

THE TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AND THE TWELFTH SUNDAY OF LUKE



The Weekly Bulletin is an official publication of Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church in Cicero, Illinois. A parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America.



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church كنيسة القديس جاورجيوس الانطاكية الارثوذكسية

The Most Reverend Metropolitan **SABA**, *Primate Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America*

The Right Reverend Archimandrite **Jeremy Davis**, *Archiepiscopal Vicar Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest*

The Very Reverend Father Fouad Saba, Pastor

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

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OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday: 8:30 am-5:00 pm

Saturday: By Appointment

Sunday: Closed

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WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE:

Saturdays: Great Vespers as announced Sundays: 9:15am Orthros (Matins) and 10:20am Great Doxology and Divine Liturgy

Confession by Appointment

Welcome to Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church!

This Church is one community of many in the One, Holy, Catholic (Universal), and Apostolic Church. The Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church belongs to two thousand years of evangelization, teaching, history, and tradition, which express the continued commitment of its members to the Orthodox Christian faith in **The Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!** Receiving Holy Communion in this Church is to adhere and commit to the One True Church, the Orthodox Church.

Visitor(s), please feel at home in prayer and worship. Please submit your name(s) to the Ushers and introduce yourself to Father Saba at the end of the service so he may welcome you personally.

أهلا و سهلا! Welcome! Ahlan wa Sahlan!

THE GREAT DOXOLOGY

Glory to Thee, who has shown us the Light. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men.

We praise thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks unto Thee for Thy great glory.

O Lord, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty; O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Spirit.

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us, thou that takest away the sins of the world.

Receive our prayer, Thou that sittest at the right hand of the Father, and have mercy on us.

For Thou only art holy, Thou only art the Lord, O Jesus Christ, to the Glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every day will I bless Thee, and I will praise Thy Name forever; yea, forever and ever.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified be Thy Name forever. Amen.

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we do put our hope in thee.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord: teach me Thy statutes. (thrice)

Lord, Thou hast been our refuge in all generations. I said: Be merciful unto me; heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee.

Lord, I have fled unto Thee: teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God.

For with Thee is the fountain of life; in Thy light shall we see light.

O continue Thy lovingkindness unto them that know Thee.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (thrice)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

mercy on us.

المَجْدُ لَكَ يا مُظهرَ النور، المَجْدُ اللهِ في العَلاءِ، وعلى الأرْضِ السَّلامُ، وفي النَّاسِ المَسترة نُسَبِّحُكَ نُبِارِ كُكَ، نَسْجُدُ لَكَ نُمَجِّدُكَ، نَشْكُرُكَ مِنْ أجل عظيم جَلالِ مَجْدِك

أيُّها الرَّبُّ المَلِكُ، السَّماويُّ، الإلهُ، الآبُ الضابطُ الْكُلِّ. أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ الإبْنُ الْوَحْيدُ، يا يَسوعُ المَسيحُ، ويا أيُّها الرّوحُ القُدُس

أَيُّها الرَّبُّ الإلهُ، يا حَمَلَ الله يا ابنَ الآب، يا رافِعَ خطيئة العالم ارْحَمْنا، يا رافِعَ خَطايا العالم

تَقبَّلْ تَضرُّ عَنا أَيُّها الجالِسُ عَنْ يمينِ الآبِ و ارْ حَمْنا

لأنَّكَ أنْتَ وَحْدَكَ قُدُّوسٌ، أنْتَ وَحْدَكَ الرَّبُّ يَسوعُ الْمَسيحُ، في مَجْدِ اللهِ الآب، آمين. فى كُلِّ بَومٍ أَبارِكُكَ، وأَسَبِّحُ اسْمَكَ إلى الأبَدِ، والي أبَدِ الأبَد

أهِّلْنا يا رَبُّ أَنْ نُحْفَظَ في هذا اليَومِ بِغيرِ خَطيئةٍ.

مُبارَكٌ أنْتَ بِا رَبُّ إِلَهَ آبائِنا، وَمُسَبَّحُ و مُمَجَّدٌ اسْمُكَ إلى الأبدِ، آمين

لِتَكُنْ يِا رَبُّ رَحْمَتُكَ عَلَيْنا، كَمِثْل اتِّكالِنا عَليك.

مُبارَكٌ أنْتَ يا رَبُّ عَلِّمني حُقوقَك. (ثلاثاً)

يا رَبُّ مَلْجاً كُنْتَ لنا في جيلِ وجيلِ، أنا قلْتُ يـا رَبُّ ارْحَمْنـي واشْفِ نَفْسـي لَانَّنـي قَـد خَطِئـتُ

يا رَبُّ إليكَ لجأتُ فَعَلِّمْني أَنْ أَعْمَلَ رضاكَ، لأنَّكَ أنتَ هُوَ إلهي

لأنَّ مِنْ قِبَلِكَ عِيْنَ الحياةِ، وبنوركَ نعاينُ النورِ.

فابسُطْ رَحْمَتُكَ على الذين يعرفونَك.

قُدّوسٌ اللهُ، قُدّوسٌ القويّ، قُدّوسٌ الذي لا يموتُ ار حَمْنا. (ثلاثاً)

المَجْدُ لِلآبِ والإبنِ والرّوح القُدُسِ.

الآنَ وكُلَّ أوان وإلى دَهْرِ الداهِرينَ، آمين.

قُدّوسٌ الذي لا يَموتُ ارحَمْنا.

قُدّوسٌ اللهُ، قُدّوسٌ الْقَويّ، قُدّوسٌ الْذي لا يَموتُ Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have

TODAY'S LITURGY INSERTS

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION (TONE 5)

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

لِنُسبِّحْ نحنُ المؤمنينَ ونَسْجُدْ لِلْكَلِمَةِ، المُساوي لِلآبِ والروح في الأزَليَّةِ وعَدَمِ الابْتِداء، المَوْلودِ مِنَ العَدْراءِ لِخَلاصِنَا، لأنَهُ سُرَّ بالجَسَدِ أَنْ يَعْلَوَ على الصليب، ويَحْتَمِلَ الموتَ، ويُنْهِضَ المَوْتي بِقِيامَتِهِ المَجيدة.

ENTRANCE HYMN OF THE GOSPEL BOOK

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.

هَلُمّوا لِنَسْجُدْ ونَرْكَعْ لِلْمَسيحِ، مَلِكِنا وإلهِنا. خَلِّصْنا يا ابْنَ الله، يا مَنْ قامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الأمواتِ، لِنُرَتِّلَ لَكَ. هَلِلوييا

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TROPARION OF SAINT MAKARIOS OF EGYPT (TONE 1)

Thou didst prove to be a citizen of the desert, an angel in the flesh, and a wonderworker, O Makarios, our God-bearing Father. By fasting, vigil, and prayer thou didst obtain heavenly gifts, and thou healest the sick and the souls of them that have recourse to thee with faith. Glory to Him that hath given thee strength. Glory to Him that hath crowned thee. Glory to Him that worketh healings for all through thee.

ظَهَرْتَ في البَرِّيَّةِ مُسْتَوْطِناً، وبِالجِسْمِ مَلاكاً، ولِلْعَجائِبِ صانِعاً، وبِالأصوامِ والأَسْهارِ والصلَواتِ وَلِلْعَجائِبِ صانِعاً، وبِالأصوامِ والأَسْهارِ والصلَواتِ تَقَبَّلْتَ المَواهِبَ السَّماوِيَّة. فَأَنْتَ تَشْفي السُقَماءَ ونُفوسَ المُبادِرينَ إلنيكَ بِإيمانٍ، يا أَبانا المُتَوَشِّحَ باللهِ مَكارِيوس. فَالمَجْدُ لِمَنْ وَهَبَكَ القُوَّة، المَجْدُ لِلَّذي تَوَجَكَ، المَجْدُ لِلْفاعِلِ بِكَ الأَشْفِيةَ لِلْجَميع.

TROPARION OF SAINT GEORGE THE GREAT MARTYR (TONE 4)

Since thou art a liberator and deliverer of captives, a help and support of the poor and needy, a healing physician of the sick, a contender and fighter for kings, O great among Martyrs, the victory clad George; intercede with Christ God for the salvation of our souls.

بما أنَّكَ للمأسُورينَ مُحَررٌ ومُعتِقٌ، وللفُقراءِ والمَساكينِ عاضِدٌ ونَاصِرٌ وللمَرضنى طبيبٌ وشَافٍ وعنِ المؤمنينَ مُكافِحٌ ومُحَارِبٌ أيها العظيمُ في الشُهداءِ جاور جيوسُ اللآبِسُ الظَفَر تَشَفَّع إلى المسيحِ الإلهِ في خَلاصِ نُفُوسِنا.



KONTAKION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST (TONE 1)

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

أَيُّهَا الْمَسيحُ الإلهُ، يا مَنْ بِمَوْلِدِهِ قَدَّسَ الْمُسْتَوْدَعَ الْبَتُولِيِّ، وبارَكَ يَدَيْ سِمْعانَ كَما لاقَ، وأَدْرَكَنا الآنَ وخَلَّصَنا؛ إَحْفَظْ رَعِيَّتَكَ بِسَلامٍ في الحُروبِ، وأيِّدِ المُلوكَ الذينَ أَحْبَبْتَهُمْ، بِما أَنَّكَ وَحْدَكَ مُحِبُّ لِلْبَشَر.

KONTAKION FOR THE MIRACULOUS WEEPING ICON (TONE 8) Only at Saint George Church in Cicero

To thee the champion leader, * I thy city offer thanks of victory. * O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror. * But as thou hast that power which is invincible, * From all dangers set me free and deliver me. That I may cry unto thee: * Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom.

إني أنا عبدُكِ يا والدةَ الإله* اكتُبُ لكِ راياتِ الغلبة يا جنديَّةً مُحامية * وأُقدمُ لكِ الشُكرَ كَمُنقذةٍ منَ الشَّدائد * لكن بما أنَّ لكِ العِزَةَ التي لا تُحَارَب * اعتقيني من صنوف الشدائد * حتى أصر خَ إليكِ إفر حي يا عروساً لا عروسَ لها.



THE SYNAXARION

On January 19th in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our righteous Father Makarios the Great of Egypt, the Anchorite; and our righteous Father Makarios of Alexandria.

The pair of divine Makarii now dying, they partake of a life exceedingly blessed.

On the nineteenth, the Makarii obtained the land of the blessed.

Both men were the contemporaries of Anthony the Great. Makarios the Great withdrew into the wilderness where he spent 60 years in labor and struggle, both internally and externally for the Kingdom of Heaven. So much did he succeed in cleansing his mind and heart of evil that God bestowed upon him the abundant gift of miracle-working; he even raised the dead. Makarios often told his disciple Paphnutius: "Do not judge anyone and you will be saved." Nine days before his death, St. Anthony, St. Pachomius and a cherub revealed to him that he would enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Makarios lived to be 97 years old and died in the year 390. The younger Makarios also entered the monastic life to fight demonic temptations. Once, a brother saw him fill a basket with sand, carry it uphill and empty it. Astonished, the brother asked him, "What are you doing?" Makarios answered, "I am tormenting my tormentor," that is, the devil. He died in the year 393, well past the age of 100.

On this day, we also commemorate the Venerable Arsenios, bishop of Kerkyra; Venerable Mark Eugenikos, metropolitan of Ephesus, pillar of Orthodoxy; and Martyr Antony of Damascus. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.



EPISTLE READERS

English		Arabic	
Constance Luisi	Today	Dina Khoury	
Sophia Layous	Jan 26	Mary Homsy	
Karen Nawas	Feb 2	Amanda Imseih	

EPISTLE

Thou, O Lord, shalt preserve us and keep us from this generation.

Save me, O Lord, for the godly man hath disappeared.

The Reading from the Epistle of Saint Paul 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.

أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ تَحْفَظُنَا وتَسْثُرُنَا مِنْ هَذَا الْجِيلِ، خَلِّصْنِي، يَا رَبُّ، فَإِنَّ الْبَارَّ قَدْ فَنِي. فَصْلُ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقِدِيسِ بُولُسَ الرَّسولِ إلى أَهْلِ كُولُوستي (11-3:3)

با إَخْوَةُ، مَتى ظَهَرَ المَسيحُ الذي هُوَ حَياتُنا، فَأَنْتُمْ أَيْضًا تُظْهَرُونَ حِينَئِدٍ مَعَهُ فَي الْمَجْد. فَأُمِيتُ وَا أَعْضَاءَكُمُ التَّي علي الأرْضِ: الزَّنِي، و النَّجاسَةَ، و الهَـوى، و الشَّهْوَةَ الرَّدِيَّةَ، و الطَّمَعَ الذي هُوَ عبادَةُ وَثَن. لأنَّهُ لأجْل هَذِهِ يَأْتي غَضَبُ اللهِ على أَبْناءِ العِصْيانِ. وفي هَذِهِ أَنْتُمْ أيْضاً سَلَكْتُمْ حيناً إذْ كُنْتُمْ عائِشينَ فيها. أمّا الآنَ، فَأَنْتُمْ أيضاً اطْرَحوا الكُلَّ: الغَضَبَ، والسَّخْطُ، والخُبْثَ، والتَّجْديف، والكلامَ القبيحَ مِنْ أَفُواهِكُمْ. و لا يُكَذِّب بَعْضُكُمْ بَعْضًا، بَلَ اخْلُعُوا الأنْسانَ العَتيقَ مَعَ أعْمالِه. والْبَسوا الانْسانَ الجَديدَ الذي يَتَجَدَّدُ لِلْمَعْرِ فَةِ على صورَةِ خالِقه. حَيثُ لَيْسَ يونانِيٌّ ولا يَهوديٌّ، لا خِتانٌ ولا قَلَف، لا بَرْبَريٌّ ولا اسْكيتِيٌّ، لا عَبْدٌ ولا حُرٌّ، بَلِ المَسيحُ هُوَ كُلُّ شَيْءِ وفي الجميع

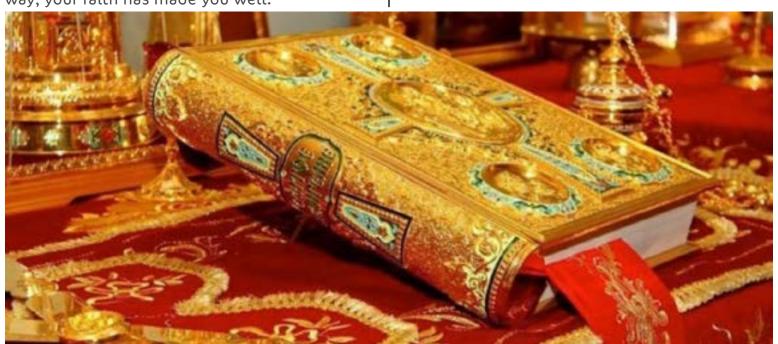
GOSPEL

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke (17:12-19)

At that time, as Jesus entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus said, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

فَصلٌ شَريفٌ مِن بِشارَةِ القِدّيس لوقا البَشير التِّلميذِ الطّاهِر (19-17:12)

في ذَلِكَ الزَّمان، فيما يَسوعُ داخِلُ إلى قَريةٍ استَقبَلَهُ عَشرةُ رِجالٍ بُرصٍ وَوَقَفوا مِن بَعيدٍ، وَرَفعوا أَصواتَهُم قائِلينَ: يا يَسوعُ المُعَلِّمُ ارحَمنا. فَلَمّا رَآهُم قالَ لَهُم امْضُوا وَأَرُوا الكَهَنَةَ أَنفُسَكُم. فَلَمّا رَآهُم قالَ لَهُم امْضُوا وَأَرُوا الكَهَنَةَ أَنفُسَكُم. وَفيما هُم مُنطَلِقونَ طَهَروا. وَإِنَّ واحِدًا مِنهُم، لَمّا رَأى أَنَهُ قَد بَرِئ، رَجَعَ يُمَجِّدُ الله بِصنوتٍ عَظيم. وَخَهِ عِندَ قَدَميهِ شاكِرًا لَهُ وَكانَ وَخَرَّ عَلى وَجهِ عِندَ قَدَميهِ شاكِرًا لَهُ وَكانَ سامِريًا، فَأَجابَ يَسوعُ وَقالَ، أَليسَ العَشرَةُ قَد طَهَروا فَأَينَ التِّسعَةُ؟ أَلَم يُوجَدُ مَنْ يَرجِعُ لِيُمَجِّدُ الله إلاً هَذا الأَجنبيَ؟ وَقالَ لَهُ، قُم وامْضِ، إيمانُكَ اللهُ إلاَّ هَذا الأَجنبيَ؟ وَقالَ لَهُ، قُم وامْضِ، إيمانُكَ



Holy Bread Offered By:

Today – The Sousan Family

Sdn. Youssef and Mary Selim

Jan 26 – Dr. Milad and Mai Saad and Family

Fairouz Rayan and Family

Feb 2 - OPEN

Feb 9 – Ryan McMahon and Family

Feb 16 – George and Ibtisam Imreibe and Family

Feb 23 – The Children of †Rugina Hani and their Families

Mar 2 – Fr. Gabriel and Kh. Amelia Coronel and Family

Mar 9 - OPEN

Mar 16 – *OPEN*

Mar 23 – Nuha Ayoub and Family

Thu, Mar 25 – OPEN



Coffee Hour Sponsors:

Today – Hanna and Tanya Hinnawi and Family

Jan 26 - Fairouz Rayan and Family

Feb 2 – OPEN

Feb 9 - OPEN

Feb 16 – Victor and Jackie Imreibe and Family

Feb 23 - OPEN

Mar 2 – Fr. Gabriel and Kh. Amelia Coronel and Family



Mar 9 - OPEN

Mar 16 - *OPEN*

Mar 23 – Nuha Ayoub and Family

<u>Donate to</u> <u>Your Church</u> Today



YAF BREAKFAST

OR COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP SPONSORS



→ Jan 26 - OPEN

→ Feb 9 - OPEN

CONDOLENCES

The clergy and parishioners of Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church of Cicero offer their sincerest condolences to:

Ehab and Faten Butros and family on the falling asleep of Ehab's grandfather, †BUTROS ABRAHIM BUTROS, in Jordan this past week.

Memory Eternal!

COMMEMORATIONS

Today Commemorations for †ARCHIMANDRITE CHARLES SELIM, †KH. ZAHIA SELIM, †SAMIR SELIM, and †RENE ANGELE, offered by Sdn. Youssef and Mary Selim.

MEMORIALS

Today 40-Day Memorial Service for **†HAYAT SOUSAN**, offered by the Sousan family.

Jan 26 • 1-Year Memorial Service for †RATIBI FARAH, offered by Dr. Milad and Mai Saad and family.

 2-Year Memorial Service for †RAYAN RAYAN, offered by Fairouz Rayan and family.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS			
Today	Pre-Communion Prayers	9:00 am	
•	Orthros (Matins) followed by Great Doxology and Divine Liturgy	9:15 am	
	· Choir Rehearsal	9:15 am	
	 Sunday School Classes 	After Communion	
	 God's Little Lights Ministry (3- and 4-year-olds) 	After Communion	
	Coffee Hour	After Liturgy	
	 Saint George Church Annual General Assembly Meeting and Elections (see pgs. 12-13) 	After Liturgy	
Mon, Jan 20 Parish Council Election of Officers Zoom Meeting 6:30 pm			
Wed, Jan 22	Wed, Jan 22 Sunday School Teachers' Zoom Training		
Fri, Jan 24	AC2025 The Order Dinner Team Meeting	12:00 pm	
	AC2025 Marketing Committee Meeting	7:30 pm	
Sat, Jan 25	Great Vespers Service	5:00 pm	
	· Antiochian Marriage Ministry Couples' Retreat (see pg. 22)	After Vespers	
Sun, Jan 26	Pre-Communion Prayers	9:00 am	
	 Orthros (Matins) followed by Great Doxology and Divine Liturgy 	9:15 am	
	Choir Rehearsal	9:15 am	
	Sunday School Classes	After Communion	
	• God's Little Lights Ministry (3- and 4-year-olds)	After Communion	
	Coffee Hour	After Liturgy	
	 Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) Breakfast and Spiritual Discussion and Blessing of The YAF House 	After Liturgy	
	 Sanctity of Life Prayer Service (at All Saints Antiochian Orthodox Church, 4129 W Newport Ave, Chicago, IL 60641) 	6:00 pm	
Mon, Jan 27	AC2025 Club Saint George Team Meeting	9:30 am	
	 The Order – Cicero Chapter Officers' Zoom Meeting 	5:00 pm	
	AC2025 Executive Committee Meeting	6:00 pm	
Tue, Jan 28	West Campus Ministry <i>(see pg. 26)</i>	6:00 pm	
Thu, Jan 30	AC2025 Welcome Dinner Team Meeting	11:00 am	
	• North Campus Ministry (see pg. 27)	6:00 pm	
Fri, Jan 31	Antiochian Women (AW) Spiritual Sisters Circle Ministry (see pg. 19)	7:30 pm	
	FEBRUARY IS ANTIOCHIAN MEN (A-MEN) MONTH		
Sat, Feb 1	· Great Vespers Service	5:00 pm	
	• GLORY Club Launch Event (see pg. 20)	6:00 pm	

CHURCHINGS

looay	Marji.	BAPTISMS
 Jan 26 • ELIANNA, daughter of Johny and Rasha Sisan. • LEO JESSE, son of Jesse and Deala Fakhouri Torres. 	Yesterday CAMILLE MARIE, daughter of Anthony and Dr. Huda Kandah.	
	Feb 2 GEORGIA, daughter of Christopher and Jessica Kosrow.	

Baptizing the World, Part Two

By His Eminence Metropolitan Saba (Isper)

The principle of Christianizing life, society, and traditions is natural in Christianity and all religions. Since religion encompasses all aspects of life, it is natural for it to imbue them with its spiritual hue on the one hand, and to adopt some of them and make them its own, on the other hand. This does not detract from Christianity; on the contrary, it gains a higher value. When Christianity absorbed practices of older religions, it proved that it could give them new meaning, and showed it could fulfill people's spiritual aspirations, satisfy their hunger for true life, and give meaning to their existence.

By baptizing the good things that came before it, Christianity proved its ability to grant people their aspirations for spirituality, as well as moral and societal values. Directed towards humanity, Christianity has completed the good things and made them a means of salvation.

This leads us to reflect a little on our spiritual and pastoral reality. The rhythm of life in today's societies is no longer limited to the religious aspect because they have become irreligious, or simply satisfied with superficial religion. Materialism has become predominant, par excellence, in all aspects of life. Man has been deprived of one of his most important dimensions, and he no longer finds the spring capable of quenching his thirst. The rush to possess material things is not a sign of a healthy lifestyle, but rather a confirmation of an inner void seeking fulfillment in the ephemeral things of this world.

As pastors and believers, we should reflect on how to baptize and Christianize today's world, addressing it and reaching it in a language that is faithful to the faith. This requires, on the one hand, a deep understanding of humanity in general, and contemporary humanity in particular; and on the other hand, a deep, rooted understanding of the Christian faith, with a pure conscience filled with and inspired by the Holy Spirit.

A quick look at some of the new methods of care in our ecclesiastical reality reveals a frightening superficiality regarding interactions of faith and humanity, in many cases. For example, holding a New Year's Eve party in a church building does not mean that it has become a Christian party. If it is organized like other parties in public places, it will not bring about anything new. It would mark a secularization of Christianity, a confirmation of the licentious worldliness that characterizes other parties, and an illusion of protection in the minds of believers. Traditions cannot be easily and lightly baptized, replacing one with another, especially if they have similar forms!

The goal of the Church, the body of Christ, is to open man to the love of Christ and His living presence, not to replace worldly activities with similar ones within a purported "Christian" framework!

Baptizing the world means converting it to Christ, not coloring secular things with an external Christian hue. The challenge today before believers is great in this regard. Current pastoral practices, behaviors and conducts need serious scrutiny and examination to uncover hidden errors. This requires that the Church pays much more attention to pastoral care, and that believers help to establish a true Christian climate, not to pressure pastors to secularize pastoral care.

May we, in the spirit of prayer and in the presence of the Holy Spirit, discern what is necessary for our preaching to be upright and our witness to be faithful, so that we may contribute to the salvation of mankind for whom God came.

نظرة سريعة إلى بعض أساليب الرعاية المستحدثة في واقعنا الكنسي، تُظهر سطحيّة مخيفة في التعاطي الإيماني والإنساني، في العديد من الحالات. فعلى سبيل المثال لا الحصر، إقامة سهرة رأس السنة، في مبنى كنسي، لا يعني أنها صارت سهرة مسيحيّة. فإن نُظمت على غرار غيرها من سهرات الأماكن العامة، لا تكون قد أتت بجديد. يكون هذا الفعل دهرنة للمسيحية، وتثبيتاً للدنيويّة الماجنة التي تصبغ هذه المناسبة، ووهماً ترسخه في أذهان المؤمنين بخصوص حمايتهم من مجون السهرات الخارجية؟ لا يتم تعميد تقليد ما بسهولة واستخفاف واستبدال مكان بآخر، أو شيء

غاية الكنيسة، جسد المسيح، أن تفتح الإنسان على محبّة المسيح وحضوره الحيّ، لا أن تستبدل فعاليّات دنيويّة بمثلها، ولكن في إطار "مسيحيّ"، ظاهريًّا!!

بآخر يماثله في الشكل فقط!

تعميد العالم، يعني تحويله إلى المسيح، لاتلوين الدهريات بصبغة مسيحية خارجية. والتحدّي اليوم كبير أمام المؤمنين، على هذا الصعيد. فما يوجد من ممارسات وتصرّفات وسلوكيّات رعائية يُظهِر أنَّها بحاجة إلى تدقيق وتمحيص جدّيين، بغية أن تتبيّن الضلال المختبئ في أمور كثيرة. هذا يتطلّب أن تولي الكنيسة الرعاية اهتماماً أكثر بكثير ممّا هو حاصل، وأن يساعد المؤمنون في ترسيخ المناخ المسيحي حقاً، لا أن يضغطوا على الرعاة لكي يدهرنوا الرعاية.

علّنا بروح الصلاة، وحضور الروح القدس، نتبيّن، جميعاً، اللازم، كي تكون بشارتنا مستقيمة، وشهادتنا أمينة، فنُسهِم في خلاص الإنسان الذي أتى الله من أجله.

تعميد العالم، الجزء الثاني

المتروبوليت سابا (اسبر)

مبداً مَسحَنة الحياة والمجتمع والتقاليد أمر طبيعي في المسيحيّة، وهو مبداً قائم في كلّ الأديان. فطالما أنّ الدين يشمل مناجي الحياة جميعها، فمن الطبيعي أن يصبغها كلّ الأديان. فطالما أنّ الدين يشمل مناجي الحياة جميعها، فيميّره خاصّته، من جهة أخرى. هذا لا يعيب المسيحيّة، بل على العكس، يمنحها قيمة أرفع. فعندما استوعبت وأظهرت قدرتها على تلبية طموح البشر الروجي، وإشباع جوعهم إلى الحياة الحقيقيّة، وإعطاء المعنى لوجودهم.

بتعميد ما كان قبلها من أمور حسنة، أثبتت المسيحيّة قدرتها على منح البشر ما يصبون إليه، من روحانيّة وقيم أخلاقيّة ومجتمعيّة. فباعتبارها متوجهة إلى الإنسان، تبنّت قضاياه، وما وصل إليه من أمور صالحة، فتمّمتها وأعطتها مضموناً جديداً، جاعلة إيّاها وسيلة للخلاص.

يقودنا هذا الكلام إلى التأمّل قليلاً في واقعنا الروجي والرعائي بخاصّة. فإيقاع الحياة، في مجتمعات اليوم، التي باتت لا دينيّة، أو اكتفت من الأديان بالظاهر، لم يعد محصوراً بالبعد الديني. والطابع الدنيوي بات طاغياً، بامتياز، على جميع مناحي الحياة. فخرم الإنسان من أحد أهم أبعاده، ولم يعد يجد النبع القادر على إروائه. ليس التهافت على الدنيويات علامة إنسان سليم، بقدر ما هو تثبيت لفراغ داخلي ببحث عن ملء، يظنّه في هذه وتلك من فانيات هذه الدنيا.

يجدر بنا، رعاة ومؤمنين، التمعّن في كيفيّة تعميد عالم اليوم ومسحنته، من أجل مخاطبته بلغة أمينة للإيمان، وقادرة على الوصول إليه. هذا يتطلّب، من جهة أولى، فهماً عميقاً للإنسان بعامّة، والإنسان المعاصر بخاصّة، ومن جهة ثانية، فهماً عميقاً للإيمان المسيحي، وتأصّلاً فيه، ووجداناً نقياً ممتلئاً بالروح القدس وملهَماً منه.



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church كنيسة القديس جاورجيوس الانطاكية الارثوذكسية

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest Very Reverend Father Fouad Saba, Pastor

December 17, 2024

Dear Members of Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church,

Christ in our midst! He is and ever shall be!

A blessed Nativity Season to you and your families! This is to inform you the 2025 Annual General Assembly Meeting for the voting membership of Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church will be held on <u>Sunday, January 19, 2025</u>, following the Divine Liturgy. <u>The agenda is enclosed on the reverse side of this letter.</u>

To be recognized as a voting member of Saint George Church, a parishioner must be at least eighteen years of age and have fulfilled both the necessary spiritual obligations (as determined by the Pastor) and the financial obligations (as determined by the Financial Secretary), which require a minimum contribution of \$600 per married couple or \$300 per individual received between January 1, 2024, and December 31, 2024. Each married couple attending the meeting will be given two ballots — one for each spouse in attendance — while individual members, over the age of 18, who have met the requirements, will each receive one ballot from the Financial Secretary at the meeting. Only those present at the meeting may vote; no proxy votes are permitted. If you have not already met your financial obligation, please do so before December 31, 2024. If you are experiencing financial hardship, please see the Pastor. Should you have any further questions regarding these requirements, please contact a member of the Parish Council.

The goal of Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church is to have all eligible members vote.

At this General Assembly, elections will be held for four (4) seats for a three-year term on the Parish Council. A Nominating Committee has been appointed to compile a list of qualified candidates. The members of the committee are Fr. Fouad Saba, Fr. Gabriel Coronel, Dn. George Nassief, Mr. Elias Akkari, and Mr. Steve Saba. If you or someone you know is interested in running for the Parish Council and is willing to make the commitment required to fulfill this important obligation, please contact the Nominating Committee.

It is important to note that pursuant to the Saint George Church Constitution, <u>no nominations will be accepted from the floor during the Annual General Assembly Meeting</u>. All candidates' names must be submitted to the Nominating Committee by Wednesday, January 8, 2025, in order for the candidate's name to be included on the Ballot. <u>There can be no exception to this rule</u>.

During this General Assembly Meeting, all members will also receive a full 2024 Financial Report, the proposed 2025 Annual Budget, and reports from the various organizations and hear about all current plans for the coming year. 2024 was an extremely active year in the life of Saint George Church and your attendance will add greatly to the discussion.

The Church is our spiritual home. Your involvement in the affairs of your Church is very important. May God bless you all as we prepare for the birth of the Savior!

Yours in Christ,

V. Rev. Fr. Fouad Saba

V. Rev. Fr. Fouad Saba Pastor Elias Akkari

Elias Akkari

Chairman, Parish Council

"And they were called Christians first in Antioch" (Acts 11:26)

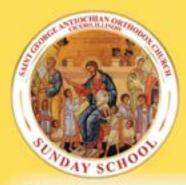


Nominating Committee



The following is the report of the Nominating Committee of Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church regarding the upcoming General Assembly and Parish Council Elections on January 19, 2025. The members of the Church listed below are qualified, nominated, and have accepted the nomination to run for election to the Parish Council and all have received the blessing of Fr. Fouad Saba as well:

- Victor Imreibe
- Michael Moukheiber
 Amir Rihani
- Dr. Johnny Kuttab
 Suhail Qumri
 Eddy Shaheen

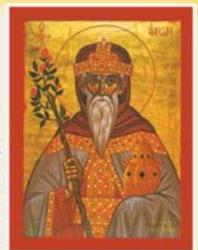




Curriculum Update

Lesson 14: God's Instructions – The Ark of the Covenant and the Priesthood

Moses and his brother Aaron are from the tribe of Levi. Moses went back up the mountain and received the tablets with the Ten Commandments again, and the people repented for their sin of worshipping the golden calf (false idol). God wanted to be among His people. God instructed Moses to build the Tabernacle, a mobile tent of meeting, so He could dwell among His people. It symbolized God's presence and emphasized His central role in the lives of the Israelites. God gave the people specific instructions on how to keep and care for



the tablets. The Ark of the Covenant housed the tablets of the Ten Commandments and was a central element in the Tabernacle. God chose Aaron to be the High Priest. Aaron's sons and grandsons would also be priests. The priests were the leaders for worship, music, and teaching the people. The job of the priests was to present the people's sacrifices to God. The rituals and ordinances God provided emphasized discipline, humility, and the gravity of sin. The worship practices of the people from that time helped to prepare believers for the new covenant established through Jesus Christ.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Sunday School Classes ----- Sundays Weekly after Communion ANTIOCHIAN VILLAGE SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION ----- OPEN Saint George Church Annual General Assembly Meeting ---- Sun | Jan 19 Sunday School Teachers' Zoom Training ----- Wed | Jan 22 CAMP ST. GEORGE I-OWA REGISTRATION OPENS ---- Sun | Feb 2 Sunday School Officers' Meeting ---- Sat | Feb 8













Every January, Saint George Church holds a General Assembly Meeting and Elections where the parishioners gather with members of the Parish Council to receive updates on matters of the Church, and vote in new members for the various seats available on the Parish Council. During this important meeting, the Sunday School children, ages 4-12, watch a movie together and have lunch so their parents can attend the meeting. The teens also attend the General Assembly Meeting so they can learn how to care for the Church when they are on the Parish Council someday.



Teen Soyo

Bowling Outing

Sat | Feb 8 @ 6PM

\$15/Teen
INCLUDES
PIZZA AND POP,
SHOES, ARCADE
GAMES







ALL TEENS AGES 13-18 WELCOME!

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL



Brotherhood of the Noble Joseph

ALTAR SERVER

MAKE-UP





SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025

- Pre-Communion Prayers 9:00 am
- ORTHROS (MATINS) 9:15 AM
- GREAT DOXOLOGY AND DIVINE LITURGY 10:20 AM
- Make-Up Altar Server Training 12:30 pm



Open to all males 7 years and up (6-year-olds invited to train) who did NOT attend November 2nd training.

- All young men are welcome to join the Brotherhood of the Noble Joseph
- Training attendance is mandatory to join the Brotherhood





Antiochian Men (A-MEN)

PRE-LENTEN FAMILY HAFLI



Saturday
February 15, 2025
BEGINNING WITH VESPERS
5:00 PM



\$25/Adult (12+) \$15/Child (6-11)

Complimentary
5 and Under



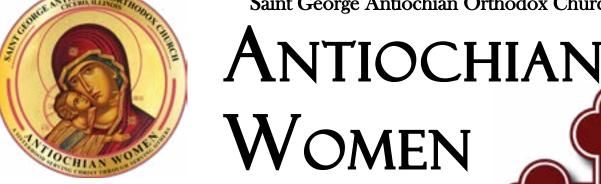
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QR Code to
RSVP for ALL

(including complimentary) BY WED, FEB 12™



ALL Ages and Families Invited





Complimentary EVENT

Spiritual Discussion

In The Orthodox Club

Chapel

Refreshments and

Coffee will be provided



Discussion Theme:

"MANAGING NEGATIVE THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS"

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2025 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM

* Next Event Discussion Theme "I Can't Forgive" Friday, February 28, 2025

RSVP by Wed|Jan 29



ALL WOMEN 18+ WELCOME!

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL



GLORY CLUB

G.od's L.oving O.BEDIENT R.ESPECTFUL Y.OUTH

LAUNCH EVEN

SAT | FEB 1 @ 6:00 - 8:00 PM EVENING PRAYERS, DINNER, AND PROGRAM

EVENT ADMISSION

EA(H (HILD BRING A

> > NEW BLANKET < <

TO DONATE TO THE HOMELESS

RSVP by Sat, Jan 25



Parents encouraged to stay, dinner will be provided separately.

Inviting All Kids (ages 5-8)

must be 5 years old by February 1, 2025



JOY Club Bowling Outing



\$15/Youth includes CHEESE PIZZA and POP, SHOES, ARCADE GAMES



ALL YOUTH AGES 9-12 WELCOME!



Saturday, January 25 | 5:00 pm

Vespers ~ Dinner with Wine ~ Retreat

\$50/Couple RSVP by Wed|Jan 22





24th Annual GOLFCLASSIC

Golfing for a purpose

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2025



Registration and Sponsorships COMING SOON!









Register AT 4:00PM CST
ON Sunday, January 5th
to secure your spot at the
Antiochian Village Summer
Camp in Pennsylvania!

REGISTER HERE



SCAN ME











NO CAMPER LEFT BEHIND!



In 2024, 26 CAMPERS

from Saint George Church attended Camp!

Antiochian Village PA = 17Camp St. George IA = 9

SCHOLARSHIPS

available from
The Order of Saint Ignatius
Cicero Chapter and National!

No Camper Left Behind

ALL Campers in need of financial assistance will be able to attend!





APPLY HERE





Pastoral Outreach Program

The FUTURE is Now...

...The CHURCH is Coming to You!

SAINT GEORGE WEST CAMPUS MINISTRY

@ Church of the Holy Nativity | 275 S Richmond Avenue | Clarendon Hills, IL 60514

Tuesdays

- January 28, 2025
- February 4, 2025

- February 11, 2025
- February 18, 2025

Program*

6:00-6:40 PM

- Check-In
- Complimentary Dinner and Social

6:40-7:00 PM

Evening Prayers

7:00-8:00 PM

- The Gospel of Luke (ages 18+)
- Kids' Club (ages 3-4)
- Kids' Club (ages 5-8)

7:00-7:30 PM

- J.O.Y. Club (ages 9-12) The Gospel of Luke
- Teen SOYO (ages 13-18) Activities and Games

7:30-8:00 PM

- J.O.Y. Club (ages 9-12) Activities and Games
- Teen SOYO (ages 13-18) The Gospel of Luke

8:00-9:00 PM

• Family Social Hour and Games (all ages)

For Questions or More Information, please contact:

- Fr. Fouad Saba (312) 877-4770
- Fr. Gabriel Coronel (773) 746-1893
- Dn. George Nassief (925) 699-3893
- Alexandra Zanayed (630) 442-2473
- Nathaniel Humphrey (630) 442-9803

^{*} Program subject to change.



Pastoral Outreach Program

The FUTURE is Now...

...The CHURCH is Coming to You!

SAINT GEORGE NORTH CAMPUS MINISTRY

@ Saint Andrew Lutheran Church | 260 N Northwest Hwy | Park Ridge, IL 60068

Thursdays

- January 30, 2025
- February 6, 2025

- February 13, 2025
- February 20, 2025

Program*

6:00-6:40 PM

- Check-In
- Complimentary Dinner and Social

6:40-7:00 PM

• Evening Prayers

7:00-8:00 PM

- The Gospel of Luke (ages 18+)
- Kids' Club (ages 3-4)
- Kids' Club (ages 5-8)

7:00-7:30 PM

- J.O.Y. Club (ages 9-12) The Gospel of Luke
- Teen SOYO (ages 13-18) Activities and Games

7:30-8:00 PM

- J.O.Y. Club (ages 9-12) Activities and Games
- Teen SOYO (ages 13-18) The Gospel of Luke

8:00-9:00 PM

• Family Social Hour and Games (all ages)

For Questions or More Information, please contact:

- Fr. Fouad Saba (312) 877-4770
- Fr. Gabriel Coronel (773) 746-1893
- Dn. George Nassief (925) 699-3893
- Faten Imseeh (224) 999-2070
- Suhaila Imseeh (847) 749-7362

^{*} Program subject to change.



"CONTINUING THE ANTIOCHIAN LEGACY IN CHICAGO"

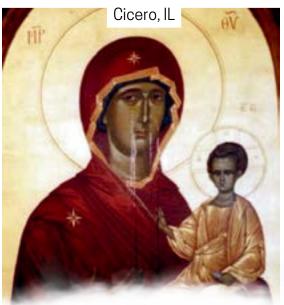
Celebrating the

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIFICATION OF NEW YORK AND TOLEDO and the

120TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORD MAGAZINE

- · Church Services
- 100+ Events and Meetings
- Club Saint George for ages 4-12
- Teen Events
- · Young Adult Events
- Humanitarian Activity
- Workshops
- · Bible Bowl
- Oratorical Festival
- · "Taste of Chicago"
- Antiochian Legacy Banquet and Grand Hafli
- "Ask Abouna" all week

THE MIRACULOUS WEEPING ICON



With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Saba, for the first time, venerate the Miraculous Weeping Icon in the hotel Chapel all week.



"Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her." Luke 1:38

HOTEL RESERVATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!



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2025 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



YOU BELONG ON THE TREE OF LIFE

"Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." - Matthen 6:21 "لأنَّهُ حَيْثُ يَكُونُ كَنْزُكُم هُنَاكَ يَكُونُ قَلْبُكُم أَيْضًا. "(مَثَى 6:21)

PICK UP A

MEMBERSHIP BROCHURE

IN THE CHURCH HALL!





Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

SEASON OF EPIPHANY

Traditionally, at the feast of the Lord's Epiphany (Baptism) on January 6th, the Great Blessing of the waters takes place and then is used to sanctify the homes of all the faithful. In bringing the blessed water to the 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.

HOME BLESSINGS

Please contact the Church Office at (708) 656-2927 or Office@StGeorgeChi.org to schedule your Home Blessing:

The following should be prepared for the Home Blessing:

- All members of family must be present
- Bible
- Icon

- Lit Candle
- Burning Incense (Optional)
- Small Table (or dining room table)

The visit by Father Saba or Father Gabriel should be approximately **45 minutes**. Several visits will be scheduled on a given day in order to reach and bless all families and homes this season.

Once the Home Blessing Season is mostly over, Father Saba and Father Gabriel will continue regular Pastoral Visits, during which Father Saba or Father Gabriel will spend ample time with each family.

