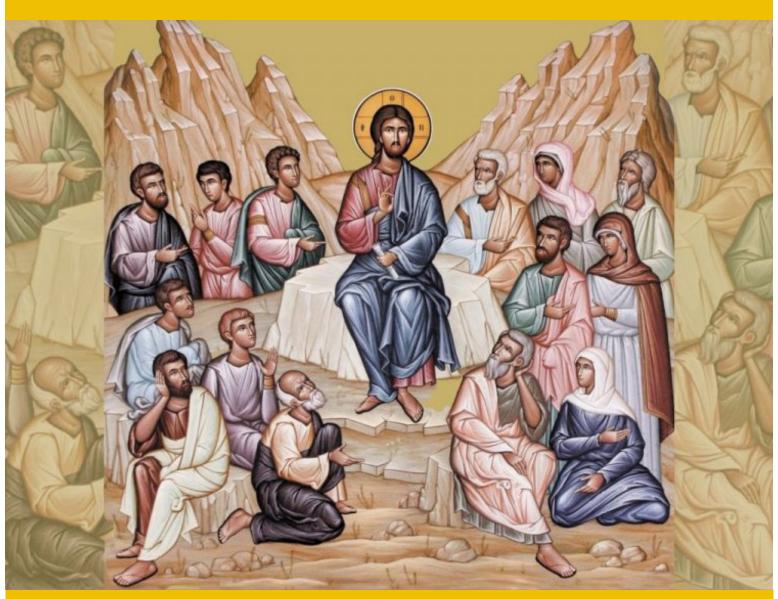


THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AND THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LUKE



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



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church كنيسة القديس جاورجيوس الانطاكية الارثوذكسية

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

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

The Very Reverend Father Fouad Saba, Pastor

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

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Dn. Moses Bynum

Sdn. Mazen Khalifeh

Sdn. Raymond Antypas

Sdn. Youssef Selim

Sdn. Mazen Rihani

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1220 South 60th Court Cicero, Illinois 60804 PHONE: (708) 656-2927 FAX: (708) 656-1166

EMAIL: Office@StGeorgeChi.org WEBSITE: www.StGeorgeChi.org

OFFICE HOURS:

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

Saturday: By Appointment

Sunday: Closed

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Dn. Moses Bynum, clercy Lillian Rihani, sunday school

Dena H. Fasheh, THE ORDER OF SAINT IGNATIUS Jeries Kahoush, ANTIOCHIAN MEN (A-MEN)

WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE:

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

Confession by Appointment

Welcome to Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church!

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

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

أهلا و سهلا! Welcome! Ahlan wa Sahlan!



Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

Prot. no.: 482/2025

October 5, 2025

Beloved clergy and faithful of our God-protected Archdiocese,

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We pray that you enjoyed a peaceful and refreshing summer and that you are diligently engaged as we begin a new ecclesiastical year.

This year marks the 130th anniversary of the arrival of St. Raphael of Brooklyn in North America and the establishment of our Antiochian presence on this continent. The seeds he planted have blossomed, thanks in large part to our dedicated clergy. While most of the early clergy were pious and faithful men whose Orthodox ethos was formed by their families in their homelands without formal theological education, today's clergy are a diverse mixture of men: some who embraced the Orthodox faith as adults, some who immigrated from overseas, and others who were born into Orthodox families here in North America. The common thread among our contemporary clergy is the spiritual formation they receive from their families, parishes, and educational institutions.

With that in mind, we remind you that October in the Antiochian Archdiocese is observed as "Youth Month and Seminary Month." This year, we are blessed with 22 seminarians, most—if not all—of whom will serve this Archdiocese as priests. They will baptize and/or chrismate catechumens, raise up the youth in the faith, educate the laity, comfort the sorrowful, visit the sick, restore the penitent, and heal the broken-hearted. Supporting our future clergy and the institutions that provide their education and formation is vital to the spiritual health of our parishes and ministries. St. Vladimir's, St. Tikhon's, Holy Cross, and our own Antiochian House of Studies need our help to equip these future priests with the tools necessary for proper education and formation.

We live in a pluralistic society where our faith and values are constantly under attack and scrutiny. We need soldiers of Christ to confront the negative trends that affect our youth by instilling in them an Orthodox ethos and a distinctly Orthodox way of life and thinking. Likewise, as we welcome more inquirers thirsting for the truth, we must have competent and educated clergy and lay leaders who can answer their questions and guide them into the faith. To that end, we humbly ask for your generous support of our seminarians and the institutions that educate them.

May our Lord continue to bless you and your families.

Your Father in Christ,

+SABA

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

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

THE GREAT DOXOLOGY

Glory to Thee, who has 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.

mercy on us.

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

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

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

تَقبَّلْ تَضرُّ عَنا أَيُّها الجالِسُ عَنْ يمينِ الآبِ و ارْ حَمْنا

لأنَّكَ أنْتَ وَحْدَكَ قُدُّوسٌ، أنْتَ وَحْدَكَ الرَّبُّ يَسوعُ المَسيحُ، في مَجْدِ اللهِ الآبِ، آمين. فى كُلِّ يَومٍ أَبارِكُك، وأُسَبِّحُ اسْمَكَ إلى الأبَدِ، والي أبَدِ الأبَد

أهِّلْنا يا رَبُّ أَنْ نُحْفَظَ في هذا اليَومِ بغير خَطيئةٍ.

مُبارَكٌ أنْتَ بِا رَبُّ إلهَ آبائِنا، وَمُسَبَّحٌ ومُمَجَّدٌ اسْمُكَ إلى الأبدِ، آمين

لِتَكُنْ يِا رَبُّ رَحْمَتُكَ عَلَيْنا، كَمِثْل اتِّكالِنا عَليك. مُبارَكٌ أنْتَ يا رَبُّ عَلِّمني حُقوقَك. (ثلاثاً)

يا رَبُّ مَلْجاً كُنْتَ لنا في جيلٍ وجيلٍ، أنا قلْتُ يَا رَبُّ ارْحَمْني واشْفِ نَفْسى لَأَنَّني قد خَطِئتُ

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

لأنَّ مِنْ قِبَلِكَ عِيْنَ الحياةِ، وبنوركَ نعاينُ النورِ. فابسُطْ رَحْمَتُكَ على الذين يعرفونَك.

قُدّوسٌ اللهُ، قُدّوسٌ القويّ، قُدّوسٌ الذي لا يموتُ ارحَمْنا. (ثلاثاً)

المَجْدُ لِلآبِ والإبنِ والرّوح القُدُسِ.

الآنَ وكُلَّ أوان وإلى دَهْرِ الداهِرينَ، آمين.

قُدّوسٌ الذي لا يَموتُ ارحَمْنا.

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

TODAY'S LITURGY INSERTS

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION (TONE 8)

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

انْحَدَرْتَ مِنَ العُلوِّ يا مُتَحَنِّن، وقَبِلْتَ الدَّفْنَ ذَا الثَّلاثَةِ الْأَيّام، لِكَيْ تُعْتِقَنا مِنَ الألامِ، فَيا حَياتَنا وقِيامَتَنَا، يا رَبُّ المَجْدُ لك.

ENTRANCE HYMN OF THE GOSPEL BOOK

Come, let us worship, and fall down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

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

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION (TONE 8)

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

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TROPARION OF SAINT GEORGE THE GREAT MARTYR (TONE 4)

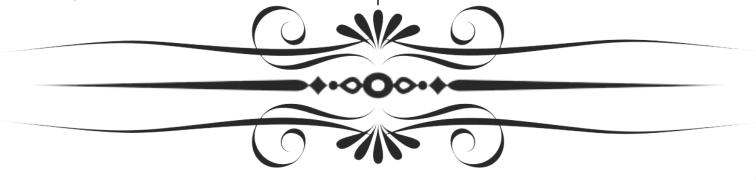
Since thou art a liberator and deliverer of captives, a help and support of the poor and needy, a healing physician of the sick, a contender and fighter for kings, O great among Martyrs, the victory clad George; intercede with Christ God for the salvation of our souls.

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

KONTAKION (TONE 2)

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

يا شَفيعة المسيحيين غَيْرَ الخازِية، الوَسيطة لَدَى الخالِقِ غَيْرَ المَرْدُودة، لا تُعْرِضِي عَنْ أَصُواتِ طَلِبَاتِنا نَحْنُ الخَطَأَة، بَلْ تَدارَكينا بالمَعونَة بِما أَنَّكِ صالِحَة، نَحْنُ الصارِخِينَ إلَيْكِ بإيمانٍ: بادِرِي إلَى الشَفاعَة وأسْرِعِي في الطِلْبَة، يا والدَة الإلَه، المُتَشَفِّعة دائِمًا بمُكَرِّمِيكِ.



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

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

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

EPISTLE READERS

English			Arabic	
	Tamara Issam Maatouk	Today	Alice Saba	
	Kevin Freije	Oct 12	Joanna Freije	
	Dr. Rachel Antypas	Oct 19	Sdn. Raymond Antypas	
	Lara Bellone d'Altavilla	Oct 26	Diala Moaqad	

THE SYNAXARION

On October 5th in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Martyr Charitina of Amisos.

That for which she prayed, the loosing of the body, Charitina receiveth, behold, by praying.

On the fifth Charitina entered the city of God.

Orphaned young, Charitina was adopted by an eminent Christian man called Claudius, who brought her up as his own daughter. Charitina studied the law of God, day and night, and vowed to live in perpetual virginity as a true bride of Christ. The governor Dometius wanted to kill Charitina because she led many to the Lord. A judge ordered that her hair be cut off and live coals put on her head, but the maiden was preserved by God's power. She was bound to a wheel which began to turn, but an angel of God stopped the wheel and Charitina remained unharmed. Then the wicked judge sent some dissolute youths to take her virginity. Fearing this attack, Charitina knelt in prayer to God to receive her soul before that could happen. At that moment, her soul soared to the immortal Kingdom of Christ in 290.

On this day, we also commemorate Venerable John, bishop of Euchaita; and Venerable Eudokimos of Vatopedi monastery on Athos. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.



Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform

them. God is known in Judah; His Name is great

in Israel.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of

Saint Paul to the Corinthians (6:16-7:1)

Brethren, we are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Therefore, come out from them, and be separate from them," says the Lord, "and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of

God.

صلُّوا وأوفُوا الرَّبَّ إِلْهَنا.

اللهُ معروفٌ في أرضِ يهوذا.

إسْمُهُ عَظيمٌ في إسر ائيل.

فَصْلٌ مِنْ رِسالَةِ القِدّيسِ بولُسَ الرَسولِ

الثانية إلى أهل كورِنْتُوس (7:1-6:16)

يا إِخْوَةُ، أَنْتُمْ هَيْكُلُ اللهِ الدّي، كما قالَ الله، "إنَّى سَأَسْكُنُ فيهمْ، وأُسبِرُ فيما بَيْنَهُمْ، وأَكونُ لهُمْ إلها وَهُمْ يَكُونُونَ لَى شَعْباً. فَلِذَلِكَ اخْرُجوا مِنْ بَيْنِهِمْ واعْتَزِلُوان، يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ "و لا تَمَسُّوا نَجِساً. فأَقْبَلَكُمْ وأكونَ لَكُمْ أباً وتَكونوا أَنْتُمْ ليي بَنبِنَ و بَناتِ، بَقُولُ الرَّبُّ الْقَدِيرُ . '' وإذْ لَنا هَـذِهِ المواعدُ، أَبُّها الأَحِبَّاءُ، فَلْنُطَهِّرْ أَنْفُسَنا مِنْ كُلّ أَدْنَاسِ الجَسَدِ والرُّوح، ونُكَمِّلِ القَداسَةَ بِمَخافَةِ

The Reading from the Holy Gospel

according to Saint Luke (6:31-36)

The Lord said: "As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful,

فَصْلٌ شريفٌ مِنْ بشارة القديس لوقا الإنْجيلِيّ البَشيرِ والتلميذِ الطاهِر (36-31:6)

قالَ الرَّبُّ: كما تُريدونَ أنْ يَفْعَلَ الناسُ بكُمْ، كَذَلِكَ افْعَلُوا أَنْتُم بِهِم. فَإِنَّكُمْ إِنْ أَحْبَبْتُمُ الذينَ يُحِبُّو نَكُمْ، فَأَيَّةُ مِنَّةِ لَكُمْ؟ فَإِنَّ الْخَطَأَةَ أَيضاً يُحِبُّونَ الذينَ يُحِبؤنَهُم. وإذا أَحْسَنتُمْ إلى الذينَ يُ البِكُمْ، فَأَيَّةُ مِنَّةِ لَكُمْ؟ فإنَّ الخَطَأَةَ أَيْضاً هَكَذَا يَصْنَعُونَ. وإِنْ أَقْرَضْتُمُ الذينَ تَرجُونَ أَنْ تَستَوفُوا مِنهُمْ، فأيَّةُ مِنَّةِ لكُم؟ فإنَّ الخَطَأَةَ أَيْضاً يُقر ضُونَ الخَطَأَةَ لِكَيْ يَسْتَوفُوا مِنْهُمُ الْمِثْلَ. ولكِنْ، أُجِبُّوا أَعْداءَكُمْ، وأَحْسِنوا وأَقْر ضوا غير مؤمِّلينَ شَبْئاً، فيَكُونَ أَجْرُكُمْ كَثَيْراً، وتَكُونُوا بَنِي الْعَلِيِّ. فَإِنَّـهُ مُنْعِحُ على غَيْرِ الشاكِرِينَ و الأَشْرِ ار فكونوا

رُحَمَاءَ كما أنَّ أباكُمْ هُوَ رَحِيم

even as your Father is merciful."

Holy Bread Offered By:

Today – The Homsy and Haddad Families



- Salwa Awwad and Family
- Peter and Susan Sakleh and Family
- Oct 12 Fayrouz Haddad and Family
- Oct 19 Dr. Johnny and Dr. Vera Kuttab and Family
- Oct 26 Naheel, Norma, and Mina Rantisi
 - The Baddour Family
 - The Hindeleh Family
 - The Homsy Family
 - Jullite Harb and Family

Nov 2 - OPEN

Nov 9 - OPEN

Nov 16 – OPEN



CHURCHINGS

Today GEORGE, son of David and Dalia Abumanneh.

BLESSING OF RINGS

Oct 12 PHILIPPE, son of Nicolas and Muriel Kfoury, and SAMANTHA, daughter of Samaan and Mariam Issa.

YAF COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP SPONSORS



→ Oct 12 - **OPEN**

→ Oct 26 - **OPEN**

Coffee Hour Sponsors:

Today - Mary Homsy and Family

Oct 12 – Fayrouz Haddad and Family

Oct 19 – Dr. Johnny and Dr. Vera Kuttab and Family

Oct 26 – Naheel, Norma, and Mina Rantisi

Nov 2 - OPEN

Nov 9 - OPEN

Nov 16 - OPEN

Nov 23 - OPEN



COMMEMORATIONS

Today 6-Year Commemoration for †GEORGE
J. HOMSY, offered by the Homsy and
Haddad families.

Oct 26 7-Year Commemoration for †CLAIRE HOMSY HADDAD, offered by the Homsy family.

MEMORIALS

Today 3-Year Memorial Service for †MAJED AWWAD, offered by Salwa Awwad and family.

Oct 26 • 40-Day Memorial Service for †FADWA SAYAD, offered by the Baddour family.

> 6-Month Memorial Service for †ATALLAH HINDELEH, offered by the Hindeleh family.

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



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

	SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION IS OPEN (see pgs. 14-15)			
OCTOBER IS TEEN SOYO MONTH				
Today	 Pre-Communion Prayers Orthros (Matins) followed by Great Doxology and Divine Liturgy Choir Rehearsal Sunday School Classes God's Little Lights Ministry (3- and 4-year-olds) (see pg. 16) Coffee Hour 	9:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am After Communion After Communion After Liturgy		
Tue, Oct 7	Missions and Evangelism Subcommittee Chairs' Meeting	7:00 pm		
Thu, Oct 9	Parish Council Officers' Zoom Meeting	6:00 pm		
Sat, Oct 11	Great Vespers Service	5:00 pm		
	• Teen SOYO Fall Social <i>(see pg. 18)</i>	After Vespers		
Sun, Oct 12	 Pre-Communion Prayers Orthros (Matins) followed by Great Doxology and Divine Liturgy Choir Rehearsal Sunday School Classes God's Little Lights Ministry (3- and 4-year-olds) (see pg. 16) Coffee Hour Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) Coffee and Fellowship (see pg. 20) 	9:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am After Communion After Liturgy After Liturgy		
Tue, Oct 14	Parish Council Month Meeting	7:00 pm		
Sat, Oct 18	 Golf Classic Executive Meeting Great Vespers Service 	10:00 am 5:00 pm		
Sun, Oct 19	 Pre-Communion Prayers Orthros (Matins) followed by Great Doxology and Divine Liturgy Choir Rehearsal Sunday School Classes God's Little Lights Ministry (3- and 4-year-olds) (see pg. 16) Coffee Hour Chicago Bears Watch Party hosted by Antiochian Men (A-MEN) (see pg. 25) Antiochian Women (AW) Annual General Assembly Meeting and Elections (see pgs. 22-23) 	9:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am After Communion After Communion After Liturgy After Liturgy		
Fri, Oct 24	Antiochian Men (A-MEN) Social Outing	7:00 pm		
Sat, Oct 25	 Peace of Mind (see pg. 26) Great Vespers Service Antiochian Women (AW) Pumpkin Spice & Everything Nice Fall Gathering (see pg. 21) 	8:45 am 5:00 pm After Vespers		





In the Orthodox Conscience

By His Eminence Metropolitan Saba (Isper)

When you approach matters of faith, information alone is not enough. You need a spiritual mindset to approach religious issues. This mindset is formed gradually, through your living connection with God and His Church. The more you experience life in the pure face of the Lord's Church, the more the "Orthodox conscience" takes root in you. This in turn shapes your mind to become truly Orthodox.

There is no school or textbook that can teach you how to acquire this conscience, mindset, or spiritual sense. The only school is your life in the heart of the Church, your humility, and the work of the Holy Spirit in you. If you pursue humility, it shapes your entire being, not just your mind, so that you are truly open to the Holy Spirit, to your brothers and sisters, and to those around you in the world. Then, the action of the Spirit appears in the way you approach every Church matter: with humility and detachment, seeking God's will and mind, not your own ideas or desires. His action toward your brothers and sisters shows itself in your dealings with them in love. This allows you to distinguish between individual persons and their opinions, enabling you to understand them, even if you disagree. Only then is real dialogue possible. Without it, you reject not only their opinions but also the persons themselves.

Let us make this clearer with examples. For centuries, there has been debate about frequent versus occasional communion. Both sides find canons, teachings, and practices to support their view. How do you discern the truest approach? If you rely only on theological studies, rules, and teachings, you will naturally gravitate to what fits your own thinking, preference, or desire. But the key question remains: How do you know God's will and mind? How do you discern what is best for you and the Church? Here, the Orthodox conscience is essential, for it helps you distinguish between your will and the Spirit's will, between Holy Tradition and local customs that shift with cultures and times, between what the Church has faithfully lived and what today's pressures try to impose.

In every matter of faith, God's mind must shape your churchly conscience alongside the spirit of the canons, the theological sciences, and their purposes. This only happens when you live with a mindset enlightened by the Holy Spirit and His living action from the Church's foundation until today. In Orthodoxy, Holy Tradition means precisely "what has been handed down to us." Tradition is literally "the handing over." When you live in the spirit of this Tradition, your sense of it strengthens. Then the canons, teachings, and theology support you. But if you rely on them alone, you risk distortion, even while you seek the truth. It is no accident that our holy Fathers and Mothers taught that humility is the garment of divinity and the condition for receiving any grace. Clinging stubbornly to what you consider "the truth" can close your eyes to the fuller truth beyond you, and in this way, you harm your Church and your faith, even if you call your version of truth "theological."

Never forget: the Church does not call "theologians" those who study theology in universities, but those who know God through living experience with Him. From the beginning, the Church has said: the true theologian is the one who prays.

The same applies to today's debates about deaconesses. There is much confusion here. It is not enough to simply point to historical evidence of deaconesses and then interpret it to fit today's mindset, crafting a "new" form to suit modern thought. Scientific study requires objective research that seeks the truth. Only then can decisions be made upon it. For example, one must first know the role deaconesses played before their order disappeared, the reasons for their disappearance, and the reasons behind any movement to revive the order today. The discussion must be rooted in Tradition and a forward vision shaped by an Orthodox, patristic mind. To approach it through the lens of gender equality, or inequality, is mistaken, because this uses the spirit of the age, not theology. Likewise, treating ordination as a job of equal opportunity is wrong. Priesthood is not a business.

The Church is filled with many and varied gifts. Her Tradition has always affirmed that Christ did not choose women for the liturgical priesthood: they were not among the Twelve at the Mystical Supper where He instituted the Eucharist, nor when He breathed the Spirit upon them and gave them authority to bind and loose sins. Yet at the same time, He entrusted women as heralds of His Resurrection, sent the Spirit upon men and women alike at Pentecost, and made some of them equal to the apostles in preaching and witness. Women have served and continue to serve in countless Church ministries, whether as deaconesses, laywomen, or married women.

For decades now, Christianity has faced the temptation to reshape its theology according to dominant humanist and secular thought. This is a dangerous path, because it bends theology, spirituality, and the mind of the Church to human ideas rather than to the Gospel and Tradition.

May God preserve His Church from the traps woven against her from within and from without.

في الوجدان الأرثوذكسي المتروبوليت سابا (اسبر)

في مقاربتك الأمور الدينيّة لا يكفي أن تتوفر لديك معلومات. تحتاج إلى ذهنية روحية تقارب فيها القضايا الدينية. تتكون هذه الذهنية فيك شيئاً فشيئاً، عبر تواصلك الحيّ مع الله وكنيســــته. بمقدار ما يتوفر لك اختبار العيش في أنقى وجوه كنيســـة الرب، ينمو في داخلك ما يُســــــقى بالحسّ الأرثوذكسيــ، وهذا بدوره يصـقل ذهنّيتك لتكون أرثوذكســية بالمعنى المطلوب.

ما من مدرسة محددة تعلّمك اكتساب هذا الحسّ أو الوجدان أو الذهنية. المدرسة الوحيدة هي عيشك في قلب الكنيسة وتواضعك وفعل الروح القدس فيك. إن سعيت إلى التواضع، يجعل التواضع كيانك كلّه، لا عقلك وحده، ينفتح على الروح القدس حقاً، وعلى إخوتك ومن هم حولك في هذا العالم. إذّاك، فعل الروح القدس تجاه القضايا الدينية والكنسية يظهر في مقاربتك لأيّ أمر كنسيّ، بروح التواضع والتجرّد ابتغاءَ التماس فكر الله ومشيئته، لا فكرك الشخصي ولا مشيئتك الذاتية. أمّا فِغلُهُ تجاه إخوتك فيظهر في تعاملك وإيّاهم بروح المحبّة التي تجعلك قادراً على التمييز بينهم كأشخاص وبين أفكارهم، وتالياً تجعلك قادراً على فهمهم، وإن كنت لا توافقهم. هذا سبيلٌ إلى إمكانية حوار بينك وبينهم. من دون هذا الحوار ترفضهم كما ترفض أفكارهم.

لنوضح أكثر بأمثلة. منذ قرون والسؤال قائم حول المناولة المتواترة أو المتقطعة. أنصار الأولى يجدون قوانين وتعاليم وممارسات تدعم موقفهم، وأنصار الثانية كذلك الأمر. كيف تفصل الرأي الأصّح استناداً إلى علوم اللاهوت وقوانينه وتعاليمه الروحية؟ فأنت باعتبارك إنسان تميل طبيعيّاً لاستخدام ما يوافق تفكيرك أو ميلك أو قناعتك أو رغبتك. ويبقى السؤال الأهمّ: كيف تعرف مشيئة الله وفكره؟ وكيف تحدد الأصّح والأوفق لك ولكنيسة؟ هنا تظهر حاجتك إلى الوجدان الأرثوذكسي لتتكئ عليه في التمييز بين الأجدى والأوفق، للتمييز بين رغبتك ورغبة الروح القدس، للتمييز بين التقليد المقدّس والتقاليد المحلّية والمتغيرة بتغير الأزمان والثقافات، للتمييز بين ما سارت وفقه الكنيسة وما يضغط عليها اليوم لتسير وفقه.

ففي القضايا الدينية يجب أن يصوغ فكر الله وجدانك الكنسي، إلى جانب روح القانون والوثائق والعلوم اللاهوتية وغايتها. وهذا لا يتحقق إلّا بالعيش وفق ذهنية مستنيرة بالروح القدس وخبرته الحيّة منذ تأسيس الكنيسة وحتى اليوم. فالتقليد المقدّس في المفهوم الأرثوذكسي بخاصّة، هو ما تسلّمناه من الذين هم قبلنا. والتسليم هو الترجمة الحرفيّة لكلمة التقليد الشريف كما وردت في اليونانية. عندما تحيا في روحيّة التقليد الشريف يقوى فيك اكتساب حسّ هذه الروحيّة، إذ ذاك يدعمك القانون والتعليم والعلوم. لكنّك إن اكتفيت بها تجازف في الشطط والانحراف في ما أنت تسعى إلى الحق. ليس عبثاً علمنا آباؤنا وأمهاتنا القدّيسون بأنّ التواضع وشاح الألوهة وسبب حصولنا على أيّ نعمة. فتمسكك بما تعتبره حقّ يغلق عليك فرصة أن ترى الحقّ في ما هو أوسع منك. آنذاك تؤذي كنيستك وإيمانك ولو سُميت لاهوتيّاً.

لا تنسى. أنّ كنيستك لا تسّمي لاهوتيّاً من يدرس علوم الله (اللاهوت) في الجامعات، بل من يعرف الله عبر اختبار العيش معه شخصيّاً. لذلك قالت منذ البدء بأنّ اللاهوتي هو الذي يصلّي.

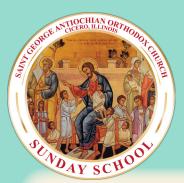
الأمر ذاته ينطبق على السجال الحاصل حالياً بشأن الشّماسات. فتّمة لغط كبير حول هذا الأمر. لا يكفي، على سبيل المثال، أن نستند إلى توفر معلومات تفيد بوجود الشّماسات قديماً، ونفسر. هذه المعلومات لتخدم ما نرمي الوصول إليه اليوم، فنفّصِل شماسات على قياس تفكيرنا البشريّ اليوم. البحث العلمي يتطلّب بحثاً مجرّداً موضوعيّاً يبغي معرفة الحقيقة. بعد ذلك نبني عليها بحسب ما تقوله هذه الحقيقة المكتشّفة. فعلى سبيل المثال، يجب معرفة دورهن في الكنيسة قبل زوال رتبتهن، كذلك معرفة أسباب زوال هذه الفئة والأسباب التي تدفع إلى إحيائها اليوم. المطلوب مناقشة الأمر أسباب زوال هذه الفئة والأسباب التي تدفع إلى إحيائها اليوم. المطلوب مناقشة الأمر من منطلق المساواة أو عدمها بين الجنسين عمل خاطئ، لأنّه ينطلق من ثقافة هذا الدهر وليس من اللاهوت. كذلك لا تصّح معالجة الأمر من منطلق المساواة في الوظيفة، فالكهنوت ليس بيزنس.

ثمة مواهب في الكنيسة وهي على أنواع. تقليد الكنيسة الأرثوذكسية الشريف قال دوماً بأنّ المسـيح لم يختر المرأة للخدمة الكهنوتية الليتورجية، بدليل عدم وجودها مع

التلاميذ الاثني عشر في عشاء الفصح الأخير الذي أسس فيه الربّ سرّ الإفخارستيا، وكذلك عندما نفخ في تلاميذه الروح القدس وأعطاهم سلطان مغفرة وربط الخطايا. في الوقت الذي جعل النسوة فيه مذيعات لنبأ قيامته، وأرسل الروح القدس على الجنسين يوم العنصرة، وصارت بعضهن معادلات للرسل في البشارة والشهادة، وخدمن ولا يزلن في حقول كنسية متنوّعة، سواء انضممن إلى فئة الشماسات أو بقين علمانيات ومتزوجات.

تتعرض المسيحية منذ عقود إلى تجربة صياغة لاهوتها انطلاقا من الفكر البشري الإنسانوي السائد. إنها تجربة خطرة لأنها تؤدي إلى تطويع لاهوتها وروحانيتها وفكرها بحسب هذا الفكر، لا بحسب الإنجيل والتراث والتقليد.

ألا فليحفظ الله كنيسته ممّا يُحاك لها من الداخل قبل الخارج.





Curriculum Update

Lesson 3: The Visitation and the Birth of John

After both Elizabeth and Mary had received good news from the Archangel Gabriel, Mary went to visit and stay with Elizabeth for the last three months of Elizabeth's pregnancy. They were relatives, and both were part of God's plan. Elizabeth, married to the



priest Zacharias, who was mute because of not believing, and her unborn child were the first to recognize that the child in Mary's womb was the Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ. Elizabeth gave birth to her son, and when Zacharias wrote his name as "John" then he was able to speak again. From his birth it was known that John would have a special purpose in God's plan.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN! DON'T MISS ANOTHER WEEK!



Calendar of Events

Sunday School Classes and

Youth Choir Begins----- TODAY

Sunday School Classes/Youth Choir — Sun | Oct 12

Sunday School Classes/Youth Choir -- Sun | Oct 19

Sunday School Classes/Youth Choir -- Sun | Oct 26

StGeorgeChi.org/register-student



OMAR RIHANI

POSITION IN SS: Door Monitor

BOOK YOU HAVE RECENTLY READ: Abundance by Ezra Klein and Derek Thompson

FAVORITE SS DAY OR ACTIVITY: Christmas Concert

FAVORITE GAME OR SPORT: Golf

Weet





NATHANIEL HUMPHREY

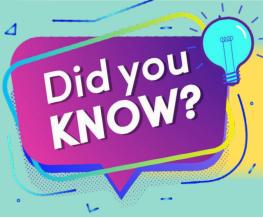
POSITION IN SS: 9th/10th Grade High School Teacher

BOOK YOU HAVE RECENTLY READ: The Pale King

FAVORITE SS DAY OR ACTIVITY: The weekly review quiz

FAVORITE GAME OR SPORT: Ping Pong





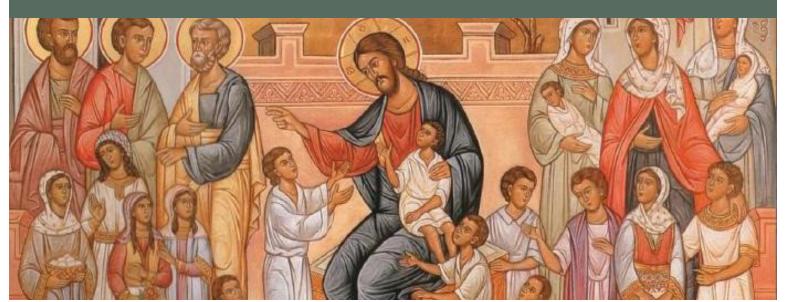
The Feast of The Visitation is on March 30th and is a celebration of both spiritual and familial kinship and of the reality of unborn life and personhood.



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

'GOD'S LITTLE LIGHTS", will take place in the cry room (2nd floor by elevator) every Sunday.

This ministry serves all **3-YEAR-OLDS** and **4-YEAR-OLDS** (born after September 1, 2021). At least one parent, father or mother, must attend along with their children. Younger siblings are welcome with the parents.







TEEN SOYO ACTIVITIES

SAT, OCT 11 Teen SOYO Fall Social

SUN, OCT 26 Teen SOYO Hour

SAT, NOV 1 Teen SOYO Christmas Card Letter

Mailing and Dinner

SUN, NOV 23 Teen SOYO Annual Turkey Drive

Meals Assembly

FRI, DEC 12 Teen SOYO Christmas Card Mailing

and Christmas Gathering

ALL TEENS (13-18) WELCOME!

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL





Vespers

\$10/teen

- Dinner
- Painting Pumpkins
- Games

RSVP by Wed | Oct 8



All Teens (13-18) Welcome!





SAINT GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, CICERO, IL

Young Adult Fellowship

SAVE THE DATE!

Sun, October 12th YAF Coffee Hour

Sat, October 18th Young Adult Ministry (YAM) Deanery Retreat

Hosted by Saint Mary Antiochian Orthodox

Church in Palos Heights

In collaboration with the young adults at All Saints in Chicago, Holy Transfiguration in Warrenville, Saint George in Spring Valley, and

Saint George in Cicero

Sun, October 26th YAF Coffee Hour

Sun, November 9th YAF Coffee Hour

Fri, November 21st Spiritual Retreat

Following Evening Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

Sun, November 23rd YAF Coffee Hour

Sun, December 7th YAF Coffee Hour

Fri, December 12th Advent & Humanitarian Retreat

Sun, December 21st YAF Coffee Hour

Sat, December 27th Christmas Dinner & Gathering

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

Pumpkin Spice & Everything Nice

A Cozy Fall Gathering with the Antiochian Women



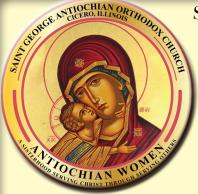
- - O Courtyard Weather Permitting

Enjoy warm drinks, sweet treats & cozy fellowship. Light dinner included.





Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL



Antiochian Women You're Invited

WHAT:

Annual General Assembly Meeting and Elections

Coffee and Refreshments will be served

WHEN:

Sunday, October 19, 2025 at 12:30 pm

WHERE:

The Orthodox Club

WHO:

All Women ages 18+*

RSVP HERE



*YEARLY DUES

MUST BE UP-TO-DATE

PRIOR TO THE START OF THE MEETING.



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

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

Antiochian Women



September 14, 2025

Dear Members of the Antiochian Women,

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

We hope this letter finds you well. This letter is to inform you of the Annual General Assembly Meeting and Elections for the Antiochian Women (AW) to be held on Sunday, October 19, 2025, at 12:30 p.m. in the Church Library.

At this Antiochian Women General Assembly Meeting, the last meeting of the term, all members in good standing will be able to hear reports on the progress of the organization and participate in discussion on how to enhance the work which Antiochian Women does for the Glory of God!

However, the highlight of the meeting will be the **Election** of the Officers for the 2025-2026 term. The positions include: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Public Relations. If any woman (age 18+) is interested in running for any of these positions, please contact the Nominating Committee by Sunday, October 12, 2025. The members of the Nominating Committee are Father Saba, Father Gabriel, and Deacon John.

Per the Constitution, only members in good standing, both spiritually and financially, will be eligible to be nominated or vote on all decisions including Elections in the General Assembly Meeting. However, all are welcome to attend the meeting.

The Nominating Committee will receive nominations until Sunday, October 12, 2025. A member of the Committee will then speak with the person nominated to get their acceptance (you can nominate yourself). Per the Constitution, there will be NO nominations accepted from the floor of the meeting on Sunday, October 19, 2025.

The Antiochian Women Membership Dues are \$30.00 annually for each member. If you haven't already done so, please see the Antiochian Women Treasurer, Kathy Kahoush, or pay online at www.StGeorgeChi.org/Pay, to submit your dues prior to the meeting date. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any one of the Officers.

We look forward to a great meeting! See you all there! Until then, we remain

Yours in Christ,

V. Rev. Fr. Fouad Saba

V. Rev. Fr. Fouad Saba **Pastor**

V. Rev. Fr. Gabriel Coronel

V. Rev. Fr. Gabriel Coronel Spiritual Advisor

Abeer Kari

Abeer Kari **AW President**



Antiochian Men (A-MEN)

SAVE THE DATE

• Sun, OCT 19/2025: Chicago Bears Watch Party

• Fri, OCT 24/2025: A-MEN Social Outing

Fri, NOV 14/2025: A-MEN Social Event

• Sat, <u>DEC</u> 6/2025: Christmas Spiritual Retreat

• Sat, <u>JAN</u> 10/2026: Shawarma Night

Sat, <u>FEB</u> 14/2026: Pre-Lenten Hafli

ALL Gentlemen 18+ Invited

SAINT RAPHAGE.

OF SEONEN

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

Antiochian Men (A-MEN) INVITES YOU TO A...

WATCH PARTY

SUNDAY,
OCT 19TH
AFTER LITURAY



In the Church Hall



ALL are Invited!







THE ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL ORTHODOX BISHOPS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PRESENTS

PEACE OF MIND

ONE DAY MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE HELLENIC FOUNDATION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2025

8:45 AM - 5 PM VESPERS AT 5PM

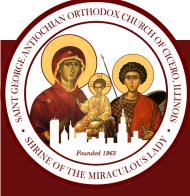
SAINT GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH 1220 S 60TH CT, CICERO, IL 60804

- For both clergy and laity
- Learn to recognize signs of a mental health challenge and how to interact with a person in crisis
- Become certified through a research/evidence based internationally recognized course
- Explore the connection between our Orthodox faith and mental health care

Click HERE to register

Questions? Contact: mjannakos@assemblyofbishops.org Learn more: assemblyofbishops.org/peaceofmind





2025 MEMBERSHIP OUTREACH

DID YOU KNOW?

During the season of Great Lent 2025 the Organizations of Saint George Church provided 8 unique complimentary Lenten Retreats and 2 Campus Ministries with different opportunities to be edified in the faith, be in fellowship with the Church family, and to dive deeper into Great Lent.



Antiochian Women
40 AW attend *Lenten Retreat*30 attend 2 Spiritual
Discussions



Antiochian Men
26 A-MEN attend Spiritual
Retreat to 2 Monasteries and
Relics of Saint Mardarije



Teen SOYO
30 Teens ages 13-18 attend
Q&A Lenten Retreat and
Service Project for "Phil's
Friends"



Young Adult Fellowship 22 Young adults 18+ attend Spiritual Retreat and Monastery Pilgrimage



27 attend *Lenten Retreat* for youth ages 9-12



GLORY Club

18 attend *Lenten Retreat*for kids ages 5-8



17 Staff attend *Lenten Retreat* and 8 Students 3rd grade and older attend *Confession Retreat*



North and West Campuses
200+ individuals attend
4-week Lenten Session
(combined)

To continue to support Saint George Church and its growing ministry in serving 1000 families, register to be a Committed Member today! To get involved in one or more of these Organizations, reach out to a member of the Membership Outreach Committee, You Belong! All these events were just what was held during the season of Great Lent...Stay tuned to hear more on what Saint George Church is doing to continue to serve!

Consider prayerfully and sincerely your 2025 Membership Commitment/Recommitment Today!

"Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." - والمنتف والمنتف يكون كَنْزُكُم هُنَاكَ يكُونُ قَلْبُكُم أَيْضًا. "(6:21)

PICK UP A MEMBERSHIP BROCHURE IN THE CHURCH HALL OR

SCAN NOW AND COMPLETE!



With the blessing of THE MOST REVEREND METROPOLITAN SABA

Primate, Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America
and THE RIGHT REVEREND ARCHIMANDRITE JEREMY DAVIS
Archiepiscopal Vicar, Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest
and THE VERY REVEREND FATHER FOUAD SABA, Pastor

SAINT GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH of Cicero, IL, joyfully and prayerfully announces the establishing of

SAINT KATHERINE THE GREAT ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX MISSION

in the Northern Suburbs of Chicagoland!

INAUGURAL

VESPERS SERVICE

Celebrating the Feast of Saint Katherine

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2025 6:00_{PM}



FALL PASTORAL MINISTRY...

SAINT KATHERINE THE GREAT ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX MISSION

Welcomes you in WORSHIP, EDUCATION, DINNER, and FELLOWSHIP

THURSDAYS:

October 30 November 6, 13, 20 December 4, 11 6:00-9:00pm

LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED!