

The Messenger

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church | 3450 Irving Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55408 | 612.825.9595 | www.stmarysgoc.org

March 2023

Inside This Issue

Bookstore.....	8
Children and Youth.....	9
Education and Fellowship.....	3
Koinonia	3
Lenten Services	3
Missions and Outreach	7
Our Life Together	2
Parish News and Events	4
Philoptochos	6
Worship Schedule.....	3

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

Christ is in our midst!

Dear Friends,

We have accomplished much in our 122 year history of being a living church serving our congregation in Minneapolis, and we have more opportunities for greater accomplishments ahead for us. One such opportunity is Stewardship. In chapter 25 of the gospel according to the evangelist Matthew, we learn of a servant who buried a talent rather than to work to increase the gift he had received from his master. In chapter 21 of the same gospel, we learn of a group of vine keepers who chose to not return to the owner of the vineyard what was due him from the fruit of the vine. Instead, they murdered the servants and son of the owner and stole everything that was benefited from the vineyard. These are examples of bad stewards of their masters' gifts.

But there are also examples of good stewards of the blessings they have received. For example, the servants who increased the five and two talents they had received and willingly brought the outcome of their hard work to their master serve as excellent examples. Zacchaeus is another such example of good stewardship. Joseph, who was placed in charge by his master Potiphar, was yet another excellent example of a good steward. We likewise are called to be good stewards of the gifts of health, wisdom, family and friends, opportunities, and all the blessings we have received by which we have gained benefits for our lives. We are called to be stewards who recognize that all that we have has been accomplished by us through the blessing of God's gifts upon us.

We do not interact God as His slaves. In fact, he was crucified on the Cross and resurrected on the third day precisely because He wanted us to choose a relationship with Him freely. We serve Him and His people because we desire a relationship with Him and with His entire creation. But relationships are formed only through "commitment." This year, we are embarking on a new vision of "commitment" to Christ, to His Church, and to St. Mary's. **The new process to become a Steward at St. Mary's involves completing a Time, Talent, and Financial Commitment form, either on paper or electronically on our website.** As we detailed in our 2023 Stewardship brochure, making a formal commitment to Christ, through a formal pledge to His Church, is a crucial step in advancing our spiritual life, and reflects true Christian stewardship. We have been able to function financially at St. Mary's without requiring this formality for many years, so one might ask why we are making this change. In truth, while it does help St. Mary's to have a vigorous volunteer pool to reach out to when events or project needs arise, and it is helpful to have an idea of financial commitments when planning the next year's budget, the benefit of making a pledge is most beneficial to the parishioner, who proclaims boldly in the spirit of true Christian stewardship, that Christ and His Church are worthy of a formal commitment.

—article continues on page 3.

Our Life Together

Deaths

Harriett Cheolis
January 20, 2023

Georgia Christiansen
January 21, 2023

Colin Kastanos
February 1, 2023

Sophia Mihas
February 8, 2023

May their memories be eternal.

Memorial Prayers

Sunday, March 12
Harriett Cheolis (40 days)
Giannoula Bakritzes (1 year)

Sunday, March 26
Sophia Mihas (40 days)
Yuri Ivaniuk (5 years)
father of Olga Berkovskaya
Newly departed John Bitterman and
Eugenia Molchanova

Share YourShelf

March’s recipient of Share Your-Shelf contributions is FOCUS MN.

Sunday, March 5
Oatmeal or Cream of Wheat®

Sunday, March 12
Spam

Sunday, March 19
Peanut Butter

Sunday, March 26
Canned meat
(e.g. tuna, chicken)

“If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.”
—1 John 3:17-18

Donate online: focusmn.org, then
“Donate Now”

St. Mary’s Church Staff

Proistamenos
Fr. Timothy Sas

Associate Priest
Fr. Jason Houck

Attached Priest
Fr. John Kostas

Deacons
Fr. Paul Kalina
Fr. Luke Twito

Administrator
vacant

Parishioner Support Communications
David Mertesdorf

Ministry Support
Doria Saros

Youth Director
Jonathan Klein

Music Director
Thespina Macres

Organist
Mark Macres



Thank You!

Thank you to all who contributed socks for the Community Emergency Service (CES) sock drive earlier this winter. We collected 250+ pairs of socks!



Gift bags with our sock contributions

St. Mary’s Parish Council

President
Jeannie Possis

Vice President
Sam Hanna

Secretary
Maria Smith

Treasurer
Andrew Twito

Assistant Treasurer
Cristina Nicklow

Members
Daniel Buss
Libby Cheolis
Alex Dascalos
Ina Dunham
Dean Psychogios
Sophia Rouman
Louis Tiggas

Education • Fellowship • Worship

Lenten Vespers

- 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

Weekend Schedule

Saturday

Great Vespers – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday (live-streamed)

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

Weekday Schedule

Friday, March 24

Eve of Annunciation
Great Vespers – 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 25

The Annunciation of the Theotokos
Orthros – 9:00 a.m.
Divine Liturgy – 10:00 a.m.

Lenten Schedule

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
7:30 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

Fridays (beginning March 3)

4:00 p.m. - Holy Confession
6:00 p.m. - Salutations to the Theotokos

Fellowship and Study Groups

Intercessory Prayer

Fridays, March 10 and 24
10:30 a.m., Nave Chapel

Saturday Bible Study

Every Saturday
9:00 a.m., Fireside Room

Men's Fellowship

Fridays, March 3 and 17
7:00 a.m., Fireside Room

Women's Bible Study

Fridays, March 10 and 24
11:30 a.m., Fireside Room

—Fr. Tim's article on Stewardship, continued from page 1

All us are children of God, and as His sons and daughters we are also inheritors of all that God has created and maintains. Being good children and wise inheritors of what God has in store for us we take responsibility and ownership of what God has given us, we engage with He has given us, and we are generous with what He has entrusted to us. Our Stewardship theme - Ownership, Engagement, Generosity - mirrors the Metropolis of Chicago's long-term strategic plan for stewardship. We have long been a beacon of light in the Metropolis, and to that end, once again we hope to lead by example and demonstrate true, principled, Christian stewardship.

The benefits of being a Steward at St. Mary's (as opposed to a donor) include:

- ~ Be eligible to have Sacraments (wedding, baptism, etc) performed at St. Mary's,
- ~ Be a Godparent/Sponsor at the Sacrament of a loved one,
- ~ Attend and vote at Parish Assemblies,
- ~ Run for Parish Council,
- ~ Vote at Parish Council elections,
- ~ and attend the yearly Appreciation Glendi.

It is important to remember that there is no penalty for not being able to fulfill a financial commitment as reflected on a pledge form; we understand that financial circumstances might change during the year. Likewise, if it is impossible to make a financial commitment, filling out name and contact information, along with any time and talent, is sufficient to become a steward. Additionally, we remind everyone that the individual financial commitment and donations of our parishioners and donors remain private and are only known to very few persons who must work with the respective numbers or process. Above all, we seek to remind ourselves that it is the process, rather than the outcome, of the commitment that reflects true Christian stewardship and a formal commitment to Christ and His Holy Church.

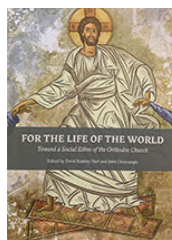
Parish News & Events

Annunciation / Greek Independence Day Luncheon

Sunday, March 19

Save the date for the AHEPA Annunciation Greek Independence Day Luncheon held on Sunday, March 19, in the Great Hall after Liturgy. Tickets will go on sale beginning Sunday, February 26, and continuing through Sunday, March 19. Tickets are \$10.00 in advance (or \$15.00 at the door) and \$5.00 for children under 10. Net proceeds will be donated to the St. Mary's Youth Greek Dance Program led by Tessie Bourdamis.

Metropolis of Chicago Book Discussion



The Metropolis of Chicago is excited to present the first event in a new series "Engaging in Faith": A two-part virtual session. The second part will be March 16, discussing the book: ***For the Life of the World: Toward a Social Ethos of the Orthodox Church***.

The discussions will be facilitated by Dr. Dn. Perry Hamalis, Holy Apostles Westchester, IL, who is on the committee appointed by the Patriarchate to write the book, which is a direct progression of the work done at the Great and Holy Council of Crete of 2016. There will be break out room facilitators, including several other co-authors, present at the discussions, and Metropolitan Nathanael will be present and involved for at least one session.

For the Life of the World: Towards a Social Ethos of the Orthodox Church is a powerful social document enriched by scriptural, patristic, theological, and spiritual references, to navigate through these often perplexing and difficult times, as Orthodox Christians, in a post-modern world. The book discusses the Orthodox Church's stance on numerous issues: 1) the church in the public sphere, 2) the course of human life, 3) wealth, poverty, and civil justice, 4) interfaith relations, 5) war, peace, and violence, 6) human rights, and 7) science, technology, and the natural world. The link for the discussion will appear in the Weekly Update e-mail the weekend prior to the discussion.

The book is available for purchase in the St. Mary's Bookstore.

.....

**Summer Camp registration will begin on
Bright Tuesday, April 18.
Early bird rate is soon to be determined!**

FOCUS Minnesota Needs

FOCUS Minnesota is in need of the following items:

Linens

new or in good condition, Queen, King, Full, or Twin

Towels, washcloths, kitchen towels

Men's underwear

small, medium, large boxers (FOCUS can even use XL size)

Women's, briefs

small, medium, large

Girl's underwear

sizes 2-6 and size 14

Girl's socks

new

Women's socks

new

Warm blankets and/or sleeping bags

Please place your contributions by the FOCUS sign in the hallway leading to the Church Office.

2023 Icon Classes, Session 3

The icon is an expression of the beauty of the soul illumined with love of Christ.

Session 3—

Session 3 icon: *Mother of God of Sorrows*

Session 3 classes will be held at The Basilica of Saint Mary Saturdays, March 4, 11, 18, and 25

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Deb Korluka: akorluka@aol.com or 612.889.5868

Tuition \$145.00 is plus materials.

Materials are available at Wet Paint.

Registrations needing materials will be processed through Steve Arsenault at arsenault003@gmail.com.

Saint Gregory Palamas Lenten Retreat

The Saint Gregory Palamas Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 4, is a one-day retreat exploring the theology, history, and technique of icon painting. We will also learn more about the newly-installed mural icons from Fr. Anthony Salzman, iconographer, at St. George Greek Orthodox Church in St. Paul.

Schedule: Orthros/Memorial 8:30 a.m., Refreshments 9:30 a.m., Retreat (including lunch) 10:00 a.m., Vespers 3:00 p.m. To attend, please RSVP to Antigoni at office@stgeorgegoc.org. Please consider bringing a dish to pass at the potluck lunch (note in your RSVP if you can bring a dish).

St. George Greek Orthodox Church: 1111 Summit Avenue, St. Paul.

Telos Gamma Project

What is Telos???

The Telos Project is the young adult initiative of Cross-Road Institute. It exists to help Orthodox young adults and parishes discover their gifts, use those gifts to build up one another and their community, and to grow in Christ together.

You may...or may not... know, St. Mary's recently received a grant from the Telos Gamma Project to enhance engagement of the post college young adults. After our parish-wide workshop in July, much training, work, and planning has been done by our St. Mary's Telos team.

Our focus is to promote inter-generational engagement with our Learning Series, deepening the spiritual engagement of the young adults with regular Orthodoxy on Tap sessions and involving the young adults in the already existing vibrant ministries of St. Mary's as well.

Our first event, on December 18, was learning to make baklava. Training was led by our expert "baklava leader," Elena Gabor. A Lenten lunch was served, and fellowship was enjoyed by fifteen young adults and adult parishioners who took home a pan of freshly baked baklava just in time for their Christmas celebrations.

Our next event was Orthodoxy on Tap held on February 23 at Park Tavern. Discussion on Young Adult Engagement was led by Father Deacon Paul Kalina.

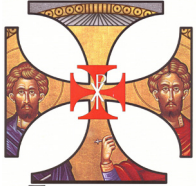
Watch for future YAM events (Sponsored by Telos) coming up via communications from church and on Instagram: [st.marys_yam](#)



December 18 Baklava Making Event



Philoptochos



Kindness Counts: "Love and kindness are never wasted. They always make a difference. They bless the one who receives them, and they bless you, the giver."

—Barbara De Angelis

Philoptochos Meetings for March

Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 21, 6:30 p.m.
Fireside Room

Philoptochos General Meeting

Sunday, March 26, after Liturgy
Terrace Room

Come for fellowship, refreshments, to make plans for Philoptochos activities throughout Lent, and to assemble IOCC hygiene kits.

Spring Fillo Sale

Place your order for fresh fillo by Sunday, March 5, by stopping at the Philoptochos table after church or by sending an email to Andrea Tiggas at adtiggas@msn.com. The cost is \$5.00 per pound.

Lenten Dinner

The Lenten meal will be hosted by Philoptochos on Wednesday, March 15. Stop by our table during the coffee hour on Sundays throughout the month to sign up or please watch for the Sign Up Genius.

Membership Drive Has Started

The annual Philoptochos Membership Drive runs through April 30.

In January, all women of the parish received a letter inviting them to become a member of Philoptochos. For 90 years, Philoptochos has served as the philanthropic arm of the church. At St. Mary's, our chapter actively supports local, national, international, as well as Orthodox charities, and coordinates many hands-on activities throughout the year. We also support the parish in many ways, including decorating for different seasons of the year, hosting Pan-Orthodox and other events, and hosting the Festival bake sale.

Stop by our table during the coffee hour on Sundays throughout the month to get more information, drop off your membership form, and volunteer for upcoming activities. Membership dues are determined by each individual, with the first \$22 going to our Metropolis and National Philoptochos and anything above that staying with our chapter.

Women's Book Club Discussion

The current read for the Women's Book Club is *Saint Nektarios: The Saint of our Century* by Sotos Chondropoulos. Pick up a copy in the bookstore in preparation for our discussion on April 6.

Philoptochos Serving Dinner at FOCUS Sunday, April 2

Philoptochos is hosting the free Sunday night meal at FOCUS Minnesota on April 2. Please watch for the Sign-Up Genius e-mail inviting you to contribute a part of the pasta meal or volunteer to serve. If you have questions, please contact Mary Ellis, m.e.ellis925@gmail.com, or Paulette Hastings, pmg@sisyphuscafe.com. Thank you for helping us prepare 200 meals for people in need.

Board Elections Are Coming

A slate of nominees will be elected to a two-year term on our Philoptochos Board in May. Women experienced and new to the organization are welcome to this opportunity! We meet as a board eight times during the year and members serve on a couple committees. Please give some prayerful thought to taking on this role, talk to current board members, and consider running as a board member.

Thank You...

Thank you to all those who helped with volunteering in February...

...to those who helped staff the Philoptochos table.

...for assembling the welcome bags and helping out the Metropolis Basketball Convention hosted by St. Mary February 3-5.

...Sweet Sunday/Membership Drive on Sunday, February 12.

...Koliva/Memorial Wheat Workshop on Friday, February 17.

...Thank you, Sia Tortorelis, for sharing ideas at our February meeting about how to engage younger women in Philoptochos.

Volunteer Opportunities

Please watch for updates on events or needs from us in the weekly bulletin, webpage, and at our table on Sundays.

Mission & Outreach

A March to Help Give a Life

by Cheryl Dragotis

Have you ever been in a march even a small march?

It was a foggy 18-degree day at the State Capitol on Sunday, January 22, for the March for Life event sponsored by MCCL (Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life).

Pro-Life marchers could (and many did) grab prepared poster boards and marched around the grounds. As they marched, very heartfelt, very compelled to do what was right to save each tiny unspoken life, as they carried their poster. How deeply earnest to think of trying to save tiny lives!

Many posters said "Protect the Unborn, Support Women," "All Humans have Humans Rights", No Abortion Up to Birth," "Fear God, Don't Murder Babies," "I Regret My Abortion." In an outstanding and truly caring way, many young teens and adults carried signs to shine a light on "I am the Pro-Life Generation"! And, of course, Father Tim, Doria Saros, and Steven Wehr were on the front steps with St Mary's large banner.

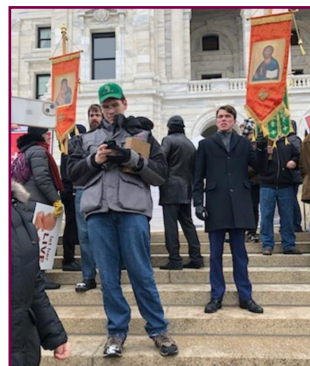
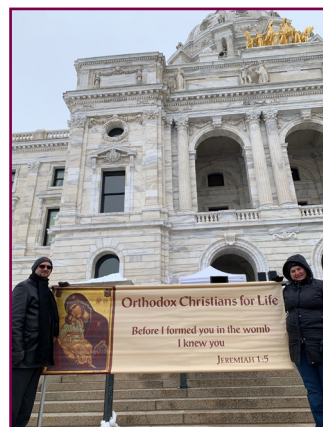
The 20-minute program opened with the singing of "Amazing Grace" (how very heartfelt), followed by prayers. The Co-Director of MCCL spoke about the new bill up for a vote in the Minnesota Legislature that would create a law allowing the abortion of any unborn baby, for any reason, and aborted anytime up to birth. An emotional public confession by one of the women who had two abortions talked about her heavy burden and how she is now a spokesperson for the Pro-Life Movement.

This passionate, deeply felt march to save unvoiced tiny human lives ended with tears and the crowd singing "God Bless America."

May we march to "Christ's beacon of Hope."

Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.

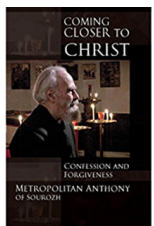
—Jeremiah 1:5



In the Bookstore

by Rebecca Myerly

bookstore@stmarysgoc.org



Coming Closer to Christ: Confession and Forgiveness is a collection of the talks, sermons, and answers to questions Metropolitan Anthony Bloom gave on these subjects. Metropolitan Anthony spoke directly yet with gentle pastoral discernment gleaned from his decades of pastoral experience with confession.

In one of his talks titled "Healing the whole body" he said, "Confession is something which is very widely misunderstood and criticized in our times. It is full of possibilities which are not being used, and I would like to disentangle the various elements within the present-day practice of confession." (3) This he does through many examples. One anecdote the reader will find repeated in this collection because of its wide application, is the story of children coming to confession to him. He explains:

When a child comes to confession, usually he brings either on paper or by memory a long list, or a short list, of sins. And when he has finished, I always say, 'Are these things which break your heart? Are these things which you feel are wrong in you? Did you invent for yourself this confession?' And most often the answer is, 'No, my mother gave me this list because that makes her cross!' After that I usually have a conversation with the mother. But as far as the child is concerned, it has nothing to do with him, it is not his confession. It is the judgement which the parents have established, accusations against him. And the same could be asked about grown-up people who come with lists of sins which they have found in manuals, or been told to consider by their spiritual fathers. And the answer is always the same: it is not my confession, yet it is a challenge which I was given. (83)

Metropolitan Anthony would then ask the person what they know of Christ, if they like him and what he means to them. If they only know Christ from afar, he would tell them: "Read the Gospel and try to find out what Christ is like." (84) Then he would ask the person to think about their relationship with Christ—or the lack thereof, and use friendship as a way to help the person see and discern....

Friendship consists most of all in choosing someone among all the people to be to you the one you treasure above all, whom you admire, by whom you are prepared to stand in case of danger or unpleasantness; one to whom you wish to give joy. Ask yourself these questions with regard to Christ; and ask yourself, in what way have you tried in the past week to give some joy to the Lord Jesus Christ, or in what way have you been for him a cause of pain?...

If you can say, 'Yes, I choose him as a friend', begin to ask yourself every day, every day, 'What have I done, said, thought, felt, been, which can be to him a joy or a pain?'

And when you come to confession that is what you must bring to confession....Think in those terms;...prepare,...pronounce a confession that will be your own; the truth, the rock bottom of your life and heart, the truth about your relationship with Christ. Amen. (84-85)

This is simply one example of the wisdom offered in *Coming Closer to Christ: Confession and Forgiveness*. The reader will find much guidance in the words of Metropolitan Anthony, which could aptly be described as "light in the Lord."

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.

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

- ▶ Tuesdays, March 7 and 21
9:30-11:00 a.m.
Great Hall and Terrace Room

HOPE and JOY: Kindergarten-Grade 2 & Grades 3-5

- ▶ Saturday, April 1
Fanari Retreat at St. George Greek Orthodox Church
• Grades 5-8
More information to come!

Junior GOYA: Grades 6-8

- ▶ Friday, March 10-Saturday, March 11
Junior GOYA Lock-in at church, beginning at 6:00 p.m. and ending by 9:00 a.m.
RSVP at <https://linktr.ee/stmarysgoya>
- ▶ Wednesday, March 8
- ▶ Wednesday, March 22
- ▶ Wednesday, April 5
Junior GOYA Mini-meetings
Following the Presanctified Liturgy, grab your food and meet in the Youth Room. We will have fellowship and a discussion with one another until 8:00 p.m.
- ▶ Saturday, April 1
Fanari Retreat at St. George Greek Orthodox Church
• Grades 5-12
More information to come!

Senior GOYA: Grades 9-12

- ▶ Wednesday, March 1, 4:30-8:30 p.m.
Senior GOYA hosting Lenten meal.
The Senior GOYAns will host the Lenten meal as a fundraiser for attending the Metropolis of Chicago's Junior Olympics.
- ▶ Friday, March 3
Senior GOYA Lock-in at church, beginning at 6:00 p.m. and ending by 9:00 a.m.
RSVP at <https://linktr.ee/stmarysgoya>
- ▶ Wednesday, March 15
- ▶ Wednesday, March 29
Senior GOYA Mini-meetings
Following the Presanctified Liturgy, grab your food and meet in the Youth Room. We will have fellowship and a discussion with one another until 8:00 p.m.

- ▶ Saturday, April 1
Fanari Retreat at St. George Greek Orthodox Church
• Grades 5-12
More information to come!

Lenten Confession Schedule

Grades 2-12

In the nave, following the Presanctified Liturgy

- Wednesday, March 1 — Grades 7 and 8
- Wednesday, March 8 — Grades 11 and 12
- Wednesday, March 15 — Grades 3 and 4
- Wednesday, March 22 — Grades 9 and 10
- Wednesday, March 29 — Grades 5 and 6
- Wednesday, April 5 — Grade 2

Church School News

Oratorical Festival: Sunday, March 12

Our St. John Chrysostom Art and Oratorical festival will take place on Sunday, March 12. The 7th-12th grade speeches will be presented at the end of Liturgy. Elementary grades' art projects as well as any essays, icons, and hymns by middle and high school age will be displayed in the Great Hall.

Kindergarten: Coloring sheet of a Cross, Jesus, or the Theotokos

1st grade: Check with your teachers - one of the stories from the Old Testament

2nd grade: Holy Communion

3rd grade: One of the Sacraments

4th grade: My Patron Saint -also write a few sentences explaining

5th grade: One of the Parables, or "I Am Blessed" also write a few sentences of explanation

6th grade: One of Jesus' "I Ams," also write a few sentences of explanation

Projects need to be completed and in the Great Hall by 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, March 12. They can use any medium they want: clay, Legos, paint, markers, aluminum foil, noodles, etc.

If completed before March 12, bring them to the Resource Room at the end of the preschool hallway with their name, grade, and title displayed.



Follow the GOYAns on Instagram: **St_Marys_GOYA**

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

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Twin Cities, MN
Permit #3735

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Turn Your face from my sins,
and blot out all my transgressions.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.



*We wish everyone a blessed and prayerful
Lenten season.*

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

The Messenger is published
monthly by St. Mary's
Greek Orthodox Church,
3450 Irving Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408
March 2023

Telephone
612.825.9595

Fax
612.825.9283

Email
stmarysgoc@stmarysgoc.org

Website
www.stmarysgoc.org

Facebook
 www.facebook.com/stmarysgoc/

Publication Deadlines
The Messenger—
First Sunday of each month.

Sunday Bulletin—
Preceding Thursday,
12:00 Noon

Thank You, Stewards!

As of Friday, February 10, we have received a total of \$633,815.00 in pledges from 233 stewards.

Diane Achterling	Natalie Dillon	Timothy & Angie Klouda	Andrea Sas
Benjamin & Jennifer Amundgaard	Dean Dovolav	Deanna Kolas	Casiana Sas
Diane Anastos	Gregg & Barbara Dovolav	Robert B. Kolas	Fr. Timothy & Pra. Gabriela Sas
Nathan & Marea Anderson	Cheryl Dragotis	William & Evelyn Kordaris	Sofia Sas
George & Athena Andrews	Larry & Ina Dunham	Margo Kosmas	Theodora Sas
Aristides & Paige Apostolou	Christine Ellis	Fr. John & Pra. Janis Kostas	Joanne Savage
Cassandra Apostolou	John Ellis	Nathaniel & Emily Kostick	Alexander Schatz
George Apostolou	Lou & Mary Ellis	Marc Kotsonas &	Steve & Cathy Selin
Trevor Arnold & Megan Caldbeck	Mark Flumerfelt &	Dimitria Phill Kotsonas	Donald & Mary Shipp
George & Samantha Asselanis	Stephanie George	Steve & Aggie Koutroupas	John Simon & Rafif Khabazeh
Peter & Soula Atsidakos	Don & Cathy Forchas	George & Connie Kouzes	Leo & Cheryl Sioris
Jon & Helen Bair	Tom & Amy Forchas	Anthony & Kristina Kresser	Eric Skarphol & Anne Maimares
Matheos Balafas	Alexis Friesen	Maria Labhard	Kelsey Skoog
Jeremy Barakos	Audrey Friesen	Annette Legeros	Maria Smith
Nick & Stephanie Barakos	Marina Gabor	Nicholas & Anne Legeros	Jack & Joni Snidarich
Joseph & Katerina Barbour	Sean & Elena Gabor	John Luhman	Angie Rallis Speliopoulos
Philip & Erica Barnes	Zoe Gabor	Kevin Luker & Georgi Speliopoulos	Nicholas & Peggy Sperides
Joanne Basill	Nancy Gallos	Michael & Margery Makredes	Sean & Stephanie Stephenson
John & Susan Basill	Steve Gallos	Paul Makredes	Adam & Lauren Stribling
John & Nikki Beauchamp	James Geogleris	Joseph Malters & Kathy Kirk-	Mark & Lea Sullivan
Allan & Joanna Bejarano	Bryan & Katherine George	Malters	William & Linda Sweatt
Peter Beniares	Dana & Eleni George	Besse Maragos	Anna Swenson
Joshua Berhe & Nigisti Teklay	Dean George	George & Kathy Martin	Caroline Swenson
Lena Bessas	Georgia George	Brian Marum & Linda Stanton	Greg & Jeanette Swenson
Michael Bessas	John & Mary GeroGeorge	Daniel & Lani McCollar	Peter Swenson
Marlene Bojarski	Efstratios Giparakis	Athena Mihas	Elaine Theis
Michael & Jackie Boldt	Dean & Misty Grammas	James Mihas	Andrew & Ann Theodotou
James & Elaine Boosalis	Michael & Carrie Grundman	Sophia Mihas	Arlene Theros
Michael Boosalis	Demos & Eugenia Hadjiyanis	Joanna Morgan	Louis & Andrea Tiggas
Nick & Katherine Boosalis	George & Susan Hadjiyanis	Paul & Roxanne Muchulas	Mark Tiggas
Nick J. & Pamela Boosalis	Renee Hainlin	Tia Muchulas	Robert & Desi Tokar
Peter & Rebecca Boosalis	Thomas Hainlin &	Bea Murdakes	Dean & Dena Tortorelis
Tessie Bourdamis	Shannon Baustian	Dean & Melpomeni Murdakes	Frederick & Stella Treiber
Cooper & Jessica Buss	Sam & Bettina Hanna	Jim & Rebecca Myerly	Effy Triantafyllou
Daniel & Christine Buss	Victoria Hanson	Byron & Jeanie Nenos	Andrew & Megan Twito
Mark & Nicole Caldwell	David Harty & Esme GeroGeorge	Costas & Barbara Nichols	Fr. Luke & Dca. Mary Kay Twito
Joan Calott	Paul & Paulette Hastings	Alexandra Nicklow	Donald & Barbara Vanover
Virginia Canelake	Robert & Lani Hattling	Gus & Cristina Nicklow	Elias Wehr
Mary Cavouras	Paul & Jenny Hibberd	Letta Nicklow	Patrick Wehr
Peter & Libby Cheolis	David & Natalie Hideg	Peter Nicklow	Stephen & Amy Wehr
George & Barbara Chresand	William & Angelea Hoeft	Vasili Nicklow	Stanley & Kathleen Wendland
Thomas Chresand	Adam & Chrissie Hoffman	Alexis Nicolle	Harry & Georgia Wiebe
Daniel & Patricia Christopulos	Bradley & Erline Holman	Keith & Gwendolen Nystrom	Jonathan Wiering &
Athanasios & Vassiliki Chronakos	Dennis & Matina Houck	Quirino & Helena Orlandi	Kelly Papaspyropoulou
Christofili Chronakos	Fr. Jason & Pra. Alexandra Houck	John V. Pappas	Gregory & Harriet Witt
Kassandra Chronakos	Naira Istefhanous	Louis & Mary Pappas	Stephanie Woolf
Paul & Beverly Coniaris	Steven & Cassie Janke	Telly & Gail Pappas	
Athanasios & Panorea Contolatis	Fifi Kafkas	Elleni Paulson	
Edward and Angela Cook	John & Sylvia Kafkas	Kevin & Anna Paulson	
Vasilios & Jennifer Daravingas	Mary Kafkas	Austin & Katie Polson-McCannon	
Alex & Sandy Dascalos	Fr. Paul & Dca. Alexandria Kalina	Alex & Jennifer Possis	
Athena Dascalos	Peter Karachunski &	Michael & Jeannie Possis	
Dino Dascalos	Olga Berkovskaya	Veula Possis	
Zoe Dascalos	Evangeline Karakatsanis	Donna Psihos	
Georgianna & Zossima Daugherty	Theodora Karakatsanis	Dean Psychogios	
James & Erica Delles	Carol Karos	David & Julie Rist	
Bill DeMoss	Yiannis & Elaine Kaznessis	Sophia Rouman	
Charles DeMoss	Anthony & Kelly Kempf	Jeffrey & Photine Saar	
Michael & Maureen DeMoss	Robert & Hope Kennedy	Samira Saleh	
Joe & Vicky DiGiovanni	Paul C. & Joanna Kirou	Nicholas & Diana Santrizos	
Christopher & Angela Dillon	Mary Demou Kleve	Michael & Doria Saros	

March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 4:00pm-Holy Confession 5:30pm-Presanctified Liturgy 6:30pm-Lenten Dinner 6:30pm-CS Conf., Gr 7/8 6:45pm-Junior GOYA 7:10pm-Choir Rehearsal Open Gym	2	3 7:00am-Men's Fellowship 4:00pm-Holy Confession 6:00pm-Salutations	4 Third Saturday of Souls 9:00am-Bible Study 10:00am-Divine Liturgy 5:00pm-Great Vespers
					Senior GOYA Lock-In	
5 Sunday of Orthodoxy "The Messenger" Deadline 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy after Liturgy-Newcomer Mixer 5:00pm-Vespers <i>St. Mary's OCA Cathedral</i>	6 7:00pm-Greek Dance Practice	7 9:30am-FAITH Playgroup	8 4:00pm-Holy Confession 5:30pm-Presanctified Liturgy 6:30pm-Lenten Dinner 6:30pm-CS Conf., Gr 11/12 6:30pm-Junior GOYA 7:10pm-Choir Rehearsal Open Gym	9	10 11:00am-Intercessory Prayer 11:30am-Women's Bible Study 4:00pm-Holy Confession 6:00pm-Salutations	11 9:00am-Bible Study 5:00pm-Great Vespers
					Junior GOYA Lock-In	
12 Saint Gregory Palamas 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy 11:30am-Greek Dance Practice 5:00pm-Vespers <i>St. Mary's GOC</i>	13	14 12:00noon-Senior Citizens 6:15pm-Parish Council	15 9:00am-"The Messenger" Mailing 4:00pm-Holy Confession 5:30pm-Presanctified Liturgy 6:30pm-Lenten Dinner 6:30pm-CS Conf., Gr 3/4 6:30pm-Senior GOYA 7:10pm-Choir Rehearsal Open Gym	16	17 7:00am-Men's Fellowship 4:00pm-Holy Confession 6:00pm-Salutations	18 9:00am-Bible Study 5:00pm-Great Vespers
19 The Holy Cross 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy after Liturgy-Annunciation/ Greek Ind. Day Celebration 5:00pm-Vespers <i>St. Mary's Romanian Orth. Ch.</i>	20	21 9:30am-FAITH Playgroup 6:30pm-Philoptochos Board	22 4:00pm-Holy Confession 5:30pm-Presanctified Liturgy 6:30pm-Lenten Dinner 6:30pm-CS Conf., Gr 9/10 6:30pm-Junior GOYA 7:10pm-Choir Rehearsal Open Gym	23 6:30pm-Edina Koinonia 7:00pm-Stewardship Com.	24 11:00am-Intercessory Prayer 11:30am-Women's Bible Study 4:00pm-Holy Confession 6:00pm-Great Vespers	25 Annunciation of the Theotokos 9:00am-Bible Study 9:00am-Orthros 10:00am-Divine Liturgy 5:00pm-Great Vespers
26 Saint John Climacus 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy 11:30am-Missions/Outreach 11:30am-Philoptochos 5:00pm-Vespers <i>St. Michael/St. George Ukrainian Orth. Ch.</i>	27	28	29 4:00pm-Holy Confession 5:30pm-Presanctified Liturgy 6:30pm-Lenten Dinner 6:30pm-CS Conf., Gr 5/6 6:30pm-Senior GOYA 7:10pm-Choir Rehearsal Open Gym	30	31 4:00pm-Holy Confession 6:00pm-Salutations	