



WEEKLY BULLETIN

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024

وَدَاعِ وَالْأَحَدِ الَّذِي بَعْدَ عِيدِ مِيلَادِ
رَبِّنَا وَإِلَهِنَا وَمَخْلَصِنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ

THE AFTER-FEAST OF AND THE SUNDAY
AFTER THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY



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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Samar Rihani, *ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY*

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OFFICE HOURS:

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

Saturday: By Appointment

Sunday: Closed

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.

Welcome! Ahlan wa Sahlan! أهلا وسهلا!

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.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us.

المَجْدُ لَكَ يَا مُظْهِرَ النُّورِ، المَجْدُ لِلَّهِ فِي العَلَاءِ،
وعلى الأَرْضِ السَّلَامُ، وفي النَّاسِ المَسْرَّةُ
نُسَبِّحُكَ نُبَارِكُكَ، نَسْجُدُ لَكَ نُمَجِّدُكَ، نَشْكُرُكَ مِنْ
أَجْلِ عَظِيمِ جَلَالِ مَجْدِكَ

أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ المَلِكُ، السَّمَاوِيِّ، الإلهُ، الأبُّ الضَّابِطُ
الْكُلِّ. أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ الإِبْنُ الوَحِيدُ، يَا يَسُوعَ المَسِيحُ،
وَيَا أَيُّهَا الرُّوحُ القُدُّوسُ

أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ الإلهُ، يَا حَمَلَ اللهِ يَا ابْنَ الأبِّ، يَا رَافِعَ
خَطِيئَةِ العَالَمِ ارْحَمْنَا، يَا رَافِعَ خَطَايَا العَالَمِ
تَقَبَّلْ تَضَرُّعَنَا أَيُّهَا الجَالِسُ عَنِ يَمِينِ الأبِّ
وَارْحَمْنَا

لَأَنَّكَ أَنْتَ وَحْدَكَ قُدُّوسٌ، أَنْتَ وَحْدَكَ الرَّبُّ
يَسُوعَ المَسِيحُ، فِي مَجْدِ اللهِ الأبِّ، آمِينَ.
فِي كُلِّ يَوْمٍ أَبَارِكُكَ، وَأَسْبِّحُ اسْمَكَ إِلَى الأَبَدِ،
وإلى أَبَدِ الأَبَدِ

أهْلُنَا يَا رَبُّ أَنْ نُحْفَظَ فِي هَذَا اليَوْمِ بِغَيْرِ خَطِيئَةٍ.
مُبَارَكُ أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ إلهَ آبَائِنَا، وَمُسَبِّحٌ وَمُمَجَّدٌ
اسْمُكَ إِلَى الأَبَدِ، آمِينَ
لِتَكُنْ يَا رَبُّ رَحْمَتَكَ عَلَيْنَا، كَمَا تَكُنْ عَلَيْنَا.

مُبَارَكُ أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ عَلَّمَنِي حُقُوقَكَ. (ثلاثاً)
يَا رَبُّ مَلْجَأٌ كُنْتَ لَنَا فِي جِيلٍ وَجِيلٍ، أَنَا قُلْتُ
يَا رَبُّ ارْحَمْنِي وَاشْفِ نَفْسِي لِأَنَّي قَدْ خَطِئْتُ
إِلَيْكَ

يَا رَبُّ إِلَيْكَ لَجَأْتُ فَعَلَّمَنِي أَنْ أَعْمَلَ رِضَاكَ،
لَأَنَّكَ أَنْتَ هُوَ الإلهي
لَأَنَّ مِنْ قِبَلِكَ عَيْنَ الحَيَاةِ، وَبِنُورِكَ نَعَايُنُ النُّورَ.
فابْسُطْ رَحْمَتَكَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ يَعْرِفُونَكَ.

قُدُّوسُ اللهُ، قُدُّوسُ القَوِي، قُدُّوسُ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ
ارْحَمْنَا. (ثلاثاً)

المَجْدُ لِلأَبِّ وَالإِبْنِ وَالرُّوحِ القُدُّوسِ.
الآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَاهِرِينَ، آمِينَ.
قُدُّوسُ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ ارْحَمْنَا.

قُدُّوسُ اللهُ، قُدُّوسُ القَوِي، قُدُّوسُ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ
ارْحَمْنَا

TODAY'S LITURGY INSERTS

FIRST ANTIPHON

I will confess Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Thy wonders. In the council of the upright, and in the congregation, great are the works of the Lord.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

They are sought out in all the things that He hath willed. Confession and majesty are His work, and His righteousness abideth unto ages of ages.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

أَعْتَرَفُ لَكَ يَا رَبُّ مِنْ كُلِّ قَلْبِي، وَأَحَدْتُ بِجَمِيعِ عَجَائِبِكَ. فِي مَجْلِسِ الْمُسْتَقِيمِينَ وَفِي مَجْمَعِهِمْ، عَظِيمَةٌ هِيَ أَعْمَالُ الرَّبِّ.

اللازمة: بِشَفَاعَاتِ وَالِدَةِ الْإِلَهِ يَا مُخَلَّصُ خَلِّصْنَا. مُدَبَّرَةٌ طَبَقًا لِكُلِّ مُرَادِهِ بِهَا. صُنْعُهُ الْإِعْتِرَافُ وَعِظْمُ الْجَلَالِ، وَعَدْلُهُ يَدُومُ إِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ.

اللازمة: بِشَفَاعَاتِ وَالِدَةِ الْإِلَهِ يَا مُخَلَّصُ خَلِّصْنَا. الْمَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالِابْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ، الْآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَالِي دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ. آمِينَ.

اللازمة: بِشَفَاعَاتِ وَالِدَةِ الْإِلَهِ يَا مُخَلَّصُ خَلِّصْنَا.

SECOND ANTIPHON

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord; in His commandments shall he greatly delight. His seed shall be mighty upon the earth. The generation of the upright shall be blessed.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who wast born of a Virgin; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Glory and riches shall be in his house, and His righteousness abideth unto ages of ages.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who wast born of a Virgin; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

There hath risen up in darkness a light for the upright; he is merciful and compassionate and righteous.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who wast born of a Virgin; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

طُوبَى لِلرَّجُلِ الَّذِي يَتَّقِي الرَّبَّ وَيَهْوَى وَصَايَاهُ جَدًّا. تَكُونُ ذُرِّيَّتُهُ فِي الْأَرْضِ مُقْتَدِرَةً.

اللازمة: خَلِّصْنَا يَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ، يَا مَنْ وُلِدَ مِنَ الْبَتُولِ، لِنُرْتِّلَ لَكَ. هَلْلُويَا.

الْمَجْدُ وَالْغِنَى فِي بَيْتِهِ، وَعَدْلُهُ يَدُومُ إِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ

اللازمة: خَلِّصْنَا يَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ، يَا مَنْ وُلِدَ مِنَ الْبَتُولِ، لِنُرْتِّلَ لَكَ. هَلْلُويَا.

أَشْرَقَ النُّورُ فِي الظُّلْمَةِ لِلْمُسْتَقِيمِينَ، النُّورُ يُشْرِقُ فِي الظُّلَامِ لِلْأَبْرَارِ، لِأَنَّهُ الرَّؤُوفُ وَالرَّحِيمُ وَالصِّدِّيقُ.

اللازمة: خَلِّصْنَا يَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ، يَا مَنْ وُلِدَ مِنَ الْبَتُولِ، لِنُرْتِّلَ لَكَ. هَلْلُويَا.

الْمَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالِابْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ، الْآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَالِي دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ. آمِينَ.

يَا كَلِمَةَ اللَّهِ الْإِبْنَ الْوَحِيدِ...

THIRD ANTIPHON

The Lord said unto my Lord: sit Thou at My right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool. The Lord shall send Thee a rod of strength out of Zion. With Thee is dominion in the day of Thy power, in the beauties of Thy saints.

قَالَ الرَّبُّ لِرَبِّي: اجْلِسْ عَن يَمِينِي حَتَّى أَجْعَلَ أَعْدَاءَكَ مَوْطِنًا لِقَدَمَيْكَ. عَصَا قُوَّةٍ يُرْسِلُ لَكَ الرَّبُّ مِنْ صِهْيَوْنَ. مَعَكَ الرَّئِيسَةُ فِي يَوْمِ قُوَّتِكَ، فِي بَهَاءِ قَدَيْسِيكَ.

TROPARION OF THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY (TONE 4)

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath given rise to the light of knowledge in the world; for they that worshipped the stars did learn therefrom to worship Thee, O Sun of Justice, and to know that from the east of the Highest Thou didst come. O Lord, glory to Thee.

مِيلَادُكَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُنَا قَدْ أَطْلَعَ نَوْرَ الْمَعْرِفَةِ فِي الْعَالَمِ، لِأَنَّ السَّاجِدِينَ لِلْكَوَاكِبِ، بِهِ تَعَلَّمُوا مِنْ الْكُوكَبِ السُّجُودَ لَكَ يَا شَمْسَ الْعَدْلِ، وَأَنْ يَعْرِفُوا أَنَّكَ مِنْ مَشَارِقِ الْعُلُوِّ أَنْتَيْتَ، يَا رَبُّ الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

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.

هَلِّمُوا لِنَسْجُدَ وَنَرْكَعَ لِلْمَسِيحِ، مَلِكِنَا وَإِلَهُنَا. خَلِّصْنَا يَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ، يَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، لِنُرْتِّلَ لَكَ. هَلْلُويَا

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION (TONE 2)

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

عِنْدَمَا أَنْحَدَرْتَ إِلَى الْمَوْتِ أَيُّهَا الْحَيَاةُ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ، حِينِنِذِ أَمَتَّ الْجَحِيمِ بِبَرْقِ لَاهُوتِكَ. وَعِنْدَمَا أَقَمْتَ الْأَمْوَاتَ مِنْ تَحْتِ الثَّرَى، صَرَخَ نَحْوِكَ جَمِيعُ الْقُوَّاتِ السَّمَاوِيِّينَ: أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُ، مُعْطِي الْحَيَاةِ، الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

TROPARION OF THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY (TONE 4)

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath given rise to the light of knowledge in the world; for they that worshipped the stars did learn therefrom to worship Thee, O Sun of Justice, and to know that from the east of the Highest Thou didst come. O Lord, glory to Thee.

مِيلَادُكَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُنَا قَدْ أَطْلَعَ نَوْرَ الْمَعْرِفَةِ فِي الْعَالَمِ، لِأَنَّ السَّاجِدِينَ لِلْكَوَاكِبِ، بِهِ تَعَلَّمُوا مِنْ الْكُوكَبِ السُّجُودَ لَكَ يَا شَمْسَ الْعَدْلِ، وَأَنْ يَعْرِفُوا أَنَّكَ مِنْ مَشَارِقِ الْعُلُوِّ أَنْتَيْتَ، يَا رَبُّ الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

TROPARION OF SUNDAY AFTER FEAST OF THE NATIVITY (TONE 4)

Proclaim, O Joseph, to David, the grandparent of God, the amazing wonders; for thou hast seen a Virgin great with child; for with the shepherds thou didst give glory, with the Magi thou didst worship, and by the angel it was revealed to thee. Wherefore, plead thou with Christ God to save our souls.

يَا يَوْسُفُ، بَشِّرْ دَاوُودَ جَدَّ إِلَهُ الْعَجَائِبِ الْبَاهِرَةِ، لِأَنَّكَ رَأَيْتَ رَأَيْتَ بَتُولًا حَامِلًا. فَمَعَ الرُّعَاةِ مَجَّدْتَ، وَمَعَ الْمَجُوسِ سَجَّدْتَ، وَبِالْمَلَائِكَةِ أُوحِيَ إِلَيْكَ. فَابْتَهِلْ إِلَى الْمَسِيحِ إِلَهُ أَنْ يُخَلِّصَ نَفُوسَنَا.

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 أنك للمأسورين مُحَرَّرٌ ومُعْتَقٌ، وللْفُقَرَاءِ
والمَسَاكِينِ عَاضِدٌ وَنَاصِرٌ وللمَرْضَى طَبِيبٌ وَشَافٍ
وعن المؤمنين مُكَافِحٌ ومُحَارِبٌ أيها العَظِيمُ في
الشُهَدَاءِ جاورجيوسُ اللَّابِسُ الظَّفَرَ تَشْفَعُ إلى المسيحِ
الإلهِ في خَلاصِ نُفُوسِنَا.

KONTAKION OF THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY (TONE 3)

On this day the Virgin beareth the Transcendent in Essence; * to the Unapproachable, * the earth doth offer a small cave; * Angels join in choir with shepherds * in giving glory; * with a star the Magi travel upon their journey; * for our sakes is born a young Child, * He Who existed * before the ages as God.

اليَوْمَ البَنُوْلُ تَلِدُ الفَائِقَ الجَوْهَرَ، والأَرْضُ تُقَرِّبُ
المَغَارَةَ لِمَنْ هُوَ غَيْرٌ مُقْتَرَبٍ إِلَيْهِ. المَلَائِكَةُ مَعَ
الرُّعَاةِ يَمَجِّدُونَ، والمَجُوسُ مَعَ الكَوَكَبِ في الطَّرِيقِ
يَسِيرُونَ، لِأَنَّهُ قَدْ وُلِدَ مِنْ أَجْلِنا صَبِيٌّ جَدِيدٌ، الإلهُ
الذي قَبْلَ الدُّهُورِ.

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 عبدك يا والدة الإله * اكتبُ لكِ رايَاتِ الغلبةِ يا
جندِيَّةً مُحامِيَّةً * وأقدمُ لكِ الشُّكْرَ كَمُنْقَذَةٍ مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ *
لكن بما أن لكِ العِزَّةَ التي لا تُحَارَبُ * اعتقيني من
صُنُوفِ الشَّدَائِدِ * حتى أصرُخَ إليكِ إفرحي يا عروساً
لا عروسَ لها.

THE SYNAXARION

On December 29th in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the fourteen thousand infants slain by Herod in Bethlehem; George, bishop of Nicomedia; Venerable Abbot Markellos of the “Unsleeping Ones” Monastery; and all Orthodox Christians who have died from hunger, thirst, the sword and freezing.

On the Sunday after the Nativity of Christ, we commemorate the holy and just Ancestors of God: Joseph the Betrothed of the Holy Virgin, our Lady the Theotokos; James the Brother of God and the First Bishop of Jerusalem; and David the Prophet and King.

I honor Joseph, the Betrothed of the Virgin, who to be her protector was alone chosen.

Thou art a carpenter's son, but also the brother of the Lord that built all with a word, O blest James. What shall I say, seeing that the Lord testifieth, as a man after Mine own heart, I have found David.

David committed adultery and murder, yet God forgave him and glorified him above all the kings of Israel. He gave him the great grace to compose the most beautiful penitential prayers (the Psalms) and to prophesy the coming of Christ. Thus, God was not ashamed to take upon Himself flesh from David's seed. God designated Joseph to protect the Most-holy Virgin, and imparted to him great honor in the plan of the salvation of mankind. Although Joseph was of the royal lineage of David, he was a humble carpenter in Nazareth. At the age of 80, Joseph took the Most-holy Virgin from the Temple in Jerusalem and into his home. He entered into rest at the age of 110. The Apostle James is called the “Brother of the Lord” because he was the son of the righteous Joseph the Betrothed. James greatly loved Jesus and, according to tradition, he traveled to Egypt with the Most-holy Virgin and Joseph, when Herod sought to slay the newborn King.

By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.

EPISTLE FOR THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY

God is wondrous in His saints.

In the churches, bless ye God.

The Reading from the Epistle of

Saint Paul to the Galatians (1:11-19)

Brethren, I would have you know that the Gospel, which was preached by me, is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the Church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people; so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when He who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through His grace, was pleased to reveal His Son to me, in order that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

عَجِيبٌ هُوَ اللهُ فِي قَدَيْسِيهِ.

فِي الْمَجَامِعِ بَارِكُوا اللَّهَ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدَيْسِ بُولُسَ

الرَّسُولِ إِلَى أَهْلِ غَلَاطِيَّةِ (1:11-19)

يَا إِخْوَةٌ، أَعْلَمُكُمْ أَنَّ الْإِنْجِيلَ الَّذِي بَشَّرْتُ بِهِ، أَيْسَ بِحَسَبِ الْإِنْسَانِ. لِأَنِّي لَمْ أَتَسَلَّمْهُ أَوْ أَتَعَلَّمْهُ مِنْ إِنْسَانٍ، بَلْ بِإِعْلَانِ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ. فَإِنَّكُمْ قَدْ سَمِعْتُمْ بِسِيرَتِي قَدِيمًا فِي مِلَّةِ الْيَهُودِ، أَنِّي كُنْتُ أَضْطَهْدُ كَنِيْسَةَ اللَّهِ بِإِفْرَاطٍ وَأَدْمِرُهَا. وَأَزِيدُ تَقَدُّمًا فِي مِلَّةِ الْيَهُودِ عَلَى كَثِيرِينَ مِنْ أَتْرَابِي فِي جَنْسِي، بِكُونِي أَوْفَرَ مِنْهُمْ غَيْرَةً عَلَى تَقْلِيدَاتِ آبَائِي. فَلَمَّا ارْتَضَى اللَّهُ، الَّذِي أَفْرَزَنِي مِنْ جَوْفِ أُمِّي وَدَعَانِي بِنِعْمَتِهِ، أَنْ يُعْلِنَ ابْنَهُ فِيَّ لِابْتِشْرِ بِهِ بَيْنَ الْأُمَمِ، لِسَاعَتِي، لَمْ أَصْغِ إِلَى لَحْمٍ وَدَمٍ. وَلَا صَعِدْتُ إِلَى أُورُشَلِيمَ إِلَى الرُّسُلِ الَّذِينَ قَبْلِي، بَلْ انْطَلَقْتُ إِلَى دِيَارِ الْعَرَبِ، وَبَعْدَ ذَلِكَ رَجَعْتُ إِلَى دِمَشْقَ. ثُمَّ إِنِّي بَعْدَ ثَلَاثِ سِنِينَ، صَعِدْتُ إِلَى أُورُشَلِيمَ لِأَزُورَ بَطْرُسَ، فَأَقَمْتُ عِنْدَهُ خَمْسَةَ عَشَرَ يَوْمًا. وَلَمْ أَرَ غَيْرَهُ مِنَ الرُّسُلِ سِوَى يَعْقُوبَ أَخِي الرَّبِّ

GOSPEL FOR THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY

The Reading from the Holy Gospel
according to Saint Matthew (2:13-23)

When the wise men had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the Child, to destroy Him." And he rose and took the Child and His mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called My Son." Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region, who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more." But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the Child's life are dead." And he rose and took the Child and His mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفًا مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ مَتَّى

الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ (2:13-23)

لَمَّا أَنْصَرَفَ الْمَجُوسُ، إِذَا بِمَلَاكِ الرَّبِّ ظَهَرَ لِيُوسُفَ فِي الْحُلْمِ، قَائِلًا: قُمْ فَخُذِ الصَّبِيَّ وَأُمَّهُ وَاهْرُبْ إِلَى مِصْرَ، وَكُنْ هُنَاكَ حَتَّى أَقُولَ لَكَ. فَإِنَّ هِيرُودُسَ مُزْمِعٌ أَنْ يَطْلُبَ الصَّبِيَّ لِيُهْلِكَهُ. فَقَامَ وَأَخَذَ الصَّبِيَّ وَأُمَّهُ لَيْلًا، وَأَنْصَرَفَ إِلَى مِصْرَ. وَكَانَ هُنَاكَ إِلَى وَفَاةِ هِيرُودُسَ، لِيَتِمَّ الْمَقُولُ مِنَ الرَّبِّ بِالذَّبِيِّ الْقَائِلِ: مِنْ مِصْرَ دَعَوْتُ ابْنِي. حِينَئِذٍ، لَمَّا رَأَى هِيرُودُسُ أَنَّ الْمَجُوسَ سَخَرُوا بِهِ، غَضِبَ جَدًّا، وَأَرْسَلَ فَقَتَلَ كُلَّ صِبْيَانِ بَيْتِ لَحْمٍ وَجَمِيعِ ثُخُومِهَا، مِنْ ابْنِ سَنَتَيْنِ فَمَا دُونَ، عَلَى حَسَبِ الزَّمَانِ الَّذِي تَحَقَّقَهُ مِنَ الْمَجُوسِ. حِينَئِذٍ، تَمَّ مَا قَالَهُ إِرْمِيَاءُ النَّبِيِّ الْقَائِلُ: صَوْتُ سُمِعَ فِي الرَّامَةِ، نَوْحٌ وَبُكَاءٌ وَعَوِيلٌ كَثِيرٌ، رَا حَيْلُ تَبْكِي عَلَى أَوْلَادِهَا، وَقَدْ أَبَتْ أَنْ تَتَعَزَّى لِأَنَّهُمْ لَيْسُوا بِمَوْجُودِينَ. فَلَمَّا مَاتَ هِيرُودُسُ، إِذَا بِمَلَاكِ الرَّبِّ ظَهَرَ لِيُوسُفَ فِي الْحُلْمِ فِي مِصْرَ، قَائِلًا: قُمْ فَخُذِ الصَّبِيَّ وَأُمَّهُ وَاهْزُبْ إِلَى أَرْضِ إِسْرَائِيلَ، فَقَدْ مَاتَ طَالِبُو نَفْسِ الصَّبِيِّ. فَقَامَ وَأَخَذَ الصَّبِيَّ وَأُمَّهُ وَجَاءَ إِلَى أَرْضِ إِسْرَائِيلَ. وَلَمَّا سَمِعَ أَنَّ أَرْخِيلاؤُسَ قَدْ مَلَكَ عَلَى الْيَهُودِيَّةِ مَكَانَ هِيرُودُسَ أَبِيهِ، خَافَ أَنْ يَذْهَبَ إِلَى هُنَاكَ، وَأُوجِيَ إِلَيْهِ فِي الْحُلْمِ، فَانْصَرَفَ إِلَى نَوَاحِي الْجَلِيلِ. وَأَتَى وَسَكَنَ فِي مَدِينَةٍ تُدْعَى نَاصِرَةَ، لِيَتِمَّ الْمَقُولُ بِالْأَنْبِيَاءِ: إِنَّهُ يُدْعَى نَاصِرِيًّا

Holy Bread Offered By:



Today – Nabeel and Bulin
Eseed and Family

– Azzam and Norma Barhoumeh
and Family

– Elias and Raida Abuizzam and
Family

Jan 5 – The Zayed Family

– Salim and Rania Najjar and
Family

Jan 12 – Dina Saba and children and
their Families

– Taoufik and Diala Moaqad and
Family

– Nuha Lussi and Family

Jan 19 – The Sousan Family

Jan 26 – Dr. Milad and Mai
Saad and Family



SCAN ME

Coffee Hour Sponsors:



Dec 29 – Naheel, Norma, and

Mina Rantisi

Jan 5 – Salim and Rania Najjar and
Family

Jan 12 – Nuha Lussi and Family

Jan 19 – *OPEN*

Jan 26 – *OPEN*



SCAN ME

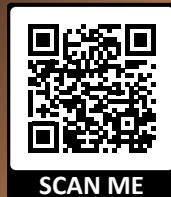
CONDOLENCES

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

Majdi and Arwa Rayahin on the falling asleep of Arwa's sister, †**ABLA HADDAD RIHANI**, in Jordan, this past week.

Memory Eternal!

YAF BREAKFAST OR COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP SPONSORS



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TODAY – ANONYMOUS

↳ Jan 5 – *OPEN*

Donate to
Your Church
Today



SCAN ME



Are you offering **CHURCH BREAD** and
need **NAMES REMEMBERED** in the Liturgy?
Sign-Up online with the names by **TUESDAY** of that week
www.StGeorgeChi.org/holy-bread or scan QR-Code



SCAN ME

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER IS THE ORDER OF SAINT IGNATIUS MONTH

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Today | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-Communion Prayers 9:00 am Orthros (Matins) followed by Great Doxology and Divine Liturgy 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal 9:15 am Coffee Hour After Liturgy Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) Breakfast and Spiritual Discussion After Liturgy Antiochian Women (AW) Spiritual Committee Meeting 12:30 pm |
| Mon, Dec 30 | Teen SOYO Christmas Retreat 9:00 am |
| Tue, Dec 31 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-Communion Prayers 6:45 pm Evening Divine Liturgy for Feast of Circumcision of the Lord and Feast of Saint Basil 7:00 pm New Year's Eve Family Celebration hosted by the Antiochian Family Ministry (AFM) After Liturgy |
| Wed, Jan 1 | OFFICE CLOSED FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY |
| Fri, Jan 3 | Golf Outing Committee Zoom Meeting 6:00 pm |
| Sat, Jan 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Great Vespers Service 5:00 pm Antiochian Women (AW) Epiphany Dinner (<i>see pg. 21</i>) 6:30 pm |
| Sun, Jan 5 | <p>THE FEAST OF EPIPHANY (<i>see pg. 34</i>) 9:00 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-Communion Prayers 9:15 am Orthros (Matins) followed by Great Doxology and Divine Liturgy 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal After Communion Sunday School Classes After Communion God's Little Lights Ministry (3- and 4-year-olds) (<i>see pg. 11</i>) After Liturgy Great Blessing of the Waters After Liturgy Coffee Hour After Liturgy Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) Coffee and Fellowship |
| Mon, Jan 6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AC2025 Civic and Media Protocol Committee Meeting 9:00 am AC2025 "The Five" Meeting 6:00 pm |
| Wed, Jan 8 | Sunday School Teachers' Zoom Training 8:00 pm |
| Thu, Jan 9 | Parish Council Officers' Zoom Meeting 6:00 pm |
| Fri, Jan 10 | AC20205 Team Leaders' Meeting 7:00 pm |
| Sat, Jan 11 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Great Vespers Service 5:00 pm Teen SOYO Feed My Starving Children (<i>see pg. 18</i>) 6:45 pm |

MEMORIALS

Today 40-Day Memorial Service for †AIDA ABUIZZAM, offered by Elias and Raida Abuizzam and family.

MEMORIALS

Jan 5

- 40-Day Memorial Service for †MAZIN GEORGE ZAYED, offered by the Zayed family.
- 1-Year Memorial Service for †MIKEL AL NIMRI, offered by Salim and Rania Najjar and family.



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!



NEW CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ON SUNDAYS

Immediately after Communion, the new children's ministry, "**GOD'S LITTLE LIGHTS**", will take place in the cry room (*2nd floor by elevator*) every Sunday.

This new ministry will serve all **3-YEAR-OLDS** and **4-YEAR-OLDS** (*born after September 1, 2020*). At least one parent, father and mother, must attend along with their children. Younger siblings are welcome with the parents.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

to

**Sanaa Jdaidany and The Beautification
Committee**

for Decorating the Christmas Tree
and to

Omar and Lillian Rihani and Family

for sponsoring the Poinsettias
and to

Fares Bannourah and the Property Management Committee

for helping to prepare the building for the season.

May God Grant them Many Years!



*Thank
you*



A SPECIAL THANK YOU to

**Dr. JOHNNY and Dr. VERA Kuttab and Family
and**

TEMPERATURE ONE HEATING AND COOLING

for sponsoring the 2025
Church Calendar.

**May God Grant them
Many Years!**





Teen SOYO

Offers a most sincere

Thank You

to all who participated in the
2024 Christmas Card Fundraiser!

The following names were received after the Christmas Card went to print and, thus, unfortunately missing from the printed Christmas Card:

✦ *For the Good Health of...*

Wail Fakhoury and Family

Hon. and Mrs. William J. Haddad

Saba and Nabila Isa and Family

✦ *In Memory of...*

Raja, Carol, and Roger Moukheiber



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church كنيسة القديس جارجيوس 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 Sunday, January 19, 2025, following the Divine Liturgy. The agenda is enclosed on the reverse side of this letter.

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, no nominations will be accepted from the floor during the Annual General Assembly Meeting. 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. There can be no exception to this rule.

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)



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

2025 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE BEGINS TODAY!

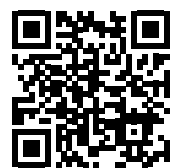


YOU BELONG ON THE **TREE OF LIFE**

"Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." - Matthew 6:21

لَأَنَّهُ حَيْثُ يَكُونُ كَنْزُكُمْ هُنَاكَ يَكُونُ قَلْبُكُمْ أَيْضًا. (مَتَّى 6:21)

**PICK UP A
MEMBERSHIP BROCHURE
IN THE CHURCH HALL TODAY!**



SCAN ME



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Curriculum Update

Nativity of the Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ

Sunday School took a little detour from our curriculum to learn that the Nativity of the Lord is the fulfillment of many prophecies from the Old Testament and the beginning of salvation. A prophet is someone chosen by God to share His message. Our salvation is something God has been planning for a very long time. Christmas, and what follows, lies deep in the Old Testament. The following are three of the Old Testament prophets and what they foretold about the Messiah, which means the anointed one.

Isaiah was one of God's prophets for about 60 years. He is called The Messianic Prophet because he foretold many things about the coming of the Messiah, Jesus, the Christ. God sent Isaiah to give the people these hints and clues so they would recognize Jesus when He came to earth. Read: Isaiah 7:14, 9:7, 53, 35:5-6

Jeremiah lived in and around Jerusalem where he prophesied for about 40 years until God destroyed the nation of Israel because of their wickedness. He is sometimes called the Weeping Prophet because of his sorrow over the sins of the people. Read: Jeremiah 23:5-6, 31:31

Micah, lived in the country unlike Jeremiah and Isaiah. He prophesied of the birthplace of Christ: "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting." (Micah 5:2)



Calendar UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|--------------|
| No Sunday School Classes | ----- | Sun Dec 29 |
| Sunday School Classes Resume | ----- | Sun Jan 5 |
| AV CAMP REGISTRATION @ 4:00 PM | ----- | SUN JAN 5 |
| Sunday School Teachers' Zoom Training | ----- | Wed Jan 8 |

CREATING MEMORIES

smile!



Meet the Staff

TANYA HINNAWI

OCCUPATION: Service Manager for BMO

GRADE YOU TEACH: Snack Coordinator

NUMBER OF YEARS TEACHING SS: 2 years

HOBBIES: Reading.

FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE: *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son. that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."...John 3:16*



MARWA BECHARA

Meet the Staff

OCCUPATION: Stay-at-Home Mom

GRADE YOU TEACH: 2nd Vice Principal and Extracurricular Coordinator

NUMBER OF YEARS TEACHING SS: 3 years

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO TEACH SS: Teaching children about God's love for them.

HOBBIES: Reading and Gardening.

FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE: *"Let everything take second place to our care of our children, our bringing them up to the discipline and instruction of the Lord."...Saint John Chrysostom*



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL



Teen SOYO

with **GLORY Club** and **JOY Club**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 2025

6:45 PM - 9:00 PM



740 WILEY FARM COURT, SCHAUMBURG, IL 60173

Join **TEEN SOYO, JOY CLUB,** and **GLORY CLUB**
for an evening of helping others in need!
ALL 5 YEARS AND OLDER ARE WELCOME!

"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."

~ Proverbs 11:25

PLEASE SCAN QR-CODE OR SIGN-UP AT
WWW.FMSC.ORG/JOIN-GROUP?JOINCODE=4L921K



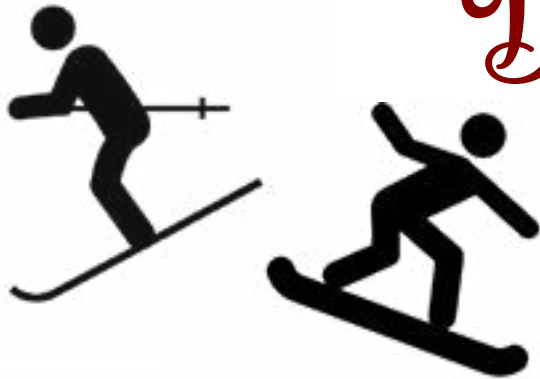
SCAN ME



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

Young Adult Fellowship (YAF)

Skiing/Snowboarding Day Trip



Sat, Jan 18
11:00 AM

ALPINE VALLEY RESORT • ELKHORN, WI

\$130/person

INCLUDES LIFT TICKETS,
EQUIPMENT RENTAL,
HELMET, DINNER

RSVP BY
WED | JAN 1



SCAN ME

INVITING ALL
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS, YOUNG MARRIED COUPLES,
AND COLLEGE STUDENTS (AGES 18+)

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL



GLORY CLUB

G.O.D'S L.OVING O.BEDIENT R.ESPECTFUL Y.OUTH

LAUNCH EVENT!

SAT | FEB 1 @ 6:00 - 8:00 PM

**EVENING PRAYERS,
DINNER, AND PROGRAM**

EVENT ADMISSION

EACH CHILD BRING A

>> NEW BLANKET <<

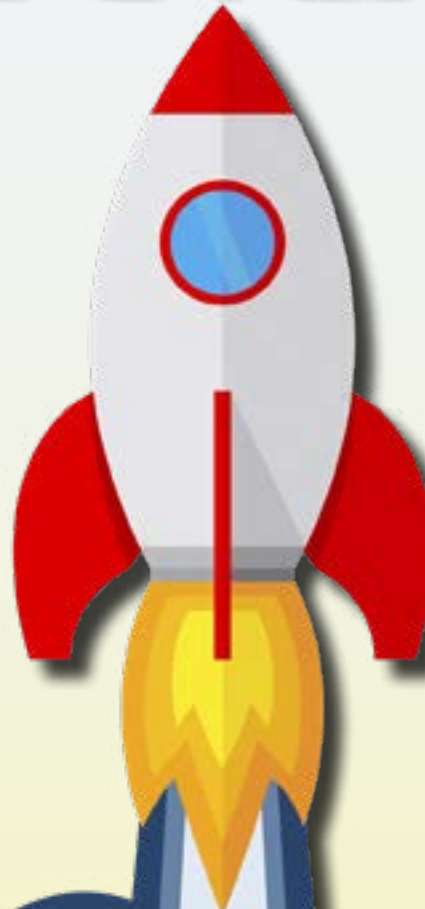
TO DONATE TO THE HOMELESS

RSVP BY
SAT, JAN 25



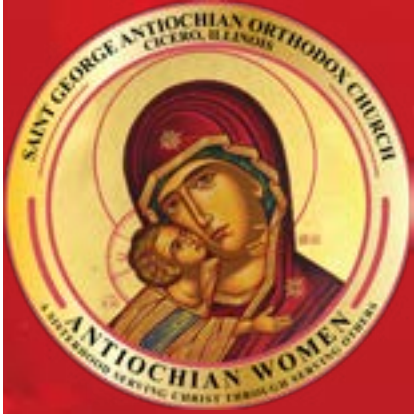
SCAN ME

PARENTS ENCOURAGED
TO STAY, DINNER WILL BE
PROVIDED SEPARATELY.



**INVITING
ALL KIDS (AGES 5-8)**
must be 5 years old by February 1, 2025

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

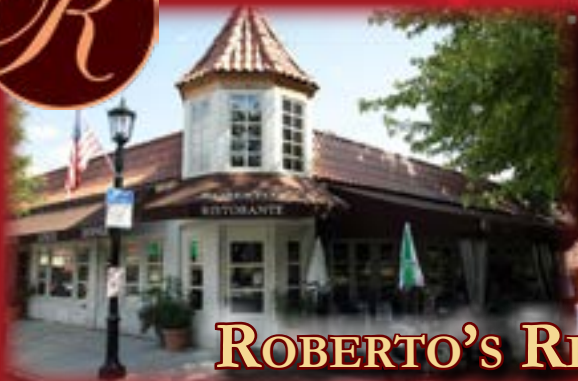


ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

EPIPHANY DINNER

DINNER
AND
GAMES

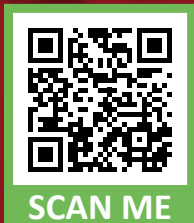
Saturday, January 4, 2025
6:00 PM



ROBERTO'S RESTAURANT AND PIZZERIA
483 SPRING RD, ELMHURST, IL 60126



\$55 PER PERSON



SCAN ME

- *Space is Limited*
- *Register by Sunday, December 29th*

All Women 18+ Welcome!

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

Antiochian Men (A-MEN) Shawerma and Cards Night



**Saturday
January 18, 2025
5:00 PM**

**IN THE
CHURCH
HALL**

**VESPERS
DINNER
GAMES**



**\$25/
GENTLEMAN**

**RSVP by
Wednesday
January 15**



ALL Gentlemen 18+ Invited

Couples' Retreat

Saturday, January 25 | 5:00 pm

Vespers ~ Dinner with Wine ~ Retreat

\$50/Couple



Inviting Courting, Engaged,
and all Married Couples!



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL



We
help!

Over the past **3** years,
**THE ORDER OF SAINT IGNATIUS –
CICERO CHAPTER**

has provided over **\$110,000** in
support of our ministries –
*The Order Grant, Education Scholarship
and Camp Scholarship.*

We *helped families* with bills, car
repairs, medical bills, rent and other living
expenses totaling **\$73,859!**

We supported *thirty* campers with
scholarships totaling **\$25,602!**

We awarded *Educational
Scholarships* totaling **\$9,481!**

Providing assistance to our community
could not happen without **YOUR**
generous donations!

To donate please use:



SCAN ME

Faith

Love

Gratitude

Leadership

Outreach

Our Guiding Principle...

Let no man's place, or dignity, or riches,
puff him up; and let no man's low
condition or poverty abase him. For
the chief points are faith towards God,
hope towards Christ, the enjoyment
of those good things for which we
look, and love towards God and our
neighbor.

– Saint Ignatius of Antioch



The Order of Saint Ignatius of Antioch

December 15, 2024

Christ is in our Midst!

During this Advent period of our Orthodox Faith, we are called to focus on our words, deeds, and thoughts. On behalf of the Order of Saint Ignatius of Antioch, we thank you for your selfless act in support of the Order's ministry. Your unconditional gift affects the lives of countless people within our Orthodox Faith, our Antiochian Orthodox community and beyond. Your gift creates a life-changing ripple effect that is immeasurable in its impact on individuals and families you will never come to know personally. Thank you and God bless you.

For almost 50 years, you, and those before you made a conscious decision to put the needs of others before your own. Your gift is not simply a donation deposited and forgotten. It is so much more than a check written or a charge on your credit card. It is an act of Faith in support of a life-changing ministry. Your gift ...

- Provides reassurance to our clergy during their golden years and expresses gratitude toward our beloved them for their years as our guide, comforter and welcomed friend during our times of sorrow, uncertainty and joy through the funding of the **Retired Clergy Fund**.
- Helps plant seeds of Orthodoxy, the True Faith, throughout North America through the support of the **Department of Missions and Evangelism**.
- Helps provide loving care, reassurance and comfort to children without families and parents. Letting those children know that someone they may never come to know, cares enough to help provide the basic needs we may take for granted in our everyday lives through support of organizations like **Project Mexico**.
- Educates our children in the Faith and strengthens their resolve in their Faith as they prepare themselves to become the future leaders of our parishes and Archdiocese through **Youth Ministry, Summer Camp Scholarships, SOYO Leadership & Youth Worker Training, Christian Education and College Conference**.
- Does so much more than provide summer camp scholarships for children that would otherwise not be able to attend camp due to financial reasons. It also provides knowledge, relationships and memories created in God-filled environments that are the essential tools to help our children overcome the challenges and deceptions in this world that will test their Orthodox Christian beliefs.

Even more, through the generosity of our many Governing Council volunteers who give of their time, talents, and treasure, we are thankful to share that over **91%** of total annual revenue reaches the departments, projects and grant requests the Order of Saint Ignatius supports. This is only possible through the generosity of the Order's Governing Council members who cover all their own travel, lodging and various event sponsorships personally.

So, as you contemplate your support of the Order over the years or consider becoming a part of The Order's ministry for the first time, we leave you with what we believe should be in your heart. These words are what guide our work as a Governing Council and come from the teachings of St. Ignatius himself ...

"Let no man's place, or dignity, or riches, puff him up; and let no man's low condition or poverty abase him. For the chief points are faith towards God, hope towards Christ, the enjoyment of those good things for which we look, and love towards God and our neighbor."

In His service,

Roger J. David
North American Chairperson
The Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch

Gratitude

The Order of St. Ignatius Supports

The Retired Clergy Allowance

... you help give comfort and financial assurance to our retired clergy and their families. You express your gratitude to your beloved priest, faithful counselor and comforting friend who's been with you during your times of need, joy and sorrow.

We Need Your Help To Do More ...

We are thankful for the unconditional gifts from the members of the Order of Saint Ignatius of Antioch for over 48 years. Since the **Order's inception in 1976**, Order members have provided almost \$50 million in annual and one-time gifts to support the essential departments, projects and charitable gifts of the Antiochian Archdiocese. We want to do more. As our Archdiocese has grown exponentially since 1976, so have the needs of the Archdiocese and its people. We need your help to increase the Order's current \$270,000 annual contribution toward The Retired Clergy Allowance for our retired clergy and their wives. It is essential to expand our programs for the youth to strengthen their Faith in this secular world. Our future youth programs will require more than the current estimated \$380,000 annual budgeted amount. These are only two of the major annual needs of the Archdiocese that depend on your support as a member of the Order. See how you may help us do more.

\$500 or \$1,000 in 2024 just
Doesn't Go As Far As It Did in 1976

It takes
\$1,636 today
to maintain
the purchasing power of
\$500 in 1976

It takes
\$3,271 today
to maintain
the purchasing power of
\$1,000 in 1976

NOTE: Calculations are based on a 2.5% inflation rate over a 48 year period and are for illustrative purposes only.



The Order of
Saint Ignatius
of Antioch

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- Saint Ignatius of Antioch

Annual Gift Increase

Increase your gift of
\$500/yr. or \$41.67/mth
as a Knight or Dame
to
\$1,000/yr. or \$83.33/mth
as a Knight or Dame Commander

Life & Metropolitan Upgrade

The Order of St. Ignatius Loyalty Program

You can upgrade to Life Member or
Metropolitan Member for a gift of
\$10,000 or \$20,000
paid over a 2-year or 3-year period.
See reverse side for details and requirements

How You Can Support the Ministry

The Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch



We are not merely to call ourselves Christians;
we are asked to be Christians through our deeds.
- Saint Ignatius of Antioch

Your Unconditional Gift Changes People's Lives

Knight & Dame

- \$500 Annually
- \$41.67 Monthly
- \$1.37 Daily

Junior Knight & Dame

Ages 18-26 Only

- \$300 Annually
- \$25 Monthly
- \$0.82 Daily
- At age 27, converts to Knight or Dame at \$500 Annually

Knight Commander Dame Commander

- \$1,000 Annually
- \$83.33 Monthly
- \$2.73 Daily

Life

- \$15,000 Total Gift
- 100% Lump Sum or \$5,000 Over 3 Consecutive Years
- Life Upgrade*

Metropolitan

- \$30,000 Total Gift
- 100% Lump Sum or \$10,000 Over 3 Consecutive Years
- Metropolitan Upgrade**

Life and Metropolitan gifts are invested in an endowment and only the earnings are spent each year making it a gift that will live on into perpetuity.

***Life Upgrade:** The Order of St. Ignatius Loyalty Program: Any Knight/Dame, who has been a member for more than 10 years (active/good Standing members); or any Commander, who has been a member for more than 5 years (active/good Standing members) can upgrade to Life Member for \$10,000 paid over a two-year period.

****Metropolitan Upgrade:** The Order of St. Ignatius Loyalty Program: Any Knight/Dame, who has been a member for at least 10 years (active/good Standing members); or any Knight/Dame Commander, who has been a member for at least 5 years (active/good Standing members) can upgrade to Metropolitan level for \$20,000 paid over a three-year period. Life members who have fulfilled their initial Life member gift may upgrade to the Metropolitan level for \$10,000 paid over a 2-year period.



The Order of
Saint Ignatius
of Antioch

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- Saint Ignatius of Antioch



Antiochian
Village

Pennsylvania



Sessions SELL OUT in 15 MINUTES!



Registration
Opens
Sun | Jan 5



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

REGISTER HERE



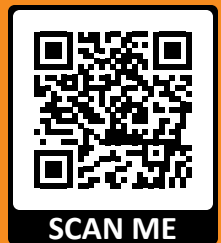
Camp St. George
I-O-W-A

June 29-July 5, 2025

Summer
Camp



Registration Opens
Sunday,
February 2!



NO CAMPER LEFT BEHIND!



In 2024,
26 CAMPERS
from Saint George Church
attended Camp!

Antiochian Village PA = 17
Camp 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!



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

...coming in Spring 2025

2024 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

YOU BELONG



ON THE
**TREE OF
LIFE**



"Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." - Matthew 6:21

لَأَنَّه حَيْثُ يَكُونُ كَنْزُكُمْ هُنَاكَ يَكُونُ قَلْبُكُمْ أَيْضًا. (متى 6:21)

Stewardship is an annual and prayerful commitment to the Church. The following list, in alphabetical order, are those individuals or households who have completed their 2024 Membership Registration and Commitment to Saint George Church, Cicero, as of November 26, 2024. This list does not reflect all who are giving or eligible to be a voting member.

This is an ongoing campaign, if you would still like to commit for the 2024 year, kindly complete your Membership registration online by Sunday, December 22, 2024. Re-enrollment and new member registration for 2025 will be coming out following the Christmas Season. If you have any questions, please reach out to the Membership Committee via email Membership@StGeorgeChi.org.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Fr. Fouad and Kh. Diana Saba | Fares Bannourah | Majed and Dima Dalloul |
| Fr. Gabriel and Kh. Amelia Coronel | Issa and Hanadi Bannourah | Hazem Dawani |
| Dn. George Nassief | Jack and Sawsan Baqleh | Christopher and Jessica Dedow |
| Gloria Abboud | Steven and Julia Baqleh | Kamel and Afaf Egal |
| Michael and Jennifer Abdo | Ibrahim and Norma Barbari | Sali Esber |
| Roger and Aline Abdo | Khalil and Mary Barbari | Maher and Jennifer Eseed |
| Matthew and Georgina Ablan | Michael and Sandra Barbari | Nabeel and Bulin Eseed |
| Elias and Raida Abuelizam | Nick and Brittany Barbari | Najeeb and Sandy Eseed |
| Elias and Maggie Akkari | Azzam and Norma Barhoumeh | Nicola and Angela Eseed |
| Yaacoub and Antoinette Akkari | Edward and Noura Barhoumeh | Dr. Anton and Lena Fakhouri |
| Dr. George and Samar Alamir | George and Hiba Barhoumeh | Gus Fakhouri |
| Adel and Sheilia Alfakhori | Joseph and Rosel Barhoumeh | Hani and Randa Fakhouri |
| Suleiman and Caroline Alhabash | Dr. Carlos and Marwa Bechara | Mary Fakhouri |
| William Allan | Jalal and Manal Bitar | Robby Fakhouri |
| Sdn. Raymond and Dr. Rachel Antypas | Omar and Enas Bitar | Suhail and Jomana Fakhouri |
| Johnny and Christina Araj | Samir and Samar Bitar | Suleiman and Ahlam Fakhouri |
| Dr. Lillian Armoush | Mazen and Victorita Bittar | Dr. Nader and Cindy Fakhoury |
| Maher and Abeer Asfour | Drs. Dany and Manal Ibrahim Boulos | Salvador and Rema Farias |
| Basri and Sibel Aygul | Ehab and Faten Butros | Mike and Dena Fasheh |
| Nuha Ayoub | Sdn. Steven and Linda Bynum | George Fashho |
| Hussam and Dr. Rand Bachour | Alfonso Campos | Patrick Fay |
| Dr. Marwan and Sausan Baghdan | George and Donna Conopeotis | Kathy Faycurry |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Shehada and Rana Fino | Ibrahim and Claudette Kuttab | Fadi and Diana Rihani |
| Richard and Christina Georgios | Drs. Johnny and Vera Kuttab | Hani and Samar Rihani |
| Nina Ghanayem | Michael and Sue Lagattolla | Hazem and Nareman Rihani |
| Julio and Nyssa Gomez | Jeffrey and Lamia Landers | Joseph and Mais Rihani |
| Ibrahim and Shereen Habash | Joseph and Diana Layous | Kamal and Etihad Rihani |
| Jeanette Habash | Trevor and Jaime Lenhart | Omar and Lillian Rihani |
| Mark Habash | Dennis and Constance Luisi | Sdn. Mazen and Souzan Rihani |
| Nicola and Mary Habash | Nuha Lussi | James and Anoulla Ryan |
| Darlene Haddad | Elias and Elaine Makdah | Bechara and Nengagran Saad |
| Yasmin Haddad | Anthony and Gina Massih | Bassam and Alice Saba |
| Sophia Hani | Johnny and Renata Massih | Michael and Mariam Saba |
| Hanna and Tanya Hinnawi | Ryan McMahon | Mousa and Amal Saba |
| Rosalie Hoffman | Dimitrios and Betty Mestousis | Sameer and Mariana Saba |
| Joseph and Dr. Nicole Homsy | Akhilesh and Jessica Mishra | Steve and Reem Saba |
| Mary Homsy | Anees Mitri | Peter and Susan Sakleh |
| Nathaniel Humphrey | Taoufik and Diala Moaqad | Norma Samaan |
| Tony and Muna Husary | Anthony Montesinos | Adib and Evelyn Shaheen |
| Victor and Jackie Imreibe | Michael and Diane Moukheiber | Johny and Rasha Sisan |
| Sami and Ruba Imsaih | Elias Moussi | Marc and Maha Swanson |
| Abdo and Suhaila Imseeh | Dr. Daniel and Amanda Mseih | Ryan and Natalie Sweiss |
| Ala and Faten Imseeh | Fady Mourice and Jenna Mseih | George Talhami |
| Francis and Amal Imseih | Mourice and Hanan Mseih | Dr. Peter and Rosana Thompson |
| Sami and Amanda Imseih | Sami and Abby Mseih | John Ulrey |
| Ghassan and Nevin Iqal | Albeir and Roula Mufarreh | Hayze and Tracy Webster |
| Odeh and Raja Iqal | Michael and Ida Mufarreh | Leonard and Nadine Youel |
| Crystal Isaac | Nuha Mufarreh | Abeer Zanayed |
| Peter and Amani Isaid | Salim and Rania Najjar | Jerry and Emily Zanayed |
| Samaan and Myra Issa | Dr. Sammy and Karen Nawas | Mazen and Juwana Zanayed |
| Dana Jabaji | Yousef and Rima Nimry | Rammy Zanayed |
| Marwan and Anna Jamalieh | Reem Pashan | Ronnie Zanayed |
| Daoud and Hania Kahoush | Victor and Marlene Perez | Samer and Joanna Zanayed |
| Jeries and Kathy Kahoush | Mark and Mary Petrelli | Bryan and Dena Zarou |
| Anthony and Dr. Huda Kandah | Rajaei and Amber Qubrosi | Hanna and Tamara Zayed |
| Dr. Walid and Randa Kandah | Suhail and Dima Qumri | Sdn. Nasser and Alice Zayed |
| Chadi and Olga Karam | Khader and Fadwa Rantisi | Nick Zayed |
| Sam and Tammi Karam | Mina Rantisi | Samir and Lena Zayed |
| David and Abeer Kari | Naheel Rantisi | Sumayya Zayed |
| Sdn. Mazen and Amal Khalifeh | Abraham and Lubna Rayan | Yacoub and Rozette Zayed |
| Sonhero and Amanda Khoshaba | Fairouz Rayan | Yousef and Mary Zayed |
| Fadel Khoury | Mansour and Wafa Rayan | Joe and Laureen |
| Joanna Khoury | Michael and Mariana Rayan | Zureikat |
| Kareem and Dina Khoury | John and Lama Rayyan | |
| Nancy Khoury | Amir Rihani | |



CHICAGO 57TH BIENNIAL
2025 *Antiochian*
 O R T H O D O X
 ARCHDIOCESE CONVENTION



“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

Cicero, IL



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!



AC2025Chicago.org

Host Parish
 Saint George
 Antiochian
 Orthodox Church

**STAY CONNECTED WITH THE
2025 ARCHDIOCESE CONVENTION'S SOCIAL MEDIA FOR THE
LATEST UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS!**

FOLLOW US

@ac2025chi



FOLLOW & LIKE

2025 Antiochian
Archdiocese Convention



SUBSCRIBE

@ac2025chi



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL



Celebrate the Epiphany (Baptism) of

THE LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

with your

Saint George Church Family!

احتفالات عيد الغطاس

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025

**PRE-COMMUNION PRAYERS | 9:00 AM • ORTHROS/MATINS | 9:15 AM
GREAT DOXOLOGY AND DIVINE LITURGY | 10:20 AM
FOLLOWED BY THE BLESSING OF THE WATERS**

FEAST OF THE 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.





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.

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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.





“THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS”

December 25th – January 5th

~ Original Meaning ~

True Love = God

Me = every baptized person

Partridge = Jesus Christ, who, like a bird, will protect God’s defenseless children.

Pear Tree = the Cross, which was made from a tree.

2 Turtle Doves = the Old and New Testaments; also, two turtle doves were sacrificed when Jesus was first brought to the temple.

3 French Hens = faith, hope, and charity (sacrificial giving); also, gold, frankincense, and myrrh from the Wise Men.

4 Calling Birds = the four Gospels and/or the four Evangelists.

5 Golden Rings = the first five books of the Old Testament (the Pentateuch) which gives the history of man’s fall from grace.

6 Geese a-Laying = the six days of creation.

7 Swans a-Swimming = the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit (Romans 12:6-8); also, the seven sacraments.

8 Maids a-Milking = the eight Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-10); also, milking symbolizes Christ’s love for us.

9 Ladies Dancing = the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23).

10 Lords a-Leaping = the Ten Commandments.

11 Pipers Piping = the eleven faithful Apostles.

12 Drummers Drumming = the twelve points of the Apostles Creed; also, the twelve Apostles preaching.