

SAINT MARY'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

February 26, 2023

Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare)

The Divine Liturgy

Commemoration: Forgiveness (Cheesefare) Sunday; Porphyrius, Bishop of Gaza; The Holy Great Martyr Photine, the Samaritan Women; Holy Martyr Theocletus; John Claphas the new Martyr.

Morning Gospel: Fourth

Tone: Fourth

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, Fourth Tone

The joyful news of your resurrection was proclaimed by the angel to the women disciples. Having thrown off the curse that fell on Adam, they ran elatedly to tell the apostles: Death has been vanquished; Christ our God is risen from the dead, blessing all the world with 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 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 Forgiveness (Cheesefare) Sunday, Plagal Second Tone

O you who are the source of all wisdom and discernment, instructor of the ignorant and champion of the poor; strengthen my heart, O Master, and grant me understanding. O Word of the Father, bring words to my lips, that nothing would keep from crying out to you: In your compassion have mercy on me, for I have fallen.

Epistle.....Romans 13:11—14:4

Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for God is able to make him stand.

Gospel.....Matthew 6:14-21

The Lord said, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

"And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

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

Today

Prosforo is provided by Yana Patridge.

Memorial Prayers today are offered for *Mary Kalogerson (40 days)*; *Connie (Basill) O'Brien (20 years)*.

The coffee hour today is hosted by Nicholas & Diana Santrizos and Barbara Pappajohn.

Prayer Ministry

Please remember the sick, the suffering, and those in need, especially: 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, Kar-risa, 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.

Earthquake Relief

Following the recent earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, we are collecting monetary contributions for relief in those countries. If you wish to make a donation, *please make your check payable to Saint Mary's* and place it in the offering tray on Sundays or mail it to the church office. You may also donate through the giving platform on our website, using *Disaster Relief* in the account drop down.

Text to Give

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

This number will never send unsolicited texts.

Lenten Schedule

Clean Monday, February 27 - First Day of Great Lent

6:00 p.m. - Holy Confession

Prayer service at 6:00 followed by individual confession.

Wednesdays (beginning March 1)

4:00 p.m. - Holy Confession

5:30 p.m. - Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
after Liturgy - Lenten Dinner

- Youth Groups and Activities

7:10 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

Fridays (beginning March 3)

4:00 p.m. - Holy Confession

6:00 p.m. - Salutations to the Theotokos



MEOCCA-Sponsored Pan-Orthodox Lenten Vespers

- Each Sunday during Great Lent at 5:00 p.m. (note new start time)

March 5

St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral

1629 Fifth Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413

March 12

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

3450 Irving Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55408

March 19

St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church

189 Atwater Street W., St. Paul, MN 55117

March 26

St. Michael and St. George Ukrainian Orthodox Church

505 4th Street NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413

April 2

Holy Anargyroi Greek Orthodox Church

703 W. Center Street, Rochester, MN 55902

April 9

St. Herman's Orthodox Church

5355 - 38th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55412

Bridegroom Matins

Calendar of the Week

Sunday, February 26: Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare)

- 8:30 a.m. – Matins; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
- after Liturgy – Philoptochos General Meeting, Terrace Room
- 5:00 p.m. – Forgiveness Vespers
- 6:30 p.m. – YAL Orthodoxy on Tap, Park Tavern

Monday, February 27: Clean Monday—First Day of Great Lent

- 6:00 p.m. – Holy Confession, Nave

Tuesday, February 28

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

Wednesday, March 1

- 4:30 p.m. – Holy Confession, Nave
- 5:30 p.m. – Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
- 6:30 p.m. – Lenten Dinner, Terrace Room
- 6:30 p.m. – Church School Confession - Grades 7 & 8, Nave
- 6:45 p.m. – Junior GOYA
- 7:10 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal, Nave

Friday, March 3

- 7:00 a.m. – Men's Fellowship
- 4:00 p.m. – Holy Confession, Nave
- 6:00 p.m. – Salutations to the Theotokos
- 6:00 p.m.-9:00 a.m. – Senior GOYA Lock-in

Saturday, March 4: Third Saturday of Souls

- 9:00 a.m. – Bible Study, Fireside Room and on Zoom
- 10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
- Great Vespers will not be held during Great Lent*

Sunday, March 5: Sunday of Orthodoxy

- 8:30 a.m. – Matins; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
- after Liturgy – Newcomer Mixer
- 5:00 p.m. – Pan-Orthodox Lenten Vespers,

St. Mary's OCA Cathedral

Announcements

Food Shelf Needs for March 5

Oatmeal or Cream of Wheat®

March's recipient is FOCUS Minnesota.

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.

Orthodoxy on Tap

Calling all Young Adults in the St. Mary's community: the brand new St. Mary's Young Adult Ministry (YAM) will be hosting our first ever Orthodoxy on Tap! It will be a night full of mezzes and mingling, as well as the opportunity for a discussion/Q&A with the brilliant mind of our guest speaker, Fr. Tim Sas. Join us at **Park Tavern** in St. Louis Park **TONIGHT, February 26**, after Forgiveness Vespers, from 6:30-9:00 p.m. Drinks will be available for purchase and appetizers will be provided by YAM.

Please RSVP at: tinyurl.com/FebOOT23 or use the QR code. Also be sure to follow us on Instagram (@St.Marys_YAM) to keep an eye out for future Orthodoxy on Tap and other fun fellowship events! *We look forward to seeing you there!*



Spanakopita/Tiropita Sale

The Daughters of Penelope's annual Spanakopita (spinach pie) and Tiropita (cheese pie) Sale is Sunday, March 19, after Liturgy. Come to the Great Hall and stock up on these delicious treats for the Easter holidays.

Annunciation/Greek Independence Day Luncheon

Come one, come all to the annual Annunciation and Greek Independence Day luncheon and program on Sunday, March 19. Stop by the AHEPA family table in the Great Hall on Sundays, March 5 and 12 to purchase tickets. Ticket costs are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 10 years and younger. Please make checks payable to AHEPA. Net proceeds to be donated to the Greek dance program. Thank you for your support.

Philoptochos News

"Engaging Young Women" ~ Discussion Today

Join us at 11:45 a.m. in the Terrace Room as Sia Tortorelis presents and leads the discussion on Engaging Young Women in Philoptochos. Refreshments will be served, and a Philoptochos meeting will follow, including a conversation on our Lenten activities.

Fresh Fillo Sale Continues

Through March 5, order your fresh fillo for your spring and Pascha baking! Cost is \$5 per pound, with proceeds supporting the philanthropic work of Philoptochos. Stop by our table during the social hour on Sundays or contact Andrea Tiggas at adtiggas@msn.com.

Meals by Philoptochos – Please Participate!

1. **Wednesday, March 15** – Meal after Presanctified Liturgy – Stop by our table to volunteer your services as we prepare to feed the congregation after the 5:45 p.m. Liturgy.

2. **Sunday, April 2** – Meal at FOCUS Minnesota – We need lots of volunteers to help us prepare a portion of the mostaccioli dinner plus up to 8 people to serve and hand out 200+ meals at the FOCUS House. Go to the SIGN UP GENIUS to volunteer, or contact chairs Mary Ellis (612.716.5658 or m.e.ellis925@gmail.com) or Paulette Hastings (952.564.8388 or pmg@sisyphuscafe.com).

Women's Book Club

Stop by the bookstore to pick up your copy of *Saint Nektarios: The Saint of Our Century* by Soto Chondropoulos. The hybrid discussion will take place on Thursday, April 6, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Youth News

2023 Vacation Church School

The Fruits of the Spirit ~ June 12-16 ~ 8:45 a.m.-12:00 noon

Kids ages 4 years old (and potty trained) through going into 6th grade are invited to VCS! Register early. Also, middle and high school students and adults are needed to help! Join us for a fun filled tropical adventure as we learn about the wonderful fruits the Holy Spirit gives us. We will have crafts, singing, gym activities, snacks, and interesting lessons! Questions? Contact Dena Tortorelis or Krissa Rovolis at Churchschool@stmarysgoc.org
Register at: tinyURL.com/Fruits-VCS-2023 or scan the code.



From the Fathers...on Forgiveness

When you are ready to stand in the presence of the Lord, let your soul wear a garment woven throughout from the cloth of our forgiveness of others. Otherwise, your prayer will be of no value whatsoever.

—*Saint John Climacus*

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, February 27

Clean Monday: First Day of Great Lent

Isaiah 1:1-20 • Genesis 1:1-13 • Proverbs 1:1-20

Tuesday, February 28

Isaiah 1:19-2:3 • Genesis 1:14-23 • Proverbs 1:20-33

Wednesday, March 1

Isaiah 2:3-11 • Genesis 1:24-2:3 • Proverbs 2:1-22

Thursday, March 2

Isaiah 2:11-21 • Genesis 2:4-19 • Proverbs 3:1-18

Friday, March 3

Isaiah 3:1-14 • Genesis 2:20—3:20 • Proverbs 3:19-34

Saturday, March 4

Third Saturday of Souls

II Timothy 2:1-10 • Mark 2:23—3:1-5

Sunday, March 5

Sunday of Orthodoxy

Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40 • John 1:43-51

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