

SAINT MARY'S  
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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✠ THE DIVINE LITURGY ✠

*The Weekend of August 29/30, 2020*

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***Saturday, August 29, 2020***

*(Strict Fast)*

***Commemoration:*** Beheading of the Holy and Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; Theodora of Thessaloniki; Anastasios the New Martyr of Bulgaria.

***Variable Hymns and Readings in the Liturgy***

***At the Second Antiphon***

Save us, O Son of God, who are wondrous among your saints, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

***At the Small Entrance***

***Hymn of the Forerunner, Second Tone***

The memory of the just is praised; but for you shall suffice the witness of the Lord, O Forerunner; for you have truly come forth as more honored than the Prophets since you proved worthy to baptize in the streams the one they preached about. Thus, having contended for the truth supremely, with joy you brought the Good News even to those in Hades: Of God who did appear in the flesh, and took away the sin of the world, and grants to all his great mercy.

***Hymn of Entrance***

Save us, O Son of God, who are wondrous among Your saints, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

*Repeat the Hymn of the Forerunner (above).*

***Hymn of the Dormition of the Theotokos, First Tone***

In giving birth, you preserved your virginity, O Theotokos; in falling asleep you did not forsake the world. You passed over into life, O Mother of Life; and by your prayers you deliver our souls from death!

***Kontakion of the Birth of the Theotokos, Fourth Tone***

Your holy birth delivered Joachim and Anna from the reproach of childlessness and liberated Adam and Eve from death's corruption, O Pure One. Thus freed from the stain of sin, we your people honor your birth, crying out to you: A woman thought barren brings forth the Theotokos who nourishes Christ our Life.

***Epistle***.....*Acts 13:25-33*

In those days, as John was finishing his course, he said, "What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but after me one is coming, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie." Brethren, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you that fear God, to us has been sent the message of this salvation. For those who live in Jerusalem and their rulers, because they did not recognize him nor understand the utterances of the prophets which are read every sabbath, fulfilled these by condemning him. Though they could charge him with nothing deserving death, yet they asked Pilate to have him killed. And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a tomb. But God raised him from the dead; and for many days he appeared to those who came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people. And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus.

***Gospel***.....*Mark 6:14-30*

At that time, Herod the King heard about the fame of Jesus, for his name had become known. He said, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; that is why these powers are at work in him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." For Herod had sent and seized John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife; because he had married her. For John said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and kept him safe. When he heard him, he was much perplexed; and yet he heard him gladly. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and the leading men of Galilee. For when Herodias' daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for

whatever you wish, and I will grant it.” And he vowed to her, “Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.” And she went out, and said to her mother, “What shall I ask?” And she said, “The head of John the baptizer.” And she came in immediately with haste to the king, and asked, saying, “I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.” And the king was exceedingly sorry; but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. And immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard and gave orders to bring his head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, and brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb. The apostles returned to Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught.

### ***Communion Hymn, Psalm 111/112***

The righteous will be remembered for ever. Alleluia.

### ***Stewardship Prayer***

*Lord Jesus Christ, our God, accept our offerings as You have accepted the gifts of Your people throughout the ages. We offer these gifts to Your glory, for the support of the ministries of Your holy Church, for the alleviation of suffering and hunger, and for the proclamation of Your Gospel to the whole world.*

*Grant us Your blessing, Lord our Savior, that we may always be faithful stewards, continuing to share the gifts you have given us, by the power of Your grace, mercy, and love. May Your name be glorified forever. Amen.*



Memorial Prayers today are offered for ***Milton Possis*** (10 years).

# ***Sunday, August 30, 2020***

***Commemoration:*** Twelfth Sunday of Matthew; Leave-Taking of the Feast of the Forerunner; Alexander, John, and Paul the New, Patriarchs of Constantinople; Phantinos the Righteous of Calabria; 16 Monk-martyrs of Thebes; Six Martyrs of Melitene; The Synaxis of the Holy Hierarchs of Serbia; The Holy New Martyrs of Serbia; Fiacre the Hermit of Meaux.

*Morning Gospel: First*

*Tone: Third*

## ***Variable Hymns and Readings in the Liturgy***

### ***Resurrection Hymn, Third Tone***

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord has shown the mighty power of his arm. He has trampled down death by death, becoming the firstborn of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell and has granted to all the world his great mercy.

### ***Hymn of Entrance***

Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, who rose from the dead, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

*Repeat Resurrection Hymn (above).*

### ***Hymn of John the Baptist, Second Tone***

The memory of the just is praised; but for you shall suffice the witness of the Lord, O Forerunner; for you have truly come forth as more honored than the Prophets since you proved worthy to baptize in the streams the one they preached about. Thus, having contended for the truth supremely, with joy you brought the Good News even to those in Hades: Of God who did appear in the flesh, and took away the sin of the world, and grants to all his great mercy.

### ***Hymn of the Dormition of the Theotokos, First Tone***

In giving birth, you preserved your virginity, O Theotokos; in falling asleep you did not forsake the world. You passed over into life, O Mother of Life; and by your prayers you deliver our souls from death!

### ***Kontakion of the Nativity of the Theotokos, Fourth Tone***

Your holy birth delivered Joachim and Anna from the reproach of childlessness and liberated Adam and Eve from death's corruption, O Pure One. Thus freed from the stain of sin, we your people honor your birth, crying out to you: A woman thought barren brings forth the Theotokos who nourishes Christ our Life.

**Epistle**..... *I Corinthians 15:1-11*

Brethren, I would remind you in what terms I preached to you the gospel, which you received, in which you stand, by which you are saved, if you hold it fast -- unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God which is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

**Gospel**..... *Matthew 19:16-26*

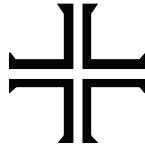
At that time, a young man came up to Jesus, kneeling and saying, "Good Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?" And he said to him, "Why do you call me good? One there is who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." He said to him, "Which?" And Jesus said, "You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The young man said to him, "All these I have observed; what do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions.

And Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

## **Stewardship Prayer**

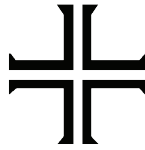
*Lord Jesus Christ, our God, accept our offerings as You have accepted the gifts of Your people throughout the ages. We offer these gifts to Your glory, for the support of the ministries of Your holy Church, for the alleviation of suffering and hunger, and for the proclamation of Your Gospel to the whole world.*

*Grant us Your blessing, Lord our Savior, that we may always be faithful stewards, continuing to share the gifts you have given us, by the power of Your grace, mercy, and love. May Your name be glorified forever. Amen.*



Baptism this weekend:

*Alexander, parents: James & Erica Delles - Saturday, August 29, 2020*



***Please remember the sick, the suffering, and those in need, especially:*** Those suffering from COVID-19 and those who care for them; Our brothers and sisters living through the aftermath of disaster; For the victims of violence; Families Moving Forward; Metro Hope Ministries; Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry; FOCUS Minnesota; Our brothers and sisters serving in the Armed Forces throughout the world especially John Ellis; San Miguel Del Lago Orphanage; Tom Grund, Lynn, Deb, Peter, Sarah, Maia, Judith, Jeanette, Travis, Kristina, Kassie, Tahnlee, Lois, Kalli, Alex, Presvytera Pat Tsagalakis, Quinn, Annie, Sue & Jim, Steve, Sue, Jane, Carole, Rifka, Pat, Nancy, Mary Muzetras, Dave, Pam Katie, Bri, Gilbert, George P., Barbara, Thespina, Danielle, Jenny, John L., Steven E., Samir and Samira, Julia, Presvytera Janis, Sandra, Sophia, George, Rick, Bryn, Phil, Karen, Kristina, Phil, Marnie and family; Joyce, Dorla, Linda, Fr. Elias, Vicki, Bill, Diana, Elpis Fotini, Dina, Landon, Luke, Aemiliane, Doria, Mike, Stephanie, Tyler, Ben, Brittany, Amy, Shinia, Chelsea, Christy, Karen, Anastasia, Jamie, Alex and Alexander, Zoe Kakos, Slibe, Saleh & Deanna, Kristine, Henry, Toni, Gina, Julie, R.J., Allie, Elena, Speranta, Alexander, Stephanie, John, Vickie, Petra, Bob, Joseph, Avgi, Christopher, Alki, Elizabeth, Jaxon, Olle, Judi, Bodil, Ole, and others known to you.

## ***Calendar of the Week***

***September 1-11: The Big Greek GiveBack (see note on next page)***

***Tuesday, September 1: Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year***

8:30 a.m. – Orthros; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy \*

***Wednesday, September 2***

6:00 p.m. – Small Blessing of Water \*

***Saturday, Saturday 5***

9:00 a.m. – Orthros; 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy

*Registration requested.*

5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers \*

***Sunday, September 6: Thirteenth Sunday of Matthew***

*“The Messenger” news item deadline: October issue*

8:30 a.m. – Orthros; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy

*Registration requested.*

\* = *services when advance registration is not asked.*

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### ***Introduction to Orthodox Christianity Course***

Our MEOCCA-sponsored, 12 week, Fall 2020 cooperative catechism course on the basics of Eastern Orthodox Christianity will begin Tuesday, September 15, from 7-9 p.m. The class is open to all; people interested in learning more about Orthodox Christianity, inquirers, catechumens, and current Orthodox Christians we well! The course is an excellent opportunity to deepen the knowledge of the Orthodox Christian Faith. Classes will be held virtually via Zoom to begin the semester. Register online at <https://forms.gle/JuYZfmJGMWEUPpfE6> or [www.meocca.org](http://www.meocca.org) Feel free to join for an individual session (or two) as well!

Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1046815549107188>

*More information and syllabus is in the September issue of “The Messenger.”*

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### ***Food Shelf Needs for Next Week***

*Canned fruit and vegetables*

*September’s recipient is Joyce Uptown Food Shelf*

Please do not bring opened packages. They will be discarded.

# The Big Greek Giveback

After careful consideration and concern over the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Greek Festival committee has decided to put this year's Festival on hold. Instead, we have come up with a different approach to help others in the community while still celebrating this great event.

## *Introducing: "The Big Greek Giveback!"*

On Saturday, September 12, our church will be providing up to 1,000 meals to shelters and first responders in the greater Minneapolis/St. Paul area. While helping those in need, we will also be giving meals to our local first responders as a way to say "thank you" for everything they have done for the broader community during the pandemic.

## *Here is where you come in...*

From **September 1-11**, our church will be holding a parish-wide food drive and giveback. We are encouraging every parishioner at St. Mary's to give items in order to reach a 10,000-pound goal of donations to the greater community. Donation items needed are non-perishables, back to school items for kids and teenagers, and childcare items such as diapers, and wipes, as well as deodorant and other personal hygiene items. Please check food expiration dates, no expired containers. Also, pop-top lids on canned food is a need. During this time-frame, you can drop off your donation items at St. Mary's south lot school entrance near the flagpole – Sunday School hallway – from 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Doors will be closed on Labor Day.

We pray you will find it in your heart to donate to those in need during this time, while still celebrating our annual Greek Festival in a unique and different way.





## ***From the Fathers...on Charity***

Share what you have, lest you lose what you have.  
Spend what you possess on the needs of others  
in order to keep what you possess.

—*Saint John Chrysostom*

### ***Daily Bible Readings***

#### ***Monday, August 31***

Hebrews 9:1-7 • Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

#### ***Tuesday, September 1: Beginning of Ecclesiastical Year***

I Timothy 2:1-7 • Luke 4:16-22

#### ***Wednesday, September 2***

Romans 8:28-39 • Mark 3:20-27

#### ***Thursday, September 3***

II Corinthians 10:7-18 • Mark 3:28-35

#### ***Friday, September 4***

II Corinthians 11:5-21 • Mark 4:1-9

#### ***Saturday, September 5***

I Corinthians 2:6-9 • Matthew 23:29-39

#### ***Sunday, September 6: Thirteenth Sunday of Matthew***

I Corinthians 16:13-24 • Matthew 21:33-42

#### ***Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church***

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