



ST. MARY'S
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

December 8, 2024
The Tenth Sunday of Luke

THE DIVINE LITURGY

Commemoration

Tenth Sunday of Luke; Forefeast of the Conception by
St. Anna of the Most Holy Theotokos; Patapius the Righteous of Thebes;
Sosthenes, Apollo, Cephas, Tychikos, Epaphroditos,
Caesar, & Onesiphoros, Apostles of the 70.

Morning Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

Tone: Grave

Variable Hymns and Readings in the Liturgy

At the Second Antiphon

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

At the Third Antiphon

Resurrection Hymn, Grave Tone

By your cross, O Lord, you destroyed death; to the thief you opened paradise.
The myrrh-bearers' sorrow you transformed into joy, and you sent your apostles
forth to proclaim that you had risen from the dead, Christ our God, bestowing
on all the world your great mercy.

At the Small Entrance

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!

Ἐν τῇ γενήσει τὴν παρθενίαν ἐφύλαξας, ἐν τῇ κοιμήσει τὸν κόσμον οὐ κατέλιπες,
En ti gennisi tin parthenian efilaxas en ti kimisi ton kosmon u katelipes,
Θεοτόκε. Μετέστης πρὸς τὴν ζωὴν, μήτηρ ὑπάρχουσα τῆς ζωῆς, καὶ ταῖς πρεσβείαις
Theotoke. Metestis pros tin zoin, mitir iparhusa tis zois, ke tes presvies
ταῖς σαῖς λυτρουμένη ἐκ θανάτου τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.
tes ses litrumeni ek thanatu tas psihas imon.

Kontakion of Preparation for the Birth of Christ, *Third Tone*

Today the Virgin cometh, cometh unto the cave to give birth to the Word who was born before all ages, Begotten in a manner that defies description. Rejoice, therefore, Oh universe if thou should hear and glorify with the angels and the shepherds. Glorify him who by his will shall become a new-born babe and who is our God before all ages.

Epistle..... Ephesians 2:14-22

Brethren, Christ is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Gospel..... Luke 13:10-17

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

.....

Litany for the Catechumens

Deacon: Catechumens, pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Let us, the faithful, pray for the catechumens.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That the Lord will have mercy on them.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That He will teach them the word of truth.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That He will reveal to them the gospel
of righteousness.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That He will unite them to His holy,
catholic, and apostolic Church.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Save them, have mercy on them, help them, and
protect them, O God, by Your grace.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Catechumens, bow your heads to the Lord.

People: To You, O Lord.

Prayer for the Catechumens

Priest: Lord our God, Who dwells on high and
watches over the humble, You sent forth
Your only-begotten Son and God, our Lord
Jesus Christ, for the salvation of the human
race. Look down upon Your servants, the
catechumens, who have inclined their necks
to You, and grant them at a proper time the
baptism of rebirth, the remission of sins, and
the garment of incorruption. Unite them to
Your holy, catholic, and apostolic Church,
and number them among Your chosen flock.

Priest: So that with us they also may glorify Your
most honorable and majestic name, of the
Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
now and forever and to the ages of ages.

People: Amen.

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

Today

Prosforo is provided by **Barbara Nichols**.

Memorial Prayers today are offered for **Iakovos** (husband of Anna Iakovos) and **Polixene**.

The coffee hour today is hosted by **the 2024 Crossroads Institute Alumni**.

Welcome visitors and guests!

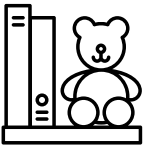
Members of our Missions and Outreach Committee are at the welcome and information table in the Great Hall after Liturgy this morning to welcome you and answer your questions about St Mary's Greek Orthodox Church and the Orthodox faith. Join us for a cup of coffee and always enjoyable refreshments.

Announcements



Saint Nicholas Celebration Today

We celebrate the feast day of St. Nicholas this morning! Our children will process in the Great Entrance and offer gifts to St. Nicholas to donate to the children at FOCUS Minnesota. The children will put out their shoes during Church School to see if St. Nicholas will leave them a gift!



Church School Bookfair Today

Today is the bookfair for church school families, including grandparents, godparents and everyone interested in giving truly meaningful gifts to the children in their lives. The book-fair will be located in the hallway leading to the church office. There is a large selection of books for children of all ages, icons, prayer ropes, and many other items.



Saint Mary's Digital Donation Options
Text to Give*: Text **smgoc** to **73256** • **or Scan to Give**
**This number will never send unsolicited texts.*





Toys for Tots and Teens

The Legion Squadron 129 is sponsoring Toys for Tots and Teens again this year. Because of the great giving attitude by our Church community, we will try to fill up four boxes this year instead of three like we did last year. The drop boxes are located throughout the building. Please bring donations to St. Mary's no later than Sunday, December 15.



Christmas Card and Flowers Donations

Would you like to send Christmas greetings to fellow parishioners through our church's Christmas card? Please fill out the form located in the narthex. Today is the deadline for the card. We are accepting memorial donations for Christmas flowers and decorations through December 22. These can be made in memory of departed loved ones. Drop your form and envelope in the stewardship box.



AHEPA Children's Christmas Party

Saturday, December 14

Saint Mary's children and their parents are invited to 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. For questions contact Mark Alevizos at mark.alevizos@gmail.com or 612.990.4211

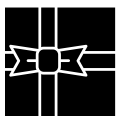
COMMITMENT + 2025



2025 Stewardship Pledges

Thank you to everyone who has already completed a Time, Talent, and Financial Pledge Form for 2025. If you have not yet done so, please take a moment to prayerfully complete a 2025 pledge form and return it to the church office as soon as possible. If you need a form, scan the code or contact the church office. *Please remember that to be considered a Steward in good standing for 2025, you must return your pledge forms by March 31, 2025.*

Philoptochos News



Christmas Gifts for Healing House Families

Please make sure to bring your Healing House child's gifts and mother gift cards to the Philoptochos table today after Liturgy. The AHEPA party will be on Saturday, December 14.



Vasilopita Sales start December 15

Our Vasilopita bakers have baked our annual New Year's bread for 2025 and we will start selling loaves next Sunday. Loaves will \$15 each and first come first serve so buy them early!



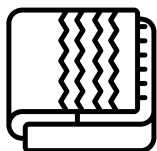
Vasilopita Sales start December 15

We are looking for more volunteers in 2025 to help with the management of our Little Library outside the church. Sign up for a month, check it weekly, make sure it is stocked and that only Orthodox materials are there. Please stop by the Philoptochos table on Sundays to see how you can help. We would also love additional Orthodox books to help keep our stock full.



Urgent FOCUS Clothing Needs

FOCUS continues to need men's winter clothing, including jackets, boots, warm socks, and gloves. Cold weather is upon us and the men's closet is very bare of these essential articles of clothing. As the temperatures continue to drop and we get further into winter, the need increases all the more. Please bring these needed items to church and place them by the FOCUS sign in the hallway leading to the office.



FOCUS Opportunity

Winter's cold temperatures have arrived! The 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 school doors or take to FOCUS at 550 Rice Street, St. Paul. FOCUS clients will appreciate the warmth this winter.



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, 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. Please RSVP to Tessie Bourdamis.



Scan to
Register

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. To register, visit: <https://bit.ly/registerwintercamp>. Registration deadline is December 30. There is a \$30 late payment fee. 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

YAL News



YAL 2025 Board Application

We are so excited for this next calendar year and would love to have you join our team! Please consider this ministry prayerfully and apply if you are interested. Positions and their descriptions can be found within the application. Feel free to contact us or speak to a current board member with any questions you may have about the application.



Prayer Ministry

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

The family of Peter C. Boosalis, 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 and Jassir; San Miguel Del Lago Orphanage; Judy, Larry, Ina, Jenny, Sylvia, Pete, Maria, Karen, Steve A., Athena, Betty, Sean, Krisanne, Ann, Mark, Kostantinos & Georgia, Andreas, Jonathan, Jeanette, Mary, Ann, Marilyn, Donna, Dawn, Don, Nancy, Brad, Vangie, Jolene, Mikey, Aphrodite, James, Peter, Lyda, Owen, Michael, Johnny, Jaclyn Jereczek, Dena, Chris, Joy Rose, Nick, John, Demos and Eugenia, Ron, Matt, Laura, Susan, Elias, Constance, Marina, Dion, Annali, Sofia, Juan Cruz & family, Charlie, Stan, Helena, Byrdie, Jennifer, John S., Becky, Noel, Stephen, Alexey, Alexandra, Ray, Christina, Joanne, Charlie, Nuala, Pamela, Avgi, Elena, Speranta, Liz, Efstratia, Jordan, David, Nino, Joe, Donnarae, Samira, Mary K., Monte, Bethany, Mark, Owen, Chrysanthy, Estelle, Justine, Melissa, Megan, Lisa, Michael, Robbie, Judi, Evonne, James, Nichole, Constantine, Theodora, Irene Maria, Olivia, Lincoln, Carole, Patty, Karrisra, Corina, Tom, George R., Ken, Nancy and Tim, Olga, Peter, Cora and family, Bo, Lynn, Sue & Jim, Steve, Sue, Jane, Pat, Dave, Pam, Gilbert, George P., Danielle, Jenny, John L., Presvytera Janis, Sandra, Rick, Nancy, Alex, Eryn, Phil, Karen, Linda, 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, Judi, Bodil, Ole, and others known to you.

Food Shelf Needs for December 15



Hygiene items

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

December's recipient is **Community Emergency Service**.

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

Calendar of the Week

Sunday, December 8: Tenth Sunday of Luke

8:30 a.m. – Matins; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
12:30 p.m. – GOYA Basketball Practice, *Great Hall*

Monday, December 9: Conception of the Theotokos

9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
12:00 noon – Funeral Service for Peter C. Boosalis;
Visitation from 11:00 a.m., *St. Mary's Church*

Tuesday, December 10

12:00 noon – Senior Citizens' Christmas Party, *Terrace Room*
6:15 p.m. – Parish Council Meeting, *Fireside Room*
6:30 p.m. – Byzantine Chant Class, *Classroom #2*

Wednesday, December 11

6:15 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal, *Nave*

Thursday, December 12: Saint Spyridon

9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy

Saturday, December 14

9:00 a.m. – Bible Study, *Fireside Room and on Zoom*
11:00 a.m. – Children's Christmas Party
Sponsored by AHEPA, *Terrace Room*
5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

Sunday, December 15: Eleventh Sunday of Luke; Saint Eleutherios

8:30 a.m. – Matins; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy
11:30 a.m. – Missions and Outreach Committee Meeting, *Fireside Room*
12:30 p.m. – GOYA Basketball Practice, *Great Hall*



Year-End Giving Notice

Electronic donations, via online giving or Venmo, **must be made by Friday, December 27**. Online contributions take 3-5 days to process. Contributions made after December 27 cannot be guaranteed of being recorded as a 2024 contribution. Please plan ahead when making your year-end contributions. Contributions placed in the offering tray on Sunday, December 29, will be credited as 2024 contributions.



“We must begin with ourselves and not try to change others. The Holy Fathers say that we must correct ourselves—to work on our salvation and many around us will be saved. We must strive to always be kind, good, and quiet—at peace so that people will always feel peace and quietness in our presence. We know that we can either attract people with our thoughts or drive them away from us.”

— Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, December 9: Conception of the Theotokos

Galatians 4:22-27 • Luke 8:16-21

Tuesday, December 10

II Thessalonians 1:10-12; 2:1-2 • Mark 8:22-26

Wednesday, December 11

II Thessalonians 2:1-12 • Mark 8:30-34

Thursday, December 12: Saint Spyridon

Ephesians 5:8-19 • John 10:9-16

Friday, December 13

II Thessalonians 3:6-18 • Mark 9:33-41

Saturday, December 14

Galatians 1:3-10 • Luke 14:1-11

Sunday, December 15: Eleventh Sunday of Luke; Saint Eleutherios

II Timothy 1:8-18 • Luke 14:16-24



Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

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