

# SAINT MARY'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

November 27, 2022

*Thirteenth Sunday of Luke*

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## The Divine Liturgy

**Commemoration:** Thirteenth Sunday of Luke; James the Great Martyr of Persia; Nathaniel of Nitria and Pinouphrios of Egypt, the Righteous; Gregory of Sinai and his disciple Gerasimos; Arsenios of Rhaxos; James the Wonderworker, Bishop of Rostov.

*Morning Gospel: Second*

*Tone: Grave*

### 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, Grave Tone***

By your cross, O Lord, you destroyed death; to the thief you opened paradise. The myrrh-bearers' sorrow you transformed into joy, and you sent your apostles forth to proclaim that you had risen from the dead, Christ our God, bestowing on all the world your 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 Martyr, Fourth Tone***

For his struggle, O Lord, Your Martyr received the crown of immortality from You our God. Armed with Your might he defeated the tyrants. He also crushed the arrogance of demons. By his intercessions, O Christ our God, 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!

Ἐν τῇ γενήσει τὴν παρθενίαν ἐφύλαξας, ἐν τῇ κοιμήσει τὸν κόσμον  
En ti gennisi tin parthenian efilaxas en ti kimisi ton kosmon  
οὐ κατέλιπες, Θεοτόκε. Μετέστης πρὸς τὴν ζωὴν, μήτηρ ὑπάρχουσα  
u katelipes, Theotoke. Metestis pros tin zoin, mitir iparhusa  
τῆς ζωῆς, καὶ ταῖς πρεσβείαις ταῖς σαῖς λυτρουμένη ἐκ θανάτου τὰς  
tis zois, ke tes presvies tes ses litrumeni ek thanatu tas  
ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.  
psihās imon.

### ***Kontakion of Preparation for the Birth of Christ. Third Tone***

Today the Virgin cometh, cometh unto the cave to give birth to the Word who was born before all ages, Begotten in a manner that defies description. Rejoice, therefore, Oh universe if thou should hear and glorify with the angels and the shepherds. Glorify him who by his will shall become a new-born babe and who is our God before all ages.

### ***Epistle..... Ephesians 2:14-22***

Brethren, Christ is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

**Gospel..... Luke 18:18-27**

At that time, a ruler came to Jesus and asked him, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.’ “ And he said, “All these I have observed from my youth.” And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, “One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” But when he heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus looking at him said, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For 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.” Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?” But he said, “What is impossible with men is possible with God.”

***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.

# Today

Memorial Prayers today are offered for **Anastasia (Ann)** (13 years) and **Demosthenes (Dan)** (23 years) **Nickolas**, in honor of their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary; **Christos N. Boosalis** (14 years) and **Garifalia (Carrie) Boosalis** (15 years).

The coffee hour today is hosted by Dean & Melpo Murdakes in memory of Melpo's parents on their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

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## Prayer Ministry

**Please remember the sick, the suffering, and those in need, especially:** The family of Efstratios Atsidakos; 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; Thanksgiving for George's healing, Athena, Elaine, Perry, Noel, Stephen, John K., Alexey, Alexandra, Ray, Christina, Joanne, 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., 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, 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.

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### **Text to Give**

Text **smsgoc** to **73256**

*This number will never send unsolicited texts.*



**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, November 27: Thirteenth Sunday of Luke

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

## Tuesday, November 29

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

7:00 p.m. – Engaging Orthodoxy Class, St. George GOC

## Wednesday, November 30: Saint Andrew

9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy

6:30 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal, Nave

## Thursday, December 1

10:30 a.m. – Intercessory Prayer, Nave

11:00 a.m. – Women’s Bible Study, Fireside Room

7:00 p.m. – Philoptochos Book Club Discussion, Terrace Room

## Friday, December 2

7:00 a.m. – Men’s Fellowship

## Saturday, December 3

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

10:00 a.m. – Tree Trimming

5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

## Sunday, December 4: Tenth Sunday of Luke; Saint Barbara

- *“The Messenger” news item deadline, January issue*

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

after Liturgy – Harvest Pack event, Terrace Room

11:30 a.m. – HOPE / JOY Party, Youth Room

12:45 p.m. – Girls’ GOYA Basketball Practice, Great Hall

2:00 p.m. – Boys’ GOYA Basketball Practice, Great Hall

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# Announcements

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## Food Shelf Needs for December 4

Canned soup or vegetables

*December's recipient will be Community Emergency Service (CES).*

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

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## Stewardship 2023

The 2023 Stewardship packets were mailed this past week. Whether you picked up yours or received it in the mail, please take a few minutes to fill out the time, talent, and treasure form and return it to the church as soon as possible. Thank you for your support of St. Mary's!

## Parish Council Candidate Applications

*Deadline Extended*

Application forms for prospective Parish Council members are now due. The form can be downloaded from the link in this week's Weekly Update e-mail. Active sacramental members are encouraged to apply. An information sheet is attached to the application form. The Parish Council elections have been postponed until December 11. The deadline for application is due **today**.

## Harvest Pack Event

Saint Mary's Missions and Outreach Ministry is hosting a meal pack event for Harvest Pack on Sunday, December 4, 2022, after Liturgy, and we can use your help. Online registration is underway! Scan the code at the left or look for the Signup Genius link on St. Mary's website and in the Weekly Update e-mail.



## Christmas Card and Decorations

'Tis the season! Forms and a drop box for your submission and contributions for both our parish Christmas card and decorations are available in the narthex. **NEW THIS YEAR:** both forms are on one sheet of paper (back-to-back!). Please note that we must receive Christmas card contributions *no later than Sunday, December 4*.

## AHEPA Children's Christmas Party

The children's Christmas party, sponsored by AHEPA, is Saturday, December 17. The sign up deadline is Monday, December 12. Forms were distributed in Church School and are available at the ushers' stand.

## Senior Citizens' Christmas Party

Saint Mary's Seniors will gather in the Terrace Room on Tuesday, December 13, 11:00 a.m., for a festive Christmas celebration. This event will include a social hour, a delicious luncheon catered by Tony Nicklow, a no charge raffle for a variety of prizes, followed by entertainment with songstress Elena Biessener, accompanied by pianist Jon, who will perform holiday tunes. Ticket prices are \$10 for Seniors members, \$25 for guests who pay Seniors dues along with ticket purchase, and \$35 for other guests. RSVP by Wednesday, December 7, to Tessie Bourdamis or Don Vanover.

## Year-End Giving Guidelines

As we approach the end of both our calendar and fiscal year, it is important that the parish correctly record your stewardship gifts. Every dollar we receive before 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 28, will be recorded and reflected on your year-end Contribution Statement, and matched against your yearly pledge, as stewardship income for 2022. Electronic donations, via online giving or Venmo, **must be received by Monday, December 26**. Donations received after the deadline will be counted towards our budget for next year.

## Parishioner Reimbursements

Saint Mary's has a policy that allows for reimbursements only within the year the expense happened and within 30 days of incurring the expense. Should you have made an approved purchase on behalf of the parish, please submit your request for reimbursement today. We are only accepting requests from October and November currently, as the deadline for previous months has passed. Reimbursements for December 2022 purchases must be received in the church office by January 20 - expenses submitted beyond January 20 will not be accepted. Expenses are processed weekly on Wednesday mornings. If you submit an expense after 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, it will be held until the following week. Once all invoices are entered into the system, expenses are electronically approved, and checks are generated and mailed directly to your home.

## 2023 Basketball Tournament

The 2023 Western Region Family Basketball Tournament will be hosted by St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church in Minneapolis from February 3-5. Registration information will be available soon. Make plans to attend, even if you don't play basketball. It will be a fun filled weekend of hoops and fellowship.



# Philoptochos News

## At the Philoptochos Table This Morning...

- **Preorder Christmas/New Year's Vasilopita** – The St. Basil Sweet Bread can be purchased for \$15 per loaf. All proceeds benefit St. Basil Academy for Children.
- **Pick Up a Gift Tag** – We're coordinating gifts for Healing House families, who have been invited to the AHEPA Christmas Party. Return your wrapped gift by Sunday, December 11.
- **Buy a Cookbook** – The last few copies are for sale for \$20. They make a great gift for yourself and others, and support FOCUS Minnesota.
- **Winter Snow Gear Drop Off** – Through December 18, we're collecting winter gear for Ella Baker Magnet School (preschool through grade 8.) Thanks for bringing gently used or new jackets, snow pants, boots, hats, and mittens.

## Women's Book Club Discussion on December 1

Join the hybrid Women's Book Club discussion of Books 3 and 4 of *Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis on Thursday, December 1, followed by a Lenten potluck supper. This will be a hybrid event with the in-person discussion at church and a call-in option. All women are welcome. Books are available in the church bookstore. Closer to the event date, an email will be sent to the distribution list.

## Trim the Trees on December 3

Five Christmas trees will be trimmed on Saturday, December 3, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Come for part or all of the day!

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# YAL News

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## **2023 Twin Cities YAL Board Application Now Open**

Twin Cities YAL is looking for committed, ambitious young adults who are excited and passionate about serving the local YAL community to be on the executive board in 2023! Applicants should be willing and able to meet in person once a month and virtually once a month, as well as committed to attending most YAL events. Young adults (ages 18-35) from all local Orthodox churches are invited to apply. The deadline to apply is November 30, 2022. To read about open positions and to apply go to [linktr.ee/twincitiesyal](https://linktr.ee/twincitiesyal) (linked in the @twincitiesYAL instagram bio). For questions, email: [twincitiesyal@gmail.com](mailto:twincitiesyal@gmail.com)

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# OCF News

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## **OCF College Conference 2022**

*December 27-30*

The Orthodox Christian Fellowship College Conference will be held at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center in Kansasville, Wisconsin, December 27-30. Registration is full, but there is a waiting list. This year's theme is "What is the point of it all?" The conference is for young adults ages 18-25 and geared towards students. For more about the Midwest OCF college conference, to register, and to apply for scholarships, go to the conference website: <https://www.ocf.net/cc22>

In addition to the needs-based scholarships from the national O.C.F., St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church will partially reimburse members and active attendees of this parish. Please apply to the National OCF scholarship before requesting reimbursement from St. Mary's. The partial reimbursement amount will depend on the number of registrants from our parish. Only St. Mary's members or active attendees are eligible for partial reimbursement.

In order to receive this reimbursement, you must e-mail your registration and receipts to Fr. Jason by November 30 at [frjason@stmarysgoc.org](mailto:frjason@stmarysgoc.org). Partial registration reimbursements will be issued in December. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Jason 612.401.0660.

Partial to full travel cost reimbursement from the Twin Cities will also be available. Travel receipts must be submitted to Fr. Jason no later than January 6, 2023.

# Apostle Andrew the First-Called

*Commemoration: November 30*



The holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostle Andrew the First-Called was the first of the apostles of Jesus Christ and the brother of the Apostle Peter. His great missionary legacy led him to become the patron saint of several countries, including Romania and Scotland. His feast day is November 30.

Andrew was a fisherman by trade, born in Bethsaida. A disciple of John the Forerunner, he left St. John to follow Jesus Christ following his baptism and brought along his brother, the Apostle Peter.

Both are numbered among the Twelve Great Apostles. After Pentecost, the lot fell to St. Andrew to preach in:

- Byzantium – he appointed St. Stachys as its first bishop
- Thrace, Peloponnese, Greece, and Epirus – he converted many to the Faith and ordained bishops and priests for them
- Georgia – he entered Georgia from Ajara, preached Christianity in Atsquri, built small church there and left miracle-working icon of Theotokos.
- Rus' lands – in Kiev he planted a cross on one of the high hills of Kiev, and he prophesied a city that would have many golden-domed churches, and a bright Christian future for the Rus' people.

St. Andrew was martyred in Peloponnese, in the city of Patras. The Proconsul Aegeates' family believed in the miracles and preaching of St. Andrew, and the enraged Proconsul tortured and crucified St. Andrew. The new converts wanted to remove him from his cross, but the saint would not allow them. Instead, he comforted them from the cross and as he prayed an extraordinary light encompassed him for about a half hour. When it left, he gave up his soul. It was the year 62 AD.

St. Andrew's relics were taken to Constantinople, his head to Rome and a hand to Moscow.

*Let us praise Andrew, the herald of God, the namesake of courage, the first-called of the Savior's disciples and the brother of Peter. As he once called to his brother, he now cries out to us: "Come, for we have found the One whom the world desires!" —Kontakion of Saint Andrew*

## **From the Fathers...on God**

We can know what God is not,  
but we cannot know what God is.

—*Saint Augustine*

### **Daily Bible Readings**

#### ***Monday, November 28***

II Thessalonians 1:1-10 • Luke 19:37-44

#### ***Tuesday, November 29***

II Thessalonians 1:10—2:2 • Luke 19:45-48

#### ***Wednesday, November 30***

***Andrew the First- Called Apostle***

I Corinthians 4:9-16 • John 1:35-51

#### ***Thursday, December 1***

II Thessalonians 2:13—3:5 • Luke 20:9-18

#### ***Friday, December 2***

II Thessalonians 3:6-18 • Luke 20:19-26

#### ***Saturday, December 3***

Galatians 1:3-10 • Luke 12:32-40

#### ***Sunday, December 4***

***Tenth Sunday of Luke; Saint Barbara***

Galatians 3:23—4:5 • Luke 13:10-17

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

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