

SAINT MARY'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

February 12, 2023

The Prodigal Son

The Divine Liturgy

Commemoration: Sunday of the Prodigal Son; Meletius, Archbishop of Antioch; Antonius, Archbishop of Constantinople; Meletios of Ypseni; Christos the New Martyr.

Morning Gospel: Second

Tone: Second

Variable Hymns and Readings in the Liturgy

At the Second Antiphon

Save us, O Son of God, who rose from the dead, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

At the Small Entrance

Resurrection Hymn, Second Tone

When you descended into death, Life immortal, you vanquished the power of hell by your resplendent divinity, and when you raised the dead from the depths of darkness, all the heavenly powers cried out triumphantly: O giver of life, Christ our God, glory to you.

Hymn of Entrance

Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, who rose from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Repeat the Resurrection Hymn, above

Hymn of the Dormition of the Theotokos, First Tone

In giving birth, you preserved your virginity, O Theotokos; in falling asleep you did not forsake the world. You passed over into life, O Mother of Life; and by your prayers you deliver our souls from death!

Kontakion of the Prodigal Son, Third Tone

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

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

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

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

The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his belly with the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as

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

The Communion Prayers are found on page 40 of the hymnal.



Text to Give

Text **smgoc** to **73256**

This number will never send unsolicited texts.

Stewardship Update

To date, we have received 223 pledges totaling \$633,815.00. Have you submitted your pledge form yet? If you need a form, you'll find additional ones and a drop box at the display in the narthex.

Today

Prosforo is provided by Barbara Nichols.

Memorial Prayers today are offered for **Kenny Schwark** (1 year); **Georgia (Γεωργία) Kokinis** (3 years) mother of Bettina Hanna.

The coffee hour today is hosted by Philoptochos for “Sweet Sunday.”

Today is **Camping Ministry Sunday!** The primary purpose of this event is to emphasize the impact of camping ministries for the Metropolis faithful. We mark 71 years of St. Mary’s Camp and 51 years of Fanari Camp. This morning we will share the encyclical from His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael, St. Mary’s Camp alumni, Kyrsten and Justin Theodotou, will speak briefly about the importance of our Camping Ministry, and we will host a table during coffee hour with materials about our upcoming Summer Camp at Camp Wapo, July 1-7, 2023. Camp Staff will be on hand to answer any questions.

Prayer Ministry

Please remember the sick, the suffering, and those in need, especially: The family of Colin Kastanos; the family of Sophia Mihos; 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; Elpis Fotini, Byrdie, Jennifer, John S., Becky, Kristina, Noel, Stephen, John K., Alexey, Alexandra, Ray, Christina, Joanne, Athena, 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, Rick, Nancy, Alex, Eryn, Phil, Karen, Dorla, Linda, Fr. Elias, Vicki, Bill, Diana, 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.

Calendar of the Week

Sunday, February 12: Sunday of the Prodigal Son

8:30 a.m. – Orthros; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
after Liturgy – Sweet Sunday hosted by Philoptochos, Great Hall

Monday, February 13

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

Tuesday, February 14

12:00 noon – Senior Citizens' Valentine's Social, Terrace Room
6:00 p.m. – Adult Open Gym, Great Hall

Wednesday, February 15

9:00 a.m. – “The Messenger” Mailing, Fireside Room
6:15 p.m. – Parish Night, begins in Nave
6:30 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal, Nave

Thursday, February 16

9:30 a.m. – FAITH Playgroup (*space to be announced due to funeral*)
11:00 a.m. – Funeral for Colin Kastanos, visitation from 10:00 a.m.
6:15 p.m. – Parish Council, Fireside Room

Friday, February 17

7:00 a.m. – Men's Fellowship, Fireside Room
6:30 p.m. – Koliva Workshop, Terrace Room

Saturday, February 18: First Saturday of Souls

9:00 a.m. – Bible Study, Fireside Room
10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers
6:00 p.m. – Pan-O Dance, Great Hall

Sunday, February 19: Sunday of the Last Judgment (*Meatfare*)

8:30 a.m. – Matins; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
11:30 a.m. – Missions and Outreach Committee, Fireside Room

Announcements

Food Shelf Needs for February 19

Pancake mix and syrup

February's recipient is Simpson Food Pantry.

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

In the Bookstore

Please come visit the bookstore for a large selection of books and resources for your Lenten journey, including many books for and activities to do with children. Complimentary copies of "A Rule of Prayer for Great Lent" are also available.

Seniors' Valentine's Day Social

All St. Mary's Seniors' Club members are invited to a fun Valentine's Day Social this Tuesday, February 14, at 12:00 noon in the Terrace Room. Please bring a light snack/appetizer (meze) or dessert to share if you are able. Coffee and cake (from Queen of Cakes) will be provided, and we will play some Bingo games after. Please contact Tessie with any questions.

Pan-Orthodox Dance

The 2023 Pan-Orthodox Dance is a dance event for EVERYONE! Bring the whole family. Parents, kids, and grandparents are all welcome to participate in the different dances from the cultures that make up our Orthodox faith. The Pan-O Dance is Saturday, February 18, 6:00 p.m., in our Great Hall. For food, there will be a potluck. Please bring a dish and/or dessert to share. If you have any questions, please contact *Francine Perry*: fsperry1@comcast.net. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Metropolis Book Club

The Metropolis of Chicago presents "Engaging with Faith": A Metropolis-Wide Virtual Discussion of the book *For the Life of the World: Towards a Social Ethos of the Orthodox Church* on Wednesday, February 22 (part 1), and Thursday, March 16 (part 2), 7:00-8:30 p.m. on Zoom. The discussion is facilitated by Rev. Dr. Perry Hamalis, co-author of *For the Life of the World*. More information about the book, Fr. Perry, and the Zoom link is in the Weekly Update e-mail. The book is available in our bookstore.

Philoptochos News

Today Is Sweet Sunday!

A beautiful social hour spread will be offered after Liturgy this morning by Philoptochos as a fundraiser for Children's HeartLink. Your free-will donations will be doubled, thanks to a match by the Medtronic Foundation. Plan to come hungry or take home some goodies! Cash or checks payable to Philoptochos are welcome.

Annual Membership Kickoff Is Today

Sign up today to become a Philoptochos member! Stop by our table this morning to learn how you can become a "friend of the poor."

Koliva Workshop

Friday, February 17, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Koliva and memorial prayers go hand-in-hand in the Orthodox church. In this hands-on workshop, you'll create a tray of Koliva (memorial wheat) that will be used during the Saturday of Souls service the following morning, February 18. Please register for this free workshop today or by contacting Toni Bazakos, georg310@umn.edu or 612.554.7861. Participants should bring a small tray or bowl from home.

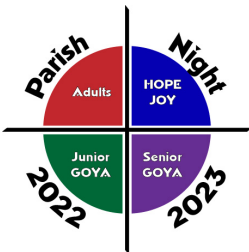
Save the Date...Sunday, February 26

Join us as we talk about engaging younger women in the organization. Plan to join us in the Terrace Room after church.

Parish Night

Parish Night 2022-2023

Our next Parish Night is this Wednesday, February 15, beginning in the Nave at 6:15 p.m. We continue our theme for the year, *Living a Sacramental Life*. Following our opening prayer service, will move to the Terrace Room for dinner and then we'll have breakout sessions for the adults and kids. Parish Night will end by 8:00 p.m.



From the Fathers...on Repentance

Cry out, O sinner, with all your might, and spare not your throat;
for your Lord is merciful and loves those who repent.
As soon as you return, your Father will come out beforehand to meet you.
He will slaughter the fatted calf, clothe you in a fine robe,
and rejoice in you.

—*Saint Ephraim the Syrian*

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, February 13

I John 2:18—3:8 • Mark 11:1-11

Tuesday, February 14

I John 3:9-22 • Mark 14:10-42

Wednesday, February 15

Philemon 1:1-25 • Mark 14:43—15:1

Thursday, February 16

I John 4:20—5:21 • Mark 15:1-15

Friday, February 17

II Timothy 2:1-10 • Luke 20:46-47; 21:1-4

Saturday, February 18

Second Saturday of Souls

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

Sunday, February 19

Judgment Sunday (Meatfare Sunday)

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

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