

SAINT MARY'S
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

✠ THE DIVINE LITURGY ✠

The Weekend of October 3/4, 2020

Saturday, October 3, 2020

Commemoration: Dionysios the Areopagite; John the Chozebite, Bishop of Caesaria; Rusticus and Eleutherios the Martyrs.

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 for the Hieromartyr, Dionysios the Areopagite, Fourth Tone

Having learnt kindness, and being always steady and sober, vested with a good conscience as befits a priest, you drew out from Paul the Chosen Vessel the secrets of God. And having kept the faith, you have finished the fair race, O Hieromartyr Dionysios. Intercede with Christ our God, entreating Him to save our souls.

Entrance Hymn

Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, who are wondrous among your saints, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

Repeat the Hymn for the Hieromartyr, 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 Martyrs, Plagal Fourth Tone

O Planter of creation, Lord, to You does the entire world bring as an offering the God-bearing martyr Saints, as being nature's first fruits. At their earnest entreaties, keep Your Church in a state of profoundest peace, through the Theotokos, O Lord abundantly merciful.

Epistle.....*Acts 17:16-34*

In those days, while Paul was waiting for them in Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. So he argued in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the market place every day with those who chanced to be there. Some also of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers met him. And some said, "What would this babblers say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities" - because he preached Jesus and the resurrection. And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagos, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is which you present? For you bring some strange things to our ears; we wish to know therefore what these things mean." Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new. So Paul, standing in the middle of the Areopagos, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. For as I passed along, and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all men life and breath and everything. And he made from one every nation of men to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their habitation, that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel after him and find him. Yet he is not far from each one of us, for 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your poets have said, 'For we are indeed his offspring.' Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the Deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, a representation by the art and imagination of man. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all men everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all men by raising him from the dead." Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked; but others said, "We will hear you again about this." So Paul went out from among them. But some men joined him and believed, among them Dionysios the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

Gospel *Luke 5:17-26*

At that time, as Jesus was teaching, there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem; and the power of the Lord was present to heal them. And behold, men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they sought to bring him in and lay him before him; but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus. And when he saw their faith he said, "Man, your sins are forgiven you." And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying, "Who is this that speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God only?" When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, "Why do you question in your hearts? Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins" -- he said to the man who was paralyzed -- "I say to you, rise, take up your bed and go home." And immediately he rose before them, and took up that on which he lay, and went home, glorifying God. And amazement seized them all, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, "We have seen strange things today."

Communion Hymn. Psalms 64, 101

Blessed are they whom You have chosen and received, O Lord. Their memorial abides from generation to generation. 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.

Sunday, October 4, 2020

Commemoration: Second Sunday of Luke; National Church Music Sunday; Hierotheos, Bishop of Athens; Domnina the Martyr and her daughters; John the Hermit.

Morning Gospel: Sixth

Tone: Plagal Fourth

Variable Hymns and Readings in the Liturgy

At the Small Entrance

Resurrection Hymn, Plagal Fourth Tone

From on high you descended, O merciful Lord. You accepted the cross and three days in the tomb to free us from the bondage of sin, O our life and resurrection. Glory to you, O Lord.

Entrance Hymn

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 the Resurrection Hymn, above.

Hymn of Saint Hierotheos, Fourth Tone

Having learnt kindness, and being always steady and sober, vested with a good conscience as befits a priest, you drew out from Paul the Chosen Vessel the secrets of God. And having kept the faith, you have finished the fair race, O Hieromartyr Hierotheos. Intercede with Christ our God, entreating Him to save our souls.

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 Theotokos, Fourth Tone

O unfailing protection of Christians, and our faithful advocate before the Creator: though we are sinners, do not ignore our entreaty; but in your goodness, grant your timely help to us who appeal to you in faith. Quickly make intercession; on our behalf make speedy supplication, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you.

Epistle.....*II Corinthians 6:16-18; 7:1*

Brethren, you are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."

Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

Gospel.....*Luke 6:31-36*

The Lord said, "As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

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: George Geogleris (4 years).

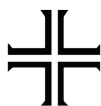
We welcome Mr. George Cantonis this Sunday morning, the President of Hellenic College/Holy Cross, and wish him, the students, and the School a blessed year!

Chrismations this weekend:

Andy Gatchell, Friday, October 2

Parker Mullins, Saturday, October 3

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; Armour family, Cora and family, Bo, 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.



FOCUS Minnesota Has Achieved 10 Years of Service in the Twin Cities!

On Saturday, October 10, 2020, FOCUS Minnesota will celebrate the achievements of 10 years of service to those in need in the Twin Cities. Your support of the 2020 Fundraiser would support FOCUS' basic-needs programs, and be a great encouragement to the volunteers and staff who work hard to serve the neighbors in need. Especially this year with the COVID-19 virus, the need for kindness, care, and understanding is greater than ever.

The anniversary event launched on October 1 and will continue to the Saturday, October 10, with updated information on the FOCUS Website and FaceBook.

Be part of the "Power of 10" as FOCUS looks towards future years of opportunity, offering hope and hospitality to those in need!

For more information on FOCUS Minnesota and the work they do, please visit www.focusmn.org

National Church Music Sunday ~ October 4

Today parishes across our Archdiocese honor the gifts and stewardship of the church musicians of our parish – our clergy, our chanters and choir, and those who teach the hymns of our church to our youth. Their contributions enhance our worship and assure that the glorious treasury of our hymnography continues to edify us and future generations. We thank them for their hard work and dedication to making our liturgies and services meaningful worship experiences.

Calendar of the Week

Sunday, October 4

- *“The Messenger” news item deadline ~ November issue*

Tuesday, October 6: Saint Thomas the Apostle

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

Wednesday, October 7

6:00 p.m. – Small Blessing of Water *

6:45 p.m. – Junior GOYA at Church

Saturday, October 10

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

Registration requested.

9:30 a.m. – Virtual Family Camp

5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers *

Sunday, October 11: Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council

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

Registration requested.

* = services when advance registration is not asked.

Food Shelf Needs for Next Week

Immediate needs include hygiene items such as:

toothpaste, face soap, razors, nail clippers

October's recipient is Simpson Food Pantry.

Monetary donations can be sent to the church, placed in the box on the Share YourShelf cart, mailed to Simpson, or made online through the following link: <https://gf.me/u/you8x96>

Additional Liturgies Added

In an effort to offer more worship opportunities with a smaller attendance, we have added two weekday liturgies to our published October schedule. Both are morning Liturgies. They are Tuesday, October 6 and Monday, October 12.

Winter Coat Drive

FOCUS House is collecting coats for the Onamia Indian Reservation. This collection is for women and children who live in the colder part of Minnesota. If you have extra not-needed-coats (new and *gently* used), please bring them to St. Mary's to help the Native American children. There will be a collection container located in the narthex at St. Mary's or you can bring to FOCUS House at 550 Rice Street, St. Paul. The drive ends October 11.

Monday Night On-line Bible Study

Monday Night On-line Bible Study continues this week. Our study is from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Classes are underway, but please join us even if you missed the first sessions. Zoom information was sent in an e-mail. Contact the Church Office if you need it resent. Please contact Fr. Jason with any questions: frjason@stmarysgoc.org. All classes are at 7:30 p.m.: October 5, 12, 26. Here's the link: <https://tinyurl.com/yyp83l77>

Women's Book Club

The Women's Book Club will meet on Tuesday, October 20, at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the book "Grand Duchess Elizabeth" by Lubov Millar. Details have been sent to those interested in joining in-person. Contact Diakonissa Alexandria to be added to the distribution list. The event is hybrid with both online and in-person opportunities.

College Address Updates

Are you – or your child or grandchild – attending college? Be sure to keep us updated with your most current contact information so we can keep you connected and send you care packages! Please go to this link and update us: <https://tinyurl.com/CollegeContactSMGOC>

Saint Mary's Promo Video

Help us share our wonderful community with others! Consider submitting a short video promoting St. Mary's to outsiders. Your video should be seven seconds or less and about why you love St. Mary's (refer to the e-mail sent this past week). The video is intended for non-Orthodox seekers who might be interested in our community. An upbeat and fast-paced statement is ideal. Contact Fr. Jason, frjason@stmarysgoc.org, for more information.

We Are Looking for a Few Good Candidates

Parish Council Elections Approach

Are you an active member of St. Mary's? Are you looking for an opportunity to contribute to the work of the church? Would you like to more fully participate in the life of St. Mary's? Do you have time to commit to serving others? Do you have a special gift for working cooperatively and enhancing our parish?

WE NEED YOU!

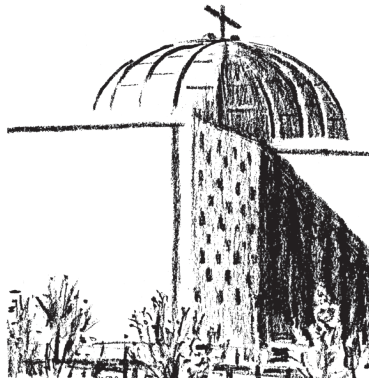
The four out-going members of our Parish Council are not eligible to run for re-election, so we are actively seeking men and women of all ages to become members of the Parish Council. If you have been a member in good standing of St. Mary's for at least one-year, please prayerfully consider serving on the Council.

Members serve for a 3-year term, and meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:15 p.m.

All candidates will attend a seminar conducted by Fr. George prior to the election where you learn about the Uniform Parish Regulations, work of the Council, and the significance of the affirmation of office.

Candidate applications are now available in the Church Office and due back by Friday, October 16.

All interested parishioners are encouraged to speak with a current member of the Parish Council to ask questions and learn more about this important ministry of the church.



Don't miss this year's VIRTUAL Family Camp!

Join us on Family Camp Saturday – October 10 – for a two-hour virtual retreat:

The Communion of Saints

Dr. Michael Lotti and Fr. Jonathon Proctor will explore the topic of Saints, both in Scriptures and in our liturgical tradition!

The retreat will run from 10:00 a.m.-noon and will have a special coffee hour at 9:30 a.m. where we can visit.

Everyone (teens-99 year olds) is invited to join us and it is free!

► **Register at <https://stmaryscamp.com/family-camp>.** ◀

Hope to see you there!



From the Fathers...on Love of Neighbor

Our salvation and our ruin is in our neighbor.
Our salvation depends on how we relate to our neighbor.
Do not forget to see the image of God in your neighbor.

—*Saint Nikon of Optina*

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, October 5

Ephesians 4:25-32 • Luke 6:24-30

Tuesday, October 6: Saint Thomas the Apostle

I Corinthians 4:9-16 • John 20:19-31

Wednesday, October 7

Ephesians 5:25-33 • Luke 6:46 – 7:1

Thursday, October 8

Ephesians 5:33 – 6:9 • Luke 7:17-30

Friday, October 9

I Corinthians 4:9-16 • Matthew 9:36 – 10:8

Saturday, October 10

I Corinthians 15:39-45 • Luke 5:27-32

Sunday, October 11:

Sunday of the Seventh Ecumenical Council

Titus 3:8-15 • Luke 8:5-15

Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

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Fr. George Dokos, Proistamenos; Fr. Jason Houck, Associate

Fr. John Kostas; Deacon Paul Kalina