



# ST. MARY'S

## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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January 12, 2025 — *The Sunday After Theophany*

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## THE DIVINE LITURGY

### *Commemoration*

Sunday after Theophany; Afterfeast of the Theophany of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; Tatiana the Martyr of Rome; Basil and John the Hieromartyrs; Martyr Mertios; Euthasia the Virgin-Martyr; Peter of Absalom; Benedict.

*Morning Gospel: John 20:1-10*

*Tone: First Tone*

### **Variable Hymns and Readings in the Liturgy**

#### *At the Second Antiphon*

Save us, O Son of God, baptized by John in the Jordan;  
save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

#### *At the Third Antiphon*

#### **Hymn of Theophany, First Tone**

When you, O Lord, were baptized in the Jordan River, the worship of the Trinity was revealed and the voice of the Father bore witness to you, calling you His beloved Son, and the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the Word as truth. O Christ our God, you have appeared and enlightened the world. Glory to you!

#### *At the Small Entrance*

#### **Resurrection Hymn, Fourth Tone**

The joyful news of your resurrection was proclaimed by the angel to the women disciples. Having thrown off the curse that fell on Adam, they ran elatedly to tell the apostles: Death has been vanquished; Christ our God is risen from the dead, blessing all the world with his great mercy.

#### **Hymn of Entrance**

Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, who rose from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

*Repeat the Hymn of Theophany, 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 ζώην, 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 Theophany, *Third Tone*

You revealed yourself today on earth, O Master, and Your light was stamped on us, who in the knowledge of the truth, O Lord, extol Your epiphany. You came; You revealed yourself, O unapproachable Light.

## *Epistle.....Ephesians 4:7-13*

BRETHREN, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (in saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

## *Gospel.....Matthew 4:12-17*

At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

## 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.**

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

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# Today

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Prosforo is provided by **Libby Atsidakos**

40-Day Churchings

**Phoebe, parents: Cooper & Jessica Buss**  
**Harper, parents: Tynan & Ashley O'Hara**

Stop by the Great Hall after Liturgy this morning  
for a time of fellowship and refreshment.

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## 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.

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## Announcements

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### House Blessings

During January and February, Fr. Tim and Fr. Jason will be doing house blessings. To schedule a blessing, please send an e-mail request to: [stmarysgoc@stmarysgoc.org](mailto:stmarysgoc@stmarysgoc.org) or call the parish office, 612.825.9595. Blessings take place between January 6-February 1. It is also within our Orthodox tradition for laypeople to bless their own homes with bottled Holy Water, as it states in the Great Blessing of the Waters service: *"For those who are sprinkled with it and take it for the blessing of homes; let us pray to the Lord."*

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### Saturday Bible Study

Saturday Bible Study is on break and will resume on February 1, 9:00 a.m., in the Fireside Room and on Zoom. Cory Mork will lead the weekly studies. All are welcome to attend.

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### Saint Mary's Digital Donation Options

**Text to Give\***: Text **smgoc** to **73256** • **or Scan to Give**

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





## **FOCUS Clothing Needs**

FOCUS continues to need men's winter clothing, including jackets, boots, warm socks, and gloves. The men's closet continues to need these essential articles of clothing. As we move 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.

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## **March for Life**

**Wednesday, January 22**

Please join us for the Annual March for Life on Wednesday, January 22. Meet at 10:20 a.m. at the St. Paul Cathedral for a prayer service. Look for the Orthodox Christians for Life banner and reserved pew. After the service, there is a 30-minute march to the capitol building. At noon marchers will gather for a brief pro-life program on the Capitol steps hosted by Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life. For more information, contact Fr. Jason: [frjason@stmarysgoc.org](mailto:frjason@stmarysgoc.org)

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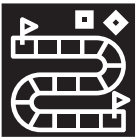


## **Blood Drive**

**Saturday, January 25**

Hellenic Sons Squadron 129, Sons of the American Legion will host a blood Drive at St. Mary's on Saturday, January 25, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Scan the QR code to sign-up or call MBC at 888.448.3253.

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## **Orthodox Game League**

**Saturday, January 25**

The winter Orthodox Game League get-together is Saturday, January 25, at St. Mary's OCA Cathedral Parish Center, 1701 5th St. NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413. Arrive anytime after 6:00 p.m. and please bring a drink, snack, and/or game to share!

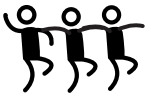


## Pan-Orthodox Dance

Saturday, January 25

Whether you know how to dance or want to learn, join us for the Pan-Orthodox Dance on Saturday, January 25. We will teach Middle Eastern, Greek, Russian, Romanian, Georgian, Armenian, and Serbian dances starting at 6:00 p.m. (following 5:00 p.m. Vespers). At 7:00 p.m. we will continue to have open dance for the rest of the evening. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Hosted at St. George Antiochian Church, 1250 Oakdale Avenue, West St Paul. Ages 12+ are welcome to join! Contact *Sophia Haddad* with any questions: 612.708.1148.

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## Greek Dance Practices Resume

Monday, January 27

The Greek dance program will resume practices starting Monday, January 27, 6:00-8:00 p.m., through March 22. We will be practicing for the Greek Independence Day program on Sunday, March 23. All children, ages 6 to 18 years old are welcome to join this program.

**Please register with Tessie Bourdamis or Jim Canelake.**

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## Women's Book Club Book

The Women's Book Club will resume book discussions on Tuesday, February 4, at 7:00 p.m., in the Fireside Room. Our book for discussion is, *Journey to Simplicity: The Life and Wisdom of Archimandrite Roman Braga* by Daniel B. Hinshaw, MD. It is available in our bookstore. This gathering will not be a potluck dinner as earlier advertised.

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## Need a Past Bulletin?

Digital versions of our weekly Sunday bulletins can be found on our website? Just use the URL below or scan the QR code.

<https://stmarysgoc.org/resources/weekly-bulletins/>

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# Philoptochos News

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## **Vasilopita Sales—Last Day**

Our Vasilopita bakers have baked our annual New Year's bread for 2025 and we are selling loaves today. The loaves are \$15 each and proceeds support St. Basil's Academy in Garrison, New York.



## **General Meeting**

**Sunday, January 19**

Our next Philoptochos meeting will be held in the Terrace Room on Sunday, January 19, starting at 11:45 a.m. We will have a short program and discuss upcoming events as well as the 2025 Membership Drive which begins this month. Treats will be provided.



## **Philoptochos Membership Drive**

In the coming week, all women of the parish will receive a letter inviting them to ENGAGE with Philoptochos as a new or returning member. Let's renew and strengthen our engagement together, united in our mission to serve "the least of them." Membership dues are self-determined, with the first \$22 supporting our Metropolis and National Philoptochos, and the remainder directly benefiting our local chapter. To learn more, join us on Sunday, January 19, at 11:45 a.m., at our General Membership Meeting (in the Terrace Room), to hear from our committee chairs about exciting ways you can engage in our volunteer opportunities.



## **Our Little Orthodox Library Needs You in 2025**

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.



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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 and Jassir; San Miguel Del Lago Orphanage; Thomas, Panos, Connie, Stan, Evdoxia, 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, 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, Karrisa, 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.

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## Food Shelf Needs for January 19

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***Canned Meal – large cans  
(e.g. chili / pork and beans)***

January's recipient is **Joyce Uptown Food Shelf.**

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

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# Calendar of the Week

## **Sunday, January 12: Sunday After Theophany**

8:30 a.m. – Matins; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy; Vasilopita Service  
12:30 p.m. – HOPE/JOY Basketball Practice, *Great Hall*

## **Tuesday, January 14**

6:15 p.m. – Parish Council Meeting, *Fireside Room*  
6:30 p.m. – Byzantine Chant Class, *Classroom #2*  
6:30 p.m. – Philoptochos Board Meeting, *Meeting Room 1*

## **Wednesday, January 15**

9:00 a.m. – “The Messenger” Mailing, *Fireside Room*

## **Thursday, January 16**

5:00 p.m. – Adult Open Gym Basketball  
6:30 p.m. – Koinonia, *Fireside Room*

## **Friday, January 17: Saint Anthony the Great**

9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy

## **Saturday, January 18: Saints Athanasios and Cyril**

*No Bible Study*

10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy  
5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

## **Sunday, January 19: Twelfth Sunday of Luke**

8:30 a.m. – Matins; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy  
9:15 a.m. – Prayers for the Unborn  
10:45 a.m. – Seekers Class, *Fireside Room*  
11:30 a.m. – Missions and Outreach Meeting, *Fireside Room*  
11:45 a.m. – Philoptochos General Meeting, *Terrace Room*  
12:30 p.m. – Girls’ GOYA Basketball Practice, *Great Hall*

**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.*

January 2025

# MESSAGES *from* the METROPOLIS

[www.chicago.goarch.org](http://www.chicago.goarch.org)



METROPOLIS  
OF CHICAGO



SCAN FOR  
MORE NEWS

## LATEST NEWS

- 11/27** New Documentary:  
“The Story of Lighthouse”
- 12/24** - Patriarchal Encyclical For  
Christmas  
- Archbishopal Encyclical on the  
Feast of Christmas  
- Archpastoral Christmas Encyclical  
2024

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 01/12** Metropolis of Chicago and Metropolis of  
Chicago Philoptochos Vasilopita Celebration  
at St. Nicholas of Oak Lawn, IL
- 01/18** TEAM Belong – Vasilopita Cutting at St.  
Demetrios of Elmhurst, IL
- 02/14** YAL Chicago Conference



SCAN FOR  
MORE  
EVENTS

sign up to receive email updates:  
[www.chicago.goarch.org/sign-up](http://www.chicago.goarch.org/sign-up)



## Seeking the Faith

*Just learning about Orthodoxy? Relatively new to Orthodoxy?* Please join us for our Seekers group in the Fireside Room. This is a chance to get together to learn more. Led by Presvytera Alexandra Houck. This class is a supplement—not a substitute—to our MEOCCA Catechism Course\* that meets at St. George Greek Orthodox Church.

### MEETING DATES

- January 19
- February 2
- February 23
- March 16
- April 6

*Meet in the Fireside Room, after Communion, about 10:45 to 11:15 a.m.*

### Topics will include:



Prayer life, how we read the Bible, various services of the Church, living the Church year/seasons of the Church, Church culture and etiquette, Lent, saints, icons, and building an Orthodox mindset.



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

\*For the MEOCCA Catechism Course, visit: <https://meocca.org/our-faith/cooperative-catechism>

“Speeches and writings that breathe unbelief are the fiery arrows of the evil one. In our time, the evil one has opened many such smithies for forging such arrows. The hearts of the faithful ache when they are struck by them and see others defeated; and the Lord also aches with them. But the day of the Lord’s glory will come...Until that time we must endure and pray.”

— *Saint Theophan the Recluse*

## Daily Bible Readings

### *Monday, January 13*

Galatians 3:23-29; 4:1-5 • Luke 20:1-8

### *Tuesday, January 14*

Acts 2:38-43 • Luke 4:1-15

### *Wednesday, January 15*

Galatians 5:22-26; 6:1-2 • Luke 12:32-40

### *Thursday, January 16*

**Acts 12:1-11** • John 21:14-25

### *Friday, January 17: Saint Anthony the Great*

Hebrews 13:17-21 • Luke 6:17-23

### *Saturday, January 18: Saints Athanasios and Cyril*

Hebrews 13:7-16 • Matthew 5:14-19

### *Sunday, January 19: Twelfth Sunday of Luke*

Colossians 3:4-11 • Luke 17:12-19



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

3450 Irving Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408-3399

612.825.9595 | [stmarysgoc.org](http://stmarysgoc.org) | social: [@stmarysgoc](https://www.instagram.com/stmarysgoc)   

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

Weekly Bulletin Submissions to: [Communications@stmarysgoc.org](mailto:Communications@stmarysgoc.org)

Weekly Bulletin Submission Deadline: Mondays