

SAINT MARY'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

July 24, 2022

Sixth Sunday of Matthew

The Divine Liturgy

Commemoration: The Sixth Sunday of Matthew; Christina the Great Martyr of Tyre; Athenagorus the Apologist; Boris and Gleb, the Passion-bearers; Kapiton, Himenaos and Hermogenes, the Martyrs; Theophilos the New Martyr of Zakynthos.

Morning Gospel: Sixth

Tone: Plagal First

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, 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 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 for Saint Christina, Fourth Tone

Your lamb, O Jesus, cried with a strong and mighty voice: "My Bridegroom, I yearn for you and I struggle in my search. As through Your Baptism, I, too, am crucified and buried. I suffer for your sake, that I may reign with you, and for Your sake, I die that I may live in You. Receive me, who with love was slain for you, as a sacrifice pure and unblemished." O Lord of Mercy, through the intercessions, grant our souls salvation.

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, Second 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..... Romans 12:6-14

Brethren, having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; he who teaches, in his teaching; he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who contributes, in liberality; he who gives aid, with zeal; he who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

Gospel.....Matthew 9:1-8

At that time, getting into a boat Jesus crossed over and came to his own city. And behold, they brought to him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say 'Rise and walk?' But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins" he then said to the paralytic -- "Rise, take up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

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.



Today

We welcome Fr. Rick Andrews to St. Mary's this morning. He is in town visiting family. He will serve the Divine Liturgy and give the sermon.

Next Sunday, July 31, is Prison Ministry Awareness Sunday. Today, in preparation of this observance, Sandra Anderson will give a brief presentation at the end of Liturgy. She will then be in the Great Hall at a table with information on the Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry program.

Prosforo is provided by Ruta Kubits.

40-Day Churching: **Sophia**, parents: Jacob and Kassie Houseman

The coffee hour today is hosted by John and Sandra Anderson in celebration of their 36th wedding anniversary.



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.

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

Sunday, July 24: Sixth Sunday of Matthew

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

Monday, July 25

6:00 p.m. – Greek Dance Practice, Great Hall

6:00 p.m. – Greek Festival Committee Meeting, Fireside Room

Tuesday, July 26: Saint Paraskevi

9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy

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

Thursday, July 28

6:30 p.m. – Edina Koinonia, St. Mary's (*room tba*)

7:00 p.m. – Stewardship Committee, Fireside Room

Saturday, July 30

9:00 a.m. – Bible Study, Fireside Room

Sunday, July 31: Seventh Sunday of Matthew

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

11:30 a.m. – Liturgical Enhancement Meeting, Nave

Prayer Ministry

Please remember the sick, the suffering, and those in need, especially: The family of Joan Spell; Those suffering from COVID-19 and those who care for them; for the people of Ukraine; 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; the Muñoz family, Pamela, Avgi, Elena, Speranta, Maria, Dave Ruesink, Liz, Efstratia, 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, Carole, Patty, Karrisra, Corina, Tom, George R., Ken, Nancy and Tim, Olga, Peter, Cora and family, Bo, Tom, Lynn, Deb, Sarah, Maia, Travis, Kassie, Tahnlee, Lois, Kalli, 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, 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, Christopher, Elizabeth, Jaxon, Judi, Bodil, Ole, and others known to you.

Announcements

Food Shelf Needs for July 31

Canned soups or vegetables

July's recipient is FOCUS Minnesota.

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

Quarterly Clean Up

Our second Quarterly Clean Up, focusing on the storage area above our main kitchen, begins August 1. Ministries and Organizations who have items in this area are encouraged to spend time organizing, labeling, and cleaning your respective areas. Broken items, unlabeled materials, and torn or ripped items will be placed in the dumpster. The deadline for all ministry leaders is Sunday, July 31.

Ukraine Fundraiser ~ Saturday, July 30

St. Michael's and St. George's Ukrainian Orthodox Church will be hosting a fundraiser for Ukraine this Saturday, July 30, at the church. Brats and Bingo from 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Bratwurst meal: \$15.00; **All you can play Bingo:** \$20.00

Proceeds benefit the medical needs in Ukraine. The church is located at 505 - 4th Street NE, Minneapolis

Liturgical Enhancements Task Force

As Orthodox Christians we are called to continually glorify God. Our Task Force chairs invite all parishioners to **Hear, Pray, and Grow** as we learn about future plans to enhance the liturgical experience at St. Mary's. An introductory presentation is scheduled for Sunday, July 31, 11:30 a.m., in the Nave.

Men's Retreat at the Karos' Cabin

September 16-18

Men of St. Mary's: Don't miss our St. Mary's Men's Retreat at the Karos' cabin, this year on the weekend of September 16-18. The retreat is for all men at St. Mary's over the age of 18. We are not yet ready to announce our speaker, but we wanted everyone to mark their calendars. We are also excited to announce that Father Tim Sas will be joining us for the weekend. Like always, your check for \$75, made out to St. Mary's (memo: men's retreat), is your confirmed spot for the weekend.

Philoptochos News

Calling All Prosforo Bakers

Our stock of prosforo used during weekday liturgies and as needed on Sunday mornings is nearly depleted. Because the Sacred Baking chair is unable to lead a mass baking session until late fall, we are asking individuals to bake prosforo loaves at home, wrap them so they are freezer-ready, and place them in the freezer in the room behind the altar (on the south side). Please consider doing this once or more during the coming months. Prayers and recipes can be picked up at the Philoptochos table in the social hall, in the church office, and on pages 27-29 of the church cookbook *Come Sit at Our Table*. Questions? Contact David in the church office, 612.825.9595.

Women's Book Club

The next book club discussion of *The Forgotten Desert Mothers* by Laura Swan will be Thursday, August 4, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. The book is available in bookstore. If you're unable to attend in person, we can set up a conference call to join the club. Please contact Katherine Boosalis or Dka. Alexandria Kalina to make this request.

Summer Baking Sessions

Festival baking continues! As a parish community, working together is fun and essential in order for the Festival bake sale to be a success, so we're asking for your help. Bake Sale sessions are scheduled as follows:

Koulouria – Friday, August 5, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Diples – Tuesday, August 23, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (*fry*)

Friday, September 2, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (*honey*)

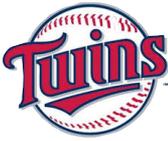
Final Prep: Cut baklava, honey melomakarona, set up bake sale areas

Tuesday, September 6, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 7, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Sign up at the Philoptochos table after Sunday Liturgy or via Sign Up Genius.

Parish Twins Outing



Grab your glove and come on out to see the Twins play the Rangers on **Sunday, August 21**, at 1:10 p.m.! St. Mary's will provide a bus to and from Target Field, departing from St. Mary's at 12:00 noon. The tickets are \$20, which includes a hot dog and a soda, and are on a first come, first served basis. St. Mary's will purchase the tickets so we all can sit near each other, but you are responsible to reimburse us for the ticket(s). ***This event is open to all parishioners!*** To reserve your spot, please RSVP to Jon Klein (jon@stmarysgoc.org) by **Thursday, July 28!**

Youth News

Festival Volunteer T-Shirt Contest

Hey kids! — Don't miss out on the First Annual Volunteer T-Shirt Design Contest! Show off your creativity with your original design, drawing, or phrase of what you feel represents the Taste of Greece! The contest open to youth ages k-12.

Individual entries: one per person OR sibling entries: one per family

Themes: Greek heritage; Greece; St. Mary's GOC; or Taste of Greece Festival. The deadline to enter is next **Sunday, July 31, 2022**. See the flyer in this week's Weekly Update e-mail for more information.

YAL News

Young Adult League Boat Cruise

Twin Cities YAL is thrilled to announce the first annual boat cruise! Young adults (ages 18-35) are invited aboard the *Magnolia Blossom* on Thursday evening, August 18, to dance the night away as we cruise down the Mississippi River!

General admission tickets: \$65 (available until August 1)

Last call tickets: \$75 (available August 2-14)

For more information and to purchase tickets go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/TCBoatCruise>

We hope to see you there!



SAVE THE DATE!

**Please join us for a festive and fun-filled celebration
of 12 years of service to our neighbors in need.**

Focus on the Heart

**Thursday, August 18, 2022
St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church
3450 Irving Ave. S., Minneapolis**

**6:30 to 9:00 pm
Buffet with wine and beer bar**

**Free will donation
RSVP by Wednesday 8/10 to
focustwincities@gmail.com**

FOCUS
+
MINNESOTA



Orthodox Christian PRISON MINISTRY

PRISON MINISTRY SUNDAY

Did you know that there are Orthodox Christians practicing their faith in prison?

Or that there are prisoners who are ready to repent of their crimes and embrace the Orthodox Church?

Who will minister to them?

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM) is the national prison ministry of the Orthodox Church. OCPM corresponds with thousands of prisoners across the country and provides spiritual books, Bibles, icons, and catechism courses. OCPM trains Orthodox priests and laypeople to enter prisons and minister to prisoners.



Together we can fulfill the Lord's commandment to visit Him in prison (Matthew 25:36 – "I was in prison and you visited me.")

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BIBLE STUDIES, DAILY READINGS, AND
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276 5th Avenue, Ste. 704-3183
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347-868-6957
info@theocpm.org

WWW.THEOCPM.ORG



ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL
ORTHODOX BISHOPS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Father Duane Pederson, Founder of OCPM Has Reposed in the Lord

It is with joyful sorrow that we announce that the founder of Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry, Father Duane Pederson, has reposed in the Lord on July 20, 2022.

A former leader in the Jesus People Movement in the 1960s and 1970s, Father Duane had a ministry to men and women living on the streets of Hollywood, many of whom were frequently in and out of jail.

Father Duane's journey would eventually lead him to the Orthodox Church, where he was ordained a priest in 1991. He continued visiting those in prison and eventually began to send his newspaper, Orthodox Christian Journey, into prisons, where it introduced many prisoners to the Orthodox Church. Prisoners who were sentenced to death row or life in prison had a special place in his heart, because Father Duane sought to be a friend and father figure to those who were truly forgotten and alone.

In 1993, Metropolitan PHILIP asked Father Duane to create a national prison ministry under the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America, which he ran for more than a decade. In 2005, this ministry was accepted as a pan-Orthodox Agency under SCOBA and renamed the Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM). When the Assembly of Bishops was established in 2010, OCPM became an Agency of the Assembly. Even after stepping down as Director of OCPM, Father Duane continued to work in aftercare and correspondence until recent health trouble caused him to fully retire. In 2012, Father Duane was presented with the Matthew 25:36 Award for his lifetime achievement in prison ministry, and his founding influence is still essential to the current work of OCPM.

Many, many men and women in prison or on the street were touched by Father Duane. It is sometimes said that a parent is best known through the acts of his or her children. Father Duane did not have any biological children, so his children became the scores of men whom he served on the street and in prison, whom he affectionately called his "sons." Many of these men were forgotten, with no earthly family to love them, seen as the refuse of our society. But Father Duane sought these men out. He loved them, not merely through his words, but through his actions, building relationships with them that lasted many years. He showed them that they were valuable and that God values them.

Father Duane's "sons" have since gone in many directions: some have families and live fairly normal lives, while some will die in prison or still struggle with their personal demons. One of Father Duane's "sons" now works for OCPM, continuing his legacy. What all these men have in common is that they experienced to some degree the love of their Heavenly Father through the love of their adopted earthly father, Father Duane, who did whatever he could to be with them.

May his Memory be Eternal!

From the Fathers...on God

Whatever you may be seeking, seek it with all your strength, but do not expect your own search and efforts to bear fruit of themselves.

Put your trust in the Lord, ascribing nothing to yourself,
and He will give you your heart's desire.

–*Saint Theophan the Recluse*

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, July 25

Dormition of St. Anna, mother of the Theotokos

Galatians 4:22-27 • Luke 8:16-21

Tuesday, July 26

Paraskevi the Righteous Martyr of Rome

Galatians 3:23 – 4:5 • Mark 5:24-34

Wednesday, July 27

Panteleimon the Great Martyr & Healer

II Timothy 2:1-10 • John 15:17-27; 16:1-2

Thursday, July 28

Acts 6:1-7 • Matthew 15:12-21

Friday, July 29

I Corinthians 7:35 – 8:7 • Matthew 15:29-31

Saturday, July 30

Acts 15:35-41 • Matthew 10:37 – 11:1

Sunday, July 31

Seventh Sunday of Matthew

Romans 15:1-7 • Matthew 9:27-35

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Fr. Paul Kalina, Deacon; Fr. Luke Twito, Deacon