

SAINT MARY'S  
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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✠ THE DIVINE LITURGY ✠

*The Weekend of February 6/7, 2021*

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***Saturday, February 6, 2021***

***Commemoration:*** Photios the Great, Patriarch of Constantinople;  
Bukolus, Bishop of Smyrna; Barsanuphius the Great and John of Gaza;  
Afterfeast of the Presentation of Our Lord and Savior in the Temple;  
Ilyan of Homs.

***Variable Hymns and Readings in the Liturgy***  
***At the Second Antiphon***

Save us, O Son of God, carried in the arms of the righteous Symeon;  
we sing to you, Alleluia!

***At the Small Entrance***

***Hymn of the Presentation of Christ, First Tone***

Rejoice, O woman full of grace, O Virgin Theotokos, for there rose  
from you the Sun of Justice, Christ our God, who enlightens those in  
darkness. You too exult and be glad, just and aged Simeon, for you  
carried in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, who bestows on us the  
grace of resurrection.

***Entrance Hymn, Second Tone***

Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ. Save us, O Son  
of God, carried in the arms of the righteous Symeon; we sing to you,  
Alleluia!

*Repeat the Hymn of the Presentation of Christ, above.*

***Hymn of Saint Photios the Great, Fourth Tone***

As a teacher to the world, being one with the Apostles, intercede with  
the Lord of all, O Photios, that He may grant the world peace, and to  
our souls His great mercy.

***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..... Hebrews 13:7-16***

Brethren, remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their lives, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings; for it is well that the heart be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited their adherents. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. Therefore let us go forth to him outside the camp and bear the abuse he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come. Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

***Gospel..... Matthew 5:14-19***

The Lord said to his disciples, “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”

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

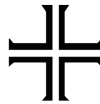
### **Communion Hymn**

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.*



**Memorial Prayers** on Saturday are offered for: **Donald Johnson** (40 days).



## 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, February 7, 2021***

**Commemoration:** Sixteenth Sunday of Matthew; Afterfeast of the Presentation of Our Lord and Savior in the Temple; Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus; Luke of Mount Stirion; Theopemptos the Martyr and his Companions; George the New Martyr of Crete; Richard, King of Wessex.

*Morning Gospel: Second*

*Tone: Second*

## ***Variable Hymns and Readings in the Liturgy***

### ***At the Second Antiphon***

Save us, O Son of God, carried in the arms of the righteous Symeon; we sing to you, Alleluia!

### ***At the Third Antiphon***

#### ***Hymn of the Presentation of Christ, First Tone***

Rejoice, O woman full of grace, O Virgin Theotokos, for there rose from you the Sun of Justice, Christ our God, who enlightens those in darkness. You too exult and be glad, just and aged Simeon, for you carried in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, who bestows on us the grace of resurrection.

### ***At the Small Entrance***

#### ***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!

#### ***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 Presentation of Christ, 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, 1st 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..... II Corinthians 6:1-10***

Brethren, working together with him, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, “At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation.” Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

***Gospel.....Matthew 25:14-30***

The Lord said this parable: “A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.’ And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you de-

livered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.’ He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to every one who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.’ As he said these things he cried out: “He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

*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: **Pauline Psaltis** (1 year), **Dan Psaltis** (18 years) parents of Angie Klouda; **Lydia Ambros** (24 years) mother of Michael Ambros.

# Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows by Godparents and Godchild

*Immediately following the Communion Hymn (Koinonikon), the Priest asks the congregation to face west (the back of the church) and to reaffirm their baptismal vows, saying:*

*Priest:* Do you renounce Satan? And all his angels? And all his works?  
And all his service? And all his pride? *(three times)*

*All:* ***We do.***

*Priest:* Have you renounced Satan? *(three times)*

*All:* ***We have.***

*The Priest asks the congregation to face east (the altar).*

*Priest:* Do you unite yourselves unto Christ?

*All:* ***We do.***

*Priest:* Have you united yourselves unto Christ?

*All:* ***We have.***

*Priest:* Do you believe in Him?

*All:* ***We believe in Him as King and God.***

*Priest:* Have you united yourselves unto Christ?

*All:* ***We have.***

*Priest:* Then bow down before Him.

*All:* ***We bow down before the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
Trinity One in essence, and undivided.***

*Priest:* Blessed is God, Who wants all men to be saved, and to come  
to the knowledge of the truth, now and ever, and unto the  
ages of ages.

*All:* ***Amen.***



## A Prayer of Reconfirmation

*Priest:* Let us pray to the Lord.

*All:* ***Lord have mercy!***

*Priest:* Blessed are You, O Lord Almighty, Source of all good things, Sun of Righteousness, Who sheds forth upon those who were in darkness the light of salvation, through the manifestation of Your Only Begotten Son, our God: and Who have given unto us, unworthy though we be, blessed purification through hallowed water, and divine sanctification, through life-giving Chrismation; Who have been graciously pleased to regenerate these Your servants through the only One Baptism by water and the Spirit, granting unto them remission of sins, whether voluntary or involuntary, and granting also unto them the seal of the gift of Your Holy, Almighty and Worshipful Spirit, and participation in the Holy Body and the precious Blood of Your Christ. Keep them in Your sanctification; reconfirm them in the Orthodox faith; deliver them from the Evil One and from his evil snares. And preserve them in purity and uprightness, through the saving fear of You. That they may please You in every one of their deeds and words, and may prove themselves to be children and heirs of Your heavenly Kingdom.

For you are our God, the God of mercy and salvation, and unto You we ascribe glory; to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

*All:* ***Amen.***

# Calendar of the Week

## ***Monday, February 8***

**7:00 p.m.** – Virtual Bible Study on Zoom (*note new start time*)

## ***Tuesday, February 9***

6:15 p.m. – Parish Council Meeting

7:00 p.m. – Women's Book Club Discussion on Zoom

## ***Wednesday, February 10: Saint Haralambos***

8:30 a.m. – Orthros; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy  
(*Registration not necessary*)

6:45 p.m. – Senior GOYA, *Great Hall*

## ***Saturday, February 13***

9:00 a.m. – Orthros; 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy  
(*Registration requested*)

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

## ***Sunday, February 14: Sunday of the Canaanite***

8:30 a.m. – Orthros; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy  
(*Registration requested*)

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***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; 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, Olle, Judi, Bodil, Ole, and others known to you.

## 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](mailto:stmarysgoc@stmarysgoc.org), or call the Office, 612.825.9595.

## Virtual Bible Study

Beginning with tomorrow evening's study, Fr. John Kostas will lead the discussions. In preparation for Lent and Holy Week, the discussions will focus on Holy Week according to Matthew's Gospel. We meet on-line via Zoom from **7:00 to 8:00 p.m.** and the 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).

## GOYA

### *Senior GOYA (Grades 9-12)*

Wednesday, February 10, 6:45-8:00 p.m.: Senior GOYA in the Great Hall  
*Watch for Jon's e-mail with the details.*

### **Parish-Night Week – February 16-18**

HOPE/JOY – Tuesday, February 16, 6:30-7:15 p.m.

“A Life of Offering: Offering our Sacrifice” from Y2AM

Adult/Senior GOYA – Wednesday, February 17, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Fr. Maximos Conostas leads a discussion on

“Adversity as Spiritual Opportunity”

Junior GOYA – Thursday, February 18, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

“A Life of Offering: Offering our Sacrifice” from Y2AM

## Volunteer Opportunity

A cross-sector team of advocates for people experiencing homelessness is working to set up warming centers for the very cold days ahead. They need volunteers willing to help staff the center. The location is yet-to-be-confirmed but will be in or near downtown Minneapolis. All possible precautions to protect volunteers and guests from COVID-19 will be taken. If you are willing to consider this volunteer opportunity, or if have questions, please contact *Joe Kreisman* at: [jkreisman@mplsdid.org](mailto:jkreisman@mplsdid.org).

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## Immediate Food Shelf Needs for Next Week

*Spam; kids' treats; variety packs of chips*

*February's recipient is Simpson Food Pantry.*

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

# Philoptochos News

## Annual Philoptochos Membership Drive Begins

This week, all women of the parish were mailed a letter inviting them to join Philoptochos, which translates to *Friend of the Poor*. Please consider mailing in your tax-deductible membership gift (you choose the amount) to support the good works of the St. Mary's chapter. All levels of giving and volunteering are welcome and valued. Associate memberships are open to men who want to support our charitable work, too. Membership information and a drop box are also in the Narthex.



## Women's Book Club Discussion

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

Join us for a Zoom discussion of Fr. George Calciu: "Interview, Homilies and Talks," led by Presvytera Christa Dokos. Books are still available in the church office. The Zoom link will be sent out shortly. For information, please contact Diakonissa Alexandria at [ackalina@yahoo.com](mailto:ackalina@yahoo.com) or call the church, 612.825.9595.



## Last Loaves of Vasilopita!

Thank you for supporting Philoptochos' Vasilopita sale! There are fewer than 10 sweet bread loaves remaining. If you want one, please contact Annette Legeros to arrange payment (\$13 each) and pick up/delivery. Annette can be reached at [annette.legeros@gmail.com](mailto:annette.legeros@gmail.com) or 952.239.5060 (talk/text).



## Save These Tuesday Dates...

- ***Greek Zumba on Zoom***

Tuesday, February 16, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

*Philoptochos Board Meeting follows at 6:30 p.m.*

- ***Philoptochos Meeting for All***

Tuesday, February 23, 7:00 p.m.

# FOCUS House Needs

The needs for FOCUS are great for men.

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We desperately need outer winter clothing especially boots.

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Also of need are men's belts and men and women new underwear and socks.

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You can bring them to the church hallway or take them to FOCUS House on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays.

The address is 550 Rice Street, St. Paul.

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The phone number is 651.324.2705.

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Matushka Vera Proctor is the Director of FOCUS House.

**FOCUS**



**MINNESOTA**

Food, Occupation, Clothing, Understanding and Shelter

## **From the Fathers...on Baptism**

Do not think of the font as filled with ordinary water,  
but think rather of the spiritual grace that is given with the water.

—*Saint Cyril of Jerusalem*

### **Daily Bible Readings**

#### ***Monday, February 8***

Ephesians 2:4-10 • Matthew 10:16-22

#### ***Tuesday, February 9***

James 3:1-10 • Mark 11:11-23

#### ***Wednesday, February 10***

##### ***Saint Haralambos***

II Timothy 2:1-10 • John 15:17 – 16:2

#### ***Thursday, February 11***

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

#### ***Friday, February 12***

I Peter 1:1 – 2:10 • Mark 12:1-12

#### ***Saturday, February 13***

I Thessalonians 5:14-23 • Luke 17:3-10

#### ***Sunday, February 14***

##### ***Sunday of the Canaanite***

II Corinthians 6:16 – 7:1 • Matthew 15:21-28

#### ***Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church***

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

*Fr. John Kostas; Deacon Paul Kalina*



# Godparents and Godchildren



The institution of godparents (Nouna and Nouno) is one that dates back to the first century of the Christian Church. Because baptism has been called illumination, and brings us out of the darkness of sin and into the light of Christ, the role of the godparent is critical. The godparent must ensure that the Light of Christ continues to shine in the soul of the godchild. Thus, this role as godparent is an awesome responsibility, and is not to be considered a one-day event.

## Responsibilities of the Godparent

From the moment you accept the duty and role of a godparent, you are a special person in that adult or child's life. You are family.

- 1. Acknowledge them each time you see them.** Go out of your way to show them affection and be involved in their life. They will grow up seeing you as a spiritual example and somebody who looks out for them and cares about them.
- 2. Pray for them.** As a godparent, you are interceding on their behalf and asking God to look out for them in their journey through life. Don't take this lightly. Remember them daily in your prayers.
- 3. Remember them on holidays, their birthday and their name day.** Learn and teach your godchild about their patron saint.
- 4. Be an inspiration and good example.** Go to church. Regularly! Take your godchildren to communion, talk to them every Sunday. Invite them (and their family) over. Be there for them when they need you.
- 5. Don't disappear.** Keep in touch, don't let your godchild think you've forgotten them, even into adulthood. Ask them what they are learning in church school, how school or their job is going, what is going on in their lives. Keep in touch through email, phone calls or texts if you live far apart. If you're busy, do what you can. It's better than not doing anything.



# Responsibilities of the Godchild

**1. Pray for your godparent and his/her family.**

**2. Keep in contact, treat them with love and respect.** When greeting one's godparent, you should feel the love and familiarity that you have with your own parents. It is acceptable to hug or kiss your godparents, as you would your own parents.

**3. Light a candle for them at church and pray for your godparents.** The godchild should observe the godparents names day. Celebrate with them or call or send a card. Prayer and love in Christ know no distance!

**4. Don't forget them, don't disappear.** There will come a time in which your godparents have aged and are less able to be fully present with you due to illness or perhaps a nursing home placement. Remember to continue to pray for them and visit or write them often to maintain your relationship. Ask for their advice even though you have grown up.

**5. Finally there will come a day** in which your godparents will repose in the Lord, maintain your image of your godparents in your mind to help brings peace and memories of love and wisdom. Pray for your godparents and offer memorial services in their memory, do works and offer alms in their name. And pray for them as they will continue to do for you in heaven.

