

SAINT MARY'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday, February 20, 2022

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

The Divine Liturgy

In accordance with the City of Minneapolis' regulations and on the advice of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago, FACE MASKS ARE REQUIRED for entry into our building for worship, fellowship, or other activities.

Commemoration: Sunday of the Prodigal Son; Leo, Bishop of Catania; Agathus, Pope of Rome; Bessarion the Great; Sadok the Bishop and the 128 other Martyrs of Persia; Plotinus.

Morning Gospel: Second

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

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 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 Prodigal Son, Third Tone

From my Father's glory I have foolishly turned away. By my sins I squandered all the riches he gave me. Therefore like the prodigal I cry out to him: I have sinned before you, compassionate Father. Accept my repentance, and take me back again as one of your hired servants.

Epistle..... I Corinthians 6:12-20

Brethren, "all things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" -- and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.

Gospel..... Luke 15:11-32

The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his belly with the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself

he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

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 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 today are offered for **Georgia (Γεωργία) Kokinis** (2 years) mother of Bettina Hanna; **Presvytera Maria Pappas** (5 years), mother of Telly, Tasso, and Chris Pappas.

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

Coffee hour today is hosted by the Nicklow family in celebration of Eleni's 80th birthday. *May God grant Eleni many years!*

Sacraments This Week

Baptism - **James**, parents: Alexandra (Richardson) and Patrick Carroll, February 20, 2022

Prayer Ministry

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; Metro Hope Ministries; Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry; Families Moving Forward; FOCUS Minnesota; Our brothers and sisters serving in the Armed Forces throughout the world especially John Ellis; San Miguel Del Lago Orphanage; Efstatia, Jordan, David, Nino, Joe, Tom, Gigi, Zossima, Donnarae, Samira, Mary K., Dreux, Monte, Bethany, Mark, Owen, Chrysanthy, Estelle, Justine, Melissa, Megan, Dallas, Lenzie, Lisa, Michael, Robbie, Judi, Evonne, James, Nichole, Constantine, Theodora, Mary, Irene Maria, Marion, Apostolos, Olivia, Lincoln, Joan, Carole, Patty, Archimandrite Dionysios, Karrisa, Corina, Tom, George R., Ken, Nancy and Tim, Olga, Peter, Cora and family, Lamona, Bo, Tom, Lynn, Deb, Sarah, Maia, Travis, Kassie, Tahnlee, Lois, Kalli, Quinn, Annie, Sue & Jim, Steve, Sue, Jane, Rifka, Pat, Nancy, Dave, Pam, Gilbert, George P., Danielle, Jenny, John L., Steven E., Julia, Presvytera Janis, Sandra, Sophia, George, Rick, Bryn, Nancy, Alex, Eryn, Phil, Karen, Phil, Joyce, Dorla, Linda, Fr. Elias, Vicki, Bill, Diana, Elpis Fotini, Doria, Mike, Stephanie, Tyler, Ben, Amy, Christy, Karen, Anastasia, Jamie, Alex and Alexander, Toni, Gina, Julie, R.J., Allie, Vickie, Petra, Bob, Joseph, Avgi, Christopher, Elizabeth, Jaxon, Judi, Bodil, Ole, and others known to you.



Scan the QR code to give through Venmo.

When giving through Venmo, please provide both your first AND last name in order to receive proper credit for your contribution.

Calendar of the Week

Sunday, February 20: Sunday of the Prodigal

- 8:30 a.m. – Orthros; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy; Church School
- 11:30 a.m. – Missions and Outreach Meeting, Fireside Room

Monday, February 21: Presidents' Day

Church and Office Closed

Tuesday, February 22

- 6:00 p.m. – Adult Open Gym, Great Hall

Wednesday, February 23

- 10:30 a.m. – Intercessory Prayer, Nave
- 11:00 a.m. – Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room
- 6:30 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal, Nave

Thursday, February 24

- 9:30 a.m. – FAITH Play Group, Great Hall and Terrace Room
- 7:00 p.m. – Stewardship Committee Meeting, Fireside Room

Saturday, February 26: First Saturday of Souls

- 9:00 a.m. – Orthros; 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
- 9:00 a.m. – Bible Study, Lecture Room
- 5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

Sunday, February 27: Judgment Sunday (Meatfare)

- 8:30 a.m. – Orthros; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy; Church School
- 11:30 a.m. – Philoptochos General Meeting, Terrace Room

Announcements

Food Shelf Needs for Next Week

Hygiene items

February's recipient is Simpson Food Pantry.

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

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

Coffee hour hosts are needed for Sundays, March 6 and 13. Please contact the Church Office if you would enjoy hosting.

Discover OCF ~ February 25, 6:00 p.m.

Calling all high school juniors and seniors! The college students at the University of Minnesota want to meet YOU and share all about the Orthodox opportunities in college! Orthodox Christian Fellowship is a national organization for college students to explore their faith. OCF is inviting you to join them on Friday, February 25, 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the University of Minnesota to get a sneak peek into the college experience. Please RSVP on our website under events at www.ocfumnn.com For parking instructions and meeting location, email ocf@umn.edu. See you there!

YAL Meet and Greet

YAL will meet at St. Mary's on Saturday, February 26 at 5:00 p.m. for Vespers followed by a meet and greet with Fr. Tim. Twin Cities Young Adult League is for 18 to 35 year-olds, married or single.

For more about the Twin Cities Y.A.L. or would like to be added to our email list, please email us at twincitiesyal@gmail.com

For Prayer during Lent...

Complimentary copies of "A Rule of Prayer for Great Lent" are available in the bookstore.

Film Screening: Man of God

The film, *Man of God*, will play nationwide in theaters one night only, at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 21. *Man of God* depicts the trials and tribulations of Saint Nektarios of Aegina. It will be shown at numerous theaters throughout the Metro area. To find a theater near you and to purchase tickets, see the link in this weekend's e-mails or contact the Church Office during the week for assistance.

Philoptochos News

Next Philoptochos Meeting

The next Philoptochos General Meeting will take place next Sunday, February 27, 11:30 a.m., in the Terrace Room.

Philoptochos Membership Drive Is Underway

Did you know Philoptochos financially supports seven Twin Cities food shelves? We can't do this without you. Please consider joining us during our annual Philoptochos Membership Drive, which runs through March. Women of the parish, you should have received your membership packet in the mail, if not, extras are available at the Philoptochos table. Please take a few minutes to fill out the form and return it to the Church Office.

Pan-Orthodox Community Tea via Zoom

Saturday, February 26, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

All are invited to join host church, St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church, as they welcome Fr. Dustin Lyon of Twelve Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church in Duluth virtually to present on Leading as a Slave of Christ. The zoom link is in this week's Weekly Update e-mail. Contact the St. Mary's church office if you need it resent to you.

Sign Up for Sacred Baking Workshops

Stop by the Philoptochos table this morning to sign up for...

Koliva (Memorial Wheat) Workshop

Friday, March 4, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

The koliva will be used at the Saturday of Souls Liturgy on Saturday, March 5.

Prosforo (Communion Bread) Workshop

Saturday, March 19, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.



From the Fathers...on Repentance

The compassionate God still calls to Himself all that have turned away,
and He awaits them and promises them mercy.

—*Saint Tikhon of Zadonsk*

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, February 21

I John 2:18 – 3:8 • Mark 11:1-11

Tuesday, February 22

I John 3:9-22 • Mark 14:10-42

Wednesday, February 23

I John 3:21 – 4:11 • Mark 14:43 – 15:1

Thursday, February 24

II Corinthians 4:6-15 • Matthew 11:2-15

Friday, February 25

II John 1:1-13 • Mark 15:20, 22, 25, 33-41

Saturday, February 26

Saturday of Souls

I Thessalonians 4:13-17 • Luke 21:8-9, 25-27, 33-36

Sunday, February 27

Judgment Sunday (Meatfare Sunday)

I Corinthians 8:8 – 9:2 • Matthew 25:31-46

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