

# SAINT MARY'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday, September 5, 2021

*Eleventh Sunday of Matthew*

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## The Divine Liturgy

**Commemoration:** Eleventh Sunday of Matthew; Holy Prophet Zacharias, Father of the Venerable Forerunner; Elizabeth, Mother of the Forerunner; Urban, Theodore, and Medimnos the Hieromartyrs and the 77 Companions at Nicomedeia

*Morning Gospel: Eleventh*

*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.

#### ***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 Resurrection Hymn, above*

#### ***Hymn of the Prophet, Fourth Tone***

As a priest according to the Law of God you offered up whole-burnt offerings, and they were most acceptable to Him, dressed in the vestments of the priesthood, O Zacharias. And you became a light, and you beheld mysteries; and clearly you displayed the signs and symbols of grace within yourself. And you, were assassinated by the sword in the Temple of God. O all-wise Prophet of Christ the Savior, join the Forerunner in praying that our souls be saved.

***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 Birth of the Theotokos, Fourth Tone***

You holy birth delivered Joachim and Anna from the reproach of childlessness and liberated Adam and Eve from death’s corruption, O Pure One. Thus freed from the stain of sin, we your birth, crying out to you: A woman thought barren brings forth the Theotokos who nourishes Christ our Life.

***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 thresh-er 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

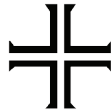
owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, 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."

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

**Stewardship Prayer**

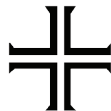
*Lord Jesus Christ, our God, accept our offerings as You have accepted the gifts of Your people throughout the ages. We offer these gifts to Your glory, for the support of the ministries of Your holy Church, for the alleviation of suffering and hunger, and for the proclamation of Your Gospel to the whole 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.*



40-day Churching: **Rosalie Elizabeth**, parents: Joshua & Callie Grossman  
Prosforo: Yana Patridge

The coffee hour today is hosted by Makres family.



**Sacraments This Week**

**Baptism: Rosalie Elizabeth**, parents: Joshua & Callie Grossman,  
September 5, 2021

**Chrismation: Dina Elias**, September 5, 2021

# 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

*Until further notice, all services will be held in the Great Hall while the Nave is undergoing renovations.*

*Due to the renovations, our live-stream of the Sunday Liturgy has been suspended.*

Monday, September 6: Labor Day

*Church and Office closed.*

Wednesday, September 8: Nativity of the Theotokos

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

6:15 p.m. – Junior GOYA Kickoff

Friday, September 10

7:00 a.m. – Men's Fellowship, Fireside Room and Zoom

Saturday, September 11

*No Bible Study until September 25*

5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

Sunday, September 12: Sunday before Holy Cross

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

## 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; Theodora, Mary, Irene Maria, Marion, Apostolos, Olivia, Lincoln, Joan, Carole, Patty, Archimandrite Dionysios, Alex, Karrisia, Corina, Tom, Vasilios, 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, 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

## Youth Activities Registration



The 2021-2022 school year begins in September and we'd like everyone planning to participate in any youth activity to complete our all-inclusive registration form. Please note that we will use this one form for nursery through 12th grade. It is for all youth activities sponsored by St. Mary's, including Church School, HOPE, JOY, Junior GOYA, Senior GOYA, etc. Please complete this form ASAP. To sign up, scan the QR code at left or visit this link: <https://forms.gle/edh6b4EJ21QUfs3AA>

## “Introduction to Orthodox Christianity” Catechism Class

Attached to this Update is the announcement of the fall schedule of "Introduction to Orthodox Christianity" classes. This series is for those who wish to be received into the Orthodox Church or for anyone who wants to learn more about or faith. The classes meet on Tuesday evenings beginning September 14 at St. George Greek Orthodox Church in St. Paul. Registration information is on the MEOCCA website, [meocca.org](http://meocca.org).

## Senior Citizens' Meeting ~ Tuesday, September 21

Saint Mary's Seniors will gather for their September meeting one week later than usual this month. We'll meet on Tuesday, September 21, 12:00 noon, in the Terrace Room. As usual, we will enjoy a lunch, followed by the business meeting, a program, and Bingo. After lunch, about nine mandolin players of the Minnesota Mandolin Orchestra will entertain us with Greek contemporary classical pieces as well as international selections of jigs, reels, polkas, etc. *Don't miss it!*

## Women's Bible Study Returns

Women's Bible Study, led by Fr. Jason, resumes meetings at 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon in the Fireside Room on Wednesdays, September 15 and 29, October 13 and 27, November 10 and 24, and December 8 and 22.

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## Food Shelf Needs for Next Week

*Cereals (hot and cold)*

*September's recipient is Joyce Uptown Foodshelf.*

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

## **Save the Date: Family Camp 2021**

Plan to join us with your family October 8-10 as we welcome Bishop Anthony Michaels to Camp Courage in Maple Lake, MN, the location of our recent Summer Camp. With Bishop Anthony's help, we will explore the topic, "And He Shall Come Again." Everyone in our Twin Cities Orthodox family is welcome to come! Registration will open toward the end of August at [www.stmaryscamp.com](http://www.stmaryscamp.com). If you have any questions feel free to contact Cindy Karos, [cindyzkaros@gmail.com](mailto:cindyzkaros@gmail.com).

## **FOCUS Minnesota Fundraiser 2021**

*Thursday, September 30 • 6:00-9:00 p.m.*

*St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church*

Join us "in real life" for a celebration of our work and a reflection of the blessings the past year has brought to us.

Small plates and refreshments

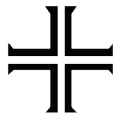
Free-will offering — all are welcome!

## **Bishop Neofytos to Visit St. Mary's**

Bishop Neofytos Kongai returns to St. Mary's via Zoom on Sunday, October 3, for another visit. Father Jason will host a fundraiser for Bishop Neofytos and the staff of St. Barnabas Orthodox Orphanage School in Kenya who help students who are disabled or in foster homes. Please come for lunch, and get informed as to how you can help support St. Barnabas School.

## **Stewardship Appreciation Glendi**

Join us on Saturday evening, November 13, for the annual Stewardship Appreciation Glendi! More details as we approach the date -- stay tuned!



## **Mark Your Calendars...**

First Day of Church School — Sunday, September 19

September Parish Night — Wednesday, September 22

HOPE/JOY Kick-off — Sunday, September 26, after Liturgy

Junior GOYA Kick-off — Wednesday, September 8

Senior GOYA Kick-off — Wednesday, September 15

## From the Fathers...on Forgiveness

Forgive and pray, in order to live your life serenely.  
And do not do to others that which you do not want them to do to you,  
or return the evil which they have done to you.

—*Saint Raphael of Lesbos*

### Daily Bible Readings

***Monday, September 6***

Hebrews 2:2-10 • Luke 10:16-21

***Tuesday, September 7***

II Corinthians 5:15-21 • Mark 1:16-22

***Wednesday, September 8***

***Nativity of the Theotokos***

Philippians 2:5-11 • Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

***Thursday, September 9***

Galatians 4:22-27 • Luke 8:16-21

***Friday, September 10***

II Corinthians 7:10-16 • John 3:16-21

***Saturday, September 11***

I Corinthians 2:6-9 • Matthew 10:37 – 11:1

***Sunday, September 12***

***Sunday before Holy Cross***

Galatians 6:11-18 • John 3:13-17

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

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

*Fr. John Kostas; Deacon Paul Kalina*