

SAINT MARY'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday, July 11, 2021

Third Sunday of Matthew; Saint Euphemia

The Divine Liturgy

Commemoration: The Third Sunday of Matthew; Euphemia the Great Martyr; The All-Praised Olga, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Princess of Kiev; Nektarios the New Martyr; Sophrony the Athonite of Essex; Nicodemos the New Martyr of Mt. Athos; Commemoration the New Martyrs under the Ottoman yoke.

Morning Gospel: Third

Tone: Second

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, 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.

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!

Repeat the Resurrection Hymn, above.

Hymn of Saint Euphemia, Third Tone

All the Orthodox you greatly cheered, and you put to shame the false believers, O fair virgin of Christ, Euphemia. For you confirmed what the Fathers well dogmatized at the Fourth Ecumenical Council. O Martyr glorious, entreat Christ our God to grant to us the great mercy.

Hymn of Saint Sophrony, Fourth Tone

You were shown to be a most-fervent son of our Venerable Father Silouan the Athonite, O Sophrony, bearing the mind of Christ and one who studied divine things, through your wise words, you illumined the West, and through your godly life, you led towards the Light, lifting them up towards God the Father, Whom may we ever behold, through your prayers.

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 Theotokos, Fourth Tone

O unfailing protection of Christians, and our faithful advocate before the Creator: though we are sinners, do not ignore our entreaty; but in your goodness, grant your timely help to us who appeal to you in faith. Quickly make intercession; on our behalf make speedy supplication, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you.

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 6:22-33

The Lord said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is not sound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I tell

you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows you need them all. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."

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.

The Oath of Office will be administered to the 2021-2022 Philoptochos Board this morning. Members of the Board are: Sandra Anderson, Jennifer Coin, Mary Ellis, Cathy Forchas, Lisa Gallmeyer, Paulette Hastings, Jayne Klatt, Connie Kouzes, Annette Legeros, Donna Psihos, Alexis Rouches, Carol Smith, Andrea Tiggas, Dena Tortorelis, and Kathleen Wendland.

Prosforo today is provided by Giannoula Bakritges and Ruta Kubits.

40-Day Churchings prior to the Liturgy today:

Julian George — parents: Andrew & Megan Twito

Markos Anastasios — parents: Angelo & Jennifer Demetriades

Memorial Prayers today are offered for ***Socrates*** (37 years) & ***Evangeline*** (3 years) ***Stoyanoglow***, parents of Elaine Theis.

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.

Calendar of the Week

Monday, July 12: Saint Paisios the Athonite

- 8:30 a.m. – Orthros; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
- 6:00 p.m. – Greek Dance Practice, Great Hall

Tuesday, July 13

- 9:00 a.m. – Days for Girls, Terrace Room
- 12:00 noon – Senior Citizens' Meeting, Great Hall
- 6:15 p.m. – Parish Council Meeting, Fireside Room

Thursday, July 15

- 10:00 a.m. – FAITH Play Group, Como Park
- 6:30 p.m. – YAL BBQ, Terrace Room

Saturday, July 17

- 9:00 a.m. – Bible Study, Fireside Room
- 5:00 p.m. – Healing House Dinner
- 5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

Sunday, July 18: Sunday of the Holy Fathers

- 8:30 a.m. – Orthros; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
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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; Archimandrite Dionysios, Alex, Karrisra, Corina, Tom, Vasiliios, George R., Ken, Presvytera Tulla Poteres, Nancy and Tim, Olga, Peter, Kristina, Armour family, Cora and family, Lamona, Bo, Tom, Lynn, Deb, Sarah, Maia, Jeanette, Travis, Kassie, Tahnlee, Lois, Kalli, 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.

Announcements

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

Would you like to host a Sunday coffee hour? Nearly all Sundays this summer and upcoming fall are available! Contact David in the Church Office, david@stmarysgoc.org, to find out more and reserve your Sunday.

Days for Girls Day of Service ~ Tuesday, July 13

Join us in the Terrace Room on Tuesday, July 13, between 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. for any portion of the day to make reusable menstruation kits for girls and women. The following donations are welcome: gallon freezer Ziplocs (no slide closer), girls underwear size 12 or larger, travel size soap, dark washcloths, quilting cotton fabric.

Senior Citizens' Meeting ~ This Tuesday

The July Senior Citizens' meeting will be Tuesday, July 13, 12:00 noon, in the Great Hall. As usual, we will socialize, have lunch and a business meeting, followed by a program. This month it will feature St. Mary's very own Elena Biessener, singing some of her greatest hits!

FAITH Playgroup at Como Zoo

The FAITH Playgroup is going to Como Zoo for a fun morning at the zoo and conservatory this Thursday, July 15, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. Plan to meet the gang at Como Zoo in front of the main entrance.

- Please RSVP to Fr. Jason at frjason@stmarysgoc.org or 612.401.0660. FAITH Playgroup is for kids ages 0 to 5. It's a great way to meet other parents. Grandparents and nannies are also welcome.

"The Music Man" at The Chanhassen

~ *Reservations accepted today in the Great Hall* ~

The Hellenic Post American Legion is inviting members of Saint Mary's Senior Citizen Club on an outing to the Chanhassen Dinner Theater on Wednesday, August 18, to see "The Music Man." This is a matinee with lunch at 11:00 a.m. and the show at 1:00 p.m. The cost for Senior Citizens Club members is \$33.50 and \$67.00 for non-members. Reservations are needed no later than Wednesday, July 21. Ticket are on sale today. Payment must be made when reserving your spot.

Twin Cities YAL Barbecue

YAL Members: Join us for a summer barbecue hosted by YAL this Thursday, July 15, 6:30-9:00 p.m. at St. Mary's in the Terrace Room and Outdoor Terrace. Dinner, drinks, and games will be provided. Hope to see you there! Please RSVP to: twincitiesyal@gmail.com

Greek Festival Opportunities

The Greek Festival Committee is looking for leads in a variety areas. We especially need someone for marketing, beverages, and volunteers. If you would like to serve in one of these capacities, please contact Festival chair, Greg Maimares, gmaimares@gmail.com

This year's Festival is September 10-12.

Festival Bake Sale Preparations Continue

The entire community is invited to join Philoptochos as we prepare for the 2021 Taste of Greece Bake Sale! You are welcome for part or all of any session. Please contact the Cookie Captain directly to offer your services at the August baking sessions.

Koulouria — Tuesday, August 3: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Debbie Theros, 952.935.3358, debbie@therosgroup.com

Melomakarona — Monday, August 9: 12:00 noon-5:00 p.m.

Paulette Hastings, 952.564.8388, pmg@sisyphuscafe.com

Men's Retreat at the Karos' Cabin

September 17-19

We are excited to be back with our St. Mary's Men's Retreat this year on the weekend of September 17-19. It will be held at the Karos cabin as in past years and is for all men of St. Mary's over the age of 18. Fr. John Kostas will be our retreat leader. Your check to the office for \$70 made out to St. Mary's with Men's Retreat in the memo line will be your reservation. It is always a nice idea to call David in the office to let him know your check is coming.

Food Shelf Needs for Next Week

Hygiene items

July's recipient is FOCUS Minnesota

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

From the Fathers...on God

Completely have trust in God, leave everything in His hands, and believe that His love will act for his own benefit. Then, God will take care of everything, because there is nothing that He cannot do; everything is easy for Him. The difficult thing is for man to decide to humble himself and leave everything to God's providence and love.

—*Elder Paisios of the Holy Mountain* (†1994)

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, July 12

Saint Paisios the Athonite

Romans 9:18-33 • Matthew 11:2-15

Tuesday, July 13

Hebrews 2:2-10 • Luke 10:16-21

Wednesday, July 14

Saint Nicodemos of the Holy Mountain

Romans 16:1-16 • Matthew 11:20-26

Thursday, July 15

I Corinthians 13:11 – 14:5 • Matthew 17:24 – 18:4

Friday, July 16

Romans 11:25-36 • Matthew 12:1-8

Saturday, July 17

Galatians 3:23 – 4:5 • Mark 5:24-34

Sunday, July 18

Sunday of the Holy Fathers

Titus 3:8-15 • Matthew 5:14-19

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