

SAINT MARY'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday, August 29, 2021

The Beheading of John the Baptist

The Divine Liturgy

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

Morning Gospel: Tenth

Tone: First

Variable Hymns and Readings in the Liturgy

At the Second Antiphon

Save us, O Son of God who rose from the dead, save us who sing to You Alleluia!

At the Small Entrance

Resurrection Hymn, First Tone

Although your tomb was sealed with a stone, O Savior, and your most pure body was guarded by the soldiers, you rose on the third day giving life to all the world. Therefore, O giver of life, the powers of heaven praise you: Glory to your resurrection, O Christ. Glory to your kingdom. Glory to your saving wisdom, O only lover of mankind.

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 the John the Baptist, Second Tone

O Forerunner, the memory of the righteous is praised in song, but the witness of the Lord was sufficient for you. For you were truly shown forth as more honored than the Prophets, since you were made worthy to baptize in the streams him who was proclaimed. Therefore, since you contended above all for the truth, with joy you preached the good news even to those in Hades: God has appeared in the flesh, taking away the sin of the world and granting to us 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 Birth of the Theotokos, Fourth Tone

You 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 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.

The Communion Prayers are found on page 4 of this leaflet.

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.

Prosforo: Andrew Theodotou

Memorial Prayers today are offered for: George & Stamatia Kontos (parents of Hope Kennedy) Chris & Helen Fanaras; Evangelios Kontos; Stamatia Kennedy (daughter of Bob & Hope); John Kontos; Helen Smith (2 years).

The coffee hour today is hosted by Bob and Hope Kennedy.

THE COMMUNION PRAYERS

I believe and confess, Lord, that You are truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first. I also believe that this is truly Your pure Body and that this is truly Your precious Blood. Therefore, I pray to You, have mercy upon me, and forgive my transgressions, voluntary and involuntary, in word and deed, known and unknown. And make me worthy without condemnation to partake of Your pure Mysteries for the forgiveness of sins and for life eternal. Amen.

Behold, I approach for Divine Communion. O Maker, burn me not as I partake, for You are fire consuming the unworthy. But cleanse me from every stain.

Receive me today, O Son of God, as a partaker of Your mystical supper; for I will not betray Your mysteries to Your enemies, nor give You a kiss as did Judas, but as the thief I confess You: Remember me, O Lord, in Your kingdom.

Tremble, O man, as you behold the divine Blood. It is a burning coal that sears the unworthy. The Body of God both deifies and nourishes me: It deifies the spirit and wondrously nourishes the mind.

You have smitten me with yearning, O Christ, and by Your divine eros You have changed me. But burn up my sins with spiritual fire, and grant me to be filled with delight in You, so that, leaping for joy, I may magnify, O Good One, Your two comings.

How shall I, who am unworthy, enter into the splendor of Your saints? If I dare to enter into the bridal chamber, my clothing will accuse me, since it is not a wedding garment; and being bound up, I shall be cast out by the angels. In Your love, Lord, cleanse my soul and save me.

Loving Master, Lord Jesus Christ, my God, let not these holy Gifts be to my condemnation because of my unworthiness, but for the cleansing and sanctification of soul and body and the pledge of the future life and kingdom. It is good for me to cling to God and to place in Him the hope of my salvation.

Approaching to receive, each makes a reverence and says:

✠ Behold I approach Christ, our immortal King and God.

Calendar of the Week

Until further notice, all services will be held in the Great Hall while the Nave is undergoing renovations.

Due to the renovations, our live-stream of the Sunday Liturgy has been suspended.

Wednesday, September 1: Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year
6:00 p.m. – Evening Divine Liturgy

Saturday, September 4
No Bible Study until September 25
5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

Sunday, September 5: Eleventh Sunday of Matthew
8:30 a.m. – Orthros; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy

Monday, September 6: Labor Day
Church and Office closed.

Prayer List

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; Theodora, Mary, Irene Maria, Marion, Apostolos, Olivia, Lincoln, Joan, Carole, Patty, Archimandrite Dionysios, Alex, Karrisa, Corina, Tom, Vasilios, George R., Ken, Presvytera Tulla Poteres, Nancy and Tim, Olga, Peter, Kristina, Armour family, Cora and family, Lamona, Bo, Tom, Lynn, Deb, Sarah, Maia, Jeanette, Travis, Kassie, Tahnlee, Lois, Kalli, Quinn, Annie, Sue & Jim, Steve, Sue, Jane, Rifka, Pat, Nancy, 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, Nancy, Alex, Eryn, Phil, Karen, 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, Slibe, Saleh & Deanna, Kristine, Toni, Gina, Julie, R.J., Allie, Elena, Speranta, Alexander, Stephanie, Vickie, Petra, Bob, Joseph, Avgi, Christopher, Alki, Elizabeth, Jaxon, Olle, Judi, Bodil, Ole, and others known to you.

Announcements

Youth Activities Registration



The 2021-2022 school year begins in September and we'd like everyone planning to participate in any youth activity to complete our all-inclusive registration form. Please note that we will use this one form for nursery through 12th grade. It is for all youth activities sponsored by St. Mary's, including Church School, HOPE, JOY, Junior GOYA, Senior GOYA, etc. Please complete this form ASAP. To sign up, scan the QR code at left or visit this link: <https://forms.gle/edh6b4EJ21QUfs3AA>

Greece Fires Collection

At the request of the Archdiocese, we are receiving a special offering to assist with the relief efforts of the fires in Greece. Donations may be placed in the offering plate, noting that it is for fire relief. You may also give on-line by going to our website. Please make your contribution by Tuesday, August 31.

Save the Date: Family Camp 2021

Plan to join us with your family October 8-10 as we welcome Bishop Anthony Michaels to Camp Courage in Maple Lake, MN, the location of our recent Summer Camp. With Bishop Anthony's help, we will explore the topic, "And He Shall Come Again." Everyone in our Twin Cities Orthodox family is welcome to come! Registration will open toward the end of August at www.stmaryscamp.com. If you have any questions feel free to contact Cindy Karos, cindyzkaros@gmail.com.

Women's Bible Study Returns

Women's Bible Study, led by Fr. Jason, resumes meetings at 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon in the Fireside Room on Wednesdays, September 15 and 29, October 13 and 27, November 10 and 24, and December 8 and 22.

Food Shelf Needs for Next Week

Canned fruits and vegetables

August's recipient has been Community Emergency Service (CES).

September's recipient will be Joyce Uptown Foodshelf.

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

Senior Citizens' Meeting ~ Tuesday, September 21

Saint Mary's Seniors will gather for their September meeting one week later than usual this month. We'll meet on Tuesday, September 21, 12:00 noon, in the Terrace Room. As usual, we will enjoy a lunch, followed by the business meeting, a program, and Bingo. After lunch, about nine mandolin players of the Minnesota Mandolin Orchestra will entertain us with Greek contemporary classical pieces as well as international selections of jigs, reels, polkas, etc. *Don't miss it!*

Mark Your Calendars...

First Day of Church School — Sunday, September 19

September Parish Night — Wednesday, September 22

HOPE/JOY Kick-off — Sunday, September 26, after Liturgy

Junior GOYA Kick-off — Wednesday, September 8

Senior GOYA Kick-off — Wednesday, September 15

Rochester Greek Festival ~ Today

Holy Anargyroi Church in Rochester is holding its Greek Festival this weekend on the church grounds. This year's event is a full festival and drive-through. The hours for the festival are 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. today. The church is located at 703 West Center Street, Rochester.

Bishop Neofytos to Visit St. Mary's

Bishop Neofytos Kongai returns to St. Mary's via Zoom on Sunday, October 3, for another visit. Father Jason will host a fundraiser for Bishop Neofytos and the staff of St. Barnabas Orthodox Orphanage School in Kenya who help students who are disabled or in foster homes. Please come for lunch, and get informed as to how you can help support St. Barnabas School.

Sacraments This Week

Baptisms:

Adeline, daughter of William & Lisa Wahlers, August 27, 2021

Ekaterina, daughter of Parker & Annie (Economou) Mullins,

August 28, 2021

Wedding:

Andrew Toaddy to Elaine Boosalis, August 28, 2021

From the Fathers...on the Will of God

“Glory be to God for all things.”

I will never cease saying this, whatever befalls me.

—*Saint John Chrysostom*

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, August 30

II Corinthians 2:3-15 • Matthew 23:13-22

Tuesday, August 31

The Placing of the Honorable Sash of the Most Holy Theotokos

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

Wednesday, September 1

Beginning of the Ecclesiastical New Year

I Timothy 2:1-7 • Luke 4:16-22

Thursday, September 2

Romans 8:28-39 • Matthew 24:13-28

Friday, September 3

II Corinthians 4:13-18 • Matthew 24:27-33, 42-51

Saturday, September 4

I Corinthians 1:3-9 • Matthew 19:3-12

Sunday, September 5

Eleventh Sunday of Matthew

I Corinthians 9:2-12 • Matthew 18:23-35

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