

August 20, 2023 — Eleventh Sunday of Matthew

THE DIVINE LITURGY

Commemoration

Eleventh Sunday of Matthew; Afterfeast of the Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary; Samuel the Prophet; Holy Martyr Luke of Bouleutos; Stephen, First King of Hungary; Hierotheos, Bishop of Hungary; Oswin the Martyr, King of Deira.

Morning Gospel: John 21:14-25 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 Third Antiphon

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!

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!

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 Dormition of the Theotokos, Plagal Second Tone

She is our vigilant intercessor, the Theotokos, our sure hope and protection. Neither death nor tomb held any power over her, for as the Mother of Life, she was taken into life by that very one who deigned to dwell in her ever-virgin womb.

Epistle I Corinthians 9:2-12

Brethren, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

The Lord said this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will

pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the torturers, till he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

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



Prayer Ministry

Please remember the sick, the suffering, and those in need, especially: The family of Nick C. Boosalis; the family of Demetrios (Jim) Villas; All victims of wars throughout the world; 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; Maria, Matt, Laura, Dorla, Susan, Elias, Constance, Peter, Evdoxia, Marina, Dion, Annali, Sofia, Juan Cruz & family, Charlie, Stan, Helena, Byrdie, Jennifer, John S., Becky, Noel, Stephen, John K., Alexey, Alexandra, Ray, Christina, Joanne, Athena, the Muñoz family, Charlie, Nuala, Pamela, Avgi, Elena, Speranta, 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, 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, Pat, Nancy, Dave, Pam, Gilbert, George P., Danielle, Jenny, John L., Steven E., Julia, Presvytera Janis, Sandra, Rick, Nancy, Alex, Eryn, Phil, Karen, 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.

Today

Prosforo is provided by Terri Leckas

Memorial Prayers today are offered for **Bryn Hartwig** (1 year); **Alexandros Kostandinos Gonatas** (husband of Brenda Gonatas and father of Kostas and Antonis Gonatas)

The coffee hour today is hosted by **the Gonatas family** in memory of **Alexandros**.

Sacraments This Week

Wedding

Harry Spell to Michaelene Karlen, August 19, 2023

Baptism

Marianna - parents: Andrew & Megan Twito, August 20, 2023

Announcements

Food Shelf Needs for August 27

Baby Formula

August's recipient is Community Emergency Service (CES). Please do not bring opened packages. They will be discarded.





Intro to Orthodox Christianity Course Fall 2023, Tuesdays, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Join us for our MEOCCA catechism course, Intro to Orthodox Christianity, beginning on Tuesday, September 12, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Catechism is open to all; people interested in learning more about Orthodox Christianity, inquirers, catechumens, and current Orthodox Christians as well! Classes will be held on Tuesday evenings in person (1111 Summit Ave., St. Paul, MN) or online via Zoom. Register online by scaning the code or learn more at www.meocca.org

Calendar of the Week

Sunday, August 20: Eleventh Sunday of Matthew

8:30 a.m. – Matins; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy After Communion – Kids' Greek Dance Practice, Lecture Room 11:30 a.m. Missions & Outreach Meeting, Fireside Room

Monday, August 21

9:00 a.m. – Visitation for Nicholas C. Boosalis 10:00 a.m. – Funeral Service, St. Mary's

6:00 p.m. - Greek Dance Practice

Tuesday, August 22

5:30 p.m. – Junior GOYA, Fireside Rom

6:30 p.m. - Adult Open Gym Basketball, Great Hall

Thursday, August 24

9:00 a.m. - Koulourakia Baking, Kitchen and Terrace Room

5:30 p.m. – Senior GOYA Book Club, Fireside Room

6:30 p.m. - Edina Koinonia, Meeting Room 1

7:00 p.m. - Stewardship Committee, Fireside Room

Sunday, August 27: Twelfth Sunday of Matthew

8:30 a.m. – Matins; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy; Blessing of the backbacks After Communion – Kids' Greek Dance Practice, Lecture Room 12:00 noon – Festival Salad Dressing Preparations, Kitchen





Dormition Offering

Thank you to all who have so generously given to our Feast Day collection. If you haven't made and offering yet, you may still do so. You may also give online by scanning the code below or going to our giving site (URL below) and choosing Dormition Offering from the drop down menu.

https://onrealm.org/StMarysGreekOrt/-/form/give/now



Blessing of the Backpacks Sunday, August 27

Backpacks will be blessed next Sunday, August 27, at the end of Divine Liturgy. Preschool through high school, as well as teachers and college professors, are invited to bring their backpacks or briefcases to church for a special blessing before start of the school year.



Philoptochos News

Festival Baking Help

We still need people to help with two more baking sessions:

Koulouria: Thursday, August 24, 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Theples: Thursday, August 31, 12:00 noon-5:00 p.m.

Come for as long as you can. A few hours of your time will REALLY help! Sign up by scanning the code or stopping by the Philoptochos table at the social hour after liturgy.



Gently Used Orthodox Books Wanted

Coming soon to Irving Avenue...a Free Little Orthodox Library filled with books for anyone to take and enjoy. Our library will contain only Orthodox material as a way to share our faith with neighbors and the community. Philoptochos is managing this project, including stocking and maintaining the library with donated books. If you have Orthodox books to donate, please bring them to the Philoptochos table after Sunday Liturgy or bring them to the church office during the week.



Connect Conference September 29 – October 1

This year's Connect Orthodox Young Adult Conference will be held in Minneapolis! Registration is open now through September 13. The them this year will explore Christ's offer of Refuge: "Come to Me all who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28). Scan the code or visit connectorthodox.org to learn more or register.

Youth News

Junior GOYA

The Junior GOYAns will meet on Tuesday, August 22, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room to discuss the book: *The Lost Saint*, by *Christine Rogers* (Ancient Faith). Let's read an exciting story set 500 years ago: an abandoned church, a mysterious icon, spies, a battle, family, and faith. This is a fictional story, but it tells the true and amazing story of St. Fanourios.

Senior GOYA

The Senior GOYAns will meet on Thursday, August 24, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room to discuss the book: *A Trace in the Sand, A Tale of the Early Martyrs* (St. Herman Press). Have you ever wondered what life was really like for the early saints of our Church? Let's read a historical novel about this special time, when so many faithful people made the difficult and dangerous choice to become Christians.



St. Mary's Family Camp Registration Ends August 31!



Registration for Family Camp is underway. The cost is \$165 per person (+\$7 processing fee). 2023 Family Camp is October 6-8 at Camp Courage in Maple Lake. Learn more about family camp, our guest speaker, or to register, scan the code.

stmaryscamp.com/family-camp/



Young Women's Bible Study - Fall 2023

Continuing our spring session, we will regroup this fall to study the stories and people of the Old Testament. The group will meet on Tuesday evenings, September 19, October 3, 17, and 31, from 7:15 – 8:45 p.m. If you are interested in joining, please sign-up by September 4th with Patty Christopulos at 952.200.9566.

The Return of Parea Potlucks!

Parea—meaning company—Potlucks are a great opportunity to get to connected to other members of St. Mary's! We're looking for parishioners who would be willing to host a dinner for 4-10 others this October. Hosts provide the space for gathering and the main entree for the potluck. If interested, contact: jessica.e.buss@gmail.com

From the Desert Mothers...

"Constantly clean out the soul. Smoke out the poison and vermin of sinful thoughts with the divine incense of prayer."

-Amma Syncletica of Alexandria

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, August 21

II Corinthians 5:10-15 • Mark 3:13-21

Tuesday, August 22

II Corinthians 5:15-21 • Mark 1:16-22

Wednesday, August 23

Philippians 2:5-1 • Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

Thursday, August 24

II Corinthians 7:1-10 • Mark 1:29-35

Friday, August 25

Titus 1:1-5; 2:15; 3:1-2, 12-15 • Matthew 5:14-19

Saturday, August 26

Hebrews 10:32-38 • Matthew 20:29-34

Sunday, August 27 Twelfth Sunday of Matthew

Ephesians 6:10-17 • Matthew 19:16-26



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Fr. Timothy Sas, Fr. Jason Houck, Fr. John Kostas Fr. Paul Kalina, Deacon: Fr. Luke Twito, Deacon