



WEEKLY BULLETIN

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025

الأحد السادس والعشرون بعد العنصرة
والأحد العاشر من لوقا

THE TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AND THE TENTH 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

BROTHERHOOD OF THE NOBLE JOSEPH:

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V. Rev. Fr. Gabriel Coronel, *ASSISTANT PRIEST*
Dn. George Nassief
Dn. John Zayed
Dn. Moses Bynum
Sdn. Mazen Khalifeh
Sdn. Raymond Antypas
Sdn. Youssef Selim
Sdn. Mazen Rihani
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Chadi Karam, *CHANTER / BYZANTINE CHOIR DIRECTOR*
Matthew Ablan, *CHANTER*
Faraj Shahrstan, *CHANTER*
Trevor Lenhart, *CHOIR DIRECTOR*
Ryan McMahon, *HEAD USHER*
All Choir Members, Ushers, & Acolytes

CHURCH OFFICE:

Veronica Egan, *OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR*
Samar Rihani, *ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY*
Holly Goljic, *GRAPHIC DESIGNER*

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Amir Rihani, *TREASURER*
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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 am–5:00 pm

Saturday: By Appointment

Sunday: Closed

WEEKLY SERVICES SCHEDULE:

Saturdays: Great Vespers as announced

Sundays: 9:15am Orthros (Matins) and
10:20am Great Doxology and Divine Liturgy
Confession by Appointment

Welcome to Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church!

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

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

Welcome! Ahlan wa Sahlan! أهلا وسهلا!

THE GREAT DOXOLOGY

Glory to Thee, who has shown 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، الإِلَهُ، الْآبُ الضَّابِطُ
الْكُلَّ. أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ الْإِبْنُ الْوَحِيدُ، يَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحُ،
وَيَا أَيُّهَا الرُّوحُ الْقُدُسُ

أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ الإِلَهُ، 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،
وَالْإِلَهُ أَبَدَ الْأَبَدِ

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

لِتَكُنْ يَا رَبُّ رَحْمَتُكَ عَلَيْنَا، كَمِثْلِ اتِّكَالِنَا عَلَيْكَ.
مُبَارَكٌ أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ عَلَّمْنِي 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 فَعَلَّمْنِي أَنْ أَعْمَلَ رِضَاكَ،
لَأَنَّكَ أَنْتَ هُوَ إِلَهِي

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.

الْآنَ 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 1)

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

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

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.

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

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION (TONE 1)

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لِمُلْكِكَ، الْمَجْدُ لَتَدْبِيرِكَ، يَا مُحِبَّ الْبَشَرِ وَحَدَّكَ.

TROPARION OF SAINT GEORGE THE GREAT MARTYR (TONE 4)

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

بِمَا أَنْتَ لِلْمَأْسُورِينَ مُحَرِّرٌ وَمُعْتِقٌ، وَلِلْفُقَرَاءِ
وَالْمَسَاكِينِ عَاضِدٌ وَنَاصِرٌ وَلِلْمَرْضَى طَبِيبٌ وَشَافٍ
وَعَنِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ مُكَافِحٌ وَمُحَارِبٌ أَيُّهَا الْعَظِيمُ فِي
الشُّهَدَاءِ جَاورِ جِوْسِ اللَّابِسِ الظُّفْرِ تَشَفَّعْ إِلَى الْمَسِيحِ
الْإِلَهِ فِي خَلَاصِ نُفُوسِنَا.

KONTAKION OF PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY (TONE 3)

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to * God the Word ineffably, * Who was before all the ages. * Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing * the gladsome tidings; * with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him * Who is willing to be gazed on * as a young Child Who * before the ages is God.

الْيَوْمَ الْعَذْرَاءُ، تَأْتِي إِلَى الْمَغَارَةِ، لِتَلِدَ الْكَلِمَةَ الَّتِي قَبْلَ
الدُّهُورِ، وَلَادَةً لَا تُفْسَرُ وَلَا يُنْطَقُ بِهَا، فَافْرَحِي أَيُّهَا
الْمَسْكُونَةُ إِذَا سَمِعْتَ، وَمَجِّدِي مَعَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالرُّعَاةِ،
الَّذِي سَيُظْهَرُ بِمَشِيئَتِهِ طِفْلاً جَدِيداً وَهُوَ إِلَهُنَا الَّذِي قَبْلَ
الدُّهُورِ.

KONTAKION FOR THE MIRACULOUS WEeping ICON (TONE 8)

Only at Saint George Church in Cicero

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

إني أنا عبدك يا والدة الإله * اكتبُ لكِ راياتِ الغلبة يا
جنديةً مُحاميةً * وأقدمُ لكِ الشُّكرَ كَمُنْقَذَةٍ مِنَ الشَّدَائِدِ *
لكن بما أنَّ لكِ العِزَّةَ التي لا تُحَارَبُ * اعتقيني من
صُنُوفِ الشَّدَائِدِ * حتى أصرُخَ إليكِ إفرحي يا عروساً
لا عروسَ لها.

EPISTLE READERS

English		Arabic
Omar Rihani	Today	Hani Rihani
Juliana Nawas	Dec 14	Hanan Mseih
Hania Kahoush	Dec 21	Sdn. Mazen Rihani
Joelle Boulos	Dec 25 (12/24)	Dr. Manal Ibrahim
Hanna Hinnawi	Dec 28	Amanda Imseih

THE SYNAXARION

On December 7th in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate our father among the saints
Ambrose, bishop of Milan.

Ambrose, having shed his corruptible body, hath fitly partaken of divine ambrosia.

On the seventh Ambrose came upon immortal terrain.

His father was the imperial governor of Gaul and Spain, and a pagan, while his mother was a Christian. On the death of his father, the Emperor made him governor of Liguria, of which province Milan was the chief city. When the bishop of Milan died, there was great dissention about the choice of a new bishop. Ambrose went into the church to keep order. Thereupon, a child at its mother's breast cried out: "Ambrose for bishop!" All the people took this to be the voice of God, and unanimously elected Ambrose as their bishop, although it was against his will. Ambrose was baptized, and passed through all the necessary ranks in one week. As bishop, he strengthened the faith of the Orthodox, restrained heretics, adorned churches, spread the Faith among the pagans, wrote many instructive books and was an example of a true Christian and a true shepherd. Ambrose died peacefully at daybreak on Pascha in 397.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Athenodoros of Mesopotamia; and Venerable Gregory, founder of Gregoriou monastery on Athos. By the intercessions of Thy saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us.

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

The Reading from the Epistle of

Saint Paul to the Ephesians (5:8-19)

Brethren, walk as children of light—for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true—and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it is said, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light.” Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

لَتَكُنْ يَا رَبُّ رَحْمَتُكَ عَلَيْنَا،

إِبْتَهِجُوا أَيُّهَا الصَّادِقُونَ بِالرَّبِّ.

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس

الرسول إلى أهل أفسس (5:8-19)

يَا إِخْوَةُ، أَسْلُكُوا كَأَوْلَادٍ لِلنُّورِ (فَإِنَّ ثَمَرَ
الرُّوحِ هُوَ فِي كُلِّ صَلاَحٍ وَبِرٍّ وَحَقٍّ) مُخْتَبِرِينَ
مَا هُوَ مَرْضِيٌّ لَدَى الرَّبِّ. وَلَا تَشْتَرِكُوا فِي
أَعْمَالِ الظُّلْمَةِ غَيْرِ الثَّمَرَةِ بَلْ بِالْأُخْرَى
وَبَخُوا عَلَيْهَا. فَإِنَّ الْأَفْعَالَ الَّتِي يَفْعَلُونَهَا سِرًّا
يَقْبَحُ ذِكْرُهَا أَيْضًا. لَكِنَّ كُلَّ مَا يُؤَبَّخُ عَلَيْهِ
يُعْلَنُ بِالنُّورِ. فَإِنَّ كُلَّ مَا يُعْلَنُ هُوَ نُورٌ. وَلِذَلِكَ
يَقُولُ: اسْتَيْقِظْ أَيُّهَا النَّائِمُ وَقُمْ مِنْ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ
فَيُضِيءَ لَكَ الْمَسِيحُ. فَانْظُرُوا إِذَنْ أَنْ تَسْلُكُوا
بِحَذَرٍ لَا كَجُهْلَاءَ بَلْ كَحُكَمَاءَ، مُفْتَدِينَ الْوَقْتَ
فَإِنَّ الْأَيَّامَ شَرِيرَةٌ. فَلِذَلِكَ لَا تَكُونُوا أَغْيَاءَ بَلْ
افْهَمُوا مَا مَشِيئَةُ الرَّبِّ. وَلَا تَسْكُرُوا بِالْخَمْرِ
الَّتِي فِيهَا الدَّعَارَةُ بَلْ امْتَلَأُوا بِالرُّوحِ، مُكَلِّمِينَ
بَعْضُكُمْ بَعْضًا بِمَزَامِيرَ وَتَسَابِيحَ وَأَغَانِي رُوحِيَّةٍ
مُرْتَمِينَ وَمُرْتَلِينَ فِي قُلُوبِكُمْ لِلرَّبِّ

The Reading from the Holy Gospel

according to Saint Luke (13:10-17)

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" As Jesus said this, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him.

فصلٌ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ لَوْقَا

الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ (13:10-17)

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، كَانَ يَسُوعُ يَعْلَمُ فِي أَحَدِ الْمَجَامِعِ يَوْمَ السَّبْتِ، وَإِذَا بِامْرَأَةٍ بِهَا رُوحٌ مَرَضٍ مُنْذُ ثَمَانِي عَشْرَةَ سَنَةً، وَكَانَتْ مُنْحَنِيَةً لَا تَسْتَطِيعُ أَنْ تَنْتَصِبَ الْبَتَّةَ. فَلَمَّا رَأَاهَا يَسُوعُ، دَعَاهَا وَقَالَ لَهَا: إِنَّكِ مُطْلَقَةٌ مِنْ مَرَضِكَ. وَوَضَعَ يَدَيْهِ عَلَيْهَا، وَفِي الْحَالِ اسْتَقَامَتْ، وَمَجَّدَتِ اللَّهَ. فَأَجَابَ رَئِيسُ الْمَجْمَعِ، وَهُوَ مُغْتَاطٌ لِإِبْرَاءِ يَسُوعَ فِي السَّبْتِ، وَقَالَ لِلْجَمْعِ: هِيَ سِتَّةُ أَيَّامٍ يَنْبَغِي الْعَمَلُ فِيهَا، فَفِيهَا تَأْتُونَ وَتَسْتَشْفُونَ، لَا فِي يَوْمِ السَّبْتِ. فَأَجَابَ الرَّبُّ وَقَالَ: يَا مُرَائِي! أَلَيْسَ كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ مِنْكُمْ يَحُلُّ ثَوْرَهُ أَوْ جِمَارَهُ فِي السَّبْتِ مِنَ الْمَذُودِ وَيَنْطَلِقُ بِهِ فَيَسْقِيهِ؟ وَهَذِهِ، وَهِيَ ابْنَةُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ الَّتِي رَبَطَهَا الشَّيْطَانُ مُنْذُ ثَمَانِي عَشْرَةَ سَنَةً، أَمَا كَانَ يَنْبَغِي أَنْ تُطْلَقَ مِنْ هَذَا الرِّبَاطِ يَوْمَ السَّبْتِ؟ وَلَمَّا قَالَ هَذَا، خَزِيَ كُلُّ مَنْ كَانَ يَقَاوِمُهُ، وَفَرَحَ الْجَمْعُ بِجَمِيعِ الْأُمُورِ الْمَجِيدَةِ الَّتِي كَانَتْ تَصْدُرُ مِنْهُ

Holy Bread Offered By:



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and Their Families

– The Sousan Family

Dec 14 – The Khoury Family

– Hon. William and Sandy
Haddad

– Kamal and Etihad Rihani and
Family

Dec 21 – Nabeel and Bulin Eseed and
Family

– Salim and Rania Najjar and
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Dec 28 – **OPEN**

Jan 4 – **OPEN**

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 - 1-Year Memorial Service for †**HAYAT SOUSAN**, offered by the Sousan family.

- Dec 14**
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 - 37-Year Commemoration for †**VICTOR NAJJAR**, offered by Salim and Rania Najjar and family.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION IS OPEN (*see pg. 14*)

DECEMBER IS THE ORDER OF SAINT IGNATIUS MONTH

Sat, Nov 15- Thu, Dec 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HOLY ADVENT SEASON (<i>see pg. 12</i>) Advent Humanitarian Drive 	
Today	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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) (<i>see pg. 13</i>) Coffee Hour Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) Coffee and Fellowship (<i>see pg. 18</i>) Mandatory Christmas Concert/Youth Choir Rehearsal (<i>see pg. 14</i>) The Order-Cicero Chapter Annual General Assembly Meeting and Elections 	9:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am After Communion After Communion After Liturgy After Liturgy After Sunday School 12:30 pm
Mon, Dec 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teen SOYO Officers' Zoom Meeting Missions and Evangelism Committee Zoom Meeting 	8:00 pm 8:30 pm
Tue, Dec 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Campus Ministry (<i>see pg. 27</i>) Nominating Committee Zoom Meeting 	6:00 pm 9:00 pm
Wed, Dec 10	Parish Council Monthly Meeting	7:00 pm
Thu, Dec 11	Saint Katherine the Great Antiochian Orthodox Mission Pastoral Ministry	6:00 pm
Fri, Dec 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teen SOYO Christmas Gathering (<i>see pg. 16</i>) Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) Advent Spiritual Retreat and Humanitarian Project (<i>see pg. 19</i>) Antiochian Women (AW) Spiritual Sisters Circle Ministry (<i>see pg. 25</i>) 	7:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm
Sat, Dec 13	Great Vespers Service	5:00 pm
Sun, Dec 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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) (<i>see pg. 13</i>) Coffee Hour Mandatory Christmas Concert/Youth Choir Rehearsal (<i>see pg. 14</i>) 	9:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am After Communion After Communion After Liturgy After Sunday School
Mon, Dec 15	Sunday School Officers' Zoom Meeting	6:00 pm
Sat, Dec 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas Concert/Youth Choir Rehearsal Great Vespers Service Sunday School Christmas Concert (<i>see pg. 32</i>) 	4:00 pm 5:00 pm After Vespers
Sun, Dec 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-Communion Prayers Orthros (Matins) followed by Great Doxology and Divine Liturgy Choir Rehearsal Coffee Hour Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) Coffee and Fellowship (<i>see pg. 18</i>) Teen SOYO Christmas Hour 	9:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am After Liturgy After Liturgy After Sunday School

On Self-Criticism

By His Eminence Metropolitan Saba (Isper)

Father Arseny (1893-1973) was a man of prayer and a high-caliber spiritual father. He spent eighteen years in a hard labor camp in Siberia during communist rule from 1940-58. Once, during a heated argument between two ideologically opposed groups of political prisoners, one of the leaders forcefully brought Father Arseny into the argument. The leader asked Father in front of everyone about his and the Church's position on the atheist government that arrests and kills priests, demolishes churches and monasteries, and relentlessly fights the faith. This leader thought he would have fun embarrassing a "stupid" priest.

Father Arseny hesitated to answer. He did not want to engage in the debate, especially since he had not engaged in such debates before. But, under pressure, he made the sign of the cross and began a detailed explanation, the conclusion of which was that the roots of atheism and hostility toward the Church were planted by the Russians' own hands because of "the bad examples demonstrated by the intellectuals, the nobility, merchants and government employees. Yet we, the clergy, were the worst of all." He concluded by saying: "I cannot point the finger at our authorities because the seeds of disbelief have fallen into the soil that we ourselves have prepared. We ourselves are guilty, too. We are only reaping what we sow."

In prison, Father Arseny suffered a great deal of persecution and paid a high price for his disposition. He presented an honest example of non-violence in the face of the terrible suffering he and his people were experiencing. Moreover, he offered a deep analysis of the reasons that led to their suffering.

Our Orthodox spiritual teaching speaks of "self-blame," which is based on discovering one's personal role in transgressions or mistakes, rather than blaming others. We can also call this "self-criticism," which we rarely find in our circles. We tend to blame and criticize others while considering ourselves "innocent of the blood of this just man."

A person does not mature at any level, nor do institutions advance and develop, unless they continuously follow the principle of frequent self-criticism or self-evaluation.

On a personal level, if we're not convinced that we have our share of flaws, and if we don't examine and monitor them closely, then how can we get rid of them? Why do we have the right to see other peoples' faults and slam them, when we are full of the same faults? How applicable is the following gospel verse to our reality: "Why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye and do not care about the plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, take the plank out of your own eye first, so that you can see clearly and remove the speck from your brother's eye" (Matthew 7:3, 5).

The true believer criticizes himself first, then denounces the wrong actions of other people rather than criticizing the people. In fact, we are experienced in criticizing rather than critiquing. The difference between the two aspects is huge. Criticism can be based on emotions, anger and complaints. It can be stained with subjectivity and irrationality, so the dialogue becomes insulting and destructive to the other. It can also be based on a superficial knowledge of the matter. Criticism can lack any effort to recognize the reasons that might lead to consequences. Thus, the discussion leads to termination of the dialogue, causing participants to depart carrying nothing but feelings of anger, hatred and dissatisfaction. Criticism can be a negative act because situations remain unchanged. It can be mainly "venting" that is followed by more intense and turbulent emotional surges.

As for critique, it is based on calmness and a deep analysis which investigates the inner core of matters to understand their flaws and the reasons behind them. Critique focuses not on the person, but reaching an understanding of the mistakes he committed in order to correct them. Critique has its own components and standards that require strict adherence. It must be constructive and positive to lay out the foundations for evaluation and reform.

Criticism deceives people into thinking that, by directing their anger at mistakes and blaming others for them, they absolve themselves of responsibility. Whereas in critique, the critic can help to improve the state of decadence, regression, or degradation.

If our homes are full of piety and fear of God, and if they are built on values and virtues from the gospel, would they produce opportunists and morally corrupt people? If we raise and instill in our children honesty, objectivity, and the meaning of true life, would there be any room for triviality, superficiality and selfishness? "Do they pick grapes from thorns, or figs from thistles?" (Matthew 7:16).

We frequently encounter criticism of a variety of issues and people, many of which might be true. Yet the important task is inquiring and searching for causes that lead to these issues and reaching solutions to reduce errors and rectify their consequences. Most important of all is claiming personal responsibility for deficiencies and seeking ways to correct them. If we place blame on others, we will remain hostage to what we despise and complain about.

Above all, ask questions and demand answers from yourself. Do not underestimate your role, no matter how minor and insignificant you might believe it is. You do have a part in spreading the culture of constructiveness, but start without focusing too much on cultivating results. What matters is that you do your best.

A simple and virtuous mother is incomparably better than an educated mother who lacks virtue. Dedicated school teachers who love their students produce a generation of positive students of integrity: a devout priest who is an apostle to others and changes their lives; a polite and ethical worker who contributes to building trust among members of society; a humble and patient intellectual who opens closed minds.

God has given you one or more talents to advance and increase rather than wasting your time gossiping about others while remaining empty and trivial.

في النقد الذاتي المتروبوليت سابا (أسبر)

الأب أرساني (١٨٩٣-١٩٧٣)، رجل صلاة وأب روحي من الطراز الرفيع. أمضى في معتقل الأشغال الشاقة، في سيبيريا، ثماني عشرة سنة، إبان الحكم الشيوعي (١٩٤٠-١٩٥٨). مرةً، وفيما كان بعض المعتقلين السياسيين، المتعادين فكرياً، يتجادلون بحدة، إذا بزيم إحدى المجموعتين يجلب الأب أرساني إلى حلبة الجدل، بالقوة، ويسأله أمام الجميع: ما هو موقفه وموقف الكنيسة من الحكومة الملحدة، التي تقتل الكهنة وتعتقلهم، وتهدم الكنائس والأديرة، وتحارب الدين بلا هوادة؟ ظنّ ذلك المتزعم أنّه سيتسلّى بإحراج كاهن "غبي"

تردّد الأب أرساني في الجواب، رغبةً منه في عدم الدخول في السجال القائم. خاصّةً، وأنّه ما سبق له وشارك فيه من قبل. لكنّه، تحت الضغط، رسم إشارة الصليب، وبدأ شرحاً مستفيضاً، خلاصته أن التربة، التي أنبتت الإلحاد والعداء للكنيسة، قد هيّأها الروس بأيديهم، بسبب "الأمثلة السيئة، التي قدّمتها لنا طبقة المثقفين، والنبلاء والتجار والموظفين في دوائر الحكومة. وكنا، نحن، في سلك الكهنوت أسوأهم جميعاً". ليخلص إلى القول: "لا يمكنني أن أوجّه إصبع الاتهام إلى سلطاتنا، لأنّ بذور عدم الإيمان سقطت في التربة التي أعددناها بأنفسنا". "نحن أنفسنا مذنبون أيضاً. إنّنا نحصد فقط ما زرعه أيدينا"

دفع الأب أرساني، في المعتقل، كثيراً من المضايقات، ثمناً لموقفه هذا. لكنّه قدّم مثلاً صادقاً في اللا انفعال أمام المعاناة الرهيبة التي يعيشها وشعبه في ذلك الحين، وعمقاً في التحليل حول أسباب نشوئها.

يتكلّم تعليمنا الروحي الأرثوذكسيّ عن "لوم النفس"، الذي يقوم على اكتشاف الدور الشخصي في التقصير أو الغلط الحاصل، بدلاً من تحميل وزره للآخرين. هذا ما نسمّيه بلغتنا المعاصرة "النقد الذاتي"، الذي نادراً ما نجده في أوساطنا. فالجميع حاضر لإلقاء اللوم على غيره، وتوجيه سهام النقد إليه، فيما يعتبر نفسه بريئاً "من دم ذاك الصديق"

لا ينضج الإنسان، على أيّ صعيد، ولا تستمرّ أيّ مؤسسة في التقدّم والتطور، ما لم تتبع مبدأ النقد أو التقييم الذاتيين دورياً، وباستمرار. فكيف لك أن تتخلص من عيوبك ما لم ترّها، وتفتنّع بأنّها موجودة فيك؟ وبأيّ حقّ ترى عيوب غيرك، وتهاجمه، وأنت مليء بالعيوب ذاتها؟ ما أصدق كلمة الإنجيل التالية في واقعنا! "لماذا تنظر إلى القشة في عين أخيك، ولا تبالي بالخشبة في عينك؟ يا مُراءٍ، أخرج الخشبة من عينك أولاً، حتّى تبصر جيّداً فتُخرج القشة من عين أخيك" (متّى ٧: ٣، ٥)

المؤمن الحقّ ينقد ذاته أولاً، ومن ثمّ ينقد العمل الخاطي، لا الشخص المخطئ. في الواقع، نحن ماهرون في الانتقاد لا النقد. والفرق بينهما شاسع جداً. فالانتقاد يقوم على الانفعالات والعواطف والغضب والتذمّر، وهذه تشوبها اللا موضوعيّة واللا عقلانيّة، فيغدو الكلام تجريحاً للشخص وتهشيماً له. كذلك يقوم على نظرة سطحيّة لموضوع الانتقاد، نظرة لا تكلف نفسها حتّى عناء التفكير، بل تصوّب السهام على ما تراه، دونما جهد لمعرفة الأسباب، التي أدّت إلى ظهوره. وغالباً ما ينتهي النقاش بانتهاء الجلسة، ولا يحمل المشتركون فيه سوى مشاعر الغضب والكرهية والسخط على الواقع والأشخاص، موضوع الانتقاد. الانتقاد عمل سلبيّ بالكلية، فهو يُقيي الأمور على ما هي، ولا يساهم إلا في "قشة الخلق"، التي يعقبها جيّشان له أقوى وأكثف

أمّا النقد، فيقوم على التحليل الهادئ المتعمّق، الذي ينظر في بواطن الأمور، وماضيها، بغية معرفة مواطن الخلل والأسباب التي أدّت إليه. لا يقف عند مسؤولية الشخص إلا بمقدار ما يساهم، عن معرفة أو عن غير معرفة، في تغذية الأسباب المؤدية إلى الخلل. للنقد مقوماته ومعاييرته التي يجب التقيد بها، بدقّة. ويجب أن يكون نقداً بناءً وإيجابياً، لتساهم النتائج التي يصل إليها في وضع أسس التقويم والإصلاح.

يجتمع الناس على الانتقاد لأنّه يوهّمهم بأنّهم إذا صيّروا جام غضبهم على ظاهرة سلبية ما، وجعلوا مسؤوليّة كلّها على غيرهم، فإنّهم يبرّون أنفسهم من مسؤولية المشاركة فيها. أمّا النقد الموضوعيّ فيحمل الناقد مسؤولية شخصيّة في الوصول إلى حالة الانحطاط أو التقهقر أو الفساد، موضوع النقد

لو كانت بيوتنا عامرة بالتقوى ومخافة الله، ومبنية على القيم والفضائل الإنجيليّة، أكانت تُخرّج انتهازيين ووصوليين وضعفاء؟ لو كنّا نربي أولادنا على الصدق والموضوعيّة ومعنى الحياة الحقّة، فهل كان للتفاهة والسطحيّة وأنايّة مكان؟ "هل يجتنون من الشوك عنباً، أو من الحسك تيناً؟" (متّى، ٧، ١٦)

أينما ذهبت تسمع الانتقاد حول هذا وذاك من الأمور والأشخاص، ولعلّ معظمها صحيح. ولكن السؤال الأهمّ يجب أن يوجّه باتجاه البحث عن أسباب هذه الحالات، موضوع الانتقاد، ونحو التوصل إلى وضع جملة من الحلول للحدّ منها، وتقويم الاعوجاج الحاصل. والأهمّ من هذا وذاك هو مطالبة الذات بمسؤوليّةها عن حدوث الخلل، وعن السعي إلى تقويمه، في الوقت ذاته. فطالما أنّنا نضع اللوم على غيرنا، أيّاً يكن، سنبقى نرتع في ما نحن رافضون له ومتذمّرون منه

طالب نفسك أولاً. ولا تستهن بموقعك، مهما كان صغيراً وغير ذي تأثير. لك دور في نشر ثقافة البناء، فعّله ولا تهتمّ بالنتيجة كثيراً. المهمّ أن تقوم بما هو في استطاعتك. فأمّ بسيطة وفاضلة أفضل بما لا يقاس من أمّ متعلّمة وتجهل الفضيلة. معلّم مدرسة مستقيم ومحّب لتلاميذه يخلق جيلاً من الطلاب الفاعلين، الذين يحبّون الاستقامة بفضله. كاهن تقّي ورسول يؤثّر في تغيير حياة الكثيرين. وعامل مهذب وخلوق يساهم في بناء الثقة بين أفراد المجتمع. ومتّقف متواضع وصبور يفتح العقول المغمضة.

ما عندك إنّما هو موهبة أو أكثر منحك الله إياها، لتستثمرها وتزيدها، لا لتثرثر على هذا وذاك، وتبقى فارغاً وتافهاً.

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL



Celebrate the Birth of
THE LORD AND SAVIOR
JESUS CHRIST
with your
Saint George Church Family!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2025

ROYAL HOURS, 10:00 AM

PRE-COMMUNION PRAYERS, 4:45 PM | ORTHROS (MATINS), 5:00 PM

GREAT DOXOLOGY and DIVINE LITURGY, 6:20 PM

ADVENT SEASON FAST

THE ADVENT (CHRISTMAS) FAST BEGAN
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, AND
WILL CONCLUDE ON CHRISTMAS EVE
AFTER LITURGY. THIS FAST INCLUDES
ABSTAINING FROM ALL MEAT, DAIRY,
ALCOHOL, AND OIL.

صيام عيد الميلاد

بدأ صيام عيد الميلاد يوم السبت 15 تشرين
الثاني ويستمر صيام عيد الميلاد حتى يوم
24 كانون الأول بعد قداس العيد، نود أن
ننوه في هذه الفترة بأن اللحوم والأجبان
والكحول غير مسموح فيه قطعياً.

FOR A FASTING DISCIPLINE YOU CAN HANDLE, PLEASE SPEAK TO THE CLERGY.

Fasting must always be accompanied by prayer and forgiveness, using the wisdom of God found, first and foremost, in the Holy Scriptures. Helping and serving others and feeding those who are in need will give fasting its true meaning. Without love for others, prayers are empty.

THE CHARITY CENTER (OPERATED BY YAF) IS COLLECTING CLOTHES, TOILETRIES, AND NON-PERISHABLE FOODS DURING ADVENT FOR THE LOCAL SHELTER. PLEASE DROP OFF ALL ITEMS TO THE CHURCH OFFICE.

God's

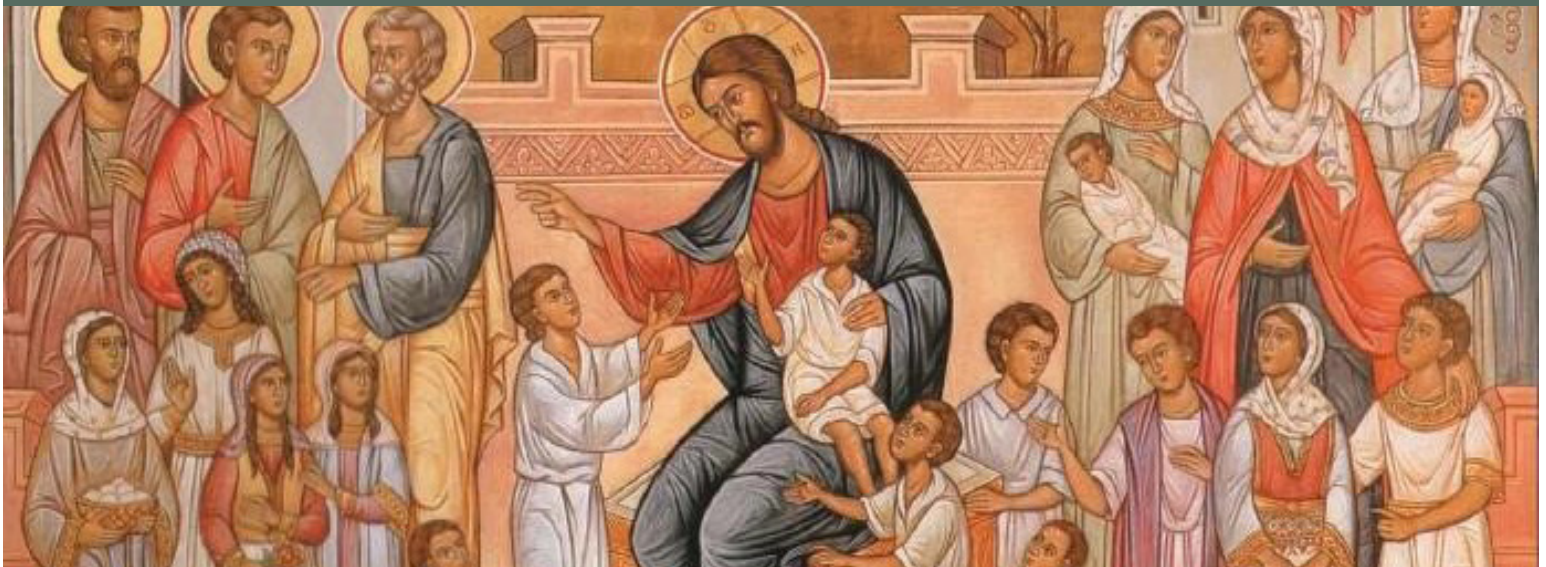


Little Lights

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

Immediately after Communion, the children's ministry,
"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.





SUNDAY SCHOOL

Curriculum Update

Lesson 12: Jesus Heals the Daughter of Jairus and Centurion's Servant

Last week the students learned of the healing of Jairus' daughter. Jairus was an important ruler in the synagogue and knows the scriptures well. His one and only child, his 12-year-old daughter, was going to die. Jairus had a high opinion of Jesus, knowing He would be able to heal his daughter. He came to Jesus humbling himself and falling at His feet. Jesus saw the love Jairus had for his daughter and He followed him to his home. The news came that they were too late and his daughter had passed and not to bother the Teacher. Jesus only took with him Peter, James, and John with him along with Jairus and his wife. There was quite a commotion with weeping and wailing at their home. Jesus said why are you making all this commotion when the girl is just sleeping. Jesus reached out and took the girl by her hand. He spoke to her and said, "Little girl, I say to you, arise." (Mark 5:41) Immediately the girl got up and walked around the room. Jesus said to give the girl something to eat. Jairus and his wife were amazed.



Another miracle the students learned about was the healing of the Centurion's servant. A Centurion is a Roman soldier who is in charge of 100 soldiers. His servant was sick. This Roman must have been very unique because he showed great humility in coming to Jesus. Jesus could see his faith and he said, I will come and heal him. The Centurion's faith was so strong that he said, "I am not worthy that you should come under my roof, but only speak a word and my servant will be healed." (Matthew 8:8) Jesus replied, "I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel." (Matthew 8:10) From that very hour the man's servant was healed.

REGISTRATION IS
OPEN!

DON'T MISS ANOTHER WEEK!



Calendar of Events

Sunday School Classes -----Sundays After Communion

Youth Choir -----After Sunday School

Mandatory Christmas Concert

Rehearsal ----- Sun | Dec 7 after Sunday School

Mandatory Christmas Concert

Rehearsal ----- Sun | Dec 14 after Sunday School

Christmas Concert ----- Sat | Dec 20

StGeorgeChi.org/register-student

CREATING MEMORIES

smile!



Christmas Concert
TICKETS and DONATIONS
fund Sunday School
activities like *Summer*
Bible School, Confession
Program, Godparents'
Sunday, Bible Bowl study
sessions, and MORE!



Meet

the

Staff

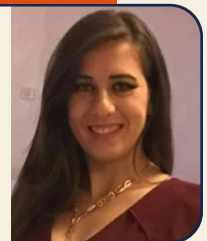
RAWAN ASBAH

POSITION IN SS: Pre-Kindergarten/Kindergarten Assistant Teacher

BOOK YOU HAVE RECENTLY READ: The Power of Positive Thinking

FAVORITE SS DAY OR ACTIVITY: Arts and Icons Crafts with the kids

FAVORITE GAME OR SPORT: Running



SANDY ESEED

POSITION IN SS: Pre-Kindergarten/Kindergarten Assistant Teacher

BOOK YOU HAVE RECENTLY READ: Children Read the Bible

FAVORITE SS DAY OR ACTIVITY: Christmas Concert

FAVORITE GAME OR SPORT: Bingo, Monopoly, UNO, Swimming, Basketball

Did you
KNOW?

The Christmas Concert is just around the corner in 2 short weeks. You won't want to miss this blessed annual event! The Sunday School students have been diligently preparing and are excited to see a full audience! **PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TODAY! →**



SCAN ME



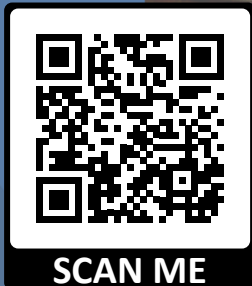
Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

Teen SOYO CHRISTMAS GATHERING

Fri | Dec 12
7PM

- 🍽️ Dinner
- ✉️ Christmas Card Stuffing
- 👕 Wear an Ugly Christmas Sweater
- 🎁 White Elephant Gift Exchange (\$5-\$10)

RSVP by
Wed | Dec 10



COMPLIMENTARY EVENT!

INVITING ALL TEENS (AGES 13-18)



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

Teen SOYO

SAT, JAN 17, 2026
6:45 PM - 9:00 PM

*"A generous person will prosper;
whoever refreshes others will
be refreshed."* ~ Proverbs 11:25

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

PLEASE SCAN QR-CODE OR SIGN-UP AT
WWW.FMSC.ORG/JOIN-GROUP?JOINCODE=K1D2W2



FEED MY
STARVING
CHILDREN



740 WILEY FARM COURT, SCHAUMBURG, IL 60173



SAINT GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, CICERO, IL

Young Adult Fellowship

SAVE-THE-DATE

Sun, December 7th

YAF Coffee Hour

Tue, December 9th

West Campus Ministry

Thur, December 11th

Saint Katherine the Great, Antiochian Orthodox Mission

Fri, December 12th

Advent Retreat & Humanitarian Project

Sun, December 21st

YAF Coffee Hour

Sat, December 27th

Christmas Dinner & Gathering

Sat. January 3rd

YAM Deanery Social Event at Puttshack in Oak Brook

Sun, January 4th

YAF Coffee Hour

Fri, January 9th

YAF General Meeting & Dinner

Sun, January 18th

YAF Coffee Hour

Sat, January 24th

Movie Night: *Paul, Apostle of Christ*

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

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox
Church, Cicero, IL



YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP (YAF)

ADVENT SPIRITUAL RETREAT AND HUMANITARIAN PROJECT

FRI | DEC 12 | 7PM

\$25
/PERSON

Evening Prayers, Spiritual Talk,
Dinner, Humanitarian Project,
and Fellowship

RSVP by
Sun | Dec 7



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

PUTTSHACK DEANERY SOCIAL

*Chicago-land young adults are
welcome to join us*

JANUARY 3RD, 2026

TIME:

7:00pm–9:00pm

LOCATION:

PUTTSHACK, 1828
Oakbrook Center,
Oak Brook, IL 60523

\$50
PER
PERSON



THIS EVENT IS RESERVED FOR YOUNG ADULT MEMBERS OF
THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHICAGO-LAND CHURCHES

SAINT GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, CICERO, IL

The Young Adult Fellowship presents...

SAINT GEORGE CREWNECKS



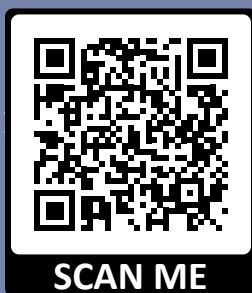
FRONT



BACK

ORDER YOURS TODAY!

PRE-ORDER FORM CLOSING SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH AT MIDNIGHT*



SCAN ME

**\$40 - ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO
THE 2026 YAF PILGRIMAGE FUND**

**LIMITED STOCK WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AFTER THE PRE-ORDER FORM CLOSING*



An Invitation

"Christianity is not a matter of persuading people of particular ideas, but of inviting them to share in the greatness of Christ. So pray that I may never fall into the trap of impressing people with clever speech, but instead I may learn to speak with humility, desiring only to impress people with Christ himself."

- Saint Ignatius of Antioch

The Ribbon & The Cross Is An Invitation To Become Part Of A Ministry

An Invitation Not Recognition

When you become part of the Order of Saint Ignatius of Antioch, you become part of a ministry. The Order is not a club that you join. It is not a secular status symbol for recognition. The Cross and the Ribbon that Order supporters wear is an invitation to become part of a ministry. It serves as an invitation to share with one another in the greatness of Christ by giving in a manner that is unconditional and quiet. Supporting the Order's projects, Archdiocese Departments and numerous programs as one group, with Christ in our minds and hearts, should be how we *invite* the world to become part the Order's ministry.

Initiate the Questions of What? & How?

When those supporting the Order wear their ribbon and cross, it is meant to initiate others to inquire about the Order and how they can help strengthen its ministry. When people see the red ribbon and Cross that we wear, it helps begin the conversation to share what the Order does and provide the initial welcome to help expand its ministry. It provides an opportunity to ask, "What does the Order do and how can I help?"

The Order Provides A Lesson In Giving

When you give to the Order of Saint Ignatius of Antioch, you are giving in a way we are all called to give ... unconditionally. Your gift is not individually recognized. You are not able to designate your gift to a specific need you select. You are giving without recognition, without conditions, without direct gratitude of the Order's recipients. This is the manner in which a "true gift" is made. A gift made in the way Christ directs us.

The Order Teaches Us How To Give

... the Order is teaching us how to share, the Order is teaching us how to give, the Order is teaching us how to sacrifice, and how to reach out for Orthodox and non-Orthodox alike. This is the miracle of The Order of Saint Ignatius of Antioch."

- His Eminence Metropolitan Philip of thrice blessed memory, Founder of the Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch



The Order of
Saint Ignatius
of Antioch

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

- Saint Ignatius of Antioch

Selfless

... the Order is teaching us how to share, the Order is teaching us how to give, the Order is teaching us how to sacrifice, and how to reach out for Orthodox and non-Orthodox alike. This is the miracle of The Order of Saint Ignatius of Antioch."

-His Eminence Metropolitan Philip of thrice blessed memory,
Founder of the Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch

Your gift is selfless. You help support the Order's ministry without recognition or conditions. There are no banquets, plaques or special awards given in your honor. Your gift is given unconditionally to support the Orthodox Faith in North America, the Spiritual strengthening of our youth and to care for our beloved clergy in their Golden years.

\$98.22	Administrative Expense
\$294.64	Youth Programs & Camp Scholarships
\$15.04	Project Mexico
\$15.04	IOCC
\$21.32	Projects & Grants
\$7.52	SOYO Special Olympics
\$6.40	Clergy Symposium & Convention Support
\$15.49	Seminararian Assistance
\$116.54	Archdiocese Departments
\$18.80	Parish Development & Missions
\$97.75	Missions & Evangelism
\$15.03	Archdiocese House of Studies
\$75.19	Internet Ministry
\$203.02	Retired Clergy Fund

How Your Annual Gift Is Allocated

Based On A **\$1,000** Knight &/or Dame
Commander Level Annual Gift

61.41%

Of Annual Order Gifts

29.46%

Youth Programs & Camp Scholarships

20.30%

Retired Clergy Fund

11.65%

Missions & Evangelism & Parish Development



The Order of
Saint Ignatius
of Antioch

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

*Only **9.82%** In Administrative Expense

**Based On Fiscal Year 2024



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN



Save the Date

DECEMBER...

- Tue, Dec 9 – West Campus Ministry | 6 PM
- Thu, Dec 11 – Saint Katherine Antiochian Orthodox Mission Pastoral Ministry | 6 PM
- **Fri, Dec 12** – Spiritual Sisters Circle Ministry | 7 PM
- Sat, Dec 13 – Great Vespers Service | 5 PM
- Sat, Dec 20 – Annual Christmas Concert | 5 PM
- Wed, Dec 24 – Royal Hours | 10 AM, Pre-Communion Prayers, Matins, Christmas Liturgy | 4:45 PM

JANUARY...

- **Sat, Jan 3** – Annual AW Christmas/Epiphany Dinner | 7 PM

All Women 18+ Welcome!



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

Complimentary
EVENT

Spiritual Discussion
In The Orthodox Club
Chapel

Refreshments and
Coffee will be provided

SPIRITUAL SISTERS

Circle MINISTRY

Sisters in Christ – Sisters for Life

Discussion Theme:

**“VISION SETTING FOR 2026:
CREATING SPIRITUAL GOALS FOR THE NEW YEAR ”**

FRI, DEC 12, 2025
7:00 PM – 9:30 PM

RSVP by
Fri | Dec 12



SCAN ME

ALL WOMEN 18+ WELCOME!



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

Antiochian Men (A-MEN)

SAVE THE DATE

- Tue, DEC 9/2026: West Campus Ministry
- Thu, DEC 11/2026: Saint Katherine Antiochian Orthodox Mission Pastoral Ministry
- Sat, DEC 13/2026: Great Vespers Service
- Sat, DEC 20/2026: Annual Christmas Concert
- Wed, DEC 24/2026: Royal Hours (AM), Christmas Liturgy (PM)
- Sat, JAN 10/2026: Showerma Night
- Sat, FEB 14/2026: Pre-Lenten Hafli

ALL Gentlemen 18+ Invited

SAINT GEORGE PASTORAL OUTREACH PROGRAM

WEST CAMPUS MINISTRY

FALL 2025 SESSION



2 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

@ CHURCH OF THE HOLY NATIVITY

275 S RICHMOND AVE. CLARENDON HILLS, IL. 60514

TUESDAYS

OCT 28, 2025 - NOV 4, 2025 - NOV 11, 2025
NOV 18, 2025 - DEC 2, 2025 - DEC 9, 2025

PROGRAM

6:00PM - 6:40PM



CHECK IN
COMPLIMENTARY DINNER

6:40PM - 7:00PM



EVENING PRAYERS

7:00PM - 8:00PM



ADULT LESSONS
KID'S CLUB (AGES 3-8)

7:00PM - 7:30PM



JOY CLUB (AGES 9-12) LESSONS
TEEN SOYO (AGES 13-18)
ACTIVITIES & GAMES

7:30PM - 8:00PM



JOY CLUB (AGES 9-12)
ACTIVITIES & GAMES
TEEN SOYO (AGES 13-18)
LESSONS

8:00PM - 9:00PM



FAMILY SOCIAL HOUR
& GAMES

THEME DAYS



OCT 28 - COSTUME CONTEST (CHURCH APPROPRIATE)



NOV 18 - GOBBLE & GATHER (FALL THEMED OR COZY COLORED OUTFITS)

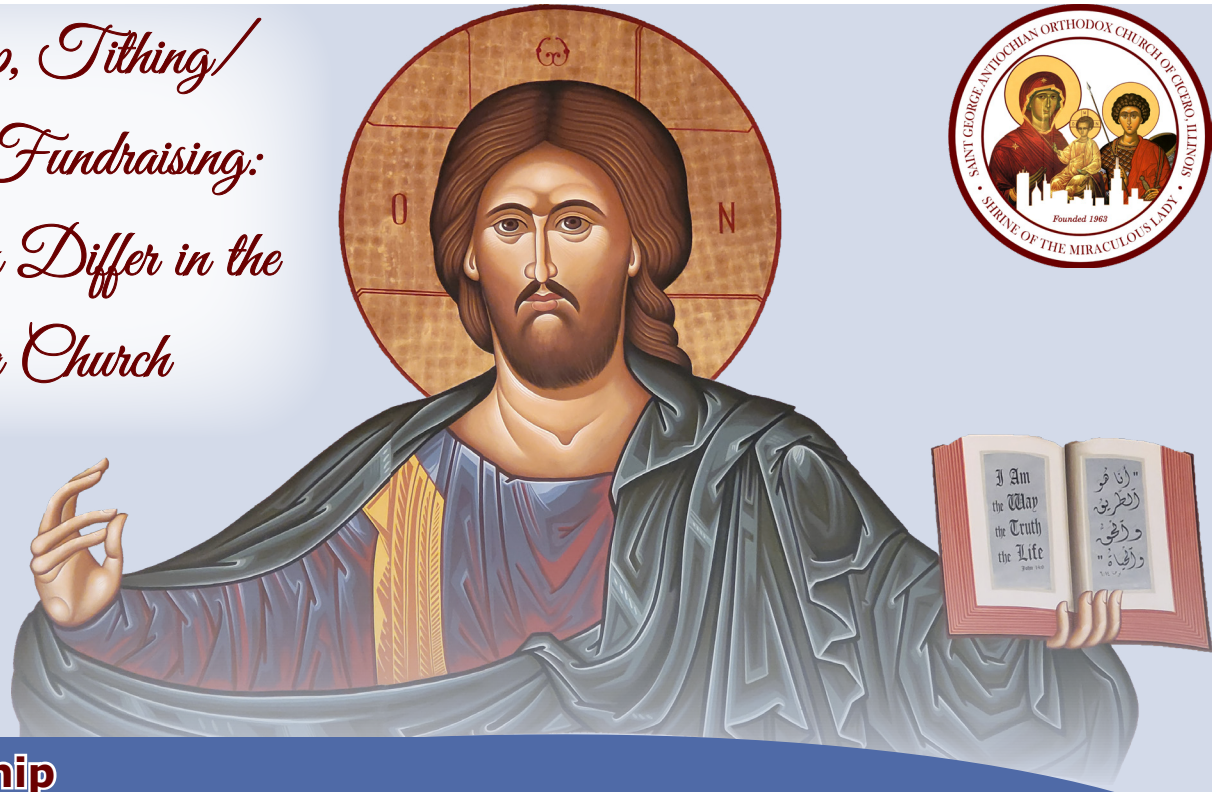


DEC 9 - WEAR YOUR BEST (OR WORST) CHRISTMAS SWEATER!!

FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE CONTACT:

- FR. FOUAD SABA (312) 877-4770
- FR. GABRIEL CORONEL (773) 746-1893
- DN. GEORGE NASSIEF (925) 699-3893
- DN. JOHN ZAYED (630) 901-6852
- DN. MOSES BYNUM (773) 972-1471
- ALEXANDRA ZANAYED (630) 442-2473
- KAREN NAWAS (630) 536-7429

Membership, Tithing/ Giving, and Fundraising: How They Differ in the Life of a Church



1. Membership

Membership in a Church is a spiritual and relational commitment.

When someone becomes a member, they are saying:

- "This is my Church family."
- "I believe in the mission, teaching, and direction of this Church."
- "I want to grow, serve, and be accountable within this community."

Membership is not about paying dues or meeting a financial requirement. It's about belonging, participating, and sharing in the responsibility of the ministry — including prayer, service, and support.

2. TITHING AND GIVING

Tithing or Giving is an act of worship and obedience, not a payment for services.

Tithing traditionally and biblically refers to returning the first 10% of one's income to God.

Giving includes offerings above and beyond the tithe or any amount a person feels led to give.

Key points:

- It supports the ongoing mission of the Church: preaching, discipleship, outreach, benevolence, ministry programs, and operations.
- It flows from gratitude and trust in God.
- It is regular, voluntary, and spiritually motivated.

Tithing/Giving is part of a believer's relationship with God, not a fundraiser or transaction.

3. Fundraising

Fundraising is different from tithes and offerings.

A **fundraiser** is a specific, time-limited effort to raise money for a particular purpose — such as youth trips, building repairs, missions projects, or community outreach events. Examples include:

- Annual Golf Outing
- Thanksgiving Dinner
- Legacy Ball and Convention
- Charity Events (IOCC Fundraising)

Fundraising is *occasional* and *project-focused*, not an act of worship like tithing. It is a tool, not a spiritual discipline.

How They Work Together in a Church

- **Membership** expresses *belonging*.
- **Tithing/Giving** expresses *worship and stewardship*.
- **Fundraising** provides *additional* support for specific needs that go beyond the Church's regular budget.

A healthy Church doesn't replace giving with fundraising, nor does it require money to belong. Instead, it teaches biblical giving, invites joyful voluntary generosity, and uses fundraising only when appropriate.

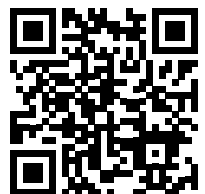
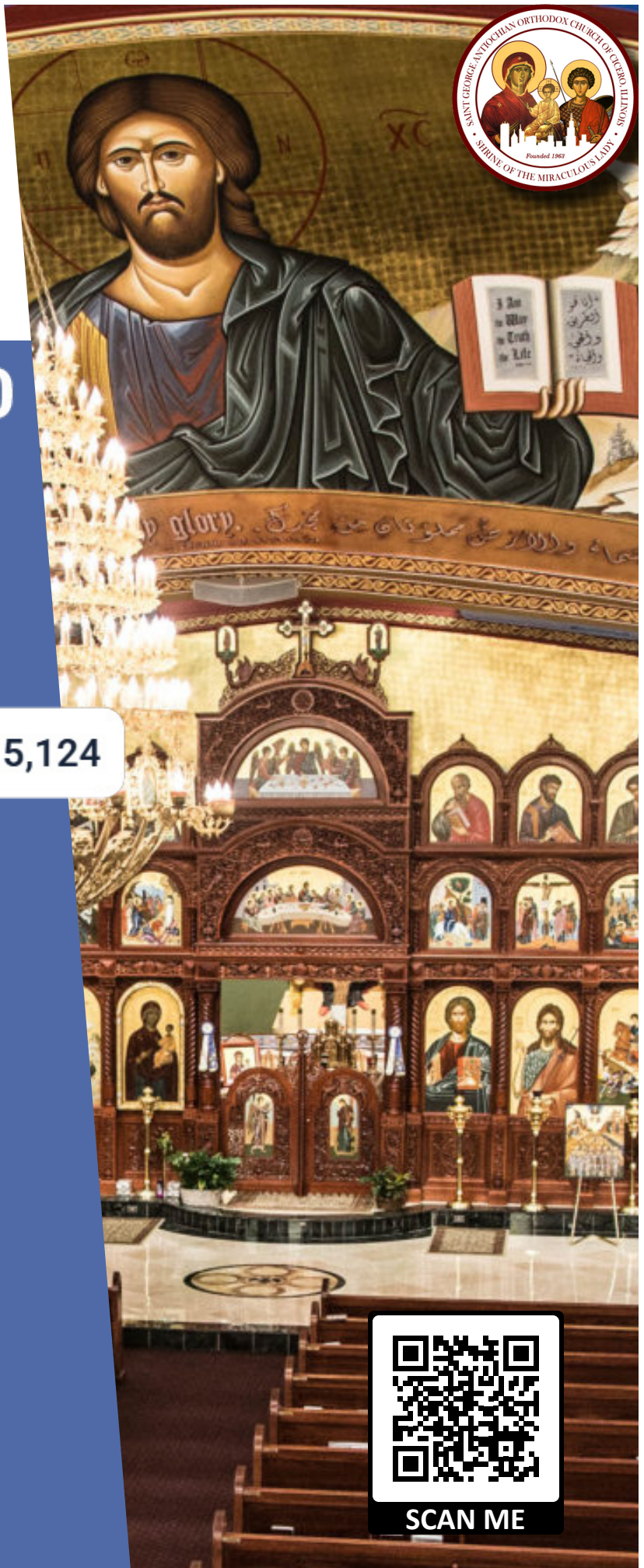
Saint George Church
is made up of a committed and
generous spiritual community that
cares for the Church.

TOGETHER, let us close the deficit
over the last 4 weeks of the year!

GOAL: \$410,000

77%

\$315,124



SCAN ME



SAINT GEORGE GOLF CLASSIC

25th Annual GOLF CLASSIC

Golfing for a purpose

Save the Date!

SATURDAY,
JUNE 13, 2026



Registration and Sponsorships
COMING SOON!





Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL
Antiochian Family Ministry (AFM)
Presents...

NEW YEAR'S EVE *Family Haftli*

6:45 PM Pre-Communion Prayers

7:00 PM Evening Divine Liturgy
followed by Dinner, Music, and Raffle

COUNTDOWN AT MIDNIGHT!

WEDNESDAY | DEC. 31 | 6:45 PM

RSVP Required for All ages over 3 →

ALL are Welcome | First Come–First Serve

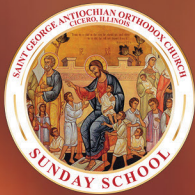
No Refunds after Monday | Dec. 15

\$600/Table of 8

\$75/Individual Ticket



SCAN ME



SAINT GEORGE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, CICERO, IL

SUNDAY SCHOOL *Christmas Concert*

A FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2025

Great Vespers Service 5:00PM

followed by

Concert ♪ Fasting Dinner ♪ Raffle

\$25/ADULT

\$15/CHILDREN (12 AND UNDER)

PURCHASE TICKETS BY FRI/DEC 12

PURCHASE
TICKETS
HERE



SCAN ME

♪ PROCEEDS ♪ to support Sunday School ministries including...

- SUMMER BIBLE SCHOOL
- Creative Arts Festival
- Confession Program
- Godparents' Sunday
- Staff Lenten Retreat/Training