



ST. MARY'S

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

January 28, 2024 — *Fifteenth Sunday of Luke*

THE DIVINE LITURGY

Commemoration

Fifteenth Sunday of Luke; Ephraim the Syrian;
Isaac the Syrian, Bishop of Ninevah; James the Righteous;
Palladios the Hermit of Antioch; Theodosius of Totma; Grace the Martyr.

Morning Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

Tone: First

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, First Tone

Although your tomb was sealed with a stone, O Savior, and your most pure body was guarded by the soldiers, you rose on the third day giving life to all the world. Therefore, O giver of life, the powers of heaven praise you:

Glory to your resurrection, O Christ. Glory to your kingdom.

Glory to your saving wisdom, O only lover of mankind.

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 Ephraim the Syrian, Plagal Fourth Tone

With the rivers of your tears you made the barren desert bloom; and with your sighs from deep within, you made your labors bear their fruits a hundredfold; and you became a star, illuminating the world by your miracles, O Ephraim, our devout father. Intercede with Christ our God, for the salvation of 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!

Kontakion of the Presentation of Christ, *First Tone*

For our salvation you took flesh and you sanctified the Virgin's womb; you blessed the aged Simeon as you lay resting in his arms; and having come to save us all, O Christ our God, to these troubled times, bring your lasting peace. Give strong and undaunted faith to all your people,
O only lover of mankind.

Epistle.....I Timothy 4:9-15

Timothy, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance. For to this end we toil and suffer reproach, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. Command and teach these things. Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Till I come, attend to the public reading of scripture, to preaching, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophetic utterance when the council of elders laid their hands upon you. Practice these duties, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress.

Gospel..... Luke 19:1-10

At that time, Jesus was passing through Jericho. And there was a man named Zacchaïos; he was a chief collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaïos, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaïos stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

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



Prayer Ministry

Please remember the sick, the suffering, and those in need, especially:

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; Chris, Joy Rose, Peter, Nick, John, Johnny, Demos, Kristina, Cleopatra, Demetra, Milton, Maureen, Andrea, Bryan, Nausika, Ron, Phillip Hibberd, Maria, Matt, Laura, Dorla, Susan, Elias, Constance, Evdoxia, Marina, Dion, Annali, Sofia, Juan Cruz & family, Charlie, Stan, Helena, Byrdie, Jennifer, John S., Becky, Noel, Stephen, Alexey, Alexandra, Ray, Christina, Joanne, Athena, the Muñoz family, Charlie, Nuala, Pamela, Avgi, Elena, Speranta, Liz, Efstratia, Jordan, David, Nino, Joe, Gigi, Zossima, Donnarae, Samira, Mary K., Monte, Bethany, Mark, Owen, Chrysanthi, Estelle, Justine, Melissa, Megan, Dallas, Lisa, Michael, Robbie, Judi, Evonne, James, Nichole, Constantine, Theodora, Mary, Irene Maria, Apostolos, Olivia, Lincoln, Carole, Patty, Karrisa, Corina, Tom, George R., Ken, Nancy and Tim, Olga, Peter, Cora and family, Bo, 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.

Stewardship



2024 Stewardship Pledges

Please take a moment to prayerfully complete a 2024 pledge form and return it to the church office as soon as possible. All members should have received their 2024 Stewardship packet. If you need a form, it is available online (scan the code), or contact the church office.

Digital Donation Options

Text to Give*: Text smgoc to 73256 • or Scan to Give

**This number will never send unsolicited texts.*



Today

Prosforo is provided by the prosforo baking workshop attendees

Memorial Prayers today are offered for
Harriett Cheolis (1 year); Sam Cheolis († September 28, 2010)

The coffee hour today is hosted by
the Cheolis family in memory of their parents Harriett and Sam.

Announcements

Food Shelf Needs for February 4

Canned Meal – large cans (e.g. Chili / Pork and Beans)

February's recipient is Simpson Food Pantry.
Please do not bring opened packages. They will be discarded.



St. Mary's Women's Book Club

Thursday, February 1, 7:00 p.m.

This year there is an exciting list of books that the Women's Book Club will be reading. We'll begin the new year on Thursday, February 1 with Fr. Anthony Coniaris' book, *The Greatest of All Sciences: To Know One's Self*. We will meet at 7:00 p.m. (following Great Vespers for the Presentation) in the 7th/8th grade church school room. The book can be purchased in the church bookstore for \$21.



FOCUS Benefit Concert

Pan-Orthodox Choir Ministry (POCM) is performing a benefit concert, "My Soul, Arise!" for FOCUS at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 9, at St. Mary's OCA Cathedral. Anyone interested in singing in the concert, or would like more information, feel free to contact Mark Wesche at POCM@stmarysoca.org. Rehearsals begin Friday, January 19, 7:00 p.m., at the Cathedral.

Calendar of the Week

Sunday, January 28: Fifteenth Sunday of Luke

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

11:45 a.m. – Church School Teachers' Meeting, Fireside Room

12:30 p.m. – HOPE / JOY Basketball Practice, Great Hall

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

Monday, January 29

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

Tuesday, January 30: Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs

9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy

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

Thursday, February 1: Eve of Presentation

9:30 a.m. – FAITH Play Group, Great Hall and Terrace Room

6:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

after Vespers – Telos Divine Liturgy Course (YAL)

7:00 p.m. – Women's Book Club, 7th/8th Grade Classroom

Friday, February 2: Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple

7:00 a.m. – Men's Fellowship, Fireside Room

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

Basketball Tournament in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin (through Sunday)

Saturday, February 3

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

5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

Sunday, February 4: Fifteenth Sunday of Matthew

"The Messenger" news item deadline - March 2024 issue

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

after Liturgy – Sweet Sunday, sponsored by Philoptochos



Lenten Dinners

Thank you to all who have taken a Wednesday to host a Lenten dinner!

We have only one Wednesday open to be filled. Wednesday, March 24, is the last day to be filled. If you would like to host the dinner that evening, please contact the Church Office to get on the schedule.



Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) News

Orthodox Christian Fellowship is a club on many college campuses across the country aiming to connect Orthodox college students. The U of M is fortunate to have a large chapter including students from surrounding colleges. We have biweekly meetings that stand as an opportunity for fellowship and spiritual growth with each other, while enjoying a meal by family or local church parishioners. If you are willing and able, please consider donating a meal so we can continue to grow our community together. Scan the QR code to sign up or reach out to Vasili Nicklow with any questions, nickl093@umn.edu



RSVP Link

OCF Gathering for High School Juniors and Seniors

Thursday, February 22

Calling all high school juniors and seniors! The University of Minnesota Orthodox Christian Fellowship student group is inviting YOU to come to campus and experience what Orthodox faith in college looks like! On Thursday, February 22, at 6:30 p.m. in Tate Hall on the U of M campus, come for dinner, a spiritual discussion, and a look into the life of an Orthodox Christian young adult! Please RSVP on this link and invite your friends to come along. Go Gophers!



Save the Dates! Vacation Church School

June 17-21, 8:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Registration coming soon! For children age 4 to those attending 6th grade in the fall. Also, middle and high school youth are needed for staff support.

Philoptochos News



Sweet Sunday

Sunday, February 11

We are looking for ladies to help this day with set-up, serving, and cleanup. You can sign up by scanning the QR code or at our table this morning.

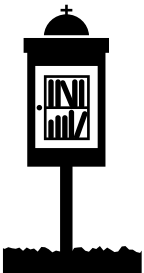


Membership Drive Is Starting

Our 2024 Membership Drive is underway! Check your mailbox for your form. You can drop your completed form and payment at our table in the Great Hall after Liturgy, by mailing it back in the enclosed envelope, or by going online at <https://stmarysgoc.org/giving/>. Select Philoptochos Contribution from the fund drop down menu.

"Membership in Philoptochos has introduced me to extraordinary organizations doing good works within our community ~ from FOCUS to Tandem. The partnerships and impact Philoptochos has demonstrated & inspired our family's philanthropic outreach. I'm grateful to the members and the mission of this ministry that is so central to the daily practice of our Orthodox faith."

—Melpomeni Murdakes



Our Little Orthodox Library Needs You

We are still looking for several volunteers to help with the management of our new Little Library outside the church. Sign up for a month, check it weekly, make sure it is stocked and that only Orthodox materials are there. Please stop by the Philoptochos table on Sundays to see how you can help. We would also love additional Orthodox books to help keep our stock full.

On the Saints...

“Search for the way of the Saints and you will discover that they have endured evil but have not returned it.”

— *Saint Isaiah the Solitary*

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, January 29

Hebrews 10:32-38 • Mark 9:33-41

Tuesday, January 30

Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs

Hebrews 13:7-16 • Matthew 5:14-19

Wednesday, January 31

I Corinthians 12:27-31; 13:1-8 • Matthew 10:1, 5-8

Thursday, February 1

Romans 8:28-39 • Luke 10:19-21

Friday, February 2

Presentation of Our Lord

Hebrews 7:7-17 • Luke 2:22-40

Saturday, February 3

Hebrews 9:11-14 • Luke 2:25-38

Sunday, February 4

Fifteenth Sunday of Matthew

II Corinthians 4:6-15 • Matthew 22:35-46



Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

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[@stmarysgoc](https://www.instagram.com/stmarysgoc)

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



ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL ORTHODOX BISHOPS

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

VOLUNTEER SUNDAY 2024

“The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve.” —Mark 10:45

Dear Beloved in Christ,

The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America has blessed the last Sunday of January as Volunteer Sunday, raising awareness about a new Agency of the Assembly, Orthodox Volunteer Corps (OVC). As the Episcopal Liaison to OVC, I invite you to join me in observing January 28 as Volunteer Sunday.

In the Gospel of Mark, Christ calls his disciples to an unexpected form of greatness—service.

You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.

Just as Christ called his first disciples to service, so he calls his followers today. Orthodox Volunteer Corps seeks to embody this call by providing a yearlong, domestic immersive service program for young adults (21-29 years old) combined with Orthodox formation, community living, and engagement with local parishes. OVC began programming in Pittsburgh in 2022 with 6 Corps Members, grew to 30 participants in 2023, and will expand to Boston in 2024. Corps Members serve alongside our most vulnerable neighbors—at homeless shelters, after-school programs, free medical clinics, and more.

Please join me in reminding the faithful of our call to serve and in raising awareness at our parishes of this new ministry of service, Orthodox Volunteer Corps.

In Christ,
(signed) Bishop Andrei
Episcopal Liaison to OVC

ST. MARY'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH INVITES YOU TO



SHOW YOUR LOVE FOR MISSIONS



Featured Speaker:

Nathan Hoppe

OCMC Missionary Serving in Albania &
OCMC's Longest Serving Missionary



Latest OCMC Updates By:

Dan Christopoulos

OCMC Development Director
OCMC's First Missionary



Thursday, February 8

Event Program 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

**A Champagne Toast to Missions
with Savory Appetizers and
Valentine's Day Desserts**

(Proceeds will benefit OCMC ministries around the world.)

Come and learn about OCMC's missionary efforts around the world. Hear the latest news and happenings from the mission field and how you can answer Christ's call to "go and make disciples of all nations."

**Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church
3450 IRVING AVENUE SOUTH, MPLS, MN 55408**

For Questions, Please Contact:

Event Chair, Terri Leckas at terri@queen-of-cakes.com

or OCMC Event Coordinator Elaine Drikakis at elained@ocmc.org

REGISTER FOR THE EVENT

OCMC.ORG/MINNEAPOLIS

