

SAINT MARY'S
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

✠ THE DIVINE LITURGY ✠

The Weekend of August 22/23, 2020

Saturday, August 22, 2020

Commemoration: Afterfeast of the Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary; The Holy Martyr Agathonicus; Holy Martyr Anthuse; Athanasios the Hieromartyr & Bishop of Tarsus; The Synaxis of the Icon of the Mother of God of Prusa.

Variable Hymns and Readings in the Liturgy
At the Second Antiphon

Save us, O Son of God, who are wondrous among your saints, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

At the Small Entrance

Hymn of the Great Feast, 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!

Hymn of Entrance

Save us, O Son of God, who are wondrous among Your saints, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

Repeat the Hymn of the Great Feast (above).

For the Martyrs, Tone 4 (Come Quickly)

Your Martyrs, O Lord, were worthily awarded by You the crowns of incorruption, in that they contested for You our immortal God. Since they possessed Your power, they defeated the tyrants, dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance. O Christ God, at their fervent entreaties, save our souls.

Kontakion of the Great Feast, Second Tone

She is our vigilant intercessor, the Theotokos, our sure hope and protection. Neither death nor tomb held any power over her, for as the Mother of Life, she was taken into life by that very one who deigned to dwell in her ever-virgin womb.

Epistle..... I Corinthians 1:3-9

Brethren, grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God which was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him with all speech and all knowledge - even as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you - so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ; who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gospel.....Matthew 19:3-12

At that time, Pharisees came up to Jesus and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful to divorce one's wife for any cause?" He answered, "Have you not read that he who made them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder." They said to him, "Why then did Moses command one to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?" He said to them, "For your hardness of heart Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for unchastity, and marries another, commits adultery." The disciples said to him, "If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is not expedient to marry." But he said to them, "Not all men can receive this saying, but only those to whom it is given. For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. He who is able to receive this, let him receive it."

Communion Hymn

Blessed are they whom You have chosen and received, O Lord. Their memorial abides from generation to generation. Alleluia.

Stewardship Prayer

The Stewardship Prayer is found at the end of Sunday's Divine Liturgy.

Sunday, August 23, 2020

Commemoration: Eleventh Sunday of Matthew; Leave-Taking of the Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary; Our Holy Father Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons; Our Holy Father Kallinikos, Patriarch of Constantinople; Lupus the Martyr; Our Righteous Father Nicholas of Sikelion; 38 Martyrs of Thrace; Our Holy Father Irenaeus, Bishop of Sirmium; Haralambos of Kalyviani.

Morning Gospel: Eleventh

Tone: Second

Variable Hymns and Readings in the Liturgy

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!

Hymn of Entrance

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 Dormition of the Theotokos (above).

Kontakion of the Great Feast, Second Tone

She is our vigilant intercessor, the Theotokos, our sure hope and protection. Neither death nor tomb held any power over her, for as the Mother of Life, she was taken into life by that very one who deigned to dwell in her ever-virgin womb.

Epistle..... I Corinthians 9:2-12

Brethren, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a

vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel.....*Matthew 18:23-35*

The Lord said this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the torturers, till he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

Megalynarion, Tone One

Verse: Now all generations call you blessed, O only Theotokos.

In you the laws of nature are defeated, O undefiled Virgin pure. In virginity childbirth was accomplished, and death introduces life. You, after bearing, are virgin, and after dying are living. Mother of God, ever save your inheritance.

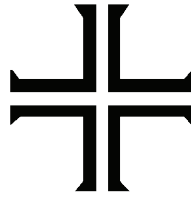
Communion Hymn (Instead of 'Praise the Lord')

I will receive the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord (Psalm 115: 4).

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.



Please remember the sick, the suffering, and those in need, especially: The family of John Efstathiou; 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; Tom Grund, Lynn, Deb, Peter, Sarah, Maia, Judith, Jeanette, Travis, Kristina, Kassie, Tahnlee, Lois, Kalli, Alex, Presvytera Pat Tsagalakis, Quinn, Annie, Sue & Jim, Steve, Sue, Jane, Carole, Rifka, Pat, Nancy, Mary Muzetras, 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, Phil, Karen, Kristina, 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, Zoe Kakos, Slibe, Saleh & Deanna, Kristine, Henry, Toni, Gina, Julie, R.J., Allie, Elena, Speranta, Alexander, Stephanie, John, Vickie, Petra, Bob, Joseph, Avgi, Christopher, Alki, Elizabeth, Jaxon, Olle, Judi, Bodil, Ole, and others known to you.

Calendar of the Week

Tuesday, August 25

4:00 p.m. – HOPE/JOY Storytime

Saturday, August 29: Beheading of John the Baptist

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

Registration requested.

5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers *

Sunday, August 30: Twelfth Sunday of Matthew

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

Registration requested.

* = services when advance registration is not asked.

Introduction to Orthodox Christianity Course

Our MEOCCA-sponsored, 12 week, Fall 2020 cooperative catechism course on the basics of Eastern Orthodox Christianity will begin on Tuesday, September 15, from 7-9 p.m. The class is open to all; people interested in learning more about Orthodox Christianity, inquirers, catechumens, and current Orthodox Christians we well! The course is an excellent opportunity to deepen the knowledge of the Orthodox Christian Faith. Classes will be held virtually via Zoom to begin the semester. Register online at <https://forms.gle/JuYZfmJGMWEUPpfE6> or www.meocca.org Feel free to join for an individual session (or two) as well!

Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1046815549107188>

More information and syllabus is in the September issue of "The Messenger."

In the Bookstore...

- Father George's new book *Made for Union: The Sacramental Spirituality of St. Nikodemos of the Holy Mountain* has arrived! Because the bookstore is closed indefinitely due to the pandemic, copies are available in the church office. The cost is \$33.00
- The next book for the Philoptochos Book Club, *Grand Duchess Elizabeth of Russia, New Martyr of the Communist Yoke*, is now available in the church office. The cost is \$30.00.

Charge card payments are accepted.

Food Shelf Needs for Next Week

August's recipient is Community Emergency Service.

Needed items are: sugar, laundry detergent, dish soap, grape or strawberry jelly, pork and beans, chicken stock/broth, cornmeal, juice, garlic and garlic powder, tea, tortillas

Volunteer opportunities are available. Please visit the CES website:
<https://www.cesmn.org/help/volunteer>

From the Fathers...on the Theotokos

The goodness of God is so rich in graces, that it seeks a cause to have mercy on a person. Every minute God forgives us, and we should thus forgive one another. This is the greatest virtue, if you say, "May God forgive my brother for whatever he did to me."

—*Saint Anthimos of Chios*

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, August 24

II Corinthians 5:10-15 • Mark 1:9-15

Tuesday, August 25

Titus 1:1-5; 2:15; 3:1-2, 12-15 • Matthew 5:14-19

Wednesday, August 26

Hebrews 6:9-12 • Mark 1:23-28

Thursday, August 27

II Corinthians 7:1-10 • Mark 1:29-35

Friday, August 28

II Corinthians 7:10-16 • Mark 2:18-22

Saturday, August 29

Acts 13:25-33 • Mark 6:14-30

Sunday, August 30: Twelfth Sunday of Matthew

I Corinthians 15:1-11 • Matthew 19:16-26

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