)**
Sat - 01/12	**Youth League 1st day of Season '13**

February 2013

Sun - 02/03	**5:30pm: Fellowship Super Bowl Party**
Sat - 02/09	**7:00pm: St. Valentine's Day Hafleh**

Advent Fast & Christmas Reminder!

The Nativity Fast (Advent) began Thursday, 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.

صيام الميلاد إبتدأ, 15-11-2012, وينتهي بعد القداس الالهي لعيد الميلاد في 24-12-2012. في هذا الصيام نمتنع عن تناول اللحوم والاجبان. وحتى يكون هذا الصيام كاملا وفعالاً, يجب أن يقترن بالصلاة وإعمال الرحمة والمحبة. يُذكرنا القديس يوحنا الذهبي الفم بما يلي: "ماذا ينفع الصيام عن اللحوم والاجبان إذا كنا ننهش لحم بعضنا البعض." الرجاء أن تتذكروا المحبة والتسامح في هذا الوقت ألذي نتهيأ فيه لميلاد مخلصنا يسوع المسيح.

Important: Mark your Calendars for Christmas Liturgy

Important! Please mark your calendars for the Christmas Liturgy. It will begin at 6pm, Monday 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. I am looking forward to seeing you all at Christmas Liturgy. God bless!

مُهِم جداً: تذكروا في جدول أعمالكم اليومي قداس عيد الميلاد والذي سيبدأ في تمام الساعة 6 مساء يوم 24-12-2012 . كيف يجوز أن نحتفل بعيد الميلاد إذا أغفلنا قداس العيد؟ إن موسم العيد حافل بالواجبات والمناسبات الخاصة مع إصدقائنا وعائلاتهم, ولكن علينا أن نتعلم كيف نُحدِّد الاولويات. ولهذا إعملوا كل الترتيبات حتى تكونوا حاضرين في خدمة قداس عيد الميلاد. هل بإمكانكم أن تتخيلوا أية حفلة عيد ميلاد بدون وجود الطفل؟! هذا ما نفعله عندما نحتفل بعيد الميلاد دون حضور قداس العيد. فلنبدأ بتغيير المفهوم الدنيوي لعيد الميلاد ونُعِيد المسيح إلى الصورة الحقيقية ونتذكر الظروف الصحيحة لهذا الموسم. نأمل أن نراكم جميع في قداس عيد الميلاد والله يباركم!

"Liturgy after the Liturgy"

Taking our faith outside the church walls

Food Drive Sponsored by Sunday School

St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights will be collecting non-perishable food items to help feed the hungry! There will be collections set up near the North Entrance and near the Sunday School wing. Food drive Ends January 6, 2012

St. Philothea Project
4th Annual Humanitarian Drive for the Orphans

Items needed:

SOCKS and UNDERWEAR For Boys and Girls Ages 3 – 14 years old Collection boxes will be available in the Fellowship hall. Please see Kh. Delia with any questions!

FELLOWSHIP CHRISTMAS GATHERING

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2012

FELLOWSHIP HALL @ 6:30PM

SECRET SANTA & LENTEN POTLUCK EVENT

SEE YOU THERE!

SOYO CHRISTMAS GATHERING

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2012

FELLOWSHIP HALL @ 6:30PM

SECRET SANTA & LENTEN POTLUCK EVENT

SEE YOU THERE!

Ladies Annual After-Christmas Party

Friday, December 28, 2012 @ 6:00pm

St. Mary's Fellowship Hall

Tickets: $30

Dancing

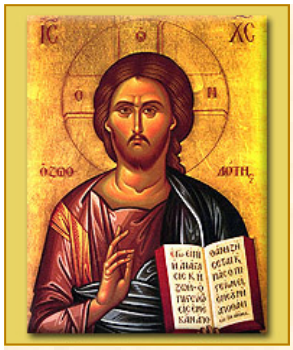
DJ

Contact Yasmin Sweis (708) 712-9502
Georgette Sweis (708) 606-7573

Annual SOYO Christmas Retreat

December 26 - December 28

See Orieb Sweis or Suhail Rihani to register and make payments



Weekly Synaxarion

On December 16 in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate the holy and glorious Prophet Haggai; Theophania the empress; and Modestos, archbishop of Jerusalem. On this day we celebrate the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers (Ancestors) of our Lord Jesus. We remember all the holy Patriarchs of the Old Testament who prefigured or foretold Christ: Adam the first Father, Enoch, Melchizedek, Abraham, the friend of God, Isaac, the fruit of the Promise, Jacob and the twelve patriarchs. We then commemorate those who lived under the Law: Moses, Aaron, Joshua, Samuel, David, and the Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel; the twelve minor prophets; Elijah, Elisha, Zachariah, and John the Baptist; and finally the Virgin Mary, the intermediary between mankind and her divine Son. Indeed, the Lord Jesus did not come to abolish the Law and the Prophets, but to redeem humanity which bemoaned the weight of evil since Adam; to realize the promise made to Abraham; to change the Law of Fear into the Law of Love; and to give Resurrection and Life to mankind. This feast prepares us for the Nativity of Jesus Christ, placing before us the anticipation and hope for His coming among us. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.