

SAINT MARY'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday, June 6, 2021

Sunday of the Blind Man

The Divine Liturgy

Commemoration: Sunday of the Blind Man; Holy Fathers of the Second Ecumenical Council; Hilarion the New of Dalmation Monastery; Bessarion the Wonderworker of Egypt; Five Virgins of Caesarea: Martha, Mary, Cyris, Valeria, and Marcia.

Morning Gospel: 8th

Tone: Plagal 1st

Variable Hymns and Readings in the Liturgy

Christ Is Risen

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

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

Hymn of PASCHA, Plagal First Tone

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

Hymn of Entrance

Bless God in the churches; the Lord from the fountains of Israel. Save us, O son of God who rose from the dead, save us who sing to you: Alleluia

Resurrection Hymn, Plagal First Tone

To the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, let us, the faithful, give praise and worship. For he willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to endure death and raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

Hymn of Holy Fathers, First Tone

O one hundred and fifty divine and blessed hierarchs, interpreters and counselors to the Second Ecumenical Council, who in wisdom preached the power of the Divine Spirit, deliver from harm and pain of heresy all who chant, “Glory to him by whom you became wondrous. Glory to him by whom you were magnified. Glory to him who, through you, confirmed the minds of the faithful.”

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 Pascha, Plagal Fourth Tone

Into the grave You descended, Immortal One, yet You destroyed the power of Hades, and as victor You arose, O Christ our God; You proclaimed to the myrrh-bearing women a greeting of joy, You brought peace to Your holy apostles, and to the fallen You granted resurrection.

Epistle.....Acts 16:16-34

In those days, as we apostles were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation.” And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, “I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, “These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice.” The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all

the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

Gospel..... *John 9:1-38*

At that time, as Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess him to be Christ he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped him.

Megalyrnarion of Pascha, First Tone (instead of "It is truly meet")

The Angel spoke to her who is full of grace: Rejoice, O pure virgin, and again I say rejoice; your Son is risen from the grave on the third day.

Shine, Shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. Now dance and be glad O Sion; and you, O pure Theotokos, exalt in the rising of your Son!

The Communion Prayers are found on page 6 of this leaflet or in the front cover of the hymnal.

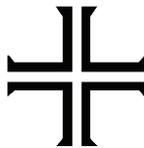
Communion Hymn

Receive the body, the body of Christ; drink from the font of immortality.

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.



Prayer List

Please remember the sick, the suffering, and those in need, especially:

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; Corina, Tom, Vasilios, George R., Ken, Presvytera Tulla Poteres, Nancy and Tim, 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, Nancy, Alex, Eryn, 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, Olle, Judi, Bodil, Ole, and others known to you.

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.

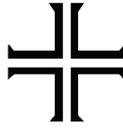
Loving Master, Lord Jesus Christ, my God, let not these holy Gifts be to my condemnation because of my unworthiness, but for the cleansing and sanctification of soul and body and the pledge of the future life and kingdom. It is good for me to cling to God and to place in Him the hope of my salvation.

Approaching to receive, each makes a reverence and says:

✠ Behold I approach Christ, our immortal King and God.

Memorial Prayers

Memorial Prayers today are offered for *Christos Bakritges* (40 days);
Bill K. Nicklow (6 months).

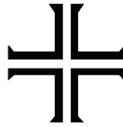


40-Day Churching today: *Kyra*, parents: Jenna & David George



Prosforo for today's Liturgy is provided by Yana Patridge.

Coffee hour today is hosted by the family of Bill K. Nicklow.



Thank You, Church School Teachers!

A very big heartfelt **thank you** to the Church School teachers for their hard work and dedication in keeping classes going throughout the 2020-21 school year both via zoom and in person classes. They all worked very hard in getting the materials together, handing out and delivering these packages, taking time out of their schedules not only on Sundays but many held classes throughout the week. They learned how to host a zoom session and play games and sing along via the computer as well as coming up with interesting and engaging lessons. You are all wonderful examples of giving of your time, talents, and treasures!

Teachers: Birhane Baye, Gina Boosalis, Alexandra Richardson Carroll, Libby Cheolis, Theo Estep, Elena Gabor, Nancy Gallos, Steve Gallos, Sam Hanna, Natalie Hideg, Mark Johnson, Diakonissa Alexandria Kalina, Steven Kalina, Connie Kouzes, Vangie Nicklow, Georgia Panopoulos, Katherine Pappas, Diane Powers, Kathy Richardson, Michael Richardson, David Rist, Stephanie Sarantopoulos, Ken Schwark, Dean Tortorelis, Dena Tortorelis, Amy Wehr, and Steve Wehr.

Calendar of the Week

Today, June 6

“The Messenger” news item deadline - July issue

Tuesday, June 8

12:00 noon – Senior Citizens’ Meeting, Terrace Room

6:15 p.m. – Parish Council

7:00 p.m. – Women’s Book Club, Classroom #3

Please use flag pole entrance.

Wednesday, June 9: Eve of Holy Ascension

6:00 p.m. – Evening Divine Liturgy

6:45 p.m. – Senior GOYA, Great Hall

Thursday, June 10: Holy Ascension

Friday, June 11: Saint Nathanael (Bartholomew)

Today is Metropolitan Nathanael’s Name Day.

May God grant him many years!

Saturday, June 12

9:00 a.m. – Bible Study, Lecture Room

Please use flag pole entrance.

5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

Sunday, June 13: The Holy Fathers

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

Announcements

Saint Mary's Seniors' Club Reconvenes

Calling ALL Seniors!...

We're back in business! Our first meeting in over a year and a half will be Tuesday, June 8, 12:00 noon, at St. Mary's. We'll begin with lunch, have ample time to catch up with each other, and play a few games of Bingo.

2021 Minneapolis Missions 5K

Pentecost Sunday, June 20, 2021 – 4:00 p.m.

The Minneapolis Missions 5K is a fundraiser supporting OCMC's efforts to "make disciples of all nations." Join us for an enjoyable way to support missions by completing a lap(s) around Bde Maka Ska (Lake Calhoun). We will start by celebrating Pan-Orthodox Vespers at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, followed by the 5K, and a dinner presentation from Dan Christopulos, OCMC Development Director and first missionary. The afternoon's schedule is:

4:00 p.m. – Pan-Orthodox Vespers at St. Mary's

5:00 p.m. – Check-in/Registration

5:30 p.m. – Minneapolis Missions 5K starts

6:45 p.m. – Dinner and OCMC Presentation by Dan Christopulos

Register online:

<http://secure.ocmc.org/OCMC-Minneapolis-5K>

FOCUS House ~ Immediate Needs

In addition to our regular food shelf collection listed below (this month, supporting Simpson Food Pantry) FOCUS House in St. Paul is in urgent need of a number of items such as: men's underwear, hygiene supplies, pasta and spaghetti sauce, meals in a can, canned fruit, macaroni and cheese, jelly, packaged cookies and other treats. *Please place FOCUS donations by the donation container in the hallway leading to the office.*

Food Shelf Needs for Next Week

Potatoes: boxed, instant, or canned

June's recipient is Simpson Food Pantry.

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

Women's Book Club Discussion

Tuesday, June 8, 7:00 p.m.

The Women's Book Club discussion of "For the Life of the World" by Fr. Alexander Schmemmann will be on Tuesday, June 8, 7:00 p.m. Books can be purchased in the church bookstore or office for \$18. Please make checks payable to St. Mary's Bookstore. For your future planning, the August book will be "Wounded by Love" by Elder Porphyrios. The book club will meet in classroom #3. Please use the entrance by the flag pole in the south parking lot.

Festival Baking ~ Baklava

Sign up to help assembly and baking baklava for this year's Festival. The schedule is as follows:

- Monday and Tuesday, June 21 and 22: Assembling baklava
Come anytime from 2:00-8:00 p.m. to help.
- Wednesday, June 23: Cut, clove, and bake baklava
9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.

Please bring a small sauce pan and a brush for buttering if you are helping on Monday and Tuesday. Wear a face covering all three days, please.

The sign up link is in the Weekly Update e-mail sent on Fridays or contact David in the Church Office for assistance. For more information, contact *Elena Gabor*, 952.288.3011 or elenagabor14@gmail.com.

FAITH Playgroup Trikes, Bikes, and Bubbles!

Wednesday, June 23

10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Great Hall & North Parking Lot

Bring your own wheels
or use one that belongs to the church.



Put on the Full Armor of God!

June 14-18, 2021 ✠ 8:45 a.m.-12:00 noon

4 years old (if potty-trained) through entering 6th grade in the fall
7th grade and older needed as Squires (Helpers greatly needed!)



Calling all able-bodied
Christian soldiers!

We need YOU for a week-long
training program where you will learn
skills and knowledge necessary
to fight for our Lord!

Questions? Contact...

Lady Krissa Rovolis

or

Lady Dena Tortorelis

churchschool@stmarysgoc.org

Registration Deadline Is Today - June 6!

Use this link: <https://tinyurl.com/StMarysVCS2021>

or go to the church website for the link.

From the Fathers...on Jesus Christ

The person who listens to Christ fills himself with light;
and if he imitates Christ, he reclaims himself.

—*Saint Thalassios the Libyan*

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, June 7

Acts 17:1-9 • John 11:47-54

Tuesday, June 8

Ephesians 2:4-10 • Matthew 10:16-22

Wednesday, June 9

Leave-Taking of PASCHA

Acts 18:22-28 • John 12:36-47

Thursday, June 10

Holy Ascension

Acts 1:1-12 • Luke 24:36-53

Friday, June 11

Saint Nathanael (Bartholomew)

I Corinthians 4:9-16 • Matthew 5:14-19

Saturday, June 12

Acts 20:7-12 • John 14:10-21

Sunday, June 13

Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

Acts 20:16-18, 28-36 • John 17:1-13

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*Fr. George Dokos, Proistamenos; Fr. Jason Houck, Associate
Fr. John Kostas; Deacon Paul Kalina*