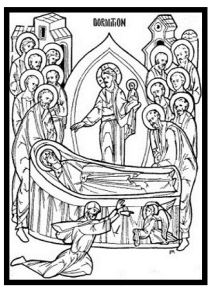
St. Mary Orthodox Church

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)

January 6, 2013

Feast of the Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

عيد الظهور الإلهي (عيد الغطاس)

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)

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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. أله يباركم 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
Susan Sweis
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

First Antiphon When Israel went forth from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a strange people. *Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.* The sea looked and fled, Jordan turned back. *Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen. *Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.*	**الانديفونا الأولى** في خروج إسرائيل من مصر وبيت يعقوب من شعب بربري. *بشفاعاتِ والدةِ الإلهِ يا مخلصُ خلصنا.* أبصره البحر فهرب والأردن رجع إلى الوراء. *بشفاعاتِ والدةِ الإلهِ يا مخلصُ خلصنا.* المجد للآب والإبن والروح القدس, الآن وكل أوان وإلى دهر الداهرين. آمين. *بشفاعاتِ والدةِ الإلهِ يا مخلصُ خلصنا.*
Second Antiphon I am well pleased for the Lord has heard my voice and my supplication. *Save us, O Son of God, who wast baptized by John in the Jordan, who sing to Thee, Alleluia!* The sorrows of death encompassed me; the pains of hell took hold of me. I found trouble and sorrow, and I called upon the Name of the Lord. *Save us, O Son of God, who wast baptized by John in the Jordan, who sing to Thee, Alleluia!* Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; and our God is Merciful**.** *Save us, O Son of God, who wast baptized by John in the Jordan, 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. *O only-begotten son and word of God…*	**الانديفونا الثانية** أحببت أن الرب يستمع صوت تضرعي. *خلصنا يا ابن الله, يا من اعتمد من يوحنا في الأردن، لنرتل لك, هللويا!* الضيق والمخاض أصاباني فدعوت اسم الرب. *خلصنا يا ابن الله, يا من اعتمد من يوحنا في الأردن، لنرتل لك, هللويا!* الرب حنونٌ وصدِّيقٌ، وإلهُنا رحيمٌ. *خلصنا يا ابن الله, يا من اعتمد من يوحنا في الأردن، لنرتل لك, هللويا!* المجدُ للآبِ والإبنِ والروحِ القدس، الآنَ وكلَّ أوانٍ وإلى دهرِ الداهرينَ، آمين. *يا كلمةَ اللهِ الابنِ الوحيد…*
Third Antiphon O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. Let the house of Israel now confess that He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. Let the house of Aaron confess that He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. Let them now who fear the Lord confess that He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. *When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest; for the voice of the Father bore witness unto Thee, by calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlighten the world, glory to Thee!*	**الانديفونا الثالثة** اعترفوا للربِّ فإنَّهُ صالحٌ وإنَّ إلى الأبدِ رحمتَهُ، ليَقُلْ بيتُ إسرائيل إنَّهُ صالحٌ وإنَّ إلى الأبدِ رحمتَهُ، ليقُلْ كلُّ أتقياءِ الربِّ إنَّهُ صالحٌ وإنَّ إلى الأبدِ رحمتَهُ. *بِاعْتِمَادِكَ يَا رَبُّ فِي نَهْرِ الأُرْدُنْ، ظَهَرَتِ السَّجْدَةُ لِلثَّالُوثْ، لأَنَّ صَوْتَ الآبِ تَقَدَّمَ لَكَ بِالشَّهَادَةِ، مُسَمِّياً إِيَّاكَ ابْناً مَحْبُوباً، والرُّوحُ بِهَيْئَةِ حَمَامَةٍ يُؤَيِّدُ حَقِيقَةَ الْكَلِمَةِ، فَيَا مَنْ ظَهَرْتَ وَأَنَرْتَ الْعَالَمَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الإِلَهُ الْمَجْدُ لَكَ!*

Changes in the Liturgy
تغييرات في القداس

Entrance Hymn

Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. The Lord is God and hath appeared unto us. Save us, O Son of God, who wast baptized by John in the Jordan, who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

اللهُ الربُّ ظَهَرَ لَنَا, مباركٌ الآتي باسم الرب. خلّصنا يا ابن الله, يا مَنِ اعْتَمَدَ مِن يوحنا في الأردن, لنرتل لك: هللويا!

Troparion of the Theophany (Tone One)

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest; for the voice of the Father bore witness unto Thee, by calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee!

بِاعْتِمَادِكَ يَا رَب فِي نَهْرِ الأُرْدُنْ، ظَهَرَتِ السَّجْدَةُ لِلثَّالُوث، لأَنَّ صَوْتَ الآبِ تَقَدَّمَ لَكَ بِالشَّهَادَةِ، مُسَمِّياً إِيَّاكَ ابْناً مَحْبُوباً، والرُّوحُ بِهَيْئَةِ حَمَامَةٍ يُؤَيِّدُ حَقِيقَةَ الْكَلِمَةِ، فَيَا مَنْ ظَهَرْتَ وَأَنَرْتَ الْعَالَمَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الإِلَهُ الْمَجْدُ لَكَ!

Kontakion of the Theophany of our Lord (Tone Four)

Today thou hast appeared to the universe, O Lord, and thy light hath been shed upon us, who praise thee with knowledge, saying: Thou hast come and appeared, O unapproachable Light.

اليومَ ظَهَرْتَ للمسكونةِ يا رب، ونورُكَ قد ارتَسَمَ علينا، نحن الذينَ نُسَبِّحُكَ بمعرفةٍ قائلين: لقد أتيْتَ وظهرتَ، أيُّها النورُ الذي لا يُدْنى منه.

Instead of the Trisagion Hymn, the following is sung (Tone One):

"As many as have been Baptized into Christ,
have put on Christ. Alleluia!"

"أنتم الذين بالمسيح اعتمدتم المسيح قد لبستم، هلليويا!"

Epistle for the Theophany of our Lord
الرسالة لعيد الظهور الإلهي (عيد الغطاس)

Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord!
O Give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good; for his mercy endureth forever!
The Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to Titus (2:11-14; 3:4-7).
Titus, my son, the grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men, training us to renounce irreligion and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright, and godly lives in this world, awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of the great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. Declare these things; exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one disregard you. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of deeds done by righteousness, but in virtue of his own mercy, by the washing of generation and renewal in the Holy Spirit, which he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

مباركٌ الآتـي باسم الرب!

اعترفوا للربِّ فإنَّهُ صالحٌ!

فصلٌ من رسالةِ القديسِ بولسَ الرسولِ إلى تيطُس (2:11-14; 3:4-7)

يا ولدي تيطُس لقد ظهَرت نعمةُ اللهِ المُخَلِّصَةُ لجميعِ الناس* وهي تُؤَدِّبنا لِنُنكِرَ النفاقَ والشهواتِ العالميَّةَ فَنَحيا في الدهرِ الحاضِرِ على مُقتَضى التَعَقُّلِ والعَدلِ والتقوى* مُنتَظِرينَ الرجاءَ السعيدَ وظهورَ مجدِ إلهِنا العظيمِ ومخلِّصِنا يسوعَ المسيحِ* الذي بذلَ نفسَهُ لأجلِنا ليفتَدِيَنا من كُلِّ إثمٍ ويُطهِّرَ لنفسِهِ شعباً خاصاً غيوراً على الأعمالِ الصالحةِ* فلمَّا ظَهَرَ لُطفُ اللهِ مخلِّصَنا ومحبَّتَهُ للناسِ* خلَّصَنا هوَ لا لأعمالٍ في البِرّ عمَلناها نحنُ بل على مُقتَضى رحمَتِهِ بغسلِ الميلادِ الثاني وتجديدِ الروحِ القدُس* الذي أفاضَهُ علينا بِسخاءٍ بيسوعَ المسيحِ مخلِّصِنا* حتَّى إذا تَبرَّرنا بِنعمَتِهِ نَصيرُ وَرَثَةً على حسَبِ رجاءِ الحياةِ الأبديَّة.

Gospel for the Theophany of our Lord

الإنجيل لعيد الظهور الإلهي (عيد الغطاس)

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (3:13-17).

At that time, Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?: But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and he saw the spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس متَّى الإنجيلي البشير, التلميذ الطاهر (3:13-17)

في ذلكَ الزمانِ أقبلَ يسوعُ من الجليلِ إلى الأردنِّ إلى يوحنا ليعتَمِدَ منهُ* فكانَ يوحنا يمانعُهُ قائلاً أنا محتاجٌ أن أعتمدَ منكَ أوَ أنتَ تأتي إليَّ* فأجابه يسوعُ قائلاً دَعِ الآنَ فهكذا ينبغي لنا أن نُتِمَّ كلَّ برٍّ، حينئذٍ تركهُ* فلمَّا اعتمدَ يسوعُ صعِدَ للوقتِ منَ الماءِ وإذا السماواتُ قد انفتحت لهُ فرأى روحَ اللهِ نازلاً مثلَ حمامةٍ وحالاً عليه* وإذا صوتٌ من السماءِ قائلاً هذا هو ابني الحبيب الذي به سُررت.

Changes in the Liturgy

تغييرات في القداس

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 Man; 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 body into throne, and thy womb He made more spacious than the heavens. In thee all creation rejoices; O Full of Grace, glory to thee.

التعظيمة لوالدة الإله من قدَّاس باسيليوس الكبير (باللحن الثامن)

إن البرايا بأسرِها تفرحُ بكِ يا ممتلئةً نعمةً، محافِلَ الملائكةِ وأجناسَ البَشَرِ، أيتها الهيكلُ المتقدسُ والفردوسُ الناطقُ، فَخرَ البتوليةِ مريم التي منها تجسَّدَ الإلهُ وصارَ طِفلاً وهو الإلهُ الذي قبلَ الدُّهورِ، لأنهُ صنعَ مُستَودَعَكِ عرشاً وجعلَ بطنَكِ أرحَبَ من السَّماواتِ، لذلكَ يا ممتلئةً نعمةً تفرحُ بكِ كلُ البرايا وتُمجدُكِ.

Koinonikon for the Theophany of our Lord (Tone Eight)

The grace of God our Savior hath appeared to all men. Alleluia!

الكينونيكون لعيد الغطاس (باللحن الثامن)

لقد ظهرت نعمة الله المخلصة لجميع الناس. هلليلويا!

Instead of "We have seen the true light…", sing:

Troparion of the Theophany (Tone One)

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest; for the voice of the Father bore witness unto Thee, by calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee!

بدلا من "قد رأينا النور الحقيقي..."، نرتل:

طروبارية عيد الغطاس (باللحن الأول)

بِاعْتِمَادِكَ يَا رَب فِي نَهْرِ الأُرْدُنْ، ظَهَرَتِ السَّجْدَةُ لِلثَّالُوث، لأَنَّ صَوْتَ الآبِ تَقَدَّمَ لَكَ بِالشَّهَادَةِ، مُسَمِّياً إِيَّاكَ ابْناً مَحْبُوباً، والرُّوحُ بِهَيْئَةِ حَمَامَةٍ يُؤَيِّدُ حَقِيقَةَ الْكَلِمَةِ، فَيَا مَنْ ظَهَرْتَ وَأَنَرْتَ الْعَالَمَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الإِلَهُ الْمَجْدُ لَكَ!

Prayer for the Beginning of the New Year

O Lord Jesus Christ, Creator of all things, who by Thy authority has established the times and the seasons, who provides us with rain and the abundance of the fruits of the earth, and who hears the prayers of those who humbly seek Thee, accept also our requests about our needs and concerns and deliver us from every worry, danger, and sin. Thy mercy is as abundant as thy works. Bless all our activities, direct our steps by Thy Holy Spirit, and forgive our sins. O Lord, bless the beginning of our New Year with Thy goodness and make it a year of grace for all of us. Preserve us in peace through the prayers of Thy Most Holy Mother, the Theotokos, and of all Thy Saints. Amen.

صلاة لبداية السنة الجديدة

أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ يَسُوعُ الْمَسِيحُ, يَا خَالِقَ جَمِيعِ الْأَشْيَاءِ, يَا مَنْ بِسُلْطَانِهِ خَلَقَ الْأَزْمِنَةَ وَالْمَوَاسِمَ وَمَدَّنَا بِالْأَمْطَارِ وَبِقُولِ الْأَرْضِ الْغَزِيرَةِ, يَا مَنْ يَسْتَمِعُ إِلَى صَلَوَاتِ طَالِبِيهِ, إِقْبَلْ طَلَبَاتِنَا لِمَا نَحْتَاجُ إِلَيْهِ وَنَهْتَمُّ بِهِ وَخَلِّصْنَا مِنَ الْهُمُومِ وَالْأَخْطَارِ وَالْخَطَايَا. رَحْمَتُكَ عَظِيمَةٌ كَأَفْعَالِكَ. بَارِكْ كُلَّ أَعْمَالِنَا, سَدِّدْ خُطَانَا بِرُوحِكَ الْقُدُّوسِ وَاغْفِرْ لَنَا خَطَايَانَا. يَا رَبُّ, بَارِكْ بِدَايَةَ هَذِهِ السَّنَةِ الْجَدِيدَةِ بِصَلَاحِكَ وَاجْعَلْهَا سَنَةَ خَيْرٍ عَلَى الْجَمِيعِ. إِحْفَظْنَا بِسَلَامٍ, بِشَفَاعَةِ أُمِّكَ الْكُلِّيَّةِ الْقَدَاسَةِ وَجَمِيعِ قِدِّيسِيكَ. آمِينْ.

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
01/06: Ghaleb and Rita Sweis & Family Baha and Wisam Swaiss & Family	**01/06:** غالب وريتا صويص والعائلة بهأ ووبسام صويص والعائلة
01/13: Shamel and Souna Al-Hourani & Family	**01/13:** شامل وسونة الحوراني والعائلة
01/20: Samih and Maysoun Sweis & Family	**1/20:** سميح وميسون صويص والعائلة

Epistle Readers:

Today: English – Delia Haddad , Arabic – Mazen Ammari
Next Week: English – Matthew Sweis , Arabic – Khaled Salman

"Bible Verse of the Week"

Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."
Psalm 90:12

عَلِّمْنا أنْ نُحْصِيَ أيّامَنا القَلِيلَةَ، لِكَي نَحصُلَ عَلَى قُلُوبٍ حَكِيمَةٍ."

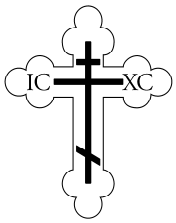
المزامير 90:12

Parish News

Memory Eternal!

Khathra Sweis

Ratib Jreisat



ليكن ذكرهم مؤيداً!

خظرة صويص

راتب جريسات

Congratulations to the newly elected St. Mary's Antiochian Women officers: Susan Sweis (President), Magida Abudayyeh (Vice-President), Kholoud Swais (Treasurer), Yasmin Sweis (Secretary), Nihad Sweis (Corresponding Secretary). They will be sworn in today at Liturgy. Make God grant them many healthy years!

St. Mary's Monthly Men's Breakfast Club

The first Saturday of every Month at 10:00am

Starting Saturday, January 5th, 2013

Location: Royalberry Restaurant
6417 W. 127th St. in Palos Heights

Join the clergy of St. Mary as we discuss current and relevant issues affecting our families and communities, and how we, as fathers, brothers, and role models, can make a difference.

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
- Sat - 3:30pm, Arabic School
  5:30pm, Great Vespers

January 2013

Sat - 01/05	**10:00am: St. Mary's Men's Breakfast Club**
Sat - 01/05	**No Arabic School**
Sun - 01/06	**No Sunday School (Christmas Break)**
Sun - 01/13	**Annual General Assembly**
Sat - 01/19	**Youth League 1st day of Season Winter '13**
Sat - 01/19	**SOYO Ice Skating**
Sun - 01/20	**11:30: SOYO Kunafa Sale**
Sun - 01/27	**6:00pm: St. Mary Appreciation Dinner**

February 2013

Sat - 02/02	**10:00am: St. Mary's Men's Breakfast Club**
Sun - 02/03	**5:30pm: Fellowship Super Bowl Party**
Sat - 02/09	**7:00pm: St. Valentine's Day Hafleh**
Tue - 02/12	**6:00am: PADS Homeless Shelter Volunteering**
Sat - 02/16	**4:00pm: SOYO LAR/Bible Study**
Sun - 02/17	**11:30am: Blood Drive**

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.

جرت العادة أن يقوم الكاهن في تقديس بيوت المؤمنين في عيد الظهور الإلهي (عيد الغطاس) في اليوم السادس من كانون الثاني من كل عام. تقديس البيوت برش الماء المقدس, يُطهِّر البيوت من الارواح الشريرة ونُجدد إنتمائنا إلى الله تعالي. فكما تجددنا في معموديتنا بالمسيح, كذلك بيوتنا وحياتنا كلها تُجدد إنتمائها الى السيد المسيح إلهنا في مثل هذا الوقت من كل عام. يُرجى ممن يرغب في تقديس بيته أن يتصل بالأب موسى على هاتف 708-979-3222 او بالأب مالك على هاتف 708-516-6417.

St. Mary Orthodox Church

Palos Heights, IL

You are cordially invited to an

APPRECIATION DINNER

Sunday, January 27th, 2013 at 6:00pm
St. Mary's Gymnasium

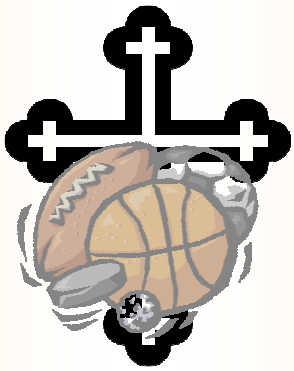
A CELEBRATION
OF FAITH AND COMMUNITY !

This event is Free of Charge

Due to limited seating, please
Please RSVP with total number attending
to the Church office no later than Friday, January 18th
Phone: 708-239-0004 or Email: katiahaddad@virginmaryoc.org

6330 W. 127th Street, Palos Heights, Illinois
708-239-0004

YOUTH LEAGUE



<u>Youth League is back for the Winter Season!</u>

- League will be every Saturday from Jan. 19th to March 9th
- Ages 5-12
- Cost: $25 (ages 5-7) $40 (ages 8-12)

Saturdays at St. Mary will be filled with lots of activities! The day will begin with the Youth League at 1:30 p.m. Followed by Arabic School at 3:30 p.m. Then ending with prayer at Vespers at 5:30 p.m.

Any questions contact Fabiola Sweis at fabiolasweis@gmail.com

All games and open gyms will be held at St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights

REGISTER TODAY!!!

The Fellowship of St. John the Divine

cordially invites you to their Annual…

St. Valentine's Day Hafleh

Saturday, February 9, 2013

6:30 pm

SS Constantine and Helen

Greek Orthodox Church

11025 S. Roberts Rd.

Palos Hills, IL 60465

Please see Asimt Sweis or any Fellowship Officer for tickets.

Weekly Synaxarion

On January 6 in the Holy Orthodox Church we celebrate the Holy Theophany, or Epiphany, of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. When our Lord reached thirty years from His physical birth, He began His teaching and saving work. He Himself signified this "beginning of the beginning" by His baptism in the River Jordan. St. Cyril of Jerusalem says, "The beginning of the world: water; the beginning of the Good News: Jordan." At the time of the baptism of the Lord in water, the Father was revealed to the sense of hearing; the Spirit was revealed to the sense of sight, and in addition to these, the Son was revealed to the sense of touch. The Father uttered His witness about the Son, the Son was baptized in the water, and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove hovered above the water. John the Baptist witnessed and said about Christ, "Behold, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world." When John immersed and baptized the Lord in the Jordan, the mission of Christ in the world and the path of our salvation were shown. That is to say: The Lord took upon Himself the sins of mankind and died under them (immersion) and became alive again (the coming out of the water); and we must die as the old sinful man and become alive again as cleansed, renewed and regenerated. This is the Savior and this is the path of salvation. The Feast of the Epiphany (Theophany in Greek) is also called the Feast of Illumination. For us, the event in the River Jordan illuminates, by manifesting to us God as Trinity, consubstantial and undivided. Also, every one of us through baptism in water is illumined by this, that we become adopted by the Father of Lights through the merits of the Son and the power of the Holy Spirit. Unto Christ be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen.