Saint Mary Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

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

Sunday, August 2nd, 2026

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost & Eighth Sunday of Matthew

Relics Translation of Proto-martyr Stephen the Archdeacon

Venerable Photeini the wonderworker of Carpasia in Cyprus

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 Eight)

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

انْحَدَرْتَ مِنَ العُلوِّ يا مُتَحَنِّن، وقَبِلْتَ الدَّفْنَ ذا الثَّلاثَةِ الأيام، لِكَيْ تُعْتِقَنا مِنَ الآلام، فَيا حَياتَنا وقِيامَتَنَا، يا رَبُّ المَجْدُ لَك.

Troparion of St. Stephen the Archdeacpm (Tone Four)

The crown of the Kingdom hath adorned the brow of thy head because of the contests that thou hast endured for Christ God, thou first of the martyred Saints; for when thou hadst censured the Jews' madness, thou sawest Christ thy Savior standing at the right hand of the Father. O Stephen, ever pray Him for us, that He would save our souls.

قدْ تُوِّجَتْ هامَتُكَ بإكليلٍ مُلوكيّ. مَضْفورٍ بالجِهاداتِ الَّتي احْتَمَلْتَها حُبًّا بالربِّ العَلِيّ. إذْ وَبَّخْتَ اليهودَ. القُساةَ الرِّقابِ. وَعايَنْتَ المُخَلِّصَ عَنْ مَيامِنِ الآبِ. فيا أوَّلَ الشهداءِ استفانوس. تَشَفَّعْ في خَلاصِنا.

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 أمٌّ الحياة. فبشفاعاتِكِ أنقذي من الموتِ نفوسَنا.

Kontakion of the Transfiguration (Tone Seven)

Thou wast transfigured on the mount, and Thy Disciples, in so far as they were able, beheld Thy glory, O Christ our God; so that, when they should see Thee crucified, they would remember that all Thy suffering was voluntary, and could declare to all the world that Thou art truly the effulgent Splendor of the Father.

تَجَلَّيْتَ أيُّها المَسيحُ الإلَهُ عَلى الجَبَل، وحَسْبَما وَسِعَ تَلاميذُكَ شاهَدوا مَجْدَك. حَتَّى عِنْدَما يُعاينوكَ مَصْلوبًا، يَفْطَنوا أنَّ آلامَكَ طَوْعًا باخْتِيارِك، ويَكْرِزوا للعالَم، أَنَّكَ أَنتَ بالحَقيقةِ شُعاعُ الآب.

The Epistle for Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

صلُّوا وأَوْفوا الرَّبَّ إلَهَنا،

اللهُ مَعْروفٌ في أرضِ يهوذا. إسمُهُ عظيمٌ في إسرائيل.

فَصْلٌ مِنْ رِسالَةِ القِدّيسِ بولُسَ الرسولِ الأولى إلى أهْلِ كورِنْثوس.

يا إخْوَةُ، إنَّا نَحْنُ عامِلونَ مَعَ اللهِ، وأنْتُمْ حَرْثُ اللهِ وبِناءُ اللهِ. أنا بِحَسَبِ نِعْمَةِ اللهِ المُعْطاةِ لي، كبَنّاءٍ حَكيمٍ وَضَعْتُ الأَساسَ وآخَرُ يَبْني عَلَيْهِ. فَلْيَنْظُرْ كُلُّ واحِدٍ كَيْفَ يَبْني عَلَيْهِ. إذْ لا يَسْتَطيعُ أَحَدٌ أَنْ يَضَعَ أَساساً غَيْرَ المَوْضوعِ، وهُوَ يسوعُ المسيح. فَإنْ كانَ أَحَدٌ يَبْني عَلى هذا الأساسِ ذَهَباً أو فِضَّةً أَوْ حِجارَةً ثَمينَةً أَوْ خَشَباً أوْ حَشيشاً أو تِبْناً. فَإنَّ عَمَلَ كُلِّ واحِدٍ سَيَكونُ بَيِّناً، لأنَّ يَوْمَ الرَّبِّ سَيُظْهِرُهُ لأنَّهُ يُعْلَنُ بالنارِ، وسَتَمْتَحِنُ النارُ عَمَلَ كُلِّ واحِدٍ ما هُوَ. فَمَنْ بَقِيَ عمَلُهُ الذي بَناهُ على الأساسِ، فَسَيَنالُ أُجْرَةً. ومَنِ احْتَرَقَ عَمَلُهُ، فسَيَخْسَرُ، وسَيَخْلُصُ هُوَ وَلَكِنْ كَمَنْ يَمُرُّ في النارِ. أما تَعْلَمونَ أنَّكُمْ هَيْكَلُ اللهِ وأنَّ روحَ اللهِ ساكِنٌ فيكُمْ؟ مَنْ يُفْسِدُ هيكَلَ اللهِ يُفسِدُهُ اللهُ لأنَّ هَيْكَلَ اللهِ مُقَدَّسٌ، وهُوَ أَنْتُم.

Make your vows and pay them to the Lord our God.

God is known in Judaea; His Name is great in Israel.

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (3:9-17)

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's husbandry, God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise architect I laid a foundation, and another builds upon it. Let each one take heed how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; everyone's work will become manifest; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire itself will test each one's work of what sort it is. If anyone's work which was built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, but he himself will be saved, yet so as by fire. Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone corrupts the temple of God, God will corrupt him. For the temple of God is holy, whose temple you are.

The Gospel for the Ninth Sunday of Matthew

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (14:22-34)

At that time, Jesus made the Disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, but the Disciples' boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea. But when the Disciples saw Jesus walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately He spoke to them, saying, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered Him, "Lord, if it is Thee, bid me come to Thee on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "Truly, Thou art the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

فصلٌ شريفٌ مِنْ بِشارَةِ القدّيس مَتَّى الإنجيليِّ البَشيرِ والتلميذِ الطاهر.

في ذلكَ الزمانِ، اضطَرَّ يسوعُ تَلاميذَهُ أنْ يَدْخُلوا السَفينةَ ويَسْبِقوهُ إلى العَبْرِ حَتّى يَصْرِفَ الجُموع. ولمّا صَرَفَ الجُموعَ، صَعِدَ وحْدَهُ إلى الجبلِ لِيُصَلّي. ولَمَّا كانَ المَساءُ، كانَ هُناكَ وَحْدَهُ. وكانَتِ السَفينَةُ في وسَطِ البَحْرِ تَكُدُّها الأَمْواجُ، لأَنَّ الريحَ كانَتْ مُضادَّةً لَها. وعِنْدَ الهَجْعَةِ الرابِعَةِ مِنَ الليلِ، مَضَى إلَيْهِمْ ماشِياً على البَحْرِ. فَلَمَّا رَآهُ التَلاميذُ ماشِياً على البَحْرِ، اضْطَرَبُوا وقالوا: "إنَّهُ خَيالٌ"، ومِنَ الخَوْفِ صَرَخُوا. فَلِلْوَقْتِ كَلَّمَهُمْ يَسوعُ قائِلاً: "ثِقُوا، أنا هُوَ، لا تَخافوا." فَأَجابَهُ بُطْرُسُ قائِلاً: "يا رَبُّ، إنْ كُنْتَ أَنْتَ هُوَ، فَمُرْني أنْ آتِيَ إلَيْكَ على المِياه." فَقالَ: "تعالَ." فنَزَلَ بُطْرُسُ مِنَ السَفينَةِ، ومَشى على المِياهِ آتِياً إلى يسوع. فَلَمّا رَأى شِدَّةَ الريحِ، خافَ، وإذْ بَدَأَ يَغْرَقُ، صاحَ قائِلاً: "يا رَبُّ نَجِّني!" ولِلْوَقْتِ مَدَّ يَسوعُ يَدَهُ وأَمْسَكَ بِهِ، وقالَ لَهُ: "يا قَليلَ الإيمانِ، لِماذا شَكَكْتَ؟" ولَمَّا دَخَلا السَفينَةَ، سَكَنَتِ الريح. فَجاءَ الذينَ كانوا في السَفينَةِ وسَجَدوا لَهُ قائِلينَ: "بالحَقيقَةِ أَنْتَ ابْنُ اللهِ." ولَمَّا عَبَروا، جاءوا إلى أَرْضِ جَنّيسارَت.

Baptism

Sultan

Parents: Simon & Riham Salem

Congratulations!

Newborn

Lucia

Melad & Nadine Qodsi

Congratulations!

Upcoming Services & Events

Date	Time	Event
8/2/2026	8:25am	Prayers before Holy Communion
	8:45am	Orthros
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
8/3/2026	6:00pm	Paraklesis
8/4/2026	9:00am	Orthros
	6:00pm	Paraklesis
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
8/5/2026	8:30am	Orthros
	10:00am	Arabic Bible Study
	6:00pm	Orthros for the Feast of the Transfiguration
	7:00pm	Liturgy for the Feast of the Transfiguration
8/6/2026	6:00pm	Paraklesis
8/7/2026	9:00am	Orthros
	6:00pm	Paraklesis
	7:00pm	Antiochian Women Meeting
8/8/2026	11:00am	FMSC Packing Session
	5:00pm	Great Vespers
	6:00pm	Compline with Canon for Holy Communion

Upcoming Events

St. Mary Orthodox Church Young Adult Ministry

World Cup Watch Party & Bake Sale

July 19, 2026 | 2:00 PM |

Pickleball Tournament

July 27, 2026 | 6-8:30PM |

Church-wide FMSC

August 8, 2026 | 11:30am |

Sand Volleyball

August 20,2026 | TBD |

YAM Overnight Retreat

September 25-27, 2026 |

Basketball Tournament

October 10, 2026 | 11:00 AM |

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX
CHICAGO-LAND
DEANERY

The Antiochian Orthodox
Deanery of Chicago

FMSC

DEANERY PACKING SESSION

Uniting in faith. Packing with purpose.
Feeding hope around the world.

SATURDAY
AUGUST 8TH

11:30AM – 1:30PM

555 Exchange Court
Aurora, IL 60504

CLICK HERE OR
SCAN THE QR CODE
TO REGISTER.

· SPACE IS LIMITED! ·

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat..."
MATTHEW 25:35

St. Mary Orthodox Church

11TH ANNUAL HUMANITARIAN WALK

AUGUST 22ND

10am - walk begins at 10:30am

Hecht Park
9310 Birch Ave., Mokena, IL. 60448

*please no pets during the walk

Registration: $20 Adults | Children: $10 (10 & under)
Register by **August 9th** to receive a tshirt!

- BBQ & Picnic Lunch
- Playground
- Pickleball, baseball, basketball

Scan QR code to Register!

Any questions or comments please contact the church office at (708) 239-0004 or Shireen Salman.

St. Mary Antiochian Orthodox Church
11th Annual Humanitarian Walk

Saturday August 22nd, 2026
10:00am – 2:00pm

Hecht Park
9310 Birch Ave., Mokena, Il 60448

Gold Sponsors - $1,000

- Recognition at event as Gold Sponsor.
- Sponsor will receive 5 T-shirts for team members to participate in the walk and recognition as Sponsor on T-shirt.

Silver Sponsors - $500

- Recognition at the event as Silver Sponsor.
- Sponsor will receive 3 T-shirts for team members to participate in the walk and recognition as Sponsor on T-shirt.

Bronze Sponsors - $250

- Recognition at the event as Bronze Sponsor.
- Sponsor will receive 2 T-shirts for team members to participate in the walk and recognition as Sponsor on T-shirt.

Click Here

to sponsor the walk

or see Shireen Salman or Fr. Mousa

SAVE THE DATE!

SAVE THE DATE

SEPTEMBER 2026

St. Mary Orthodox Church

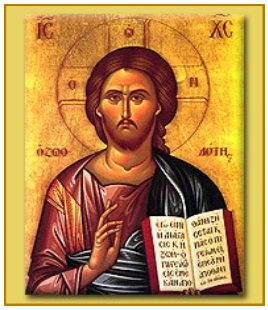
Young Adult Ministry Overnight Retreat

September 25 - 27, 2026

Guest Speaker:

Fr. Seraphim Ramos

More details coming soon!



Weekly Synaxarion

On August 2 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the recovery of the sacred relics of the holy Proto-martyr and Archdeacon Stephen. When the wicked Jews stoned Stephen to death, they left his body for the dogs to eat. After two nights Gamaliel, Paul's teacher and a secret follower of Christ, came and took his body to Caphargamala, and buried it in a cave. Eventually, Gamaliel's friend Nicodemus, his nephew Abibos and he were laid to rest in the same cave. The graves were forgotten, but in 415, in the time of Patriarch John of Jerusalem, Gamaliel appeared three times in a dream to the Priest Lucian, in Caphargamala, and told him the exact location of the burial place. With the Patriarch's blessing, Lucian and others dug up the graves. A strong and fragrant odor from the relics of these saints filled the cave. Stephen's relics were solemnly translated to Zion and there buried with ceremony, and the relics of the others were taken to a hill above the cave and laid to rest in a church there. Later, Stephen's healing relics were translated to Constantinople. On this day, we also commemorate the Venerable Photeini the wonderworker of Carpasia in Cyprus; and Blessed Basil the fool-for-Christ, wonderworker of Moscow. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy on us. Amen.