



THE MESSENGER

APRIL 2024

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Gus Schumacher (USA) sends Minneapolis wild with his first Cross-country Skiing World Cup victory. Photo: @nordicfocus

Our 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



METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO

We All Need Encouragement

Earlier this year, Minneapolis hosted the cross-country skiing world cup. Perhaps we have watched this or something similar—like the skiing events of the Winter Olympics—on T.V. One thing you can count on is that there are always crowds of cheering spectators. The spectators cheer on the athletes with shouts, clapping, cow bells, and signs. The grueling races are difficult to complete. The athletes get tired. It takes a high level of self-control to train for and complete the race. They need encouragement.

Throughout Lent we, as an Orthodox Church, fast. The Lord Himself said about His disciples, “they will fast” (Matthew 9:14, see also Acts 13 and 14). Fasting can be challenging—perhaps even grueling at times—throughout the Lenten season. Fasting offers an opportunity to increase our self-control and discipline. One of my favorite spiritual words in Greek is ἐγκράτεια “self-control.” The word means having power over oneself and has the connotation of having inward strength. Fasting is an important practice to increase our self-control and inward spiritual strength.

But fasting isn't easy. The prescribed fast—no meat, dairy products, fish, and olive oil on most days of Lent with lightened days of fasting on weekends, Palm Sunday, and Annunciation—is not easy to keep. It takes discipline and self-control. It is sometimes exhausting. Many of us need to slowly work up over time to practice the full fast. Many of us are too old, or too young, or too sick to keep the full fast—the canons (rules) of the Church allow for that.

(continued on page 4)

Our Life Together

Baptism

Mia

Parents: James & Maggie Menter
March 10, 2024

Death

Evelyn Kordaris

March 15, 2024

May her memory be eternal.

Share YourShelf

April's recipient is

Community Emergency Service
(CES)

IMMEDIATE NEEDS:

pasta sauce, ground coffee, canned fruit (peaches, mixed fruit), hygiene (Individually wrapped toothpaste, toothbrush, bar soap, razors, shampoo)

Sunday, April 3

Individually wrapped bars of soap

Sunday, April 14

Diapers (Size 5)

Sunday, April 21

Hygiene items (Individually wrapped toothpaste, soap, shampoo, conditioner, razors)

Sunday, April 28

Individually wrapped toothbrushes and toothpaste

Consider asking your dentist for a donation of toothbrushes, toothpaste, and / or mouthwash



Donate Online,
Visit the site, then
select "Make
Donation"

www.cesmn.org

Fellowship and Study Groups

Intercessory Prayer

Wednesdays, April 3 and 17
11:00 a.m.
Nave Chapel

Koinonia

Thursday, April 25
6:30 p.m.
Meeting Room 1

Men's Fellowship

Fridays, April 5 and 19
7:00 a.m.
Fireside Room

Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays, April 3 and 17
11:30 a.m.
Fireside Room

Save the Dates

Spring Parish Assembly

Sunday, April 21
11:30 a.m. in the Great Hall
Details will be forthcoming

Orthodox Game League

Saturday, May 11, 7:00 p.m.
Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, St. Paul
More information in the May issue.



Palm Sunday is April 28

Worship Schedule Weekend

Sundays (live-streamed)

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

(NOTE: No Saturday Evening
Vespers during Great Lent)

Lenten Schedule

Sundays

5:00 p.m. - Pan-Orthodox
Lenten Vespers

(various locations—see
included flyer on page 11
for details on locations)

Wednesdays

4:00 p.m. - Holy Confession
5:30 p.m. - Divine Liturgy of the
Presanctified Gifts

7:00 p.m. - Lenten Dinner;
Youth Programs;
Church School
Confession

7:30 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 18

6:00 p.m. - Great Canon of
St. Andrew

Fridays

4:00 p.m. - Holy Confession
6:00 p.m. - Salutations to the
Theotokos
(April 5 and 12)

Akathist Hymn
(April 19)



Parish News & Events

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

Office Manager

David Mertesdorf

Office Assistant

Giulia Chatfield

Communications & Marketing

Nikolas Kouzes

Finance

Michael Rakes

Ministry Support

Doria Saros

Youth Director

Scott Rudquist

Church School Director

Dena Tortorelis

Chanter

Joseph Karos

Choir Director

Emily Skoutelas

Organist

Mark Macres

St. Mary's Parish Council

President

Jeannie Possis

Vice President

Louis Tiggas

Secretary

Elisabeth (Libby) Cheolis

Treasurer

Cristina Nicklow

Assistant Treasurer

Athena Mihas

Members

Benjamin Amundgaard

Alex Dascalos

Sam Hanna

Andrew LeRoy

Dean Psychogios

Sophia Rouman

Nicholas P. Santrizos



Thank you

Thank you AHEPA and American Legion for the generous sponsorship of the beautiful Perpetual Plaque recognizing the long and illustrious history of St. Mary's participation in the Greek Orthodox Western Region Men's and Women's Basketball Tournaments.

Lazarus Saturday Family Service Day

Saturday, April 27

We invite everyone to take part in our Lazarus Saturday Family Service Day. Matins begins at 9:00 a.m. followed by Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m. Following Liturgy, we will join together for a potluck lunch. Please bring a Lenten dish to share. The Service Day projects will follow and include cleaning and preparing the church for Holy Week and plaiting palm crosses. It's a joy filled day! We'll also provide peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the kids. A SignUpGenius will be available soon. Please stay tuned!



Saint Mary's Seniors' Meeting

Tuesday, April 9

St. Mary's Seniors meeting and social will be held on Tuesday, April 9, at 12:00 noon, in the Terrace Room. A Lenten lunch will be hosted by our officers, followed by a program, and business meeting. We will celebrate all March and April birthdays and anniversaries with a delicious cake by Queen of Cakes, and a group photo will be taken. Further program details will be announced in the Sunday bulletins. All St. Mary's seniors (55+) are welcome to join our lively group. Dues are \$15 per year. For further information, please contact President Tessie Bourdamis or any current officer.



Update on St. Mary's Young Adult Ministry YAM

As a result of our YAM survey, we learned the young adults of St. Mary's are indeed searching for and wanting more spiritual programs, yet have limited time in their busy lives. We just finished our first spiritual program - The Divine Liturgy Course - developed by Faithtree Resources and facilitated by Cindy and Paul Karos. There was a wonderful turnout of 34 young adults participating over the 4 session series. Both cradle Orthodox and those learning about Orthodoxy were in attendance. They learned how to be more engaged in the Divine Liturgy and make a more lasting change in their relationship with God by extending the growth in the worship services into personal prayer in the home.



(continued from page 1)



This April, we have encouraging fans to help us complete the race. In the narthex, we have some “fans” who cheer us on through the sometimes grueling race, giving us encouragement. On April 4, we have the famous ascetic saint, St. George of Mt. Maleon (the saint on the far right) encouraging us with a fanfare sign. The scroll he

holds reads, “Brethren, let us labor for a little while, in order that we might rule for eternity.” In other words, by our short ascetic labors (which includes fasting) in this life, may we rule in the kingdom of heaven, forever. St. George of Maleon is encouraging us to keep up in the race.



Another fan we will find in the Narthex is on April 19. The Saint on the far left is the Holy Hieromartyr Paphnoutios. He also holds a scroll encouraging us to keep up the race. The scroll he holds quotes Romans 8:18, “I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to

us.” In the context of Lent, St. Paphnoutios points us to Romans 8:18, reminding us that our current struggles—which includes fasting—are not worth comparing to the glory that we hope for in heaven. In other words, our sufferings now are worth the effort since we have our eyes on the end of the race—entrance into Paradise.

Fasting is one of the many spiritual practices we use to run the race toward God. I pray that you all have a fruitful fast—not one that is Pharisaical—but rather leads to better self-control and growth toward God.

Wishing you a blessed Lent,
Fr. Jason Houck

Young Women’s Bible Study

The Young Women’s Bible Study will resume meeting this spring. This season’s topic is the Gospel of Mark. Meetings are held at Patty Christopulos’ home, 5312 Highwood Drive, Edina, on Tuesdays from 7:15-8:45 p.m. The study begins at 7:30 p.m.

- Tuesday, April 2 – Mark chapters 1-4
- Tuesday, April 16 – Mark chapters 5-8
- Tuesday, April 30 – No meeting due to Holy Week
- Tuesday, May 14 – Mark chapters 9-12
- Tuesday, May 28 – Mark chapters 13-16

PLEASE sign up by texting Patty at 952.200.9566 by March 24. Materials to prepare for each session will be emailed in advance by Patty Christopulos who will lead the study.

New Ministry...Housekeeping!

We are in the planning stages of beginning a new ministry at St. Mary’s. This one is for the cleaners in our midst (men and women, young or more mature). Our janitorial crew does the major cleaning as well as all the room set ups and take downs for our events throughout the week. However, they do not do the detail cleaning. That is up to us. This new ministry will meet once or twice a month during the day (when the sun is brightest and we can see the cobwebs) to clean sections of the building. We will not do the entire building each time, just manageable sections. All interested and able-bodied cleaners are asked to contact David in the church office and let us know which weekdays and times work best for you. Based on the responses, we will schedule the day and time (we would prefer to begin in the later morning). You can e-mail David at david@stmarysgoc.org, or call the office, 612.825.9595.

Baklava Help Needed

Mark your calendars for these upcoming Festival baklava project dates:

- Monday, June 3**
12:00 noon-8:00 p.m. - assembly
- Wednesday, June 12**
12:00 noon-8:00 p.m, - assembly
- Thursday, June 13**
11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. - cut, clove, and syrup.

We possibly may need to finish up on Friday, June 14, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon - syrup. Sign up coming soon! Questions? Contact Elena Gabor, 952.288.3011.



No Philoptochos meetings this month!

Upcoming Activities

Philoptochos to Serve Dinner at FOCUS

April 7

Philoptochos is hosting the free Sunday night meal at FOCUS Minnesota on April 7. Please watch for the Sign-Up Genius email inviting you to contribute a part of the pasta meal or volunteer to serve. If you have questions, please contact Mary Ellis, zellism@gmail.com, or Paulette Hastings, pmg.hastings@gmail.com. Thank you for helping us prepare more than 200 meals for people in need. You can sign up at the Philoptochos table, or access the Sign Up Genius by scanning the QR code.



Women's Book Club Discussion

April 11

Book Club will meet on April 11 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. The book for April will be: *The Crucifixion of the King of Glory: The Amazing History and Sublime Mystery of the Passion* by Eugenia Scarvelis Constantinou. It is available for purchase in the bookstore now! Need to sign up? Contact Katherine Boosalis (katherine@boosalis.net). (If you have declined a book club meeting invitation in the past, your email may have inadvertently been omitted in future invitations.)

MEOCCA Vesper Meal

April 14

We will be serving dinner following the 5:00 p.m. MEOCCA Pan-Orthodox Vespers on Sunday, April 14. Watch the bulletin for more information to volunteer!

Tandem Baby Bottle and Needs Drive Through April 28

This Lent, we are hosting our annual drive for Tandem Family Resource Center, but with a twist. In addition to our Baby Bottle Drive, we are asking for a bit more this year as their needs continue to grow and the ministry grows and develops new resources. The "needs" drive will continue through Palm Sunday, April 28. The needs requested include baby diapers and essentials, newborn clothes, socks, formula, and personal hygiene needs for the mamas.

Decorating the Sanctuary for Holy Week and Pascha

Watch the bulletin for opportunities to help decorate the sanctuary for Holy Week and Pascha. Sign up at the Philoptochos table after Liturgy.

Philoptochos Table Coverage

Each Sunday after Liturgy, volunteers provide friendly faces and information on how to participate in various activities. If you enjoy talking about Philoptochos, we welcome you to stop by the Philoptochos table to sign up for a Sunday (or Sundays) that work for you!

Lenten Dinner – Volunteers Needed!

March 27

The Lenten meal will be hosted by Philoptochos on Wednesday, March 27. Stop by our table during the coffee hour on Sundays throughout the month to sign up or please watch for the Sign-Up Genius.

Thank You

...to volunteers who helped with the Lenten Dinner on March 27.

...**Andrea Tiggas** for once again managing filo sales!
...**Sandra Anderson** for coordinating the Tandem Family Resource Center Baby Bottle and Needs Drive!

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

Youth News & Events



(birth through pre-K)
Saturday, April 6, 10:00 a.m.
Great Hall
Tuesday, April 16, 9:30 a.m.
Great Hall and Terrace Room



HOPE (K-grade 2)
JOY (grades 3-5)

Wednesday, April 10, 6:45-8:00 p.m.
Lenten Mini Meeting. We will be exploring the significance of serving others and how it impacts our lives in a positive way.

Saturday, April 13, 2:00-8:00 p.m.
Lenten Fanari Retreat. The retreat will be a day in the life of camp, and will include: Worship, Orthodox Life, games, song night, and much more! All 5th-12th graders are invited to join us!

Wednesday, April 17, 6:45-8:00 p.m.
Grades 3-4 Confession. After Presanctified Liturgy these grades will take confession.

Wednesday, April 24, 6:45-8:00 p.m.
Grade 2 First Confession. After Presanctified Liturgy second grade will take their first confession.



(grades 6-8)

Wednesday, April 3, 6:45-8:00 p.m.
Lenten Confession night for all 7th and 8th graders.

Saturday, April 13, 2:00-8:00 p.m.
Lenten Fanari Retreat. The retreat will be a day in the life of camp, and will include: Worship, Orthodox Life, games, song night, and much more! All 5th-12th graders are invited to join us!

Wednesday, April 17, 6:45-8:00 p.m.
Lenten Mini Meeting: Q&A session with Father Tim.



(grades 9-12)

Wednesday, April 3, 6:45-8:00 p.m.
Making care packages and Game Night.

Saturday, April 13, 2:00-8:00 p.m.
Lenten Fanari Retreat. The retreat will be a day in the life of camp, and will include: Worship, Orthodox Life, games, song night, and much more! All 5th-12th graders are invited to join us!

Saturday-Sunday, April 13-14, 8:00 p.m.-8:30 a.m.
After the Fanari retreat (on April 13 from 2:00 -8:00 p.m.), we will be having a Lenten Lock-in at the church.

Wednesday, April 24: 6:45-8:00 p.m.
Lenten Mini Meeting. Q&A session with a priest.

Fanari Day Camp

- Date: Saturday, April 13
- Time: 2:00-8:00 p.m.
- The retreat will be a day in the life of camp, and will include Worship, Orthodox Life, games, song night, and much more! All 5th-12th graders are invited to join us!



Follow the GOYAns on Instagram
@St_Marys_GOYA

Youth Feedback

If you have any comments, suggestions, or concerns regarding our youth program(s) please let us know. We have a new formal feedback process. Go to our St Mary's home page-Click on "Youth," then "Youth Program Feedback" Your comments will be forwarded to a member of the Parish Council and will be reviewed for follow up.

Youth News & Events



Church School During Lent

Almsgiving

Almsgiving is one of the focuses. Please remember to bring your offering weekly and place in the blue box on the wall in the upper hallway, even if it is a quarter or a dime. Let's try and fill the box by Holy Week.

All students should also have received a Coin Box for Missions in March. Please try to fill that up as well and return it on Palm Sunday to your classroom. Extras are available in the resource room. See Mrs. Tortorelis or Mrs. Georgia Andron if you didn't receive one yet.

Doing extra chores or giving up something you usually buy is a good way to collect money for both of these. Don't just get money from your parents - work for the Lord!

Confession by class continues

Wednesday, April 3: Grades 7 and 8
Wednesday, April 10: Grades 9 and 10
Wednesday, April 17: Grades 3 and 4
Wednesday, April 24: Grade 2
You may also go before any of the Pre-Sanctified Liturgies if that works better for your schedule.

Looking Ahead

Mark your calendars for the Holy Friday Retreat on May 3, for all students preschool through grade 12. Excused absence letters will be available to take into the attendance office.

Students in grades 7-12: A reminder for those participating in the **St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival**, your speeches will be given **Sunday, March 31**.



**ST. MARY'S
CAMP**
EST. 1952



Saturday, June 29 – Friday, July 5, 2024
Camp Wapogasset • Amery, Wisconsin

**CAMP REGISTRATION CLOSES:
MARCH 31, 2024**

For more information and to register, visit:
stmaryscamp.com



Email Questions to: camp@stmaryscamp.com

SAINT MARY'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH PRESENTS



VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL
JUNE 17-21, 2024 | 8:45 a.m. – 12 Noon

Children, age 4 to those entering 6th grade in the fall, are invited to attend Vacation Church School—five days of music, worship, activities, snacks, and games. Middle and high school youth are needed for staff support. If your teen is available and willing to help, please also sign them up. Scan the code to register your child.

REGISTER TODAY



Missions & Outreach

Evangelize, Learn, Serve. What powerful words shared by a Bishop. What a beautiful thing to start your day with prayer, and to pray throughout the day. What a beautiful thing to serve and what a beautiful thing to evangelize.

Evangelize.



Come and See

It was a lovely evening for the “Come and See” Vespers. There were several folks who drove from Blaine to “Come and See.” One young man shared his search for faith and came back Sunday to see the full Liturgy and to ask more questions. We could see that he felt welcome to see and ask. And another, who is a young mom with her child felt the faith of “Come and See” and plans to come each Sunday as her schedule allows. Yes! They Come and See the One True Faith!



New and Newer People to Meet

This first Mixer of 2024, March 10, was held as a way to connect new visitors/members with Ambassadors to feel “welcome.” Reaching out to greet and talk with new members and visitors is very, very important and a wonderful thing to do, “Everyone has been so friendly,” you would be an Evangelist by doing this. As a little reminder, be sure to stop by the Missions and Outreach Display to see the pictures and names so that you can welcome all to St. Mary’s. Isn’t this wonderful and such a blessing to meet the newcomers and to share and to help them learn more about Orthodoxy.

Learn.

Saturday Bible Study

St. Mary’s continues to be blessed with Saturday morning Bible Study. Each teacher brings a new light as they share what they have studied and learned from the Orthodox teachings. We are now learning about the historical pieces of Galatians. Do come or attend by Zoom.

Serve.

The Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign (February 26-April 6, 2024)

A reminder of the few remaining days to serve by sharing food for the working poor and homeless to Community Emergency Service (CES) FoodShare Campaign. Bring the food to St. Mary’s for CES to pick up from their box/barrel. It feels good to help in this way. Look for more information in the weekly bulletins.

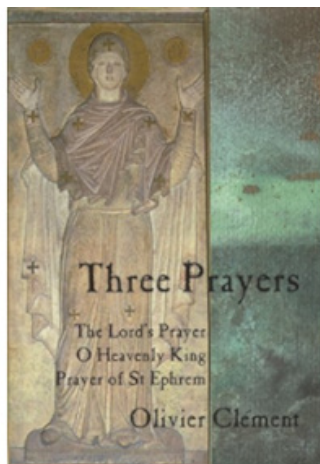


To donate to CES, scan the code and select “Make Donation”

In the Bookstore

By Rebecca Myerly

bookstore@stmarysgoc.org



Three Prayers: Our Father, O Heavenly King, The Prayer of Saint Ephrem is a book of reflections on these prayers by Olivier Clement. He writes:

On my own, I never would have presumed to comment on these simple and fundamental texts: the Our Father, the prayer to the Holy Spirit (“O Heavenly King...”), and the penitential prayer of St Ephrem. The first is

of immeasurable value for all Christians, while the other two are drawn from the heritage of the undivided Church which the Orthodox Church has preserved and now offers to all. (vii)

He continues, explaining that he received “specific, persistent requests” to speak on these prayers. (vii) Thanks to his obedience, we have this book. He comments: “I had been “mulling over” these prayers for quite some time. I continued to do so [after giving talks on them] until I had reworked...and greatly expanded them.” (viii)

In the preface to this book, Clement himself wrote descriptions and introductions for and to each prayer:

The Our Father is the prayer that Christ Himself taught His disciples and which the Church has handed down to us, First and foremost, as the Fathers say (I am thinking especially of the marvelous commentary by St Maximus the Confessor), it invokes the three divine Persons and their common will, then going on to the disposition which man needs in order to enter into the trinitarian realm, to make use of time eucharistically, to seek freedom through grace and an unselfish respect for others, the rejection of ultimate apostasy, and participation in Christ’s victory over hell and death.

The Spirit gives us Christ who, in turn, gives us the Spirit. We receive this Spirit “for the life of the world,” within the ecclesial body of the Risen One who draws every man out of nothingness. The prayer of the Holy Spirit opens us up to this breath of life, of communion and of freedom. But nothing that endures can be acquired without an ascesis of trust and humility—as St Seraphim of Sarov used to say, the life of a Christian consists in the “acquisition of the Holy Spirit.”

The penitential prayer of St Ephrem, who was known in the fourth century as “the lyre of the Holy Spirit,” shows us both the obstacles and the path which leads to that rare and difficult “love” which is the “synthesis of all virtue.” (viii)

This is a small short book—only 84 pages, but it is filled and overflowing with reflections and wisdom given to one truly listening to God, communicating His mind to us in His love. While considering each phrase in each prayer, Clement invites the reader through the reflections he offers to explore considerations and dimensions often overlooked even by people who have prayed these prayers for a long time.

One underlying and overarching aspect of these prayers is their eucharistic dimensions, which Clement elucidates directly in his reflections on the Our Father and more implicitly in the other two prayers:

Eucharistic communion is sharing. As St John Chrysostom would say, the sacrament of “one’s neighbor” cannot be separated from that of “the altar.”...We must first put sharing into practice from one person to another, from one family to another, and...within our parishes, which we hope to see grow more or less into genuine communities. We must lay the foundation within our own environment; we must emphasize it in our social stance....Again, we must do so on the scale of the entire human race. (30-31)

The reader of Three Prayers will find much to ponder and pray on all levels and in all aspects of living in prayer—immersed in these prayers one can grow in awareness and appreciation of the blessing each prayer is and the guidance each one gives.



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.

St. Mary's 2024 Stewardship



In 2024, we are continuing our stewardship theme of "Ownership, Engagement and Generosity: Commit to St. Mary's." We thank the many parishioners who have already submitted their

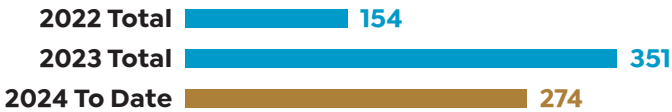
Time and Talent pledge forms for 2024. Thank you for committing to Christ and His Church!

As of March 18, 2024, we have received a total of \$185,659 in Offering payments.

- This represents 12.5% of this year's budget for ministries and operating expenses
- The goal is to cover 100% of ministry and operating costs each year with Stewardship Income rather than relying on rental and festival income.

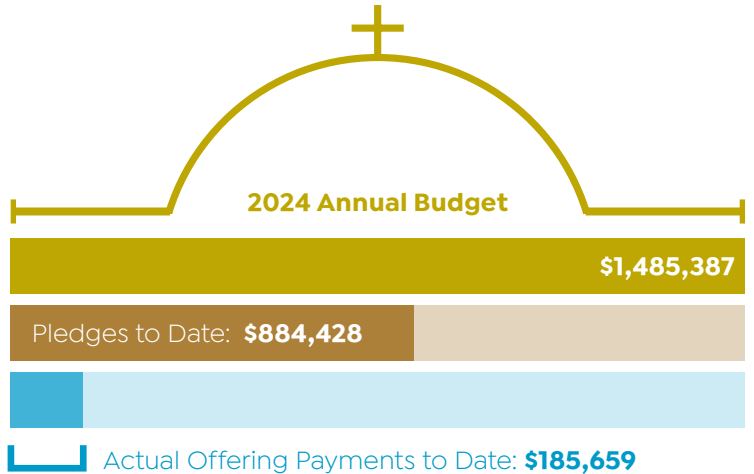
Thank you to all parishioners that have already completed and submitted a pledge form for 2024. This year, we are off to a great start but still have a way to go to exceed the pledge total from last year. Below is an update:

Number of Pledges



Pledge Forms Completed for 2022, 2023, and to Date 2024

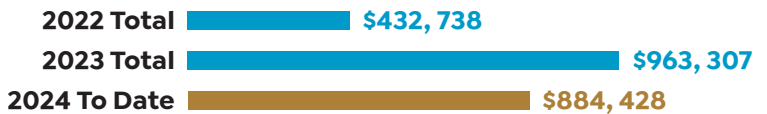
Pledge Year	# of Pledges	Pledges to Date	% of Budget
2024	274	\$884,428	59.5%
2023	351	\$963,307	72.3%
2022	154	\$432,738	34.1%
2023 Increase vs. 2022	197	\$530,569	38.2%



2024 Offering Income YTD vs Annual Budget

Offering Income as of Mar 18	2024 YTD Actual	2024 Annual Budget	YTD % of Budget
Payments Received	\$185,659	\$1,485,387	12.5%
Remaining Amount to Raise:			
\$1,299,728			

Total Pledge Dollars



Please remember that to be considered a Steward in good standing for 2024, you must return your pledge cards to the church office by March 31st.

With gratitude,

—The St. Mary's Stewardship Committee



TWIN CITIES PAN-ORTHODOX LENTEN VESPERS

SUNDAYS AT 5:00 P.M. DURING GREAT LENT

Following each service we will gather for a Lenten meal and Fellowship.

MARCH 24 **St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral**
Triumph of Orthodoxy 1701 5th St NE, Minneapolis, 55413

MARCH 31 **St. George Greek Orthodox Church**
St. Gregory Palamas 1111 Summit Ave, St Paul, 55105

APRIL 7 **St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church**
Veneration of the Holy Cross 1250 Oakdale Ave, West St Paul, 55118

APRIL 14 **St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church**
St. John of the Ladder 3450 Irving Ave S, Minneapolis 55408

APRIL 21 **St. Stefan Romanian Orthodox Church**
St. Mary of Egypt 350 5th Ave N, South St Paul, 55075

APRIL 28 **St. Herman Orthodox Church**
Bridegroom Matins 5355 38th Ave S, Minneapolis, 55412





HOLY WEEK AT ST. MARYS

Saturday, April 27: Lazarus Saturday

9:00 a.m. - Orthros; 10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy
Family Service Day follows Liturgy
5:00 p.m. - Great Vespers

Sunday, April 28: Palm Sunday

8:30 a.m. - Orthros; 9:30 a.m. - Divine Liturgy
6:00 p.m. - Bridegroom Matins

Monday, April 29: Holy Monday

6:00 p.m. - Bridegroom Matins

Tuesday, April 30: Holy Tuesday

9:30 a.m. - Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
6:00 p.m. - Bridegroom Matins

Wednesday, May 1: Holy Wednesday

4:00 p.m. - Holy Unction
6:00 p.m. - Orthros of the Mystical Supper; Holy Unction

Thursday, May 2: Holy Thursday

9:30 a.m. - Divine Liturgy of the Mystical Supper
6:00 p.m. - Service of Holy Passion

Friday, May 3: Great Friday

9:00 a.m. - Royal Hours
Church School Retreat continues until 1:30 p.m.
1:30 p.m. - Vespers of the Descent from the Cross
6:00 p.m. - Lamentations

Saturday, May 4: Holy Saturday

10:00 a.m. - First Resurrection Divine Liturgy
11:30pm-Midnight Office, Resurrection Service, Matins, Divine Liturgy

Sunday, May 5: GREAT and HOLY PASCHA

12:00 noon - Agape Vespers

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

Lazarus Saturday is April 27 and marks
our journey into Holy Week.



THE MESSENGER

APRIL 2024

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES

The Messenger

First Sunday of each month

Sunday Bulletin

Preceding Thursday, 12:00 p.m.

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April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 7:30pm-Young Women's Bible Study	3 11:00am-Intercessory Prayer 11:30am-Women's Bible Study 4:00pm-Holy Confession 5:30pm-Presanctified Liturgy 7:00pm-Lenten Dinner 7:00pm-Senior GOYA Mini Mtg. 7:30pm-Choir Rehearsal <i>Grades 7 & 8 Confession</i>	4	5 7:00am-Men's Fellowship 4:00pm-Holy Confession 6:00pm-Salutations to the Theotokos	6 9:00am-Bible Study 10:00am-FAITH Play Group
7 The Holy Cross "The Messenger" Deadline 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy 5:00pm-Pan-Orthodox Vespers, St. George Antiochian Church	8	9 12:00noon-Senior Citizens 6:15pm-Parish Council	10 4:00pm-Holy Confession 5:30pm-Presanctified Liturgy 7:00pm-Lenten Dinner 7:00pm-HOPE/JOY Mini Mtg. 7:30pm-Choir Rehearsal <i>Grades 9 & 10 Confession</i>	11 7:00pm-Women's Book Club	12 4:00pm-Holy Confession 6:00pm-Salutations to the Theotokos	13 9:00am-Bible Study 2:00pm-Fanari Retreat
14 Saint John Climacus 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy 5:00pm-Pan-Orthodox Vespers, St. Mary's GOC	15	16 9:30am-FAITH Play Group 7:30pm-Young Women's Bible Study	17 9:00am-"The Messenger" Mailing 11:00am-Intercessory Prayer 11:30am-Women's Bible Study 4:00pm-Holy Confession 5:30pm-Presanctified Liturgy 7:00pm-Lenten Dinner 7:00pm-Junior GOYA Mini Mtg. 7:30pm-Choir Rehearsal <i>Grades 3 & 4 Confession</i>	18 6:00pm-Great Canon of Saint Andrew	19 7:00am-Men's Fellowship 4:00pm-Holy Confession 6:00pm-Akathist Hymn	20 9:00am-Bible Study after Vespers-Junior GOYA Lock In
21 Saint Mary of Egypt 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy after Liturgy-Spring General Assembly 5:00pm-Pan-Orthodox Vespers, St. Stephen Romanian Church	22	23 Saint George <i>Due to Great Lent, the observance of Saint George takes place on Bright Monday, May 6</i>	24 4:00pm-Holy Confession 5:30pm-Presanctified Liturgy 7:00pm-Lenten Dinner 7:00pm-Senior GOYA Mini Mtg. 7:30pm-Choir Rehearsal <i>Grade 2 Confession</i>	25 6:30pm-Koinonia 7:00pm-Stewardship Com.	26	27 Lazarus Saturday 9:00am-Orthros 10:00am-Divine Liturgy after Liturgy-Family Service Day 5:00pm-Great Vespers
28 Palm Sunday 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy 5:00pm-Pan-Orthodox Bridegroom Matins, St. Herman Orthodox Church 6:00pm-Bridegroom Matins (St. Mary's GOC)	29 Holy Monday 6:00pm-Bridegroom Matins	30 Holy Tuesday 9:30am-Presanctified Liturgy 6:00pm-Bridegroom Matins	1 Holy Wednesday 4:00pm-Holy Unction 6:00pm-Matins of the Mystical Supper/Holy Unction	2 Holy Thursday 9:30am-Divine Liturgy of the Mystical Supper 6:00pm-Service of Holy Passion	3 Great Friday 9:00am-Royal Hours Church School Retreat continues until 1:30 pm 1:30pm-Vespers of the Descent from the Cross 6:00pm-Lamentations	4 Holy Saturday 10:00am-First Resurrection Divine Liturgy 11:30pm-Midnight Office Resurrection Service Matins Divine Liturgy