

# SAINT MARY'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday, December 26, 2021

*Sunday after Nativity*

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## The Divine Liturgy

**Commemoration:** Sunday after Nativity; Afterfeast of the Nativity; Synaxis of the Holy Theotokos; Saints Joseph, James, and David; Euthemios the Confessor, Bishop of Sardis; Holy New Hieromartyr Constantine of Russia, Who Struggled in Constantinople (1743); Constantius the Holy Martyr; Barlaam the Righteous of Valaam.

*Morning Gospel: Fifth*

*Tone: Second*

### *Variable Hymns and Readings in the Liturgy*

#### *At the Second Antiphon*

Save us, O Son of God, who was born of the Virgin, to you we sing, Alleluia!

#### *At the Third Antiphon*

#### *Hymn of the Nativity of Christ, Fourth Tone*

Your birth, O Christ our God, did shine upon the world, and through the light of wisdom illumined the universe. And to those who held the stars in worship, did through a star learn to worship you, the Sun of Righteousness, and came to know you the Light from on high. Glory to you, O Lord.

#### *At the Small Entrance*

#### *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!

#### *Resurrection Hymn, Second Tone*

When you descended into death, Life immortal, you vanquished the power of hell by your resplendent divinity, and when you raised the dead from the depths of darkness, all the heavenly powers cried out triumphantly: O giver of life, Christ our God, glory to you.

*Repeat the Hymn of the Nativity, page 1.*

***Hymn of Joseph, David, and James, Second Tone***

O Joseph, proclaim to David, the ancestor of God, the good news of the miracles you witnessed; you saw a virgin give birth; you worshiped with the Magi; you gave glory with the shepherds; you conferred with an angel. Beseech Christ our God 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 Nativity of Christ, Third Tone***

Today the Virgin gives birth to him who is above all being; and a cave is offered by earth, to him who no one can approach. Angels with shepherds give glory, and Magi journey with a star. For our sake was born, a young child, the eternal God!

***Epistle Galatians 1:11-19***

Brethren, I would have you know that the gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

***Gospel Matthew 2:13-23***

When the wise men departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there

until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt have I called my son.”

Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: “A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more.” But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” And he rose and took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaos reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

### ***Megalynarion of the Nativity of Christ***

Magnify O my soul, the woman more honorable and more glorious than the powers of heaven.

I see a mystery, strange and most wondrous: The cave has become heaven, the Virgin, the throne of the cherubim. The manger holds Him who cannot be held or contained, Christ our God, whom we praise and magnify.

***The Communion Prayers are found on page 5 of this leaflet.***

### ***Communion Hymn***

The Lord has sent redemption, the Lord has sent redemption to His people. Alleluia.

### ***Post-Communion Hymn: Hymn of the Nativity of Christ, Fourth Tone***

Your birth, O Christ our God, did shine upon the world, and through the light of wisdom illumined the universe. And to those who held the stars in worship, did through a star learn to worship you, the Sun of Righteousness, and came to know you the Light from on high. Glory to you, O Lord.

### **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.*

### **The traditional Orthodox greeting for the Feast of Christmas is:**

*“Christ is born!”  
“Glorify him!”*

*“Christos Yennáte!”  
“Dhoksásate!”*

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Prosforo: Yana Patridge

The coffee hour this morning is hosted by the St. Mary’s Senior Citizens’ Club.

Memorial prayers are offered today for **Don Johnson** (1 year).

We also remember those St. Mary’s Seniors who passed away during 2021: *Peter Roumel, John DeMoss, Angie Spell, Cleo Zarifis, John Leckas, Christos A. Bakritges, Saleh Canavati, Ardith Tabor, Stella Boosalis, Charles Young, Samir Saleh, Helen Peters.*

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*Scan the QR code to give through Venmo.*

# 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.

## Prayer List

*Please remember the sick, the suffering, and those in need, especially:* The family of Barbara Apostolou; 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; 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; Tom, Gigi, Zossima, Donnarae, Samira, Mary K., Dreux, Monte, Bethany, Mark, Owen, Chrysanthy, Estelle, Justine, Melissa, Megan, Dallas, Lenzie, Lisa, Michael, Robbie, Judi, Evonne, James, Nichole, Constantine, Theodora, Mary, Irene Maria, Marion, Apostolos, Olivia, Lincoln, Joan, Carole, Patty, Archimandrite Dionysios, Karrisa, Corina, Tom, George R., Ken, Nancy and Tim, Olga, Peter, Cora and family, Lamona, Bo, Tom, Lynn, Deb, Sarah, Maia, Travis, Kassie, Tahnlee, Lois, Kalli, Quinn, Annie, Sue & Jim, Steve, Sue, Jane, Rifka, Pat, Nancy, Dave, Pam, Gilbert, George P., Danielle, Jenny, John L., Steven E., Julia, Presvytera Janis, Sandra, Sophia, George, Rick, Bryn, Nancy, Alex, Eryn, Phil, Karen, Phil, Joyce, Dorla, Linda, Fr. Elias, Vicki, Bill, Diana, Elpis Fotini, Doria, Mike, Stephanie, Tyler, Ben, Amy, Christy, Karen, Anastasia, Jamie, Alex and Alexander, Toni, Gina, Julie, R.J., Allie, Vickie, Petra, Bob, Joseph, Avgi, Christopher, Elizabeth, Jaxon, Judi, Bodil, Ole, and others known to you.

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### Saint Mary's Giving Report

~ 2021 Offering Income ~

2021 Year to Date Actual: \$1,030,008

Annual 2021 Offering Budget: \$1,069,625

***Amount remaining to meet stewardship goal: \$39,617***

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### Food Shelf Needs for Next Week

*Canned fruits and vegetables*

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

*January's recipient will be Joyce Uptown Food Shelf.*

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

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# Calendar of the Week

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**Sunday, December 26: Sunday after Nativity**

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

*No Church School*

**Monday, December 27: Proto-Martyr Stephen**

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

*Church Office closed.*

**Tuesday, December 28**

***Stewardship contributions are due by 3:00 p.m.***

6:00 p.m. – Open Gym, Great Hall

**Saturday, January 1: Circumcision of Christ; Saint Basil**

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

5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

**Sunday, January 2: Sunday before Theophany**

**Vasilopita Sunday**

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

*Vasilopita Service; Parish Council Oath of Office*

12:45 p.m. – Boys' GOYA Basketball Practice

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## Holy Theophany Schedule

***Wednesday, January 5: Eve of Theophany***

9:00 a.m. – Royal Hours

6:00 p.m. – Vespers Divine Liturgy and Great Blessing of Water

***Thursday, January 6: Holy Theophany***

8:30 a.m. – Orthros

9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy and Great Blessing of Water

• *The Church Office will be closed in observance of Holy Theophany.*

***Friday, January 7: Synaxis of John the Baptist***

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

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# Announcements

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## ~ Year-End Giving ~

As we approach the end of both our calendar and fiscal year, it is important that we correctly record all stewardship gifts. Every dollar we receive **before 3:00 p.m. this Tuesday, December 28**, will be recorded and reflected on your year-end Contribution Statement, and matched against your yearly pledge, as stewardship income for 2021. Donations received after the deadline will be counted towards our budget for 2022.

## 2022 Basketball Tournament

### *Men's Team Forming!*

Any able-bodied men interested in playing on the St. Mary's men's basketball team in the tournament this coming February, please contact *Theo Boosalis*, [theo@boosalis.net](mailto:theo@boosalis.net). Practices will be scheduled as we know more about who is interested in playing.

## Our Church – Our Spiritual Home

### *2022 Stewardship Campaign*

Our 2022 Stewardship Campaign is underway. Packets have been mailed to our members' homes. Please prayerfully consider what you are able to share with St. Mary's in 2022. We thank you for your generosity.

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# Philoptochos News

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## Stop by the Philoptochos Table during Social Hour

**Buy Vasilopita** — There are plenty St. Basil's Sweet Bread loaves for you to purchase, even if you didn't preorder one. Each loaf is \$15, has a coin baked inside, and is perfect for New Year's Eve/Day celebrations. All funds go to St. Basil Academy ([stbasil.goarch.org](http://stbasil.goarch.org)), a home for children in need.

**Shop** — Let us help you with your gift giving and hosting needs. We're selling cookbooks, kourambiethes, and classic and chocolate baklava.

**Volunteer** — We need Christmas Day Social Hour hosts (all goodies provided) as well as Vasilopita cutters on Friday, December 31, 10:00 a.m., to prepare for Vasilopita Sunday on January 2.



*St. Mary's Christmas decorations have been made possible  
through the generosity of the following people:*

Anonymous

In memory of Aspasia & George Kosmas, and baby Jimmy; Marguerite & Peter Kosmas and Georgie; Elaine & Tony Kallas; Helen & Jim Kallas; Mr. & Mrs. William Kosmas, Mr. & Mrs. John Kallas

Efstratia and George Bakritges in memory of Christos A. Bakritges

The Barakos family in memory of Anna & Gerasimos Barakos; Felicia Correa; Pat & Leo Fecht; Chris Fecht

Nick T. & Katherine Boosalis and family in memory of Theodore & Theodora Boosalis

Tessie Bourdamis in memory of Irene Bourdamis, Manuel Bourdamis, George Bourdamis

Joan Calott in memory of Peter

Chris & Angela Dillon in memory of John, Eugenia, and Tom Checheris

Christina Doukas and family in memory of Rena Doukas; Katherine & Peter Boosalis; Stamata & Christ Parthenios

John & Dianne Dovolis in memory of Jim and Nick Dovolis; Nicholas & Aphrodite Ginakes; James & Georgia Dovolis

Ben & Julie Frothingham in memory of Roy & Etta Frothingham; Cliff & Elfie Carlson; George & Peggy Maganas; John & Jennie Maganas; Jane Ellen Brown

Jim Geogleris in memory of George & Sandy Geogleris

Georgia George

Bettina, Sam, Lucas, and Marcus Hanna in memory of our parents Haleim & Samir Awad, Louis & Georgia Kokinis

Paul & Jenny Hibberd in memory of Connie Amerine, Judith Hibberd

Dennis & Tina Houck in memory of Thomas & Stella Canelake; Audrey Canelake

Mary and Fifi Kafkas in memory of Tom & Evangeline Kafkas, Nickolatos family, Houppis family, Pete & Hazel

Dcn. Paul & Alexandria Kalina in memory of Stephen & Helen Campbell; Harold & Elaine Kalina

Peter Karachunski & Olga Berkovskaya in memory of Yuri, Nikolai & Rosa Ivaniouk; Isaak Wolfenson; Alexandra & Vladislav Palubinski; Karina Berkovskaya

Theodora Karakatsanis in memory of Stamatis & Mimika Karakatsanis; John Karas; John, Eugenia, and Tom Checheris; George & Helen Speliopoulos; George & Helen Yoshino

Robert & Hope Kennedy in memory of George, Stamatia, Evangelos, Diana Kontos; Helen & Chris Fanaras, Johnny Kontos; Stamatia Kennedy, Lucille Kennedy

Bill & Evelyn Kordaris

George & Connie Kouzes in memory of Christina, Dena, Nick, Aphrodite

Terri Leckas in memory of John Leckas

Annette Legeros

The Erik Lindholm family in memory of Thomas J. Checheris; Jim and Nick Dovolis; Robert W. Lindholm; Tina Kouzes; George Patronas; John & Eugenia Checheris

Darlene Manzavrakos in memory of Jack and granddaughter Angie Ginkel

Christopher Menke in memory of my Grandparents

Tia Muchulas and family in memory of John Muchulas; Christ & Stamata Parthenios; George & Athanasia Grammas; Paul & Alexandria Muchulas; Jim Muchulas

Bea Murdakes in memory of all my family

Mary Muzetras in memory of Chris Muzetras

Nelson family in memory of Alexei, Alla, Anastasia, Vladimir, Eudokia, Alexander, Terentiy, Agrippina

Jeanne Nicklow in memory of James Nicklow; Nicholas & Athanasia Nicklow; Tom & Effie Pappas

Vangie Nicklow in memory of John & Eugenia Checheris; Tom Checheris; Mimika & Stamatis Karakatsanis; John Kara; Ageliki, Leonidas, Mihalís, Leferi, Eleni, Pateli, Atheneou, Evangelia & Stamatis; Anastasi, Ageliki, George, Markos, Eleni Tsetseris

Louis, Mary, Katherine, and Kristina Pappas in memory of The Pappas and Zarifis family members

Kevin & Anna Paulson in memory of John L. Regas, Dennis, Eleanor, and Kathi Paulson

Veula Possis in memory of Milt Possis, Christos, Theano, Costandinos, Thalia, George, Paul, Carol, Zinon, Mary, Emmel, Della, Robert, Virginia, Cloe, John, JoAnn, Lennea

Margaret Psychogios in memory of Peter Psychogios, Judy Psychogios

Steve & Popie Rakes in memory of George & Emily Regas; Michael & Panagiota Rakes; John Regas; James Regas; Peter Regas

Brad & Kathy Richardson in memory of Cleo & George Zarifis; Katherine & Richard D'Ambrogio

Sam, Georgia, and Sophia Rouman in memory of Michael G. Dovolos and Panayiota (Bea) Dovolos

Kenny & Sarah Schwark

Leo & Cheryl Sioris in memory of James & Daphne Sioris; Paul & Pauline Peters; Bill Peters; Rose & John Mercury

Skoog family in memory of Saleh Canavati

Bill & Tiki Spell

Anne Stundahl in memory of Ted Stundahl, Joe Seidl, James Peters, Jim Petrou

Elaine Theis in memory of Socrates & Evangeline Stoyanoglow (parents); John & Helen Stoyanoglow (grandparents); Christos & Panagoula Mouroutsos (grandparents)

Andrew & Ann Theodotou in memory of Chris Muzetras

Arlene Theros in memory of Peter Robert Theros; Eugenia & Frank Theros; Dorothy & Petrus Backlund

Louis & Andrea Tiggas in memory of Kyriacos, Elias, Pepitsa, John, Yiannoula, Andrew, Constantine, Demetra, Constantina, Gabriel, Michael, Nicholas, Mary, George, Joy

Effy Triantafyllou in memory of Koula, Epaminondas "Peter," Betty, Andy, Triantafylos, Athena, Efthimia, George, John, Vasiliki, John, George, Violetta, Andreas, Maria, Mary, Kyriakos, Ioanna, Gianitsa, Panagiotis, Maria, Efstathios, Asimoula, Peter, Pearl, Daisy, Helen, John and Bill.

Louis & Kathy Trigas in memory of Georgia, Panayiotis, Georgia, John, Eirini, Dionisia, Nikos, Panayiota, Theodoros, Hristos, Eirini Panayiota, Thomas

Luke & Mary Kay Twito in memory of the Pantages and Twito families

Stephen Wehr in memory of Helen Hamilton (Amy's mom) and Deanna Hamilton (Amy's sister)

Harry & Georgia Wiebe in memory of Aspasia & George P. Kosmas and baby James; Marguerite & Peter Kosmas and Georgie; Elaine & Tony Kallas; Evangelia Papoutselli; Bess Kypros

Gregory & Harriet Witt in memory of Helen & Richard Hasselstrom; Steve and Donald Witt

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*Christ Is Born!*

*Glorify Him!*

## From the Fathers...on Christ

Christ saved men not with thunder and lightning, but as a wailing babe  
in the manger and as a silent sufferer upon the Cross.

—*Saint Jerome*

### Daily Bible Readings

*Monday, December 27*

*Stephen, Archdeacon and First Martyr*

Acts 6:8-15; 7:1-5, 47-60 • Matthew 21:33-42

*Tuesday, December 28*

II Timothy 3:16 – 4:4 • Luke 14:25-35

*Wednesday, December 29*

*The Holy Innocents*

Hebrews 2:11-18 • Matthew 2:13-23

*Thursday, December 30*

Titus 1:5-14 • Mark 10:24-32

*Friday, December 31*

Titus 1:15 – 2:10 • Luke 16:10-15

*Saturday, January 1*

*Circumcision of Christ; Saint Basil*

Colossians 2:8-12 • Luke 2:20-21, 40-52

*Sunday, January 2*

*Sunday before Theophany*

II Timothy 4:5-8 • Mark 1:1-8

*Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church*

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

*Fr. John Kostas; Deacon Paul Kalina*