

SAINT MARY'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday, June 20, 2021

Holy Pentecost

The Divine Liturgy

Commemoration: Holy Pentecost; Methodios the Martyr, Bishop of Olympus; Kallistos I, Patriarch of Constantinople; Nicholas Cabasilas of Thessaloniki.

Morning Gospel: John 20:19-23

Variable Hymns and Readings in the Liturgy

At the Second Antiphon

Save us, O Good Comforter, to you we sing: Alleluia!

At the Small Entrance

Hymn of Pentecost, Plagal Fourth Tone

Blessed are you, O Christ our God. You made wise men of poor fishermen by sending down upon them your Holy Spirit, and through them you caught the whole world. O Lover of mankind, glory to you.

Hymn of Entrance

Be exalted, O Lord, in your strength; we will sing and chant of your mighty acts. Save us, O Good Comforter, to you we sing: Alleluia!

Repeat the Hymn of Pentecost, above.

Kontakion of Pentecost, Plagal Fourth Tone

When he came down and confused the tongues of men, the Most High divided the nations. But in sending forth the parted tongues of flame he called all mankind to unity that with one accord we might glorify his all Holy Spirit.

Trisagion (instead of "Holy God...")

As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves in Christ. Alleluia.

Epistle..... *Acts 2:1-11*

When the Day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God."

Gospel..... *John 7:37-52; 8:12*

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, 'Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now this he said about the Spirit, which those who believed in him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

When they heard these words, some of the people said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So there was a division among the people over him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.

The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees answered them, "Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, who do not know the law, are accursed." Nikodemos, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, "Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee."

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

Megalynarion, Grave Tone

You conceived and gave birth in virginity; the Word who created all, through you became incarnate. O Mother who knew not man, Virgin Theotokos, the boundless One was held by you, the dwelling of your infinite Creator; we magnify you.

The Communion Prayers are found on page 9 of this leaflet.

Communion Hymn

Your good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness. Alleluia!

Instead of “We have seen the light,” we chant the Hymn of Pentecost, page 1 of this leaflet.

Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost



Deacon: (facing the congregation) Again and again on bended knees, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. *(All kneel)*

First Kneeling Prayer

Priest:

O Lord pure and blameless, without beginning, invisible and incomprehensible, unsearchable, unchangeable, immeasurable and unbounded, Who are without evil and Who alone are immortal, Who dwells in unapproachable light, the Maker of heaven and earth as well as the seas and all that was created therein, Who grants petitions to all even before they ask.

We pray to You and we beseech You, O Master Who loves mankind, the Father of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ, Who for us men and our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and of the ever-virgin Mary, the noble Theotokos; Who first taught by word and then made manifested in deed; Who through the saving passion granted to us, Your unworthy, sinful and miserable servants, a command and an example that we should offer supplication for our sins and the ignorances of the people with heads and knees bent.

Wherefore, O most merciful Lord Who loves mankind, hear us whenever we call upon You, and especially on this day of Pentecost, on which after our Lord Jesus Christ had ascended into heaven and sat at Your right hand, O God and Father, He sent down to His disciples, the holy Apostles, the Holy Spirit Who alighted on each of them and filled them all with His inexhaustible and divine grace; and they spoke in strange tongues, prophesying Your great deeds.

Now hear us who beseech You, and remember us, wretched and condemned; restore us from the captivity of our souls, whose intercessor with You is Your own compassion. Accept us who kneel down before You and cry out to You: We have sinned against You, and we were thrown upon You even from our mother's womb. You are our God, but having passed our days in vanity we have been stripped of Your aid and are deprived of every defense.

Yet, encouraged by Your loving kindness and we cry unto You: Remember not the sins of our youth and our ignorance; cleanse us of our secret sins.

Reject us not in our old age, and forsake us not at the dissolution of our strength: before we return to the earth, prepare us to return to You. Hear us with bountiful pity; set Your compassion against our iniquities, and the abyss of Your compassion against our transgressions.

Look down from the height of Your holiness, O Lord, upon the people who stand and await abundant mercy from You. Visit us with Your goodness and deliver us from the possession of the Devil, preserving our life with Your holy and solemn laws.

Commit Your faithful unto a faithful and guardian angel. Gather us all into Your kingdom, and grant remission of sins to those who put their trust in You; forgive us and them of our sins. Purify us by the operation of Your Holy Spirit, and remove the wiles of the enemy from us.

People: Amen. (All rise)

Second Kneeling Prayer

Deacon: Again and again on bended knee, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy. (All kneel)

Priest:

O Lord Jesus Christ our God, Who bestows Your peace upon mankind, and Who while yet in the world granted the gift of the all-holy

Spirit unto believers, an inheritance that shall never be taken away from us; Who on this day directed and sent this grace openly upon Your disciples, the Apostles; Who placed tongues of fire in their mouths and upon their lips, through which we, together with all mankind, have received the knowledge of God by hearing, each in his own tongue, and have been illuminated by the light of the Spirit, having been emancipated from error as though from darkness by the distribution of the material tongues of fire and their supernatural effect. We have become Your disciples through believing in You, and having been enlightened we discourse concerning Your Divinity, for You with the Father and the Holy Spirit are one Divinity, one Power, and one Authority.

Wherefore, O Splendor of the Father, the Likeness of His essence, His immutable and unchangeable Nature, You are the Fountain of salvation and grace. Open my lips, sinner that I am, and teach me how and for whom I should pray; for You know the multitude of my sins, but Your unbounded compassion overcomes their enormity. Behold I come before You in fear and dismay, casting the despair of my soul into the depth of Your mercy.

Ordain my life, O You Who ordained the whole of creation by Your unutterable word; and show me the way I should walk by the power of Your ineffable wisdom, O tranquil Haven to those who are caught in the rages of winter. Grant the Spirit of Your wisdom to my thoughts, and bestow the Spirit of Your understanding to my ignorance.

Overshadow my acts with the Spirit if Your fear; create a right Spirit within me; and by Your sovereign Spirit strengthen my unstable mind, so that I may be worthy each day to obey Your commandments, being guided by Your righteous Spirit unto that which is profitable, while ever being mindful of Your glorified coming that searches the deeds of our lives. Let me not be led astray by the corrupting pleasures of this world, but strengthen me to delight in the treasures to come.

For You, O Master, said “that whatever you ask in My name you shall receive from God the Father,” Who is co-eternal with You. Wherefore, I, a sinner, implore Your goodness for the coming of Your Holy Spirit.

Grant my request for salvation, for You indeed are a good Lord Who grants all riches and every benevolence; You are He Who grants more than we ask; You are merciful and show pity, and have without sin be-

come a Partaker with us in the flesh. You are the One Who became an offering for our sins, and Who out of love for mankind has compassion upon those who bend their knee to You.

Grant Your compassion to Your people, O Lord, and incline Your ear to hear us from the heaven of Your holiness; sanctify them by the saving power of Your right hand, shield them with the shelter of Your wings, do not reject the works of Your hands.

Against You only have we sinned, yet we have worshipped You alone. We have not learned to worship a strange god, nor have we lifted up our hands to another god. Pardon our iniquities, O Master, and accept our petitions with the bending of our knees. Extend a helping hand to all of us, and accept our whole prayer as acceptable incense rising before Your most righteous kingdom.

People: Amen. (*All rise*)

Third Kneeling Prayer

Deacon: Again and again on bended knees, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord have mercy. (*All kneel*)

Priest:

O Christ our God, the ever-flowing Spring, life-giving, illuminating, creative Power, co-eternal with the Father, Who has fulfilled the whole dispensation for mankind in a transcendently beautiful manner.

You Who tore apart the indestructible bonds of death, Who broke asunder the bolts of Hades, and Who tread down the multitude of evil spirits while offering Yourself as a blameless Sacrifice and giving us Your pure, spotless, and sinless Body; Who for this ineffable and dread service granted us everlasting life; You Who descended into Hades and demolished the eternal bars thereby revealing an ascent to those who are in the lower abode; Who with the bait of divine wisdom enticed the dragon, the head of subtle evil, binding him in Tartarus with abysmal bonds through Your infinite power; O Wisdom of the Father and great in name, manifest Yourself as a great Helper to those who are in distress; You are a luminous Light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.

You are the Lord of everlasting glory, the beloved Son of the most high Father, the eternal Light from eternal Light, You the Son of justice:

hear us who beseech You, and give rest to the souls of fathers, brethren, and the rest of our kinsmen in the flesh, as well as to those who are of the fold of faith and have fallen asleep, and for whom we celebrate this memorial. In You is all might, and in Your hands are the ends of the earth.

O almighty Master, God of our fathers, Lord of mercy and Creator of all the races of mankind, the living and the dead, and of all human nature, composed and decomposed. O You in Whose hands are life and death, disposal here on earth and translation to the regions beyond; Who sets the years for the living and Who appoints the time for the dead; Who brings down to Hades and Who raises to bliss; Who binds with weakness and looses with power; Who disposes the future as is just; Who works life through hope of resurrection to those who are smitten with the arrows of death.

You are the Master of all, our God and our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of those who are far off upon the seas, You Who on this last and great day of salvation, the day of the Feast of Pentecost, has revealed to us the mystery of the holy Trinity, consubstantial and co-eternal, indivisible and unmixed. You caused the Holy Spirit, Who is life-giving in His descent and in His presence, to overflow upon Your undefiled Apostles in the likeness of tongues of fire, thus revealing them as proclaimers of the true faith, making them confessors and preachers of the word of God. On this all-perfect day of salvation You make worthy of acceptance our supplications on behalf of those who are imprisoned in Hades; You grant us great hope that You will send rest and consolation from Your presence to the dead who are held in the bondage of grief.

Hear us, disconsolate and wretched ones who beseech You; give rest to the souls who have fallen asleep, and grant them repose in a resplendent place, a place of abundance and rest, where there is no sorrow of any kind, nor any suffering or sighing. Array their souls in the tabernacles of the righteous, and make them worthy of peace and repose; for the dead do not praise You, O Lord, nor do those in Hades venture to offer confession unto You, but we the living do bless You and supplicate You, O Lord, offering to You prayers of supplication, petitions and sacrifice's for the sake of their souls.

People: Amen. (All rise)

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.

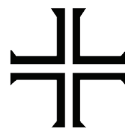
Prosforo for today's Liturgy is provided by Ruta Kubits.

Coffee will be served in the Great Hall following the Liturgy.

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; Abby, 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, Carole, 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.



Happy Father's Day!

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

Today

- 4:00 p.m. – MEOCCA-Sponsored Kneeling Vespers, St. Mary's
- 5:30 p.m. – Minneapolis Missions 5K
- 6:45 p.m. – Dinner

Monday, June 21: The Holy Spirit

- 8:30 a.m. – Orthros; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
- 2:00 p.m. – Baklava Project, Kitchen

Tuesday, June 22

- 2:00 p.m. – Baklava Project, Kitchen

Wednesday, June 23

- 9:00 a.m. – Baklava Project, Kitchen
- 10:00 a.m. – FAITH Playgroup, St. Mary's

Thursday, June 24: Nativity of John the Baptist

- 8:30 a.m. – Orthros; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
- 6:30 p.m. – Stewardship Committee

Saturday, June 26

- 9:00 a.m. – Bible Study, Fireside Room
- 5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

Sunday, June 27: All Saints

- 8:30 a.m. – Orthros; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
- 11:45 a.m. – Missions and Outreach, Fireside Room

Fr. George and family are on vacation June 21-28.

Announcements

Festival Baking ~ Baklava

Sign up to help assemble and baking baklava for this year's Festival. The schedule is as follows:

- Monday and Tuesday, June 21 and 22: Assembling baklava
Come anytime from 2:00-8:00 p.m. to help.
- Wednesday, June 23: Cut, clove, and bake baklava
9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.

Please bring a small sauce pan and a brush for buttering if you are helping on Monday and Tuesday. Wear a face covering all three days, please. The sign up link is in the Weekly Update. For more information, contact *Elena Gabor*, 952.288.3011 or elenagabor14@gmail.com.

Saint Mary's at the Twins Game

Sunday, July 25

Grab your glove and come on out to see the Twins play the Angels on Sunday, July 25, at 1:10 p.m.! St. Mary's will provide a bus to and from Target Field, departing from St. Mary's at 12:00 noon. The tickets are \$20, which includes a hot dog and a soda. We will purchase the tickets so we all can sit near each other, but you are responsible to reimburse us for the ticket(s). This event is open to all parishioners! To reserve your spot, please RSVP to Jon Klein (jon@stmarysgoc.org) by **Sunday, June 27!**

FOCUS House ~ Immediate Needs

In addition to our regular food shelf collection listed below (this month, supporting Simpson Food Pantry) FOCUS House in St. Paul is in urgent need of a number of items such as: men's underwear, hygiene supplies, pasta and spaghetti sauce, meals in a can, canned fruit, macaroni and cheese, jelly, packaged cookies and other treats. *Please place FOCUS donations by the donation container in the hallway leading to the office.*

Food Shelf Immediate Needs for Next Week

Hygiene items (toothpaste, soap, shampoo, etc.)

June's recipient is Simpson Food Pantry.

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

College Graduate Recognition

Did you (or your child or grandchild) finish a higher degree (masters, doctorate, or other achievements such as Peace Corp, military service, etc.) this spring? If so, let us know, we'd like to recognize your accomplishment at an upcoming Liturgy and in the newsletter! Contact the church office: 612.825.9595 or david@stmarysgoc.org.

Volunteer Opportunity

Metro Hope Ministries is looking for a volunteer to help improve the Metro Hope website. The website was built using the WIX development platform. If you are willing to help Metro Hope please call Louis Tiggas, Metro Hope Board of Directors, 612.220.8379

Men In Black, Priests Who Cook

“Men in Black, Priests Who Cook” is a cooking series that includes approximately 40 clergy members (including Metropolitan Nathanael) representing all six states from the Metropolis of Chicago. It's a great way to see our clergy in a more relaxed fashion. The series launches on YouTube TODAY, with a special link given to those that register/purchase the series. All proceeds will benefit The Metropolis of Chicago Philoptochos Philanthropy Fund, which was a great help to many because of the pandemic last year. More information about the series can be found at: <https://e.givesmart.com/events/lty/>

FAITH Playgroup Trikes, Bikes, and Bubbles!

Wednesday, June 23

10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Great Hall & North Parking Lot

Bring your own wheels
or use one that belongs to the church.

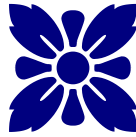


Renovation Updates

Thanks to our beloved parishioners who approved this important work at our Spring All-Parish General Assembly, our summer renovation projects have begun! The pews have been removed and will be repaired and refinished in the same beautiful light oak tone. Our roof replacement begins tomorrow morning at 7:00, starting on the north side of the property. The north entrance remains closed for safety. We are also excited about cleaning all of the brick walls inside the nave, as well as the glass block windows. Brick cleaning begins tomorrow as well and we will have our church sparkling in just about three weeks!

Please look for more updates as together we stand “in the presence of the Lord your God, you and your households together, rejoicing in all the undertakings in which the Lord your God has blessed you.”

—Deuteronomy 12:7



“The Music Man” at The Chanhassen

The Hellenic Post American Legion is inviting members of Saint Mary’s Senior Citizen Club on an outing to the Chanhassen Dinner Theater on Wednesday, August 18, to see “The Music Man.” This is a matinee with lunch at 11:00 a.m. and the show at 1:00 p.m. The cost for Senior Citizens Club members is \$33.50 and \$67.00 for non-members. Reservations are needed no later than Wednesday, July 21. Ticket sales will begin next Sunday. Payment must be made when reserving your spot.



**THE
MUSIC MAN**

From the Fathers...on the Holy Spirit

What the soul is to the body of man,
the Holy Spirit is in the Body of Christ, which is the Church.

—*Saint Augustine*

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, June 21

The Holy Spirit

Ephesians 5:8-19 • Matthew 18:10-20

Tuesday, June 22

Romans 1:1-7, 13-17 • Matthew 4:23 – 5:13

Wednesday, June 23

Romans 1:18-27 • Matthew 5:20-26

Thursday, June 24

Nativity of John the Baptist

Romans 13:11 – 14:4 • Luke 1:24-25, 57-68, 76, 80

Friday, June 25

Romans 2:14-28 • Matthew 5:33-41

Saturday, June 26

Romans 1:7-12 • Matthew 5:42-48

Sunday, June 27

Sunday of All Saints

Hebrews 11:33 – 12:2 • Matthew 10:32-33; 37-38; 19:27-30

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Fr. John Kostas; Deacon Paul Kalina