



THE MESSENGER

DECEMBER 2024

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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



The Winter Pascha

The following is an excerpt from the book *The Winter Pascha*,
by Father Thomas Hopko (SVS Press 1984)

When winter begins to make its way into the northern hemisphere, the Church of Christ begins to celebrate a “splendid three-day Pascha,” These words of the *Typicon of the Orthodox Church*, the instructions for liturgical worship, are explained by modern Orthodox commentators in this way:

The feast of the Nativity of Christ belongs to the number of the twelve major feasts of the Church. Yet one of these feasts is celebrated by the Church with as much solemnity as the festival of Christ's Nativity. It is called *Pascha*: a splendid three-day Pascha.¹

In old editions of the *Typikon*, similarity to the feast of Christ's Glorious Resurrection, the feast of Christ's Nativity is called *Pascha*. This emphasizes its close connection with the mystery of our salvation and deliverance from sin and death; the mystery which the holy Church proclaims in her dogmatic teachings and with which she brings us into direct spiritual contact in her liturgical services and sacraments.²

(continued on page 5)

Our Life Together

Baptism

Georgios

Parents:

Jose & Anastasia Beltran

November 3, 2024

Baptisms/Chrismations

Matthew and Dyan Collette,

Winston and Simone

October 26, 2024

Marriage

Mikko-Sakari Koivu

to Natalie Dillon

October 20, 2024

Fellowship and Study Groups

Byzantine Chant Class

Tuesdays through February 25

6:30 p.m., Classroom #2

Intercessory Prayer

Wednesdays, December 4 and 18

11:00 a.m., Nave Chapel

Koinonia

Thursday, December 19

6:30 p.m., Fireside Room

Men's Fellowship

Friday, December 6

Friday, December 20

7:00 a.m., Fireside Room

Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays, December 4 and 18

11:30 a.m., Fireside Room

Saturday Bible Study

Every Saturday

9:00 a.m., Fireside Room and Zoom

No Bible Study on December 21 and 28

Women's Book Club

Thursday, December 5

6:00 p.m., Lecture Room

“Speak up for those
who cannot speak
for themselves, for
the rights of all who
are destitute. Speak
up and judge fairly;
defend the rights of
the poor and needy.”
—Proverbs 31:8-9
(NIV)

Share YourShelf

December's recipient is

Community Emergency Service (CES)

IMMEDIATE NEEDS:

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

Sunday, December 1

Individually wrapped bars of soap

Sunday, December 8

Diapers (Size 5)

Sunday, December 15

Hygiene items

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

Sunday, December 22

Individually wrapped toothbrushes

Sunday, December 29

Toothpaste

Weekend Worship Schedule

Saturdays

Great Vespers – 5:00 p.m.

Sundays (live-streamed)

Orthros – 8:30 a.m.

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

Weekday Schedule



Wednesday,

December 4

Saint Barbara

Divine Liturgy –

9:30 a.m.

Friday, December 6

Saint Nicholas

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

Holy Unction – 6:00 p.m. at

St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox

189 Atwater Street W., St. Paul

Monday, December 9

Conception of the Theotokos

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, December 12

Saint Spyridon

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, December 17

Prophet Daniel, Saint Dionysios

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

Monday, December 23

Royal Hours – 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 24

Eve of Nativity

Vespertal Divine Liturgy –

5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 25

Holy Nativity

Matins – 9:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy – 10:00 a.m.



Friday, December 27

Saint Stephen

Divine Liturgy –

9:30 a.m.



Note from the Office

Beginning on Tuesday,
December 24, at noon,

the church office will be closed until
Friday, December 27, in observance
of the Christmas holiday. A blessed
Christmas to all!

www.cesmn.org



Donate Online

Visit the site, then
make a donation.

Parish News & Events

St. Mary's Church Staff

Proistamenos

Fr. Timothy Sas

Associate Priest

Fr. Jason Houck

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

St. Mary's Parish Council

President

Jeannie Possis

Vice President

Louis Tiggas

Secretary

Elisabeth (Libby) Cheolis

Treasurer

Cristina Nicklow

Assistant Treasurer

Athena Mihos

Members

Benjamin Amundgaard

Alex Dascalos

Sam Hanna

Andrew LeRoy

Dean Psychogios

Sophia Rouman

Nicholas P. Santrizos



FOCUS Opportunity

The cold is upon us! FOCUS drive is for all types of NEW blankets, up to the size of a full bed. Roll it up and tie it with a ribbon. Put the blanket at the church FOCUS sign by the Church Sunday school doors or take to FOCUS at 550 Rice Street, St. Paul. FOCUS clients will appreciate the warmth this winter.



Christmas Card and Flowers Donations

Our annual collection for the parish Christmas card and Christmas decorations begins today. A form and envelopes are found with this issue of the Messenger or in the narthex. The Christmas card (deadline is December 8) is to send greetings from you to fellow parishioners and the flowers donation (deadline is December 22) can be made in memory of departed loved ones. Drop your envelope in the stewardship box.



Saint Mary's Seniors' Meeting

Tuesday, December 10

Saint Mary's Seniors will end the year with a festive Christmas holiday celebration on Tuesday, December 10, at 11:00 a.m. in the Terrace Room. (Please note the earlier start time). Festivities include a celebration of December birthdays and anniversaries, a group photo of our entire membership in attendance, a delicious meal catered by Tony Nicklow (Tony's Diner), beverages, a holiday cake by Terri Leckas, entertainment by pianist extraordinaire, David Mertesdorf, along with a sing-along of Christmas carols, as well as door prizes and games. Flyers with all details on ticket costs and RSVP information, etc., will be distributed to all seniors members in November and early December. For further details/updates, please contact President Tessie Bourdamis. Also, please note that our Seniors' meetings will resume in April of 2025. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.



Grief and Loss Support Group

The Grief and Loss Support Group meets the last Wednesday of each month from 7:00-8:00 p.m. at St. Mary's OCA Cathedral parish center following Vespers. Upcoming meeting dates are: December 11 (note change due to the holiday season), January 29, and February 26. If you have questions or want more information, please contact Joni at: stmarysgriefgroup@gmail.com.



AHEPA Children's Christmas Party

Saturday, December 14

Saint Mary's children and their parents are invited to join in for a festive Christmas party with Santa on Saturday, December 14, at 11:00 a.m. in the Terrace Room. Highlights include a Christmas photo with Santa, gifts, caroling, entertainment, and lunch for all. The cost is only \$12.00 per child - no charge for parents. Sponsored by the Minneapolis AHEPA. Please see the flyer for registration. Questions? Mark Alevizos at mark.alevizos@gmail.com or call 612.990.4211

Parish News & Events



Winter Camp 2025

Made in the Image and Likeness: Seeking to understand our true self in Jesus Christ.

Winter Camp is for kids in 6th-12th grades. It takes place Friday-Monday, January 17-20 at Friends at Camp Courage in Maple Lake, Minnesota. The cost is \$270 per camper. To register, visit: <https://bit.ly/registerwintercamp> or scan the QR code. Registration deadline is December 30. There is a \$30 late payment fee. Pay by using the QR code for Venmo or send a check to St. Mary's Cathedral, c/o Lisa Tucci 414 17th Avenue NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413 For more information, contact Matushka Lisa Tucci, lisatucci71@gmail.com or 612.599.0814



◀ **To Register**

To Pay by Venmo ▶



SAINT OLYMPIA
* THE DEACONESS *

A Ministry for Girls!

Saint Olympia Ministry Events

Mark your calendars for upcoming St. Olympic activity dates:

- **Saturday, January 11**
Help Undecorate Christmas Trees
- **Sunday, January 12**
After Sunday School: Undecorate the Nave

More dates and activities to come. We are looking forward to another year of serving our parish.



Big Birthday Wishes!

Happy 100th birthday to
Jeanne Forchas,
celebrated on **November 17**
May God continue to bless you!

Happy 101st birthday to
Demos Hadjiyanis,
celebrating on **December 1.**
May God continue to bless you!

Thank You

On behalf of Dr. Chris Granias, we wish to thank everyone who attended the Kalo Taxidi 8 concert in October and gave so generously in support of the Multiple Sclerosis Society to fund cutting-edge research. Donations from the concert exceeded \$7,000. Thank you! Photo by Devon Young Cupery.



Cover Story Continued

(continued from page 1)

The liturgical services for Christmas, officially called The Nativity According to the Flesh of Our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ, are consciously patterned after the services for the festival of the Pascha of the Lord, the holy Resurrection. There is a forty-day fast. There are prefeast preparations. There are special royal hours with their prophecies, epistles, gospels, and hymns on the eve of the feast, followed by the vesperal liturgy of Saint Basil the Great. There is the solemn all-night vigil, crowned by the matins' canon and hymns. And finally, after the eucharistic celebration continues to its completion in the festival of The Meeting of the Lord in the Temple forty days later. At the center of the festal season remains the original "Festival of Lights," the holy Epiphany, officially called in the Orthodox Church The Theophany of Our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ.

The liturgical verses and hymns for Christmas and Epiphany, the Pascha of Christ's incarnation and manifestation in the flesh, repeat those of Easter, the Pascha of Christ's death and resurrection. The Lord's birth and baptism are directly connected to His dying and rising. He was born in order to die. He was baptized in order to be raised. The con-holy Epiphany, officially called in the Orthodox Church, The harmony between the events is overwhelming. The beauty of it is almost more than the believer can bear.

See the comparison of the verses sung at the service of matins and the ninth hour on Great and Holy Friday and on Christmas Eve:

Today He who hung the earth upon the waters is hung upon a tree.

Today He who holds the whole creation in His hand is born of a virgin.

The King of angels is decked with a crown of thorns.

He whose essence none can touch is bound in swaddling-clothes as a mortal man.

He who wraps the heavens in a cloud is wrapped in the purple of mockery.

God who in the beginning fashioned the heavens lies in a manger.

He who freed Adam in the Jordan is slapped in the face.

He who rained manna on His people in the wilderness is fed on the milk from His mother's breast.

The Bridegroom of the Church is affixed to the cross with nails.

The Bridegroom of the Church summons the wise men.

The Son of the Virgin is pierced with a spear.

The Son of the Virgin accepts their gifts.

We worship Thy Passion, O Christ!

We worship Thy Passion, O Christ!

We worship Thy Passion, O Christ!

We worship Thy Nativity, O Christ!

We worship Thy Nativity, O Christ!

We worship Thy Nativity, O Christ!

Show us also Thy glorious Resurrection!

Show us also Thy glorious Theophany!

Jesus lay as an infant in the cavern in the reign of Caesar Augustus that He might lay in the tomb under Pontius Pilate. He was hounded by Herod that He might be caught by Caiaphas. He was buried in baptism that He might descend into death through the Cross. He was worshipped by the wise men that the whole of creation might adore Him in His triumph over death. The Pascha of His Cross was prepared by the Pascha of His Coming. The Pascha of His Resurrection was begun by the Pascha of His Incarnation. The Pascha of His Glorification was foretold by the Pascha of His Baptism. This is what Christians celebrate each year in what Father Alexander Schmemmann was the first to call "the Winter Pascha."³



Read the rest of this wonderful book that provides forty meditations for the season of advent, Christmas, and Epiphany. Purchase a copy through our St. Mary's Bookstore or online.

1. K. Nikol'skii Posobiye k Izucheniyu Ustava Bogosluzheniya Phavoslavnoi Terkvi (Guide to the Understanding of the liturgical Typikon of the Orthodox Church), St. Petersburg, 1900, p. 539. The festival of Christ's Resurrection, the original Pascha, is not one of the twelve major feasts of the Orthodox Church. In the Orthodox Tradition the feast of Christ's Resurrection stands alone, being, as the eighth ode of the Paschal canon says, "the feast of feasts, holy day of holy days."
2. Nastol'naya Kniga Sviashchenosluzhitelia (Handbook for the liturgical minister), Moscow Patriarchate, Moscow, 1977, p.511.
3. While the Typikon of the Orthodox Church calls Christmas "a splendid three-day Pascha," the expression "Winter Pascha" was coined by Father Alexander Schmemmann, the late Dean and Professor of Liturgical Theology at St. Vladimir's Seminary, to whose memory the book is dedicated.

Philoptochos



No Philoptochos meetings are planned in December. Watch for postings of the Advent activities in the church weekly bulletins and on the church website. Please sign up at the Philoptochos table to volunteer on Sundays.

Upcoming Activities

Help Decorate the Church for Christmas

December 3, 10:00 a.m.

Every year, we feel deep gratitude for the joyful spirit our volunteers bring as they thoughtfully decorate our Christmas trees. The church decorating began in November, and we warmly invite anyone available on Tuesday, December 3, to join us in decorating the trees in the Terrace Room and Foyer starting at 10:00 a.m. We anticipate finishing around 3:00 p.m. Whether you can stay for the entire day or just a portion of it, your presence will certainly brighten the occasion!

Healing House Gifts for AHEPA Children's Christmas Party

December 14

Children from Healing House are invited to the AHEPA Children's Christmas Party on December 14 at 11:00 a.m. At this festive event, they will wiggle through lunch as their anticipation grows for welcoming Santa and opening their gifts.

Vasilopita Sales

Starting December 15

Get ready to order your Vasilopita! This year, we will be selling Vasilopita on December 15, 22 and 29 at the Philoptochos table during social hour. Pricing details will be shared soon, and we gladly accept cash and checks. All proceeds will benefit Saint Basil Academy in New York, whose mission is to provide a safe, supportive environment for our children and young adults, empowering them to grow into strong, hopeful members of society.!

Philoptochos Hosts Christmas Coffee Hour

December 25

Philoptochos will once again host the Christmas Coffee Hour. Stay tuned for details to come!

Membership Drive Kicking Off in January

Membership in Philoptochos is a wonderful way to connect with the women in our parish community as well as supporting our local community at large through our Orthodox ministry. Watch for how you can join or renew your Philoptochos membership beginning in January! Our membership drive will run through March 2025.

Sunday Table Coverage Reminder

We ask for your assistance in ensuring that the Philoptochos table remains staffed after liturgy each week. We're looking for a minimum of two members to manage the Sunday table, providing updates on current volunteer opportunities and addressing general inquiries about our mission and membership. Ideally, this should involve one board or chair member and one general member. Please consider joining us after the liturgy and committing approximately one hour to this vital task. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Little Orthodox Library

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.

Thank you for being a caring and generous Philoptochos Sister in a world that could use a million more just like you!

Thank You...

...to **Carol Smith** for leading Operation Classroom's Winter Clothing Drive for Bancroft Elementary School! Thank you to all who generously donated coats, boots, gloves, mittens, socks, and underwear in addition to your monetary donations!

...to **Andrea Tiggas** for once again organizing the annual filo and YiaYia and Papou coffee products!

...Thank you to all the volunteers for organizing Philoptochos Sunday and to all who donated to the special collection for the Ecumenical Patriarchate!

...the Membership Committee (**Lisa Gallmeyer, Maria Smith and Kathy Wendland**) for representing Philoptochos at the Ministry Fair Sunday!

Follow Saint Mary's Philoptochos on Social Media



Facebook

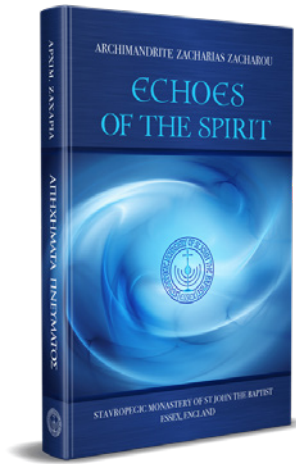


Instagram



In the Bookstore

By Rebecca Myerly
bookstore@stmarysgoc.org



Archimandrite Zacharias Zacharou of the Stavropegic Monastery of Saint John the Baptist in Essex, England, has written extensively on the liturgical seasons and feast days of the Orthodox Church. In his recently published book titled **Echoes of the Spirit**, he continues elucidating these themes, helping the reader see the beauty of each liturgical season and know deeply the gifts of grace each feast day offers the humble

person of faith because “according to our preparation for each feast, we receive a measure of grace and are raised to the level of eternity.” (14) He notes:

The grace of the feast is not restricted to specific festal days; it can come before or afterwards. If it does not visit us at all, we carry on in hope, knowing that the Lord is King and He reigns forever, whether we feel the consolation of His Spirit or not. (16)

Father Zacharias explains:

Divine Providence has appointed feasts throughout the year as places of meeting with the Lord, as doors into His presence. By preparing for each feast with humble thanksgiving and repentance, we attract grace, which makes us contemporaries of eternal events....

All the events in the life of Christ are ‘signs’ of God; they are windows through which we can behold His mighty wonders. (13)

This book is divided into three sections. Beginning with Christ’s Nativity, when “the Lord came upon earth to make this transitory life a springboard into eternity,” (17) Father Zacharias writes about different aspects of the Holy Nativity, each shining light on God’s plan of salvation. The second section focuses on Theophany, the Meeting of our Lord, the Transfiguration, the Life-giving Cross, and Pentecost. The third section consists of questions and answers pertinent to the feast days discussed in the first two sections. He clarifies:

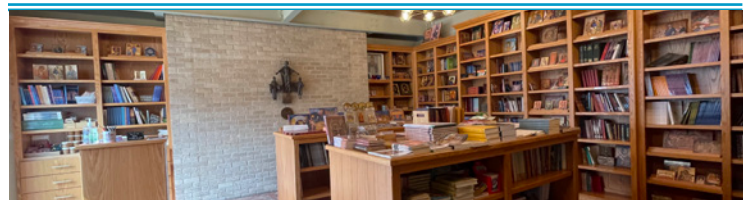
In our life we ascend to Golgotha, but invisibly we also ascend to the Resurrection. Through this path, we are enriched with the grace of Christ, and we see that the Kingdom of God is already within us. If we follow the way of the Cross and embrace it, the Kingdom of God will come without observation and be established in our heart. It is

in our heart that we make this journey to Golgotha and the Resurrection. All spiritual events take place in the heart. (199)

Elaborating on the perspective revealed in this book:

Every year we celebrate Easter on the date set by the Church, but for the people of God every day is Easter or Pentecost or Christmas, because every day the Lord can work in our lives with His grace, which overshadows His anointed, so that unto us ‘the ends of the world are come,’ that is, the Day of the Lord. For the faithful, every Liturgy is Pascha, an experience of the Lord’s Resurrection, because they receive the grace of His Holy Body and Blood. If we have prepared properly; that is, if we have lamented, wept, and repented, then God rewards our efforts with the consolation of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, every day of our life is both Easter and Pentecost, both repentance and consolation. Yet since we live in time, the Church ordains such feasts to give better orientation and inspiration to our spirit so it can continually seek union with Christ. (203)

Echoes of the Spirit is an invitation to see all of life in the light of the liturgical seasons of the Church and to live in the reality of the feast days with deep gratitude for and appreciation of God’s life manifest in ours and ours in His through the Holy Spirit in the liturgical seasons and the feast days of the Church.



ST. MARY'S BOOKSTORE

Please visit the bookstore for truly meaningful presents for your Christmas gift giving. You will find a large selection of books and icons and many other items for people of all ages. Gift certificates are available.

Children and Youth News

Parish Night

Wednesday, December 4, 6:15-8:00 p.m.

Please Join us for the once monthly Parish Night! The event will commence with a prayer service, followed by a meal and educational sessions surrounding the major feast days of the church. Attendees will split up for the educational sessions into the following groups, adults, high school students, middle school students (grades 6-8), and elementary school students (grades K-5). We hope you can join for this night of prayer, fellowship, and learning!



Christmas Program Practice Party

Wednesday, December 18, 5:00-8:00 p.m.



HOPE, JOY, and Junior GOYA will practice their parts for the Christmas program, afterwards having their Christmas party. Dinner will be included.



Christmas Lock-In

Sunday, December 29, 6:00 p.m. – Monday, December 30, 10:00 a.m.

Let's come together to ring in the new year with a combination of prayer and games! Join us as we reflect on the past year with gratitude and excitement for the year ahead. We'll enjoy some fun and friendly competition.



St. Mary's Night at the Timberwolves

Friday, March 21

Join us on Friday, March 21, at 7:00 p.m., for the Timber Wolves vs. Pelicans game at Target Center. After the game, you'll have the opportunity to step onto the court and try your hand at shooting free throws! The cost is \$40 per person (first come, first served - only 40 tickets are available!) Your spot will be reserved once you've submitted the \$40 to Scott Rudquist (cash or check made payable to St. Mary's). Reservations are due by March 1, but don't wait! For more ticket or outing information, contact Scott at 612.812.1216.

Our Children and Youth Mission Statement

To cultivate a safe and welcoming environment for kids by nurturing healthy relationships within the church family. We will teach the youth by building a strong foundation of knowledge, and together, we will experience the Orthodox tradition by following the four circles of youth ministry: Liturgia (Worship), Diakonia (Service), Martyria (Witness), and Koinonia (Fellowship), leading our youth to develop, by their own free will, a personal relationship with God and to pursue union with Him.



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.

FAITH and HOPE Event
(Pre-school - Grade 2)
**GINGERBREAD HOUSE
DECORATING PARTY!**



Saturday December 21st, 9:30-11 am
in the Terrace Room

PLEASE RSVP AT QR CODE
OR BY CONTACTING LEA HOEFT AT
ANGELEA.HOEFT@GMAIL.COM



Parish Christmas Card

Send holiday greetings to your family and friends at St. Mary's!

Simply fill out this form and return it to the Church Office
with a contribution ***no later than*** Sunday, December 8.

Your name(s) as you want it listed in the card:

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Christmas Decorations

Name of Contributor(s): _____

In memory of:

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Contributions will be acknowledged in the Christmas bulletins.

Please return this form and your donation to the Church Office no later than Sunday, December 22.

Join us for the annual...

Children's Christmas Party



*Santa's visit and keepsake photo,
caroling with Kally, entertainment,
and lunch highlight this special,
St. Mary's Community event,
Sponsored by Minneapolis AHEPA*



***Saturday, December 14th, 2024 11a.m.
St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church***

All for just \$12 per child (free for ALL ADULTS & children of Mpls AHEPA/DoP members)

*RSVP by December 8th. To pay: Scan the QR code or mail
checks to AHEPA at: St Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, AHEPA
Children's Christmas Party, 3450 Irving Ave S, Minneapolis MN 55408*



For info contact mark.alevizos@gmail.com or 612.990.4211

Parents attending: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____



Children's names:

Boy/Girl

Age

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church
3450 Irving Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408

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**“The giver of every
good and perfect gift
has called upon us to
mimic Gods giving,
by grace, through
faith, and this is not
of ourselves.”**

Saint Nicholas of Myra

Saint Nicholas
is Commemorated on December 6



THE MESSENGER

DECEMBER 2024

The Messenger is published
monthly by Saint Mary's
Greek Orthodox Church.

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

The Messenger

First Sunday of each month

Sunday Bulletin

Preceding Monday, 4:00 p.m.

CONTACT

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612.825.9595 | 612.825.9283 Fax

stmarysgoc.org



December 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Fourteenth Sunday of Luke "The Messenger" Deadline 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy	2	3 6:00pm-Adult Open Gym Bball 6:30pm-Byzantine Chant Class	4 Saint Barbara 9:30am-Divine Liturgy 11:00am-Intercessory Prayer 11:30am-Women's Bible Study 6:15pm-Parish Night 6:15pm-Choir Rehearsal	5 6:00pm-Women's Book Club	6 Saint Nicholas 7:00am-Men's Fellowship 9:30am-Divine Liturgy 6:00pm-Holy Unction <i>St. Mary's Romanian Church</i>	7 9:00am-Bible Study 5:00pm-Great Vespers
8 Tenth Sunday of Luke 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy 12:30pm-GOYA Bball Practice	9 Conception of the Theotokos 9:30am-Divine Liturgy	10 12:00 noon-Senior Citizens 6:15pm-Parish Council 6:30pm-Byzantine Chant Class 6:30pm-Philoptochos Board	11 6:15pm-Choir Rehearsal	12 Saint Spyridon 9:30am-Divine Liturgy	13	14 9:00am-Bible Study 11:00am-AHEPA Children's Christmas Party 5:00pm-Great Vespers
15 Eleventh Sunday of Luke Saint Eleutherios 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy 11:30am-Missions/Outreach 12:30pm-GOYA Bball Practice	16	17 Prophet Daniel Saint Dionysios 9:30am-Divine Liturgy 6:00pm-Adult Open Gym Bball 6:30pm-Byzantine Chant Class	18 9:00am-"The Messenger" Mailing 11:00am-Intercessory Prayer 11:30am-Women's Bible Study 5:00pm-Christmas Program Party 6:15pm-Choir Rehearsal	19 6:30pm-Koinonia 7:00pm-Stewardship Com.	20 7:00am-Men's Fellowship	21 9:30am-FAITH/HOPE Event 5:00pm-Great Vespers
22 Sunday before Nativity 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy Church School Christmas Program	23 6:00pm-Royal Hours	24 Eve of Nativity 5:00pm-Vespersal Divine Liturgy <i>Church Office closes at Noon</i>	25 Holy Nativity 9:00am-Orthros 10:00am-Divine Liturgy	26 Synaxis of the Theotokos <i>Church and Office Closed</i>	27 Saint Stephen 9:30am-Divine Liturgy	28 5:00pm-Great Vespers
29 Sunday after Nativity 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy 4:30pm-Boys' GOYA Bball Practice 6:00pm-Sr. GOYA Lock-In	30	31 Leave-Taking of Nativity				