

SAINT MARY'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

September 4, 2022

Twelfth Sunday of Matthew

The Divine Liturgy

Commemoration: Twelfth Sunday of Matthew; Babylas the Holy Martyr; Moses the Prophet and Godseer; Our Righteous Father Anthimus of Coroucle in Cephallenia; Anthimos the new ascetic; Hermione the Martyr, daughter of St. Philip the Deacon.

Morning Gospel: First

Tone: Third

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, Third Tone

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord has shown the mighty power of his arm. He has trampled down death by death, becoming the firstborn of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell and has granted to all the world his great mercy.

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 the Holy Martyr Babylas, Fourth Tone

Becoming a partner with the Apostles in way of life and successor to their thrones, O God-inspired Saint, in the active life you found an entrance to contemplation. Hence you rightly expounded the word of truth, and you shed your blood in struggling for the faith, O Hieromartyr Babylas. Intercede with Christ our God, beseeching Him to save our souls.

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

Your 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 people honor your birth, crying out to you: A woman thought barren brings forth the Theotokos who nourishes Christ our Life.

Epistle..... Corinthians 15:1-11

Brethren, I would remind you in what terms I preached to you the gospel, which you received, in which you stand, by which you are saved, if you hold it fast -- unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God which is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Gospel.....Matthew 19:16-26

At that time, a young man came up to Jesus, kneeling and saying, "Good Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?" And he said to him, "Why do you call me good? One there is who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments." He said to him, "Which?" And Jesus said, "You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The young man said to him, "All these I have observed; what do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions.

And Jesus said to his disciples, “Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?” But Jesus looked at them and said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

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.

Prayer Ministry

Please remember the sick, the suffering, and those in need, especially:

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, Charlie, Nuala, 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, Karrisa, 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, 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.

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, September 4: Twelfth Sunday of Matthew

- *“The Messenger” News Item Deadline*

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

12:00 noon – Baklava Sundae Preparations, Kitchen

Monday, September 5: Labor Day

Church and Office closed.

Tuesday, September 6

9:00 a.m. – Bakery Packaging

3:00 p.m. – Filling Hummus Cups

Wednesday, September 7

9:00 a.m. – Festival Set Up

9:00 a.m. – Bakery Packaging

4:00 p.m. – Meat Preparations

6:00 p.m. – Great Vespers for the Nativity of the Theotokos

Thursday, September 8: Nativity of the Theotokos

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

after Liturgy – Festival Set Up

Friday, September 9

2:00-9:00 p.m. – A Taste of Greece

Saturday, September 10

12:00 noon-9:00 p.m. – A Taste of Greece

Sunday, September 11: Sunday before Holy Cross

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

12:00 noon-5:00 p.m. – A Taste of Greece

Today

Memorial Prayers today are offered for *Nicholas Santrizos (40 days), uncle of Nick Santrizos.*

The coffee hour today is hosted by the Makres family. Please join us in the Courtyard after Liturgy.

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.

A Taste of Greece Volunteer Sign-up

... Earn a Festival token worth \$5.00 (good toward food and beverage purchases) for each shift worked! ...

Sign up for as many spots as you can. Try a new area this year!

Scan the QR code and go directly to the sign up site.



← Scan this to help set up.



Scan this to help during the Festival. →

Bringing a little bit of
Greece to Minneapolis.



SEPT. 9, 10, & 11

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

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

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

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

~ Help Publicize the Festival ~

We're just days away from A Taste of Greece! Pick up a few flyers and posters and display them in highly visible places! You find them at the Festival table.



Gift Cards Are Available Today

This year, we will be a cashless Festival. At the various venues we will accept credit and debit cards only.

We are offering gift cards for you to give as gifts to your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, clients, and anyone else to whom you'd like to give something a little special! You can purchase the cards in any amount you wish. They are used just like a debit card during the Festival. This year's food prices run from \$6.00 for small items to \$13.00 for dinners and pastries are in the \$1.00-\$8.00 range. The cards are available at the Festival table this morning.

Don't forget to volunteer to work a shift or two and earn a \$5.00 Festival token for each shift worked!

A Taste of Greece

Friday, September 9 — 2:00-9:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 10 — 12:00 noon-9:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 11 — 12:00 noon-5:00 p.m.

Announcements

Food Shelf Needs for September 11

Cereal (both hot and cold)

September's recipient is Joyce Uptown Food Shelf

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

Introduction to Orthodoxy Class

The MEOCCA catechism course, Introduction to Orthodox Christianity, begins Tuesday, September 13, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. The class is open to all – those interested in learning more about Orthodox Christianity, inquirers, catechumens, and current Orthodox Christians as well! The course is an excellent opportunity to deepen our knowledge of the Orthodox Christian faith. Classes will be held on Tuesday evenings in person (1111 Summit Ave. St. Paul, MN) or online via Zoom. To register online or to learn more, go to: meocca.org. Feel free to join us for an individual session as well!

Men's Retreat at the Karos' Cabin

September 16-18

A few spaces still remain for this year's Men's Retreat at the Karos' cabin. Our speaker will be Fr. Cyprian Sas, brother of Fr. Tim Sas. This year's retreat dates are September 16-18 and is for all men of St. Mary's over the age of 18. Your check for \$75, made payable to St. Mary's (memo: men's retreat), is your confirmed spot for the weekend.

Growing Young Assessment - Telos Gamma

In order to help us better understand the culture of our church, we are inviting all parish members to complete a brief online assessment. This survey is based on the work of the Fuller Youth Institute, specifically the research presented in the book *Growing Young: Six Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church*. You can access the survey at <https://tinyurl.com/Parish-Survey2022> or by scanning the QR code. Your participation and feedback are greatly appreciated! Please respond by September 18.



Sunday Church School

Mark your calendars for the start of Church School!

Sunday, September 18

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, and 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, choirdirector@comcast.net

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

- Audition required.
- No more than five absences (Sunday or Wednesday) in any session.
Session 1 – September through December, 2022.
Session 2 – January through May, 2023.
- Choir sings for 9:30 am Sunday Liturgy with call time at 9:20 am for Doxology.

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

Rehearsals:

Session 1: Wednesdays, September 21-December 18, 2022.

Session 2: Wednesdays, January 18-June 4, 2023.

Mission Take Heart to Visit St. Mary's

Are you interested in learning more about Orthodoxy around the world? Join us on Sunday, October 2, after Liturgy, for a Missions and Outreach brunch with two presenters from Take Heart and learn how to help persecuted Christians get their businesses established once again by using training and micro loans.

“Serving the persecuted involves the entire body of Christ.”

Please RSVP for this brunch by contacting David in the Church Office (david@stmarysgoc.org). To learn more about Mission Take Heart, please visit their website: missiontakeheart.org

Family Camp ~ October 7-9

With a focus on understanding and improving our prayer life, Family Camp looks to be a wonderful weekend for our Minnesota Orthodox Family. It is a fabulous time to unplug from the world and enjoy nature. Everyone is welcome. Check out the website for more information and to register: stmaryscamp.com/family-camp/ – *Hope to see you there!*

Philoptochos News

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:

Final Bake Sale Preparations

This week is the final push to the festival! The final Bake Sale sessions are:

- Today, 12:00 noon-3:00 p.m.: Baklava sundae preparations
- Tuesday-Wednesday, September 6-7, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.: **Cut** baklava, **powder** kourambiethes, **assemble** 6-packs, and **set up** bake sale area
Come for any amount of time during these sessions. During the Taste of Greece, we need help in the Bake Sale, too. Please join us!

September Metropolis Luncheon Raffle Tickets

The Metropolis September Luncheon and Raffle on September 24 in Chicago is the biggest fundraiser of the Metropolis Philoptochos. Raffle tickets are available for purchase this morning at the Philoptochos table. 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. Everyone is invited to support the work of Philoptochos by purchasing raffle tickets!

Women's Book Club Discussion

The first discussion group for the fall season will be Thursday, October 6. The book for discussion is C. S. Lewis' *Mere Christianity*. It is available in the Bookstore.

Save the Date . . . Tuesday, September 27

Philoptochos Fall Kick Off Dinner and Meeting

Philotochos to Provide Focus Dinner

Sunday, October 2, 2022

Philotochos will provide dinner for FOCUS Minnesota on SUNDAY, October 2, and invites all interested parishioners to participate. FOCUS reports that 200 to 250 meals are being served each Sunday evening, punctuating the need in the community at large.

We will serve Greek chicken, potatoes or rice, carrots, a tossed salad, rolls, and cookies. Volunteers will prepare the entrée, vegetable, and salad in St. Mary's kitchen on Saturday and Sunday. We are asking for donations of rolls and cookies to be dropped off either October 1 or 2 in the kitchen. Our volunteer/donation request follows:

- 7 volunteers to prepare the entrée, salad and vegetable in St. Mary's kitchen on Saturday, October 1.
- 7 volunteers to finish baking the entrée and vegetable and prepare the salad on Sunday, October 2.
- 6 volunteers to bring 4 dozen rolls to the kitchen on Saturday or Sunday, October 1 or 2.
- 16 volunteers to bring 4 dozen cookies (homemade or store-bought) to the kitchen on Saturday or Sunday, October 1 or 2.
- Up to 8 volunteers to transport food, dish out food and serve dining guests at FOCUS.

Please help if you can. Volunteer at the Philotochos table after church or sign up via the Sign-Up Genius link in the Weekly Update. Please direct questions to Carol Smith, Chair, 952.210.8618, smithzcl@gmail.com

From the Fathers...on Spiritual Life

All of us sin constantly. We slip and fall. In reality we fall into traps set by the demons. The Holy Fathers and the saints always tell us,
“It is important to get up immediately after a fall
and to keep on walking toward God.”

–Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, September 5

II Corinthians 8:7-15 • Matthew 23:29-39

Tuesday, September 6

Hebrews 2:2-10 • Luke 10:16-21

Wednesday, September 7

II Corinthians 9:12 – 10:7 • Mark 3:20-27

Thursday, September 8

The Nativity of the Theotokos

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

Friday, September 9

The Holy and Righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna

Galatians 4:22-27 • Luke 8:16-21

Saturday, September 10

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

Sunday, September 11

Sunday before Holy Cross

Galatians 6:11-18 • John 3:13-17

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