



# WEEKLY BULLETIN

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

الأحد الرابع عشر بعد العنصرة  
والأحد الرابع عشر من متى

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
AND THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW



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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Faraj Shahrstan, *CHANTER*

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All Choir Members, Ushers, & Acolytes

## **CHURCH OFFICE:**

Veronica Egan, *OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR*

Samar Rihani, *ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY*

Holly Goljić, *GRAPHIC DESIGNER*

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Dn. Moses Bynum, *CLERGY*

Lillian Rihani, *SUNDAY SCHOOL*

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

Jerjes 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 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 الْعَلَاءِ،  
وَعَلَى الْأَرْضِ السَّلَامُ، وَفِي النَّاسِ الْمَسَرَّةُ  
نُسَبِّحُكَ نُبَارِكُكَ، نَسْجُدُ لَكَ نُمَجِّدُكَ، نَشْكُرُكَ مِنْ  
أَجْلِ عَظِيمِ جَلَالِ مَجْدِكَ

أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ الْمَلِكُ، السَّمَاوِيُّ، إِلَهُ، الْآبُ الضَّابِطُ  
الْكُلِّ. أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ الْإِبْنُ الْوَحِيدُ، يَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحُ،  
وَيَا أَيُّهَا الرُّوحُ الْقُدُسُ

أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ إِلَهُ، يَا حَمَلَ اللَّهِ يَا ابْنَ الْآبِ، يَا رَافِعَ  
خَطِيئَةِ الْعَالَمِ ارْحَمْنَا، يَا رَافِعَ خَطَايَا الْعَالَمِ  
تَقَبَّلْ تَضَرُّعَنَا أَيُّهَا الْجَالِسُ عَنْ يَمِينِ الْآبِ  
وَارْحَمْنَا

لَأَنَّكَ أَنْتَ وَحْدَكَ قُدُّوسٌ، أَنْتَ وَحْدَكَ الرَّبُّ  
يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحُ، فِي مَجْدِ اللَّهِ الْآبِ، آمِينَ.  
فِي كُلِّ يَوْمٍ أَبَارِكُكَ، وَأُسَبِّحُ اسْمَكَ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ،  
وَالْإِلَهِي إِلَى الْأَبَدِ

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

لِتَكُنْ يَا رَبُّ رَحْمَتَكَ عَلَيْنَا، كَمِثْلِ اتِّكَلَانَا عَلَيْكَ.  
مُبَارَكَ أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ عَلَّمَنِي حَقُوقَكَ. (ثَلَاثًا)  
يَا رَبُّ مَلْجَأُ كُنْتُ لَنَا فِي جِيلٍ وَجِيلٍ، أَنَا قُلْتُ  
يَا رَبُّ ارْحَمْنِي وَاشْفِ نَفْسِي لِأَنَّنِي قَدْ خَطِئْتُ  
إِلَيْكَ

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

قُدُّوسُ اللَّهِ، قُدُّوسُ الْقَوِيِّ، قُدُّوسُ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ  
ارْحَمْنَا. (ثَلَاثًا)

المَجْدُ لِلْآبِ وَالْإِبْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ.  
الآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ، آمِينَ.  
قُدُّوسُ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ ارْحَمْنَا.

قُدُّوسُ اللَّهِ، قُدُّوسُ الْقَوِيِّ، قُدُّوسُ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ  
ارْحَمْنَا

# TODAY'S LITURGY INSERTS

## RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION (TONE 5)

Let us worship the Word, O ye faithful, praising Him \* that with the Father and Spirit is co-beginningless God, \* Who was born of a pure Virgin that we all be saved; \* for he was pleased to mount the Cross \* in the flesh that He assumed, accepting thus to endure death. \* And by His glorious rising, He also willed to resurrect the dead.

لِنُسَبِّحْ نَحْنُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَنَسْجُدُ لِلْكَلِمَةِ، الْمُسَاوِي  
لِلآبِ وَالرُّوحِ فِي الْأَزَلِيَّةِ وَعَدَمِ الْإِبْتِدَاءِ، الْمَوْلُودِ  
مِنَ الْعَذْرَاءِ لِخَلَاصِنَا، لِأَنَّهُ سَرَّ بِالْجَسَدِ أَنْ يَغْلُو  
عَلَى الصَّلِيبِ، وَيَحْتَمِلَ الْمَوْتَ، وَيُنْهَضَ الْمَوْتَى  
بِقِيَامَتِهِ الْمَجِيدَةِ.

## 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 لِنَسْجُدْ وَنَرْكَعَ لِلْمَسِيحِ، مَلِكِنَا وَإِلَهِنَا. خَلِّصْنَا يَا  
ابْنَ اللَّهِ، يَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، لِنُرْتِّلَ لَكَ. هَلْلُويَا

## RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION (TONE 5)

Let us worship the Word, O ye faithful, praising Him \* that with the Father and Spirit is co-beginningless God, \* Who was born of a pure Virgin that we all be saved; \* for he was pleased to mount the Cross \* in the flesh that He assumed, accepting thus to endure death. \* And by His glorious rising, He also willed to resurrect the dead.

لِنُسَبِّحْ نَحْنُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَنَسْجُدُ لِلْكَلِمَةِ، الْمُسَاوِي  
لِلآبِ وَالرُّوحِ فِي الْأَزَلِيَّةِ وَعَدَمِ الْإِبْتِدَاءِ، الْمَوْلُودِ  
مِنَ الْعَذْرَاءِ لِخَلَاصِنَا، لِأَنَّهُ سَرَّ بِالْجَسَدِ أَنْ يَغْلُو  
عَلَى الصَّلِيبِ، وَيَحْتَمِلَ الْمَوْتَ، وَيُنْهَضَ الْمَوْتَى  
بِقِيَامَتِهِ الْمَجِيدَةِ.

## TROPARION OF ARCHANGEL MICHAEL (TONE 4)

Supreme Commander of the Hosts of the Heavens, \* we, the unworthy, importune and beseech thee \* that by thy supplications thou encircle us \* in the shelter of the wings \* of thine immaterial glory, \* guarding us who now fall down \* and cry to thee with fervor: \* Deliver us from dangers of all kinds, \* as the great Marshal of the heavenly hosts on high.

أَيُّهَا الْمُتَقَدِّمُ عَلَى الْجُنْدِ السَّمَائِيِّينَ، نَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكَ نَحْنُ  
غَيْرِ الْمُسْتَحِقِّينَ، حَتَّى إِنَّكَ بِطَلِبَاتِكَ تَكْتَنِفُنَا بِظِلِّ  
أَجْنَحَةِ مَجْدِكَ اللاهِيُولِي، حَافِظاً إِيَّانَا نَحْنُ الْجَائِثِينَ  
وَالصَّارِحِينَ بِغَيْرِ قُتُورٍ: أَنْقِذْنَا مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ، بِمَا أَنَّكَ  
رَئِيسُ مَرَاتِبِ الْقَوَاتِ الْعُلُويَّةِ.

## 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 أَنَّكَ لِلْمَأْسُورِينَ مُحَرِّرٌ وَمُعْتِقٌ، وَلِلْفُقَرَاءِ  
وَالْمَسَاكِينِ عَاضِدٌ وَنَاصِرٌ وَلِلْمَرْضَى طَبِيبٌ وَشَافٍ  
وَعَنِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ مُكَافِحٌ وَمُحَارِبٌ أَيُّهَا الْعَظِيمُ فِي  
الشُّهَدَاءِ جَاوَرِجِيُوسُ اللَّابِسُ الطَّفَرِ تَشْفَعُ إِلَى الْمَسِيحِ  
الِإِلَهِ فِي خَلَاصِ نَفُوسِنَا.

## KONTAKION OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS (TONE 4)

By thy holy nativity, O pure one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness; and Adam and Eve were delivered from the corruption of death; thy people do celebrate it, having been saved from the stain of iniquity, crying unto thee: The barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, who nourisheth our life.

إِنَّ يُوَاكِيمَ وَحَنَّةَ مِنْ عَارِ الْعُفْرِ أُطْلِقَا، وَآدَمَ وَحَوَاءَ مِنْ فَسَادِ الْمَوْتِ، بِمَوْلِدِكَ الْمُقَدَّسِ يَا طَاهِرَةً أُعْتِقَا. فَلَهُ يُعَيِّدُ شَعْبُكَ، وَقَدْ تَخَلَّصَ مِنْ وَصْمَةِ الزَّلَّاتِ، صَارِخًا نَحْوَكِ: الْعَاقِرُ تَلِدُ وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ الْمُغَذِّيَّةَ حَيَاتِنَا.

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

## EPISTLE READERS

| English              |              | Arabic            |
|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| <b>Nai Bechara</b>   | <b>Today</b> | <b>Mary Homsy</b> |
| Lillian Rihani       | Sep 13       | Amanda Imseih     |
| Sh. Alice Zayed      | Sep 20       | Mariana Saba      |
| Tamara Issam Maatouk | Sep 27       | Sally Isber       |

## THE SYNAXARION

On September 6th in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the dread miracle of the Chief Commander Michael that took place in Colossae of Phrygia; and we also commemorate Saint Archippos of Hierapolis.

*Most mighty in thy temple, O Michael, Great Marshal,*

*Thou hast marshaled the river's floods into a funnel.*

*On the sixth, Michael, Prince of Angels, hid the confluence of rivers.*

The Archangel Michael delivered from destruction a church and a holy, miraculous spring named for him. The pagans, moved by malice, sought to turn the course of two rivers against the church and the spring. But the Archangel appeared by the prayers of the holy Archippos and, by means of the Cross and a great earthquake that shook the entire area, diverted the waters into an underground course. Henceforth, the name of that place changed from Colossae to Chonae, which means "funnels" in Greek. Archippos lived there until age 70, when he entered peacefully into Heaven.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyrs Eudoxios, Zeno, Romulus and Makarios at Melitene in Armenia. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O God, have mercy on us. Amen.

*Thou, O Lord, wilt keep and preserve us.*

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

## The Reading from the Second Epistle of Saint Paul to the Corinthians (1:21-2:4)

Brethren, it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has commissioned us; He has put his seal upon us and given us His Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. But I call God to witness against me—it was to spare you that I refrained from coming to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith; we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith. For I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? And I wrote as I did, so that when I came I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice, for I felt sure of all of you, that my joy would be the joy of you all. For I wrote you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ تَحْفَظُنَا وَتَسْتُرُنَا مِنْ هَذَا الْجِيلِ.

خَلِّصْنِي يَا رَبُّ، فَإِنَّ الْبَارَّ قَدْ فَنِيَ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِّيسِ بُولُسَ الرَّسُولِ

الثَّانِيَةِ إِلَى أَهْلِ كُورِنْثُوسَ (1:21-2:4)

يَا إِخْوَةُ، إِنَّ الَّذِي يُثَبِّتُنَا مَعَكُمْ فِي الْمَسِيحِ، وَقَدْ مَسَحَنَا، هُوَ اللَّهُ، الَّذِي خَتَمَنَا أَيْضاً وَأَعْطَى عُرْبُونَ الرُّوحِ فِي قُلُوبِنَا. وَإِنِّي أَسْتَشْهَدُ اللَّهَ عَلَى نَفْسِي، أَنِّي لِإِشْفَاقِي عَلَيْكُمْ، لَمْ آتِ أَيْضاً إِلَى كُورِنْثُوسَ. لَا لِأَنَّا نَسُودُ عَلَى إِيْمَانِكُمْ، بَلْ نَحْنُ أَغْوَانُ سُرُورِكُمْ، لِأَنَّكُمْ ثَابِتُونَ عَلَى الْإِيْمَانِ، وَقَدْ جَزَمْتُ بِهَذَا فِي نَفْسِي أَنْ لَا آتِيَكُمْ أَيْضاً فِي غَمٍّ. لِأَنِّي إِنْ كُنْتُ أُغْمُكُمْ، فَمَنْ الَّذِي يَسُرُّنِي غَيْرُ مَنْ أَسَيِّبُ لَهُ الْغَمَّ؟ وَإِنَّمَا كَتَبْتُ إِلَيْكُمْ هَذَا بَعِيْنِهِ لِنَلَّا يَنَالَنِي عِنْدَ قَدُومِي غَمٌّ مِمَّنْ كَانَ يَنْبَغِي أَنْ أَفْرَحَ بِهِمْ، وَإِنِّي لَوَاقِقُ بِجَمِيعِكُمْ أَنْ فَرَحِي هُوَ فَرَحُ جَمِيعِكُمْ. فَإِنِّي مِنْ شِدَّةِ كَابَةِ وَكَرْبِ قَلْبٍ، كَتَبْتُ إِلَيْكُمْ بِدُمُوعٍ كَثِيرَةٍ، لَا لِتَغْتَمُّوا، بَلْ لِتَعْرِفُوا مَا عِنْدِي مِنَ الْمَحَبَّةِ بِالْأَكْثَرِ لَكُمْ

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel**

**according to Saint Matthew (22:2-14)**

The Lord spoke this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a marriage feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the marriage feast; but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, Behold, I have made ready my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves are killed, and everything is ready; come to the marriage feast.' But they made light of it and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the thoroughfares, and invite to the marriage feast as many as you find.' And those servants went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment; and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and cast him into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

**فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ لَوْقَا**

**الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ (22:2-14)**

قَالَ الرَّبُّ هَذَا الْمَثَلُ: يُشَبِّهُ مَلَكُوتُ السَّمَاوَاتِ إِنْسَانًا مَلِكًا صَنَعَ عُرْسًا لِابْنِهِ. فَأَرْسَلَ عِبِيدَهُ لِيَدْعُوا الْمَدْعُوعِينَ إِلَى الْعُرْسِ، فَلَمْ يُرِيدُوا أَنْ يَأْتُوا. فَأَرْسَلَ أَيْضًا عِبِيدًا آخَرِينَ وَقَالَ: قُولُوا لِلْمَدْعُوعِينَ: هُوَذَا غَدَائِي قَدْ أَعَدَدْتُهُ، ثِيرَانِي وَمُسَمَّنَاتِي قَدْ ذُبَحَتْ، وَكُلُّ شَيْءٍ مُهَيَّأٌ فَهَلُّمُوا إِلَى الْعُرْسِ. وَلَكِنَّهُمْ تَهَاوَنُوا. فَذَهَبَ بَعْضُهُمْ إِلَى حَقْلِهِ، وَبَعْضُهُمْ إِلَى تِجَارَتِهِ وَالْبَاقُونَ قَبَضُوا عَلَى عِبِيدِهِ وَشَتَمُوهُمْ وَقَتَلُوهُمْ. فَلَمَّا سَمِعَ الْمَلِكُ، غَضِبَ وَأَرْسَلَ جُنُودَهُ، فَأَهْلَكَ أُولَئِكَ الْقَتْلَةَ وَأَحْرَقَ مَدِينَتَهُمْ. حِينَئِذٍ قَالَ لِعَبِيدِهِ: أَمَّا الْعُرْسُ فَمُعَدَّةٌ وَأَمَّا الْمَدْعُوعُونَ فَلَمْ يَكُونُوا مُسْتَحِقِّينَ. فَاذْهَبُوا إِلَى مَفَارِقِ الطُّرُقِ، وَكُلُّ مَنْ وَجَدْتُمُوهُ، فَادْعُوهُ إِلَى الْعُرْسِ. فَخَرَجَ أُولَئِكَ الْعَبِيدُ إِلَى الطُّرُقِ، فَجَمَعُوا كُلَّ مَنْ وَجَدُوا مِنْ أَشْرَارٍ وَصَالِحِينَ، فَحَفَلَ الْعُرْسُ بِالْمُتَكَيِّينَ. فَلَمَّا دَخَلَ الْمَلِكُ لِيَنْظُرَ الْمُتَكَيِّينَ، رَأَى هُنَاكَ إِنْسَانًا لَمْ يَكُنْ لَابِسًا لِبَاسَ الْعُرْسِ. فَقَالَ لَهُ: يَا صَاحِبُ، كَيْفَ دَخَلْتَ إِلَى هَهُنَا وَلَيْسَ عَلَيْكَ لِبَاسُ الْعُرْسِ؟ فَصَمَتَ حِينَئِذٍ قَالَ الْمَلِكُ لِلْخُدَّامِ: أَوْثِقُوا يَدَيْهِ وَرِجْلَيْهِ، وَخُذُوهُ وَاطْرَحُوهُ فِي الظُّلْمَةِ الْبَرَّانِيَّةِ. هُنَاكَ يَكُونُ الْبُكَاءُ وَصَرِيفُ الْأَسْنَانِ. لِأَنَّ الْمَدْعُوعِينَ كَثِيرُونَ، وَالْمُخْتَارِينَ قَلِيلُونَ

## **Holy Bread Offered By:**

**Today** – The Mufarreh Family

- Laila Shunnarah and Family
- Hanadi and Eleese Rabadi and Family

**Sep 13** – Alexandra Sakha and Family

- Sami and Amanda Imseih and Family
- Nadim and Reham Haddad and William and Kawkab Haddad and their Families
- Sdn. Mazen and Souzan Rihani and Family



SCAN ME

## **Coffee Hour Sponsors:**

**Today** – Laila Shunnarah and Family

**Sep 13** – Sdn. Mazen and Souzan Rihani and Family

**Sep 20** – Sana Alsweis and Basil Alsweis and their Families



SCAN ME

## **YAF Coffee AND Fellowship SPONSORS**

↳ Sep 13 - **OPEN**

↳ Sep 27 - **OPEN**



SCAN ME

## **NEWBORNS**

- **GEORGE ALEXANDER**, son of Murhaf and Lana Kuaidi.
- **GEORGE**, son of Phillip and Marina Musa.

## **BAPTISMS**

**Sep 12** **JAMES**, son of Bryan and Dena Zarou.

## **WEDDINGS**

- Yesterday**
- **KHALID**, son of Walid Yousif Gebrael and Lubna Esho, and **STEIFANY**, daughter of Reimoon and Jumana (Abualzulouf) Imsaih.
  - **PATRICK**, son of John and Tamara Fay, and **BRIANNA**, daughter of Vincent Sommer and Carolyn Cozzi, and stepmother Johna Sommer.

## **REMOVAL OF CROWNS**

**Today** **YACOUB** and **JEANETTE** Awwad.

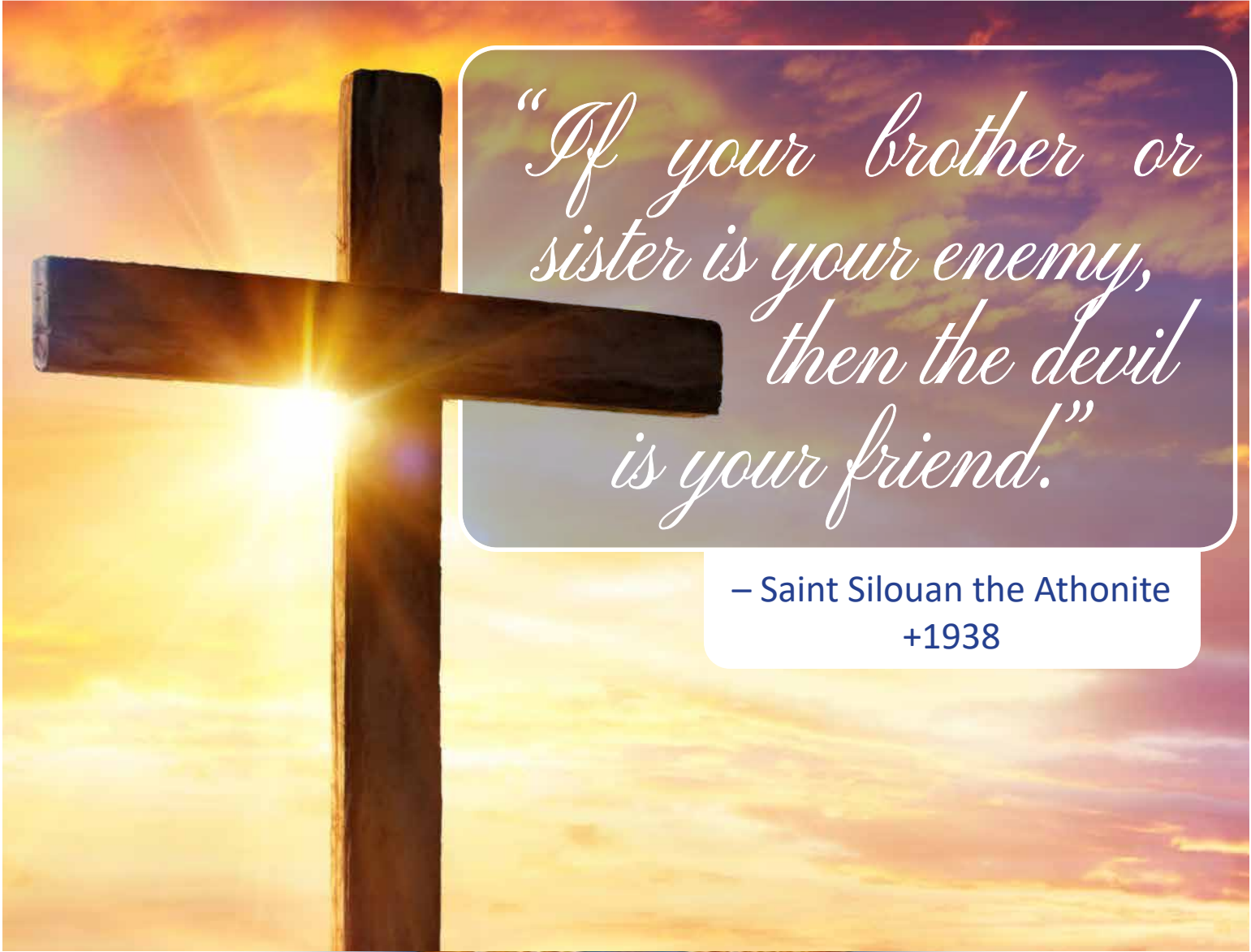
## **COMMEMORATIONS**

- Today**
- 40-Day Commemoration for †**MARYAM HADDAD**, offered by Nadim and Reham Haddad and William and Kawkab Haddad and their families.
  - 13-Year Commemoration for †**NAJAH HADDAD**, offered by Nadim and Reham Haddad and William and Kawkab Haddad and their families.

## **MEMORIALS**

- Today**
- 3/9-Day Memorial Service for †**ADEL IBRAHIM MUFARREH**, offered by the Mufarreh family.
  - 40-Day Memorial Service for †**HANNA NICOLA SHUNNARAH**, offered by Laila Shunnarah and family.

# REFLECTION



*"If your brother or sister is your enemy, then the devil is your friend."*

– Saint Silouan the Athonite  
+1938

## Prayer Requests

To request prayers be said during Liturgy for the *health* of loved ones or *in memory* of the dearly departed...



...email the Church Office by Thursday of that week at:

**Office@StGeorgeChi.org**  
stating "*Health of*" or "*Memory of*" and the names in each category, as well as the name of the person offering prayers.

**OR**

...complete a **Prayer Request Card** that is in the back of the Church and give it to an Usher by 10:15AM (if a Sunday).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

|             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Today       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-Communion Prayers 8:45 am</li> <li>• Orthros (Matins) 9:00 am</li> <li>• Great Doxology 10:15 am</li> <li>• Divine Liturgy 10:20 am</li> <li>• Coffee Hour After Liturgy</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Mon, Sep 7  | <b>OFFICE CLOSED – LABOR DAY HOLIDAY</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Tue, Sep 8  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-Communion Prayers (<i>see pg. 14</i>) 9:15 am</li> <li>• Divine Liturgy for Feast of Nativity of the Theotokos (<i>see pg. 14</i>) 9:30 am</li> <li>• Sacramental Manual Meeting 4:00 pm</li> <li>• Parish Council Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Thu, Sep 10 | Saint Katherine Mission Evening Program ( <i>see pg. 24</i> ) 6:00 pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Sat, Sep 12 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great Vespers Service 6:00 pm</li> <li>• Annual Bonfire for the Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross After Vespers<br/>hosted by Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) (<i>see pg. 21</i>)</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Sun, Sep 13 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-Communion Prayers 8:45 am</li> <li>• Orthros (Matins) 9:00 am</li> <li>• Great Doxology 10:15 am</li> <li>• Divine Liturgy 10:20 am</li> <li>• Sunday School First Day of Classes (<i>see pg. 17</i>) After Communion</li> <li>• God's Little Lights (<i>see pg. 16</i>) After Communion</li> <li>• Antiochian Women (AW) Induction of Officers After Liturgy</li> <li>• Sunday School Induction of Officers and Blessing of the Sunday School Building, Students, and Parents (<i>see pg. 17</i>) After Liturgy</li> <li>• Coffee Hour After Liturgy</li> <li>• Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) Coffee and Fellowship (<i>see pg. 20</i>) After Liturgy</li> <li>• Antiochian Village Orientation 12:30 pm</li> <li>• Byzantine Choir Introductory Meeting 1:00 pm</li> </ul> |
| Mon, Sep 14 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-Communion Prayers (<i>see pg. 15</i>) 9:15 am</li> <li>• Divine Liturgy for Feast of Elevation of the Holy Cross (<i>see pg. 15</i>) 9:30 am</li> <li>• Teen SOYO Officers' Meeting 7:00 pm</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Thu, Sep 17 | Saint Katherine Mission Evening Program ( <i>see pg. 24</i> ) 6:00 pm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

## CONDOLENCES

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

- The Mufarreh family on the falling asleep of †ADEL IBRAHIM MUFARREH, this past week at the age of 79. †ADEL was the husband of Nuha Mufarreh, the father of Abear, Amal (Tawasha), and Kathy (Shunnarah), grandfather of two, brother of twelve, uncle and friend to many.
- The Zayed family on the falling asleep of their nephew and cousin, †MICHAEL ZAYED, in Detroit this past week.

**Memory Eternal!**

# Dates to Remember!



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



**SAT**  
**SEP 26**



*Annual Legacy Ball  
- 63rd Anniversary*



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

**HOLY ADVENT SEASON**



**THU**  
**DEC 24**

**Christmas Liturgy**



**TUE**  
**JAN 5**

**THE GREAT FEAST OF  
EPIPHANY**



**MON-SAT**  
**MAR 15-MAY 1**

**GREAT LENT**



**SUN**  
**MAY 2**

*Great and Holy Pascha (Easter)*

## Do You Want to Be a Priest? – Through the Eyes of the Participants

By His Eminence Metropolitan Saba (Isper)

*“When God takes hold of the flute and begins to play, the mountains begin to dance. Who, then, can stop them?”*

— Jacques Prévert, French poet

In order to help our young men hear the call of God within them, the Archdiocese, in cooperation with Ancient Faith Ministries, held the retreat **“Do You Want to Be a Priest?”** Eighty-two young men answered the invitation, together with fifty wives or fiancées.

The idea began with what I often notice during my parish visits: signs of priestly service appearing on the faces of many young men whom I meet. It also came from ongoing discussions with a number of faithful and concerned individuals about shaping a pastoral policy for the future of the Archdiocese in the coming years. We expected a response to the invitation, but we did not expect the number of participants to reach this level. One participant wrote: *“We are ready to serve in whatever way the Archdiocese sees fit.”*

The retreat was successful by every measure. What the participants, both men and women, shared clearly confirmed how much the retreat helped them better understand what they are experiencing regarding their consecration to God through service to His Church. It also gave them spiritual guidance on how to nurture this calling until it reaches the needed maturity. The participation of several priests and their wives, and their sharing of their experience in this priestly ministry, had a very positive effect on the participants, as one participant and his wife expressed. Another wrote: *“I am very grateful for this spiritual retreat and for the love shown by His Eminence and the priests. I was encouraged by the examples they gave us.”*

The retreat helped some participants better understand the kind of Church service toward which their souls are inclined. Some discovered that, at the present time, they are inclined *“toward service in the permanent diaconate.”* Another participant, whose father is a Protestant pastor, and who comes from a country where there is no Orthodox church, expressed his desire to become a missionary priest: *“...and if it is God’s will that I should one day be blessed with priestly ministry, I hope to dedicate myself to bringing Christ and His Church to (...) through faithful service, preaching, and the witness of life.”*

The participation of several khourias of the Archdiocese helped the participants appreciate the role of the priest’s wife and the importance of her calling maturing alongside the calling of her husband. Some participants wrote the following: *“I have a desire to become a priest if this is God’s will. At the very least, I would like to be part of the diaconal order. But I am concerned about my fiancée and how she would adjust to the role of a khouria. Therefore, I will discuss this possibility with her, together with my parish priest.”*

Another wrote: *“This retreat helped me realize that I need to go back and attend to the basics, such as a regular life of prayer, and that I need to pray for my wife, because she has not yet felt the calling, even though I know she would be a wonderful khouria because of her heart, which is full of love and forgiveness. My wife says that she will follow the will of God.”*

As for the opportunity to encounter the priesthood in its real life within the context of the priest’s family, the participants began to understand this well. *“This retreat was an excellent opportunity to learn about the priesthood from both sides, that is, from the perspective of the priest and his wife.”*

The retreat also helped draw attention to the importance of the family environment in the growth and maturation of the calling. One comment stated: *“I want to fulfill and discern the will of God. The greatest obstacle before me is family. My father-in-law became a grandfather for the first time when he was eighty-four years old, and now he is eighty-seven, and my son is the first of his two grandchildren. I am not currently prepared to move and take my son away from him at this stage of his life. Therefore, I do not yet feel worthy or ready. I pray that God will grant me greater clarity as I work to correct the shortcomings that this spiritual encounter revealed to me.”*

As for how the calling grows, becomes clear, and matures, the retreat helped the participants perceive this with watchfulness and awareness, whether through personal inclination and hearing the call of God: *“The idea of serving the Church has always been present in my mind, but I wanted to proceed slowly and focus first on learning the Orthodox way of life.”*

Another wrote: *“Since I was young, I have felt inclined toward the priesthood, though I could not explain it clearly. As I grew older and learned more about the priesthood, I became afraid because of the great weight and responsibility that the priest carries. Despite this fear, the thought of the priesthood never left me. The more I served, the more my longing for service increased, whether in camps, SOYO, or Bible studies. I always felt that something was missing. I have a mixture of experiences: I feel that I am able to offer more, and yet at the same time I cannot. I believe the reason is that I have been called to the priesthood since childhood.”*

Or through family and friends: *“Many people around me, including family members, parishioners, Orthodox friends, and even non-Christian friends, have told me that I should become a priest, or at least explore this calling.”*

Because of this, some began to ask the practical question: How do I prepare for this blessed ministry? *“I would like to know what options are available for people who have not received post-secondary education and who desire to pursue the priesthood.”*

Another wrote: *“I enrolled in the St. Stephen’s Program with the goal of pursuing the permanent diaconate. However, later discussions with my parish priest encouraged me to continue on the path toward the priesthood and to pause, for the time being, my pursuit of the diaconate.”*

What is reassuring is that many of those who are certain of their calling expressed their sense of unworthiness and awe before the holiness of this ministry. This gives hope that, in the future, this blessed Archdiocese will have priests according to the heart of God. One wrote: *“I fear the altar, but I want to serve Christ, and I love Him more than I fear the furnace.”* Another wrote: *“I have never thought, and still believe, that I am unworthy even to think about the priesthood.”*

Perhaps the best way to conclude this article is with these words written by some of the participants: *“All I want is to be in the Church.”* And also: *“I have tried other hobbies and careers, but nothing surpasses my love for Christ and His Church. For this reason, I believe that I am called to the priesthood.”*

## هل تريد أن تكون كاهناً؟ – «بعيون المشاركين» المتروبوليت سابا (اسبر)

”عندما يمسك الله بالفلوت ويبدأ العزف، تبدأ الجبال بالتراقص، فمن يقدر على إيقافها!“  
(جاك بريفير، شاعر فرنسي)

من أجل مساعدة شبابنا على سماع نداء الله في داخلهم كانت خلوة ”هل تريد أن تكون كاهناً؟“ التي أقامتها الأبرشية بالتعاون مع مؤسسة الإيمان القديم، ولّبت الدعوة إليها اثنان وثمانون شاباً وخمسون من الزوجات أو الخطيبات.

انطلقت الفكرة ممّا ألاحظه من علامات للخدمة الكهنوتية في وجوه الكثير من الشباب الذين التقى بهم خلال زيارتي للرعايا. كذلك ممّا أظنّارحه وعدد من المؤمنين والمهتمين برسم سياسة رعائية لمستقبل الأبرشية في السنين الآتية. توقعنا التجاوب مع الدعوة، لكننا لم نتوقع أن يصل عدد المتجاوبين إلى هذا الرقم. كتب أحد المشاركين: ”نحن مستعدون للخدمة بأيّ صورة تراها الأبرشية مناسبة“

كانت الخلوة ناجحة بكلّ المقاييس. وما قاله المشتركون من كلا الجنسين أكد بوضوح على ما قدّمته الخلوة لهم من تعرّف أفضل على ما يختبرونه بشأن تکرّسهم لله عبر خدمة كنيسة، وعلى ما أمّدتهم به من إرشاد روحي في كيفية رعاية هذه الدعوة حتّى تصل إلى النضج المطلوب. كما إنّ مشاركة بعض الكهنة وزوجاتهم في الخلوة، وتقديمهم خبراتهم في هذا المجال الخدمي الكهنوتي كان له الوقع الطيب في نفوس المشتركين، على ما عبّر أحدهم وزوجته. فيما كتب آخر: ”أنا ممتنّ جداً لهذه الخلوة الروحية، وللمحبة التي أظهرها صاحب السيادة والكهنة، وقد شجعتني الأمثلة التي قدّموها لنا“

ساعدت الخلوة بعضهم على إدراك أفضل لنوع الخدمة الكنسية التي تميل نفوسهم إليها، فقد اكتشف بعض المشاركين أنّهم يميلون حالياً ”إلى خدمة الشموسية الدائمة“. وعبر آخر، والده قسّ بروتستانتي، ولكن لا يوجد في بلدهم الذي جاؤوا منه كنيسة أرثوذكسية، عن رغبته في أن يكون كاهناً مبشراً: ”... وإذا كانت مشيئة الله أن أبارك يوماً بالخدمة الكهنوتية، فأرجو أن أكرّس نفسي لحمل المسيح وكنيسته إلى (...) من خلال الخدمة الأمانة والكراسة وشهادة الحياة“

مشاركة بعض خوريات الأبرشية ساعدت المشتركين في تقدير دور زوجة الكاهن وأهمية نضج دعوتها بالتزامن مع دعوة زوجها. ورد في كتابات بعض المشاركين مايلي: ”لديّ رغبة في أن أصبح كاهناً إن كانت هذه مشيئة الله. وعلى أقلّ تقدير، أودّ أن أكون جزءاً من سلك الشموسية. لكنني قلق بشأن خطيئتي وكيف ستتأقلم مع دور الخورية. لذلك سأناقش معها هذا الاحتمال برفقة كاهن ريعتي“

فيما كتب آخر: ”ساعدتني هذه الخلوة على أن أدرك أنني بحاجة إلى العودة والاهتمام بالأساسيات، مثل حياة الصلاة المنتظمة، وأن أصلي من أجل زوجتي لأنها لم تشعر بعد بالدعوة، رغم أنني أعلم أنها ستكون خورية رائعة بسبب قلبها المملوء محبةً وغفراناً. تقول زوجتي إنها ستتابع مشيئة الله.“

أمّا فرصة التعرّف إلى الكهنوت في واقعه في إطار عائلة الكاهن، فقد بدأ المشتركون يتعرّفون إليها جيّداً. ”لقد كانت هذه الخلوة فرصة ممتازة للتعرف على الكهنوت من كلا الجانبين، أي من منظور الكاهن وزوجته“

كذلك ساعدت الخلوة في لفت الانتباه إلى أهمية البيئة العائلية في تنمية الدعوة وفي نضجها. جاء في إحدى التعليقات: ”أريد أن أتممّ مشيئة الله وأتعرّف إليها. العائق الأكبر أمامي هو الأسرة. فقد أصبح حماي جداً لأول مرة، وهو في الرابعة والثمانين من عمره (والآن عمره 87 عاماً)، وابني هو أول حفيد من حفيدين له. ولست مهياً حالياً للانتقال وأخذ ابني بعيداً عنه، في هذه المرحلة من حياته. لذلك لا أشعر أنني مستحقّ أو مستعدّ بعد. أصلي أن يمنحني الله مزيداً من الوضوح بينما أصلح أوجه القصور التي كشفها لي هذا اللقاء الروحي“

أمّا كيف تنمو الدعوة وتتضح وتتضح فهذا ما ساعدت الخلوة على إدراكه بيقظة ووعي، سواء من خلال الميل الشخصي وسماع نداء الله، ”كانت فكرة خدمة الكنيسة حاضرة دائماً في ذهني، لكنني أردت أن أسير بتّاً وأن أركّز أولاً على تعلّم أسلوب الحياة الأرثوذكسي“

كتب آخر: ”منذ صغري، شعرت بالميل نحو الكهنوت ولم أستطع تفسيره بوضوح. ومع تقدّمي في العمر وازدياد معرفتي بالكهنوت، شعرت بالخوف بسبب النّقل العظيم والمسؤولية الكبيرة التي يحملها الكاهن. وبالرغم من هذا الخوف، لم تفارقني فكرة الكهنوت أبداً. وكلّما خدمت أكثر، ازداد شوقي إلى الخدمة، سواء في المخيمات أو منظمة الشبيبة الأرثوذكسية (SOYO) أو دراسات الكتاب المقدّس. كنت أشعر دائماً بوجود شيء ما ناقص. عندي مزيج من الاختبار؛ أشعر بقدرتي على تقديم المزيد، ولكنني لا أستطيع في الوقت نفسه. أعتقد أن السبب هو أنني مدعو إلى الكهنوت منذ طفولتي“

أو من خلال الأهل والأصدقاء: ”أخبرني العديد من الأشخاص من حولي، من أفراد العائلة وأبناء الرعية والأصدقاء الأرثوذكس وحتى الأصدقاء غير المسيحيين، بأنّه ينبغي لي أن أصبح كاهناً أو على الأقل أن أستكشف هذه الدعوة“

لذلك بدأ بعضهم بالسؤال العملي: كيف أتحمّز لهذه الخدمة المباركة. ”أودّ معرفة الخيارات المتاحة للأشخاص الذين لم يحصلوا على تعليم ما بعد المرحلة الثانوية، ويرغبون في السعي نحو الكهنوت“

كتب آخر: ”التحفت ببرنامج القديس إسطفانوس بهدف السعي نحو الشموسية الدائمة. إلّا أنّ المناقشات اللاحقة مع كاهن ريعتي شجّعتني على متابعة طريق الكهنوت والتوقف مؤقتاً عن السعي نحو الشموسية“

المطمئن في الأمر أنّ العديد من المتأكدين من دعوتهم عبّروا عن عدم استحقاقهم ورهبتهم أمام قداسة هذه الخدمة، ممّا يدعو إلى الأمل مستقبلاً بتوفر كهنة بحسب قلب الله في هذه الأبرشية المباركة. ”أخشى المذبح، لكنني أريد أن أخدم المسيح، وأحبّه أكثر ممّا أخاف الأتون“. وكتب آخر: ”لم أفكر يوماً، ولا أزال أعتقد، بأنني غير مستحقّ حتّى للتفكير في الكهنوت“

قد تكون هذه العبارات التي كتبها بعضهم، خير ما نختم به هذا المقال: ”كلّ ما أريده هو أن أكون في الكنيسة“. وأيضاً: ”لقد جرّبت هوايات ومهنًا أخرى، لكن لا شيء يفوق محبّتي للمسيح وكنيسته. ولهذا السبب أؤمن بأنني مدعو إلى الكهنوت“



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

# Liturgy for the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos



Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>

9:15<sup>AM</sup> Pre-Communion Prayers | 9:30<sup>AM</sup> Divine Liturgy



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

# Liturgy for the Feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross



Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>

9:15<sup>AM</sup> Pre-Communion Prayers | 9:30<sup>AM</sup> Divine Liturgy

# God's Little Lights

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



## READY, SET, SHINE!

### What is God's Little Lights?

God's Little Lights is a special ministry for our **3-year-old** and **4-year-old 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.



# SUNDAY SCHOOL

BREAKING NEWS!

»»»»»»»» AUGUST 30, 2026 ««««««««

## REGISTRATION!

### Sunday School Registration is OPEN!

*Grades PreK-12! Sign-up your student(s) TODAY!*

Sunday School REGISTRATION online only. Use the QR Code in the next column → → →

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF RECEIVED TRAINING

Our dedicated Sunday School staff completed teaching and curriculum training on Saturday, August 22, and are eagerly preparing to welcome students for another enriching Church school year of faith and learning. Equipped with knowledge, enthusiasm, and a heart for service, the teachers are ready to guide the students as they grow in religious understanding and strengthen their faith. We look forward to a wonderful year of learning, fellowship, and spiritual growth!

#### ORIENTATION PACKETS DISTRIBUTED

Last Sunday, August 23, after the Divine Liturgy, the Sunday School orientation packets were distributed to all parents present whose children are registered for the 2026-2027 Sunday School year.

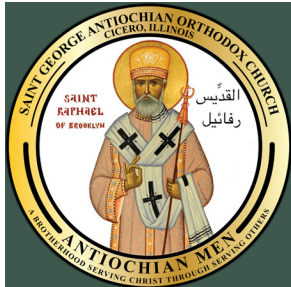


SUN, SEP 13, 2026

FIRST DAY OF  
CLASSES and  
BLESSING of the  
Sunday School  
Building, Students,  
and Parents



**ALL CHILDREN BORN BEFORE 09/01/2022 ARE WELCOME TO REGISTER**



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

# Antiochian Men (A-MEN)

# SAVE THE DATE

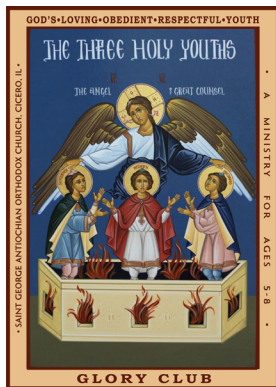
Thu-Sat,  
OCT 8-10/2026:

A-MEN Pilgrimage to Antiochian Village in  
Pennsylvania

Sat, DEC 12/2026: A-MEN Advent Spiritual Retreat

Sat, JAN 9/2026: A-MEN Annual Shawerma Night

# ALL Gentlemen 18+ Invited



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

# Glory Club

## Celebrate the Cross, Celebrate His Love

📅 Sat, Sep 19<sup>th</sup>

🕒 Drop-off 5:00<sup>PM</sup>; Pick-up 8:00<sup>PM</sup>

✝️ Great Vespers Service *followed by*  
*Dinner, Spiritual Talk, Activities*

RSVP by  
Sat, Sep 12

\$15/child



SCAN ME

INVITING ALL KIDS (AGES 5-8)



## August

**Sunday - 16**  
*YAF Coffee Hour*

**Saturday - 29**  
*YAF Summer Picnic*

**Sunday - 30**  
*YAF Coffee Hour*



## September

**Saturday - 12**  
*Annual Feast of the Cross  
Bonfire*

**Sunday - 13**  
*YAF Coffee Hour*

**Saturday - 26**  
*Annual Legacy Ball  
63<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary*

**Sunday - 27**  
*YAF Coffee Hour*

## October

**Thursday-Saturday - 15-17**  
*YAF Pilgrimage to Antiochian  
Village*

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



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

# Young Adult Fellowship

*Presents: A YAF Fundraiser*

## THE FEAST OF THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS AND ANNUAL BONFIRE

**Saturday,  
September 12,  
Vespers at 6pm**

**followed by  
Dinner and Games**

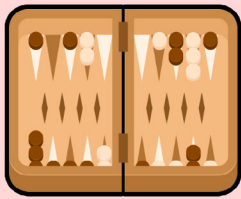
**Bring the whole  
family for food  
and fun!**



**Enter a tournament!**



*Tarneeb*



*Backgammon*



*Chess*



*Ping Pong*



*Super Smash Bros*

**Compete to win prizes!\***

*\*Tournament fee: Adults (18+) \$10 - Kids (6-17) \$5*

**Evening admission fee**

**\$25 (ages 13+)**

**\$10 (ages 6-12)**

**5 and under - free**



**RSVP by 9/9**



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL



# Teen SOYO

## Save the Date...

### TEEN SOYO ACTIVITIES

---

SAT, SEP 19

Teen SOYO "Ask Abouna"

SUN, SEP 20

Teen SOYO – SOYO Hour

SAT, OCT 24

Teen SOYO preparation of Christmas Card letter mailing and dinner

# ALL TEENS (13-18) WELCOME!



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

# Teen SOYO "Ask Abouna"

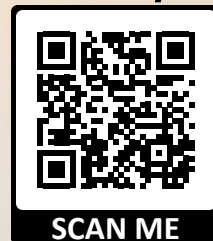


**Sat | Sep 19 @ 5<sup>PM</sup>**

*Vespers, Dinner, Discussion, Games*

**RSVP by  
Thu 9/17**

**\$20/Teen**



**Inviting ALL Teens (ages 13-18)**



# Saint Katherine Mission

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

## A Fall Program A new season of faith and fellowship

Begins  
**Thursday, September 10, 2026**  
**6:30 PM**

### Fall Theme **Saint Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians**

*"Do everything in love."— 1 Corinthians 16:14*

*In his great mission to preach God's will to the nations, the Apostle Paul wrote this detailed letter to the Corinthians, calling them to remain faithful to God's teachings. Although the Israelites often failed to follow His commandments, God's will remains eternal. All nations are called to live according to His will rather than their own human desires.*

**Coffee & Refreshments • Evening Prayers**  
**Bible Study • Group Activity**

7313 N. Waukegan Rd, Niles, IL 60714  
**Stkchurch.org - Info@stkchurch.org**

# WEST CAMPUS *Ministry*

2026 FALL SESSION

**Kingswood Academy**  
133 Plainfield Road, Darien, IL 60561



## Saint Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians

*"Do everything in love."*  
(I Corinthians 16:14)

In his grand effort to preach to the nations (gentiles) about God's will, the Apostle Paul writes this detailed letter to the Corinthians instructing them to adhere to God's Old Testament law even though the Israelites did not follow the law. This law is valid forever and all the nations in the world are called to conduct themselves according to God's will and not by human nature.

## *Program*

6:30<sup>pm</sup> – 9:00<sup>pm</sup>



Coffee and  
Refreshments



Evening Prayers



Adults' Lesson



Kids' Club



Social Time and  
Games (in gymnasium)

## *Thursdays*

Oct 7 ♦ Oct 14 ♦ Oct 21\* ♦ Oct 28\*  
Nov 4\* ♦ Nov 11



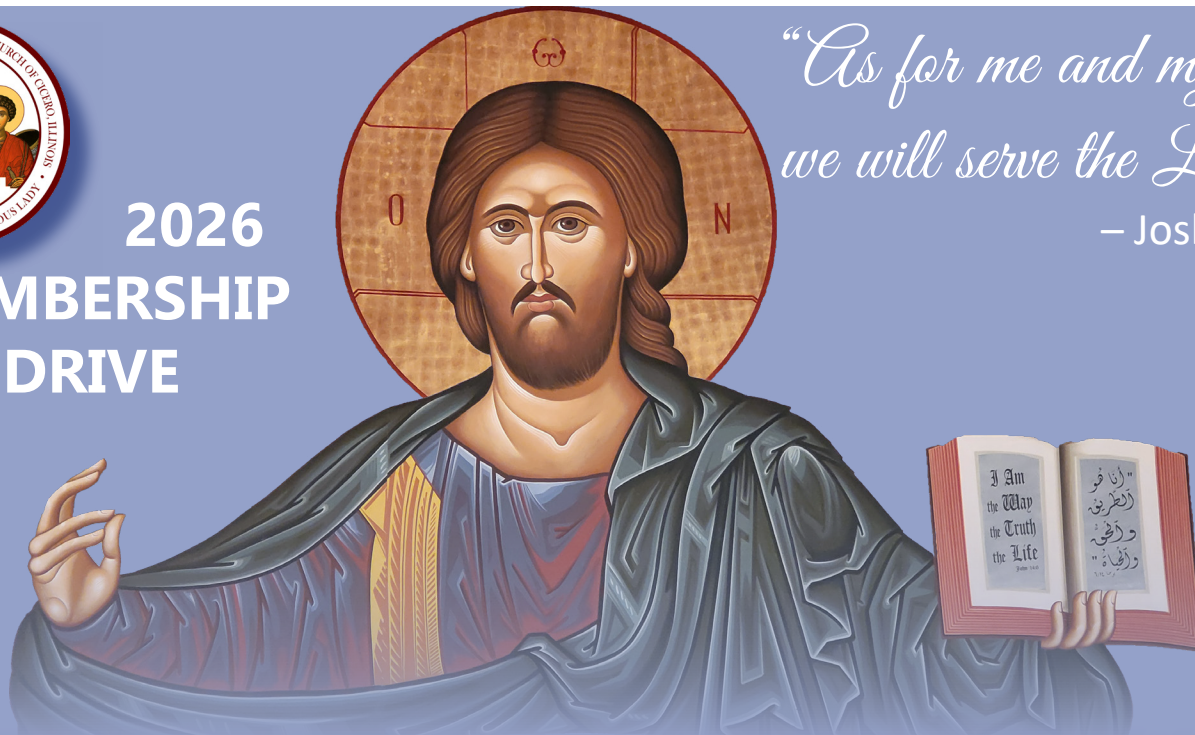
## *\*Theme Days (optional)*

- \*Oct 21 –  Wear Fall Colors/Cozy Outfits
- \*Oct 28 –  Dress up (Church appropriate) for a Halloween Costume Contest
- \*Nov 4 –  Wear your favorite sports team gear

# ALL ARE WELCOME!



## 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,**

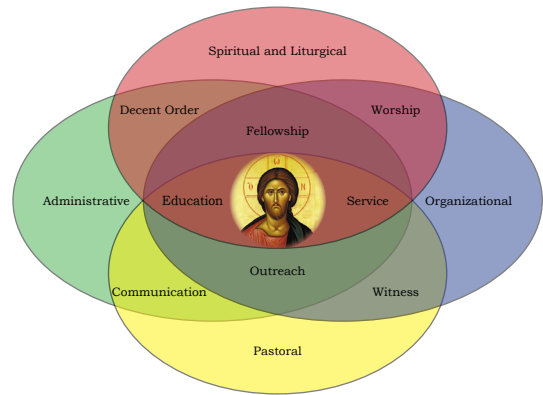
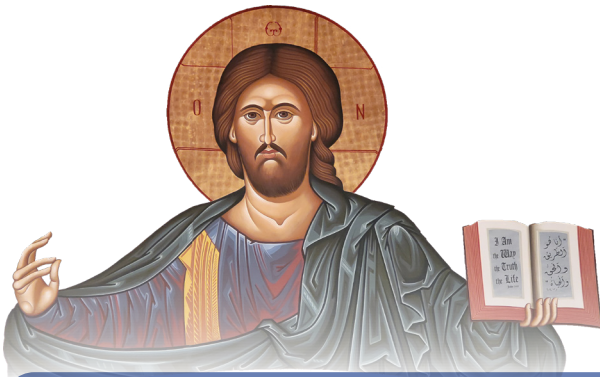
we are called to be one Body in Christ — united in worship, stewardship, service, and love.

- 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

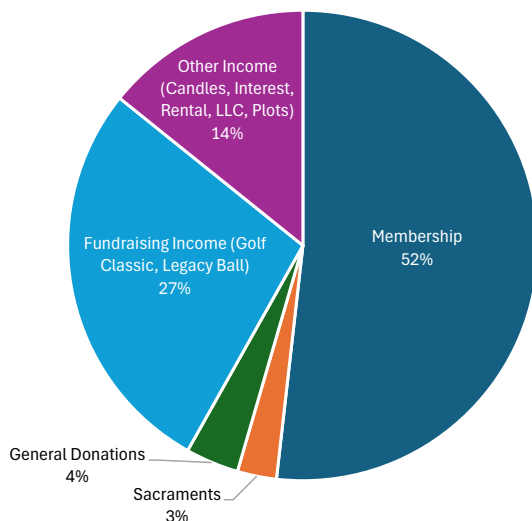
- Sunday School and youth programs
- Adult education
- Ministries for children and families

## OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY CARE

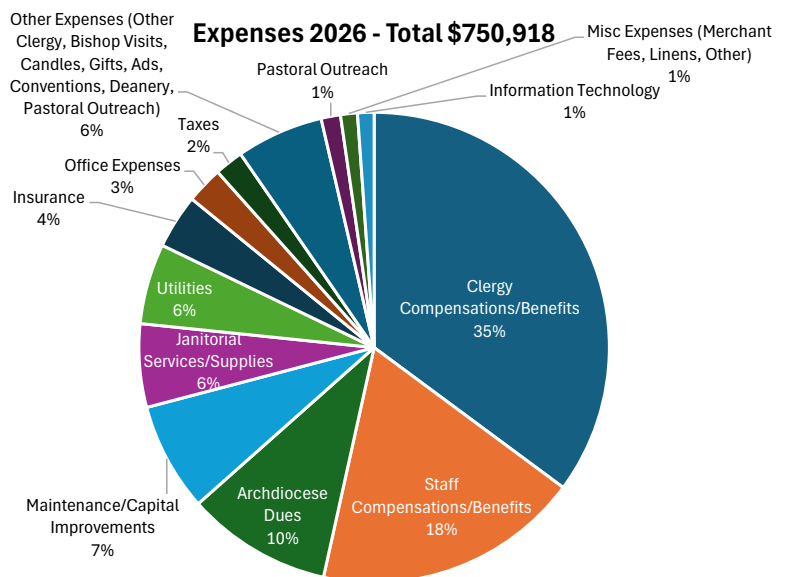
- Assistance to families in need
- Community support initiatives
- Charitable ministries

# 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](http://www.StGeorgeChi.org)



MAIL  
to Church address



CALL  
708.656.2927, x0



CONSIDER INCLUDING  
SGC IN YOUR WILL



# Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church

Cicero, IL



SCAN ME

Become a **MEMBER** of Saint George Church



SCAN ME

**SUBSCRIBE** to the Email and Text Blasts



SCAN ME

**DONATE** Holy Bread



SCAN ME

**SPONSOR** Coffee Hour



SCAN ME

**TITHE** with Zelle/Quick Pay

20TH ANNUAL

# Walk the Walk for IOCC

Saturday, October 3, 2026



Elios Photography

*Join us for our 5K Walk/Run and make a difference  
for those in need around the world!*

St. Andrew's Greek Orthodox Church  
5649 N. Sheridan Rd. • Chicago, IL 60660

Registration 8:00 a.m. • Walk/Run Begins 9:00 a.m. • Breakfast following the race  
*\$25—Registration by 9/18 | \$35—Registration after 9/18 | \$10—Children under 12*

Sponsorship levels: Titanium \$2,500 | Platinum \$1,000 | Gold \$500 | Silver \$250

To guarantee a t-shirt, register by 9/18/2026

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*NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR ON  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026*

ALL TRANSACTIONS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE

QUESTIONS: CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE  
708.656.2927 OR [LEGACY@STGEORGECHI.ORG](mailto:LEGACY@STGEORGECHI.ORG)



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