



February 9, 2020

Welcome

Whether you have been worshiping with us for years or this is your first time, welcome. You bless us with your presence here today. If you have any questions about our ministry at St. Mary's Church or about the church in general, please stop by the Welcome and Information Table in the Great Hall. If you are visiting and have time to wait until everyone is dismissed, Fr. George or any of our clergy would be honored to take a few minutes to greet you personally. Greeting you at the table this morning is William Fazio.

Questions over Coffee — Postponed

Father John's "Questions over Coffee" session scheduled for today has been postponed until next week. Father is serving the Divine Liturgy in Rochester this morning.

House Blessings

Throughout February, Fr. George and Fr. Jason will be dedicating time each week for house blessings. They look forward to seeing as many parishioners as will allow them to visit! To schedule a blessing, please send an e-mail request to: stmarysgoc@stmarysgoc.org or call the Office, 612.825.9595.

Philoptochos Membership Drive Continues

Have you become a friend of the poor? Stop by the Philoptochos table to join and for information on upcoming activities. Women and men, either Orthodox or married to Orthodox people, can be members or associates. Drive ends March 22.

Senior Citizens' Valentine Social ~ Tuesday, February 11

The Senior Citizens Club is having a Valentine Social on Tuesday, February 11, at 12:00 noon, in the Terrace Room. Please join us for fun, conversation, and food. Feel free to bring an appetizer to share. If you don't bring an appetizer - come anyway. We will also play Bingo. Looking forward to seeing everyone!

Basketball Team Recognition

Next Sunday, February 16, join us during coffee hour, where we will recognize all of our basketball teams, both players and coaches, that participated in the tournament to recognize all of your hard work.

Philoptochos Meeting Next Sunday, February 16

Our Lenten Season is just around the corner, a time of reflection, fasting and doing with less. To help us get in this mindset, we have asked Nikki Beauchamp to give her presentation on her Ministry/Work called H.E.L.P.: Home Organization, Errands, Liaison, People, and Pets. We are calling it, “**Spring Clean to Redeem.**” People ask Nikki how she got started helping clients purge and organize their homes. It’s easy, she’ll say. She’s a recovering pack rat. Once a collector of useless things, a visit to an orphanage in Guatemala made her realize she had too much stuff and set on the path to a top-to-bottom decluttering of her own home. She was bitten by the “de-bedlam” bug. Coming to recognize the catharsis that takes place, she wanted to help others, and so began her H.E.L.P. business, which she has been doing since 2011. She likes a good challenge and finds great joy in guiding people through the process. Please join us, it will be a fun and informative time together as sisters before we begin our beautiful yet busy Lenten Journey.

Orthodox Game League ~ February 22

Adults (age 18yr+) here’s your chance to enjoy time with each other and play games. Do you want to learn a new game? Play a classic? Teach a game? Then this is for you! Our next game night is Saturday, February 22, 7:00 p.m., at St. Mary’s Greek Orthodox Church. Bring a munchie or desert to share. Any questions, call Nikki Beauchamp, 612.910.2943. *Please enter the building at the south door of the south parking lot by the flagpole.*

Winter General Assembly ~ Sunday, February 23

The Winter General Assembly, Budget Approval, will take place on Sunday, February 23, 11:30 a.m., in the Great Hall. The agenda items are as follows: Approval of the 2019 Fall General Assembly Minutes; 2020 Parish Council Priorities; Stewardship Update/Review 2019 Financial Results; Metropolis’ update/Servant Leadership; 2020 Office update; 2020 Ministry Support Presentation and Approval by Parish; Adjournment and Closing Prayer. Copies of the budget will be available soon.

Additional Photo Sessions

Did the weather prevent you from having your directory photo taken? Were you out of town when the photographers were at St. Mary’s? You now have a second chance to get your photo taken and be a part of our 2020 parish photo directory. Photography sessions have been scheduled for Friday, March 20, 1:00-8:50 p.m., and Saturday, March 21, 10:00 a.m.-3:50 p.m. Please call the Church Office to schedule an appointment.

Koinonia Gatherings This Week

Western Koinonia ~ Sunday, February 16, 5:00 p.m.

Gus & Cristina Nicklow's home - 952.476.7624

Women's Book Club ~ Tuesday, February 25

Pick up a copy of "The Screwtape Letters" by C.S. Lewis in the church bookstore, and plan to attend the evening discussion on February 25.

Winter "Parea" Potluck Dinners

In the spirit of continued in-reach, the Winter "Parea" Potlucks are taking place in February. The purpose of the potluck gatherings is simply fun and fellowship. This is a continuation of the Stewardship Committee's goal of creating more opportunities for connection among members.

If you are interested in attending one of the potluck dinners, a sign-up table is in the Great Hall today following the Liturgy, or contact the Church Office during the week (david@stmarysgoc.org). The following is a list of potluck sites, dates, and times:

Apple Valley: Saturday, February 29, 6:30 p.m.

Burnsville: Tuesday, February 18, 5:45 p.m.

Eden Prairie: Thursday, February 20, 6:00 p.m.

Edina: Saturday, February 22, 6:00 p.m.

Edina: Thursday, February 27, 6:00 p.m.

Inver Grove Heights: Thursday, February 27, 6:00 p.m.

Minneapolis (Kenwood): Saturday, February 22, 6:00 p.m.

Start times may vary, your host will confirm with you the time, location, and dish to share.

Food Shelf Needs for Next Week

Pancake mixes and syrup

This month's recipient is Simpson Food Pantry.

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

~ Please give generously! ~

Due to a reduction in benefits from SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), Simpson has seen a large increase in new clients who can no longer qualify for food stamps. As a result, working families are unable to pay for both rent and food for the month. Others are struggling to pay for needed medications and food. Working families, those with children, single adults, and retired veterans have all seen a reduction in benefits, and are forced to make a choice between paying bills and buying food.

From the Fathers...on Humility

Truly lamentable is that person who does not have humility. He who is not able to humble himself, will later on be humbled by other people. And he whom other people cannot humble, God will humble.

-Saint Anthony of Optina

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, February 10: Saint Haralambos

II Timothy 2:1-10 • John 15:17 – 16:2

Tuesday, February 11

Hebrews 4:14 – 5:6 • Matthew 10:1, 5-8

Wednesday, February 12

II Peter 3:1-18 • Mark 13:24-31

Thursday, February 13

I John 1:8 – 2:6 • Mark 13:31 – 14:2

Friday, February 14

I John 2:7-17 • Mark 14:3-9

Saturday, February 15

Philemon 1:1-25 • Luke 20:46 – 21:4

Sunday, February 16: The Prodigal Son

I Corinthians 6:12-20 • Luke 15:11-32

Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

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 Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

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

Fr. John Kostas; Deacon Paul Kalina

2020 St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival

It's time for our youth to use their voices (and their pens and paint brushes)! Our 2020 Oratorical Festival will be held Sunday, March 15, and we hope to have great participation from our parish youth in one of a number of categories. The topics are available on the Metropolis of Chicago website at Chicago.www.goarch.org/oratorical-festival and Diakonissa Alexandria Kalina will be handing out the speaking topics in Church School. The Metropolis Festival will be held on Saturday, April 25, at Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Glenview, Illinois. If you have any questions, contact Dka. Alexandria or the church office.

Bible Study for Young Women in Their 20-30s

This Bible study meets twice a year: a 6-week session in the fall and a 6-week session in the spring. Our next study begins Tuesday, March 10, ending Tuesday, May 19. The topic of study is the biblical basis of the twelve articles of the Nicene Creed. Our sources are primarily Holy Scripture and the book, "Orthodoxy: A Creed for Today" by Anthony M. Coniaris. One article is covered each session. We meet every other Tuesday evening at 7:15 p.m. and conclude by 8:45 at the Christopulos home: 5312 Highwood Drive West, Edina 55436. If you are interested in joining, please contact Patty Christopulos at patty@light-n-life.com or 952.200.9566

Bible Study for Young Men in Their 20-30s

The same study for young men is also held within similar dates at the Christopulos home. The men meet on a different evening, typically Thursday evenings. Young men interested in learning more and/or attending, please contact Dan Christopulos at dchristopulos@iocc.org or 612.308.5407.

YAL (Young Adult League)

A Pan-Orthodox young adult conference will be held in Chicago February 14-17. Visit www.yalchicago.com for more information and registration.

Discover OCF

Calling all high school juniors and seniors! The college students at the University of Minnesota want to meet YOU and share all about the Orthodox opportunities in college! High school students are invited to join the OCF folks at The U on Friday, February 28, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in Bruininks Hall on East Bank Campus. Dinner will be provided. RSVP to z.umn.edu/discover-ocf

Greek Independence Day Program

Plans are underway for a Greek Independence Day program and luncheon sponsored by AHEPA on Sunday, March 22, 2020, in the Great Hall after Liturgy. We are looking for children to participate with Greek poems/short stories or a song referencing Greek Independence Day or inspired by Greek culture. To sign your child up for this event or for further information, please contact Nicole Brilakis by February 15 at Nicole.brilakis@gmail.com or 707.803.1902.

Icon Class Sessions

Session 2 will be held at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church Thursdays, February 20, 27, March 12, 19, and 26; 5:30-9:30 p.m.
Tuition including materials is \$165.00

Session 2 will study the icon "Myrrhbearing Women at the Empty Tomb of Christ."

Session 3 will be held at The Basilica of Saint Mary in downtown Minneapolis.

Saturdays during Great Lent: March 14, 21, 28, and April 4
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Tuition including materials is \$295.00

Session 3 will contemplate the sacrament of repentance and will study and write the icon "Mary the Undoer of Knots."

Please register by sending a \$75.00 deposit to Icon Art Studios, Inc., 13921 - 127th Street No., Stillwater, MN 55082, or call Deb Korluka, 612.889.5868.

