



# WEEKLY BULLETIN

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2026

أحد الفريسي والعشار

## THE SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE



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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V. Rev. Fr. Gabriel Coronel, *ASSISTANT PRIEST*

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Dn. John Zayed

Dn. Moses Bynum

Sdn. Mazen Khalifeh

Sdn. Raymond Antypas

Sdn. Youssef Selim

Sdn. Mazen Rihani

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Matthew Ablan, *CHANTER*

Faraj Shahrstan, *CHANTER*

Trevor Lenhart, *CHOIR DIRECTOR*

Ryan McMahon, *HEAD USHER*

All Choir Members, Ushers, & Acolytes

## **CHURCH OFFICE:**

Veronica Egan, *OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR*

Samar Rihani, *ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY*

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## **2026 PARISH COUNCIL:**

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HONORARY COUNCIL MEMBER*

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Lillian Rihani, *SUNDAY SCHOOL*

Dena H. Fasheh, *THE ORDER OF SAINT IGNATIUS*

Jeries Kahoush, *ANTIOCHIAN MEN (A-MEN)*

## **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 hast shown forth the light.  
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace,  
good will among men.

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

O Lord King, heavenly God, Father almighty; O  
Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and O  
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, the God of our Fathers,  
and praised and glorified is Thy name forever.  
Amen.

Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we  
have set our hope on thee.

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

Lord, thou hast been our refuge from generation  
to generation. I said: Lord, 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 mercy 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،  
وَعَلَى الأَرْضِ السَّلَامُ، وَفِي النَّاسِ المَسْرَّةُ  
نُسَبِّحُكَ نُبَارِكُكَ، نَسْجُدُ لَكَ نُمَجِّدُكَ، نَشْكُرُكَ مِنْ  
أَجْلِ عَظِيمِ جَلَالِ مَجْدِكَ

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

أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ الإِلَهُ، 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 أُبَارِكُكَ، وَأَسْبِّحُ اسْمَكَ إِلَى الأَبَدِ،  
وَالى أَبَدِ الأَبَدِ

أَهْلُنَا يَا رَبُّ أَنْ نُحْفَظَ فِي هَذَا اليَوْمِ بِغَيْرِ خَطِيئَةٍ.  
مُبَارَكَ أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ إِلَهَ آبَائِنَا، وَمُسَبِّحٌ وَمُمَجَّدٌ  
اسْمُكَ إِلَى الأَبَدِ، آمِينَ

لِتَكُنْ يَا رَبُّ رَحْمَتُكَ عَلَيْنَا، كَمَا تَكُنْ عَلَيْنَا.  
مُبَارَكَ أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ عَلَّمْنِي 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 فَعَلَّمْنِي أَنْ أَعْمَلَ رِضَاكَ،  
لَأَنَّكَ أَنْتَ هُوَ إِلَهِي

لَأَنَّ مِنْ قِبَلِكَ عَيْنَ الحَيَاةِ، وَبِنُورِكَ نَعَايِنُ النُّورَ.  
فَابْسُطْ رَحْمَتَكَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ يَعْرِفُونَكَ.

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

المَجْدُ لِلأَبِّ وَالإِبْنِ وَالرُّوحِ القُدُّوسِ.

الآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ، آمِينَ.  
قُدُّوسُ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ ارْحَمْنَا.

قُدُّوسُ اللهُ، قُدُّوسُ القَوِيِّ، قُدُّوسُ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ  
ارْحَمْنَا

# TODAY'S LITURGY INSERTS

## RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION (TONE 1)

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

إِنَّ الْحَجَرَ لَمَّا خُتِمَ مِنَ الْيَهُودِ، وَجَسَدَكَ الطَّاهِرَ حُفِظَ  
مِنَ الْجُنْدِ، قُمْتَ فِي الْيَوْمِ الثَّالِثِ أَيُّهَا الْمُخَلِّصُ، مَانِحاً  
العَالَمَ الْحَيَاةَ. لِذَلِكَ قُوَّاتُ السَّمَاوَاتِ، هَتَفُوا إِلَيْكَ يَا  
وَاهِبَ الْحَيَاةَ: الْمَجْدُ لِقِيَامَتِكَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ، الْمَجْدُ  
لِمُلْكِكَ، الْمَجْدُ لِتَدْبِيرِكَ، يَا مُحِبَّ الْبَشَرِ وَحَدِّكَ.

## 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 وَإِلَهِنَا. خَلِّصْنَا يَا  
ابْنَ اللَّهِ، يَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، لِنُرْتِّلَ لَكَ. هَلِّلُوبِيَا

## RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION (TONE 1)

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وَاهِبَ الْحَيَاةَ: الْمَجْدُ لِقِيَامَتِكَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ، الْمَجْدُ  
لِمُلْكِكَ، الْمَجْدُ لِتَدْبِيرِكَ، يَا مُحِبَّ الْبَشَرِ وَحَدِّكَ.

## TROPARION OF THE FOREFEAST OF THE PRESENTATION (TONE 1)

The Heavens' choir looked down from the vaults of the Heavens, \* and gazing on the earth, they beheld with amazement \* the First-born of all creation brought forth as a suckling babe \* to the Temple by a pure and virginal mother; \* and with us, they now do sing a hymn for the Forefeast, \* astonished and full of awe.

لَقَدْ أَشْرَفَتِ الْمَصَافَاتُ السَّمَاوِيَّةُ مِنَ الْقَنَاطِرِ  
السَّمَاوِيَّةِ مُتَطَلِّعَةً عَلَى الْأَرْضِ، فَتَظَرَّتْ بِكَرِّ  
كُلِّ الْخَلِيقَةِ تَحْمِلُهُ إِلَى الْهَيْكَلِ طِفْلاً رَضِيعاً  
أُمَّ لَمْ تَعْرِفْ رَجُلاً، فَدَهَشَتْ تُرْتِلُ مَعَنَا لِتَقْدِمَةِ  
العِيدِ تَرْتِيلاً رَهيباً.

## 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.

بِمَا أَنْتَ لِلْمَأْسُورِينَ مُحَرِّرٌ وَمُعْتَقٌ، وَلِلْفُقَرَاءِ  
وَالْمَسَاكِينِ عَاضِدٌ وَنَاصِرٌ وَلِلْمَرْضَى طَبِيبٌ وَشَافٍ  
وَعِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ مُكَافِحٌ وَمُحَارِبٌ أَيُّهَا الْعَظِيمُ فِي  
الشُّهَدَاءِ جَاورِجِيوسُ اللَّابِسُ الظَّفَرِ تَشْفَعُ إِلَى الْمَسِيحِ  
الإلهِ فِي خَلَاصِ نَفُوسِنَا.

## KONTAKION OF THE FOREFEAST OF THE PRESENTATION (TONE 4)

On this day doth Simeon \* receive with gladness  
\* God, the giver of the Law; \* and he doth cry  
to Him in fear: \* Let me depart now, O Master  
Christ, \* for I have seen Thee, the glory of Israel.

اليومَ يَتَقَبَّلُ سَمْعَانُ بِفَرَحٍ الرَّبَّ الْمَعْطِيَّ النَّامُوسَ،  
وَيَصْرُخُ إِلَيْهِ بِخَوْفٍ، أَطْلِقْنِي الْآنَ، أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ  
السَّيِّدَ، لِأَنِّي رَأَيْتُكَ يَا مَجْدَ إِسْرَائِيلَ.

## 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.

إِنِّي أَنَا عَبْدُكَ يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ \* اكْتُبْ لِكَ رَايَاتِ الْغَلْبَةِ يَا  
جَنْدِيَّةَ مُحَامِيَّةَ \* وَأَقْدِمْ لِكَ الشُّكْرَ كَمَا نَفَّذْتَ مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ \*  
لَكِنْ بِمَا أَنَّ لِكَ الْعِزَّةَ الَّتِي لَا تُحَارَبُ \* اعْتَقِنِي مِنْ  
صُنُوفِ الشَّدَائِدِ \* حَتَّى أَصْرُخَ إِلَيْكَ إِفْرَحِي يَا عَرُوسًا  
لَا عَرُوسًا لَهَا.

## EPISTLE READERS

English

Arabic

Sabrina Lagatolla

Today

Sandy Eseed

Lara Bellone d'Altavilla

Feb 8

Hanan Mseih

Sophia Abodeely

Feb 15

Mais Rihani

Hanna Saba

Feb 22

Dr. Manal Ibrahim

## THE SYNAXARION

On February 1st in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Martyr Tryphon of Syria; and Martyr Perpetua of Carthage and her four companions.

On this day, we make remembrance of the Parable of the Pharisee and the Publican, which occurs in the Holy Gospel according to Luke the Evangelist.

*If you resemble the Pharisee, run far away from the Temple;  
For inside is Christ before Whom only the humble are acceptable.*

*O Creator of everything heavenly and earthly, receive Thou from the Angels a Trinitarian song,  
And from us men a noble and reverent Triodion.*

In our Savior's parable, Jesus uses a Pharisee, a leader of the synagogue, who was regarded in public opinion as virtuous; and a publican, a tax collector, who was regarded as oppressive, greedy and a sinner. In their prayers to God, we discover the real hearts of these two men. We thus learn of the harm that comes from pride and the good that comes from humility. The divine Church Fathers sought to alert and prepare the Christ-loving clergy and laity for the upcoming period of the Great Fast. Therefore, on this Sunday we are reminded that humility is the greatest weapon against pride, as we imitate the humility of the publican to ascend to the divine heights.

Through the intercessions of the wonderworking Saints, O Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us. Amen.

*Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us.*

*Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.*

**The Reading from the Second Epistle of**

**Saint Paul to Saint Timothy (3:10-15)**

My son Timothy, you have followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, patience, persecutions, sufferings, what things befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured! And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Indeed all who would live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. But people who are wicked and deceivers will proceed from worse to worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in the things which you have learned and have been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and how from infancy you have known the sacred temple writings which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

لِتَكُنْ يَا رَبُّ رَحْمَتُكَ عَلَيْنَا.

إِبْتَهَجُوا أَيُّهَا الصِّدِّيقُونَ بِالرَّبِّ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولُسَ

الرَّسُولِ الثَّانِيَةِ إِلَى تِيموثَاوَسَ (3:10-15)

يَا وَادِي تِيموثَاوَسَ، إِنَّكَ قَدْ اسْتَقْرَبْتَ تَعْلِيمِي، وَسِيرَتِي، وَقَصْدِي، وَإِيمَانِي، وَأَنَاتِي، وَمَحَبَّتِي، وَصَبْرِي، وَاضْطِهَادَاتِي، وَالْأَمِي، وَمَا أَصَابَنِي فِي إِنْطَاكِيَّةَ وَأَيْقُونِيَّةَ وَلِسْتَرَةَ، وَأَيَّةَ اضْطِهَادَاتٍ اخْتَمَلْتُ، وَقَدْ أَنْقَذَنِي الرَّبُّ مِنْ جَمِيعِهَا. وَجَمِيعِ الَّذِينَ يُرِيدُونَ أَنْ يَعِيشُوا بِالتَّقْوَى فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ يُضْطَهَدُونَ. أَمَّا الْأَشْرَارُ وَالْمُغْوُونَ مِنَ النَّاسِ، فَيَزْدَادُونَ شَرًّا، مُضِلِّينَ وَمُضَلَّلِينَ. فَاسْتَمِرِّي أَنْتِ عَلَى مَا تَعَلَّمْتَهُ وَأَيَّقَنْتِ بِهِ، عَالِمًا مِمَّنْ تَعَلَّمْتِ، وَأَنَّكَ مِنْذُ الطُّفُولِيَّةِ تَعْرِفُ الْكُتُبَ الْمُقَدَّسَةَ الْقَادِرَةَ أَنْ تُصَيِّرَكَ حَكِيمًا لِلْخَلَاصِ بِالْإِيمَانِ بِالْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ

The Reading from the Holy Gospel

according to Saint Luke (18:10-14)

The Lord spoke this parable: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to Heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

فَصَلُّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقِدِّيسِ لَوْقَا

الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ، وَالتَّمْثِيلِ الطَّاهِرِ (18:10-14)

قَالَ الرَّبُّ هَذَا الْمَثَلُ: إِنْسَانَانِ صَعِدَا إِلَى الْهَيْكَلِ لِيُصَلِّيَا، أَحَدُهُمَا فَرِّيسِيٌّ وَالْآخَرُ عَشَّارٌ. فَكَانَ الْفَرِّيسِيُّ وَاقِفًا يُصَلِّي فِي نَفْسِهِ هَكَذَا، “اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَشْكُرُكَ لِأَنِّي لَسْتُ كَسَائِرِ النَّاسِ الْخَطْفَةِ، الظَّالِمِينَ، الْفَاسِقِينَ، وَلَا مِثْلَ هَذَا الْعَشَّارِ. فَإِنِّي أَصُومُ فِي الْأُسْبُوعِ مَرَّتَيْنِ، وَأَعْشِرُ كُلَّ مَا هُوَ لِي.” أَمَّا الْعَشَّارُ فَوَقَفَ عَن بُعْدٍ، وَلَمْ يُرِدْ أَنْ يَرْفَعَ عَيْنَيْهِ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ، بَلْ كَانَ يَقْرَعُ صَدْرَهُ قَائِلًا، “اللَّهُمَّ ارْحَمْنِي أَنَا الْخَاطِيءُ.” أَقُولُ لَكُمْ، إِنَّ هَذَا نَزَلَ إِلَى بَيْتِهِ مُبَرَّرًا دُونَ ذَلِكَ. لِأَنَّ كُلَّ مَنْ رَفَعَ نَفْسَهُ اتَّضَع، وَمَنْ وَضَعَ نَفْسَهُ ارْتَفَعَ

## **Holy Bread Offered By:**

**Today** – Fairouz Rayan and Family

– Issa and Hanadi Bannourah and Family

– Michael and Diana Moukheiber and Family

– Nadia Zanayed and Family

**Feb 8** – Nuha Lussi and Family

**Feb 15** – Reimoon and Jumana Imsaih and Family

– The Duncan and Nasr Families



SCAN ME

## **Coffee Hour Sponsors:**

**Today** – Fairouz Rayan and Family

**Feb 8** – Nuha Lussi and Family

**Feb 15** – *OPEN*

**Feb 22** – *OPEN*

**Mar 1** – *OPEN*



SCAN ME

## **YAF COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP SPONSORS**

**Today** – Sali Esber

↳ **Feb 15** – *OPEN*



SCAN ME

## **CONDOLENCES**

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

- Nadia Zanayed and family on the falling asleep of her sister, †**MARY TUBBEH**, this past week in New Mexico.
- Trevor and Jaime Lenhart and family on the falling asleep of his grandfather, †**LEONARD LENHART**, this past week in Pennsylvania.
- Karla Palafox on the falling asleep of her cousin, †**GUSTAVO RAFAEL**, last week at the age of 16.

**Memory Eternal!**

## **COMMEMORATIONS**

- Today**
- Commemoration for †**MARY TUBBEH**, offered by Nadia Zanayed and family.
  - 3-Year Commemoration for †**RAYAN RAYAN**, offered by Fairouz Rayan and family.

## **CHURCHINGS**

**Today** **ISABELLA**, daughter of Fady and Jenna Mseih.

## **MEMORIALS**

**Today**

- 40-Day Memorial Service for †**SALWA SHOMALI**, offered by Issa and Hanadi Bannourah and family.
- 5-year Memorial Service for †**CAROL MOUKHEIBER**, offered by Michael and Diane Moukheiber and family.

**Feb 8** 1-Year Memorial Service for †**NADIA LUSSI**, offered by Nuha Lussi and family.

**Feb 15**

- 40-Day Memorial Service for †**AMER IMSAIH**, offered by Reimoon and Jumana Imsaih and family.
- 40-Day Memorial Service for †**RANDA NASR DUNCAN**, offered by the Duncan and Nasr families.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>Today</b>	• 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 ( <i>see pg. __</i> )	After Communion
	• God's Little Lights ( <i>see pg. __</i> )	After Communion
	• Induction of 2026 Parish Council	After Liturgy
	• Coffee Hour	After Liturgy
	• Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) Coffee and Fellowship ( <i>see pg. __</i> )	After Liturgy
	• Altar Leadership Meeting	After Liturgy
	• Golf Classic Executive Committee Meeting	12:45 pm
• Teen SOYO Officers' Zoom Meeting	7:00 pm	
<b>Mon, Feb 2</b>	Antiochian Men (A-Men) Officers' Monthly Zoom Meeting	9:00 pm
<b>Tue, Feb 3</b>	West Campus Ministry ( <i>see pg. __</i> )	6:30 pm
<b>Wed, Feb 4</b>	Sunday School Teachers' Zoom Training	8:00 pm
<b>Sat, Feb 7</b>	• Great Vespers Service	5:00 pm
	• Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) Social Outing ( <i>see pg. __</i> )	7:00 pm
<b>Sun, Feb 8</b>	• 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 ( <i>see pg. __</i> )	After Communion
	• God's Little Lights ( <i>see pg. __</i> )	After Communion
	• Coffee Hour	After Liturgy
<b>Mon, Feb 9</b>	• Parish Council Officers' Meeting	7:00 pm
	• Sunday School Officers' Zoom Meeting	8:00 pm
<b>Tue, Feb 10</b>	Parish Council Monthly Meeting	7:00 pm
<b>Fri, Feb 13</b>	• Paraklesis Service in Spanish ( <i>see pg. __</i> )	6:30 pm
	• Bible Study in Spanish ( <i>see pg. __</i> )	After Service
<b>Sat, Feb 14</b>	• Great Vespers Service	5:00 pm
	• Pre-Lenten Hafli hosted by Antiochian Men (A-Men) ( <i>see pg. __</i> )	After Vespers
<b>Sun, Feb 15</b>	• 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 ( <i>see pg. __</i> )	After Communion
	• God's Little Lights ( <i>see pg. __</i> )	After Communion
	• Coffee Hour	After Liturgy
	• Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) Coffee and Fellowship ( <i>see pg. __</i> )	After Liturgy
<b>Tue, Feb 17</b>	Spiritual Sisters Circle Ministry ( <i>see pg. __</i> )	7:00 pm
<b>Sat, Feb 21</b>	• The Order-Cicero Chapter Officers' Meeting	2:00 pm
	• Teen SOYO Social Outing ( <i>see pg. __</i> )	5:00 pm
	• Great Vespers Service	5:00 pm
	• Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) Pre-Lenten Spiritual Retreat ( <i>see pg. __</i> )	After Vespers



# Dates to Remember!



**Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church  
Cicero, IL**



**SUN**

**GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA**



**WED**

**LITURGY FOR  
FEAST OF ASCENSION**



**SUN**

**GREAT FEAST OF  
PENTECOST**



**MON-THU  
JUN 8-11**

*Summer Bible School*



**SAT**



**25<sup>th</sup> Annual  
GOLF CLASSIC**  
Golging for a purpose



**WED-SUN  
JUN 17-21**

**Parish Life Conference**



**SAT-SAT  
AUG 1-15**

**DORMITION SEASON**



**SAT**

*63<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary*  
**LEGACY BALL**



## SEASON OF EPIPHANY

Traditionally, at the feast of the Lord's Epiphany (Baptism) on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto: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.



## **Apologetic Theology Today**

*By His Eminence Metropolitan Saba (Isper)*

The discipline of theology is divided into several fields. Instruction in the faith that focuses on Holy Scripture is called biblical theology; instruction concerned with doctrine is called dogmatic theology; and so forth. Instruction in the faith that confronts erroneous concepts or teachings, responds to heresies and distortions, or clarifies the nature and essence of the right faith is called apologetic theology.

The Christian Church has known apologetic theology since its very beginnings. From the apostolic age, especially in the second century, the Church found itself facing many challenges: prevailing religions, heresies and false teachings, moral deviations contrary to the Gospel, and even false accusations. This compelled the Church to clarify the true teaching, defend the Christian faith, and present it as it truly is. Moreover, Christianity's missionary nature required that the faith be explained in light of the religious and philosophical concepts of the time. This is what the Apostle Paul did when he "spoke to the Jews and the devout persons in the synagogue, and daily in the marketplace to those who happened to be there" (Acts 17:17). We recall, for example, how he addressed the people of Athens and even quoted their poets.

Many Christian thinkers played a major role in developing apologetic theology. Presenting the Christian faith to the world was one of the reasons for the writing of the New Testament itself. This also explains why there are four Gospels: each presents the Gospel to a particular audience, addressing them according to their culture. Matthew the Evangelist, writing for Christians of Jewish background, frequently cited the Old Testament to show its fulfillment in Jesus. Mark, addressing Christians in Rome, made no reference to the Old Testament, since they were unfamiliar with it, but focused instead on Christ's power and miracles more than on His teaching, in keeping with the Roman understanding of the relationship between divinity and power. The letters of the Apostle Paul are likewise filled with explanations as well as responses to questions and incorrect practices that arose in newly founded churches.

Very quickly, the world began to attack the new faith, distorting its image or misunderstanding it. At the same time, many who attempted to present and explain Christianity were unsuccessful, falling into heresies or being influenced by prevailing philosophies. This made it necessary to refute false teachings and to preserve the Christian faith from heresy and error. For this reason, the first Apostolic Council was convened (Acts 15), addressing the question of whether converts from paganism were required first to observe the Mosaic Law. From that point on, councils became a tradition in the Church, and it was understood that the Church is conciliar (synodal), a term derived from the Greek meaning "to walk together."

The need to strengthen the faith of Christians, to invite non-Christians to enter the faith, and to engage both prevailing philosophies and the accusations leveled against Christians and their worship played a major role in the flourishing of apologetic theology and engaging in dialogue with others.

Beginning in the second century, theologians who wrote in defense of the faith came to be known as the Apologists: among them, Justin the Philosopher (Martyr), Aristides, Quadratus, Athenagoras, and Origen. There has never been a time, after Christianity spread throughout the inhabited world, when such defenders were lacking. The Church has always needed to address the world in which it lives, to engage it in dialogue, and to strengthen believers in their faith.

Christians acted in accordance with the words of the Apostle Peter: "Always be ready to give a reasoned answer to anyone who asks you about the hope that is within you" (1 Peter 3:15). They did not hesitate, withdraw into themselves, or fear engaging others in dialogue. Nor did they fear studying the surrounding culture and acquiring the skills needed to use it in presenting the Christian faith, or even adapting it so that the faith might be expressed clearly and intelligibly to those to whom the Fathers of the Church proclaimed it.

Christian apologists drew upon the culture of their time, making use of history and its evidence, philosophy and its arguments, science and its theories, preaching, rhetoric, dialogue, and every means available to them. A well-known modern example of our own era is the work of C.S. Lewis in twentieth-century Britain.

As long as the Church exists, and as long as the world exists, apologetic theology will continue to exist. It is the Church's responsibility to preserve the faith, proclaim it, strengthen believers in it, and engage both those who doubt it and those who oppose it.

In our present age, where borders have fallen and the world has become a single electronic village, challenges have become largely shared across the globe, though with varying intensity from one region to another. This has made it necessary for churches to exchange experiences, especially regarding contemporary challenges of faith and ethics.

Today, we observe, in many religions, a tendency to withdraw from engagement with the modern world and to limit faith to its practice and repetition, relying on an uncritical recycling of inherited tradition. Groups have emerged here and there that read the Church's tradition literally, outside its context, and reject dialogue with the sciences and other cultures. Meanwhile, the world moves on with or without us, and vast numbers of people, especially young people, need a presentation of the faith explained in their own language and cultural framework. This has always been available within the Church. It is precisely the approach taken by the Fathers of the Church, whose teachings are today often distorted by some who claim to follow them.

There are unavoidable questions that must be asked. Why is there such fear of modernity that it leads to cutting off dialogue with those who think differently from us? Why do we unconsciously replace the principle of "Scripture alone" with "the Fathers alone," and thus fall into a literalism that ignores the circumstances, motives, and needs that shaped specific teachings? Why do we act as though the Holy Spirit has ceased to work in the Church? Why do we not learn from the great Fathers of the Church how to understand the culture of our time, so that we may dialogue with it, defend our faith, and proclaim it using tools that help others grasp it as it truly is? Why, for example, was the Apostle Paul able to quote pagan poets in his sermon in Athens? Why did the Holy Fathers adapt the concept "of one essence" (homouousios) to serve the Christian faith, while many today reject contemporary theological readings despite their faithfulness to doctrine? And finally, why do some today present the faith only through aggressive comparison with others?

In an age of dialogue, why do we refuse dialogue? This is a question addressed to all believers.

## في اللاهوت الدفاعي حاضراً المتروبوليت سابا (اسبر)

يتوزع علم اللاهوت على حقول عدة. فالتعليم الإيماني المختص بالكتاب المقدس يُسمى لاهوتاً كتابياً، والمختص بالعقيدة لاهوتاً عقائدياً أو عقدياً وهكذا. أما التعليم الإيماني الذي يتصدى لمفاهيم أو تعاليم إيمانية خاطئة، أو يواجه البدع والهرطقات، أو يوضح ماهية وجوه الإيمان المستقيم فيسمى لاهوتاً دفاعياً.

عرفت الكنيسة المسيحية اللاهوت الدفاعي منذ بدء تأسيسها. فمنذ العصر الرسولي، ومع القرن الثاني الميلادي بخاصة، وجدت المسيحية نفسها في مواجهة جبهات عديدة كالديانات السائدة والبدع والهرطقات والانحرافات الإيمانية والأخلاق المتعارضة مع الإنجيل والتهجمات الكاذبة، مما اضطرها تالياً إلى تبيان التعليم القويم والدفاع عن الإيمان المسيحي وإظهاره على حقيقته. كما أن طبيعة المسيحية التبشيرية دفعت إلى شرح الإيمان المسيحي على ضوء المفاهيم الدينية والفلسفية السائدة. هذا ما فعله بولس الرسول الذي كان "يخاطب اليهود والمتعبددين في المجمع، ومن يلقاهم كل يوم في ساحة المدينة". لنتذكر، على سبيل المثال، كيف خاطب أهل أثينا واستشهد ببعض شعرائهم (أع 17: 17).

لعب العديد من المفكرين المسيحيين دوراً بارزاً في تطوير اللاهوت الدفاعي. تقديم الإيمان المسيحي للعالم كان أحد أسباب كتابة العهد الجديد، وهو ما يفسر أسباب وجود أربع نسخ لبشارة المسيح؛ حيث اهتمت كل نسخة بتقديم هذه البشارة لفئة من الناس مخاطبة إياهم بحسب ثقافتهم. فمتى الإنجيلي، الذي وجّه كتابه إلى المسيحيين من أصل يهودي، أورد استشهادات كثيرة من العهد القديم كي يثبت تحققها في يسوع. أما مرقس، الذي وجّهه إلى مسيحيي مدينة روما، فلم يذكر شيئاً من العهد القديم لأنهم لا يعرفونه، بل اهتم بإظهار قوة يسوع ومعجزاته أكثر من تعليمه، وهو ما يتناسب مع فهم الرومان آنذاك للعلاقة القائمة بين الإلهة والقوة. أما رسائل بولس الرسول فتخفل بشروح وأجوبة على أسئلة كثيرة أو ممارسات خاطئة كانت تحصل في الكنائس الناشئة حديثاً.

سرعان ما بدأ العالم يهاجم الإيمان الجديد، مشوّهاً صورته، أو فاهماً إياه بطريقة خاطئة. كذلك لم يوفق كثيرون في مسعاهم إلى تقديم الإيمان الجديد وشرحه، فوقعوا في الهرطقات وتأثروا بالفلسفات السائدة، ما دعا إلى تنفيذ هذه التعاليم الخاطئة وحفظ الإيمان المسيحي من الهرطقات والبدع. هذا ما دعا إلى انعقاد المجمع الرسولي الأول (أع 15)، الذي واجه مسألة مطالبة المهتدين من الوثنية إلى المسيحية بتطبيق ناموس موسى أولاً. مذكاً صار انعقاد المجمع تقليداً في الكنيسة المسيحية، وعُرف أن الكنيسة مجتمعية (سينودسية) والكلمة من اليونانية وتعني "السير معاً".

لعبت الحاجة إلى تثبيت إيمان المسيحيين، ودعوة غير المسيحيين إلى الدخول في الإيمان المسيحي، والتعاطي مع الفلسفات السائدة والتهمة التي ألصقت بالمسيحيين وعباداتهم، دوراً مهماً في ازدهار اللاهوت الدفاعي، والدخول في حوار مع الآخرين.

سُمي اللاهوتيون الذين كتبوا، لاهوتاً دفاعياً، بدءاً من القرن الثاني، بالأبء المدافعين، مثل يوستينوس الفيلسوف وأريستيدس وكوارتوس وأثيناغوراس وأوريجانوس. ولم يخلو زمنٌ من هؤلاء المدافعين من بعد انتشار المسيحية في أرجاء المسكونة، وحاجتها إلى مخاطبة العالم الذي تعيش فيه والحوار معه وتثبيت المسيحيين في إيمانهم.

عمل المسيحيون بكلمة بطرس الرسول: "كونوا دائماً مستعدين لأن تقدّموا جواباً مقنعاً لكل من يسألكم عن سبب الرجاء الذي في داخلكم" (1 بط 3: 15). لم يترددوا أو يغلغوا على أنفسهم أو يخافوا من مواجهة الآخرين والدخول في حوار معهم أو من دراسة الثقافة العالمية، واكتساب مهارة استخدامها في تقديم الإيمان المسيحي، أو تطويرها للتعبير عنه بشكل دقيق ومفهوم من قبل الذين يقدم لهم آباء الكنيسة إيمانهم المسيحي.

استعان الدفاعيون المسيحيون بالثقافة السائدة، فاستخدموا التاريخ وأدلته، والفلسفة وحججها، والعلوم ونظرياتها، والوعظ والخطابة والحوار، وغيرها مما استطاعوا إليه سبيلاً. لعلّ كتابات س. إس. لويس في بريطانيا القرن العشرين شاهد معاصر معروف جيداً لدى أبناء زمننا.

طالما أن الكنيسة موجودة وكذلك العالم فسيستمر اللاهوت الدفاعي في الوجود. فواجب الكنيسة أن تحفظ الإيمان وتبشر به وتثبت المؤمنين فيه وتحاور المشكّكين به والمعادين له.






في زمننا الحالي الذي سقطت فيه الحدود وصار العالم قرية الكترونية واحدة، صارت التحديات شبه واحدة في كلّ العالم، ولكن على تفاوت شديد أو ضعيف بين منطقة وأخرى. هذا ما جعل الكنائس بحاجة إلى تبادل الخبرات في شأن بعض التحديات الإيمانية والأخلاقية بخاصة.

يلاحظ حالياً، في معظم الديانات، حركة انكفاء عن مواجهة العالم الحالي والاكتفاء بممارسة الإيمان وعيشه وعرضه باجترار ما وصلنا في التراث. ثمّة جماعات تتكون هنا وهناك تقرأ تراث الكنيسة حرفياً، خارج سياقها، وترفض الحوار مع العلوم والثقافات الأخرى. فيما العالم يجري فينا ومن دوننا، باتت أعداد هائلة من الناس والشبيبة بخاصة بحاجة إلى خطاب وشرح الإيمان باستخدام لغتهم وثقافتهم. وهو ما كان متوفراً في الكنيسة دائماً. وهذا ما أتبعه آباء الكنيسة الذين يتعرّضون اليوم إلى تشويه تعاليمهم من قبل الذين ينادون بهم أيضاً.

ثمّة أسئلة، في هذا المجال، لا بد من طرحها. لماذا الخوف من الحداثة وما فيها إلى درجة مقاطعة الآخر الذي لا يقول قولنا؟ لماذا نستبدل دونما وعي مبدأ "الكتاب وحده" بمبدأ "الأبء وحدهم"، ونقع تالياً في التفسير الحرفي الذي لا يأخذ بالاعتبار الظرف والدافع والحاجة الذي صاغ تعليماً محدداً؟ لماذا نتصرّف وكأنّ الروح القدس قد توقف عن العمل في الكنيسة؟ لماذا لا نتعلّم من آباء الكنيسة الكبار معرفة ثقافة زمننا جيداً، حتّى نحاورها وندافع عن إيماننا ونبشر به، ممتلكين الأدوات التي تساعد الآخرين على أن يفهموه على حقيقته؟ لماذا، على سبيل المثال لا الحصر، استطاع بولس الرسول الاستشهاد بشعراء وثنيين في خطبته في أثينا؟ ولماذا طوّع الأبء القديسون مفهوم "من نفس الجوهر" (أومواؤسيوس) ليقدم الإيمان المسيحي، بينما يرفض كثيرون قراءات إيمانية معاصرة على الرغم من أمانتها للعقيدة؟ وأخيراً، لماذا لا يعرض بعضهم اليوم الإيمان إلا بمقارنة هجومية على الآخرين.

في عصر الحوار، لماذا لا نقبل الحوار؟ سؤال يرسم جميع المؤمنين.

# OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2026

SUNDAYS	THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Fast - Free Week <b>FEBRUARY 1st</b>	 <i>TRIODION WEEKS</i> <b>Publican and the Pharisee</b> Reading: 2 Timothy 3: 10-15 Gospel: Luke 18: 10-14	Trust in God, not yourself! Ask for His help before every task this week!
Normal Fast Week <b>FEBRUARY 8th</b>	 <b>The Prodigal Son Returns!</b> Reading: 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20 Gospel: Luke 15: 11-32	Schedule a Confession. Use up/freeze meats this week.
The Last Judgment <b>FEBRUARY 15th</b>	 <b>The Last Judgment (Meatfare)</b> Reading: 1 Corinthians 8: 8-9: 2 Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46	Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.
Forgiveness Sunday <b>FEBRUARY 22nd</b>	 <b>Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise!</b> <i>FORGIVENESS SUNDAY (Cheesefare)</i> Reading: Romans 13: 11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6: 14-21	Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
1st Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 1st</b>	 <i>GREAT FAST BEGINS with FORGIVENESS VESPERS</i> <b>SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY</b> Reading: Hebrews 11: 24-26, 32-12:2 Gospel: John 1: 43-51	Bring an icon to church for a procession.
2nd Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 8th</b>	 <b>SAINT GREGORY PALAMAS</b> Reading: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2: 1-12	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3rd Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 15th</b>	 <b>VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS</b> <i>HALFWAY TO PASCHA!</i> Reading: Hebrews 4: 14-5: 6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9: 1	Kneel in front of the cross every day, and remember that there is no resurrection without a cross!
4th Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 22nd</b>	 <b>SAINT JOHN of the LADDER</b> Reading: Hebrews: 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9: 17-31	Every time you climb stairs this week ask Saint John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5th Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 29th</b>	 <b>SAINT MARY of EGYPT</b> Reading: Hebrews 9: 11-14 Gospel: Mark 10: 32-45	Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.
PALM SUNDAY! <b>APRIL 5th</b> GREAT WEEK BEGINS	 <i>GREAT and HOLY WEEK</i> <b>ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM</b> Reading: Philippians 4: 4-9 Gospel: John 12: 1-18	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY <b>APRIL 10th</b>	 <b>GREAT and HOLY FRIDAY</b> <b>JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS</b> CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE	Refrain from TV, Internet, and Phones to honor Christ's Death.
Feast of Feasts! <b>APRIL 12th</b> NO FASTING!	 <i>BRIGHT WEEK</i> <b>HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!)</b> Epistle: Acts 1: 1-8 Gospel: John 1: 1-17	Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" and say it before good morning and goodnight!

# طريقنا إلى الفصح! 2026

الأحد	الموضوع / الإنجيل	كيفية المشاركة
لا صيام هذا الأسبوع 1 شباط	أسابيع التريودي الفريسي والعشار الرسالة: 2 تيم 15-10:3 الإنجيل: لوقا 14-10:18	ثِقُوا بِاللَّهِ، لا بَأَنفُسِكُمْ! أَصْرَخُوا مع العَشَّارِ طالِبِينَ مِنَ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَةَ.
صيام عادي هذا الأسبوع 8 شباط	أحد الابن الشاطر! الرسالة: 1 كور 20-12:6 الإنجيل: لوقا 32-11:15	أَذْهَبُوا إِلَى الاعْتِرَافِ. اسْتَنْفِذُوا اللحم من بيتكم خلال هذا الأسبوع.
يوم الدينونة 15 شباط	يوم الدينونة (مرفع اللحم) الرسالة: 1 كور 2:9-8:8 الإنجيل: متى 46-31:25	صلي مواجهة الشرق هذا الأسبوع. المسيح يعود من المشرق وسوف ننتظره! اسْتَنْفِذُوا البياض من بيتكم خلال هذا الأسبوع.
يوم الغفران 22 شباط	طرد آدم وحواء من الفردوس يوم الغفران (مرفع الجبن) الرسالة: رومية 14-11:13، 4-1:14 الإنجيل: متى 21-14:6	أَطْلُوا المَغْفِرَةَ مِنْ بَعْضِكُمْ البعض هذا الأحد قبل الخلود إلى النوم.
الأحد الأول من الصوم 1 آذار	أحد الأرثوذكسية الرسالة: عب 26-24:11، 2:12-32 الإنجيل: يوحنا 51-43:1	إِجْلِبُوا أيقونة إلى الكنيسة للمشاركة في زياح الأيقونات.
الأحد الثاني من الصوم 8 آذار	القديس غريغوريوس بالاماس الرسالة: عب 3:2-10:1 الإنجيل: مرقس 12-1:2	إِجْلِبُوا مسبحة صلاة أرثوذكسية لتبريكها في الكنيسة! اسْتَعْمَلُوهَا وصلوا صلاة يسوع يومياً في هذا الأسبوع.
الأحد الثالث من الصوم 15 آذار	السجود للصليب المقدس نصف الطريق إلى الفصح! الرسالة: عب 6:5-14:4 الإنجيل: مرقس 1:9-34:8	أَسْجُدُوا للصليب كل يوم متذكرين أن لا قيامة من دون صليب!
الأحد الرابع من الصوم 22 آذار	القديس يوحنا السلمي الرسالة: عب 20-13:6 الإنجيل: مرقس 31-17:9	فِيمَا تَسَلَّقُونَ سُلْمَ الفَضَائِلِ، أَطْلِبُوا مِنَ القديس يوحنا المُسَاعِدَةَ لبلوغ الفردوس، وأنتم ترسمون إشارة الصليب!
الأحد الخامس من الصوم 29 آذار	القديسة مريم المصرية الرسالة: عب 14-11:9 الإنجيل: مرقس 45-32:10	أَطْلِبُوا مِنَ العذراء والدة الإله أن تَمْنَحَكُمْ وَتَمْنَحَ العالم أفكاراً طاهرة.
أحد الشعانين 5 نيسان	بدء الأسبوع العظيم المقدس دخول السيد إلى اورشليم الرسالة: قليبي 9-4:4 الإنجيل: يوحنا 18-1:12	زِينُوا الأيقونات بِسُعْفِ النخل في بيتكم وسياراتكم!
الجمعة العظيمة 10 نيسان	الجمعة العظيمة موت المسيح على الصليب تحقق من أوقات الصلوات في هذه الأيام المقدسة	إِمْتَنِعُوا عن التلفزيون والإنترنت وعن استخدام هواتفكم.
عيد الأعياد! 12 نيسان	سبت النور الفصح المقدس! (المسيح قام!) الرسالة: اعمال 8-1:1 الإنجيل: يوحنا 17-1:1	القوا التحية قائلين "المسيح قام" عوضاً عن صباح الخير أو مساء الخير!
نهاية الصوم الكبير!		



# SUNDAY SCHOOL

## Curriculum Update

### Lesson 17: The Lord's Prayer

Over the last few weeks, we have been studying The Sermon on the Mount. Jesus taught the crowd The Beatitudes. These eight attributes from Jesus are to help us think and act like Christians and lead us to a happy and blessed life that we are called to live. Then, Jesus compared his followers to two very important and necessary things: light and salt. In the third part of this sermon, Jesus provided instructions on how to pray. This prayer calls upon those who came on this journey to recite this prayer which is known as The Lord's Prayer. When we pray to God, we are uniting ourselves with Him. God loves you more than anyone, God will answer our prayers when we are open to His will and to do His will and become His children in doing so thus calling Him Father.



**Did you KNOW?** Late last week we learned that the REGISTRATION for the Antiochian Village Camp has been moved to WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4 at 7:00pm. The office staff at the Village are working hard to get their new registration platform up and ready to go for us all. This means that every family will have to create a new account prior to February 4 to ensure that they can register their child for the session they choose. As soon as there is more information on this, we will share it with you.

# CREATING MEMORIES

smile!



## UPCOMING EVENTS...



Sundays after Communion	Sunday School Classes
Sundays 12:30pm – 1:00 pm	CAF Projects Workdays
WED   FEB 4	AV CAMP REGISTRATION @ 7:00 PM
Sun   Mar 1	Sunday of Orthodoxy Procession
Sun   Mar 8	CAF Projects Due
Sat   Mar 14	Confession Retreat
Sun   Mar 15	Adoration of Cross Procession
Sat   Mar 28	Sacrament of Confession (grades 3-12)
Sun   Apr 5	Palm Sunday – NO CLASSES
Sun   Apr 12	Great and Holy Pascha (Easter) – NO CLASSES
Sun   May 3	Godparents' Sunday
Sun   May 31	Recognition Sunday – LAST DAY OF CLASSES

art

writing

poetry

photography



# CREATIVE FESTIVALS 2026

You shall be to Me a royal  
priesthood and a holy nation.

- Exodus 19:6

**ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS**

> > > 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE AND OLDER < < <

are invited to participate!

Registration

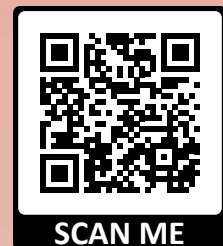
Deadline → **SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026**

CAF Projects

Due → **SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026**

Questions?

NADINE YOUEL, CAF Coordinator → [SundaySchool@StGeorgeChi.org](mailto:SundaySchool@StGeorgeChi.org)



# SUNDAY SCHOOL

## Confession Program

*A Clean Heart and a Fresh Start*



Join us for a special Children's *Confession Program*

DISCOVER HOW MUCH GOD LOVES YOU AND WANTS TO WASH YOUR HEART CLEAN. THIS PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO MAKE CONFESSION A GENTLE, LOVING, AND ENCOURAGING EXPERIENCE FOR CHILDREN.

### Program Calendar

- **Sermon:** Sunday, February 8 – Sunday of the Prodigal Son
- **Retreat to Prepare for Confession:** Saturday, March 14, 10:30AM – 1:00PM
- **Sacrament of Confession:** Saturday, March 28, 5:00PM – Vespers, Confession, and Celebratory Reception
- **Communion Recognition for First Confessors:** Sunday, March 29

Participation is open to all children in 3rd-12th grades.

Registration deadline is Sunday, March 1.

Parents are welcome to join their children for this special program.

Questions? Contact Marwa Bechara at [SundaySchool@StGeorgeChi.org](mailto:SundaySchool@StGeorgeChi.org)



*“Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects.” ~ James 5:16*



SCAN ME



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

# Teen SOYO



## Save the Date...

### TEEN SOYO ACTIVITIES

---

SAT, FEB 21

Teen SOYO Social Event @ Dave & Buster's

SUN, FEB 22

Teen SOYO – SOYO Hour

SUN, MAR 15

Teen SOYO – SOYO Hour

SAT, MAR 21

Teen SOYO Lenten Retreat to Saint John Chrysostomos Monastery

FRI, APR 10

All-Day Vigil for Great and Holy Friday

SUN, APR 19

Teen SOYO – SOYO Hour

# ALL TEENS (13-18) WELCOME!



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

# TEEN SOYO

## Social Outing

Sat | Feb 21  
5-8 PM



9870 Berwyn Ave  
Rosemont, IL 60018

**\$30/  
Person  
includes**

Unlimited  
Video  
Games

Power  
Card (\$20  
value)

Buffet  
Dinner



Inviting ALL TEENS  
(ages 13-18)

**RSVP** BY  
THU | FEB 19



SCAN ME

# God's Little Lights



a Pastoral Ministry for 3- and 4-year-olds of  
Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church | Cicero, IL

## What is God's Little Lights?

God's Little Lights is a special ministry for our youngest children to grow in the love of Christ. Together, we will help share the love and the light of the Gospel, to make our children "little lights" in their families, their Church, and their everyday lives.

## When and Where

- Sundays – right after Holy Communion
- Location – Cry Room
- Time – Short lessons, generally lasting 15-20 minutes
- Schedule – Follows the Sunday School calendar and curriculum
- Must attend with adult

## What Will Children Learn?

Our time together is flexible and fun, focusing on:

- Simple prayers and Church practices
- Bible stories
- Celebrating feast days and holy seasons
- Special Church celebrations



## Why Join?

God's Little Lights is a wonderful way to:

- Build a strong foundation for Sunday School
- Strengthen the faith life of families
- Help children feel at home in the Church

**ALL FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!**

Let's help our little ones grow together in Christ's light.



SAINT GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, CICERO, IL

## Young Adult Fellowship

# SAVE-THE-DATE

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

- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Sun, February 1</b>  | YAF Coffee Hour in the YAF House                               |
| <b>Sat, February 7</b>  | Social Outing at Activate Games in Oakbrook                    |
| <b>Sun, February 15</b> | YAF Café in the Church Hall                                    |
| <b>Sat, February 21</b> | Pre-Lenten Spiritual Retreat                                   |
| <b>Sun, March 1</b>     | YAF Coffee Hour in the YAF House                               |
| <b>Sun, March 15</b>    | YAF Café in the Church Hall                                    |
| <b>Sat, March 28</b>    | Deanery Trip to Saint John Chrysostom Greek Orthodox Monastery |
| <b>Sun, March 29</b>    | YAF Coffee Hour in the YAF House                               |
| <b>Fri, April 17</b>    | General Meeting and Dinner                                     |
| <b>Sun, April 19</b>    | YAF Café in the Church Hall                                    |

JOIN A YAF COMMITTEE!



SHARE YOUR IDEAS, TALENTS,  
AND GIFTS TO HELP YAF GROW!

CALLING ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS!



SCAN HERE FOR A LENTEN  
COLLEGE CARE PACKAGE!



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

*Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) Social*  
at

# Activate

# Games

at  
7pm



*\$30/ticket to Activate Games*  
*meet for food afterwards (not included)*

  
**1600 16th St, Unit 6**  
**Oak Brook, IL 60523**

# Sat/Feb 7

*RSVP by Wed*  
*02.04.2026*



SCAN ME

*Inviting all Young Professionals, Young  
Married Couples, and College Students (18+)*



SAINT GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF CICERO, ILLINOIS



The Young Adult Fellowship Presents...

# YAF ☩ Café



## Our Mission

Energizing our Parish through Orthodoxy, fellowship, and, of course, coffee!

Once a month, YAF will bring their iconic coffee hour to the Church Hall for everyone to enjoy!

YAF will be selling cold brews, lattes, baked goods, and more!

All proceeds will go toward the 2026 YAF Pilgrimage Fund

## Open on the following Sundays:

February 15

March 15 ✨

April 19 ✨

May 17 ✨

June 14 ✨

Inviting ALL Young Professionals, Young Married Couples, and College Students (ages 18+) to join us the night before for Vespers, baking, and fellowship!

## Want to Sponsor?

Please contact Nina Ghanayem at (630) 418-6901

Acceptable forms of payment include cash, checks, and Zelle

Thank you for your generosity!

All donations are greatly appreciated!



# Couples' Lenten Spiritual Retreat

*A Marriage Ministry Event*

**SAT, FEB 28 – 4:30PM**

Saint George Church Hall

Vespers

Dinner

Spiritual Talk

Group Activities

Panel Discussion

Fellowship

**\$50/  
Couple**

**“Ordering the Priorities in Marriage”**  
*DISCOVERING THE WISDOM OF THE CHURCH*

**RSVP by  
Tue | Feb 24**

**INVITING ALL**

**Married ~ Engaged ~ Courting Couples**



**SCAN ME**

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL



# ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

SPIRITUAL  
SISTERS

*Circle*

MINISTRY

*Complimentary*  
EVENT

Coffee, Tea,  
and Cookies

RSVP by  
Mon | Feb 16



Faith † Fellowship † Sisterhood

DATE / TIME

*Tue, Feb 17, 2026*

*7:00 pm - 9:30 pm*

NEXT DATES: *Fri, Apr 17 | Mon, May 11*

TOPIC

*"Speaking with Grace: Does  
your tongue honor God?"*

**ALL WOMEN 18+ WELCOME!**

**VIERNES 13 DE FEBRERO - 6.30 PM**

# *Súplicas a la Madre de Dios*

*Oraciones a la  
Virgen María  
en tiempos de  
necesidad*



**ESTUDIO  
BÍBLICO**

*Tras la  
finalización  
de las  
Súplicas*

MP

AV

IC XC



**Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church**

**1220 S. 60th Ct, Cicero, IL**

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

# West Campus Ministry



2026

Winter Session

Location: **Church of the Holy Nativity**  
275 S RICHMOND AVE, CLARENDON HILLS, IL 60514

**TUESDAYS**

Jan 20 — Jan 27 — Feb 3  
"Humility" "Patience" "Trust"

*How to understand humility, patience, and trust from the Bible.*

## PROGRAM

**6:30PM - 7:00PM**



WELCOME  
(COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS SERVED)

**7:00PM - 8:00PM**



ADULT LESSON  
KIDS' CLUB (AGES 3-8)  
JOY CLUB (AGES 9-12)  
LESSON AND ACTIVITIES/GAMES  
TEEN SOYO (AGES 13-18)  
LESSON AND ACTIVITIES/GAMES

**8:00PM - 8:20PM**



LITTLE COMPLINE SERVICE

**8:20PM - 9:00PM**



SOCIAL TIME  
(COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS SERVED)

## LESSONS

**HUMILITY**

"GOD TEACHES US HUMILITY BY REMINDING US TO SERVE AND NOT TO BE SERVED." (MARK 18:45)

**PATIENCE**

"WE MUST TRUST IN GOD AND HIS TIMING AND REMAIN FAITHFUL DURING CHALLENGES." (EXODUS 34:6)

**TRUST**

"TRUST MEANS RELYING ON GOD AND HIS WORD COMPLETELY FOR OUR LIVES." (MATTHEW 6:25-34)

← **West  
Campus**



# Winter SCHEDULE



## BY AGE GROUP

*Wed*  
14 JAN

### HUMILITY

6:30 PM

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN & YAF

"GOD TEACHES US HUMILITY BY REMINDING US TO SERVE AND NOT TO BE SERVED." (MARK 10:45)

*Wed*  
21 JAN

### GENEROSITY

6:30 PM

A-MEN & TEEN SOYO

"IS GOD GENEROUS? GENEROSITY SHOWS US HOW TO SHARE HIS BLESSINGS WITH OTHERS." (PROVERBS 19:17)

*Wed*  
28 JAN

### PATIENCE

6:30 PM

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN & YAF

"WE MUST TRUST IN GOD AND HIS TIMING AND REMAIN FAITHFUL DURING CHALLENGES." (EXODUS 34:6)

*Wed*  
04 FEB

### CHASTITY

6:30 PM

A-MEN & TEEN SOYO

"GOD TEACHES US TO BE PURE AND TO HONOR OURSELVES, OTHERS, AND HIM IN OUR CHOICES." (PSALM 50:10)

*Wed*  
11 FEB

### CHARITY

6:30 PM

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN & YAF

"TRUE CHARITY REFLECTS THE HEART OF GOD, WHO IS LOVE, TURNING OUR FAITH INTO ACTION." (JOHN 3:16)

*Wed*  
18 FEB

### TRUST

6:30 PM

A-MEN & TEEN SOYO

"TRUST MEANS RELYING ON GOD AND HIS WORD COMPLETELY FOR OUR LIVES. (MATTHEW 6:25-34)

**SAINT KATHERINE THE GREAT  
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX  
MISSION**



**ALL AGES**

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*Thurs*  
**15 JAN**

---

**BAPTISM  
& CHRISMATION**

6:30 PM

“BAPTISM AND CHRISMATION ARE THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION BRINGING PEOPLE INTO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.” (MATTHEW 28:16-20)

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*Thurs*  
**22 JAN**

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**EUCCHARIST  
& HOLY COMMUNION**

6:30 PM

“HOLY COMMUNION UNITES US WITH CHRIST AND THE WHOLE CHURCH THROUGH HIS BODY AND BLOOD, FOLLOWING HIS COMMANDMENTS AND TRUE TEACHINGS.” (MATTHEW 26:20-29)

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*Thurs*  
**29 JAN**

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**HOLY PENANCE  
& CONFESSION**

6:30 PM

“THROUGH HOLY PENANCE, WE EXPERIENCE GOD’S MERCY AND LEARN TO LIVE WITH A CLEAN HEART.” (MATTHEW 9:13)

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*Thurs*  
**05 FEB**

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**HOLY UNCTION**

6:30 PM

“HOLY UNCTION / OIL BRINGS GOD’S HEALING TO THOSE WHO ARE SICK IN BODY AND SOUL.” (JAMES 5:14-15)

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*Thurs*  
**12 FEB**

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**MARRIAGE**

6:30 PM

“HOLY MATRIMONY JOINS A MAN AND WOMAN IN GOD’S LOVE AND BLESSES THEIR FAMILY LIFE TO DO HIS WILL.” (EPHESIANS 5:20-33)

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*Thurs*  
**19 FEB**

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**HOLY ORDERS  
& ORDINATION**

6:30 PM

“IS GOD CALLING? HOLY ORDERS SETS MEN APART TO SERVE GOD AND HIS CHURCH.” (ACTS 6:1-7)

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Antiochian  
Village

Pennsylvania



Sessions SELL OUT in 15 MINUTES!



Registration  
Opens  
Wed | Feb 4



Register AT 7:00PM CST  
ON Wednesday, FEBRUARY 4<sup>th</sup>  
to secure your spot at the  
**Antiochian Village Summer  
Camp in Pennsylvania!**

Create a NEW Account BEFORE  
Registration opens! Click on  
"UltraCamp Instructions"



SCAN ME



Camp St. George  
I-OWA

June 28-July 4, 2026

Registration Opens  
SOON!



SCAN ME



# NO CAMPER LEFT BEHIND!



In 2025,  
39 CAMPERS  
from Saint George Church  
attended Camp!

## 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 2026



# **Triumph Of Orthodoxy** **PAN ORTHODOX VESPERS**

Sponsored by the Orthodox Christian Clergy Association of Greater Chicago



**Sunday, March 1, 2025**  
**at 6:30 p.m.**

**Holy Resurrection**  
**Serbian Orthodox Cathedral**  
**5701 N Redwood Drive, Chicago, IL**



**Homilist:**  
**His Grace Bishop Serafim**  
**of Kostajnica**  
**Vicar of the Diocese of**  
**New Gracanica-Midwestern America**

**Responses by**  
**The Pan Orthodox Choir of Greater Chicago**  
Gordana Trbuhovich, Director



# Meet the 2026 Parish Council



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**VERY REVEREND FATHER FOUAD SABA, Presiding Officer**

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#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *One reason...The Gospel.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Sirach.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Shi'riyeh with sugar and cinnamon...lots of cinnamon...medically dangerous amounts of cinnamon...or any breakfast with my best friend, my son, Mousa.*



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**KAREN NAWAS, M. Ed., Chairwoman**

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Term on Council: *Elected Jan 2026-Jan 2029*

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To help organize the work of the Church, strengthen the parish community, and bring families and children closer to Jesus Christ through the Orthodox Faith, carrying forward the legacy entrusted to us and passing the Church onto the next generation.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Proverbs.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Shakshouka.*



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**EDDY SHAHEEN, Vice-Chairman**

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Term on Council: *Elected Jan 2025-Jan 2028*

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To serve Christ and be a part of His growing Church for my children's future.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Job.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Skirt Steak Skillet.*



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**VICTOR IMREIBE, Secretary**

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Term on Council: *Elected Jan 2025-Jan 2028*

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *Lead my family and community to Orthodoxy.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Letter of James.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Eggs, bacon, and sausage.*



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**AMIR KAMAL RIHANI, Treasurer**

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Term on Council: *Appointed Jan 2026-Jan 2027*

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To strengthen my faith and grow my relationship with Christ.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Proverbs.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Manaeesh Za'atar and Tea.*



**GEORGE CONOPEOTIS, *Financial Secretary***

Term on Council: *Elected Jan 2024-Jan 2027*

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *Serve community and family.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Ecclesiastes.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Greek omelette.*



**ELIAS AKKARI, *Member***

Term on Council: *Appointed Jan 2026-Jan 2027*

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To serve Christ and His Orthodox Church, and to ensure that the Church remains a constant and guiding presence in our families' lives, especially for our children and future generations.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Acts of the Apostles.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Traditional Lebanese breakfast — manoush, foul, labneh, and fresh vegetables.*



**FARES BANNOURAH, *Member***

Term on Council: *Elected Jan 2024-Jan 2027*

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To give back to the parish that shaped me, and to help build a strong, welcoming community rooted in faith, service, and love.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Proverbs.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Manakeesh za'atar with olive oil and labneh.*



**SANDRA IMSEEH BARBARI, *Member***

Term on Council: *Elected Jan 2026-Jan 2029*

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To learn, support, and accomplish the goal of the Church.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Exodus.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Eggs and French Toast.*



**MAHER ESEED, *Member***

Term on Council: *Elected Jan 2024-Jan 2027*

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To set an example for my kids. Everyone has a role model to look after in life, and I would love for my kids to be involved in the Church's life as they get older.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Letter to the Romans.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Hummus, Foul and Falafel!!*



**JERIES KAHOUSH, *Member / President, Antiochian Men (A-Men)***

Term on Council: *Elected Jan 2026-Jan 2028*

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To serve my Church and community.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Revelation.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Manakeesh.*



**MICHAEL MOUKHEIBER, CPA, Member**

Term on Council: *Appointed Jan 2026-Jan 2027*

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *Dinners for the Parish Council meetings. Just kidding. Love of my Church and looking forward to ways to help bring people to Orthodoxy and Saint George. Make the Church a positive environment.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Gospel of Luke.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Corned beef hash with eggs over easy or biscuits and gravy.*



**SUHAIL QUMRI, Member**

Term on Council: *Elected Jan 2025-Jan 2028*

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *Serving on the parish council at Saint George is a meaningful opportunity to strengthen our community and establish a solid foundation for future generations. By expanding the ministry of Saint Church and now Saint Katherine's, and God willing, more missions, I hope to be an essential force in promoting spiritual growth, unity, and service. I pray to leave a lasting legacy, ensuring that the Orthodox values and traditions we cherish, thrive and continue to inspire our current and future generations.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Daniel.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Fattet Hummus.*



**MINA RANTISI, Member**

Term on Council: *Elected Jan 2024-Jan 2027*

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *Service.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Acts of the Apostles.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Eggs, hash browns, and bacon.*



**JOSEPH RIHANI, Member**

Term on Council: *Elected Jan 2026-Jan 2029*

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To contribute my time, treasure, and talents to the Church and community. I want to help with our spiritual growth, stability, and future of our Orthodox faith.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Proverbs.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Steak and eggs.*



**ALEXANDRA ZANAYED, Member**

Term on Council: *Elected Jan 2026-Jan 2029*

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *Watching my dad serve inspired me to join and continue serving the Church the best I can.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Isaiah.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Pancakes.*

## EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:



### **ABEER KARI, *President, Antiochian Women***

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To be the voice of AW, to help support the spiritual growth of our Church, and contribute to decisions that strengthen our ministries and future.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Revelation.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Eggs Benedict.*



### **NINA GHANAYEM, *President, Young Adult Fellowship (YAF)***

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To represent and advocate for the Young Adult Fellowship and to learn more about the works of the Church and how to better serve our community.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Letter to the Romans.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Waffles!!!*



### **ANGELINA IMSEEH, *President, Teen SOYO***

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To be a supportive voice for teens, help strengthen our faith community, and lead others closer to God through service and connection.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Revelation.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *A bagel with Iced coffee.*



### **DARLENE N. HADDAD, *CPA, Archdiocese Trustee***

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To serve my Church family.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Exodus.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *French Toast.*



### **ELI HAIG, *Archdiocese Trustee***

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council:

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year:

Favorite Breakfast Meal:



### **MANSOUR RAYAN, *Archdiocese Trustee/Honorary Council Member***

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To serve the community.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Gospel of John.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Spanish omelette.*

## EX-OFFICIO NON-VOTING MEMBERS



### **VERY REVEREND FATHER GABRIEL CORONEL, Clergy**

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To serve God, His Church, and everyone who considers Saint George Church their spiritual home.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Epistle to the Hebrews.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Matte.*



### **DEACON GEORGE NASSIEF, MS, Clergy**

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To help serve the Saint George Community in all aspects of the faith with love.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Acts of the Apostles.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Eggs and bacon.*



### **DEACON JOHN ZAYED, Clergy**

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To lead others to our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Jeremiah.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Blueberry Waffle.*



### **DEACON MOSES BYNUM, Clergy**

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *I'm Clergy, so I've got no choice! LOL!*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Job.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Omelet, Buttermilk pancakes, and bacon—lots of bacon!*



### **LILLIAN RIHANI, BSN, RN, PRINCIPAL, Sunday School**

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *Sunday School Principal needs to report to the Parish Council monthly on happenings in Sunday School. Also, it is humbling to witness the hard work everyone puts into the Church to sustain it.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Revelation.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Veggie Skillet or omelet.*



### **DENA FASHEH, Chairwoman, The Order of Saint Ignatius – Cicero Chapter**

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To make sure we continue to build our church for the future generations!*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Letter to the Romans.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *BACON, EGG, AND CHEESE SANDWICH.*

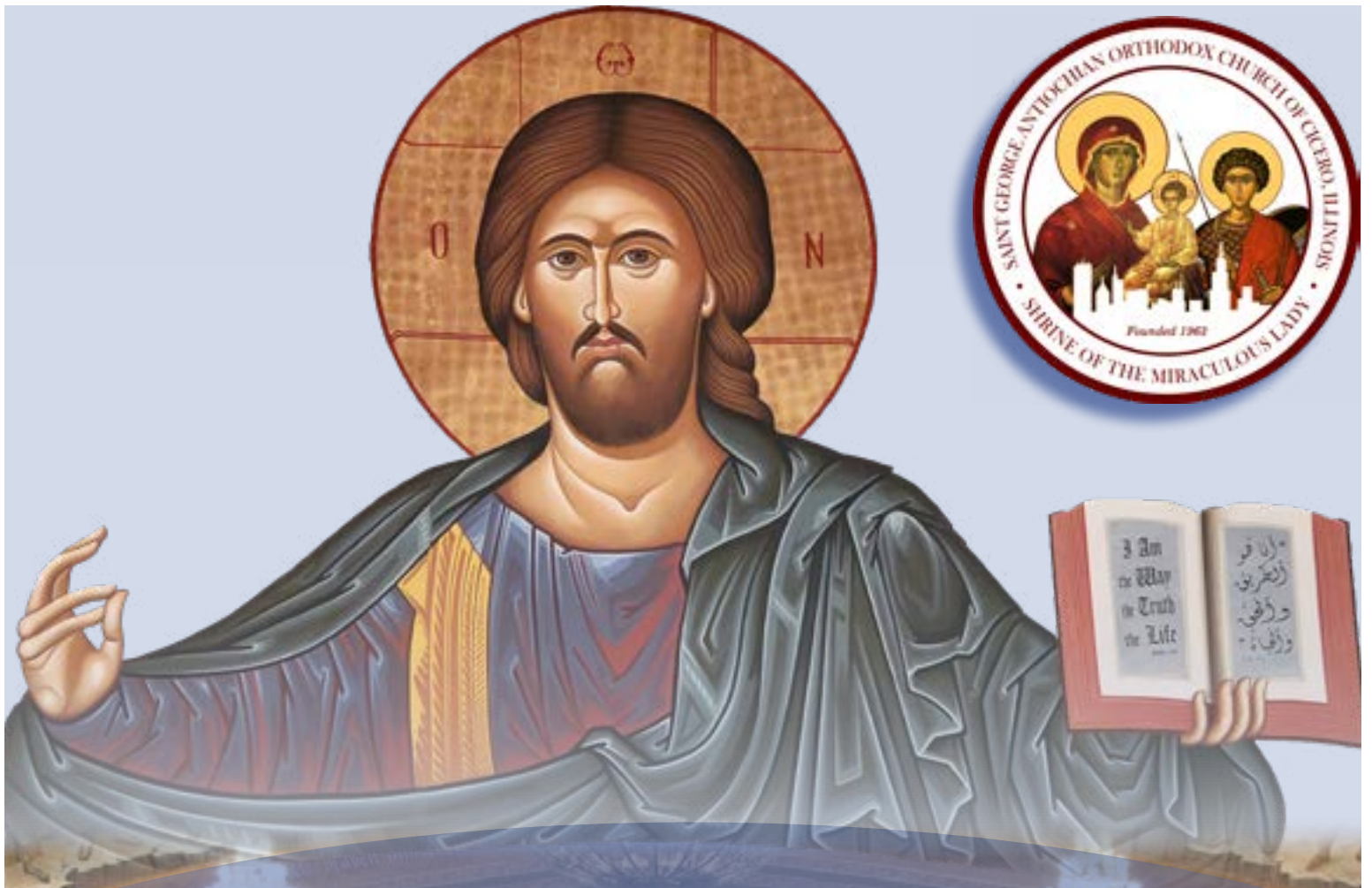


### **JERIES KAHOSH, President, Antiochian Men (A-Men)**

#1 Reason for Serving on the Parish Council: *To serve my Church and community.*

Book of the Bible I Wish to Learn This Year: *The Book of Revelation.*

Favorite Breakfast Meal: *Manakeesh.*



Become a  
Saint George Church Member  
THE 2026 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE  
COMING SOON!

*“As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”*  
– Joshua 4:15









# 2026 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



*“As for me and my house,  
we will serve the Lord.”*

– Joshua 4:15

	2024	2025	2026 Goals
 # of Baptisms	12	19	Everyone
 # of Catechumens Converted	14	11	As many souls as possible
 # of Sunday School Students	168	182	All Sunday School Aged Students
 # Registered Committed Households	194	256	All who call Saint George Church their home
 \$ of Committed Giving	304,680	\$368,807	\$375,000
 # of Automatic Giving Program	143	195	Everyone

## SAINT GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

1220 S 60th Court • Cicero, Illinois 60804 • 708.656.2927 • [www.StGeorgeChi.org](http://www.StGeorgeChi.org) • [Office@StGeorgeChi.org](mailto:Office@StGeorgeChi.org)



EST. 2001

SAINT GEORGE GOLF CLASSIC

# 25<sup>th</sup> Annual GOLF CLASSIC

Golfing for a purpose

*Save the Date!*

SATURDAY,  
JUNE 13, 2026



Registration and Sponsorships  
COMING SOON!



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church  
Cicero, IL

*63<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary*  
LEGACY BALL



**SAVE THE  
DATE**

**SATURDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2026**

**DETAILS TO FOLLOW...**



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

**Antiochian Men (A-Men)**

**PRESENTS...**



*A Night of Love*      *سهرة حب*  
*Una Noche de Amor*

**CELEBRATING  
FAMILY AND LOVE**

**Feb 14**

**5:00 pm**

Dinner

**Saturday**

Raffle



DJ/Music

*\$60/Adults (12+ yrs)*

*\$30/Kids (6-11 yrs)*

*Complimentary for Kids under 6 yrs*

**All Ages Invited! RSVP by Tue | Feb 10 →**

