

# The Messenger

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church | 3450 Irving Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55408 | 612.825.9595 | [www.stmarysgoc.org](http://www.stmarysgoc.org)

## September 2022

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### St. Mary's

### Mission Statement

To proclaim, celebrate, and share  
the good news of salvation in  
Jesus Christ in accordance  
with the Orthodox Tradition.

### The Five Tasks of Our Parish Vision

Hear  
Pray  
Grow  
Serve  
Share



## A Message from Father Tim

*Father Tim Sas, Proistamenos*

### Summertime Thoughts from Father Tim

Every year around this time Minnesotans seem to be at their highest peak of overall joy because we have a greater potential of wonderful, warm summer weather – though not a guarantee – and we simply love how alive nature seems to be abounding around us. It is lovely to see how God created a natural environment of plants and animals and bodies of water, and this environment created by the Almighty has a beautiful, cyclical manner of renewing itself. A well-known Western Christian hymn comes to my mind: "Our God is an Awesome God!"

In typical fashion, we try to spend as much time as we can outdoors! In similar typical fashion we also allow many of our routines to change just for the summertime. We dress casually more frequently, we eat at restaurants more frequently, we clean our homes less attentively, we strive to get away from work more, and we justify more absences from worship services at our churches. Basically, we give ourselves permission to be lazy. Believe it or not there are some benefits to intentionally allowing moments or periods of time when we just "chill" but it's important to make sure that such periods of time do not allow for unwanted disfunction to settle in. After all, God Himself took time to rest. It's worth remembering that in the Book of Genesis we learn from the Creation story that God intentionally ordained one day in a sequence of seven days to be a day of rest. Certainly, the Omnipotent God did not need to rest, yet for the sanctification of His people and the strengthening of His relationship with us, He provided for us a system and a mindfulness of rest. But take note, dear friends, that even His day of rest was placed in an orderly fashion.

I try to practice this type of season of rest in my own life and I urge you to do the same. So, it's a good idea to intentionally work less and to play more. But let's remember to still clean our homes and continue to fulfill commitments at work and in the community, and to remember to maintain the time of building up our relationship with the Lord God through our communal church worship. Thankfully, the ecclesiastical cycle of worship and prayer with God and His community offers us a time for engaging more fully with Him even as we try to engage more playful activity and rest.

Orthodox Christians celebrate two great feasts in August. On August 6 we celebrate the feast of the Transfiguration at which we, literally, bless grapes and other fruits which are the work of our hands and the blessing of summer heat and warmth. We also celebrate the great feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos on August 15 every year. This is the last in the series of Twelve Great Feasts of the ecclesiastical year which runs from September through August, and we rejoice in it with great love for her who gave birth to our

—article continues on page 2.

# Our Life Together

## Deaths

Joan Spell

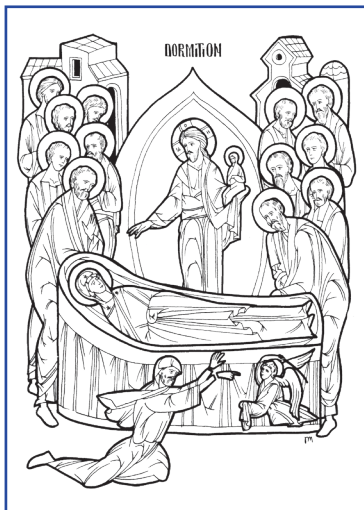
July 21, 2022

Kathy Hoff

August 6, 2022

May their memories be eternal.

Fr. Tim's article, continued from page 1  
Savior Jesus Christ. In fact, we offer great attention to the Virgin Mary and this feast commemorating her departure from this world. In her wisdom, the Church engages us in a fasting period of 14 days in preparation for the feast and we pray with beautiful hymnology and poetry a Supplicatory prayer service by which we seek her intercessions in our lives. She, as the one who bore and gave birth to the One who is truly God and Man, stands as chief leader of prayer and protection for us before her Son and our Lord Jesus. It is a short service, at which we commemorate names of living loved ones, particularly through struggles of health or other life challenges. I urge you to look at our church schedule of services and set time aside all the upcoming feasts and Sundays.



## Memorial Prayers

**Sunday, September 18**

Giannoula Baktritzes (6 months)

**Sunday, September 18**

Christie, Helen, and John Geanakoplos

## Congratulations!



Congratulations to Tessie Bourdamis who was named **Penelope of the Year** at the AHEPA Supreme Convention in Orlando, Florida, in July.

## Share YourShelf

September's recipient of Share YourShelf contributions is Joyce Uptown Food Shelf.

**Sunday, September 4**

Canned fruit or vegetables

**Sunday, September 11**

Cereal  
(both hot and cold)

**Sunday, September 18**

Canned meals – large cans  
(e.g. chili; pork and beans)

**Sunday, September 25**

Hygiene items  
(e.g. toothpaste, soap, shampoo)

GIVE! Why? It makes people happy – you AND the receiver!

Donate Online:

[www.joyceuptownfoodshelf.org](http://www.joyceuptownfoodshelf.org) then "Donate"

## St. Mary's Church Staff

**Proistamenos**

Fr. Timothy Sas

**Associate Priest**

Fr. Jason Houck  
On Sabbatical

**Attached Priest**

Fr. John Kostas

**Deacons**

Fr. Paul Kalina  
Fr. Luke Twito

**Administrator**

Julie Moricz

**Parishioner Support Communications**

David Mertesdorf

**Ministry Support**

Doria Saros

**Youth Director**

Jonathan Klein

**Facilities Coordinator**

Bob Yang

**Music Director**

Thespina Macres

**Organist**

Mark Macres

## St. Mary's Parish Council

**President**

William M. Hoeft

**Vice President**

John Beauchamp

**Secretary**

Maria Smith

**Treasurer**

Thomas Hainlin

**Assistant Treasurer**

Andrew Twito

**Members**

Daniel Buss  
Ina Dunham  
Sam Hanna  
Nicholas Legeros  
Cristina Nicklow  
Jeannie Possis  
Dean Psychogios  
Andrew Twito





Bringing a little bit of  
Greece to Minneapolis.



**TASTE  
OF  
GREECE**

**SEPT. 9, 10, & 11**

Enjoy authentic Greek food, music, and cultural experiences while supporting philanthropy!

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FRIDAY: 2pm-9pm, SATURDAY: Noon-9pm, SUNDAY: Noon-5pm

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Greek Dancing • Live Greek Music • Greek Boutique • Greek Pastry Sale • Church Tours • Orthodox Bookstore  
Food Drive to Support Local Food Shelf— Donate 3 Non-perishable Food Items and Receive a Complimentary NA Beverage

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We are now a cashless event. Credit and debit cards only.

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**ST. MARY'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH** 3450 IRVING AVE S., MPLS 55408



@mplsgreekfest

**MplsGreekFest.org**



## Family Camp 2022 Prayer! October 7-9

Whether you are a Family Camp regular or it is your first time,  
we invite you to join us at beautiful Camp Courage near  
Annandale, Minnesota.

Family Camp brings the best of both worlds into one weekend...  
Orthodox Fellowship and Minnesota Nature.

It is a great opportunity to leave the hustle and bustle  
of our busy lives to learn about prayer, pray together,  
and have fun with Orthodox families from around the state.

Registration is underway!

*We are thrilled to introduce our two speakers:*



**Fr. Andrew Jaye**  
Holy Myrrhbearers  
Orthodox Church  
St. Cloud, MN



**David Benson**  
Twelve Holy Apostles  
Greek Orthodox Church  
Duluth, MN

For details, visit our website: <https://stmaryscamp.com/family-camp/>

### Weekend Schedule

#### Saturday

Great Vespers – 5:00 p.m.  
(September 17 and 24)

#### Sunday (live-streamed)

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

### Weekday Schedule

#### Nativity of the Theotokos

Wednesday, September 7

Great Vespers – 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 8

Orthros – 8:30 a.m.

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

#### Elevation of the Holy Cross

Tuesday, September 13

Great Vespers – 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 14

Orthros – 8:30 a.m.

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.



### Fellowship and Study Groups

#### Intercessory Prayer

Wednesdays, dates  
10:30 a.m., Nave Chapel

#### Men's Fellowship

Friday, September 2  
Numbers 23

Friday, September 23  
Psalm 119

7:00 a.m., Fireside Room

#### Saturday Bible Study

Saturdays, September 17 and 24  
9:00 a.m., Fireside Room

#### Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays, dates

11:00 a.m., Fireside Room

# Parish News & Events

## September Senior Citizens' Meeting

**Tuesday, September 20**

Saint Mary's Seniors will gather for their monthly meeting and social on Tuesday, September 20, at 12:00 noon, in the Terrace Room. *Please note that the date has been changed this month to the third Tuesday.*

After lunch, we will be "taking a walk down memory lane" where we will reminisce and share with table mates some memories of past festivals/bazaars attended. We ask that each person bring an item, artifact, or photo to display that pertains to your favorite memory of past festivals. We will end our afternoon with a short meeting and announcements of upcoming activities, as well as Bingo games.

## Save the Date

Our 2022 Stewardship Appreciation Glendi is set for **Saturday, November 12**. Details will be forthcoming!

## Pilgrimage to St. Paisius Monastery

Planning is underway for the annual pilgrimage to St. Paisius Monastery in Arizona. The dates are January 24-28, 2023. There is room for 11 (first come, first served). Details of cost and airfare are in the works. We fly to Phoenix and then take the 3½ hour drive to Monastery.

For more information or to express interest in the pilgrimage, contact Sandra Anderson, [asformess69@gmail.com](mailto:asformess69@gmail.com) or 612.940.8933.

For more about St. Paisius Monastery, visit [stpaisiusmonastery.org](http://stpaisiusmonastery.org)

## Coming This Fall...



Coming this fall is Realm, our new online ministry tool for real time connection. It will help our church connect with you and you connect with us.

### Realm enables you to...

- Update your contact information, manage your notification preferences
- Make one-time or recurring gifts, access your giving statements
- Communicate and engage with other parishioners and church ministries
- Register for events, activities, and programs
- Read church news and announcements

Watch for more information on the introduction of Realm after the Festival!

## Liturgical Music at St. Mary's

As we approach the new Liturgical year on September 1, I invite anyone who has been bestowed with a musical gift of singing, or who has ever sung in a choral ensemble, to join our Senior Choir. This is your opportunity to serve the entire congregation with your talents by giving back the gift God has given you. We want to maintain and continually develop a spiritual and stellar choral sound for our St. Mary's congregation. This depends on the prayerful, whole-hearted participation of any and all singers who have been given good voices and are willing to make a commitment.

It is such a privilege to sing and chant the amazing texts and melodies of our liturgies and sacraments. By joining us in the choir loft, you will be allowing the Holy Spirit to use your voice for the enhancement of every parishioner's worship experience. You will be blessed!

From St. John Chrysostom, "Nothing elevates the soul, nothing gives it wings as a liturgical hymn."

From St. Basil the Great, "While your tongue sings, let your mind search out meaning of words, so that you might sing in spirit and sing also in understanding." In Christ,

Thespina Macres, Music Director

## Announcing St Mary's Choir 2022/23 Season Openings in all voice parts

Our senior choir provides musical responses and hymns for our Sunday Divine Liturgies throughout the year, as well as Christmas Eve, Holy Friday & Pascha Midnight services. We sing mostly in English alternating with some Greek and maintain a Byzantine ethos in almost all of our hymnology.

A ten-minute audition is required, please contact Thespina Macres, 952.239.8460, or [choirdirector@comcast.net](mailto:choirdirector@comcast.net), to schedule an audition.

Policies and requirements for ALL members of St. Mary's Choir:

Audition required.

No more than five absences (Sunday or Wednesday) in any given session.

Session 1 – September through December 2022.

Session 2 – January through June 4 2023.

The choir sings for 9:30 a.m. Sunday Liturgy with call time at 9:20 a.m. for Doxology.

All required rehearsals are scheduled Wednesday evenings 6:30-8:00 p.m. for sessions 1 and 2 with a time change to 7:10-8:45 p.m. during Great Lent



# Philoptochos



We are excited to meet in person for our annual September Kick-off Dinner and Meeting on Tuesday, September 27, 5:30 p.m. Please watch for details and RSVP sign-up sheets.

## Upcoming Activities

### Festival Baking

Philoptochos is managing the Bake Sale. Baking sessions are planned and everyone is welcome to come for part or all of the days to assemble, bake, and enjoy great fellowship. Below is the remaining schedule:

*Thiples (honeying)*

Friday, September 2, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

*Packaging and Set Up*

Tuesday and Wednesday, September 6-7, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. – We are asking for lots of helpers as we are cutting baklava, powdering kourambietes, honeying melomakarona, assembling 4 and 6-packs, and setting up the bake sale area.

Sign up at the Philoptochos table in the Great Hall after Sunday Liturgy or via the Sign Up Genius link in the Weekly Update e-mails. Questions or suggestions? Contact Bake Sale chairs *Cathy Forchas* or *Paulette Hastings*.

## September Luncheon 2022

The September Luncheon and Raffle on September 24 in Chicago is the biggest fundraiser of the Metropolis Philoptochos. If you are unable to attend, please consider buying a raffle ticket. Tickets were mailed to all Philoptochos members and a few are available for purchase at the Philoptochos table after Liturgy. The grand prize is \$1,000 with four smaller cash prizes. Donation is \$10 per ticket or three for \$25. The raffle benefits Hellenic College/Holy Cross, St. Iakovos Retreat Center, and Metropolis philanthropic endeavors.

## Women's Book Club Discussion

**Thursday, October 6, 7:00 p.m.**

Our next book for discussion is *Mere Christianity* by C. S. Lewis and is available in the bookstore.

The December 1 session book will be *The Blessed Surgeon: The Life of Saint Luke of Simferopol* by Archdeacon Vasiliy Marushchak.

Locations for both October and December discussions will be announced later. Watch for further details coming soon. 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.

**Note:** If you are out-of-town at the cabin or you are one of our former parishioners who lives elsewhere and wish to join, we can set up a conference call for you to join the club.

## Thank You for August

### Koulourakia Baking

We baked koulourakia on August 5. Thank you to everyone for twisting and baking the cookies... it was fun. We had 35 volunteers and we baked 3600 cookies for the sale.



### It Was Fun!

The Dormition of the Theotokos Feast Day: Philoptochos hosted both the Lenten meal after Vespers on Sunday, August 14, and the coffee hour after morning Liturgy on Monday, August 15. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to make this a beautiful event for the church.

### Thiples Frying

Thank you to chairs *Jamie Amacci*, *Tina Menter*, and *Anne Stundahl* and all who volunteered on Tuesday, August 23, to help with the frying. We had a great team.



### Back to School

Thank you to *Stephanie* and *Alexandra Panos* for purchasing, assembling, and delivering backpacks filled with school supplies for all the children of Healing House.

### Kids Helping Kids: Gloria's Place

Thanks to all who donated to our drive in support of Gloria's Place, which supports teen moms facing homelessness. We appreciated the support of our youth in this endeavor.

*Every gift of time is valued.*

*Thank you so much for helping with the Festival baking.*

# Mission & Outreach

## Annual Missions Fundraiser

**Sunday, October 2**

Saint Mary's Missions and Outreach Annual Missions Fundraiser is set for Sunday, October 2, after Liturgy. Bishop Neofitos of Kenya moved our hearts with his orphanage school that is vulnerable to local influence. We parishioners gave generously to the needs of the orphanage. At this year's fundraiser, a parishioner of St. Mary's will present her dedication to giving that is developmental versus relief. Come and learn how to evaluate your giving so that you choose where and how to give to the poor.

Join our luncheon on October 2 to hear about programs that collaborate to bring clean water and agriculture beginning in East Africa.

## New People to Meet

Be sure to stop by the Missions and Outreach Ministries display case or the Sunday Missions and Outreach table for an introduction to all the new, newer, or soon-to-be new members. We asked ambassadors to reach out to newcomers during a May mixer following Liturgy. This was a very lovely event for a more one-on-one visiting, getting to know each other, and make each one more welcome at St. Mary's. It was helpful for learning about volunteer opportunities, and about things that can be helpful in our personal life. Father Jason spoke of our church home. There were two members of our Missions Ministry with remarks to help newcomers understand what they love about St. Mary's, and we made use of St. Mary's YouTube channel with a very short sharing about St. Mary's.

The next mixer will Sunday, October 16. St. Mary's will offer these new visitor/member meetings two times a year going forward. Again, be sure to stop by the Missions and Outreach display to see the pictures and names so that you can welcome all to St. Mary's.

Isn't this wonderful and such a blessing to meet the newcomers and to share and learn more about Orthodoxy?

*Photos from our recent newcomers' meet and greet event.*



# Stewardship

## Time & Talent Spotlight

### Deanna Kolas – Chanting

**How long have you been serving St. Mary's on the Chanting Team?**

It's been a little over a year now.

**What was it that led you to first serve by chanting?**

Chanting was something I've been interested in for a long time. I've been singing since I was in middle school. When I got to high school, I realized that chanting could be a way for me to give back to the church while doing something I really enjoy. At the time, I didn't really have the resources or someone to guide me in learning, so I put a pause on it then. As I got older, my cousin Evie invited me one day to stand up with her during a Vespers service. She guided me through the service and made me feel more comfortable. Now as a part of the Chanting Group, I've learned so much from Thespina, Dan, and Joanna as they have taken me under their wing.



**How often do you chant?**

Usually once or twice a week, typically for the Matins or Orthros before Liturgy. When I can, I also like to chant for Vespers on Saturday nights.

**Do you have a favorite memory associated with this serving experience?**

We had a young adult event at St. Mary's on a night I was scheduled to chant. At first, I was nervous to be chanting in front of all these young adults that I know! But it was really fun, because when I got to the service, I invited some of the other young adults to chant with me. A few were from other parishes, and even though each church chants in a slightly different way, we were able to come and chant together which was a beautiful experience.

**If someone else was interested in serving by chanting, what would you say to them to help try to convince them?**

I would say if you're interested in it, it's a beautiful way to give back to the church. People really appreciate it and there is always a need. We appreciate having a lot of people to help because there are always services going on at the church. It can be hard at first and intimidating and scary, but everyone who chants alongside you and who listens to the chanting is really understanding, forgiving, and encouraging. It's always going to be a learning experience. Chanting is a beautiful way to connect with your faith and give back to the church.

**Who should someone contact if they want to learn more about chanting?**

Thespina Macres, [choirdirector@comcast.net](mailto:choirdirector@comcast.net)

## Saint Mary's 2022 Stewardship Campaign Update

### Our Church, Our Spiritual Home

Thank you for your participation in our 2022 Stewardship Campaign and your on-going support of St. Mary's through your gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

**A Reminder:** The goal this year is to cover all the Church ministries and operating costs through Stewardship contributions without relying on rental and festival income to cover the gap. The experience of the pandemic impact during the past two years reminds us how important it is not to rely on the rental and festival income to cover the costs of our ministries and operations of the church.

**As of August 8, 2022, we have covered 45% of this year's budget for ministries and operating expenses.**

Offering Income received to date is behind by \$22,094 compared to where we were last year at this time. We encourage parishioners to make regular contributions throughout the year to ensure we are covering our expenses each month. Prayerfully consider also increasing your Stewardship contribution this year to help us reach our goal. Your stewardship giving to St. Mary's is one way to exhibit the principle of generosity.

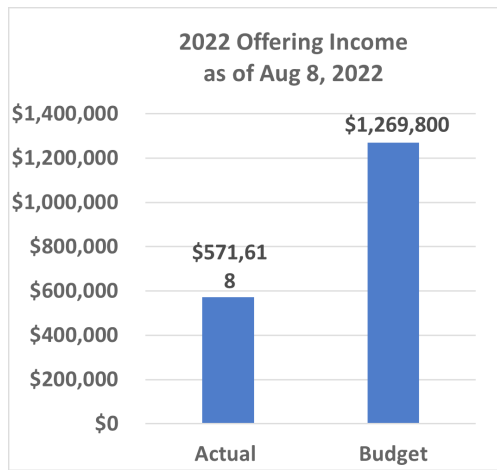
## Offering Income Year-to-Date as of August 8, 2022

Offering Income as of August 8, 2022	2022 YTD Actual	2022 Annual Budget	Additional Needed by December 31
Payments Received	\$571,618	\$1,269,800	\$698,182

Offering Income as of August 8, 2022	2022 YTD Actual	2021 YTD Actual	Decrease vs. Prior Year
Payments Received	\$571,618	\$593,712	(\$22,094)
Average per Week	\$18,439	\$19,152	(\$713)
Average per Month	\$79,904	\$82,992	(\$3,088)

Stewardship continues on next page.





Below are additional Stewardship metrics for 2021:  
(2022 metrics will be reported at year end)

Offering Income	2021 Total
Number of Donors	539
Average Gift	\$2,093
Median Gift	\$750

## Stewardship Pledge Forms Completed in 2021 and 2022

We encourage all parishioners to complete a financial commitment form this year as well as a time and talent form. Completing a form represents our commitment to Christ and to responsible stewardship. It is not too late to demonstrate your commitment by completed a form!

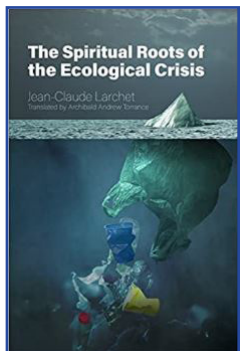
Below are two bar charts showing total number of Stewardship financial commitment forms completed in 2021 compared to the total completed in 2022 year-to-date as well as the total dollar amounts pledged for each year.



# In the Bookstore

by Rebecca Myerly

[bookstore@stmarysgoc.org](mailto:bookstore@stmarysgoc.org)



*The Spiritual Roots of the Ecological Crisis* by Jean-Claude Larchet focuses on the vital importance of the environment and the crisis of climate change.

Rooting concerns for creation in the historical understanding of the relationship of humans and the natural world, Larchet writes in his introduction:

The Orthodox Church can bring to the present crisis the principles which should guide the thought and action of all those who seek to save nature. They are drawn from a long tradition of thought, theological, cosmological, and anthropological on the value of creation and how mankind should relate to it, reinforced by her liturgical and spiritual practice. (3)

There are four sections in this brief 102 page text: "How It Was in the Beginning: Man's Original Relationship with Nature," "The Sin of Mankind and Its Ecological Consequences," "How Did We Reach the Present Situation?," and "Restoring the Relationship of Man with Nature." Even with the brevity of the book, Larchet includes spacious quotes from the Church Fathers and contemporary Saints. Succinct and directional, he begins with creation in the first chapter of Genesis with creation being "an expression of the love, greatness, wisdom, and beauty of the Creator." (12)

Larchet points out: "The ideal relationship between man and God is eucharistic: man should return to God with thanksgiving what God has given him." (33)

The world is not given to man as a mine of resources to be exploited, but rather as a house of which he is the tenant, and which he should maintain... "like a good head of his household. The rent to be paid to God is thanksgiving for all he has received.

...Man should not be seen so much as a master, but as the servant of the Master... a steward of the Master's goods. (17)

Tracing how mankind's thinking has evolved as a result of the popularity of certain philosophies leading more and

more away from God and more and more toward focusing on the individual (me-ism might be an apt term for this), Larchet shows how this has resulted in the ever growing abuse of nature for personal benefit and convenience at the expense of others and the world. Egotism, greed, and covetousness have led mankind into the ecological crisis we are in. Demonstrating how social, political, and economic remedies in favor of ecology will help because the current crisis is very much bound up in our political and economic systems, he then notes:

Whatever the value of these social initiatives and ecological gestures, they can only provide partial and provisional solutions. It is clear that the ecological crisis has deep roots and can only be completely solved by equally deep spiritual remedies which address its root causes. (77)

Essential to a deep spiritual remedy is awareness of the restoration of man by Christ, together with man's collaboration with Christ, prayer, and repentance. "What is needed is that everyone should become an ascetic in the strict meaning of the term, which implies effort, renunciation, and privation based on temperance and sacrifice." (85)

Patriarch Bartholomew is quoted:

When we sacrifice our life and share our riches, we gain life in abundance and enrich the whole world. This is the experience of humanity throughout the ages: kenosis means plerosis: a voluntary emptying leads to fulfillment. We should apply this in our actions to save the environment. There can be no salvation for the world or hope of a better future without the dimension of sacrifice which we lack. Without a costly and determined sacrifice we can never act as the priests of creation to reverse the spiral of environmental destruction. (86-87)

Larchet concludes:

The love of God is the true foundation for love of nature, but it is also true that a pure and innocent love of creatures can lead us to love God.... In the end we must change our attitude to nature, no longer to see it as an object of prey, exploitation, or selfish pleasure, but as a Eucharist. (94-95)

The Cross is the key. Christian life should be eucharistic.

# Children & Youth

## Our Children and Youth Mission Statement

To cultivate a safe and welcoming environment for kids by nurturing healthy relationships within the church family. We will teach the youth by building a strong foundation of knowledge, and together, we will experience the Orthodox tradition by following the four circles of youth ministry: **Liturgia** (Worship), **Diakonia** (Service), **Martyria** (Witness), and **Koinonia** (Fellowship), leading our youth to develop, by their own free will, a personal relationship with God and to pursue union with Him.

### Faith Group

#### 0-5 Year Olds and Parents

- ▶ Saturday, September 24, 12:30-2:00 p.m.  
Trolley Ride  
Meet at the Trolley Station at 4200 Queen Avenue South  
See ad in right column

### HOPE and JOY

#### Kindergarten-Grade 2 and Grades 3-5

- ▶ Sunday, September 18, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
HOPE/JOY Kick-off in the Youth Room  
Watch for e-mail updates from Jon.  
RSVP: [linktr.ee/stmarysgoya](https://linktr.ee/stmarysgoya)

### Junior GOYA

#### Grades 6-8

- ▶ Wednesday, September 21, 6:15-8:00 p.m.  
Junior GOYA Kick-off in the Great Hall  
Watch for e-mail updates from Jon.  
RSVP: [linktr.ee/stmarysgoya](https://linktr.ee/stmarysgoya)

### Senior GOYA

#### Grades 9-12

- ▶ Sunday, September 25  
Senior GOYAns hosting coffee hour in memory of Christie, Helen, and John Geanakoplos  
To sign up to help, please go to [linktr.ee/stmarysgoya](https://linktr.ee/stmarysgoya)
- ▶ Wednesday, September 28, 6:15-8:00 p.m.  
Senior GOYA Kick-off in the Great Hall  
Watch for e-mail updates from Jon.  
RSVP: [linktr.ee/stmarysgoya](https://linktr.ee/stmarysgoya)

### Church School Begins

#### Sunday, September 18

We are planning a fun year learning about our Lord through fellowship, music, interactive lessons, and crafts! Class starts after Holy Communion each Sunday. More information regarding teachers and classroom location will be coming soon.

**Parents:** please make coming to Liturgy and Church School as important as attending regular school. We all want our children to be healthy in mind, body, and soul. Liturgy and Church School are essential elements in achieving this goal.



#### Saturday, September 24 • 12:30-2:00 p.m.

Trolley ride, ice cream, and the playground at Lake Harriet, 4200 Queen Avenue, South, Minneapolis.

Meet at the trolley station to ride the trolley, then go for ice cream at the pavilion, and stick around at playground if you like!

Contact Kyrsten Theodotou, 641.629.0181, with questions.

FAITH Playgroup is for children from birth through pre-K and their parents/ guardians. Grandparents, siblings, and caregivers are welcome, too!

### Youth Feedback

If you have any comments, suggestions, or concerns regarding our youth program(s) please let us know. To access our formal feedback process, go to our St. Mary's home page-Click on "Youth," then "Youth Program Feedback." Your comments will be forwarded to a member of the Parish Council and will be reviewed for follow up.



Follow the GOYAns on Instagram: **St\_Marys\_GOYA**



Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church  
3450 Irving Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408

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**PAID**  
Twin Cities, MN  
Permit #3735

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**September...**  
**Schools are back in session.**  
**Please watch for children**  
**and drive safely and**  
**attentively!**

**St. Mary's  
Greek Orthodox Church**

*The Messenger* is published  
monthly by St. Mary's  
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September 2022

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**Publication Deadlines**

**The Messenger—**

First Sunday of each month.

**Sunday Bulletin—**

Preceding Thursday,  
12:00 Noon

# September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> <i>The Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year</i>	<b>2</b> 7:00am-Men's Fellowship 9:00am-Diples Honeying	<b>3</b>
<b>4 Twelfth Sunday of Matthew "The Messenger" Deadline</b> 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy	<b>5 Labor Day</b> <i>Church and Office closed</i>	<b>6</b> 9:00am-Bakery Packaging 3:00pm-Filling Hummus Cups	<b>7 Eve of the Nativity of the Theotokos</b> 9:00am-Festival Set Up 9:00am-Bakery Packaging 4:00pm-Meat Preparation 6:00pm-Great Vespers	<b>8 Nativity of the Theotokos</b> 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy Festival Set Up	<b>9</b>  <b>Greek Festival: 2-9pm</b>	<b>10</b>  <b>Greek Festival: Noon-9pm</b>
<b>11 Sunday before Holy Cross</b> 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy  <b>Greek Festival: Noon-5pm</b>	<b>12</b> 9:00am-Festival Clean Up	<b>13 Eve of the Elevation of the Holy Cross</b> 6:00pm-Great Vespers 7:00pm-Parish Council	<b>14 Elevation of the Holy Cross</b> 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 9:00am-Bible Study 5:00pm-Great Vespers
<b>18 Sunday after Holy Cross</b> 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy Church School Begins 11:30am-HOPE/JOY Kick-off 11:30am-Missions/Outreach	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 12:00noon-Senior Citizens	<b>21</b> 9:00am-"The Messenger" Mailing 6:15pm-Junior GOYA Kick-off 6:30pm-Choir Rehearsal	<b>22</b> 6:30pm-Stewardship Com. 7:00pm-Edina Koinonia	<b>23</b> 7:00am-Men's Fellowship	<b>24</b> 9:00am-Bible Study 12:30pm-FAITH Playgroup 5:00pm-Great Vespers
<b>25 First Sunday of Luke</b> 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 5:30pm-Philoptochos Dinner and Meeting	<b>28</b> 6:15pm-Senior GOYA Kick-off 6:30pm-Choir Rehearsal	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	