



ST. MARY'S

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

February 11, 2024 — *Sixteenth Sunday of Matthew*

THE DIVINE LITURGY

Commemoration

Sixteenth Sunday of Matthew; Blaise the Hieromartyr of Sebastia;
Theodora the Empress; Finding of the relics of Zachariah the Prophet,
Father of the Holy Forerunner; George the Serbian

Morning Gospel: Mark 16:9-20

Tone: Third

Variable Hymns and Readings in the Liturgy

At the Second Antiphon

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

At the Small Entrance

Resurrection Hymn, Third Tone

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord has shown the mighty power of his arm. He has trampled down death by death, becoming the firstborn of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell and has granted to all the world 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 the Theotokos, Second Tone

O unfailing protection of Christians, and our faithful advocate before the Creator: though we are sinners, do not ignore our entreaty; but in your goodness, grant your timely help to us who appeal to you in faith. Quickly make intercession; on our behalf make speedy supplication, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you

Epistle.....II Corinthians 6:1-10

Brethren, working together with him, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Gospel..... Matthew 25:14-30

The Lord said this parable: "A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents.'

For to every one who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.” As he said these things he cried out: “He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

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; The family of Georgia Fisher; Andrew, Dena, 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, Chrysanthy, Estelle, Justine, Melissa, Megan, Dallas, Lisa, Michael, Robbie, Judi, Evonne, James, Nichole, Constantine, Theodora, Mary, Irene Maria, Apostolos, Olivia, Lincoln, Carole, Patty, Karrisra, 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.

Today

Prosforo is provided by Presvytera Alexandra Houck.

Memorial Prayers are offered today for Sophia Mihas (1 year);
Γεωργία (Georgia) Kokinis, (4 years) mother of Bettina Hanna;
Aristides Apostolou (10 years)

The coffee hour is hosted today by the Mihas Family
in memory of Sophia.

Sacraments

Baptism

Sunday, February 11, 2024

William, parents: Alexis (Lake) and Stewart Utter

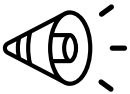
Announcements

Food Shelf Needs for February 18

Pancake mix & syrup

February's recipient is Simpson Food Pantry.

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



Philoxenia Charities Presentation

Next Sunday, February 18 ~ After Liturgy

Philoxenia Charities began as a ministry of Holy Anargyroi Greek Orthodox Church, Rochester, in 2004 with the purchase of a home. More homes were later added, and the ministry has since become its own 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Philoxenia Charities offers free temporary housing to Mayo Clinic patients in a safe and clean environment providing comfort to those in need. Every year, over 1.3 million patients visit the Mayo Clinic and receive expert care. In support of these patients, the housing units are in very high demand and booked out months in advance. Next Sunday, February 18, after Liturgy, Development Officer for Philoxenia Charities, John Mangouras, will be our guest and give a presentation about the charity and will give us the opportunity to support this vital ministry. Please plan to attend.



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!



Twin Cities YAL Volunteer with FOCUS Minnesota

Saturday, February 24 ~ 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

FOCUS Minnesota | 550 Rice St, St. Paul, MN, 55103

Twin Cities YAL are looking for 5-10 young adult volunteers (18 to 35-year-olds) to join them at FOCUS! Volunteer opportunities will include helping with various tasks around the center like sorting donations, organizing and cleaning, shelving food, and more. Sign up using the QR code. Email twincitiesyal@gmail.com with any questions.

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.*



Calendar of the Week

Sunday, February 11: Sixteenth Sunday of Matthew

8:30 a.m. – Matins; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
after Liturgy – Sweet Sunday, sponsored by Philoptochos
11:30 a.m. – Saint Olympia Event

Monday, February 12

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

Tuesday, February 13

9:30 a.m. – FAITH Play Group, Great Hall
12:00 noon – Senior Citizens' Valentine Party, Terrace Room
6:15 p.m. – Parish Council Meeting, Fireside Room

Wednesday, February 14

6:15 p.m. – Senior GOYA, Terrace Room

Thursday, February 15

6:30 p.m. – TELOS | YAL Divine Liturgy Course, Terrace Room
5:00-7:00 p.m. – Visitation for Georgia Fisher; Trisagion Service at 5:00 p.m.
Washburn-McReavy Robbinsdale Chapel, 4239 West Broadway, Robbinsdale

Friday, February 16

7:00 a.m. – Men's Fellowship, Fireside Room
11:00 a.m. – Funeral Service for Georgia Fisher (Visitation from 10:00 a.m.),
St. Mary's Church

Saturday, February 17: Saint Theodore

9:00 a.m. – Bible Study, Fireside Room
10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

Sunday, February 18: Sunday of the Canaanite

8:30 a.m. – Matins; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
after Liturgy – Philoxenia Charities Presentation, Terrace Room
11:45 a.m. – Missions and Outreach Committee Meeting, Fireside Room
11:45 a.m. – HOPE and JOY Meeting, Youth Room

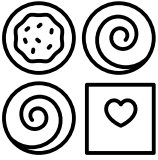


St. Mary's Bookstore Hours

Sundays, after the Liturgy until 1:00 p.m.

Stop by and explore the selection of Orthodox Christian literature, icons, and gifts.

Philoptochos News



Sweet Sunday is Today!

Stop in the Great Hall after Liturgy today and enjoy some amazing homemade sweets and baked goods along with other items. On this day we take a collection for a charitable organization. This year's recipient is the Philoxenia Charities in Rochester, Minnesota. This organization offers free temporary housing to Mayo Clinic patients and their families in a safe and clean environment providing comfort to those in need.



Become a Member of a Great Philanthropic Organization

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. If you by chance did not receive a packet in the mail, please stop by our table to pick one up.



"When I joined St. Mary's about eight years ago, I was not only new to the parish, but I was also new to Orthodoxy. I joined Philoptochos because I wanted to serve our community and build relationships with other Orthodox women. I have been so very blessed to meet dedicated, amazing women while fulfilling our mission. I can't imagine that my Orthodox journey would be complete without Philoptochos!"

—Lisa Gallmeyer, Philoptochos Board Vice President



Artos Workshop (for Artoclasia)

Saturday, February 24 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Learn to bake the bread for the Artoclasia Service (blessing of the five loaves) that takes place at various times throughout the year. The workshop will be held in St. Mary's kitchen on Saturday, February 24, starting at 11:00 a.m. Please sign up using the code or at our table in the Great Hall.



Registration

Registration is Open for Vacation Church School (VCS)

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

Registration is underway for this year's VCS "Launch Into Liturgy." VCS is five days of music, worship, activities, snacks, and games for children age 4 to those entering 6th grade in the fall. Use the code to register your child. Also, middle and high school youth are needed for staff support. If your teen is available and willing to help, please also sign them up.



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



Spanakopita Sale

Sunday, March 24

The Daughters of Penelope spanakopita sale will be held on Sunday, March 24, in the Great Hall following Liturgy. Stock up for your Pascha celebration!



St. Olympia Upcoming Events

Friday, March 8

Kolivia workshop in the evening—sponsored by Philoptochos. Feel free to bring your mom, dad, yiayia, or other family members too. Sign up info coming soon.

Lazarus Saturday, April 27

Help prepare our church for Pascha. We will begin after the Liturgy, around 11:00 a.m. Bring your family.

Saint Olympia the Deaconess is a new ministry at St. Mary's that aims to involve our young women in areas of service to the Church and the poor, which Saint Olympia exemplified. This ministry is led by Elena and Zoe Gabor.



FEBRUARY 2024

MESSAGES *from* the METROPOLIS

www.chicago.goarch.org

LATEST NEWS



SCAN FOR
MORE NEWS

1/15 Metropolis of Chicago invites Chicago area parishes to help determine the future location of the Metropolis Center campus

1/29 Metropolis Council looks ahead to continued change and growth over 2024 as new members are sworn in and assume their responsibilities

UPCOMING EVENTS



SCAN FOR
MORE EVENTS

2/16-19 YAL Chicago Conference, an opportunity for Orthodox Christian young adults, ages 18-35, to come together in faith, fellowship, worship and service. *Hyatt Regency O'Hare Chicago (Rosemont, IL).*

3/11 Fanari Summer Camp Registration Opens

4/13 Fanari Lenten Retreat, *Multiple Locations*

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE EMAIL UPDATES:

www.chicago-goarch.org/sign-up

On Passions...

The Orthodox Church teaches us to be careful in this world of passions and sinful temptations. “If you bear your weakness constantly in mind, you will not overstep the bounds of caution.”

— *Saint Isaac the Syrian*

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, February 12

James 2:14-26 • Mark 10:46-52

Tuesday, February 13

James 3:1-10 • Mark 11:11-23

Wednesday, February 14

James 3:11-18; 4:1-6 • Mark 11:22-26

Thursday, February 15

Philemon 1:1-25 • Mark 11:27-33

Friday, February 16

I Peter 1:1-25; 2:1-10 • Mark 12:1-12

Saturday, February 17

Saint Theodore the Recruit

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

Sunday, February 18

Sunday of the Canaanite

II Corinthians 6:16-18; 7:1 • Luke 24:1-12



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*