



# ST. MARY'S

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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February 25, 2024

*Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee; Triodion Begins*

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## THE DIVINE LITURGY

### *Commemoration*

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee: Triodion Begins Today;  
Tarasius, Patriarch of Constantinople; Reginos, Bishop of Skopelos;  
Holy Martyr Alexander of Thrace; Markellos, Bishop of Apamea.

*Morning Gospel: Luke 24:12-35*

*Tone: Plagal First*

### **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, Plagal First Tone**

To the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, let us, the faithful, give praise and worship. For he willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to endure death and raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

### **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 Publican and Pharisee, Fourth Tone**

Let us flee the boastful words of the pharisee and learn humility from the sighs of the publican; let us cry out to the Savior: Spare us, for You alone are rich in forgiveness.

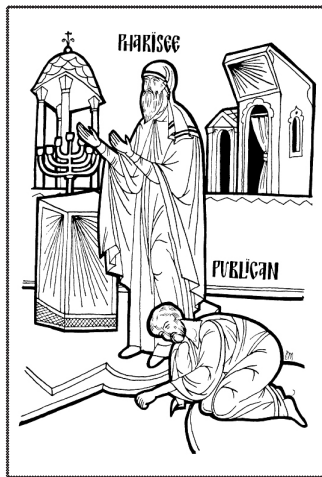
**Epistle.....II Timothy 3:10-15**

TIMOTHY, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

**Gospel..... Luke 18:10-14**

The Lord said this parable, “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

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



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# Prayer Ministry

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*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; Angie, 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, 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.

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## Today

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Prosforo is provided by **Yana Patridge**.

Memorial Prayers are offered today for  
**Byron Zotaley (40 days)**

The coffee hour is hosted today by **Anna Paulson** and **Kathy Economou**.

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# Announcements

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## Food Shelf Needs for March 3

### *Oatmeal or Cream of Wheat*

*March's recipient is FOCUS Minnesota.*

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

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## Blood Drive

**Saturday, March 9 ~ 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

*The number one reason people say they've never given blood is that nobody ever asked. We're asking you now. Will you give?* The Hellenic Squadron 129, Sons of the American Legion is hosting a blood drive at St Mary's Church in the North Parking Lot on Saturday, March 9. The Bloodmobile is **limited to 30 appointments** that must be scheduled in advance online. Scan the code to schedule your donor appointment or visit a sign up table in the social hour after Liturgy. The Sons of the American Legion will provide a pancake breakfast to all donors who attend their scheduled appointments. Try to come early to your appointment and eat before you donate.

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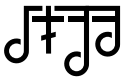


## FOCUS Minnesota News

The bag lunch is very, very popular on Mondays-Thursdays. This spring, FOCUS would like to expand to Fridays. To make this happen, they need several people to commit to eight Fridays from 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. to make and hand out lunches. It is a great way to directly feed the community and your soul. To volunteer, contact Laraine at [focustwincities@gmail.com](mailto:focustwincities@gmail.com) or 651.222.0712.

FOCUS's Minnesota Director, Vera Proctor, is retiring on July 31, 2024, after 14 years of developing and leading the work in the Twin Cities. Candidates interested in applying and training with Vera should contact her at [vsproctor@gmail.com](mailto:vsproctor@gmail.com) or 651.222.0712.

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## FOCUS Benefit Concert

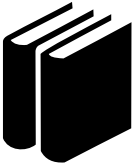
Saturday, March 9 ~ 7:00 p.m.

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. Contact Mark Wesche at [POCM@stmarysoca.org](mailto:POCM@stmarysoca.org). with any questions.

## Grief Support Group

Tuesdays, March 4 – April 9

The Grief Support Group will meet on Tuesdays, March 4-April 9, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral, 1701 5th St. NE, Minneapolis. Topics of discussion will be the impact of grief on the mind, body, and spirit, as well as things you can do to help ease the process. We'll also learn about complicated grief and how to get additional support if needed. If you are interested in attending, please send an email to: [Stmarysgrieffgroup@gmail.com](mailto:Stmarysgrieffgroup@gmail.com). Contact Joni Snidarich with any questions at 612.910.0855.



## 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.



## 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. If you need a form, it is available online (scan the code), or contact the church office. *Please remember that to be considered a Steward in good standing for 2024, you must return your pledge forms to the church office by March 31.*

### Digital Donation Options

**Text to Give\***: Text [smgoc](tel:73256) to 73256 • **or Scan to Give**

*\*This number will never send unsolicited texts.*



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# Calendar of the Week

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## Sunday, February 25: Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee; Triodion Begins

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

11:30 a.m. – Philoptochos Meeting, Terrace Room

11:30 a.m. – Greek Dance Practice, Lecture Room

## Monday, February 26

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

## Tuesday, February 27

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

6:30 p.m. – Grief Support Group, Fireside Room

## Thursday, February 29

6:30 p.m. – Telos | YAL Divine Liturgy Course, Terrace Room

## Friday, March 1

7:00 a.m. – Men's Fellowship (Judges 5-6), Fireside Room

## Saturday, March 2

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

5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

after Vespers – Bring a Friend Reception, Terrace Room

## Sunday, March 3: The Prodigal Son

“The Messenger” News Item Deadline

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

11:30 a.m. – Greek Dance Practice, Lecture Room



METROPOLIS  
OF CHICAGO



RSVP Here

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## Metropolitan Myron of New Zealand to Visit Illinois

Monday, February 26 ~ 6:00 p.m.

*Paraklesis Service with Dinner and Presentation to Follow*

*“If you wish to leave much wealth to your children, leave them in God’s care. Do not leave them riches, but virtue and skill”*

*—St. John Chrysostom*

His Eminence, Metropolitan Myron of New Zealand and Exarch of Oceania will give a presentation at St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church (2350 East Dempster St., Des Plaines, Illinois) tomorrow evening following a Paraklesis service. His Eminence will discuss building a school in Fiji, Saint John’s College, missionary work, and being a medical doctor. Scan the code to RSVP. A free-will donation recommended.

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# Philoptochos News

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## Become a Member of a Great Philanthropic Organization

Our 2024 Membership Drive continues until March 31st. You can drop your completed form at our table after Liturgy in the Great Hall, by mailing it back in the enclosed envelope, or by going online at <https://stmarysgoc.org/giving/>. (Click Offering- Philoptochos Contribution). If you by chance did not receive a packet in the mail, please stop by our table to pick one up.



*“The Philoptochos women embody a remarkable spirit of hospitality, warmth, and inclusiveness. I love that members actively contribute by planning fun activities and attending meetings with engaging guest speakers who showcase the boundless possibilities available. Engaging in a diverse array of activities, it’s easy for me to discover volunteer opportunities that align with my schedule, whether during the day or the evening, or any time of the year. Despite my frequent travels to Oregon and California to visit my children, I always feel welcomed to participate whenever I am available. My advice to you: Bring your helping hands, and friendly faces will greet you with open arms!”*

—Cathy Selin, Philoptochos Member

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## Philoptochos General Meeting Today

**Sunday, February 25 ~ 11:30 a.m.**

Our guest speaker will be our own Maria Boosalis Estep, PHD, MPH, RDN, LD. She will speak about the Blue Zone and Eating Well, the Mediterranean Diet. Come learn all about this as well as all the wonderful things coming up for Philoptochos in the next couple of months. Hope to see you there. Food will be provided.

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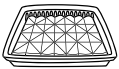


## Koliva Workshop

**Friday, March 8, 6:00 p.m.**

Philoptochos will be holding a workshop on how to make Koliva (sweet wheat for memorials). All are welcome to attend. Stop by our table to sign up or scan the code.

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## Filo Sale Starting March 3

Beginning March 3, stop by our table during the social hour and see Andrea Tiggas to place your order. The cost will be \$6.00 per lb. (check or cash when you place your order.) Pickup will be on March 24.



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 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

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## 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

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## 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!

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## St. Olympia Upcoming Events

Friday, March 8

Kolivia workshop at 6:00 p.m.—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.*





GREAT VESPERS • PRESENTATION • REFRESHMENTS

**Saturday,  
March 2, 2024  
5:00–7:00 p.m.**

**Come experience the  
Ancient Christian Church  
and learn about the faith.**

The Missions and Outreach Committee is hosting St. Mary's 2024 semi-annual Bring-A-Friend-After-Vespers reception. This is a great way to introduce our faith to our friends and family in a pressure free way! After Vespers there will be a brief introduction to the Orthodox church and an informal reception in the Terrace Room.

Please RSVP by Monday, February 26, using the code or with the church office. RSVPs are not required but appreciated to plan our refreshments.



**ST. MARY'S**  
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

3450 IRVING AVE. SOUTH, MPLS, MN 55408 | 612.825.9595

## On Wealth and Fame...

“Wealth, fame, and the other things of this life all lack substance, for there is nothing clear and distinct about them...We ourselves give them substance when in our thoughts we shape fantasies about things that serve no real purpose.”

— *Saint Neilos the Ascetic of Sinai*

### Daily Bible Readings

#### *Monday, February 26*

II Peter 1:20-21; 2:1-9 • Mark 13:9-13

#### *Tuesday, February 27*

II Peter 2:9-22 • Mark 13:14-23

#### *Wednesday, February 28*

II Peter 3:1-18 • Mark 13:24-31

#### *Thursday, February 29*

I John 1:8-10; 2:1-6 • Mark 13:31-37; 14:1-2

#### *Friday, March 1*

I John 2:7-17 • Mark 14:3-9

#### *Saturday, March 2*

I Timothy 6:11-16 • Luke 20:46-47; 21:1-4

#### *Sunday, March 3*

#### *Sunday of the Prodigal Son*

I Corinthians 6:12-20 • Luke 15:11-32



***Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church***

3450 Irving Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408-3399

612.825.9595 | [stmarysgoc.org](http://stmarysgoc.org)



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