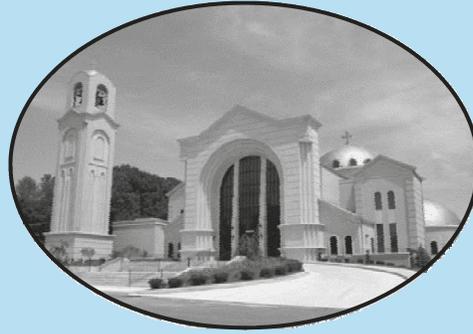


AL-NOUR

The Light of Christ

November 20, 2011
Issue 298



النور

FATHER GEORGE H. SHALHOUB
248-374-0591

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY: كنيسة السيدة الانطاكية للروم الأرثوذكس

THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX BASILICA OF ST. MARY

▪ 18100 Merriman Road ▪ Livonia, Michigan 48152 ▪ www.saintmarylivonia.com ▪ Office: (734)-422-0010 ▪

Sunday Services
Confession: 8:30AM
Matins: 9:00AM
Divine Liturgy: 10:00AM

St. Mary's Cultural
and Banquet Center
(734) 421-9220

ودعي التلاميذ مسيحيين في انطاكية أولاً

“And the disciples were first called
Christians in Antioch.” Acts 11:26

Daily Confession by Appointment - Call the Church Office

November 20, 2011

The Entry into the Temple of the Most Holy Mother of God

(November 21st)



When the most holy Virgin Mary had reached the age of three, her parents, holy Joachim and Anna, took her from Nazareth to Jerusalem, to give her to the service of God in fulfillment of their promise. It was three days' journey to Jerusalem, but, going as they were on God's work, they did not find the journey difficult. Many of Joachim and Anna's kinsmen gathered to take part in this celebration, which the invisible angels of God also took part. Maidens went ahead with lighted candles in their hands, followed by the most holy Virgin, led on either side by her father and mother. The Virgin was clad in royal and beautiful garments, like those of the 'king's daughter', the Bride of God (Ps. 44:9,10). Behind them walked many of their kinsfolk and friends, all bearing lighted candles. There were fifteen steps leading to the Temple. Her parents stood the Virgin on the first step, and she ran quickly to the top on her own. St. Theophylact of Ohrid says that Zacharias, the father of St. John the Forerunner, met her and, taking her by the hand, led her not only into the Temple but into the Holy of Holies, the holiest place of all, into which no one could enter except the High Priest, and that once a year. St. Theophylact of Ohrid says that Zacharias was 'out of himself, and moved by God' when he led the Virgin into the chief place in the Temple, beyond the second curtain—otherwise there could be no explanation of his action. Her parents then offered sacrifices to God, according to the Law, received the priest's blessing and returned home, leaving the most holy Virgin in the Temple. She dwelt in the Temple for nine whole years. While her parents were alive, they visited her often. When they departed this life, the holy Virgin was left an orphan, and longed to remain in the Temple for the rest of her days, without entering into marriage. This being contrary both to the Law and Israelite custom, she was confided at the age of twelve to St. Joseph, a kinsman of hers in Nazareth, so that she might, under the protection of betrothal, live in virginity and thus fulfill both her desire and the demands of the Law, for it was unknown in Israel at that time for a girl to vow perpetual virginity. The holy Virgin Mary was the first to do this, and was later followed by thousands upon thousands of virgin men and women in the Church of Christ.

Taken from: *The Prologue of Ohrid*

The Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of St. Mary

Fr. George Shalhoub - Pastor
Fr. Jim King - Director of Youth &
Pastoral Outreach
Programs
Deacon Issa Rizkallah
313-690-2030
Deacon Dr. Dennis Bojrab
Robert Harb - Parish Council
Chairman
Linda Lawson - Choir Director
Stacey Badeen - Church Administrator
Dianne Farah-Church School
Administrator
Arwa Ansara-Asst. Church School
Administrator
Richard Shebib/Sami Azzouz -
Ushers
George Chalhouh - Young Adults-
St. John Divine
Dolly Matta - Ladies Society
President
Nicole Khamis - Teen Soyo President
Lina Nunu - Arabic School
Keith Rowe - Cultural Center General
Manager 734-421-9220

THE EPISTLE

*O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.
To Thee, O Lord, have I cried, O my God.*

**The Reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians
Chapter 2:4-10**

Brethren, God, Who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and made us sit with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God—not because of works, lest any man should boast. For, we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

THE GOSPEL

**The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke
Chapter 12:16-21**

The Lord spoke this parable: “The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.” As He said this, Jesus called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

PRAYER CORNER

Lord, you are the physician of our souls and body. We pray You grant the following parishioners good health and blessings: Al Ingram, Shawky Mousa, Jalil Ghannam, Lynn

HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION

Holy Bread of Oblation is offered, by the families, for the month of November in loving memory of:

- Faraj Freij
- Albert Abdelnour
- Janine Kashou
- Musa Rabah
- Samir Hassan

Holy Bread of Oblation is offered, by the families, for the month of November for the health and well being of:

- Nabeeh and Hilda Beshara
- Dr. Mathew Beshara
- Deanna VanGestel
- Julie Kashou
- Suzanne Karibian
- Brandon
- Danielle

From Your Treasurer's

We wish to remind you that payment of Archdiocese dues is very important. The annual dues are now \$25.00 per member with a family maximum of \$100.00. Collection of Archdiocese dues from individual parishioners is a major part of our budget. Please help us meet our obligations by making your payment of Archdiocese dues.

Sincerely,
Andrew Ansara and Don Hayes
Co Treasurer's

Thank You

The following parishioners and friends of the Basilica of St. Mary have given special donations to the Church in the past few weeks:
\$200-For the health and well being of their newborn grandson Caden John Kulish offered by Jack and Georgette Freij,

Thank You

We sincerely thank Mrs. Field's Cookies, Riad and Gus Shukeireh, and Sweet Dreams, Josephine and Samir Daher and all the ladies who baked and/or made a donation for our annual Thanksgiving Dinner. We also thank all of you who joined us in great fellowship. Because of you and your generosity, the dinner was a success.

With Appreciation,
Dolly Matta
Ladies Society President

From the Heart

Learn from yesterday.
Live for today.
Hope for tomorrow.

A good laugh is sunshine
in a home.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ST. MARY PARISHIONERS

- Nov. 22-**Community Outreach Thanksgiving Dinner
- Dec. 5-**Christmas Extravaganza

MEMORIALS

قال يسوع: أنا القيامة والحياة من آمن بي يحيى الى الأبد.

I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me shall never die."
(John 11:25)

فليكن ذكرهم مؤبدا

"A Vigil Light is Burning" In Loving Devotion

For The Health and Well Being Of:
In Memory Of: Joseph Michael Mouaikel; George Abodeely; Maxine Koury, Ken Biedron,

Sermon On-Line

If you missed Fr. George's sermon last Sunday, you can now listen to him or you can see the full Liturgy at www.saintmarylivonia.com click on multimedia and go to videos

Last few week's sermons:

With Faith and Belief, Draw Near
By: Fr. Jim King

Don't Let Your Habits Dictate Your Salvation

Transform Yourself Through Worship
By: Fr. Jim King

What is the Hardest Thing to Give?

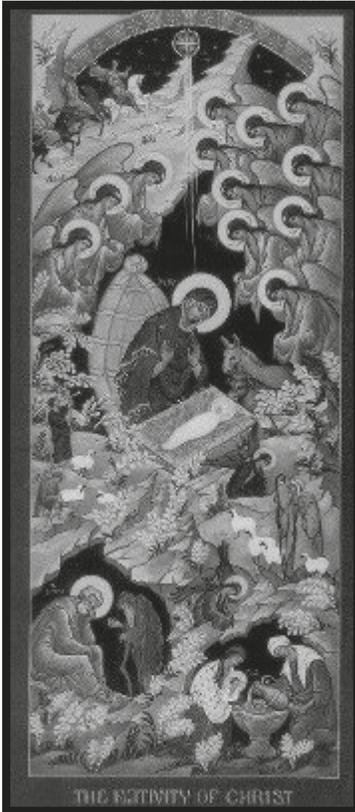
Christian Education

Our Christian Education Department now has a Facebook page - **The Basilica of St. Mary Church School** - which will have information related to Sunday School classes, Wednesday Family Nights and the Adult Educational Institute.

Department of Youth and Outreach

Week of November 20, 2011

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL CHURCH SCHOOL NATIVITY PLAY



When: Monday, December 5
7:00pm - 9:00pm

Where: Basilica of St. Mary
(Upstairs in the Sanctuary)

The Church School children invite you to a Christmas play based on the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, directed by Miss Tiffany Sakhleh.

WHAT COMES AFTER: The children invite their families, friends, and parishioners to join them for light refreshments and snacks in the Activity Center at the conclusion of the play.

Special guest appearance from St. Nicholas (Santa Claus), the patron saint of children.

This is the Christmas gift from the students of St. Mary's Basilica to the parish, and as such there will be no charge for the evening's events. Please come and join us this Advent season as we prepare for the birth of Jesus.

Everyone is invited! Cost is **FREE!**

Please visit our website for details about all the Basilica of St. Mary events and activities.
www.saintmarylivonia.com

FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY

The Basilica of St. Mary is looking for donations of turkeys, canned goods or non perishable food to help the needy. Please call the church office @734-422-0010 for additional information. This Thanksgiving Season, we are so thankful to God and for all the blessings that He has given us. If you wish to help a family in need, kindly include a \$25 check per family, in your weekly envelope, payable to St. Mary's, earmarked Food for the Needy.



CHRISTMAS PLANTS

In order to decorate our Church with Poinsettias for the Christmas Season, we kindly ask that you respond by completing the form below and enclose it in your weekly giving envelopes or by placing it in the collection basket on Sunday.

Name: _____ Amount: _____

In memory of: _____

Health and well being of: _____



Dated Material

18100 MERRIMAN ROAD • LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48152
Return service requested

The Antiochian Orthodox Basilica of St. Mary

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LIVONIA, MI
PERMIT NO. 413

visit our website: www.saintmarylivonia.com