

SAINT MARY'S
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

✠ THE DIVINE LITURGY ✠

The Weekend of September 5/6, 2020

Saturday, September 5, 2020

Commemoration: Holy Prophet Zacharias, Father of the Venerable Forerunner; Urban, Theodore, and Medimnos the Hieromartyrs and the 77 Companions at Nicomedeia.

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 Feast, Fourth Tone (Joseph Marveled)

As a priest according to the Law of God you offered up whole-burnt offerings, and they were most acceptable to Him, dressed in the vestments of the priesthood, O Zacharias. And you became a light, and you beheld mysteries; and clearly you displayed the signs and symbols of grace within yourself. And you, were assassinated by the sword in the Temple of God. O all-wise Prophet of Christ the Savior, join the Forerunner in praying that our souls be saved.

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 Feast (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 for 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..... I Corinthians 2:6-9

Brethren, among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glorification. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him."

Gospel..... Matthew 23:29-39

The Lord said to the Jews who had come to him, "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, saying, 'If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.' Thus you witness against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers. You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell? Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of innocent Abel to the blood of Zacharias the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. Truly, I say to you, all this will come upon this generation.

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! Behold, your house is forsaken and desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Communion Hymn, Psalm 64 and 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, September 6, 2020

Commemoration: Thirteenth Sunday of Matthew; The Commemoration of the Miracle Wrought by Archangel Michael in Colossae (Chonae); Holy Martyr Calodote.

Morning Gospel: Second

Tone: Fourth

Variable Hymns and Readings in the Liturgy

Resurrection Hymn, Fourth Tone

The joyful news of your resurrection was proclaimed by the angel to the women disciples. Having thrown off the curse that fell on Adam, they ran elatedly to tell the apostles: Death has been vanquished; Christ our God is risen from the dead, blessing all the world with 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 the Miracle at Chonai, Fourth Tone (You who were lifted.)

O Chief Commander of the heavenly armies, we the unworthy now entreat you in earnest, to fortify us by your supplications to the Lord, and shelter us beneath the wings of your spiritual glory, guarding us who run to you and fervently entreat you: As the Commander of the hosts on high, rescue us faithful from dangers of every kind.

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 16:13-24*

Brethren, be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brethren, you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicos, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. If any one has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

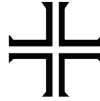
Gospel.....*Matthew 21:33-42*

The Lord said this parable, "There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?'"

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.

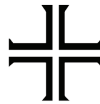
Grant us Your blessing, Lord our Savior, that we may always be faithful stewards, continuing to share the gifts you have given us, by the power of Your grace, mercy, and love. May Your name be glorified forever. Amen.



Sacraments this weekend:

Marriage: Jack Wahlers to Natalie Koch, Saturday, September 5, 2020.

Baptism: Sarah, parents: Fr. Jason & Presbytera Alexandra Houck, Monday, September 7, 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; Jeannie, 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

Now through Friday, September 11: The Big Greek GiveBack
(see note on next page)

Monday, September 7: Labor Day

Church and Office closed.

Tuesday, September 8: Nativity of the Theotokos

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

6:15 p.m. – Parish Council Meeting

Saturday, September 12

Divine Liturgy will not be held today.

12:00 noon-4:00 p.m. – Big Greek Giveback

5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers *

Sunday, September 13: Sunday before Holy Cross

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

Registration requested.

4:00 p.m. – Great Vespers *

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

No Family Camp this year? No worries! Join us on Family Camp Saturday, October 10, for a two-hour virtual retreat: “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 am-noon and will have a special coffee hour at 9:30 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!

Annual Lyn Olson Medical Crisis Program Gala

The 2020 MCP Gala will be 100% virtual. Bid on items in the on-line silent auction. Watch the live gala production on Sunday, September 20. For more information, visit MCP’s OneCause Event Site at <http://bidpal.net/mcpgala2020>. The Medical Crisis Program offers grants to qualifying applicants to help cover unpaid medical expenses.

Food Shelf Needs for Next Week

Cereals – hot and cold

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...

Through **Friday, September 11**, we are holding a parish-wide food drive and giveback. We are encouraging every parishioner of 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 Glory

When you suffer some dishonor at the hands of people, immediately consider the glory that God will give you in addition, and you will not be saddened and upset by the dishonor but will be found faithful and blameless when glory comes.

—*Saint Mark the Ascetic*

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, September 7

II Corinthians 12:10-19 • Mark 4:10-23

Tuesday, September 8: Nativity of the Theotokos

Philippians 2:5-11 • Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

Wednesday, September 9: Holy Ancestors of God

Galatians 4:22-27 • Luke 8:16-21

Thursday, September 10

Galatians 1:1-3, 20-24; 2:1-5 • John 3:16-21

Friday, September 11

Galatians 2:6-10 • John 12:19-36

Saturday, September 12

I Corinthians 2:6-9 • Matthew 10:37 – 11:1

Sunday, September 13: Sunday before Holy Cross

Galatians 6:11-18 • John 3:13-17

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