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 (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
V. Rev. Fr. Danial Doss (OCA)
Rev. Fr. Jacob Andoun
Rev. Archdeacon Saed Rihani

Parish Council
Fr. Mousa Haddad - Presiding Officer
Rashid Sweis - Chairman
Shireen Salman - Vice Chairman
Jason Haddad - Treasurer
Rain Chamoun - Financial Secretary
Fabiola Sweis - Secretary
Fadi Abu Manneh
Raed Bisharat
Laith Swaiss
Elia Sweiss
Najib Zedan

Parish Ministries
Sunday School - Elizabeth Andoun
SOYO - Daniel Nemri
YAM - Sally Sweis
Antiochian Women - Rita Sweis
Stewardship - Elia Sweiss
Fundraising - Rashid Sweis
Humanitarian - Shireen Salman
OCLife - Nancy Cannon
Choir - Angela Haddad
Chanters - Khaled Salman and Danny Haddad
Webmaster - Sana Sweis
Ushers - Jamal Swais, Louis Sweiss
Couples Ministry - Nader & Angela Haddad

Office
May Sweis
office@stmaryoc.org

Church Hall Rental
Call or email the church office

January 5th, 2020
Paramon (Eve) of & Sunday before the Theophany of Christ

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Weekly Schedule of Services:
Saturday Great Vespers 5:00pm
Sunday Orthros 8:45am followed by Divine Liturgy 10:00am
Wednesday Morning Prayers followed by Arabic Bible Study 10:00am
Check our website for feast day services and all other services

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

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 Four)

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel, the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation and proudly broke the news to the disciples, saying death hath been spoiled, Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

إنَّ تِلْميذاتِ الرَّبِّ تَعَلَّمْنَ مِنَ المَلاكِ الكَرْزَ بالقيامَةِ البَهِج، وطَرَحْنَ القَضاءَ الجَدِّيَّ، وخاطَبْنَ الرُّسُلَ

مُفْتَخِراتٍ وقائِلاتٍ: سُبِيَ المَوْتُ وقامَ المَسيحُ الإلهُ، ومَنَحَ العالَمَ الرَّحْمَةَ العُظْمى.

Troparion of the Paramon (Eve) of Theophany of Christ (Tone Four)

River Jordan was turned back by Elisseus' mantle once, when the fiery man of zeal Elias had been taken up; then were its waters divided hither and thither. The running streams became dry passage unto him, truly as a sign and type of Baptism, whereby we pass to the other side of the shifting stream of this fleeting life. Christ hath appeared in the Jordan River, to sanctify the waters.

إنَّ نَهْرَ الأُرْدُنِّ قَدِ انْكَفَأَ راجِعاً قَديماً بِوِشاحِ أَليشَعَ عِنْدَ صُعودِ إيلِيّا، وانْشَقَّ الماءُ إلى هَذِهِ الجِهَةِ وإلى تِلْك،

فحَصَلَتْ لهُ المادَّةُ الرَّطْبَةُ طَريقاً يابِسة. فَكانَ ذَلِكَ حَقّاً رَسْماً لِلْمَعْمودِيَّةِ، التي بِها نَجُوزُ سَبيلَ العُمْرِ الزائِل.

المَسيحُ ظَهَرَ في الأُرْدُنِّ ليُقَدِّسَ المِياه.

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 Theophany of Christ (Tone Four)

Today hath the Lord appeared in the courses of the Jordan crying to John and saying, Be not dismayed at my baptism; for I have verily come to save Adam the first to be created.

اليومَ حَضَرَ الرَّبُّ في مَجاري الأُرْدُنِّ، هاتِفاً نَحْوَ يوحَنّا وقائِلاً: لا تَجْزَعْ مِنْ تَعْميدي، لأنّي أَتَيْتُ لأُخَلِّصَ

آدَمَ المَجْبولَ أَوَّلاً.

Epistle for the Sunday before the Theophany of Christ

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.
Unto Thee, O Lord, will I cry, O my God.

The Reading is from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to Timothy (4:5-8).

My child Timothy, be watchful in all things, suffer hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the season of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, and I have guarded the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will reward me at that day, and not to me only, but also to all those who have loved His appearing.

خَلِّصْ يا ربُّ شَعْبَكَ وبارِكْ ميراثَك.

إلَيْكَ يا ربُّ أَصْرُخُ، إلهي.

فصلٌ من رسالةِ القديسِ بولسَ الرسول الثانيةِ إلى تيموثاوس (٨-٥:٤).

يا وَلَدي تيموثاوسَ، تَيَقَّظْ في كُلِّ شَيْءٍ واحْتَمِلِ المَشقَّات، واعْمَلْ عَمَلَ المُبَشِّرِ وأَوْفِ خِدْمَتَكَ* أمَّا أنا فَقَدْ أُريقَ السَّكيبُ عَلَيَّ ووَقتُ انْحِلالي قَدِ اقْتَرَبَ* وقَدْ جاهَدْتُ الجِهادَ الحَسَنَ، وأَتْمَمْتُ شَوْطي، وحَفِظْتُ الإيمانَ* وإنَّما يَبْقى مَحْفوظاً لي إكْليلُ العَدْلِ الذي يَجْزيني بِهِ في ذَلِكَ اليَوْمِ الرَّبُّ الدَيَّانُ العادِلُ، لا إيَّايَ فَقَطْ، بَلْ جَميعَ الذينَ يُحِبُّونَ ظُهورَهُ أيضاً.

Gospel for the Sunday before the Theophany of Christ

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (1:1-8).

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, “Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare thy way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.” John the Baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, “After me comes He Who is mightier than I, the strap of Whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

فَصْلٌ شريفٌ مِنْ بِشارَةِ القِدّيسِ مَرْقُسَ الإنْجيلِيِّ البَشيرِ والتلْميذِ الطاهِرِ (٨-١:١).

بَدْءُ إنجيلِ يسوعَ المسيحِ ابْنِ اللهِ، كما هُوَ مَكْتوبٌ في الأَنْبِياءِ، "هاءَنَذا مُرسِلٌ مَلاكي أمامَ وَجْهِكَ يُهَيِّئُ طَريقَكَ قُدَّامَكَ* صَوْتُ صارخٍ في البَرِّيَّةِ :أَعِدُّوا طَريقَ الرَّبِّ واجْعَلوا سُبُلَهُ قَويمَةً"* كانَ يوحَنّا يُعَمِّدُ في البَرِّيّةِ ويَكْرِزُ بِمَعْمودِيَّةِ التَوْبَةِ لِغُفْرانِ الخَطَايا* وكانَ يَخْرُجُ إلَيْهِ جَميعُ أَهْلِ بَلَدِ اليَهودِيَّةِ وأورُشَليمَ فَيَعْتَمِدونَ جَميعُهُمْ مِنْهُ في نَهْرِ الأُرْدُنِّ مُعْتَرِفينَ بِخَطاياهُمْ* وكانَ يوحَنَّا يَلْبَسُ وَبَرَ الإبِلِ، وعَلى حَقَوَيْهِ مِنْطَقَةٌ مِنْ جِلْدٍ، ويَأْكُلُ جَراداً وَعَسَلاً بَرّياً* وكانَ يَكْرِزُ قائِلاً: إنَّهُ يَأْتي بَعْدي مَنْ هُوَ أَقْوى مِنّي، وأنا لا أَسْتَحِقُّ أَنْ أَنْحَنِيَ وأَحُلَّ سَيْرَ حِذائِهِ* أنا عَمَّدْتُكُمْ بالماءِ، وأمَّا هُوَ فَيُعَمِّدُكُمْ بالروحِ القُدُس.

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

12/29: Nabeel and Mariana Sweis & Family

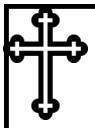
1/5: Ghaleb and Rita Sweis & Family

1/12: Hasan and Saeda Sweis & Family

Epistle Reading

1/5: Marram Salman & Nour Swaiss

1/12: Murad Salman & Rima Sleiman



1 Year Memorial

Afifeh Sayegh

Memory Eternal!

Engagement

Danny Kamal Sweis

and

Emily Randy Brunk

Congratulations!

House Blessing

House Blessings will begin January 6th! The office will be calling you to schedule it. If you would like to schedule your house blessing sooner, please call the church office.

Annunciation Gift Shop & Bookstore

Glory be to God! Glory Forever!

St. Mary Orthodox Church would like to inform all its parishioners to take advantage of the materials that are offered at our Gift Shop & Bookstore. If you have not had the opportunity to stop by and check out our various selections, we ask that you please do. If you are looking for that perfect gift for birthdays, graduation, house warming, baptism, etc… we have many items to choose from. If there is something you would like but do not see, please let us know and we will try to accommodate you.

If you have any questions or comments please contact Nader or Angela Haddad at 989-780-2751 or naderemile3@yahoo.com or angelahaddad14@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

Fri Jan 3	10:00am	Royal Hours & Typika for Theophany
Sat Jan 4	10:45am	Arabic School
	5:00pm	Great Vespers
Sun Jan 5	8:45am	Orthros
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
	5:00pm	Great Vespers w/ Artoklasia for Theophany
Mon Jan 6	9:00am	Orthros for Theophany
	10:00am	Liturgy for the Feast of Theophany
	7:00pm	Open Gym
Wed Jan 8	10:00am	Morning Prayers
	10:30am	Arabic Bible Study
Fri Jan 10	6:00pm	Antiochian Women Meeting
Sat Jan 11	10:45am	Arabic School
	5:00pm	Great Vespers
Sun Jan 12	8:45am	Orthros
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
	10:00am	Sunday School
Mon Jan 13	7:00pm	Open Gym
Wed Jan 15	10:00am	Morning Prayers
	10:30am	Arabic Bible Study
	6:30pm	SOYO Night

Odeh and Jamileh Akkawi Foundation

The Odeh and Jamileh Akkawi Foundation is now accepting applicants for its annual scholarship.

This scholarship is intended to provide our young men and women the resources they need to reach their God-given potential. The future well-being of our beloved community 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.

Important Notes

Applicants need to be currently attending the Sixth or Seventh grade.

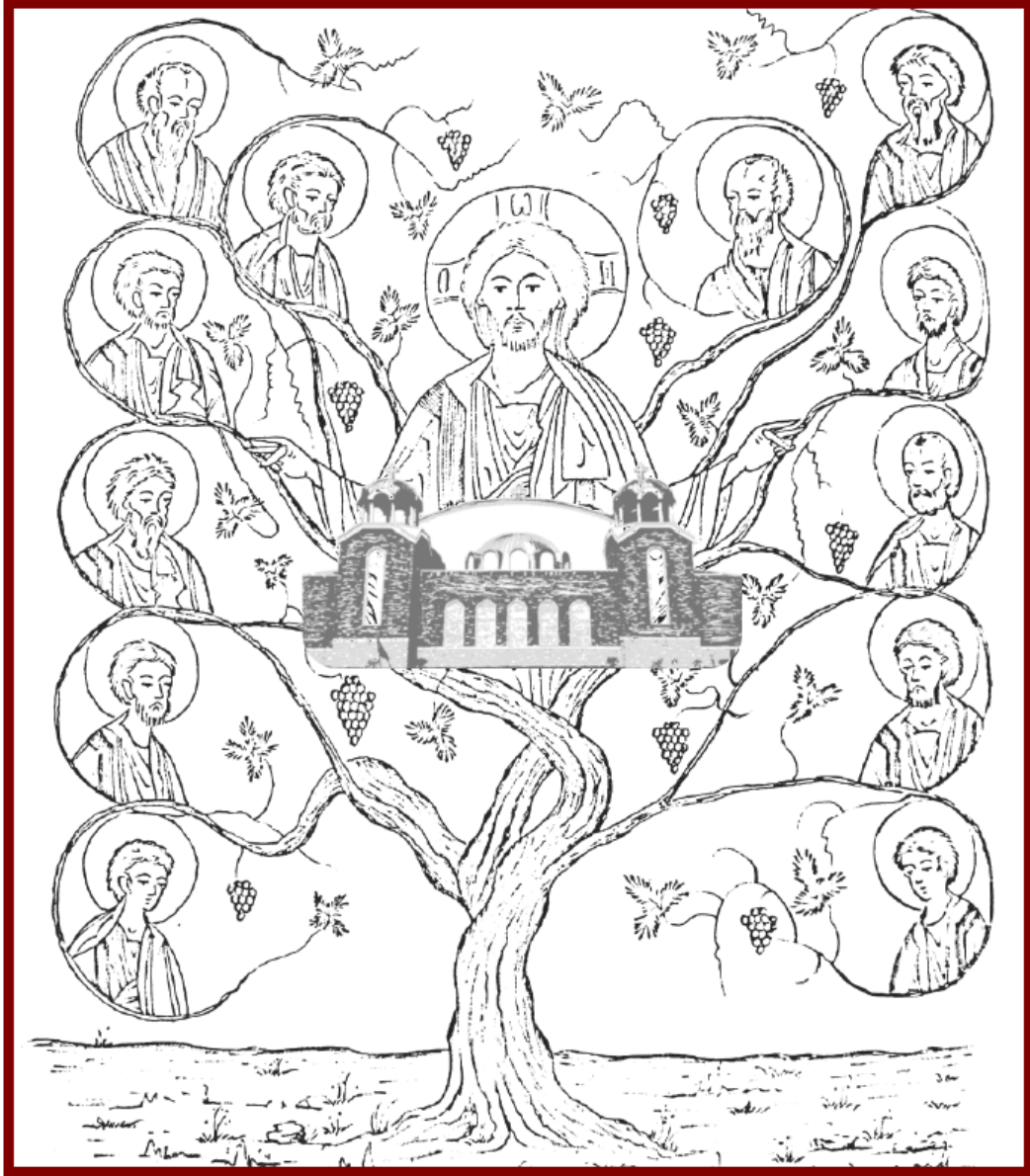
1. A scholarship of up to $1,000 will be awarded to each student as follows: $500 to supplement tuition/books/supplies; and $500 for extra-curricular activities.
2. If chosen, the student will receive the scholarship beginning the following academic year, and will continue to receive it annually through the 12th grade, as long as the requirements continue to be met.
3. To be considered, applicants are required to:
   a. Submit academic transcripts from the last 2 years to:
      St. Mary Orthodox Church
      Scholarship Committee
      6330 W. 127th St.
      Palos Heights, IL 60463
   b. Complete an online application at: https://forms.gle/Fwg3mrafQQgCRT9C7
5. Selection is based on meeting all of the following criteria: Academic potential, character, and Financial need. Selected recipients will be notified by email no later than May 1, 2020

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: February 16, 2020

Questions? Please reach out to Kayed Akkawi <kayedakkawi@gmail.com>

St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights

Adult Catechism Class with Fr. Jacob



Know Your Church

15 talks about the Orthodox Faith

Lectures adapted from Fr. Josiah Trenham

Every Saturday
6:00-7:00pm

January 4th–
April 18th 2020

This class is open to all adults who are desiring to learn and grow in the Orthodox Faith. The schedule is listed below. Please contact Fr. Jacob with any questions.

1/4/20	Starting Down the Royal Path: How to become an O. C.
1/11/20	The True God
1/18/20	The Human Being
1/25/20	Sin
2/1/20	Jesus Christ the Son of God
2/8/20	Jesus Christ the Savior of the World
2/15/20	Repentance and Faith
2/29/20	The Holy Spirit
3/7/20	The Church and the Mother of God
3/14/20	The Mystery of Holy Baptism & Chrismation
3/21/20	The Mystery of Holy Confession
3/28/20	The Mystery of the Holy Eucharist
4/4/20	The Mystery of Holy Unction, Death and the Funeral
4/11/20	The Mystery of Holy Priesthood & Marriage
4/18/20	(Baptism/Chrismation) Holy Saturday

22nd Annual Midwest Basketball Tournament

Canton, Ohio January 17-19, 2020

Welcome to His Grace Bishop Anthony and Participants

Division I: Ages 12-15 / Division II: Ages 15-18 / Division III: Ages 19+

Friday, January 17

7 pm: Registration begins *(Hotel Lobby)*
8 pm: Pizza *(Registration area)*
8:30 pm: Sing 'Happy Birthday/Name-day' to Bishop Anthony *(Meeting Room)*, followed by Youth Discussion

Saturday, January 18

7 am -10 am: Breakfast available at Hotel
8 am: Basketball Tournament begins *(at locations to be announced)*
12 pm: Lunch *(at Basketball locations)*
6 pm: Great Vespers *(St. George Antiochian)*
7 pm: Banquet/Awards Presentation/Hafli *(St. George Antiochian)*

Sunday, January 19 *(St. George Antiochian)*

8:45 am: Matins
10 am: Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
Brunch and Farewell

Early Registration: $50 by January 10 Registration: $60
(Includes all meals and events)

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church
1118 Cherry Ave. NE Canton, OH 44704
330-455-8482 stgeorgecanton@sbcglobal.net

Hotel Information (New Location): Hyatt Place
5421 Whipple Ave. NW Canton, OH 44720 330-244-1700
Group Rate: $85/night (mention St. George Basketball)
Our block of rooms will be reserved for us until Jan. 10
Click here to reserve your room online

TALENT SHOW

St. Mary's Orthodox Church

February 16 2020	12:00 pm

St. Mary's Got Talent Show Returns!

Get Ready to Bring Your Talent!

All Ages ! Do you Dance ? Sing?

Are you a Musician? Got Art to Show?

Register by February 1 2020!

Practice dates February 1st and 9th

Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest

SPRING GATHERING 2020

Hosted by St. Mary Orthodox Church of Palos Heights, IL

February 20th – 23rd 2020

February 20 –21: Clergy Retreat with keynote speaker Dr. Albert Rossi
February 21-23: Spring Gathering of YAM, SOYO & Antiochian Women

Bishop ANTHONY Michaels

Dr. Albert Rossi - Keynote Speaker

Schedule Overview

Friday night

- SOYO & YAM talk with Bishop Anthony
- Antiochian Women Tea Party with Dr. Rossi

Saturday

- Divine Liturgy
- Kid's Club (all day!)
- Business Meetings
- Keynote speaker Dr. Rossi to address SOYO & Yam
- Service project
- Great Vespers
- Evening Events: Hollywood Park (SOYO), Portillo's with Sayidna (YAM)

Sunday

- Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
- Farewell Lunch

Hotel Information

The DoubleTree by Hilton is conveniently located just over a mile from St. Mary's and 15 minutes from the Indiana border: 5000 W. 127th St. Alsip, IL 60803

Reserve your room by January 23rd to receive the special rate of $109/night. To reserve online, visit: www.alsipdoubletree.com (use group code SAI) or call 1-800-222-8733

Registration Information

Early bird registration fee is $35. Early bird rate ends January 10th! After January 10th the registration fee goes to $40. This includes dinner on Friday, breakfast, lunch and dinner on Saturday, Saturday evening event and a farewell lunch on Sunday!

Register online here or copy and paste the link in your browser: https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/1089606

Questions? Contact us: SpringGathering@stmaryoc.org

St. Mary Church
6330 W. 127th St.
Palos Heights, IL 60463
(708)239-0004
www.stmaryoc.org

Weekly Synaxarion

Today in the Holy Orthodox Church is the Paramon (Eve) of the Theophany (Epiphany) of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. On January 5, we commemorate the holy Martyrs Theopemptos, bishop of Nicomedia, and Theonas the former magician. Theopempos was among the first to suffer martyrdom under Emperor Diocletian, who threatened Theopempos with death if he did not deny Christ. The courageous bishop responded to the emperor: “It stands written, ‘Do not be afraid of those who kill the body’ (Luke 12:4), ‘but cannot kill the soul’ (Matthew 10:28).” Theopempos suffered from hunger and was tortured in various ways. Finally, the emperor summoned the magician Theonas to outwit this Godly man through magic. Theonas dissolved the most potent poison in water and gave it to Theopempos to drink. Theopempos traced the sign of the cross over the glass and drank the poison. Theonas, upon seeing that the poison had no effect on Theopempos, turned to the emperor and shouted, “I, too, am a Christian and bow down before the Crucified One.” Theopemptos died by the sword, and Theonoas was buried alive. Both entered the Kingdom in 298. On this day, we also commemorate Venerable Syncletica of Alexandria and Venerable-martyr Romanos of Athos. By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.