

SAINT MARY'S
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

✠ THE DIVINE LITURGY ✠

The Weekend of January 23/24, 2021

Saturday, January 23, 2021

Commemoration: The Holy Hieromartyr Clement, Bishop of Ancyra; Agathangelus the Martyr; Righteous Father Dionysius of Olympos.

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 Saint Clement, Fourth Tone

O Clement, according to your all-sacred name, you grew as a branch of holiness, a stem of martyrdom, a most sacred flower, and a luscious fruit given by God to the faithful. We pray you, who ran with Martyrs and shared the throne with hierarchs: intercede with Christ our God, entreating Him to save our souls.

Entrance Hymn, Second Tone

Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, who are wondrous among your saints, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

Repeat the Hymn of Saint Clement, above.

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 Martyrs, Plagal Fourth Tone

O Planter of creation, Lord, to You does the entire world bring as an offering the God-bearing martyr Saints, as being nature's first fruits. At their earnest entreaties, keep Your Church in a state of profoundest peace, through the Theotokos, O Lord abundantly merciful.

Epistle..... Philipians 3:20 – 4:3

Brethren, our commonwealth is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will change our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power which enables him even to subject all things to himself. Therefore, my brethren, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved. I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. And I ask you also, true yokefellow, help these women, for they have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Gospel.....Mark 2:23 – 3:5

At that time, Jesus was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. And the Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?” And he said to them, “Have you never read what David did, when he was in need and was hungry, he and those who were with him: how he entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also gave it to those who were with him?” And he said to them, “The sabbath was made for man, not man for the sabbath; so the Son of man is lord even of the sabbath.”

Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. And they watched him, to see whether he would heal him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. And he said to the man who had the withered hand, “Come here.” And he said to them, “Is it lawful on the sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to kill?” But they were silent. And he looked around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, and said to the man, “Stretch it out,” and his hand was restored.

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

Communion Hymn

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

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.

Sunday, January 24, 2021

Commemoration: Fourteenth Sunday of Luke; Xenia, Deaconess of Rome; Vavylas the Holy Martyr; Xenia of St. Petersburg, Fool-for-Christ; Philo the Wonderworker, Bishop of Karpasia in Cyprus.

Morning Gospel: Eleventh

Tone: Plagal Fourth

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 Fourth Tone

From on high you descended, O merciful Lord. You accepted the cross and three days in the tomb to free us from the bondage of sin, O our life and resurrection. Glory to you, O Lord.

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 Resurrectional Hymn, above.

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 Presentation of Christ, First Tone

For our salvation you took flesh and you sanctified the Virgin's womb; you blessed the aged Simeon as you lay resting in his arms; and having come to save us all, O Christ our God, to these troubled times, bring your lasting peace. Give strong and undaunted faith to all your people, O only lover of mankind.

Epistle.....I Timothy 1:15-17

Timothy, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. And I am the foremost of sinners; but I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience for an ex-

ample to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory to the ages of ages. Amen.

Gospel..... *Luke 18:35-43*

At that time, as Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

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

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.

Memorial Prayers on Sunday are offered for: **Γεωργία (Georgia) Kokinis** (1 year) mother of Bettina Hanna; **Ekatarini Victoros** (40 years) mother of Anna Iacovou.

Food Shelf Needs for Next Week

*Hygiene items (toothpaste, soap, shampoo, etc.)
January's recipient is Joyce Uptown Food Shelf.*

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

Calendar of the Week

Today, January 24

11:30 a.m. – HOPE and JOY Activity

Monday, January 25: Saint Gregory the Theologian

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

(Registration not necessary)

Tuesday, January 26

7:00 p.m. – Philoptochos Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, January 27

11:00 a.m. – Funeral Service for John DeMoss *(live-streamed)*

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysgoc>

YouTube: <https://youtu.be/fFs4a-KZ9gc>

Saturday, January 30: The Three Hierarchs

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

(Registration requested)

5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers *(Registration not necessary)*

Sunday, January 31: Sunday of Zacchaeus

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

(Registration requested)

Please remember the sick, the suffering, and those in need, especially: The family of John DeMoss; 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; Lukas Presvytera Tulla Poteres, Nancy and Tim, Tom, Olga, Peter, Kristina, Armour family, Cora and family, Lamona, Bo, Tom Grund, Lynn, Deb, Sarah, Maia, Jeanette, Travis, Kassie, Tahnlee, Lois, Kalli, Alex, Quinn, Annie, Sue & Jim, Steve, Sue, Jane, Carole, 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, 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, Ole, Judi, Bodil, Ole, and others known to you.

Final Vasilopita Loaves

Less than 20 loaves remain! The cost is \$13.00 per loaf, and all proceeds support St. Basil Academy. Get yours after church on Sunday, or reserve one by contacting Annette (call/text) at 952.239.5060.

House Blessings

Now through the end of February, our clergy will be available for house blessings. To schedule a blessing, please send an e-mail request to: stmarysgoc@stmarysgoc.org, or call the Office, 612.825.9595.

Virtual Bible Study

Our Virtual Bible Study on Monday nights continues. We meet on-line via Zoom from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Please join us for an in-depth look at the Holy Scriptures. We are currently studying First Peter, often considered one of the most encouraging letters of the New Testament. Our next meeting is tomorrow evening, January 25. Future meetings are: February 1, 8, and 22; and March 1 and 8. The Zoom link can be found on our website, or you can join by phone by dialing 1.301.715.8592 or 1.312.626.6799. Meeting ID: 838 4110 4908 and Passcode: 660926 (use for Zoom and phone meeting).

Philoptochos Meeting

Tuesday, January 26, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom

Please join us for virtual fellowship, conversation, and approval of the 2021 budget. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87330754025> and it is also found in Father George's weekly e-mail.

Winter General Assembly

Sunday, January 31, 7:00 p.m., on Zoom

The Winter General Assembly will be held via Zoom on Sunday, January 31, 7:00 p.m. Agenda items will include: Approval of the Fall General Assembly minutes, 2021 Parish Council priorities, Stewardship update, Church Building improvements, Administrative updates, 2020 budget review, 2021 budget proposal and approval. Complete information and the Zoom link were sent via e-mail last week.

Women's Book Club Discussion

February 9, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom

The current read is "Interviews, Homilies and Talks by Fr. George Calciu." Pick up a copy of the book in the church office and prepare for a wonderful discussion led by Presvytera Christa.

From the Fathers...on Faith

Do not doubt whether it is possible: for He that on this sacred Golgotha saved the robber after only one hour of believing, the same will save you, if you believe.

—*Saint Cyril of Jerusalem*

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, January 25

Saint Gregory the Theologian

Hebrews 7:26 – 8:2 • John 10:9-16

Tuesday, January 26

Romans 6:18-23 • Matthew 22:35-46

Wednesday, January 27

Hebrews 7:26 – 8:2 • John 10:9-16

Thursday, January 28

Galatians 5:22 – 6:2 • Luke 6:17-23

Friday, January 29

Hebrews 10:32-38 • Mark 9:33-41

Saturday, January 30

The Three Hierarchs

Hebrews 13:7-16 • Matthew 5:14-19

Sunday, January 31

Fifteenth Sunday of Luke

I Timothy 4:9-15 • Luke 19:1-10

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