

SAINT MARY'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday, September 26, 2021

Falling Asleep of Saint John the Theologian

The Divine Liturgy

Commemoration: The Falling Asleep of St. John the Evangelist and Theologian; Removal of the Honorable Head of Apostle Andrew the First-Called.

Morning Gospel: Third

Tone: Plagal 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, Plagal First Tone

To the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, let us, the faithful, give praise and worship. For he willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to endure death and raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

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 John the Theologian, Second Tone

O Apostle, the beloved of Christ God, hasten to deliver us, a people that has no excuse. He accepts you supplicating Him, for He condescended at the Supper to let you lean on Him. Entreat Him, O Theologian, that He scatter the persistent cloud of hostile nations, and pray for us, for peace and 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 Theotokos, Second 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..... I John 4:12-19

No man has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his own Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we know and believe the love God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. In this is love perfected with us, that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and he who fears is not perfected in love. We love, because he first loved us.

Gospel..... John 19:25-27; 21:24-25

At that time, standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. This is the disciple who is bearing witness to these things, and who has written these things; and we know that his testimony is true. But there are also many other things which Jesus did; were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

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

Communion Hymn

Their voice has gone out to all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world. (*Psalm 18:5*) 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.



Prosforo: Yvonne Bye, offered for the health and safety of her family.

The coffee hour this morning is hosted by the Parish Council.



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; Judi, Evonne, James, Nichole, Constantine, Helen, Theodora, Mary, Irene Maria, Marion, Apostolos, Olivia, Lincoln, Joan, Carole, Patty, Archimandrite Dionysios, Alex, Karrisra, Corina, Tom, Vasilius, 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.

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.*

Sunday, September 26:

The Falling Asleep of Saint John the Theologian
Church School
11:30 a.m. – HOPE/JOY Kickoff, Youth Room

Tuesday, September 28

5:30 p.m. – Philoptochos General Meeting and Kickoff Event,
Terrace Room

Wednesday, September 29

10:30 a.m. – Intercessory Prayer, Great Hall
11:00 a.m. – Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room

Friday, October 1: Holy Protection of the Theotokos

7:00 a.m. – Men's Fellowship, Fireside Room
8:30 a.m. – Orthros; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy

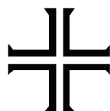
Saturday, October 2

9:00 a.m. – Saturday Bible Study, Fireside Room
1:00 p.m. – Town Hall with Metropolitan Nathanael, Great Hall
5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

Sunday, October 3: Second Sunday of Luke

"The Messenger" News Item Deadline

8:30 a.m. – Orthros; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
Church School
after Liturgy – Missions Lunch with Bishop Neofitos (via Zoom),
Terrace Room



Announcements

Youth Activities Registration



The 2021-2022 school year is in session 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>

Twin Cities Marathon

The Twin Cities Marathon will take place Sunday, October 3, starting at 8:00 a.m. in downtown Minneapolis. The route will run along the west side of Lake of the Isles and Bde Maka Ska to the William Berry Parkway and south along the east side of Lake Harriet to the Minnehaha Parkway. If your drive to church takes you along this Marathon route, you should consider an alternate route to Church.

Philoptochos Meetings

Don't miss the annual September Kick-Off Dinner and Meeting this Tuesday, September 28, 5:30 p.m., in the Terrace Room. Sign up today at the Philoptochos table to attend the meeting and/or to help with the set up prior to the event.

Byzantine Choral Festival Concert

The closing event of the Byzantine Choral Festival is a free concert of beautiful Byzantine Rite choral music. Several local church choirs will perform their unique liturgical music. The concert is Sunday, October 10, 5:00 p.m., at St. Constantine Ukrainian Catholic Church, 515 University Avenue NE, Minneapolis.

Music Ministry Program Updates

Due to the logistics of St. Mary's ongoing refurbishing projects, Music Ministry start dates are as follows:

- Byzantine Matins Chanters - Wednesday, October 13
- Senior Choir - Wednesday, October 20
- Liturgical Chant Group (middle and high school) - Sunday, October 24

More details to follow.

Last Week to Register for Family Camp 2021!

“And He Shall Come Again”

It is not too late to join us as Bishop Anthony Michaels of the Antiochian Archdiocese shares the good news about Christ’s second coming. We are planning for a smaller Family Camp at Camp Courage, the same location of this year’s Summer Camp. Registration will close this Friday, September 28, at 4:30 p.m. Check out the many informational articles online including Q & A, sample schedule, description of the weekend, packing list, etc., at www.stmaryscamp.com and select Family Camp. If you have questions, feel free to contact us at camp@stmaryscamp.com. Remember, you don’t have to bring kids to Family Camp! All are welcome as part of our Twin Cities Orthodox Family!

Senior Citizens’ Meeting

Tuesday, October 12

Saint Mary’s Seniors will gather for their monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 12, 12:00 Noon in the Terrace Room. We will have a lunch followed by the business meeting and Bingo. This month we will feature David Jones’ Historical Presentation on “Apollo: Why We Went to the Moon - a Non-Technical Look at Mankind’s Greatest Technological Achievement.” A program you won’t want to miss!

Women’s Book Club

The next Women’s Book Club discussion will be held Tuesday, October 19, at 7:00 p.m. in Classroom #2. We will be continuing our excellent discussion of our August book, “Wounded by Love,” by Elder Porphyrios. December’s book will be “Acquiring the Mind of Christ.” Both books are available in the bookstore.

Looking Ahead...

October 6-9 — Metropolis Clergy-Laity Assembly

October 8-10 — Family Camp

Sunday, October 24, 11:30 a.m. — Fall General Assembly

Saturday, October 30, 10:00 a.m. — Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 31, after Liturgy — Luncheon honoring Fr. John

Kostas on the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

Saturday, November 13 — Stewardship Appreciation Glendi

You Can Help!

Bishop Neofitos to Visit St. Mary's



Are you interested in learning more about Orthodoxy around the world? Join us for a Missions and Outreach luncheon with Bishop Neofitos Kongai of Nyeri and Mount Kenya (via Zoom) in the Terrace Room on Sunday, October 3, after Liturgy. Father Jason will be facilitating as we learn of Bishop Neofitos' mission work in Africa. Please RSVP for the luncheon by going to the link in the Weekly Update e-mail or calling the Church Office.



FOCUS Minnesota Fundraiser

New Fundraiser Date: Thursday, October 21, 2021 • 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Food! Music! A Celebration of Our Work!

Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, Minneapolis

Please join us for an evening together as we reflect on the blessings the past year brought us and look to a future with continued service.

RSVP: focustwincities@gmail.com or 651.222.0712

(By inviting a friend, you'll be helping us grow our network of support!)

FOCUS Needs

There is a great need for men's and women's underwear. Also, FOCUS has begun to receive requests for winter outerwear and boots for women, kids, and especially men at their clothes closet.

Food Shelf Needs for Next Week

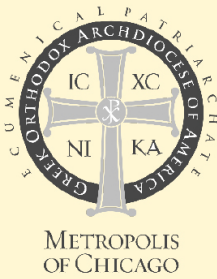
Canned meals – large cans (chili, pork & beans, etc.)

September's recipient has been Joyce Uptown Foodshelf.

October's recipient will be Simpson Food Pantry.

You are invited...

MINNESOTA
TOWN HALL
WITH METROPOLITAN NATHANAEL



Saturday, October 2, 2021

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Saint Mary's

Greek Orthodox Church
3450 Irving Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408



**Join us as we welcome His Eminence
Metropolitan Nathanael to Minnesota for a
discussion among the faithful.**

Live stream & in-person participation
RSVP at <https://www.chicago.goarch.org/-/townhalls>

New Venmo Giving Option

We are excited to announce that we now have a St. Mary's Venmo account that provides all our parishioners the option of using this application to make mobile and on-line donations and payments for pledge income, special donations, and purchases. Getting set up is easy.

Online Venmo Giving Instructions

1. **Download** the "Venmo" app to your mobile phone and create an account.
2. **Scan** the provided QR code or **find** our church account by searching St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church or @st_marys_goc_mpls.

Note: There are several St. Mary's churches so please make sure you select the correct account.

3. **Input** the dollar amount you wish to give.



4. **Include** your name, envelope number (if you have it), purpose of the gift (pledge or general donation, candle donation, meal, etc.) in the "What's it for?" section so that we can properly record your donation.

You may scan the QR code above with your phone to launch Venmo and get set up.

save the date

OUR CHURCH.

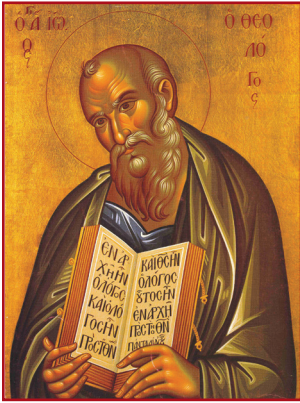
OUR SPIRITUAL HOME.

Join us on Saturday evening, November 13, for the
annual Stewardship Appreciation Glendi

More information will be posted here as the date approaches.



Saint John the Theologian



The holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostle and Evangelist John (also John the Theologian or John the Divine) was one of the original twelve Apostles, and wrote the Gospel bearing his name; three canonical letters: I John, II John, and III John; and the Book of Revelation. His primary feast day is celebrated on May 8, that of the twelve apostles on June 30, and his repose on September 26. His symbol is the eagle.

St. John was the son of Salome the myrrh-bearer and Zebedee, a fisherman. His brother was St. James, another apostle.

In his own Gospel account, he refers to himself as “the disciple whom Jesus loved” rather than use his name. He was the youngest of the twelve apostles, and especially close to the Lord. This closeness is often portrayed in icons of the mystical supper, where St. John leans on Jesus.

He was present for the Transfiguration of Christ with Peter and his brother James.

St. John was exiled to the island of Patmos by Emperor Domitian around 90-95 A.D., and it was there that he received and wrote the Book of Revelation.

“Account of the miracle that occurred at his grave: When over 100 years old, St. John took seven disciples outside of Ephesus and had them dig a grave in the shape of a cross. St. John then went into the grave, and the disciples buried him there, alive. Later on, when his grave was opened, St. John’s body was not there. ‘On May 8 of each year, dust rises up from his grave, by which the sick are healed of various diseases.’”

—reprinted from *OrthodoxWiki.org*

From the Fathers...on Love

Love every man in spite of his falling into sin.
Never mind the sins, but remember that the foundation of the man
is the same—the image of God.

—*Saint John of Kronstadt*

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, September 27

Galatians 2:11-16 • Luke 4:38-44

Tuesday, September 28

II Corinthians 4:6-15 • Luke 6:17-23

Wednesday, September 29

Galatians 5:22-26;6:1-2 • Luke 5:33-39

Thursday, September 30

I Corinthians 16:13-24 • Matthew 24:42-47

Friday, October 1

The Holy Protection of the Theotokos

Acts 9:10-19 • Luke 6:17-23

Saturday, October 2

I Timothy 1:12-17 • Luke 5:17-26

Sunday, October 3

Second Sunday of Luke

II Corinthians 4:6-15 • Luke 6:31-36

Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

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Fr. John Kostas; Deacon Paul Kalina