

The Messenger

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church | 3450 Irving Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55408 | 612.825.9595 | www.stmarysgoc.org

June 2020

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St. Mary's

Mission Statement

To proclaim, celebrate, and share the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ in accordance with the Orthodox Tradition.

The Five Tasks of Our Parish Vision

Hear
Pray
Grow
Serve
Share

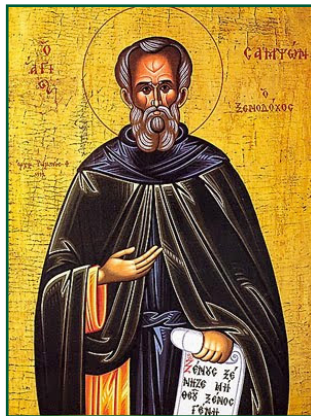


METROPOLIS
OF CHICAGO

A Message from Father Jason

Father Jason Houck, Associate Priest

A Saint for the Hospitality and Medical Professions



*St. Sampson
the Hospitable*

As I continue to read about the COVID-19 and talk to those affected by the pandemic, I often think about those most affected. In addition to those who have been sick or lost loved ones (I do not know of any cases among our St. Mary's family), I especially think about those in the hospitality industry. With limited travel and the shut-down of restaurant dining rooms, I especially feel for those who have their careers built around the hospitality industry. I also think about the personal risk that medical workers have taken on, treating those with

communicable diseases like COVID-19.

It is with these people in mind, I want to raise up the inspiring example of St. Sampson the Hospitable. St. Sampson the Hospitable is one of the holy unmercenaries of our Church, that is, someone who helped the poor and sick without expecting anything in return.

St. Sampson grew up in a well-to-do household and was trained in medicine. In the late 5th century or early 6th century, St. Sampson's parents died. At that point, he sold the family's property, set the family's slaves free, and generously gave to the poor. He planned to become an ascetic in the wilderness, but as he traveled through Constantinople, he saw the urban poor and looked with compassion on the homeless and the sick. He then decided to stay in Constantinople. He treated the sick—free of charge—and took the homeless into his small home. This is how he earned the appellation "The Hospitable."

One inspiring story about St. Sampson is how his ability to heal caught the attention of the gravely ill emperor, St. Justinian. The emperor visited St. Sampson and St. Sampson healed



*Suspected ruins of the hospital,
next to the Church of Holy Peace in
the eastern end of Constantinople*

—article continues on page 3.

Our Life Together

Deaths

Patricia Pollnow
April 26, 2020

Koula Triantafyllou
April 29, 2020

May their memories be eternal.



Reach Out and Touch Someone . . . by Phone!

For those looking to assist others during this challenging time, please consider volunteering for our VIP Ministry Initiative to connect with as many parishioners as possible. Should you have time in your schedule, please contact Doria at doria@stmarysgoc.org or 612.968.7681 for additional information and to join the group.

Saint Mary's Online

As we move through the Covid-19 pandemic, St. Mary's is offering a couple online resources for spiritual reflection. First, our Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysgoc/> - is where you will find past services posted. You do not need to join Facebook to watch the services. Our Sunday and weekday liturgies are broadcast live on Facebook.

We also have opened a YouTube channel - shorturl.at/cBPT9 - where you can see Fr. Jason's videos of "Daily Vitamins." We hope that these offerings will help you get through these uncertain times!

Stay home • Stay prayerful
Stay connected

Our Sympathy

We extend sympathy to Bill Shadid on the passing of his mother, Nancy Shadid, on March 28, 2020, in Peoria, Illinois.

May her memory be eternal.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Nick C. and Kathy J. Boosalis who will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary on June 11. *May God grant you many years!*

Share Your Shelf

June's recipient of Share Your Shelf contributions is Simpson Food Pantry.

Sunday, June 7

Canned meals – large cans
(*e.g. chili, pork and beans*)

Sunday, June 14

Potatoes – boxed, instant, or
canned

Sunday, June 21

Cereal – hot and/or cold

Sunday, June 28

Hygiene items
(*e.g. toothpaste, soap, shampoo,
conditioner*)

Please consider making a monetary donation. Through a partnership with the Food Group, the food shelves we support are able to purchase staple food items at a marked reduction in price. This means that your donated dollars go farther – almost doubling the money you give to purchase much needed food items.

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.

—John 15:12

St. Mary's Church Staff

Priest

Fr. George Dokos

Associate Priest

Fr. Jason Houck

Attached Priest

Fr. John Kostas

Deacon

Deacon Paul Kalina

Administrator

Julie Moricz

Parishioner Support Communications

David Mertesdorf

Ministry Support

Doria Saros

Youth Director

Jonathan Klein

Church School Director

Dena Tortorelis

Facilities Coordinator

Bob Yang

Music Director

Thespina Macres

Organist

Mark Macres

St. Mary's Parish Council

President

Dean Murdakes

Vice President

John Beauchamp

Secretary

Paul Hastings

Treasurer

Michael Rakes

Assistant Treasurer

Naira Istephanous

Members

Joseph DiGiovanni
Thomas Hainlin
William M. Hoeft
Nicholas Legeros
Dean Psychogios
Andrew Theodotou
Randy Twito

Education • Fellowship • Worship

Fellowship and Study Groups

Men's Fellowship

Friday, June 12

7:00 a.m., via Zoom

Please request the link from stephen.wehr@outlook.com.

* *Note date change.*

Senior Citizens Club will not meet in June.

All other gatherings are cancelled until further notice.

Koinonia

All Koinonia gatherings are suspended for the time being. We will keep you posted as to when gatherings can safely resume.

All services will be live-streamed for the foreseeable future.

Sunday Schedule

Saturday Great Vespers – 5:00 p.m.

Orthros – 8:30 a.m.

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

Weekday Schedule

Wednesday, June 3

Small Blessing of Water
– 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 6

Saturday of Souls

Orthros – 9:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy – 10:00 a.m.

Monday, June 8

The Holy Spirit

Orthros – 8:30 a.m.

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, June 11

Saint Nathanael

Orthros – 8:30 a.m.

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, June 24

Nativity of John the Baptist

Orthros – 8:30 a.m.

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

Monday, June 29

Apostles Peter and Paul

Orthros – 8:30 a.m.

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, June 30

Twelve Holy Apostles

Evening Divine Liturgy – 6:00 p.m.

–Fr. Jason's article concluded.

St. Justinian by his prayers. The emperor offered St. Sampson money in gratitude for the healing, but St. Sampson refused and instead asked the emperor Saint Justinian to build a home for the poor and the sick. The emperor and Saint joyfully fulfilled St. Sampson's request. The two Saints worked together to found the largest free clinic in the empire, which served the sick for six hundred years.

We celebrate St. Sampson the Hospitable's memory every year on June 27. *St. Sampson, please pray for us!*

Pastoral Guidelines

Divorce

The parish priest must exert every effort to reconcile the couple and avert a divorce. However, should he fail to bring about a reconciliation, after a civil divorce has been obtained, he will transmit the petition of the party seeking the ecclesiastical divorce, together with the decree of the civil divorce, to the Spiritual Court of the Archdiocesan District or Metropolis. The petition must include the names and surnames of the husband and wife, the wife's surname prior to marriage, their addresses, the name of the priest who performed the wedding, and the date and place of the wedding. The petitioner must be a member of the parish through which he or she is petitioning for divorce. Orthodox Christians of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese who have obtained a civil divorce but not an ecclesiastical divorce may not participate in any sacraments of the Church or serve on the Parish Council, Archdiocesan District Council, Metropolis Council or Archdiocesan Council until they have been granted a divorce by the Church.

FOCUS Minnesota

FOCUS Minnesota is open and helping those in need. More and more people are needing assistance these days due to the ongoing pandemic. You can help by taking food donations to FOCUS or sending a contribution. The address for FOCUS is 550 Rice Street, St. Paul. Please call before you travel to FOCUS to make sure someone is there to collect your items: 651.222.0712 or 651.324.2705.

From St. Mark 10:32-45:

...but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.

We are, despite the pandemic situation, very busy! Our switch to concentrating on food distribution and support is going very well. Concentrating on shelf-stable items, we now distribute about 600 lunch bags a month, along with our regular food shelf second and fourth Saturdays, including, of course, emergency food requests. And now that we've reinstated our Sunday night meals, we're already

hovering around 85-90 meals each week.

God has been so merciful to us and allows us to serve in this way during the constraints of the Corona virus. Also we have a new addition to FOCUS House - a new freezer. This extremely generous and much needed donation from the Diocese of the Midwest of the OCA allows us to plan better for the nutritional needs in the community. We can plan ahead, buy in advance or in bulk, receive food donations more readily, and do less shopping - meaning less exposure to our volunteers to secure items during the shelter in place quarantine.

Your prayers and support are invaluable!

Though planning ahead this year may not be easy or even possible, for the time being we are still holding on to the hope that we can celebrate our tenth anniversary of service to the poor in the Twin Cities on August 20. Please mark your calendars and save the date.

Thank you for helping FOCUS Minnesota help those in need...July will be FOCUS foodshelf month.

Vera Proctor

Director of FOCUS House

Congratulations Graduates!

Congratulations to our 2020 high school graduates!

Peter Andrews • Gus Angelos

Charles Buss • Alex Halatsis

Andrew Hattling • Joseph Karos

Nicholas Kauffman • Stavros Koumontzis

Tatiana Lucs • Joseph Powers

Evan Santrizos • John Santrizos

Caroline Swenson • Perry Tortorelis

Be sure to let us know your plans for next year, as well as your address if you head off to college...we send care packages!

We also wish to congratulate our college students who are graduating this spring. Let us know who you are, from where you are graduating, your degree, and any plans for the future. We will publish your accomplishments in upcoming issues of "The Messenger."

Congratulations!

Philoptochos



June is bringing a number of activities for Philoptochos, most of them with adjustments in order to keep us all as healthy as possible. Here are our current plans.

Face Masks for Parishioners and the Community

For Parishioners: Do you need a face mask for your outdoor excursions? Philoptochos is providing them free of charge. Please contact Toni Bazakos (612.554.7861 or georg310@umn.edu) to let her know your needs.

For the Community: As part of Metropolitan Nathanael's Metropolitan-wide humanitarian efforts, all Philoptochos chapters are asked to participate in the *Masks Matter* initiative. The goal is to make and distribute 10,000 masks by the end of the year. If you're making masks, please track how many you make and who gets them! Watch for details on how to provide these numbers to us.

Philoptochos Providing Dinner at FOCUS Minnesota

Sunday, June 7

Philoptochos will provide dinner for FOCUS MN clients on Sunday, June 7. FOCUS anticipates serving 85 people, a number that is significantly higher than before the COVID19 outbreak as the need is so much greater.

We need 8 cooks and 8 bakers to prepare food at home and deliver it to church by 3:30 p.m. on June 7. From there, it will be transferred to vehicles of 4 volunteers who will work at FOCUS, preparing to-go containers and handing out dinner at the door. No sit-down dining is permitted.

If you are willing to make 3 meatloaves or a double batch of cheesy potatoes (recipes provided), purchase 4 dozen rolls, bake 5 dozen cookies, or go to FOCUS (3:00-7:30 p.m.), please contact Carol Smith at 952.210.8618 or smithzcl@gmail.com. Reimbursement is available. Thank you!

Women's Book Club

Discussion of "Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives: The Life and Teachings of Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica," hosted by Cindy Karos, will be held on Tuesday, June 2, 7:00 p.m., on Zoom. Information for joining the discussion will be available soon.

The next read is "The Holy Angels" by Mother Alexandra. Books are available for \$20 in the church office. Discussion date will be later in the summer.

Families Moving Forward

The families we would normally host at St. Mary's are now being housed in a hotel. For this reason, Philoptochos is unable to spend the evening with our guests, but we will provide a meal that is prepared in a commercial kitchen.

Festival Bake Sale

Thank you to Cathy Forchas and Paulette Hastings for co-chairing the Festival Bake Sale. Until the church makes a final decision on the Taste of Greece, all baking is on hold.

Thank You

...to Emily Broderson, daughter of Sofia Johnson, for speaking at our May Spring Finale, and to all who participated in this first on-line Philoptochos meeting!

...to anyone who is making face masks for others!

Missions & Outreach

Pray for our neighbors – those too sick or fearful to get food.

What a time we are experiencing. This is no ordinary time, it is a moment where many prayers are needed, and worship in church would be so very welcomed. Every one of us are affected. For many, there is an unexpected loss and the anxiety from threat of loss. We are grateful that God is with us. We look forward to celebrating Divine Liturgy.

We have this pause in our church life. What will happen, if anything?

Perhaps, we will discover a heart for sharing with those in need. During this pause, we see videos of lines of cars waiting for gifts of food. We are all aware that the food shelves at FOCUS, Joyce, CES, and Simpson are continuing to serve more of those in need. For example, CES now has triple the number of visitors. “The need is greater and some of the costs have increased.” From Joyce Food Shelf: “More than 50% of adult food shelf clients are unemployed.”

Our St. Mary’s family has supported food shelves over many years.

For the past two decades, Missions and Outreach Ministry Team has coordinated collection and dis-

tribution of food and dinners to the working poor. In 2019, St. Mary’s volunteers packed 45,000 meals for our food shelves. Missions and Outreach has asked support to hold two Harvest Pack events during 2020.

Share the Harvest’s first event at St. Mary’s is Sunday, June 28, after Liturgy. Harvest Pack will adjust the 2020 food pack procedures with adaptation of a new process model for safe food packing. This model will be tested in Colorado mid-May by a Harvest Pack associated group. If successful, this model will be adapted to Minnesota for our summer Share the Harvest event. We also have a second Share the Harvest event planned for November 1.

Everyone is invited to volunteer when you see our Sign-Up Genius invitation to St. Mary’s Harvest Pack. Harvest Pack administrators will assist our volunteers to assemble and distribute to our food shelves in order to ‘make a difference.’ Harvest Pack: “The number of people experiencing food crises is expected to double due to COVID-19.” St. Mary’s can help with packing healthy food for distribution to many families who are experiencing limited income, school closings for meals for children, or unemployment.

COVID-19 Updates

As our country and parish continues to experience these challenging times, foremost in our minds is the safety and health of our parishioners and staff. After much prayer, research, and discussion, we will be making the following changes to our operation. We greatly appreciate your assistance in limiting unnecessary exposure to others, especially our vulnerable populations.

The “FREE CART” which sits outside the Church Office has been removed. We do not feel it is prudent to be collecting things which are frequently touched by many people, and we are often unaware of their source of origin. In addition, individuals consistently leave bags of assorted “treasures” in front of the church entrances without any note or instructions –we will dispose of these items. Please properly dispose of or donate these items according to the guidelines in your community.

When clothing drives or other need-based collections occur, they will be announced in the Messenger

and Weekly Bulletins, and the committee members hosting these drives will advise you of the proper procedures to donate.

The Share YourShelf will remain and be moved to the north end of the facility each Sunday morning by an usher. We encourage you to continue to support our local food shelves with your weekly donations.

As we transition to opening our church for Divine Services, we remind you of the need for social distancing. You will be informed of all directives received from the Metropolis of Chicago. During this slow process of returning to full church capacity, all areas not in use will be locked, including meeting rooms, church school rooms, and the church office. While we consider St. Mary’s a safe space, we kindly ask that you do not permit your children to run around the building, especially unattended, as we are obligated to follow certain protocols regarding cleaning and sanitizing.

Stewardship

Greetings St. Mary's Family,

During this time of isolation and uncertainty, we want to remind you that we are still one big family, living and breathing through the electronic world of print and video. We can still learn (through the Daily Vitamin and through sermons), worship (through live-streaming of services) and visit (through many virtual platforms for Church school, youth groups and our various ministries, and in some cases, in person with a priest). Though we are not meeting in person, we are still connected through Christ and His Church. It is important to remember WE are the church, we are the healers and helpers of our spiritual family, with Christ as our head.

To remind us of our very crucial place in the life of the church, here are two perspectives on a steward's life in the church, one from an esteemed priest and theologian, and one from a very beloved St. Mary's parishioner:

Fr. Thomas Hopko wrote "When we contemplate God's Word in the Old and New Testaments, and see how the Christian saints understood and applied the Scriptures, a vision of stewardship and philanthropy emerges that may be summarized in forty sentences."

Here are a few of these "sentences"...(stay tuned for more next month)

****Giving Belongs to God's very being****

****All things belong to God and Christ as their creator****

****Humans become God's sons, the heirs of all things, in Christ Jesus****

**** Christians see themselves as stewards, servants and slaves in all things Jesus Christ****

...in other words, even during this dark, uncertain time, we must not forget that above all, we serve God, we look to Him for all we have, and we are stewards of His kingdom. His love and His goodness cannot be taken from us, no matter what.

A Stewardship Reflection by Birhane Baye

There is this story that always comes to my mind whenever I hear the words "good steward."

In my high school days in Ethiopia, every year in August during our summer break, my friends and I would go on a pilgrimage to the church of St. Mary to celebrate the Dormition of the Theotokos. The church was located at least a half-day journey on foot from the city where I grew up. As we would get closer to the church, about two miles away, it was

common to pick up an average size rock and carry it to a place closer to the church. At that place there was a huge pile of rocks that got bigger every year, because most of the people coming to the church would add at least one or two rocks every year as they passed by. We did the same. And every year when we would go, I would ask this question: "Why do we repeat this sort of routine?" The response I would get was always a variation on "It is to build something for the church, so just do it." However, I was never content with the responses I received.

One year I posed the same question about the rocks to a monk we met on the way to the church. The monk told me a different story.

Now a-days you kids hear but do not believe. Many years ago, there was a couple who lived not too far from the church.' he said, pointing the direction we'd come from. The couple were very devout and generous contributors of their treasure of grain.

Unfortunately, before they even had a child, the husband passed away. His widow refused to remarry. Life as a farmer is really difficult if you don't have children who can help you, and it becomes extremely challenging for a lone woman. After her husband's death, the farmers in the neighboring villages helped the widow in her farming for a few years. In that way the widow continued to give generously what she could afford to the church.

As the years went by, the amount of help from her neighbors began to diminish, until one year no one came to help her with her farming. Still, not even one year went by where she came to church empty handed. Eventually she became dependent on her neighbors' donations for her daily meal.

Even then, this pious woman didn't give up that easily. Even though she couldn't afford to give grain, or anything else, she began bringing fire-wood that could be used for the church offering. Soon she ran out of her wood pile.

One day this faithful lady looked around her hut, but she didn't have anything to bring to the church. That morning she brought a rock and threw it right on this spot, explained the elderly monk, pointing at the rock pile. Thereafter, every day when she came to the church, she would bring one more rock and throw it onto the pile.

One day the priest asked her why she was piling up these rocks. She replied to him by saying she had nothing to bring to the church and she didn't want to come with empty hands whenever she came to commune with the King of Glory.

Towards the end of her life this pious elderly woman made a plea to the priest to request the help of some of parishioners to collect more rocks and to build a drystone fence around the church. The priest was convinced and with everyone's help a moderately high fence was built around the church, which encompassed a good-sized piece of land.

In the early '70s, following a bloody revolution, the communists took power in the country and all private and church land was ordered to be confiscated. It was declared that the churches could only keep property that was somehow attached to the church building by a man-made landmark. In the case of this church, this was the drystone fence. To this day, the church of St. Mary's acquired a good size of land thanks to the rock pile started by this pious lady.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, stewardship is a commitment to employ our time, talent and treasure in love for the goodness of the world. Though the steward's acts appears limited to their lifetime, their reward is a life of everlasting abundance. As Orthodox Christians, we are called to reign along with Christ our God, to judge with him by the grace that is given to us. The Sonship. This promise will be awarded to us if we become good stewards here on earth with consistent commitment.

Once again, when we come to commune with the King of Glory, let us not show up with empty hands,

*Birhane Baye,
November 16, 2018*

Please do not forget that St. Mary's still depends on your stewardship! You can mail your stewardship or pay on-line. If you can increase your stewardship this year, please prayerfully consider doing so, to help those who have come upon great hardship and are not able to contribute at this time.

Families Moving Forward

Dear Friends in Christ,

In light of the corona pandemic, St. Mary's will not be hosting Families Moving Forward (FMF) guests at our church June 14-28, 2020. We will keep our commitment in providing meals, however the meals will be served at a neighboring church. Beacon, the parent organization of FMF, is hopeful that FMF participants will begin to be housed in churches again starting Sunday, May 31. Four families have been housed in a hotel for the past 7 weeks during our state's shelter in place order.

Because of this change from our normal procedures, we would love for you to provide a meal and/or contribute a monetary donation for families who are seeking some stability in their lives during these perilous times for all of us. Beacon/FMF provides supportive services to homeless families, assisting with jobs, childcare, homeschooling, and affordable housing. By the first week of June, Beacon/FMF will firm up exactly what is needed for meals/food, the number of people in the program, and the location,

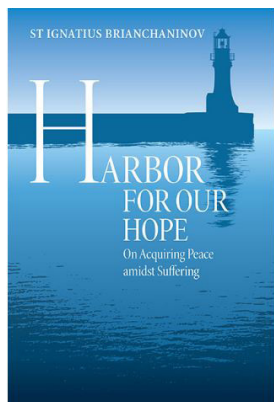
church or hotel, where families will be residing. *As of the time of publication, meals are required to be commercially prepared and delivered to serve 25 people. To sign-up for a meal, please follow this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B-4FA5A823A02-families1>. Monetary donations can be sent directly to the Church Office, with a notation of FMF in the memo line.

This is a beautiful opportunity for our Pan-Orthodox community to come together, give out of our great abundance, and serve these families in need, with generosity and joy. Let us walk forward with courage and love fully relying on our faith and love for Jesus Christ to guide us. Thank you for your willingness to serve FMF in 2020.

It is not enough to help the poor. We must help them with generosity and without grumbling. And it is not enough to help them without grumbling. We must help them gladly and happily. When the poor are helped, there ought to be these two conditions: generosity and joy. —*Saint John Chrysostom*

In the Bookstore

by Rebecca Myerly



Hot off the press (the official publication date was May 1) and perfectly timed—a collection of letters from a nineteenth century Russian Saint whose correspondence speaks directly, pertinently, and urgently to our current needs and concerns!

Harbor for Our Hope: On Acquiring Peace Amidst Suffering

is a collection of excerpts from the correspondence of Saint Ignatius Brianchaninov (1807-1867) gathered and translated from the Russian by Elena Borowski as she was looking for consolation and spiritual support for her and her husband while he was dying of heart disease. This book came about because Elena wanted to share the blessings she and her husband received from St. Ignatius's letters with others. To this end she worked with The Printshop of Saint Job of Pochaev (Holy Trinity Publications), who has, to date, published three other books by St. Ignatius—*The Field: Cultivating Salvation*, *The Refuge: Anchoring the Soul in God*, and *The Arena: Guidelines for Spiritual and Monastic Life*.

In Russian, St. Ignatius's published correspondence comprises 1,200 pages. When selecting excerpts to translate, Elena chose passages that spoke to her needs and the needs of her husband. In the Russian volumes of correspondence, the letters were categorized with the main subject each letter addressed. Elena used these categories with her translations, so the reader can look at the table of contents and readily find the subject they want and/or need to read about. Examples of the categories are Afflictions, Combat, Consolation, The Cross, Detachment, Doubts, Friendship, Guidance, Health, Humility, Illness, Judgment, Love, Martyrdom, Mercy, Patience, Prayer, Pride, Renewal, Repentance, Service, Solitude, Storms, Struggles, Sufferings, Surrender, Temptations, Testing, Transience, Trials, Tribulations, Truth, Wisdom, and many more. This book is a rich resource for spiritual guidance and formation.

St. Ignatius had health problems throughout his life and clearly wrote from the wisdom he gained and gleaned from his own experience. Because of the family environment he grew up in, St. Ignatius looked to nature for consolation, and as a result his writing is, as his translator points out, "peppered" with metaphors from nature. For example, St. Ignatius writes about harbors in his correspondence:

I, as a sick man, should have as harbor for my hope not my works, not my merits, but the mercy and merits of the God-Man Jesus.

The harbors where the ship of our soul is repaired are prayer in a humble spirit, reading the Holy Scriptures and books of our Holy Fathers, and seeking counsel from our neighbor (if the neighbor is capable of giving advice in the Lord). Calm down... May the past storm serve to prepare and aid you in enduring future tempests. Consider in advance what should be your conduct in future storms, study and prepare well in advance. Because storms will certainly follow. (22-23)

Steeped in Scripture and the Church Fathers from an early age, St. Ignatius's wisdom and guidance flow from these vital sources to offer nourishment to the attentive reader.

On May 1, PDN Peter Markevich from The Printshop of Saint Job of Pochaev and Holy Trinity Monastery interviewed Elena Borowski, the translator of *Harbor for Our Hope: On Acquiring Peace Amidst Suffering*. The link to see and hear this informative interview is:

<https://www.facebook.com/HTPJordanville/>

Thank You

Diane Achterling • Birhane Baye

Julie Boosalis • Eugenia Boosalis • Alexandra Carroll

Libby Cheolis • Mary Ellis • Alexandra Estep • Theodore Estep

Zoe Gabor • Steve Gallos • Nancy Gallos • Kristi Gatchell

Sam Hanna • Natalie Hideg • Alexandria Kalina • Mary Jo Katras

Yiannis Kaznessis • Elaine Kaznessis • Janis Kostas • Heather Koutroupas

Maria Lind • Angeline Maragos • Natalie McMonagle • Anna Menter

Cristina Nicklow • Vangie Nicklow • Georgia Panopoulos

Kelly Papaspyropoulou • Yana Patridge • Diane Powers

Kathryn Richardson • Michael Richardson • Athena Rieck • David Rist

Krissa Rovolis • Stephanie Sarantopoulos • Joanne Schlavin

Ken Schwark • Krisanthly Sikkila • Dena Tortorelis

Dean Tortorelis • Stephen Wehr • Amy Wehr

Church School Teachers

Children & Youth

Our Children and Youth Mission Statement

To cultivate a safe and welcoming environment for kids by nurturing healthy relationships within the church family. We will teach the youth by building a strong foundation of knowledge, and together, we will experience the Orthodox tradition by following the four circles of youth ministry: **Liturgia** (Worship), **Diakonia** (Service), **Martyria** (Witness), and **Koinonia** (Fellowship), leading our youth to develop, by their own free will, a personal relationship with God and to pursue union with Him.

HOPE and JOY

Kindergarten-Grade 2 and Grades 3-5

- ▶ Tuesdays, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
4:00 p.m.
Storytime with Jon and Dena
Watch your e-mails for the Zoom link!

Junior GOYA

Grades 6-8

- ▶ Thursdays, June 4, 11, 18, 25
4:00-5:00 p.m.
Junior GOYA on Zoom
Watch your e-mails for the Zoom link!

Senior GOYA

Grades 9-12

- ▶ Wednesdays, June 3, 10, 17, 24
7:00-8:00 p.m.
Senior GOYA on Zoom
Watch your e-mails for the Zoom link!

Vacation Church School

A message to our able-bodied Christian soldiers:

We are cancelling our 2020 week-long training program where you would have learned skills and gained knowledge necessary to fight for our Lord. However, be ready, because we will be back for our training program in 2021!

Youth Feedback

If you have any comments, suggestions, or concerns regarding our youth program(s) please let us know. We have a new formal feedback process. Go to our St Mary's home page-Click on "Youth," then "Youth Program Feedback" Your comments will be forwarded to a member of the Parish Council and will be reviewed for follow up.

April Recap

We have continued our weekly virtual meetings with our various youth groups via Zoom and they have been fruitful. Check out this video of how some of our St. Mary's Youth celebrated Pascha this year: <https://tinyurl.com/SMGOCPascha2020>.

Let us use COVID-19 as an opportunity to cultivate our faith. Whether it be actively participating in online services, attending our weekly meetings, or viewing the resources that Y2AM has provided (<https://www.y2am.org/athome>), let us find the silver lining by taking the time to nurture our faith. If you would like more resources or information about our virtual meetings for your children, please email Jon@stmarysgoc.org.



Follow the GOYAns on Instagram: **St_Marys_GOYA**



Junior GOYAns making cookies during a recent virtual Junior GOYA meeting.

Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church
3450 Irving Avenue South
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O Peter and Paul, first in rank among the Apostles and Teachers of the world, intercede for all to the Master, so that peace may be granted to the world, and great mercy to our souls!

—Hymn of Saints Peter and Paul, Fourth Tone

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

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Greek Orthodox Church,
3450 Irving Avenue South
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Telephone
612.825.9595

Fax
612.825.9283

Email
stmarysgoc@stmarysgoc.org

Website
www.stmarysgoc.org

Facebook
 www.facebook.com/stmarysgoc/

Publication Deadlines

The Messenger—
First Sunday of each month.

Sunday Bulletin—
Preceding Thursday,
12:00 Noon

June 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>All services will be live-streamed on our Facebook page for the foreseeable future.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p>4:00pm-HOPE/JOY Storytime 7:00pm-Philoptochos Book Discussion</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <p>6:00pm-Small Blessing of Water 7:00pm-Senior GOYA on Zoom</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p>4:00pm-Junior GOYA on Zoom</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">5</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6 <i>Saturday of Souls</i></p> <p>9:00am-Orthros 10:00am-Divine Liturgy 5:00pm-Great Vespers</p>
<p>7 <i>Holy Pentecost "The Messenger" Deadline</i></p> <p>8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy Philoptochos meal at FOCUS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8 <i>The Holy Spirit</i></p> <p>8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">9</p> <p>4:00pm-HOPE/JOY Storytime 6:15pm-Parish Council</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10</p> <p>7:00pm-Senior GOYA on Zoom</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">11 <i>Saint Nathanael</i></p> <p>8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy 4:00pm-Junior GOYA on Zoom</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">12</p> <p>7:00am-Men's Fellowship</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">13</p> <p>5:00pm-Great Vespers</p>
<p><i>No Fasting This Week</i></p>						
<p style="text-align: center;">14 <i>All Saints</i></p> <p>8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">15 <i>Apostles' Fast Begins</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">16</p> <p>4:00pm-HOPE/JOY Storytime</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">17</p> <p>9:00am-"The Messenger" Mailing 7:00pm-Senior GOYA on Zoom</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">18</p> <p>4:00pm-Junior GOYA on Zoom</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">19</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">20</p> <p>5:00pm-Great Vespers</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">21 <i>Second Sunday of Matthew Father's Day</i></p> <p>8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">22</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">23</p> <p>4:00pm-HOPE/JOY Storytime</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">24 <i>Nativity of John the Baptist</i></p> <p>8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy 7:00pm-Senior GOYA on Zoom</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">25</p> <p>4:00pm-Junior GOYA on Zoom</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">26</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">27</p> <p>5:00pm-Great Vespers</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">28 <i>Third Sunday of Matthew</i></p> <p>8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">29 <i>Apostles Peter and Paul</i></p> <p>8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">30 <i>Twelve Holy Apostles</i></p> <p>4:00pm-HOPE/JOY Storytime 6:00pm-Evening Divine Liturgy</p>				