



# WEEKLY BULLETIN

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026

الأحد الجديد – أحد توما

**BRIGHT (NEW) SUNDAY  
SAINT THOMAS SUNDAY**



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

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Sdn. Raymond Antypas

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Trevor Lenhart, *CHOIR DIRECTOR*

Ryan McMahan, *HEAD USHER*

All Choir Members, Ushers, & Acolytes

## **CHURCH OFFICE:**

Veronica Egan, *OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR*

Samar Rihani, *ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY*

Holly Goljić, *GRAPHIC DESIGNER*

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

## **OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday-Friday: 8:30<sup>am</sup>-5:00<sup>pm</sup>

Saturday: By Appointment

Sunday: Closed

## **WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE:**

Saturdays: Great Vespers as announced

Sundays: 9:00<sup>am</sup> Orthros (Matins), 10:15<sup>am</sup> Great Doxology,

10:20<sup>am</sup> 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 و سهلا!**

# PASCHAL GREETING IN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES

**ENGLISH:** Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

**ARABIC:** المسيح قام! حقاً قام! Haqqan Qam! Al Maseeh Qam!

**ALBANIAN:** Krishti Ungjall! Vertete Ungjall!

**ARMENIAN:** Christos harjav i merelotz! Orhniale harutjun Christosi!

**BULGARIAN:** Hristos voskrese! Vo istina voskrese!

**BYELORUSSIAN:** Khrystos uvaskros! Saprawdy uvaskros!

**CHINESE:** Helisituosi fuhuole! Queshi fuhuole!

**COPTIC:** Pikhirstof aftonf! Khen o methni aftonf!

**CZECH:** Kristus vstal zmrtvy'ch! Skutec ne vstal!

**DUTCH:** Christus is opgestaan! Hij is waarlijk opgestaan!

**ESTONIAN:** Kristus on surnuist ülestõusnud! Tõesti ülestõusnud!

**ETHIOPIAN:** Christos t'ensah em' muhtan! Exai' ab-her eokala!

**FINNISH:** Kristus nousi Kuolleista! Totisesti Nousi!

**FRENCH:** Le Christ est Ressuscité! En Vérité, Il est Ressuscité!

**GAELIC:** Erid Krist! G'deya! n erid she!

**GEORGIAN:** Kriste aghsdga! Cheshmaritad aghsdga!

**GREEK:** Christos anesti! Alithos anesti!

**HEBREW:** Ha Mashiyach qam! Ken hoo qam!

**HUNGARIAN:** Krisztus feltámadt! Valóban feltámadt!

**ITALIAN:** Cristo e' risorto! Veramente e' risorto!

**JAPANESE:** Harisutosu Fukkatsu! Jitsu Ni Fukkatsu!

**LATIN:** Christus resurrexit! Vere resurrexit!

**NORWEGIAN:** Kristus er oppstanden! Han er sannelig opstanden!

**POLISH:** Khristus Zmartvikstau! Zaiste Zmartvikstau!

**PORTUGUESE:** Christo Ressuscitou! Em Verdade Ressuscitou!

**ROMANIAN:** Hristos a Inviat! Adeverat a Inviat!

**RUSSIAN:** Hristos voskres! Voistinu voskres!

**SERBIAN:** Hristos Vaskrse! Vaistinu Vaskrse!

**SLAVONIC:** Hristos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese!

**SLOVAK:** Kristus vstal zmr'tvy'ch! Skutoc ne vstal!

**SPANISH:** Cristo ha resucitado! Verdaderamente ha resucitado!

**SWEDISH:** Kristus är uppstånden! Ja, Han är sannerligen uppstånden!

**SYRIAC:** Meshiha qam! Bashrira qam!

**UKRANIAN:** Kristos Voskres! Voistinu Voskres!

## 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،  
وعلى الأَرْضِ السَّلَامُ، وفي النَّاسِ المَسْرَّةُ  
نُسَبِّحُكَ نُبَارِكُكَ، نَسْجُدُ لَكَ نُمَجِّدُكَ، نَشْكُرُكَ مِنْ  
أَجْلِ عَظِيمِ جَلَالِ مَجْدِكَ

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

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

لَأَنَّكَ أَنْتَ وَحْدَكَ قُدُّوسٌ، أَنْتَ وَحْدَكَ الرَّبُّ  
يَسُوعَ المَسِيحُ، فِي مَجْدِ اللهِ الآبِ، آمِينَ.

فِي كُلِّ يَوْمٍ أَبَارِكُكَ، وَأُسَبِّحُ 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 رَحْمَتَكَ 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 لِأَنَّني 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 لِلآبِ وَالِابْنِ وَالرُّوحِ القُدُّوسِ.

الآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَاهِرِينَ، آمِينَ.

قُدُّوسُ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ ارْحَمْنَا.

قُدُّوسُ اللهُ، قُدُّوسُ القَوِيِّ، قُدُّوسُ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ  
ارْحَمْنَا

# TODAY'S LITURGY INSERTS

## FIRST ANTIPHON

Shout with joy to God, all the earth; sing to His Name, give glory to His praises.

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

Say to God: How awesome are Thy works; let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee. Let it sing a song to Thy Name, O Most High.

**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.

هَلِّلُوا لِلَّهِ يَا جَمِيعَ الْأَرْضِ، رَتِّلُوا لِاسْمِهِ أَعْطُوا  
مَجْدًا لِتَسْبِيحَتِهِ.

اللازمة: بِشَفَاعَاتِ وَالِدَةِ الْإِلَهِي، يَا مُخَلِّصُ خَلِّصْنَا.  
قُولُوا لِلَّهِ مَا أَزْهَبَ أَعْمَالَكَ، كُلُّ مَنْ فِي الْأَرْضِ  
يَسْجُدُونَ لَكَ وَيُرَتِّلُونَ لِاسْمِكَ أَيُّهَا الْعَلِيِّ.

اللازمة: بِشَفَاعَاتِ وَالِدَةِ الْإِلَهِي، يَا مُخَلِّصُ خَلِّصْنَا.  
الْمَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالِابْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدُّوسِ. الْآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ  
وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ، آمِينَ.

اللازمة: بِشَفَاعَاتِ وَالِدَةِ الْإِلَهِي، يَا مُخَلِّصُ خَلِّصْنَا.

## SECOND ANTIPHON

May God have mercy upon us, and bless us, and may He cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy upon us.

**Refrain:** Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

That Thy way may be known upon earth, Thy salvation among all nations; let the peoples give thanks to Thee, O God, let all the peoples give thanks to Thee.

**Refrain:** Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear Him.

**Refrain:** Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; 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...

لِيَتَرَأَفَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْنَا وَيُبَارِكُنَا، وَلِيُضِيءَ بِوَجْهِهِ عَلَيْنَا  
وَيَرْحَمَنَا.

اللازمة: خَلِّصْنَا يَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ، يَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ،  
لِنُرْتِّلَ لَكَ. هَلِّلُوبِيَا.

لِنُعْرِفَ فِي الْأَرْضِ طَرِيقَكَ، وَفِي جَمِيعِ الْأُمَمِ  
خَلَاصَكَ. تَعْتَرِفُ لَكَ الشُّعُوبُ يَا اللَّهُ تَعْتَرِفُ لَكَ.

اللازمة: خَلِّصْنَا يَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ، يَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ،  
لِنُرْتِّلَ لَكَ. هَلِّلُوبِيَا.

لِيُبَارِكُنَا اللَّهُ الْهِنَا، وَلِنُزْهِبَهُ جَمِيعَ أَقَاصِي الْأَرْضِ.

اللازمة: خَلِّصْنَا يَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ، يَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ،  
لِنُرْتِّلَ لَكَ. هَلِّلُوبِيَا.

الْمَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالِابْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدُّوسِ، الْآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ  
وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ. آمِينَ.

يَا كَلِمَةَ اللَّهِ الْإِبْنَ الْوَحِيدَ...



## THIRD ANTIPHON

† Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let them that hate Him flee from before His face.

**Refrain:** Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

† As smoke vanisheth, so let them vanish; as wax melteth before the fire.

**Refrain:** Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

† So let sinners perish at the presence of God, and let the righteous be glad.

**Refrain:** Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

† This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein.

**Refrain:** Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

† لِيَقُمْ اللهُ وَيَتَبَدَّدَ جَمِيعُ أَعْدَائِهِ، وَيَهْرُبُ مُبْغِضُوهُ مِنْ أَمَامِ وَجْهِهِ.

الملازمة: المَسِيحُ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، وَوَطِئَ الْمَوْتَ بِالْمَوْتِ، وَوَهَبَ الْحَيَاةَ لِلَّذِينَ فِي الْقُبُورِ.

† كَمَا يُبَادُ الدُّخَانُ يُبَادُونَ، وَكَمَا يَذُوبُ الشَّمْعُ مِنْ أَمَامِ وَجْهِ النَّارِ.

الملازمة: المَسِيحُ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، وَوَطِئَ الْمَوْتَ بِالْمَوْتِ، وَوَهَبَ الْحَيَاةَ لِلَّذِينَ فِي الْقُبُورِ.

† كَذَلِكَ تَهْلِكُ الْخَطَاةُ مِنْ أَمَامِ وَجْهِ اللهِ، وَالصَّادِقُونَ يَفْرَحُونَ وَيَتَهَلَّلُونَ أَمَامَ اللهِ، وَيَتَنَعَّمُونَ بِالسُّرُورِ

الملازمة: المَسِيحُ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، وَوَطِئَ الْمَوْتَ بِالْمَوْتِ، وَوَهَبَ الْحَيَاةَ لِلَّذِينَ فِي الْقُبُورِ.

† هَذَا هُوَ الْيَوْمُ الَّذِي صَنَعَهُ الرَّبُّ، لِنَفْرَحَ وَنَتَهَلَّلَ بِهِ.

الملازمة: المَسِيحُ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، وَوَطِئَ الْمَوْتَ بِالْمَوْتِ، وَوَهَبَ الْحَيَاةَ لِلَّذِينَ فِي الْقُبُورِ.

## TROPARION FOR THOMAS SUNDAY (TONE 7)

While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Life. While the doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy Disciples, O Christ God, Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

إِذْ كَانَ الْقَبْرُ مَخْتُومًا، أَشْرَقْتَ مِنْهُ أَيُّهَا الْحَيَاةُ. وَلَمَّا كَانَتْ الْأَبْوَابُ مُغْلَقَةً، وَافَيْتِ التَّلَامِيذَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهَ، قِيَامَةَ الْكُلِّ. وَجَدَدْتَ لَنَا بِهِمْ رُوحًا مُسْتَقِيمًا بِحَسَبِ عَظِيمِ رَحْمَتِكَ.

## ENTRANCE HYMN OF PASCHA

In the gathering places, bless ye God the Lord from the springs of Israel. O Son of God, **Who didst rise from the dead**, save us, who sing unto thee. Alleluia.

فِي الْمَجَامِعِ بَارِكُوا اللَّهَ، الرَّبَّ مِنْ يَنَابِيعِ إِسْرَائِيلَ. خَلِّصْنَا يَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ، يَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، لِنُرْتِّلَ لَكَ. هَلِّلُويَا.

## TROPARION FOR THOMAS SUNDAY (TONE 7)

While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Life. While the doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy Disciples, O Christ God, Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

إِذْ كَانَ الْقَبْرُ مَخْتُومًا، أَشْرَقْتَ مِنْهُ أَيُّهَا الْحَيَاةُ. وَلَمَّا كَانَتْ الْأَبْوَابُ مُغْلَقَةً، وَافَيْتِ التَّلَامِيذَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهَ، قِيَامَةَ الْكُلِّ. وَجَدَدْتَ لَنَا بِهِمْ رُوحًا مُسْتَقِيمًا بِحَسَبِ عَظِيمِ رَحْمَتِكَ.

## KONTAKION OF PASCHA (TONE 8)

Though Thou didst descend into the grave, O Immortal One, yet didst Thou destroy the power of Hades, and didst arise as victor, O Christ God, calling to the myrrh-bearing women, Rejoice, and giving peace unto Thine Apostles, O Thou Who dost grant resurrection to the fallen.

وَلَيْنُ كُنْتَ نَزَلْتَ إِلَى قَبْرِ يَا مَنْ لَا يَمُوتُ، إِلَّا أَنْكَ  
دَرَسْتَ قُوَّةَ الْجَحِيمِ، وَقُمْتَ غَالِباً أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْإِلَهَ،  
وَلِلنَّسْوَةِ حَامِلَاتِ الطَّيِّبِ قُلْتَ أَفْرَحْنَ، وَلِرُسُلِكَ وَهَبْتَ  
السَّلَامَ، يَا مَانِحَ الْوَأَقِيعِينَ الْقِيَامِ.

## 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 الْإِلَهَ \* اكْتُبْ لَكَ رَايَاتِ الْغَلْبَةِ يَا  
جَنْدِيَّةَ مُحَامِيَّةَ \* وَأَقْدِمْ لَكَ الشُّكْرَ كَمُنْقَذَةٍ مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ \*  
لَكِنْ بَمَا أَنَّ لَكَ الْعِزَّةَ الَّتِي لَا تُحَارَبُ \* اعْتَقِنِي مِنْ  
صُنُوفِ الشَّدَائِدِ \* حَتَّى أَصْرُخَ إِلَيْكَ إِفْرَحِي يَا عَرُوساً  
لَا عَرُوسَ لَهَا.

## EPISTLE READERS

English

Arabic

George Layous

Today

Mary Homsy

Fadel Khoury

Apr 26

Alice Saba



Great is our Lord, and great is His strength.

Praise ye the Lord, for the Lord is good.

**The Reading from the**

**Acts of the Holy Apostles (5:12-20)**

In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands of the apostles; and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. None of the rest dared to join them, but the people magnified them. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the cities around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the chief priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the sect of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said: "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

عَظِيمٌ هُوَ رَبُّنَا وَعَظِيمَةٌ هِيَ قُوَّتُهُ.

سَبِّحُوا الرَّبَّ فَإِنَّهُ صَالِحٌ.

فَصَلُّ مِنْ أَعْمَالِ الرُّسُلِ

القِدِّيسِينَ الأَطْهَارِ (5:12-20)

فِي تِلْكَ الأَيَّامِ، جَرَتْ عَلَى أَيِّدِي الرُّسُلِ آيَاتٌ وَعَجَائِبُ كَثِيرَةٌ فِي الشَّعْبِ. وَكَانُوا كُلُّهُمْ بِنَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ فِي رِوَاقِ سُلَيْمَانَ. وَلَمْ يَكُنْ أَحَدٌ مِنَ الآخَرِينَ يَجْتَرِئُ أَنْ يُخَالِطَهُمْ، لَكِنْ كَانَ الشَّعْبُ يُعْظِمُهُمْ. وَكَانَ جَمَاعَاتٌ مِنْ رِجَالٍ وَنِسَاءٍ يَنْضَمُونَ بِكَثْرَةٍ مُؤْمِنِينَ بِالرَّبِّ. حَتَّى إِنَّ النَّاسَ كَانُوا يَخْرُجُونَ بِالْمَرَضَى إِلَى الشُّوَارِعِ، وَيَضَعُونَهُمْ عَلَى فُرُشٍ وَأَسِرَّةٍ، لِيَقَعَ وَلَوْ ظِلُّ بُطْرُسَ، عِنْدَ اجْتِيَازِهِ، عَلَى بَعْضِ مِنْهُمْ. وَكَانَ يَجْتَمِعُ أَيْضًا إِلَى أُورَشَلِيمَ جُمُهورُ المُدُنِ الَّتِي حَوْلَهَا، يَحْمِلُونَ مَرَضَى وَمُعَدَّبِينَ مِنْ أَرْوَاحِ نَجِسَةٍ، فَكَانُوا يُشْفَوْنَ جَمِيعُهُمْ. فَقَامَ رَئِيسُ الكَهَنَةِ وَكُلُّ الَّذِينَ مَعَهُ، وَهُمْ مِنْ شِيعَةِ الصِّدُّوقِيِّينَ، وَامْتَلَأُوا غَيْرَةً. فَالْقَوْا أَيِّدِيهِمْ عَلَى الرُّسُلِ وَجَعَلُوهُمْ فِي الحَبْسِ العَامِّ. فَفَتَحَ مَلَائِكَةُ الرَّبِّ أَبْوَابَ السِّجْنِ لَيْلًا، وَأَخْرَجَهُمْ، وَقَالَ: أَمْضُوا وَقِفُوا فِي الهَيْكَلِ، وَكَلِّمُوا الشَّعْبَ بِجَمِيعِ كَلِمَاتِ هَذِهِ الحَيَاةِ

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel  
according to Saint John (20:19-31)**

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be to you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be to you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe." Eight days later, His disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be to you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Thomas, you have believed because you have seen Me. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His Name.

**فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدَيْسِ يُوْحَنَا**

**الْإِنْجِيلِيَّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيذِ الطَّاهِرِ (20:19-31)**

لَمَّا كَانَتْ عَشِيَّةَ ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ، وَهُوَ أَوَّلُ الْأُسْبُوعِ  
وَالْأَبْوَابُ مُغْلَقَةٌ حَيْثُ كَانَ التَّلَامِيذُ مُجْتَمِعِينَ خَوْفًا  
مِنَ الْيَهُودِ، جَاءَ يَسُوعُ وَوَقَفَ فِي الْوَسْطِ وَقَالَ  
لَهُمْ: "السَّلَامُ لَكُمْ." فَلَمَّا قَالَ هَذَا أَرَاهُمْ يَدَيْهِ وَجَنْبَهُ،  
فَفَرِحَ التَّلَامِيذُ حِينَ أَبْصَرُوا الرَّبَّ. وَقَالَ لَهُمْ ثَانِيَةً:  
"السَّلَامُ لَكُمْ، كَمَا أَرْسَلَنِي الْآبُ كَذَلِكَ أَنَا أَرْسِلُكُمْ."  
وَلَمَّا قَالَ هَذَا نَفَخَ فِيهِمْ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "خُذُوا الرُّوحَ  
الْقُدُسَ. مَنْ غَفَرْتُمْ خَطَايَاهُمْ تُغْفَرْ لَهُمْ وَمَنْ أَمْسَكْتُمْ  
خَطَايَاهُمْ أُمْسِكْتُمْ." أَمَّا تَوْمَ أَحَدُ الْإِثْنَيْ عَشَرَ الَّذِي  
يُقَالُ لَهُ التَّوَامُ فَلَمْ يَكُنْ مَعَهُمْ حِينَ جَاءَ يَسُوعُ، فَقَالَ  
لَهُ التَّلَامِيذُ الْآخَرُونَ "إِنَّنَا قَدْ رَأَيْنَا الرَّبَّ،" فَقَالَ  
لَهُمْ: "إِنْ لَمْ أَعَيْنُ أَثَرَ الْمَسَامِيرِ فِي يَدَيْهِ، وَأَضَعُ  
إِصْبَعِي فِي أَثَرِ الْمَسَامِيرِ، وَأَضَعُ يَدِي فِي جَنْبِهِ  
لَا أُوْمِنُ." وَبَعْدَ ثَمَانِيَةِ أَيَّامٍ كَانَ تَلَامِيذُهُ أَيْضًا دَاخِلًا  
وَتَوْمَ مَعَهُمْ، فَآتَى يَسُوعُ وَالْأَبْوَابُ مُغْلَقَةٌ وَوَقَفَ  
فِي الْوَسْطِ وَقَالَ لَهُمْ: "السَّلَامُ لَكُمْ،" ثُمَّ قَالَ لِتَوْمَ:  
"هَاتِ إِصْبَعَكَ إِلَى هَهُنَا وَعَيْنُ يَدَيَّ، وَهَاتِ  
يَدَكَ وَضَعْهَا فِي جَنْبِي، وَلَا تَكُنْ غَيْرَ مُؤْمِنٍ بَلْ  
مُؤْمِنًا." أَجَابَ تَوْمَ وَقَالَ لَهُ: "رَبِّي وَالْإِلَهِي." قَالَ  
لَهُ يَسُوعُ: "لَأَنَّكَ رَأَيْتَنِي يَا تَوْمَ أَمَنْتَ؟ طُوبَى  
لِلَّذِينَ لَمْ يَرَوْا وَآمَنُوا." وَأَيَّاتٍ أُخْرَى كَثِيرَةً صَنَعَ  
يَسُوعُ أَمَامَ تَلَامِيذِهِ لَمْ تُكْتَبْ فِي هَذَا الْكِتَابِ. وَأَمَّا  
هَذِهِ، فَقَدْ كُتِبَتْ لِتُؤْمِنُوا بِأَنَّ يَسُوعَ هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ ابْنُ  
اللَّهِ، وَلِكِي تَكُونَ لَكُمْ، إِذَا آمَنْتُمْ، حَيَاةً بِاسْمِهِ

## MAGNIFICATION HYMN FOR THOMAS SUNDAY (TONE 1)

O most radiant lamp, the Theotokos, the immeasurable honor, which is more exalted than all creatures, with praises do we magnify thee.

أَيْئَهَا الْمِصْنَبَاحُ السَّاطِعُ الضِّيَاءِ وَأُمُّ الْإِلَهِ، وَالشَّرْفُ  
الَّذِي لَا قِيَاسَ لَهُ، الْأَرْفَعُ مِنَ الْخَلَائِقِ جَمِيعِهَا،  
بِالتَّسَابِيحِ لَكَ نُعْظَمُ.

## COMMUNION HYMN OF THOMAS SUNDAY (PSALM 147:1)

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise thy God, O Zion. Alleluia.

سَبِّحِي يَا أُورُشَلِيمُ الرَّبَّ، سَبِّحِي إِلَهَكِ يَا صِهْيُونَ.  
هَلِّلُوِيَا.

## INSTEAD OF “WE HAVE SEEN THE TRUE LIGHT” PASCHAL TROPARION (TONE 5)

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! (*once*)

الْمَسِيحُ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، وَوَطِئَ الْمَوْتَ بِالْمَوْتِ،  
وَوَهَبَ الْحَيَاةَ لِلَّذِينَ فِي الْقُبُورِ. (مَرَّةً)

## THE SYNAXARION

On April 19th in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Hieromartyr Paphnoutios of Jerusalem; and Tryphon, patriarch of Constantinople.

On this day, the second Sunday of Pascha, we inaugurate the celebration of Christ's Resurrection, and the occasion whereon the Holy Apostle Thomas touched the Savior's side.

*If the seals of the Virgin's womb and of the grave did not hinder Thee,  
How could the seals of the doors hinder Thy might, O Savior?*

This day is called New Sunday, Thomas Sunday or Anti-Pascha. The last term means “in place of Pascha” because Thomas did not immediately hear of Christ's Resurrection and disbelieved it. Starting with this day, the Church dedicates Sunday to the celebration of the Resurrection.

As the Disciples were gathered on Pascha, Jesus entered and greeted them in His usual way, saying, “Peace be unto you.” Then He showed them His hands, feet and side. Jesus ate with His Disciples and reassured them of His Resurrection. However, Thomas was not with them at that time, and insisted upon seeing the Savior's wounds—the print of the nails in His hands and feet, and the spear in His side—before he would believe that Jesus was risen. Eight days later, Christ appeared again to the Disciples, this time with Thomas present. The Master told Thomas to see and feel His wounds. Then Thomas immediately cried out, “My Lord and my God!” But Jesus tells His Disciples, “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.” This event also clearly illustrates the human and divine Natures of Christ.

By the intercessions of Thine Apostle Thomas, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.



Are you offering **HOLY BREAD** and  
need **NAMES REMEMBERED** in the Liturgy?

Sign-Up online with the names by **TUESDAY** of that week  
[www.StGeorgeChi.org/holy-bread](http://www.StGeorgeChi.org/holy-bread) or scan QR-Code



SCAN ME

## **Holy Bread Offered By:**

**Today** – Juliette Mitri Khoury and Family

– Hani and Randa Fakhouri and Family

– Zeyad and Yanal Haddad and Family

**Wed, Apr 22** – George and Ibtisam Imreibe and Family

**Apr 26** – Afaf Fino and Family

– Wisaf Ghanma and Family

– The Hindeleh Family

– Sdn. Mazen and Souzan Rihani and Family



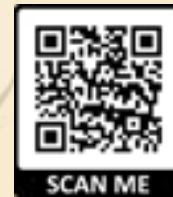
## **Coffee Hour Sponsors:**

**Today** – Juliette Mitri Khoury and Family

**Wed, Apr 22** – George and Ibtisam Imreibe and Family

**Apr 26** – Hanna and Tanya Hinnawi and Family

**May 3** – The Awad Family



## **CONDOLENCES**

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

Afaf Fino and family, on the falling asleep of her mother, †JANOUB JAMEEL KAKISH (FINO), at the age of 89, in Amman, Jordan, this past week.

**Memory Eternal!**

## **MEMORIALS**

- Apr 26**
- 9-Day Memorial Service for †JANOUB JAMEEL KAKISH (FINO), offered by Afaf Fino and family.
  - 40-Day Memorial Service for †ELIAS SHEHADA FINO, offered by Afaf Fino and family.
  - 6-Month Memorial Service for †YACOUB GHANMA, offered by Wisaf Ghanma and family.
  - 1-Year Memorial Service for †ATALLAH HINDELEH, offered by the Hindeleh family.

## **COMMEMORATIONS**

- Today**
- 4-Year Commemoration for †SEHAM HADDAD, offered by Zeyad and Yanal Haddad and family.
  - Commemoration for †ANIS MITRI KHOURY, offered by Juliette Mitri Khoury and family.

## **NEWBORNS**

**CHARBEL RAED**, son of Hanna and Marlene Shunnarah.

## **CHURCHINGS**

**Today** **ISMAIL**, son of Andres Tiburcio and Reem Fakhoury-Tiburcio.

## **BAPTISMS**

**Today** **JACOB**, son of Elias and Julia Shiheiber.

**Apr 26** **MUNTHER**, son of Jacob and Nicole Rayyan.

## **YAF COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP SPONSORS**

Today – **OPEN**

↳ May 3 – **OPEN**



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun, Apr 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-Communion Prayers</li> <li>• Orthros (Matins)</li> <li>• Choir Rehearsal</li> <li>• Great Doxology</li> <li>• Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• Sunday School Classes (<i>see pgs. 18-19</i>)</li> <li>• God's Little Lights (<i>see pg. 22</i>)</li> <li>• Coffee Hour</li> <li>• Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) – YAF Cafe (<i>see pgs. 27</i>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:45 am</li> <li>9:00 am</li> <li>9:15 am</li> <li>10:15 am</li> <li>10:20 am</li> <li>After Communion</li> <li>After Communion</li> <li>After Liturgy</li> <li>After Liturgy</li> </ul>
Mon, Apr 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance Committee Zoom Meeting</li> <li>• Sunday School Officers' Zoom Meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:00 pm</li> <li>8:00 pm</li> </ul>
Tue, Apr 22	<p><b>ANNIVERSARY OF THE MIRACULOUS WEEPING ICON (1994)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teen SOYO/Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) Transition Committee Zoom Meeting</li> <li>• Pre-Communion Prayers (<i>see pg. 47</i>)</li> <li>• Evening Divine Liturgy and Artoklasia for Patronal Feast of Saint George (<i>see pg. 47</i>)</li> <li>• Coffee Hour Reception for Patronal Feast of Saint George</li> <li>• Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) Officers' Meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:00 pm</li> <li>6:45 pm</li> <li>7:00 pm</li> <li>After Liturgy</li> <li>9:15 pm</li> </ul>
Fri, Apr 24	Wine and Cheese Reception presented by The Order-Cicero Chapter ( <i>see pg. 16</i> )	7:00 pm
Sat, Apr 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spring Cleaning (<i>see pg. 17</i>)</li> <li>• Great Vespers Service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 am</li> <li>5:00 pm</li> </ul>
Sun, Apr 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-Communion Prayers</li> <li>• Orthros (Matins)</li> <li>• Choir Rehearsal</li> <li>• Great Doxology</li> <li>• Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• Sunday School Classes (<i>see pgs. 18-19</i>)</li> <li>• God's Little Lights (<i>see pg. 22</i>)</li> <li>• Coffee Hour</li> <li>• Teen SOYO – SOYO Hour (<i>see pg. 24</i>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:45 am</li> <li>9:00 am</li> <li>9:15 am</li> <li>10:15 am</li> <li>10:20 am</li> <li>After Communion</li> <li>After Communion</li> <li>After Liturgy</li> <li>After Liturgy</li> </ul>
Thu, Apr 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• West Campus Ministry (<i>see pg. 33</i>)</li> <li>• Saint Katherine Mission Evening Program (<i>see pg. 34</i>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30 pm</li> <li>6:30 pm</li> </ul>
Sat, May 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great Vespers Service</li> <li>• JOY Club Event (<i>see pg. 23</i>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:00 pm</li> <li>After Vespers</li> </ul>
Sun, May 3	<p><b>GODPARENTS' SUNDAY (<i>see pg. 20</i>)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-Communion Prayers</li> <li>• Orthros (Matins)</li> <li>• Choir Rehearsal</li> <li>• Great Doxology</li> <li>• Divine Liturgy</li> <li>• Sunday School Classes (<i>see pgs. 18-19</i>)</li> <li>• God's Little Lights (<i>see pg. 22</i>)</li> <li>• Coffee Hour</li> <li>• Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) Coffee and Fellowship (<i>see pg. 26</i>)</li> <li>• Teen SOYO Advisory Team Meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:45 am</li> <li>9:00 am</li> <li>9:15 am</li> <li>10:15 am</li> <li>10:20 am</li> <li>After Communion</li> <li>After Communion</li> <li>After Liturgy</li> <li>After Liturgy</li> <li>12:45 pm</li> </ul>

# Dates to Remember!



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



**WED**  
APR 22

**EVENING DIVINE LITURGY  
FOR PATRONAL FEAST OF  
SAINT GEORGE**



**WED**  
MAY 20

**LITURGY FOR  
FEAST OF ASCENSION**



**SUN**  
MAY 31

**GREAT FEAST OF PENTECOST**



**MON-THU**  
JUN 8-11

*Summer Bible School*



**SAT**  
JUN 13



**WED-SUN**  
JUN 17-21

**Parish Life Conference**



**SAT-SAT**  
AUG 1-15

**DORMITION SEASON**



**SAT**  
SEP 26



*Annual Legacy Ball  
- 63rd Anniversary*



**MON-FRI**  
NOV 15-DEC 25

**HOLY ADVENT SEASON**

## The Sanctifying Dimension of the Church, Part One

*By His Eminence Metropolitan Saba (Isper)*

Once, a woman said to me, with the tone of someone who had just discovered something incredible: “At your request, the parish priest came to our home and offered the Service of the Sanctification of Water. Truly, the evil spirit has left the house, Your Eminence, and we are no longer experiencing strange occurrences.” She had told me that a series of evil events had been taking place in their home, and they did not know the cause. She was not convinced by my answer about the cause—although she is a woman with advanced academic degrees, and she and her husband are deeply committed to their faith and their church.

This is the condition of many people for whom faith has become an ideological, intellectual conviction—mixed with religious practices—while the living sanctifying dimension is absent from their lives, practically rather than merely theoretically.

The sanctifying dimension of life is essential to Christian faith, and it is the Church’s function, especially through the liturgy. That our lives be sanctified does not mean that they are limited only to good deeds and virtuous behavior. This path is certainly necessary for those who believe in the Gospel teachings. But the presence of God and His action in life—His effect upon it, and its transformation into a true fullness from Him—is an indispensable matter of faith, if we desire a truly living faith.

The liturgical dimension is among the foundations of faithful and vibrant Christian living. It is indispensable and cannot be replaced by something else. The world in which we live is saturated with the evil spirit, and nothing removes it except the Spirit of God. From here, we understand the priestly function in the Church: the priest is the person established, by divine grace, to be a means for sanctifying life and drawing down the grace of God. And when he says to someone, “May God bless you,” his words have real effect; they are not merely a pious wish.

From this angle we also understand the liturgical sacraments. Baptism may unfortunately be merely a social event for some; yet their lack of awareness of its spiritual action does not negate it. It is a true new birth, in which the baptized becomes a child of God and receives divine grace that preserves him—if he preserves it—from the evil spirit and its works.

Through the Eucharist, the Christians receives Christ Himself: He dwells in them, sanctifies them, and gives them, spiritual strength by which they confronts the evil powers that continuously wage war against them, seeking to distance them from their Lord and cast them into sin, so as to rob them of salvation and lead them to spiritual death—and even bodily death in some cases. And so it is with the rest of the sacraments.

According to Orthodox faith, the divine sacraments are not limited to seven, as legal catechesis shaped by Western thought often teaches. Rather, every prayer service that a priest performs at the request of a believer is, in a real sense, a sacrament. These prayerful services touch the lives of believers in all their details: from the blessing of water and the blessing of the home with it, to the service of Holy Oil and anointing the sick with it, to the blessing of a new car, to prayers for a child when he goes to school for the first time, and so on.

The believers live by the grace of God, and they express their longing for it through these prayerful acts which sanctify their life in its entirety. In this way they live, always drawing upon divine grace. The sanctifying dimension is not merely a ritual composed of a few actions, nor is it a talisman like those some people hang around their necks. It is a sanctifying act for which the believer asks, and that is performed by a canonical priest who has received—through the Holy Spirit—the grace of the priesthood, so that he may sanctify our lives.

A sacrament is the presence of God in an unseen manner, yet one that is felt by believers who experience it.

Unfortunately, this concept has largely disappeared in recent years. Faith for many has become a mental conviction of certain doctrines that then “require” a particular lifestyle with specific spiritual practices—by which one simply “fulfills a religious duty.”

If knowledge is essential for believers—and if it requires discernment between conscious faith and superstition—this discernment does not mean turning the spiritual life into a matter of principles alone. Faith touches every dimension of the human person: the intellectual, the spiritual, the bodily, and the practical. A person does not live by intellectual convictions separated from life. True faith is the living embodiment of these convictions in daily life.

Even priests have become estranged from this concept. Their sanctifying ministry has weakened greatly, and for many it has come to be limited to fulfilling the “duties” of the Divine Liturgy, baptism, funerals, and weddings—treated as necessary religious ceremonies. For example, the blessing of homes at Theophany has become a burden that some consider heavy and therefore neglect. So how much more the Service of the Sanctification of Water in a home when the need arises?

We are witnessing an unconscious deviation of priestly ministry from its essential function—and it is being replaced by social services and various activities that do not fall under sanctification and are not the heart of the priest’s work. Any work a priest does apart from his sanctifying ministry is not the core of his vocation. By “work” here I mean administration, accounting, and various social activities, including charitable work. These have come to occupy most of his time and ministry, and because of them he enters into conflict with the faithful, thinking they are diminishing him when they fulfill their own role and duty. There may be occasions when necessity calls him to work in this area or that, but he must remain aware of the importance of handing such tasks over—at the earliest opportunity—to those in his parish who are qualified, so that he may devote himself to the ministry of confession, the other sanctifying services, visiting the faithful, and nourishing his own life of prayer.

Why have we reached this low point of the absence of sanctifying life? The reasons are many, and there is no room to enumerate them here. But responsibility falls on all of us. The home is the first and primary educator. Whoever grows up in a household devoid of piety will find it difficult to live and understand piety when he becomes older, even if he becomes a priest or a monk. More so the believer living in the heart of society!

Perhaps cultivating the spirit of piety—which makes a person alert to the presence of God at all times—is among the greatest needs of the human person today. Truly, what does it profit a person if he gains the whole world and loses himself? What does he offer himself if he lives far from God, even if he bears God’s name and fights for Him? Life with God is first experienced in the heart, before anything else. God addresses your heart and touches it, and you are changed to become like Him; otherwise, you are deceiving yourself that you belong to Him.

You truly belong to Him when you give Him your heart. And the heart, in the Christian spiritual understanding, is the whole being. When the grace of God touches your heart, you leap for joy like a deer, and you want this joy for the world around you. Begin to sanctify your life and nourish yourself well on the abundant graces God has given to your Church. Live them. Activate them. Do not be content with social-religious appearances, which often become the very reason your heart is walled off so that the grace of God does not enter it.

## البعد التقديسي (1) المتروبوليت سابا (اسبر)

قالت لي، بنبرة من اكتشاف شيئاً ما كان قابلاً للتصديق: "لقد أتى كاهن الرعية إلى بيتنا، بناء على طلبك، وأقام خدمة تقديس الماء فيه. حقاً لقد زالت الروح الشريرة من البيت، يا سيدنا. ولم نعد نتعرض لأحداث غريبة". كانت قد أخبرتني بأن ثمة أحداثاً شريرة متتالية، تتم في بيوتهم، ولا يعرفون سبباً لها. لم تكن مقتنعة بجوابي، وهي السيدة الحاصلة على شهادات علمية عالية، والملتزمة، وزوجها، بإيمانها وكنيستها، إلى حد كبير

هذه حال الكثيرين ممن بات الإيمان، عندهم، قناعة إيديولوجية عقلية، مشوبة بممارسات دينية. بينما الوجه التقديسي الحي غائب من حياتهم، عملياً لا نظرياً

البعد التقديسي للحياة أساسي في الإيمان المسيحي، وهو وظيفة الكنيسة، بواسطة الليتورجيا خاصة. أن تتقدس حياتنا، لا يعني أن تنحصر في أفعال وسلوكيات صالحة فقط. هذا مسرى لا بد منه للمؤمنين بالإنجيل. لكن حضور الله وفعله في الحياة، وتأثيره فيها، وتحويلها إلى امتلاء حقيقي منه، قضية إيمانية لا غنى عنها، إن ابتغينا إيماناً حياً حقاً

يُعدّ البعد الليتورجي من أساسيات العيش المسيحي الأمين والحيوي، الذي لا غنى عنه، ولا يُستبدل بآخر. فالعالم الذي نحيا فيه مشبع بالروح الشرير، الذي لا يزيله سوى روح الله. من هنا نفهم الوظيفة الكهنوتية في الكنيسة. فالكاهن هو الإنسان المقام، بالنعمة الإلهية، لكي يكون سبيلاً لتقديس الحياة، واستجلاب نعمة الله. وعندما يقول لأحد: ليباركك الله، يكون لوقوله فعل حقيقي، وليس مجرد دعاء.

من هذه الزاوية نفهم الأسرار الليتورجية أيضاً. قد تكون المعمودية مجرد حدث اجتماعي عند بعضهم، للأسف، لكن عدم وعي هؤلاء لفعلها الروحي لا ينفيه. إنها ولادة جديدة حقيقية، يصير فيها المعتمد ابناً لله، ويحصل على نعمة إلهية تحفظه، إن حافظ عليها، من روح الشرير وأفعاله

وفي الإفخارستيا يأخذ المؤمن المسيح ذاته، فيسكن فيه ويقده ويحبه ويعطيه قوة روحية، يواجهه، بها، القوى الشريرة، التي لا تنني تحاربه باستمرار، فاصدة أن تبعده عن ربه، وتوقعه في الخطيئة، لكي تفقده خلاصه، وتقوده إلى الموت الروحي، وحتى الجسدي في بعض الحالات. وهكذا بقية الأسرار

بحسب الإيمان الأرثوذكسي، لا تقتصر الأسرار الإلهية على سبعة، كما يقول التعليم القانوني، المتأثر بالفكر الغربي. فكل خدمة صلاة يقوم بها الكاهن، بناء على طلب المؤمن، إنما هي سر. وتطال هذه الخدمات الصلاة حياة المؤمنين، بتفاصيلها، من خدمة تقديس الماء وتبريك البيت بها، إلى خدمة الزيت المقدس ومسح المريض به، إلى خدمة تبريك السيارة الجديدة، إلى خدمة الصلاة على الولد عند ذهابه، للمرة الأولى، إلى المدرسة، وهلم جرا.

يحيا المؤمن بنعمة الله، التي يعبر عن توقه إليها، بهذه الأفعال الصلاة، التي تقدس حياته بكلّيتها. هكذا يحيا مستمداً النعمة الإلهية في كل وقت. فليس البعد التقديسي مجرد طقس يتألف من بضعة أفعال. لا وليس هو تعويذة، كذلك التي يعلّقها بعضهم في رقبته. إنه فعل تقديسي، يطلبه المؤمن، ويتممه كاهن قانوني، حصل، بالروح القدس، على نعمة الكهنوت، لكي يقدس حياتنا

السّر هو حضور الله بشكل غير منظور، ولكنه محسوس عند المؤمنين، الذين يختبرونه.

للأسف، غاب هذا المفهوم، أو كاد، في السنين الأخيرة. فقد صار الإيمان عند الكثيرين قناعة عقلية بمسلمات إيمانية معينة، تستدعي نمط حياة معين، فيه ممارسات روحية محددة، بها يتم المرء الواجب الديني!

إذا كانت المعرفة أساسية عند المؤمنين، وتتطلب تمييزاً ما بين الإيمان الواعي والشعوذة. فلا يعني هذا التمييز جعل الحياة الروحية قضية مبادئ فقط. فالإيمان يطال أبعاد الإنسان كلها: العقلية والروحية والجسدية والعملية. لا يحيا الإنسان بقناعات عقلية مفصولة عن الحياة. الإيمان الحق تجسيد حي لهذه القناعات في الحياة اليومية.

حتى الكهنة باتوا في غربة عن هذا المفهوم، وباتت خدمتهم التقديسية ضعيفة إلى حد كبير وتقتصر، عند الكثيرين منهم، على أداء واجبات القداس الإلهي والمعمودية والدفن والزواج. باعتبارها مراسم دينية لا غنى عنها. بات، على سبيل المثال، تبريك البيوت، في عيد الغطاس، عبثاً يستقله بعضهم، ويهمله. فكيف بإقامة خدمة تقديس الماء في البيت عندما تدعو الحاجة؟!!

نشهد انحرافاً، لا واعياً، للخدمة الكهنوتية عن وظيفتها الأساسية. فيتّم استبدالها بخدمات اجتماعية وأنشطة مختلفة، لا تصب في خانة التقديس، وليست من صلب عمل الكاهن. أي عمل للكاهن سوى خدمته التقديسية ليس من صلب وظيفته. والمقصود بالعمل هنا: الإدارة والمحاسبة والأنشطة الاجتماعية المختلفة، بما فيها الخيرية. هذه باتت تحتلّ جلّ وقته وخدمته، ويدخل بسببها في صراع مع المؤمنين، ظاناً أنهم يحجمونه، عندما يقومون بدورهم وواجبهم. قد تستدعيه الحاجة إلى هذا العمل في هذا الحقل وذلك، لكنه يجب أن يبقى واعياً إلى أهمية تسليمه، في أقرب وقت، إلى من هو أهل للقيام به من أبناء رعيته، ليتفرغ هو لخدمة الاعتراف والخدم التقديسية الأخرى، وافتقاد المؤمنين، وليغذي حياة الصلاة عنده

لماذا وصلنا إلى هذا الدرك من غياب الحياة التقديسية؟ الأسباب كثيرة، ولا مجال لتعدادها في هذه العجالة.. لكن المسؤولية تقع علينا جميعاً. والبيت هو المرابي الأساسي الأول. فالذي ينشأ في بيت خالٍ من التقوى، سيستصعب عيشها وفهمها، عندما يكبر، ولو صار كاهناً، وحتى راهباً، فكيف بالمؤمن العائش في قلب المجتمع!!!

قد تكون تنمية روح التقوى، الذي يجعل الإنسان يقظاً لحضرة الله، بشكل دائم، هي أكثر ما يحتاج إليه الإنسان اليوم. حقاً ماذا ينفع الإنسان لو ربح العالم كله وخسر نفسه؟ ماذا يقدم لنفسه إذا عاش بعيداً عن الله، ولو تسمّى به، وقاتل من أجله؟ الحياة مع الله تُختبر في القلب أولاً، وقبل كل شيء. يخاطب الله قلبك ويلمسه، فتتغير، لتتشبه به، والإقانت واهم بأنك له

تكون له حقاً، عندما تعطيه قلبك. والقلب في المفهوم المسيحي الروحي هو الكيان كله. عندما تلامس نعمة الله قلبك، تطفر كالأيل فرحاً وتريد هذا الفرح للعالم المحيط بك. ابدأ بتقديس حياتك، واغتنز جيداً بالنعمة الوافرة، التي أعطهاها الله لكنيستك. عشها. فعلها. ولا تكتف بمظاهر اجتماعية دينية، كثيراً ما تكون السبب في تسوير قلبك، لنلا تدخل نعمة الله إليه

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL



## THE ORDER OF SAINT IGNATIUS—CICERO CHAPTER



# WINE AND CHEESE RECEPTION

*Live Entertainment*

**FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2026 | 7:00 PM**

### Proceeds to support The Order Grant

- *The Order Grant – helping needy families in our community*
- *Educational Scholarship*
- *Camp Scholarships*

**\$65/PERSON**

*Register by  
Sunday,  
April 19*



**SCAN ME**





Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

# SPRING CLEANING

Tasks available for  
**ALL skill levels!**



**SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026 8:00 AM**  
*To Volunteer, Scan QR Code or*  
*Email: [Property@StGeorgeChi.org](mailto:Property@StGeorgeChi.org)*



**Work  
together to  
beautify the  
Church!**



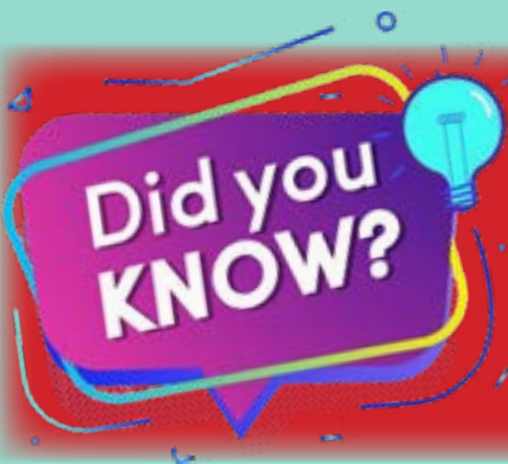


# SUNDAY SCHOOL

## Curriculum Update

### Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

This past week Saint George Church held Holy Week services every day, as well as a fruitful Holy Friday all-day vigil filled with activities for Sunday School children of all ages. Students participated in reading during the services, cleaning the Church, decorating the Bier, preparing the bay leaves, the girls were able to participate in the taking down of the Body of Christ by holding the Shroud that the Body of Christ was wrapped in, and learned how to make Holy Bread. We are blessed to have the Sunday School children take an active part in Holy Week. Please enjoy these photos that were taken throughout the week. May God continue to bless the youth of our parish.



Pascha is not over yet. The Orthodox Church celebrates the Feast of Pascha for 40 days until the Ascension of our Lord (May 21, 2026) and then 10 days later the Feast of Pentecost (May 31, 2026). We celebrate the beautiful Feast of Feasts for 50 days.

# CREATING MEMORIES

smile!



## UPCOMING EVENTS...



Sundays after Communion

Sunday School Classes

Sun | May 3

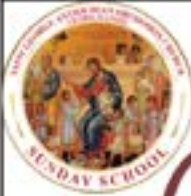
Godparents' Sunday

Sun | May 31

Recognition Sunday – LAST DAY OF CLASSES

Sun | Jun 7

Annual Graduation Blessing Ceremony



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

# Godparents' Sunday

*CELEBRATING THE SIGNIFICANT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN  
GODPARENTS AND GODCHILDREN IN THE CHURCH*

SUNDAY SCHOOL INVITES ALL

**GODPARENTS** AND **GODCHILDREN**

TO ATTEND LITURGY TOGETHER

SUNDAY

MAY  
**3**  
2026

AT 9:00 AM

KINDLY...SIT TOGETHER DURING LITURGY, RECITE THE BAPTISMAL VOWS TOGETHER, RECEIVE COMMUNION TOGETHER, AND JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS, SHORT PROGRAM, AND PHOTO OPPORTUNITY AFTER LITURGY!



# SUMMER BIBLE 2026 SCHOOL



**Theme: "Around The World (CUP)"**

**"As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world"**  
- John 9:5

**Registration Deadline: Sunday, May 10**

**\$100/CAMPER**  
**\$80/3RD SIBLING**



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

# JOY Club

Junior Orthodox Youth  
WORSHIP | WITNESS | SERVICE | FELLOWSHIP

## SPIRITUAL EVENT

Sat | May 2

4:45PM-8PM

VESPERS

DINNER | ACTIVITY

# Faith in the FIRE

The power of the faith of the  
Three Holy Youths

\$10/person



RSVP HERE  
by Thu, 04/30



SCAN ME

All youth (ages 9-12) welcome!



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

# Teen SOYO

## Save the Date...

### TEEN SOYO ACTIVITIES

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SUN, APR 26

Teen SOYO – SOYO Hour

THU, MAY 7

34th Annual IOCC Chicago Grand Banquet

SAT, MAY 9

Baking for Mother's Day

FRI, MAY 15

Teen SOYO Golf Event

SUN, MAY 24

Teen SOYO – SOYO Hour

FRI, MAY 29

Teen SOYO End-of-Term Summer Bash and Annual General Assembly with Elections

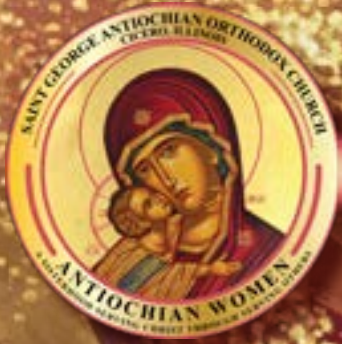
SUN, JUN 21

Teen SOYO – SOYO Hour

# ALL TEENS (13-18) WELCOME!

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

# ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN (AW)



## a Ladies Spring Luncheon

Come Celebrate  
the end of the 2025-2026 term!

### THE PROGRAM INCLUDES

Honoring the outgoing officers and  
a Tribute to the Service of the Outgoing President of four years,  
*Mrs. Abeer Kari!*

2 MID AMERICA PLAZA SUITE 100  
OAKBROOK TERRACE, IL 60181



**TUE | MAY 26**  
**11:30<sup>AM</sup> - 2:30<sup>PM</sup>**



RSVP by  
Tue, May 19



SCAN ME

**\$45/  
person**

**ALL WOMEN 18+ WELCOME!**



SAINT GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, CICERO, IL

Young Adult Fellowship

# SAVE-THE-DATE

**Sun, April 19**

**YAF Café in the Church Hall**

**Sun, May 3**

**Coffee Hour in the YAF House**

**Sun, May 17**

**YAF Café in the Church Hall**

**Sat, May 30**

**Welcome Night for High School Graduates**

**Sun, May 31**

**Coffee Hour in the YAF House**

**Sun, June 14**

**YAF Café in the Church Hall**

**Sun, June 28**

**General Meeting and Elections**

**October 15-17**

**YAF Pilgrimage to the Antiochian Village**

**INVITING ALL YOUNG PROFESSIONALS, YOUNG MARRIED COUPLES, AND COLLEGE STUDENTS (AGES 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:

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!



Antiochian  
Village

Pennsylvania



Registration  
Opened  
Wed | Feb 4

Registration Opened  
**Wednesday, FEBRUARY 4<sup>th</sup>**

Secure your spot at the  
**Antiochian Village Summer  
Camp in Pennsylvania!**

Create a NEW Account to  
Register! Click on "UltraCamp  
Instructions"



SCAN ME



Camp St. George  
I-O-W-A

June 28-July 4, 2026

Summer  
Camp



Registration is Open!

Secure your spot today!

<http://csgiowa.org/registration>



SCAN ME



# NO CAMPER LEFT BEHIND!



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

## SCHOLARSHIPS

available from

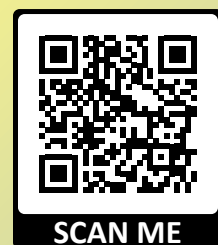
The Order of Saint Ignatius  
Cicero Chapter and National!

### No Camper Left Behind

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



DEADLINE TO APPLY  
THU, APR 30



# The Order of Saint Ignatius – Cicero Chapter

## Summer Camp Scholarship – 2026

***Application is DUE: Thursday, April 30, 2025***

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The Order of Saint Ignatius of Antioch (The Order) is an organization of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America (Antiochian Archdiocese), with the objective of financially supporting the departments, programs and charitable works of the Antiochian Archdiocese, Patriarchate of Antioch, and the Orthodox Christian faith. The Order assists the Antiochian Archdiocese in its continued effort to reach out to all in need and bring to them the message of the Gospel.

The camp program transforms lives and nurtures faith in Jesus Christ through Orthodox Christian community living, worship, education, fellowship, and love.

The Order – Cicero Chapter invites all youth from Saint George Church to apply for the Summer Camp scholarship that is generously funded by our parish.

- Scholarship Amount (*Parents are responsible for transportation to the camp*):
- **Antiochian Village** – Antiochian Village (Pennsylvania) – \$400 scholarship.
- **Camp Saint George I-OWA** – \$400 scholarship.

### **The Requirements:**

1. MUST be enrolled in Sunday School.
2. MUST attend Sunday School regularly.
3. MUST attend Church Services at Saint George Church.
4. MUST be registered members of Saint George Church.
5. MUST be a member of Teen SOYO, if applicable.
6. MUST be Children ages 9-17.
7. MUST complete at least a 4-hour service project at Saint George Church on **Saturday, April 25, 2026**. (*If unavailable on this date, please notify the Church office.*)
8. MUST participate in a short presentation about your camp experience.
9. MUST NOT have received this scholarship for more than two (2) previous years.





Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL  
**The Order of Saint Ignatius – Cicero Chapter**

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**FATHER ATHANASIOS EMMERT**  
**SCHOLARSHIP AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**  
**2026 APPLICATION**

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The Saint George Cicero Chapter of The Order of Saint Ignatius joyfully presents the *Father Athanasios Emmert Scholarship Award of Excellence!* This scholarship is meant to recognize one young person who embodies the spirit of excellence through their faith involvement, community service, and academic achievements!

The Order of Saint Ignatius of Antioch (The Order) is an organization of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America (Antiochian Archdiocese), with the objective of financially supporting the departments, programs and charitable works of the Antiochian Archdiocese, Patriarchate of Antioch and the Orthodox Christian faith. The Order assists the Antiochian Archdiocese in its continued effort to reach out to all in need and bring to them the message of the Gospel. Saint George Church in Cicero, Illinois, currently has an active chapter of The Order.

This award is named after Father Athanasios Emmert, the former pastor of Saint George Church, who served from 1975 to 1985. Please read the attached brief biography of Father Emmert.

The recipient will be recognized with a medal at the Legacy Ball on September 26, 2026, their name included on the Father Athanasios Emmert Scholarship Award plaque in the Church library, and a monetary award of \$3000!

**The scholarship applicant must meet the following criteria:**

1. Freshman enrolled in a college or university during the fall 2026
2. Member in good standing of the Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church-Cicero, IL
3. Demonstrates strong excellence in Orthodox Christian faith and in Orthodox Christian Church life
4. Demonstrates strong excellence in community service
5. Demonstrates strong excellence of academic achievements
6. Must be able to attend the Legacy Ball on Saturday, September 26, 2026

**Please submit the following to *The Order* by Sunday August 2, 2026:**

- Attached application form and responses to questions below
- Copy of college acceptance letter



As a reminder, this is not a scholarship for financial need. If you need financial assistant for your education, please reach out to *The Order* at [TheOrder@StGeorgeChi.org](mailto:TheOrder@StGeorgeChi.org) and inquire about educational grants.

**Application DUE Sunday, August 2, 2026**  
**Send Completed Application to [TheOrder@StGeorgeChi.org](mailto:TheOrder@StGeorgeChi.org)**

## ATTENTION ALL 2026 GRADUATES

8<sup>th</sup> Grade – High School – College (*Associate's, Bachelor's, Master's, Doctorate Degrees*) – Professional Certificate



### Participate in the Eighth Annual **GRADUATION BLESSING CEREMONY**

**Sunday, June 7** During Sunday Morning Services

Each participating graduate will be escorted down the Church aisle by their parents and receive a Blessing and Gift from Father Saba.  
Sponsored by The Order of Saint Ignatius-Cicero Chapter.

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To participate in the ceremony, complete the **2026 Graduate Online Form** and submit with a high-resolution digital graduation photo (*cap and gown if available or formal attire headshot only*)  
**by SUNDAY, MAY 17<sup>TH</sup>.**

Special Edition Graduation Bulletin will be published for the Ceremony. Non-participant 2026 Graduates may submit a graduation announcement for publication without a photo.



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

# West Campus Ministry

2026

## Spring Session

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

### THURSDAYS

Apr 30 — May 7 — May 14 — May 28 — Jun 4

### PROGRAM

6:30PM - 9:00PM



COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS



PRAYER



BIBLE STUDY



GROUP ACTIVITY



KIDS ACTIVITY

### LESSONS

APR 30 Gospel of Mark, Ch 1-3

MAY 7 Gospel of Mark, Ch 4-6

MAY 14 Gospel of Mark, Ch 7-9

MAY 28 Gospel of Mark, Ch 10-12

JUN 4 Gospel of Mark, Ch 13-16

ALL ARE WELCOME!

← West  
Campus





SAINT KATHERINE THE GREAT  
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX MISSION

# Spring Program

**THURSDAYS AT 6:30 PM**

APRIL

**30**

**GOSPEL OF MARK: CHAPTERS 1-3**

**GOSPEL OF MARK: CHAPTERS 4-6**

MAY

**7**

MAY

**14**

**GOSPEL OF MARK: CHAPTERS 7-9**

**GOSPEL OF MARK: CHAPTERS 10-12**

MAY

**21**

MAY

**28**

**GOSPEL OF MARK: CHAPTERS 13-14**

**GOSPEL OF MARK: CHAPTERS 15-16**

JUNE

**4**

**Coffee & Refreshments, Evening Prayers, Bible  
Study and Group Activity to Follow!**

**7313 WAUKEGAN RD. NILES, IL 60714**



Saint Katherine the Great Antiochian Orthodox Mission

# SAVE THE DATE

With the Blessing of His Eminence **Metropolitan SABA**  
Primate of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

Saint Katherine Antiochian Orthodox Mission  
in the Northern Suburbs of Chicagoland

Joyfully Announces

## The Celebration of its Inaugural Divine Liturgy!

Come and Celebrate the very First Liturgy at the new Mission!

Saturday, May 16, 2026

8:45 a.m. Pre-Communion Prayers

9:00 a.m. Orthros (Matins) Service

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

*Celebratory Luncheon to Follow  
Details Coming Soon!*

7313 Waukegan Road, Niles, Illinois 60714

# DIOCESE OF TOLEDO AND THE MIDWEST PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE 2026

**JUNE 17-21, 2026**

**BEST WESTERN PLUS STRONGSVILLE/CLEVELAND**

**15471 ROYALTON RD, STRONGSVILLE, OH 44136**

**JOIN US FOR WORSHIP,  
WORKSHOPS,  
FELLOWSHIP AND  
FUN!**

**GROUP RATE:  
\$119.00  
(DEADLINE MAY 18TH)**

**PLUS:**

- BIBLE BOWL
- VBS
- TEEN EVENTS
- YOUNG ADULT  
GROUP W/ FR.  
ANTHONY YAZGE

**HOSTED BY:  
ST. MATTHEW CHURCH  
(NORTH ROYALTON, OH)**



**REGISTER  
HERE:**



**FR. JEREMY DAVIS**  
ARCH. VICAR OF THE  
DIOCESE OF TOLEDO  
& THE MIDWEST



**FR. PAUL ABERNATHY**  
KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**KRIS HOWARD**  
DIRECTOR OF  
SACRED MUSIC



**ROBERT SNYDER**  
DIRECTOR OF  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SAVE THE DATE



JOIN US FOR OUR  
**34TH ANNUAL IOCC  
CHICAGO GRAND BANQUET**

Thursday, May 7, 2026

Cocktails 6:00 pm | Dinner 7:00 pm

**EMPRESS BANQUETS**

200 E Lake Street, Addison, IL 60101

Please join us for an amazing evening of fellowship and learn how your generosity helps those in need in places like Greece, the Holy Land, Ukraine, and right here in the US. Please consider contributing to IOCC by becoming an IOCC Banquet Benefactor, Sponsor, Patron, or Friend.

\$125 per person | \$1,250 per table

RSVP by Friday, April 24



Register at [iocc.org/Chicago](https://iocc.org/Chicago)

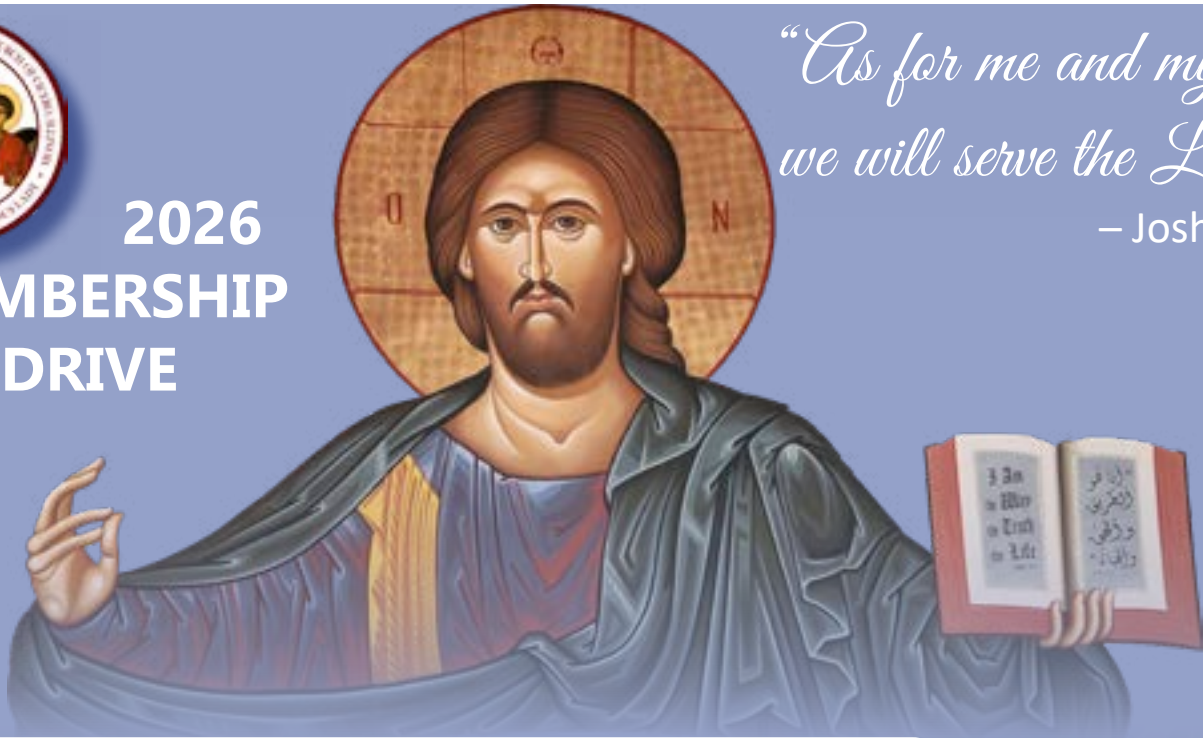


SCAN ME

The fair market value (FMV) for each ticket is \$70. Only the portion of the payment that exceeds the FMV is deductible as a charitable contribution.



## 2026 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



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

– Joshua 4:15

### **DO YOU BELONG?**

- Belonging is more than attending.
- Belonging is committing.
- Belonging is living the Orthodox Faith together.

### **AT SAINT GEORGE CHURCH,**

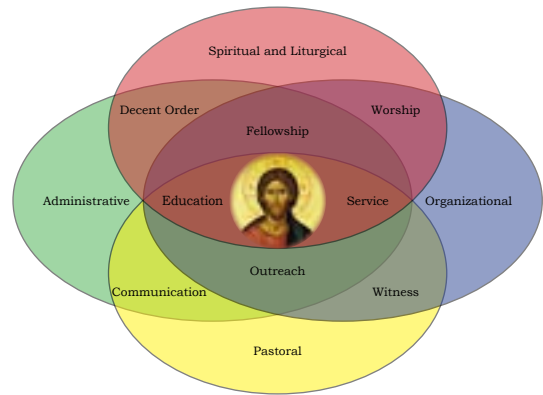
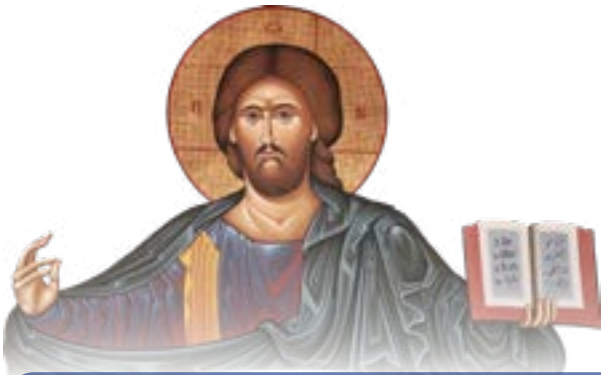
we are called to be one Body in Christ – united in worship, stewardship, service, and love.

- If this is your spiritual home...
- If you are nourished here...
- If you want your children rooted in the Orthodox Faith...

## **YOU DO BELONG!**

# **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)



## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BELONG?

Through Orthodox Baptism and Chrismation, we are joined to Christ and His Holy Church. Membership is how we actively live that calling.

### TO BELONG MEANS:

- Worshiping faithfully
- Participating in the Sacramental life
- Supporting the Church through stewardship
- Offering your time and talents
- Strengthening one another as one Body
- Building a legacy for the next generation

Membership is not simply administrative – it is spiritual.

The Church is not “someone else’s responsibility.”

**IT IS OUR CHURCH!**

# WHAT DOES MY MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT?

Your stewardship sustains the life and mission of the Church. Membership contributions help provide:

## WORSHIP AND SACRAMENTAL LIFE

- Liturgical supplies
- Beautification of services
- Feast-day celebrations

## CHURCH OPERATIONS

- Utilities and insurance
- Building maintenance and repairs
- Administrative and office support
- Diocesan obligations

## FAITH FORMATION

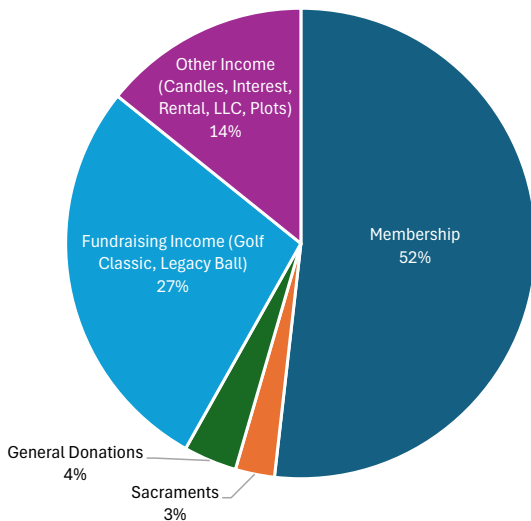
- Sunday School and youth programs
- Adult education
- Ministries for children and families

## OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY CARE

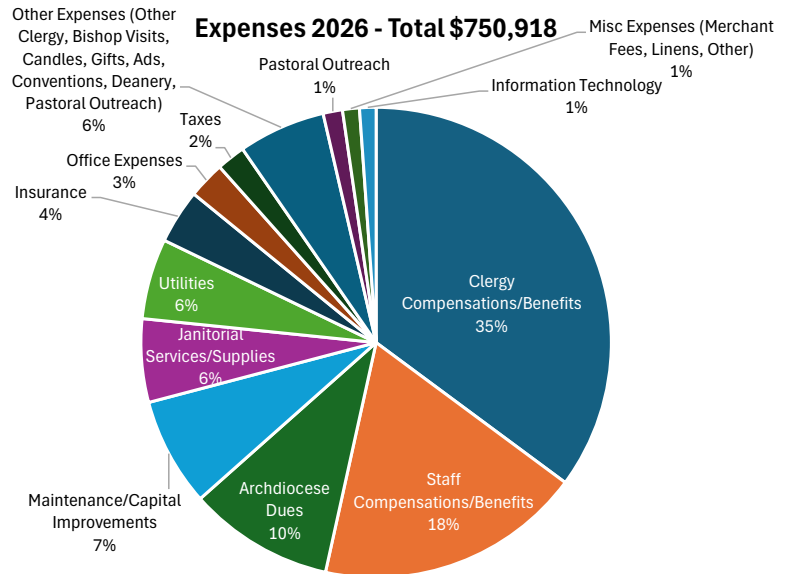
- Assistance to families in need
- Community support initiatives
- Charitable ministries

# YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES MINISTRY POSSIBLE.

Revenue 2026 - Total \$723,962



Expenses 2026 - Total \$750,918



## HOW CAN I BELONG?

We invite every household to:

1. Complete an Annual Membership Form.
2. Make a Stewardship Pledge.
3. Participate faithfully in worship.
4. Offer your gifts in service.

## WAYS TO GIVE...

- Annual Stewardship Commitment
- Monthly Recurring Giving
- Special Feast-Day Offerings
- Memorial Donations
- Legacy and Endowment Gifts
- Building and Maintenance Support

Giving is not a fee. It is an offering of gratitude to God.

## BELONG. COMMIT. BUILD.

When you belong, you strengthen the Orthodox Faith, support the work of the Church, and help carry forward the legacy entrusted to us.

## DO YOU BELONG?

Join us in building a firm foundation for today – and for generations to come.

## REGISTER TO BE A MEMBER/STEWARD!

Consider prayerfully and sincerely your 2026 Membership Commitment Today!

IN GRATITUDE FOR GOD'S BLESSINGS, I/WE OFFER THE FOLLOWING 2026 MEMBERSHIP COMMITMENT:

STEWARD OPTIONS	ANNUALLY	MONTHLY	WEEKLY	DAILY
<input type="checkbox"/> Seraphim Steward	\$25,000+	\$2000+	\$500+	\$68+
<input type="checkbox"/> Cherubim Steward	\$18,000+	\$1500+	\$345+	\$49+
<input type="checkbox"/> Thrones Steward	\$15,000+	\$1250+	\$285+	\$41+
<input type="checkbox"/> Powers Steward	\$12,000+	\$1000+	\$230+	\$32+
<input type="checkbox"/> Dominions Steward	\$9,000+	\$750+	\$172+	\$24+
<input type="checkbox"/> Authorities Steward	\$6,000+	\$500+	\$115+	\$16+
<input type="checkbox"/> Preserver Steward	\$4,800+	\$400+	\$92+	\$13+
<input type="checkbox"/> Guardian Steward	\$3,600+	\$300+	\$68+	\$9+
<input type="checkbox"/> Protector Steward	\$2,400+	\$200+	\$46+	\$6+
<input type="checkbox"/> Archangel Steward	\$1,800+	\$150+	\$35+	\$5+
<input type="checkbox"/> Angel Steward	\$1200+	\$100+	\$23+	\$3+

\*To be a VOTING MEMBER, a member must be an Orthodox Christian in good standing Spiritually and Financially (minimum giving of \$1200/year).

WAYS  
TO  
GIVE!



ONLINE  
www.StGeorgeChi.org



MAIL  
to Church address



CALL  
708.656.2927, x0



CONSIDER INCLUDING  
SGC IN YOUR WILL



EST. 2001

SAINT GEORGE GOLF CLASSIC  
MMXXVI

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

Golfing for a purpose

## SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH

Registration  
Deadline

**FRIDAY,  
MAY 1**

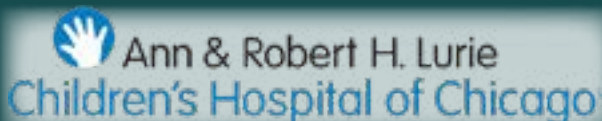


SCAN ME



- CANTIGNY GOLF COURSE  
27W270 MACK RD, WHEATON, IL
- CHECK-IN 11:00 AM
- BRUNCH & PROGRAM
- PUTTING CONTEST
- SHOT GUN START
- AFTER-GOLF SOCIAL WITH AWARDS, RAFFLE DRAWING, AND COCKTAILS
- REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR ALL-DAY ADMISSION\*  
*\*ADMISSION INCLUDES NETWORK BRUNCH, GOLF, AND AFTER-GOLF SOCIAL  
ALL 3 EVENTS ONLY AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE  
AS A PACKAGE; WILL NOT BE SOLD SEPARATELY*
- SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

Portion of Proceeds to Benefit



# NEW FORMAT! GREAT PRIZES! WORTHY CAUSE!



SAINT GEORGE GOLF CLASSIC  
MMXXVI  
1220 S 60th Ct, Cicero, IL 60804  
708/656-2927  
www.StGeorgeChi.org

## Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, CICERO, IL 25th Annual GOLF CLASSIC RAFFLE

**PORTION OF PROFITS  
TO BENEFIT:**



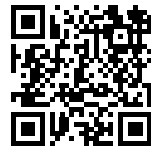
**GRAND PRIZE: GOOOOAL!** INCLUDES: 2 WORLD CUP TICKETS TO THE JORDAN VS ARGENTINA GAME IN DALLAS, TX, SAT, JUN 27 AT 9PM AND \$1,000 AIRFARE/HOTEL VOUCHER (\$3,500 VALUE)

**2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE: A NIGHT OUT!** INCLUDES: 1-NIGHT STAY AT TRUMP INTERNATIONAL HOTEL & TOWER AND CAPITAL GRILLE DINNER GIFT CARD (\$1,000 VALUE)

**3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE: MOVIE NIGHT!** INCLUDES: 65" LG 4K QNED SMART TV (\$1,000 VALUE)

\$50 per ticket / 3 tickets for \$100

Drawing on Saturday, June 13, 2026 during After-Golf Social  
(WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN)



SCAN ME

Purchase your Raffle Tickets today!

📍 [www.StGeorgeChi.org/Golf](http://www.StGeorgeChi.org/Golf) | 📞 (708) 656-2927



SAINT GEORGE GOLF CLASSIC  
MMXXVI

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

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

**Golfing for a purpose**

## Sponsorships

HIGHLIGHT YOUR COMPANY, BUSINESS, OR FAMILY'S COMMITMENT TO CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY

GOLFING FOR A PURPOSE

CHARITABLE BENEFICIARIES OF SAINT GEORGE CHURCH 25TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC:



	Presenting \$20,000	Premier \$10,000	Platinum \$5,000	Corporate \$3,500	Patron \$2,000	Friend of Event \$1,000	Community \$600
Golfers*	8	8	4	4	—	—	—
Premium Gifts	2	2	1	1	—	—	—
Standard Classic Gift	8	8	4	4	—	—	—
Commemorative Plaque	1	1	1	1	—	—	—
Standard Classic Gift OR Commemorative Plaque	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Raffle Tickets	6	3	3	—	—	—	—
Event Naming Rights	●	—	—	—	—	—	—
Logo Placement	Top-Tier (marketing, signage, website, social media)	Prominent (marketing, signage, website, social media)	Shared (signage, website)	Shared (signage, website)	Shared (signage, website)	Shared (signage, website)	Shared (signage, website)
Program Book Ad	Exclusive Full-Page	Full-Page	Half-Page	Quarter-Page	—	—	—
Signage	Prime	Key-location	Shared	Shared	Shared	Shared	Shared
Website Recognition	●	●	●	●	●	●	—
Speaker Opportunity	●	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hole Sponsorship	●	●	●	●	—	—	—
Tee Box	●	●	●	●	●	●	—

**Golfer Experience Package** (add-on to sponsorship)  
**\$1,200**

All-Day Admission for 4 Golfers\*

**Golfer Experience Package** (golfers only, no sponsorship)  
**\$1,500** (Limited quantities available)

All-Day Admission for 4 Golfers\*

\*Registration Required for All-Day Admission  
Admission includes network brunch, golf, and after-golf social  
**All 3 Events only available for purchase as a package; will not be sold separately**

**Golf Registration and Sponsorships Submission DEADLINE FRI | MAY 1**



SCAN ME

**Secure your sponsorship today!**

📍 [www.StGeorgeChi.org/Golf](http://www.StGeorgeChi.org/Golf) | 📞 (708) 656-2927



SAINT GEORGE GOLF CLASSIC  
MMXXVI

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

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

**Golfing for a purpose**

## Sponsors

### Premier

- Yasmin and Darlene Haddad
- Dn. John and Sh. Alice Zayed

### Platinum

- Naheel Rantisi, Attorney at Law
- Mazen, Juwana, Alexandra, Daniella Zanayed and Justin Rayyan

### Corporate

- Dr. Ghassan and Renee Aldurra
- Victor and Jackie Imreibe and Family (Edward Jones)
- Dr. Daniel and Amanda Mseih, Elevate Wellness Chiropractic Medicine
- Dn. George Nassief and Family
- Dr. Sammy and Karen Nawas and Family

### Patron

- Michael and Diane Moukheiber and Family
- Eddy and Veve Shaheen (Veritas Management, LLC)
- In memory of †Matuk and †Ramona Rantisi

### Friend of Event

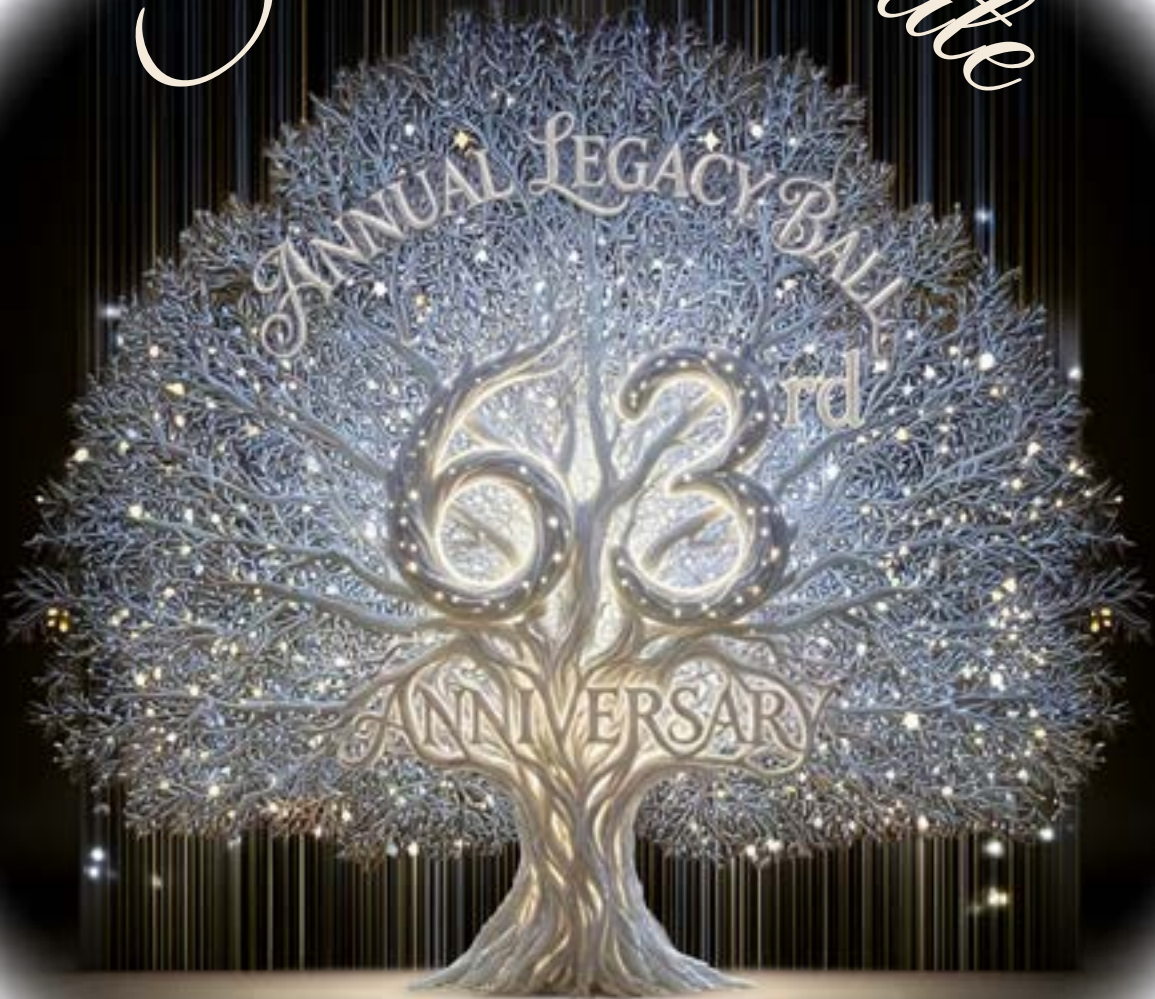
- Pritzker Trauert Foundation

### Community

### General

- ABT Electronics
- Trump International Hotel & Tower Chicago

*Save the Date*



*09.26.26*



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church  
Cicero, IL

Evening Divine  
Liturgy and Artoklasia  
for the Patronal Feast  
of Saint George  
and the  
Anniversary of  
the Miraculous  
Weeping Icon

Wednesday  
April 22, 2026

6:45<sup>PM</sup>

Pre-Communion Prayers

7:00<sup>PM</sup>

Evening Divine Liturgy  
and Artoklasia

