

THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!

المسيحُ وُلدَ! فَمجِّدُوهُ!

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 الارتوذكسية

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

The Right Reverend Bishop **ANTHONY**, *Auxiliary Bishop* 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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Monday-Friday: 8:30 am-5:00 pm

Saturday: By Appointment

Sunday: Closed

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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.: 486/2023

Nativity 2023

Reverend Hierarchs, Priests and Deacons, Esteemed members of the Archdiocese Board of Trustees, Beloved Sons and Daughters of our Antiochian Archdiocese of North America,

On this blessed occasion, I recall the familiar phrase we hear in the Advent prayers:

"Christ is born, glorify Him!"

It is the Church's call to us since the beginning of the Nativity Fast. We remember it to keep the question alive: How do we glorify Christ? Present in our minds, the answer remains clear: we glorify Him through our actions, our lives, and our conduct. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matt. 5:16). Remember, the answer depends on each person's readiness and response to this divine calling.

Many believe that Christ calls us to be good and nothing more. However, our Orthodox Christian faith teaches us that Christ came for us, and became man, not merely to make us good but to adorn our nature with His divinity. Good deeds are necessary, not as an end in themselves, but as the path to conform to Christ, striving for divine perfection.

Christian theology has succinctly summarized the theology of the Incarnation since the second century with the phrase: "God became man so that man might become God." Our Lord took unto himself what was not His original nature to clearly show us that it is possible for us to forsake our sinful nature. He opened the heavens and descended to us, teaching us to open the gates of our hearts and forgiveness of sins, offering mercy to our brethren through the likeness of His love toward us.

My prayer for you in these blessed days is that may you always be prepared to receive the birth of Christ within you, to be a warm manger for Him, and to be blessed by His constant presence within you. May He increasingly mold you into His likeness day by day.

May God bless your days and your lives, and may everyone taste the peace of His Nativity.

Wishing you a blessed festal season and a new year filled with His blessings, I remain,

Yours in the Incarnate Christ,

alia

+**SABA** Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

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

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THE GREAT DOXOLOGY

Glory to Thee, who has shown us the Light. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men. We praise thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks unto Thee for Thy great glory. O Lord, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty; O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and the 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 God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified be Thy Name forever. Amen. Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we do put our hope in thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord: teach me Thy statutes. (thrice) Lord, Thou hast been our refuge in all generations. I said: 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 lovingkindness 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. قُدّوسٌ اللهُ، قُدّوسٌ الْقَويّ، قُدّوسٌ الْذي لا يَموتُ |Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us.

المَجْدُ لَكَ يا مُظهرَ النور، المَجْدُ للهِ في العَلاءِ، وعلى الأرْضِ السَّلام، وفي النَّاسِ المَسَرَّة نُسَبِّحُكَ نُبار كُكَ، نَسْجُدُ لَكَ نُمَجّدُكَ، نَشْكُرُكَ مِنْ أجل عظيم جَلال مَجْدِك أَيُّها الرَّبُّ المَلِكُ، السَّماويُّ، الإلهُ، الآبُ الضابطُ الْكُلّ. أَيُّها الرَّبُّ الإبْنُ الوَحيدُ، يا يَسوعُ المَسيحُ، ويا أيُّها الرّوحُ القُدُس أَيُّها الرَّبُّ الإلهُ، با حَمَلَ الله با ابنَ الآب، با رافِعَ خطيئة العالم ارْحَمْنا، يا رافِعَ خَطايا العالم تَقَبَّلْ تَضَرُّ عَنا أَيُّها الجالِسُ عَنْ يمينِ الآبِ و ارْ حَمْنا لأنَّكَ أنْتَ وَحْدَكَ قُدُوسٌ، أنْتَ وَحْدَكَ الرَّبُّ يَسوعُ المَسيحُ، في مَجْدِ اللهِ الأب، آمين. فى كُلِّ يَومٍ أَبارِكُكَ، وأُسَبِّحُ اسْمَكَ إلى الأبَدِ، والم أبَدِ الأبَد أهِّلْنا يا رَبُّ أَنْ نُحْفَظَ في هذا اليَومِ بِغيرٍ خَطيئةٍ. مُبارَكٌ أَنْتَ بِارَبُّ إِلَهَ آبِائِنا، وَمُسَبَّحٌ ومُمَجَّدٌ اسْمُكَ إلى الأبدِ، آمين لِتَكُنْ يا رَبُّ رَحْمَتُكَ عَلَيْنا، كَمِثْل اتِّكالِنا عَليك. مُبارَكُ أَنْتَ يا رَبُّ عَلِّمْنِي حُقوقَك. (ثلاثاً) يا رَبُّ مَلْجاً كُنْتَ لنا في جيلٍ وجيلٍ، أنا قلْتُ يا رَبُّ ارْحَمْنِي واشْفِ نَفْسِي لَأَنَّنِي قَد خَطِئْتُ السك يارَبُّ إليكَ لجأتُ فَعَلِّمْنِي أَنْ أَعْمَلَ رضاكَ، لأنَّكَ أنتَ هُوَ إلهي لأنَّ مِنْ قِبَلِكَ عَيْنَ الحياةِ، وبنوركَ نعاينُ النور. فابسُطْ رَحْمَتَكَ على الذين يعرفونَكَ. قُدّوسٌ اللهُ، قُدّوسٌ القويّ، قُدّوسٌ الذي لا يموتُ ار حَمْنا. (ثلاثاً) المَجْدُ لِلآبِ والإبنِ والرّوح القُدُسِ. الآنَ وكُلَّ أوان وإلى دَهْرِ الداهِرِينَ، آمين. قُدّوسٌ الذي لا يَموتُ ارحَمْنا. ارْ حَمْنا

TODAY'S LITURGY INSERTS

FIRST ANTIPHON

I will confess Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Thy wonders. In the council of the upright, and in the congregation, great are the works of the Lord.

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

They are sought out in all the things that He hath willed. Confession and majesty are His work, and His righteousness abideth unto ages of ages.

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

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

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

Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord; in His

أَعْتَرِفُ لَكَ يا رَبُّ مِنْ كُلِّ قَلْبِي، وأُحَدِّثُ بِجَمِيع عَجائِبِك. في مَجْلِسِ المُسْتَقيمينَ وفي مَجْمَعِهم، عَظيمةٌ هيَ أعْمالُ الرَّبِّ.

اللازمة: بشَفَاعاتِ والدةِ الإلهِ يا مُخلِّصُ خلَّصْنا. مُدَبَّرَةٌ طِبْقاً لِكُلِّ مُرادِهِ بها. صُنْعُهُ الإعْتِراف وعِظَمُ الجَلال، وعَدْلُهُ يَدُومُ إلى دهْرِ الدَّاهرين.

اللازمة: بشَفَاعات والدة الإله يا مُخلّص خلّصنا. المجدُ للآبِ والإبنِ والروح القدس، الآنَ وكلَّ أوانِ والى دهر الدآهرينَ. آمين.

اللازمة؛ بشفاعات والدة الإله با مُخلِّصُ خلَّصْنا.

SECOND ANTIPHON

طُوبَى للرَّجُلِ الَّذِي يتَّقِى الرَّبَّ ويَهْوَى وصاياهُ جدًّا. commandments shall he greatly delight. His seed تَكُونُ ذُرّيَّتُهُ في الأرضِ مُقْتَدِرة. shall be mighty upon the earth. The generation of the upright shall be blessed. اللازمة: خَلِّصْنا يا ابْن اللهِ، يا مَنْ وُلِدَ مِنَ البَثُول، Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who wast born of لِنُرَ تِلْ لَكَ. هَلِلُو بِيا. a Virgin; who sing to Thee. Alleluia. المَجْدُ والْغِنَىَ في بَيْتِهِ، و عَدْلُهُ بَدُومُ الى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِين Glory and riches shall be in his house, and His righteousness abideth unto ages of ages. اللازمة: :خَلِّصْنا يا ابْن اللهِ، يا مَنْ وُلِدَ مِنَ البَتُولِ، Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who wast born of لِنُرَ تِنْ لَكَ. هَلِلُوبِيا. a Virgin; who sing to Thee. Alleluia. أَشْرَقَ النُّورُ في الظُّلْمَةِ للمُسْتَقِيمِين، النُّورُ يُشْرِقُ في There hath risen up in darkness a light for the upright; He is merciful and compassionate and الظَّلام لِلأَبْرَارِ، لأنَّهُ الْرَوُّوفُ وَالرَّحِيمُ وَالصِّدِّيق. righteous. اللازمة: :خَلِّصْنا يا ابْن اللهِ، يا مَنْ وُلِدَ مِنَ البَتُول، Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who wast born of لِنُرَ تِّلْ لَكَ. هَلِلُو بِيا. a Virgin; who sing to Thee. Alleluia. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the المجدُ للآبِ والإبنِ والروح القدس، الآنَ وكلَّ أوان Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto ages of والى دهر الدآهرين. آمين. ages. Amen. يا كَلِمةَ الله الإبنَ الوحيدَ... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

THIRD ANTIPHON

The Lord said unto my Lord: sit Thou at My right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool. The Lord shall send Thee a rod of strength out of Zion. With Thee is dominion in the day of Thy power, in the beauties of Thy saints.

قالَ الرَّبُّ لرَبِّي: إجْلِسْ عَنْ يَمِينِي حَتَّى أَجْعَلَ أعداءَك مَوْطِئًا لقَدَمَيْك. عَصَا قُوَّةٍ يُرْسِلُ لَكَ الرَّبُّ مِنْ صِهْيَوْن. مَعَكَ الرِّئاسَةُ في يَوم قُوَّتِكَ، في بَهاءِ قِدِّيسِيك.

TROPARION OF THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY (TONE 4)

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath given rise to the light of knowledge in the world; for they that worshipped the stars did learn therefrom to worship Thee, O Sun of Justice, and to know that from the east of the Highest Thou didst come. O Lord, glory to Thee.

ميلادُكَ أَيُّها المَسيحُ إلهُنا قَدْ أَطْلَعَ نورَ المَعْرِفَةِ في العالَم، لأنَّ السَّاجِدينَ لِلْكواكِبِ، بِهِ تَعَلَّمُوا مِنَ الكَوْكَبِ السُّجودَ لَكَ يا شَمْسَ العَدْلِ، وأنْ يَعرِفُوا أَنَّكَ مِنْ مَشارِقِ العُلُوِّ أَتَيْتَ، يا رَبُّ، المَجْدُ لَكَ.

مِنَ البَطْنِ قَبْلَ كَوْكَبِ الصُّبْحِ وَلَدْتُكَ، حَلَفَ الرَّبُّ

ولَنْ يَنْدَمْ، أَنَّكَ أَنتَ الكاهِنُ إلى الدَّهْر عَلَى تَرْتيب

مَلْكِيصادَق. خَلِّصْنا يا ابْنَ اللهِ، يا مَنْ وُلِد مِنَ البَثُول،

لِنُرَ تِلْ لَكَ. هَلِلُو بِيا.

ENTRANCE HYMN OF THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY

From the womb before the morning star have I begotten Thee. The Lord hath sworn, and He will not repent; thou art a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek. Save us, O Son of God, Who wast born of a Virgin; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

TROPARION OF THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY (TONE 4)

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KONTAKION OF THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY (TONE 3)

On this day the Virgin beareth the Transcendent in Essence; * to the Unapproachable, * the earth doth offer a small cave; * Angels join in choir with shepherds * in giving glory; * with a star the Magi travel upon their journey; * for our sakes is born a young Child, * He Who existed * before the ages as God.

اليَوْمَ البَتُولُ تَلِدُ الفائقَ الجَوْهَر، والأرضُ تُقرِّبُ المَغارةَ لِمَنْ هُوَ غَيْرُ مُقْتَرَبٍ إلَيْهِ. المَلائِكَةُ مَعَ الرُّ عاةِ يُمَجِّدون، والمَجوسُ مَعَ الكَوْكَبِ في الطريق يَسيرون، لأنَّهُ قَدْ وُلِدَ مِنْ أَجْلِنا صَبِيُّ جَديدٌ، الإلهُ الذي قَبلَ الدُّهور.



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 كَمُنقذة منَ الشَّدائد * لكن بما أنَّ لكِ العِزَةَ التي لا تُحَارَب * اعتقِيني من صُنوف الشدائد * حتى أصرُ خَ إليكِ إفرحي يا عروساً لا عروسَ لها.

THE ANTI-TRISAGION HYMN

As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia.				
Dynamis!	فُوَّةُ			
Have put on Christ. Alleluia.	الْمَسِيحَ قَدْ لَبِسْتُم. هَلِلُوبِيَا.			
<i>Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.</i>	الجوقة: المَجْدُ لِلآبِ والابنِ والروحِ القدسِ، الآنَ وكلَّ أوانٍ وإلى دَهْرِ الْدَاهِرِيَنَ. آمين.			
As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia. (THRICE)	أَنْتُمُ الَّذِينَ بِالْمَسِيحِ اعْتَمَدْتُمْ. الْمَسِيحَ قَدْ لَبِسْتُم. هَلِّلُوِيَا. (تلاثا)			

EPISTLE READERS

English	Arabic		
Rammy Zanayed Dec	25 Sandy Eseed		
EPISTLE FOR THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY			
Let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee.	لِيَسْجُدْ لَكَ كُلُّ أَهْلِ الأَرْضِ وَيُرَتِّلُوا لَكَ.		
Shout with joy to God, all the earth.	هَلِّلُوا للهِ يَا جَمِيعَ أَهْلِ الأَرْضْ.		
The Reading from the Epistle of			
Saint Paul to the Galatians (4:4-7)	فَصْلٌ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ القِدِّيسِ بولُسَ الرَسُوُلِ إلَى		
Brethren, when the time had fully come, God	أَهْلِ غَلَاطِيَة (7-4:4)		
sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under	يا إخْوَةُ، لَمَّا حَانَ مِلْءُ الزَّمَانِ، أَرْسَلَ اللهُ		
the Law, to redeem those who were under the	ابْنَـهُ مَوْلُـودًا مِـنِ امْرَأَةٍ، مَوْلُـودًا تَحْتَ الْنَّامُـوسِ،		
Law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.	لِيَفْتَدِيَ الَّذِينَ تَحْتَ النَّامُوسِ، لِنَنَالَ الْتَبَنِّي. وبِمَا		
And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit	أَنَّكُمْ أَبْنَاءٌ، أَرْسَلَ اللهُ رُوحَ ابْنِهِ إِلَى قُلُوبِكُمْ		
of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"			
Therefore, you are no longer a slave but a son;	صَارِخًا: «بَبا أَبَا الآبُ». فَلَسْتَ بَعْدُ عَبْدًا بَلِ ابْنُ،		
and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.	وَإِنْ كُنْتَ ابْنَّا فأَنْتَ وَارِثٌ لِللهِ بِالْمَسِيح		

GOSPEL FOR THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY

The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew (2:1-12)

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East, and have come to worship Him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet: 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judea, are by no means least among the rulers of Judea; for from you shall come a ruler who will govern My people Israel." Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared; and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found Him bring me word, that I too may come and worship Him." When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

فصْلٌ شريفٌ مِنْ بشارَةِ القِدّيسِ مَتّى الإنْجِيلِيّ البَشير والتِّلميذِ الطَّاهِر (2:1-12) لَمّا وُلِدَ بَسوعُ في بَيْتَ لَحْمَ الْيَهودِيَّةِ في أيام هِيرودُسَ المَلِكِ، إذا مَجوسٌ قَدْ أَقْبَلوا مِنَ المَشْرِق إلى أورَشليم قائِلين: أَيْنَ المَوْلودُ مَلِكُ الْيَهود؟ فِإِنَّا رَأَيْنا نَجْمَهُ في المَشْرِق، فَوافَيْنا لِنَسْجُدَ لَهُ * فَلَمَّا سَمِعَ هيرودُسَ المَلِكُ اصْطَرَبَ هُوَ وكُلُّ أورشَلِيمَ مَعَهُ * وجَمَعَ كُلَّ رؤَساءِ الْكَهَنَةِ وكَتَبَةِ الشَّعْبِ، واسْتَخْبَرَهُمْ أَيْنَ يُولَدُ الْمَسِيحِ * فَقَالُوا لَهُ "فِي بَيْتَ لَحْمَ اليَهودِيَّة، لأنَّهُ هَكَذا قَدْ كُتِبَ بِالنَّبِي: وأنتِ يا بَيْتَ لَحْمُ أَرْضُ يَهوذا، لَسْتِ بصُغْرِي في رؤساء يَهوذا، لأَنَّهُ مِنْكِ يَخْرُجُ المُدَبِّرُ الذي يَرْعي شَعْبي إسْرائيل"* حِينَئِذٍ دَعا هيرودُس المَجوسَ سِرًّا وتَحَقَّقَ مِنْهُمْ زِمانَ النَّجْمِ الذي ظَهَرَ * ثُمَّ أَرْسَلَهُمْ إلى بَيْتَ لَحْمَ، قائِلاً: انْطَلِقوا وابْحَثوا عَن الصَّبِيّ بتَدْقيق، ومَتَى وَجَدْتُموهُ، فَأَخْبِرونِي لِكَيْ آتِيَ أَنا أَيْضِاً وأُسْجُدَ لَـهُ * فَلَمَّا سَمِعوا مِنَ المَلِكِ، ذَهَبوا، فَإذا النَّجْمُ الذي كانوا رَأُوهُ في الْمَشْرِق يَتَقَدَّمُهُمْ، حَتَّى جاءَ وَوَقَفَ فَوْقَ الْمَوْضِع الذي كانَ فيهِ الصَّبِيُّ * فلَمَّا رأوا النَّجْمَ فَرحوا فَرَحاً عَظيماً جِدّاً، وأَتَوا إلى البَيْتِ، فَوَجَدوا الصَّبِيَّ مَعَ مَرْيَمَ أُمِّهِ، فَخَرُوا ساجِدينَ لَهُ، وفَتَحوا كُنوزَ هُمْ وقَدَّموا لَهُ هَدايا مِنْ ذَهَب وأبان ومُرّ * ثُمَّ أُوحِيَ إليهمْ في الحُلْم أَنْ لا يَرْجعوا إلى هيرودُسَ، فَانْصَرَفوا في طَريقِ أخرى إلى بلادِهِم

MEGALYNARION OF THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY (TONE 1)

Magnify, O my soul, her who is more honorable and more exalted in glory than the heavenly hosts.

I behold a strange and wonderful mystery: the cave a heaven, the Virgin a cherubic throne, and the manger a noble place in which hath laid Christ the uncontained God. Let us, therefore, praise and magnify Him.

عَظِّمي يا نَفْسي مَنْ هِيَ أَكْرَمُ قَدْر أَ، وأَرْفَعُ مَجْداً مِنَ الأَجْنادِ الْعُلُويَّة.

إِنَّنِي أَشَاهِدُ سِرَّاً عَجِيباً مُسْتَغْرَباً، المَعَارَةَ سَماءً والبَتولَ عَرْشاً شاروبيمياً، والمِذْوَدَ مَحَلاً شَريفاً، الذي اتَّكاً فيهِ المسيحُ الإلهُ، غَيْرُ المَوْسوعِ في مَكانٍ، فَلْنُسَبَحْهُ مُعَظّمين.

COMMUNION HYMN OF THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY (TONE 8)

The Lord hath sent redemption to His people. Alleluia.

لَقَدْ أَرْسِلَ الرَّبُّ فِداءً لِشَعْبِهِ. هَلِلوبِيا.

THE SYNAXARION

On December 25th in the Holy Orthodox Church, we celebrate the Nativity according to the flesh of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ.

The Child born is God, and the Mother, a Virgin; what greater marvel hath appeared in creation? On the twenty-fifth Mary the Virgin gave birth to God.

On this day we commemorate the Adoration of the Magi: Worshipping Thee, O Word, this cohort, come from the nations, Showeth the worship that Thou shalt receive from the nations.

On this day we commemorate the Shepherds that behold the Lord: Shepherds their own flock do now abandon, and hasten to see Christ, the Good Shepherd.

Thus entered into the world He Whose coming was foretold by the prophets, and Who was born in the same manner in which it had been prophesied: of a Most-holy Virgin, in the town of Bethlehem, of the lineage of David according to the flesh, at the time when there was no king in Jerusalem of the lineage of Judah, but rather when a foreigner named Herod, who sought to kill the infant Messiah, was reigning. After many types and prefigurings, messengers and heralds, prophets and righteous men, wise men and kings, finally He appeared, the Lord of the world and King of kings, to perform the work of the salvation of mankind.

Unto Him be glory unto ages of ages. Amen.



Holy Bread Offered By:

Today – Majdi and Arwa Rayahin and Family



- Nabeel and Bulin Eseed and Family
- Dec 31 Sami and Amanda Imseih and Family
 - George and Ibtisam Imreibe and Family
- Jan 5 OPEN
- Jan 7 Suhail and Jomana Fakhouri and Robby Fakhouri
- Jan 14 OPEN

Jan 21 – OPEN

Jan 28 – OPEN



BAPTISMS

Last Sunday GUS Fakhouri and MARY Fakhouri.

- EarlierMIA, daughter of Peter andTodayRosana Thompson.
 - MIA, daughter of Sarah Ablan and Melvin Wesley.

CHURCHINGS

Today WADIH ALEXANDER, son of Murhaf and Lana Kuaidi.

MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS

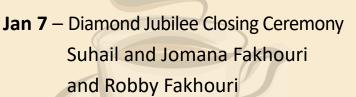
Happy and Blessed 100th Birthday to **DR.** JOSEPH TAMARI, this past week. Dr. Tamari is the eldest parishioner of Saint George Church in Cicero, Illinois.

BLESSING OF RINGS

Jan 12 ANDREW, son of Raed and Reem Sweiss, and SALMA, daughter of William and Dena Barhoumeh.

Coffee Hour Sponsors:

Dec 31 – Daoud and Hania Kahoush and Family



Jan 14 – OPEN

Jan 21 – OPEN

Jan 28 – OPEN

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



CONDOLENCES The clergy and parishioners of Saint George

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

Joseph and Sana Jdaidany and family on the falling asleep of Sana's brother, **†CHAMOUN CHAMOUN**, this past week.

Memory Eternal!

MEMORIALS

Jan 7 2-Year Memorial Service for **†JALILEH** FAKHOURI, offered by her Children.

	CALENDAR OF EVENTS			
	DECEMBER IS THE ORDER OF SAINT IGNATIUS MONTH			
Тодау	Orthros (Matins) followed by Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the 5:00 pm Nativity of the Lord			
Mon, Dec 25	Church Office Closed for Christmas			
Wed, Dec 27	Teen SOYO All Day Christmas Retreat <i>(see pg. 16)</i>	9:00 am		
Sun, Dec 31	 Orthros (Matins) followed by Great Doxology and Divine Liturgy Choir Rehearsal Coffee Hour 	9:15 am 9:15 am After Liturgy		
Mon, Jan 1	Church Office Closed for New Year's Day			
Wed, Jan 3	Sunday School Teachers' Zoom Training	8:00 pm		
Thu, Jan 4	Parish Council Executive Board Zoom Meeting	8:30 pm		
Fri, Jan 5	Evening Divine Liturgy for the Great Feast of Epiphany followed by the Blessing of the Waters <i>(see pg. 24)</i>	7:00 pm		
Sat, Jan 6	 Great Vespers Service Antiochian Women (AW) Epiphany Dinner (see pg. 18) 	5:00 pm After Vespers		
Sun, Jan 7	 Orthros (Matins) followed by Great Doxology and Divine Liturgy Choir Rehearsal Sunday School Coffee Hour Young Adult Fellowship (YAF) Coffee and Fellowship (see pg. 17) Diamond Jubilee Closing Ceremony and Time Capsule Ceremony (see pg. 26) 	9:15 am 9:15 am After Communion After Liturgy After Liturgy 12:30 pm		
Tue, Jan 9	Parish Council Monthly Meeting	7:00 pm		

A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

to

Sanaa Jdaidany and The Beautification

Committee

for Decorating the Christmas Tree

and to

Omar and Lillian Rihani and Family

for sponsoring the Poinsettias

and to

Fares Bannourah and the Property Management Committee

for helping to prepare the building for the season.

May God Grant them Many Years!



Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church كنيسة القديس جاورجيوس الانطاكية الارثوذكسية

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

December 17, 2023

Dear Members of Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church,

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

A blessed Nativity Season to you and your families! This is to inform you the 2024 Annual General Assembly Meeting for the voting membership of Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church will be held on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>January</u> <u>21</u>, <u>2024</u>, following the Divine Liturgy. <u>The agenda is enclosed with this letter</u>.

To be recognized as a voting member of Saint George Church, a parishioner must be at least eighteen years of age and have met <u>both</u> the necessary spiritual obligations (as determined by the Pastor) and financial obligations (as determined by the Financial Secretary – \$600 per married couple or \$300 per individual received from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023). If you have not already done so, please complete your financial obligation before December 31, 2023. If you have any financial circumstances, please see the Pastor. If you have any questions regarding these requirements, please contact a member of the Parish Council.

The goal of Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church is to have all eligible members vote.

At this General Assembly, elections will be held for four (4) seats for a three-year term on the Parish Council. A Nominating Committee has been appointed to compile a list of qualified candidates. The members of the committee are Fr. Fouad Saba, Mr. Suhail Qumri, and Mr. Rammy Zanayed (Chairman of the Nominating Committee). If you or someone you know is interested in running for the Parish Council and is willing to make the commitment required to fulfill this important obligation, please contact the Nominating Committee.

It is important to note that pursuant to the Saint George Church Constitution, <u>no nominations will be accepted from</u> the floor during the Annual General Assembly Meeting. All candidates' names must be submitted to the Nominating Committee by Sunday, January 14, 2024, in order for the candidate's name to be included on the Ballot. There can be no exception to this rule.

During this General Assembly Meeting, all members will also receive a full 2023 Financial Report, the proposed 2024 Annual Budget, and reports from the various organizations and hear about all current plans for the coming year. 2023 was an extremely active year in the life of Saint George Church and your attendance will add greatly to the discussion.

The Church is our spiritual home. Your involvement in the affairs of your Church is very important. May God bless you all as we prepare for the birth of the Savior!

Yours in Christ,

V. Rev. Fr. Fouad Saba

V. Rev. Fr. Fouad Saba Pastor Rammy Zanayed Rammy Zanayed

Chairman, Parish Council

"And they were called Christians first in Antioch" (Acts 11:26)



Become a Saint George Church Member THE 2024 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE COMING SOON!

"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." – Joshúa 4:15

What Time Do I Arrive to Church on Sunday? What Am I Missing?		
What time do I arrive?	What part did I miss?	I have deprived myself of the opportunity to
10:15	Orthros (Matins)	Attend an entire service (beginning at 9:15 AM). Hear the hymns of the week and prepare for the Liturgy.
10:25	Great Doxology	Begin the week properly by giving Glory to God and concluding the final preparation for the Divine Liturgy.
10:30	Blessed is the Kingdom	Proclaim that God's Kingdom is blessed and to respond, "Amen."
10:45	Litanies and Prayers	Pray for peace, the Church, the sick. Participate in the Entrance of the Holy Gospel.
10:55	Epistle, Gospel, Sermon	Hear the Word of God, and think of how it applies to my daily life.
11:10	Cherubic Hymn	Participate in the procession of the Holy Gifts among the people.
11:20	The Creed and Offering	Proclaim what "I believe" and acknowledge the One Who is being offered.
11:30	The Lord's Prayer	Prepare to receive the Body and Blood of Christ.
11:40	The Eucharist	Receive the Body and Blood of Christ from His table from which we hear His Gospel in the reading earlier in the service.
11:45	Thanksgiving Prayers	Give praise and thanks to God for the Gift we have received from Him.
11:50	The Dismissal	Commemorate Christ's saving work, and the prayers and intercession of all the saints.

Teen SOYO

Offers a most sincere Thank You

to all who participated in the 2023 Christmas Card Fundraiser!

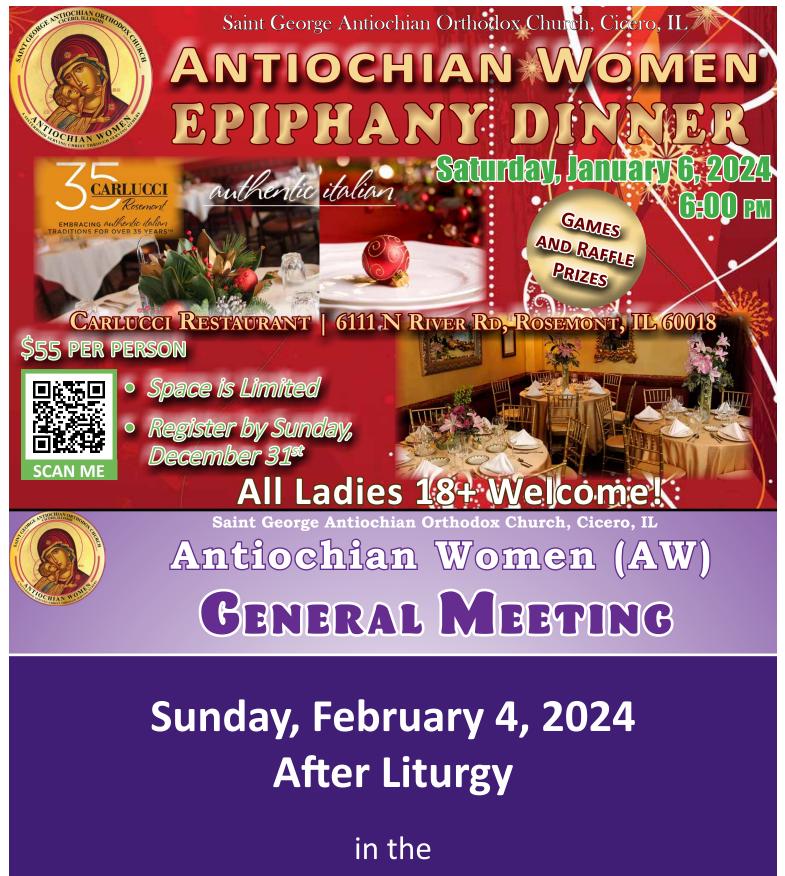
The following names were received after the printing of the card:

- For the Good Health of Zahwa Sakleh and Family.
 - For the Good Health of Nedal, Ghada, Noor, and Lara Fakhouri.

For the Good Health of Saba and Nablia Isa.







Church Library

ALL WOMEN 18+ WELCOME!



December

"The Order of Saint Ignatius Month"

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."

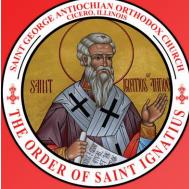
~ Saint Ignatius of Antioch

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL

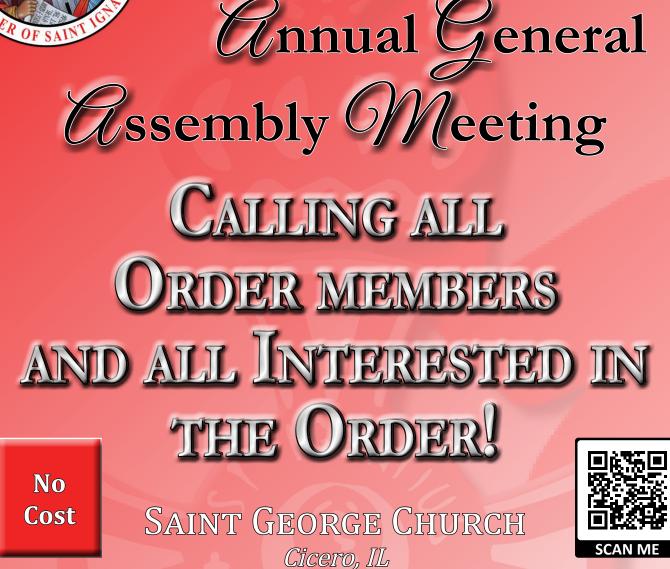
The Order of Saint Ignatius, Cicero Chapter

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY,	The Order GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING and
JAN 20, 2024	ELECTIONS
SATURDAY, FEB 10, 2024	The Order SPEED MENTORING DINNER AND SPEAKER (all Teens, Young Adults, and Adults welcome)
FRIDAY,	The Order ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN PROFESSIONAL
MAR 8, 2024	WINE AND CHEESE RECEPTION



The Order of Saint Ignatius



Saturday, January 20, 2024 • 5:00 рм

CREAT VESPERS CREAT VESPERS CREAT VESPERS CREAT OF CODE TO RSVP BY WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2024



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

The Order of Saint Ignatius Cicero Chapter



December 20, 2023

Dear Members of The Order of Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Cicero Chapter,

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 Order of Saint Ignatius of Antioch (The Order), Cicero Chapter to be held on Saturday January 20, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. at the Church. Dinner will be served.

At this The Order of Saint Ignatius, Cicero Chapter 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 The Order does for the Glory of God!

However, the highlight of the meeting will be the **Election** of the Officers for the 2024 term. The positions include Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Outreach Officer. If any Order member (ages 18+) is interested in running for any of these positions, please contact Father Saba or Deacon George Nassief by Saturday January 13, 2024.

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 Saturday, January 13, 2024. 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 January 20, 2024.*

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*

Dena (Fasheh

Dena Fasheh Chair The Order – Cicero Chapter

1220 South 60th Court, Cicero, IL 60804 Phone (708) 656-2927 | Fax (708) 656-1166 | <u>Office@StGeorgeChi.org</u> | <u>www.StGeorgeChi.org</u>



Pastoral Ministry

The FUTURE is Now...

... The CHURCH is Coming to You!

SAINT GEORGE WEST CAMPUS MINISTRY

@ Kingswood Academy | 133 Plainfield Road | Darien, IL 60561

Wednesdays

- January 17, 2024
- January 24, 2024
- January 31, 2024

Program*

6:00-7:00 PM

- Check-In
- Complimentary Dinner**
- Evening Prayers

7:00-8:00 PM

- Introduction to the Holy Bible (ages 18+)
 - Creation
 - Exodus from Egypt
 - The Kings of Israel
 - The Prophets
 - Psalms and Proverbs
 - The Coming of Christ
- Saint Raphael Kids' Club (ages 3-8)
- J.O.Y. Power Hour (ages 9-12)
- Teen SOYO Hour (ages 13-18)

8:00-9:00 PM

- Adult Social Hour (ages 18+)
- Sports Activities •
- Chess and Checkers Club

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
- Program subject to change.

- February 7, 2024
- February 14, 2024
- February 21, 2024



- The Parables of Christ
- Crucifixion and Resurrection
- The Mission of the Apostles
- Jews and Gentiles
- The Bible and Daily Life
- Judgment Day
- Backgammon Club
- Cards (Uno, Hand Rummy)
- Board Games
- Karen Nawas (630) 536-7429
- Church Office (708) 656-2927

Due to a generous anonymous donor, dinner will be offered complimentary at every session.



Pastoral Ministry

The FUTURE is Now...

... The CHURCH is Coming to You!

SAINT GEORGE NORTH CAMPUS MINISTRY

@ Saint Luke's Lutheran Church | 205 N. Prospect Avenue | Park Ridge, IL 60068

Thursdays

- January 18, 2024
- January 25, 2024
- February 1, 2024

Program*

6:00-7:00 рм

- Check-In
- Complimentary Dinner**
- Evening Prayers

7:00-8:00 рм

- Introduction to the Holy Bible (ages 18+)
 - Creation
 - Exodus from Egypt
 - The Kings of Israel
 - The Prophets
 - Psalms and Proverbs
 - The Coming of Christ
- Saint Raphael Kids' Club (ages 3-4)
- Saint Raphael Kids' Club (ages 5-8)
- 8:00-9:00 PM
- Adult Social Hour (ages 18+)
- Sports Activities
- Chess and Checkers Club

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

- February 8, 2024
- February 15, 2024
- February 22, 2024



- The Parables of Christ
- Crucifixion and Resurrection
- The Mission of the Apostles
- Jews and Gentiles
- The Bible and Daily Life
- Judgment Day
- J.O.Y. Power Hour (ages 9-12)
- Teen SOYO Hour (ages 13-18)
- Backgammon Club
- Cards (Uno, Hand Rummy)
- Board Games
- Karen Nawas (630) 536-7429
- Church Office (708) 656-2927

* Program subject to change.

** Due to a generous anonymous donor, dinner will be offered complimentary at every session.

Celebrate the Epiphany (Baptism) of THE LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST with your Saint George Church Family! اکتالات عبد الغطاس

Friday, January 5, 2024

EVENING DIVINE LITURGY AT 7:00 PM FOLLOWED BY THE BLESSING OF THE WATERS

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Traditionally, at the feast of the Lord's Epiphany (Baptism) on January 6th, the Great Blessing of the waters takes place and then is used to sanctify the homes of all the faithful. In bringing the blessed water to the homes, and sprinkling it in each room, we rid our house of any evil influence, and rededicate it to God in a special way.

As we were once renewed by the waters of our own baptism into Christ, so too our home, and our entire lives, are re-dedicated and renewed unto Christ our God each year at this time.



SEASON OF EPIPHANY

Traditionally, at the feast of the Lord's Epiphany (Baptism) on January 6th, the Great Blessing of the waters takes place and then is used to sanctify the homes of all the faithful. In bringing the blessed water to the homes, and sprinkling it in each room, we rid our house of any evil influence, and rededicate it to God in a special way.

As we were once renewed by the waters of our own baptism into Christ, so too our home, and our entire lives, are re-dedicated and renewed unto Christ our God each year at this time.

HOME BLESSINGS

Please contact the Church Office at (708) 656-2927 or Office@StGeorgeChi.org to schedule your Home Blessing:

The following should be prepared for the Home Blessing:

- All members of family must be present
- Lit Candle
- Burning Incense (Optional)

• Icon

Bible

• Small Table (or dining room table)

The visit by Father Saba or Father Gabriel should be approximately **45 minutes**. Several visits will be scheduled on a given day in order to reach and bless all families and homes this season.

Once the Home Blessing Season is mostly over, Father Saba and Father Gabriel will continue regular Pastoral Visits, during which Father Saba or Father Gabriel will spend ample time with each family.





Refreshments

MARRIED COUPLES MINISTRY

JANUARY 13 4:30PM -8:00PM

"COMMUNICATION IN MARRIAGE"

Featuring The Very Reverend Father Fouad Saba of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church



\$50/COUPLE



SCAN FOR TICKETS

"THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS"

December 25th – January 5th ~ Original Meaning ~

True Love = God

Me = every baptized person

Partridge = Jesus Christ, who, like a bird, will protect God's defenseless children.

Pear Tree = the Cross, which was made from a tree.

2 Turtle **Doves** = the Old and New Testaments; also, two turtle doves were sacrificed when Jesus was first brought to the temple.

3 French Hens = faith, hope, and charity (sacrificial giving); also, gold, frankincense, and myrrh from the Wise Men.

4 Calling Birds = the four Gospels and/or the four Evangelists.
5 Golden Rings = the first five books of the Old Testament (the Pentateuch) which gives the history of man's fall from grace.
6 Geese a-Laying = the six days of creation.

7Swans a -Swimming = the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit (Romans, 12:6-8); also, the seven sacraments.

8 Maids a-Milking = the eight Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-10);
also, milking symbolizes Christ's love for us.

9 <u>Cadies</u> Dancing = the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23).

10 *Lords a-Leaping* = the Ten Commandments.

11 Pipers Piping = the eleven faithful Apostles.

12 Drummers Drumming = the twelve points of the Apostles Creed; also, the twelve Apostles preaching.