

# The Messenger

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church | 3450 Irving Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55408 | 612.825.9595 | www.stmarysgoc.org

## April 2022

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## St. Mary's

### Mission Statement

To proclaim, celebrate, and share the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ in accordance with the Orthodox Tradition.

### The Five Tasks of Our Parish Vision

- Hear
- Pray
- Grow
- Serve
- Share



METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO

## A Message from Father Tim

Father Timothy Sas, Proistamenos

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Dear Friends,

We are in the midst of the holy and great Lent, readying ourselves to celebrate Christ Risen from the dead, this year again. On the heels of the past two years, this year's Resurrection feast looks to be more engaging to all of us. Personally, I will have a spark of beautiful memory of my old parish in Duluth, but I am truly excited to arrive together with all of you at the Feast of Feasts. I am already remembering three Pascha celebrations with you from 20 years ago and I am looking forward to singing the most celebratory hymn of our Church with all of you!

But as we advance through Lent let's quickly examine our process of readiness for the great feast. Every year we start Lent with Forgiveness Sunday! Genuinely asking forgiveness of one another and offering it to one another is truly a most penetrating intimacy that we humans experience. Next, the first Sunday of Lent, we have the Sunday of Orthodoxy, by which we celebrate the triumph of our Church of ideas that wanted to destroy icons. The theology of veneration for icons is rooted firmly in the Incarnation of Christ God. We adorn our churches and homes with icons because we embrace and honor the beauty of God's creation and the creativity of God's people. The second Sunday of Lent is dedicated to St. Gregory Palamas who teaches us that, although mystical, the Energies of God pour out into the world for our sanctification. The third Sunday of Lent we give special honor to the Holy Cross of Christ. This comes to us both as small respite in our Lenten asceticism but also as foreshadowing for Holy and Great Friday. The fourth Sunday is dedicated to St. John Climacus (of Ladder), whose instructional book The Ladder comes to us as a type of prescription for our ascent toward oneness with God. By the time we reach the fifth Sunday, we often become weary of the fasting practices and here the Church, in Her wisdom, brings to us St. Mary of Egypt. Numerous lessons from her life enrich us, but above all I see her as an example for understanding suffering through repentance as the seed to spiritual fruitfulness that is heavenly eternity. The sixth and final Sunday of Lent is Palm Sunday, which is indeed a celebratory feast marking Christ's triumphal yet humble entry into Jerusalem. But this great feast of the Church shows that an entrance into the glory of the Lord brings persecution from the broken world. With this state of mind and heart we enter Holy Week. It is a difficult

—article continues on page 2.

# Our Life Together

## Memorial Prayers

### Sunday, April 3

Anna Barakos (6 months)  
mother of Nick Barakos  
Saleh Canavati (6 months)

### Sunday, April 10

Christos Bakritges (1 year)  
John Leckas (1 year)



## Share YourShelf

April's recipient of Share YourShelf contributions is Community Emergency Service.

- Donations may be brought to any of the Lenten and Holy Week services.

### Sunday, April 3

Canned soups or vegetables

### Sunday, April 10

Diapers, size 5

### Sunday, April 17

Hygiene items

### Sunday, April 24

Baby formula

It is not enough to help the poor. We must help them with generosity and without grumbling. And it is not enough to help them without grumbling. We must help them gladly and happily. When the poor are helped, there ought to be these two conditions: generosity and joy.

—Saint John Chrysostom

—Fr. Tim's article, continued from page 1

and emotional week that brings us face to face with the persecution, suffering, and death on the Cross, and burial in a tomb, of Christ God. But we also enter this week with knowledge and expectation that at the end of this last stage of Christ's life on earth, He greets us as conqueror of all that is destructive and broken in the world. He greets us with eternal Life, and not just for Himself, but also for all who follow Him.

May we be richly strengthened through the Lenten labor and be equally richly blessed with the joy of the Resurrection!

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Timothy Sas

## St. Mary's Church Staff

### Priest

Fr. Timothy Sas

### Associate Priest

Fr. Jason Houck

### Attached Priest

Fr. John Kostas

### Deacon

Deacon Paul Kalina

### Administrator

Julie Moricz

### Parishioner Support Communications

David Mertesdorf

### Ministry Support

Doria Saros

### Youth Director

Jonathan Klein

### Facilities Coordinator

Bob Yang

### Music Director

Thespina Macres

### Organist

Mark Macres

## St. Mary's Parish Council

### President

William M. Hoelt

### Vice President

John Beauchamp

### Secretary

Maria Smith

### Treasurer

Thomas Hainlin

### Assistant Treasurer

Andrew Twito

### Members

Daniel Buss

Ina Dunham

Sam Hanna

Nicholas Legeros

Cristina Nicklow

Jeannie Possis

Dean Psychogios

Andrew Twito

# Education • Fellowship • Worship

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## Holy Week and Pascha Schedule

### **Saturday, April 16 — Saturday of Lazarus**

9:00 a.m. - Matins  
10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy  
*Family Service Day follows Liturgy*  
5:00 p.m. - Vespers

### **Sunday, April 17 — Palm Sunday**

8:30 a.m. - Matins  
9:30 a.m. - Divine Liturgy  
6:00 p.m. - Bridegroom Matins

### **Monday, April 18 — Holy Monday**

6:00 p.m. - Bridegroom Matins

### **Tuesday, April 19 — Holy Tuesday**

9:30 a.m. - Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts  
6:00 p.m. - Bridegroom Matins

### **Wednesday, April 20 — Holy Wednesday**

4:00 p.m. - Service of Holy Unction  
6:00 p.m. - Matins of the Mystical Supper with Holy Unction

### **Thursday, April 21 — Holy Thursday**

9:30 a.m. - Divine Liturgy of the Mystical Supper  
6:00 p.m. - Matins of the Twelve Gospels

### **Friday, April 22 — Great and Holy Friday**

9:00 a.m. - Royal Hours  
*Church School Retreat continues until 1:30 p.m.*  
1:30 p.m. - Vespers of the Descent from the Cross  
6:00 p.m. - Service of Lamentations

### **Saturday, April 23 — Holy Saturday**

10:00 a.m. - First Resurrection Divine Liturgy  
11:30 p.m. - Midnight Office, Resurrection Service, Matins, Divine Liturgy

### **Sunday, April 24 — Great and Holy PASCHA**

12:00 noon - Agape Vespers  
Easter Egg Hunt follows Vespers

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## MEOCCA Pan-Orthodox Lenten Vespers

### **Sunday, April 3**

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church  
3450 Irving Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55408

### **Sunday, April 10**

Holy Myrrhbearers Orthodox Church  
601 Seventh Avenue South, Saint Cloud, MN 56301

### **Sunday, April 17**

St. Herman's Orthodox Church  
5355 - 38th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55412

## Weekend Schedule

### **Saturday**

Vespers – 5:00 p.m.  
(April 16 and 30 only)

### **Sunday (live-streamed)**

Matins – 8:30 a.m.  
Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

## Weekday Schedule

### **Fridays, April 1 and 8**

Salutations to the Theotokos  
– 6:00 p.m.

### **Wednesdays, April 6 and 13**

Presanctified Liturgy – 5:30 p.m.

### **Friday, April 15**

Presanctified Liturgy – 6:00 p.m.

### **Monday, April 25**

Bright Monday; Saint George (observed)  
-at St. George Greek Orthodox Church  
Matins – 8:00 a.m.  
Divine Liturgy – 9:00 a.m.

*Join us at*

*St. George Greek Orthodox Church  
to celebrate their Feast Day!*

### **Friday, April 29**

Bright Friday  
Life-Giving Font of the Theotokos  
Matins – 8:30 a.m.  
Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

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## Fellowship and Study Groups

### **Intercessory Prayer**

Wednesdays, April 13 and 27  
10:30 a.m., Nave Chapel

### **Men's Fellowship**

Friday, April 1 (Exodus)  
Friday, April 15 (Psalms)  
7:00 a.m., Fireside Room

### **Saturday Bible Study**

Every Saturday  
• No class sessions on April 16 and 23  
9:00 a.m., Fireside Room

### **Women's Bible Study**

Wednesdays, April 13 and 27  
11:00 a.m., Fireside Room

# Parish News & Events

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## Spring Parish Assembly and Luncheon

**Sunday, April 10**

Saint Mary's Parish Council invites ALL parishioners to the Spring Spaghetti Luncheon and General All-Parish Assembly on Sunday, April 10, 2022. Participate in the important work of the church, learn about upcoming activities and priorities, and vote for our National Clergy Laity Assembly delegates.

We welcome your input and ideas to continue to make St. Mary's a place to Hear, Pray, Grow, Serve, and Share.

Our meeting agenda is:

- Approval of the Fall General Assembly Minutes
- Approve 2022 Budget
- Stewardship Update
- Delegates for National Clergy Laity
- Election of Board of Electors
- 2022 Parish Council Priorities
- Buildings and Grounds Update

## Senior Citizens' Meeting

**Tuesday, April 12**

Saint Mary's Seniors will gather for their monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 12, 12:00 noon, in the Terrace Room. We will have a lunch followed by the business meeting and Bingo. Our program will feature Father Tim presenting a talk on his return to St. Mary's. Also we will be collecting the 2022 membership dues.

## Lazarus Saturday Family Service Day

**Saturday, April 16**

We invite everyone to take part in our Lazarus Saturday Family Service Day.

Matins – 9:00 a.m. • Divine Liturgy – 10:00 a.m.

The Service Day projects will follow a time of fellowship after Liturgy and will include cleaning and preparing the church for Holy Week and plaiting palm crosses. It's a joy-filled day!

At midday, we will join together for a potluck lunch. Please bring a Lenten dish to share. We'll provide peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the kids.

Sign up information will be available closer to the date. Watch for it!

## Spanakopita Sale

**Sunday, April 10**

The annual Daughters of Penelope Spanakopita Sale takes place on Sunday, April 10, in the Great Hall following the Divine Liturgy. Come stock and stock up on these delicious treats for the Easter holidays! Thank you in advance for your support and a blessed Lenten season and Easter holiday to all.

# Philoptochos



There are no Philoptochos Meetings in the month of April. Please watch for updates on events or needs in the weekly bulletin, web page, and at our table on Sundays.

## Sacred Baking Workshop



One of the missions of Philoptochos is "to promote the Greek Orthodox Faith and traditions, in accordance with its doctrines, canons, discipline, divine worship, usages and customs." With that in mind, we are pleased to invite you to our last of three workshops teaching how to make the food

that is integral to Orthodox services:

### **Artoclasia | Blessing of Five Loaves**

*Saturday, May 21, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.*

All parishioners are welcome to attend. The workshop will be led by Toni Bazakos. Register at the Philoptochos table during the social hour. There is no cost to attend.

## Upcoming Activities

### **NEW! Two Lenten Collections**

#### • **FOCUS Fun and Games Drive**

During the month of April, Philoptochos is collecting new and gently used books appropriate for ages 18 and older, 500+ puzzles, and adult backpacks, new or gently used. Please bring them to our table this month. The collections end April 17.

#### • **TANDEM Baby Bottle Collection**

Our annual collection for Tandem, who supports women in crisis, is coming. Pick up a baby bottle (or an envelope) and fill it with dollars, coins, and checks! Please bring funds by Palm Sunday, April 17. *Thank you.*

### **Holy Week**

Sign up at church on Sundays to volunteer for Holy Friday, April 22, to adorn the Kouvouklion, wrap red eggs, plate koulouria, and on Holy Saturday to decorate church after the First Resurrectional Divine Liturgy, about 11:30 a.m.

### **Women's Book Club Discussion Moves to June**

The Women's Book Club is joining with Fr. Tim's suggested Lenten reading of "Arise, O God" by The Very Rev. Archpriest Fr. Andrew Damick. The discussion of "Philokalia" by Father Anthony Coniaris will be held in June. Both books are available in the bookstore.

### **Membership Drive Ends Soon**

Philoptochos supports local food shelves, Orthodox ministries, monasteries and orphanages, and other relief efforts throughout the country and world. We can't do this without you! Please consider joining us during our annual membership drive, which ends this month. Women of the parish received a letter with information. Please mail in your membership form and gift, or stop by our table during the Sunday social hour for more information.

### **FOCUS Meal**

Our next meal at FOCUS House will be Sunday, May 1. Please watch weekly bulletin, website, and the Philoptochos table on Sundays, for more details and updates on this event.

## Thank You!

The koliva and prosforo workshops were led by Toni Bazakos and Tina Menter. Thank you to them and to all the ladies for participating in the events.

Hosting of the Lenten meal on March 16 was led by the social committee, Cathy Forchas, Connie Kouzes, Jennifer Coin, Donna Psihos. Special thank you to Louis Tiggas for helping us with the cooking. Thank you for all that helping in cooking, set-up, serving, and clean up. All donations went to St. Stephen's Food Shelf.

Thank you to Andrea Tiggas for coordinating the spring fillo sale, and for all who supported this fundraising effort.

Thank you to Julie Moricz, who organized the donation of 2021 bake sale goods to several non-profit organizations in the Twin Cities.



# Missions & Outreach

## Thank You for “My Pillow”

by Cheryl Dragotis

“And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.” —*Philippians 2:8*



Until I started volunteering at FOCUS House, my prayers never included “thank You for my pillow.” But volunteering at the front desk has touched me with humility and thankful for my comfort of a pillow.

Our FOCUS House Director Matushka Vera Proctor emphasizes that the FOCUS House organization cannot do the work God has given us to do, without our volunteers.



The benefits of volunteering at FOCUS House coming from the love and soul within them are many. Here are a few of their thoughts:

- \* “Volunteering here is so humbling. Makes me truly thankful for how we are blessed in life.”
- \* “We are filling a need for ourselves and our clients.”
- \* “Hopefully, we can help with the impact on the community to help make a better place for them.”

- \* “We hear their stories face to face and experience success with them when they have achieved a job, a better housing situation or a rehabilitation success.”
- \* “The volunteers are caring, interesting and fun to be with. There’re always delightful treats, (I like the chocolate candy kisses) from the various Orthodox parish members. Ideas for food, books or games are always regularly abundant.”



I could go on and on about the benefits of volunteering at Focus House, but why don’t you come for a visit? I go every Thursday morning, so if you need a ride to visit with some volunteers

or hear more from Vera or Judy (food coordinator), give me (Cheryl Dragotis) a call.



# Stewardship

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by Athena Mihas

Parishioner, Sylvia Kafkas shared the following powerful testimonial with us on Sunday, November 7, 2021, following the Liturgy:

*I was asked by a member of the Stewardship Committee if I would be willing to share my "back story" and how I came to be standing here today.*

*I was born to parents of Norwegian descent and raised on the ancestral farm where my father was born. My great grandfather migrated from Norway to North America traveling the waterways to La Crosse, Wisconsin with his wife and five children. A new section of land was being offered to new immigrants in the Colfax area. Their journey was made by ox team, and they brought two cows and some calves.*

*He staked out the four corners of his 160 acres of government land issued to him and built a makeshift home with two other families for the winter. It had no internal walls - just a rope system to separate the three households.*

*In 1864, the settlers built a Norwegian Lutheran Church in the middle of a farm field. It is surrounded by a cemetery for the church community. My ancestors' grave markers preserve their memory.*

*In 1879, President Ulysses S. Grant signed a homestead act for all the settlers to have legal claim to their property. Six more children were born in America – one being my grandfather, Barney. He was the child to take over the farm. He and his wife had eight children. My father, Alf, was the next generation that took over the farm.*

*Alf dated my mother from 1931-39 (depression years). She was a "one-room" schoolteacher, and she saved money for their church wedding. Theirs was the first "formal" wedding to be held in their rural church at the end of the Depression.*

*I was born in the winter of 1942. My education through eighth grade took place in three different one room schools. My only contact with children outside of school occurred when I went to church or attended 4-H Club meetings. High School was revolutionary! I now was in the company of my 68 classmates and the young people from the other three grades.*

*I went to Eau Claire State College (the school's name at that time) and received a degree in elementary teaching...who do you think influenced me to choose that profession.*

*Upon graduation, a girlfriend and I decided we wanted to teach in the "Big City". We began driving south down High-*

*way 100 and saw an exit sign that said, "School Ahead." We decided to check it out. The principal was eating lunch and interviewed us at the same time. He said if we took the 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade openings, he wouldn't have to interview any of those applicants...he pointed to a large stack of papers. We signed our contracts.*

*I have finally reached the point in my "back story" where I meet my connection to St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church... Mr. John A. Kafkas!!! He was a teacher in sixth grade!!! Three years later we were married (Two weddings - St. Mary's and Holden Lutheran Church. We also had two wedding receptions.) In my sixth year of teaching, I was pregnant with our son, Lee, and became a "stay at home" mom. Angela was born 2½ years later.*

*When the children were done with grade school, I decided to look for a part-time job. At that time, Fr. Anthony wondered if I would like to work in the church office and learn to manage the "first" computer. I was definitely available for the job, and I live just one block from church!!!*

*I praised the Lord every day that I walked into the office. The "Time, Talent, and Treasures" that created this Holy Sanctuary, adjacent facilities of the Church School/Administrative wing and the Bookstore/Social Hall wing speak to the loyalty of the members of St. Mary's. I have observed the spiritual guidance and leadership from eleven different priests. The office staff grew to have talented employees who manage and enhance the activities offered to the church community.*

*With the addition of our Great Hall, I had the opportunity to work with a number of different groups for the rental of space. I continued to work in the church office for 30 years, until I retired in 2018. Shortly after, I was chrismated and became a member of St. Mary's.*

*May the future of St. Mary's be close to your heart, for it is here that we receive the strength to go forth in this world and be a witness for Jesus Christ.*

## Stewardship Campaign 2022 Update

### Our Church, Our Spiritual Home

Our Orthodox Christian Church is our spiritual home. We are brothers and sisters in Christ, a family.

Thank you for your participation in our 2022 Stewardship Campaign and your on-going support of St. Mary's through your gifts of time, talent, and treasure. The goal

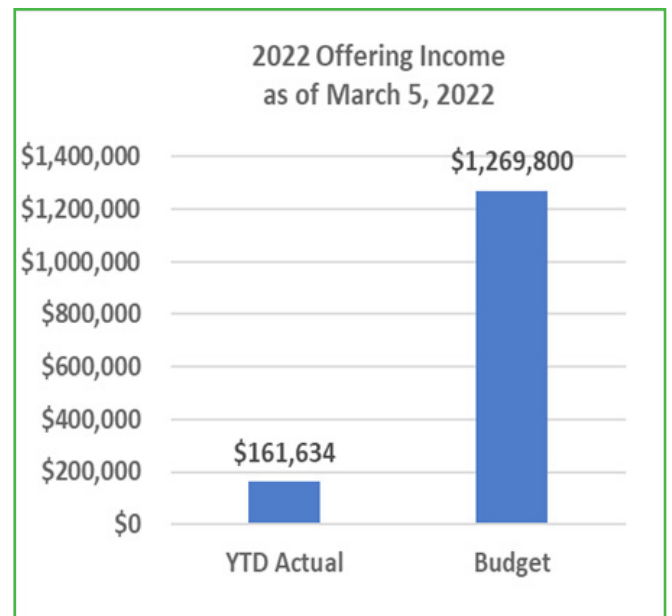
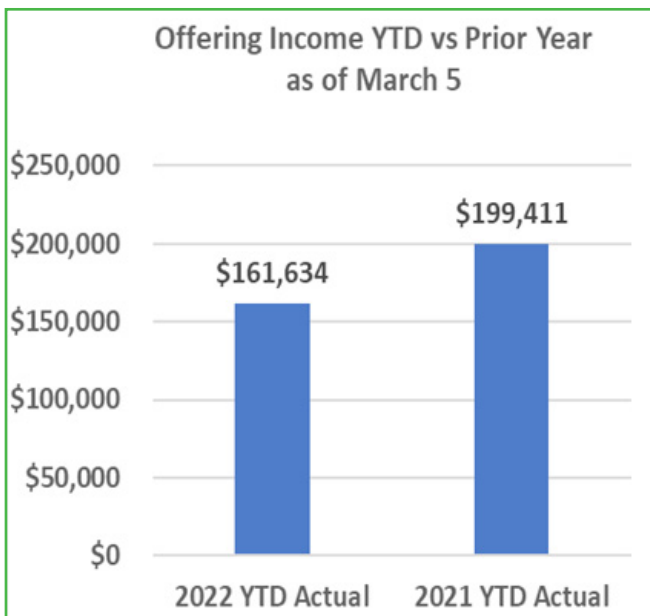
this year is to cover all of the Church ministries and operating costs through Stewardship contributions without relying on rental and festival income to cover the gap.

This has been the ultimate goal for some time, although it was not reflected in the budget as such.

### Offering Income as of March 5, 2022

Offering Income as of March 5, 2022	2022 YTD Actual	2022 Annual Budget	Additional Needed by December 31
Payments Received	\$161,634	\$1,269,800	\$1,108,166

Offering Income as of March 5, 2022	2022 YTD Actual	2021 YTD Actual	Decrease vs. Prior Year
Payments Received	\$161,634	\$199,411	(\$37,777)
Average per Week	\$17,959	\$22,157	(\$4,197)
Average per Month	\$77,824	\$96,013	(\$18,169)

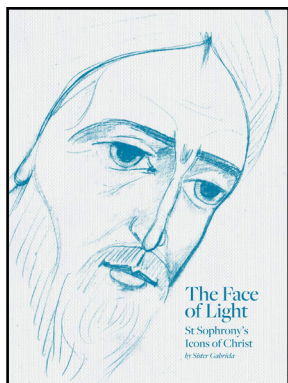




# In the Bookstore

by Rebecca Myerly

[bookstore@stmarysgoc.org](mailto:bookstore@stmarysgoc.org)



Many Saints have written the word—Word—of God as revealed to them. Other Saints have written icons so we can see the Word of God. Saint Sophrony is one of the few Saints who did both. In *The Face of Light: St. Sophrony's Icons of Christ* by Sister Gabriela, we see this Saint's journey into and in the light of Christ through his writing

and his icons. Sister Gabriela is uniquely qualified to write this book. On Saint Sophrony's recommendation, she studied iconography before joining the monastery he founded—the Stravropegic Monastery of St John the Baptist in Essex, England. Sister Gabriela has written several books about what she has learned from her experiences assisting Saint Sophrony with many of the artistic projects he did in his later life. She writes as a disciple with tremendous respect and appreciation for Saint Sophrony, his writings, his iconography, and his journey in Christ.

In her introduction Sister Gabriela writes:

The purpose of this book is to present the icons St. Sophrony created in his search to depict the face of Christ. It was my hope to allow the icons and murals to speak for themselves. However, since our modern minds are accustomed to fast and ever-changing visual imagery, I have added quotes from St. Sophrony's writings in order to encourage the reader to pause and have a fuller experience viewing the Presence of the images. (7)

She then includes an essay titled "The Face of Light: St. Sophrony's Icons of Christ" in which she explains:

Christ was the center of St Sophrony's life. He experienced the Uncreated Light as a child, and yet in adolescence fell away from the true faith turning toward the darkness of non-being. But Christ sought him out, penetrating the darkness with a thin ray of light in which St. Sophrony recognized his Creator. From then on, for the rest of his life, with ardent prayer of repentance, St. Sophrony sought to come ever nearer to Christ Who hearkened to his prayer and, once again,

gave him the grace of beholding the uncreated Light as well as the rare gift of prayer when Christ Himself would pray within him....

Towards the end of St. Sophrony's long life, he wrote his spiritual biography as well as other books describing his inner journey in order to share his experiences for the benefit of others. And yet, there is a threshold where words are not adequate, and this is where painting can take over. An icon can express more than a million words. St. Sophrony painted several icons of Christ. He spent many hours in diligent search to find the right glance, the right expression of light and humility and softness, but also the right expression of Divine strength, of the otherworldly eternal in human form. However, he was never fully satisfied with the result. He observed that at most it is only possible to capture a small fraction of Christ and His icons are like springboards: we see that the icon represents Him and our mind shoots up much higher, beyond the icon, towards our Creator. (9-10)

Sister Gabriela has formatted this book so that we see Saint Sophrony's drawings and icons of Christ together with selected quotes, allowing the reader to enter into the Word revealed. She also includes "Some reflections on Christ, by St. Sophrony." At the back of the book she has "Quote references and comments on the illustrations." This section helps the reader understand and appreciate Saint Sophrony's process. *The Face of Light: St. Sophrony's Icons of Christ* is a beautiful, grace-filled guide, companion, and enduring inspiration—especially so as we journey to Pascha in the Light of Christ.

# Children & Youth

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## Our Children and Youth Mission Statement

To cultivate a safe and welcoming environment for kids by nurturing healthy relationships within the church family. We will teach the youth by building a strong foundation of knowledge, and together, we will experience the Orthodox tradition by following the four circles of youth ministry: **Liturgia** (Worship), **Diakonia** (Service), **Martyria** (Witness), and **Koinonia** (Fellowship), leading our youth to develop, by their own free will, a personal relationship with God and to pursue union with Him.

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### Faith Group

#### 0-5 Year Olds and Parents

- ▶ FAITH Playgroup  
Wednesday, April 13  
9:30-11:00 a.m.  
*Playtime in the Great Hall; a lesson and treat in the Terrace Room*

### HOPE and JOY

#### Kindergarten-Grade 2 and Grades 3-5

- ▶ Sunday, April 10, 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
HOPE/JOY in the Terrace Room and Youth Room  
*Following Church School, we will meet in the Terrace Room and have lunch. Afterwards, we will play some games, have a mini-lesson, and go to the Youth Room!*  
Please RSVP by going to <https://tinyurl.com/HJApril10>.

### Junior GOYA

#### Grades 6-8

- ▶ Saturday, April 2  
Fanari Retreat  
*See right column for more information.*
- ▶ Wednesday, April 13  
Junior GOYA Mini Meeting  
*Following the Presanctified Liturgy, grab your food and meet in the Youth Room! We will have fellowship and a discussion with one another until 8:00 p.m.*

### Senior GOYA

#### Grades 9-12

- ▶ Saturday, April 2  
Fanari Retreat  
*See right column for more information.*
- ▶ Wednesday, April 6  
Senior GOYA Mini Meeting  
*Following the Presanctified Liturgy, grab your food and meet in the Youth Room! We will have fellowship and a discussion with one another until 8:00 p.m.*

### Fanari Retreat

#### Saturday, April 2, 2:00-8:00 p.m.

The 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders from the Minnesota Greek Orthodox churches will come together and attend the Fanari Retreat. The retreat will be a day in the life of camp, and will include: worship, Orthodox Life, games, song night, and much more! This retreat is regional, and will have seven satellite locations throughout the Metropolis, each following their local COVID-19 guidelines. All 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to join us! Registration opens on February 18, and the cost is \$30/camper. St. Mary's will subsidize \$30 per St. Mary's GOC camper following the retreat! Hope you can join us! Following the retreat, the 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders will go home (8:00 p.m.), and the 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome to stay and join us for a lock-in. We will wake up in time to attend Orthros at 8:30 a.m., and the lock-in will officially end at the end of the Divine Liturgy. For more information regarding the Fanari Retreat, visit: <https://www.fanari.camp/retreat>. If you have any questions, please contact [jon@stmarysgoc.org](mailto:jon@stmarysgoc.org).

### Lighthouse

#### Saturday, June 25-Saturday, July 2

The Metropolis of Chicago is offering a program for graduating seniors called "Lighthouse." When Orthodox young people make the transition to college life, they face a myriad of spiritual, social, mental, and health-related challenges. Lighthouse is a week-long summer camp ministry of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago designed to walk high school senior grads through an Orthodox understanding of vocation and arm them with the tools they need to hold fast to their faith during their college years.

This camp takes place June 25-July 2 at Carrol University in Waukesha, Wisconsin. Registration opened in February! For more information on how to register, visit this link: [www.chicago.goarch.org/lighthouse](http://www.chicago.goarch.org/lighthouse). The registration prices are: \$475 – Early Bird Registration, \$575 – Regular Registration, \$675 – Late registration. St. Mary's will cover \$250 for Lighthouse. For additional scholarship help, please contact Fr. Tim or Fr. Jason.

# Walk with Christ to the Cross

## St. Mary's Holy Friday Retreat



Friday, April 22, 2022

10:30 a.m. – 1:20 p.m.

Vespers of the Descent from the Cross at 1:30 p.m.

Pre-K (4 year old) through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Register at <https://tinyurl.com/HolyFriday2022>

Please join us for an engaging day at Church in which children will learn about Holy Week, the Crucifixion, and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We will have lessons, crafts, lunch, stations in the church, and gym time (to help get the wiggles out - even the big kids).

The Retreat ends at 1:20 p.m. so please be here at that time to check out your child(ren) and accompany them to the Descent from the Cross Vespers.

Please register early so we can plan accordingly for helpers and supplies.

**Adults:** we could use additional help with set up/clean up and food preparation.

To volunteer or with questions, contact *Dena Tortorelis* [churchschool@stmarysgoc.org](mailto:churchschool@stmarysgoc.org)

### Youth Feedback

If you have any comments, suggestions, or concerns regarding our youth program(s) please let us know. To access our formal feedback process, go to our St. Mary's home page-Click on "Youth," then "Youth Program Feedback." Your comments will be forwarded to a member of the Parish Council and will be reviewed for follow up.

### Lenten Confession Schedule

**In the Nave immediately following the Presanctified Liturgy**

Wednesday, March 30 – Grades 9 and 10

Wednesday, April 6 – Grades 5 and 6

Wednesday, April 13 – Grade 2

### Upcoming Church School Events

#### **Sunday, April 3**

*St. John Chrysostom Oratorical and Art Festival*

Listen to inspiring speeches and see awesome artwork by our students

#### **Friday, April 22**

*Holy Friday Retreat*

#### **Sunday, April 24**

*Holy Pascha*

No Church School

*Pascha Egg Hunt after Agape Vespers*

## **SUPER HEROES SUPER SAINTS**

### **ST. MARY'S VCS**

**June 13-17, 2022 • 8:45 a.m.-12:00 noon**

4 years old (potty trained)

through those entering grade 6 in the fall.

7-12 graders...

**We need YOU for helpers (please register)!**

Register — [tinyurl.com/stmarysVCS2022](https://tinyurl.com/stmarysVCS2022)

Throughout history there have been stories of heroes. They brought hope, solved problems, fought evil, and they showed us what actions were good and honorable and how we should live. Some are made up but many are real and their stories and superpowers are more interesting and awesome than the things we see in movies.



Follow the GOYAnS on Instagram: **St\_Marys\_GOYA**



Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church  
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**We worship Your Passion, O Christ.  
Show us also Your glorious Resurrection.**

### **St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church**

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**Publication Deadlines**  
**The Messenger**—  
First Sunday of each month.

**Sunday Bulletin**—  
Preceding Thursday,  
12:00 Noon

# April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 7:00am-Men's Fellowship 4:00 pm-Holy Confession 6:00pm-Salutations	<b>2</b> 9:00am-Bible Study <i>Senior GOYA Lock-in</i> <i>Fanari Retreat</i>
<b>3 Saint John Climacus</b> <b>"The Messenger" Deadline</b> 8:30am-Matins 9:30am-Divine Liturgy <i>Oratorical &amp; Art Festival</i> 4:00pm-Lenten Vespers	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6:00pm-Adult Open Gym	<b>6</b> 4:00pm-Holy Confession 5:30pm-Presanctified Liturgy Confession: Grades 5 & 6 after Liturgy-Dinner Senior GOYA Mini Meeting 7:30pm-Choir Rehearsal	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 4:00 pm-Holy Confession 6:00pm-Akathist Hymn	<b>9</b> 9:00am-Bible Study
<b>10 Saint Mary of Egypt</b> 8:30am-Matins 9:30am-Divine Liturgy <i>After Liturgy-Daughters of Penelope Spanakopita Sale</i> 11:30am-Spring Parish Assembly 4:00pm-Lenten Vespers	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 12:00noon-Senior Citizens 6:00pm-Adult Open Gym 6:15pm-Parish Council	<b>13</b> 9:30am-FAITH Playgroup 10:30am-Intercessory Prayer 11:00am-Women's Bible Study 4:00pm-Holy Confession 5:30pm-Presanctified Liturgy Confession: Grade 2 after Liturgy-Dinner Junior GOYA Mini Meeting 7:30pm-Choir Rehearsal	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 4:00 pm-Holy Confession 6:00pm-Presanctified Liturgy	<b>16 Lazarus Saturday</b> 9:00am-Matins 10:00am-Divine Liturgy Family Service Day 5:00pm-Great Vespers
<b>17 Palm Sunday</b> 8:30am-Matins 9:30am-Divine Liturgy 4:00pm-Lenten Vespers 6:00pm-Bridegroom Matins	<b>18 Holy Monday</b> 6:00pm-Bridegroom Matins	<b>19 Holy Tuesday</b> 9:30am-Presanctified Liturgy 6:00pm-Bridegroom Matins	<b>20 Holy Wednesday</b> 9:00am-"The Messenger" Mailing 4:00pm-Holy Unction 6:00pm-Matins of the Mystical Supper	<b>21 Holy Thursday</b> 9:30am-Divine Liturgy of the Mystical Supper 6:00pm-Matins of the Twelve Gospels	<b>22 GREAT and HOLY FRIDAY</b> 9:00am-Royal Hours Church School Retreat 11:00am-Pascha Preparations 1:30pm-Vespers of the Descent from the Cross 6:00pm-Lamentations	<b>23 Holy Saturday</b> 10:00am-First Resurrection Divine Liturgy Pascha Preparations 11:30pm-Midnight Office, Resurrection Service, Matins, Divine Liturgy
<b>24 GREAT and HOLY PASCHA</b> 12:00noon-Agape Vespers Egg Hunt follows Vespers	<b>25 Bright Monday</b> <b>Saint George (observed)</b> <i>At St. George GOC</i> 8:00am-Matins 9:00am-Divine Liturgy	<b>26 Bright Tuesday</b> 6:00pm-Adult Open Gym	<b>27 Bright Wednesday</b> 10:30am-Intercessory Prayer 11:00am-Women's Bible Study	<b>28 Bright Thursday</b> 7:00pm-Edina Koinonia 7:00pm-Stewardship Com.	<b>29 Bright Friday</b> <b>Life-Giving Font of the Theotokos</b> 8:30am-Matins 9:30am-Divine Liturgy	<b>30 Bright Saturday</b> 9:00am-Bible Study 5:00pm-Vespers



# Holy Pascha Flowers Contribution

Name \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form with your contribution to St. Mary's by  
Palm Sunday, April 17, 2022.

Thank you!