



ST. MARY'S
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

February 23, 2025

Sunday of the Last Judgment

THE DIVINE LITURGY

Commemoration

Judgment Sunday (Meatfare Sunday); Polycarp the Holy Martyr and Bishop of Smyrna; Proterios, Archbishop of Alexandria; Gorgonia the Righteous, sister of Gregory the Theologian; Damian the New Martyr of Mount Athos; Boswell, Abbot of Melrose Abbey.

Morning Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

Tone: Second

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 Small Entrance

Resurrection Hymn, Second Tone

When you descended into death, Life immortal, you vanquished the power of hell by your resplendent divinity, and when you raised the dead from the depths of darkness, all the heavenly powers cried out triumphantly: O giver of life, Christ our God, glory to you.

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 the Presentation, 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 λυτρομένη ἐκ θανάτου τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.
tes ses litrumeni ek thanatu tas psichas imon.

Kontakion of the Last Judgment, *First Tone*

When you come to the earth, O God, in your glory, all creation will tremble and a river of fire will flow before your throne of judgment. The books will be opened and the secrets of all will be revealed. On that day, O just Judge, deliver me from eternal flames and make me worthy to stand at your right.

Epistle*..... *I Corinthians 8:8—9:2

Brethren, food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you, a man of knowledge, at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall. Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

Gospel*..... *Matthew 25:31-46

The Lord said, "When the Son of man comes in his glory and all the holy angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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.

Communion Ushering Changes

We are implementing two ushering changes for Communion:

1. **Children's Communion Line:** After the children's sermon, ushers will direct children to form two lines in the center aisles of the north and south sections. Parents needing to assist their children should meet them there. Teachers should take communion first via any available line.
2. **Revised Communion Flow:** We are returning to the previous communion flow for the north and south sections. You will be directed to the aisles between the two sections to receive communion (where children will be staged). Your return path depends on the priest's location:
 - By the corner of the solea: Exit via the aisle in front of the north/south pews.
 - In the center section: Exit down the center aisle and return via the perimeter.

Please remain standing reverently until an usher directs you forward. Fr. Tim will provide a reminder before communion. Thank you for your cooperation!

Today

Prosforo is provided by **Ruta Kubits**.

After Liturgy this morning, please stop by the Great Hall for a cup of coffee and some good conversation.

Welcome Visitors and Guests!

Members of our Missions and Outreach Committee are at the welcome and information table just inside the Great Hall, to the left, 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.



Mission Take Heart Presentation

Next Sunday, After Liturgy

Saint Mary's parishioner George Asselanis will speak on his recent trip to Upper Egypt with Mission Take Heart, a charity that supports persecuted Christians around the world. He will speak on his experience, the state of the current persecution of the church in Egypt, and the work being done to support the body of Christ in Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, and Nigeria. Please join him in the Terrace Room after Divine Liturgy next Sunday, March 2, for a brief presentation followed by an opportunity for questions.

Announcements



Lenten Dinner Host Openings

Does your church group or family want to host a Wednesday Lenten dinner and raise some funds for a worthy cause? We have two dates this Lent that are still available. They are March 26 and April 9. Contact David in the church office (david@stmarysgoc.org) to get on the schedule.



FOCUS Clothes Closet Update A Pause on Clothing

It is time to hold back from donating Winter Clothing to FOCUS. Starting in March and through April, there will be a pause to allow FOCUS to sort and hang what they have and to change over to the summer season. However, they do need purses, cosmetic bags, billfolds, backpacks, belts and closed toed shoes.



focusmn.org

Donate Online

Visit the site, then

"Donate Now."

Utility Assistance

One of the newer services at FOCUS is a Utility Assistance Program, now in its third year. Clients are referred to FOCUS through a case manager or social worker and may receive a one time grant up to \$500 to pay past due utility balance and avoid disconnection. **If you would like to help in this Utility Assistance Program, please make a contribution to FOCUS MN, 550 Rice St., St Paul, MN 55103 or scan the code to donate.**

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 form by March 31, 2025.*



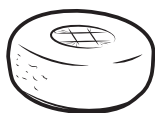
Philoptochos Membership Drive

Our membership drive is underway, and we are highlighting our committees to share ways you can engage! This week, we highlight our **Membership Committee!** Membership is the lifeblood of Philoptochos, fueling our mission and strengthening our community. Each year, the Membership Committee spearheads our membership drive, offering a meaningful way to engage with our chapter's mission, build relationships with the women of our parish, and deepen our ties to the Metropolitan and National Philoptochos organizations. Our annual drive runs from January through March, with preparations beginning in late November. We invite you to engage with the Membership Committee next year and play a vital role in growing and sustaining our Philoptochos family! Stop by the Philoptochos table to drop off your membership form, and we have extras if you need one! You can also pick up a small token of thanks to celebrate your engagement! As a reminder, the amount of your dues are self-directed with the first \$22.00 going to National and Metropolitan. Anything above \$22.00 will stay with our local chapter, which will be used prayerfully and thoughtfully to fulfill our mission.



Philoptochos General Meeting—Today!

Our next General Meeting is today at 11:45 a.m., in the Terrace Room. Please plan to come if you are currently a member or if you are thinking about joining Philoptochos. Our guest speaker will be our own Terri Leckas, who will speak about her recent OCMC trip to Albania including her visit Home of Hope. Come hear about her experience as well as all the wonderful things coming up for Philoptochos in the next couple of months. Hope to see you there. Food will be provided.

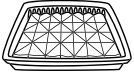


Prosforo Workshop

Wednesday, March 4 – Signup Today

If you are interested in learning how to make Prosforo, we are having a workshop just for you. All ingredients will be provided. Please bring a sfragida stamp if you have one. All are welcome! Please sign up at the Philoptochos table within the next week. The class will be on Wednesday, March 4, from 5:00-9:00 p.m.

Philoptochos News



Spring Fillo and Coffee Sale Starts This Sunday through March 9

Orders are being taken for fillo and Sunday Best coffee this Sunday through March 9. Stop by our table and see Andrea Tiggas to place your order. The cost is \$6.00 per pound for fillo and \$14 per pound for coffee and \$15 for K-cups. We accept cash, checks, and credit cards (for small additional fee). Pickup will be on March 16.



Church Kitchen Refrigerator Monthly Clean Up

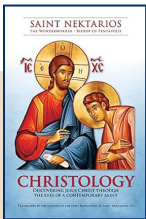
We are still looking for more volunteers again for 2025 to help with keeping our church kitchen refrigerators clean. We need individuals to sign up monthly to clean out old and expired food and clean up any spills. Please stop by our table to pick a month you would be able to help.

**INSIDE
THE**



**ST. MARY'S
BOOKSTORE**

While Lent is a liturgical season of fasting, it is also a good season to feast on edifying reading for spiritual growth and development. Please visit the bookstore for a broad selection of books for people of all ages. Complimentary copies of “A Rule of Prayer for Great Lent” are available.



Christology: Discovering Jesus Christ Through the Eyes of a Contemporary Saint by Saint Nektarios is the next book the Philoptochos Book Club participants will be reading and discussing. Copies are available in the bookstore.

“Absolutely nothing will help us if we are not lenient toward the weakness of men and forgive them. For how can we hope that God will forgive us if we do not forgive others?”

— Elder Nektarios Vitalis of Greece †

Calendar of the Week

Sunday, February 23: Sunday of the Last Judgment

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

10:45 a.m. – Seekers' Class, *Fireside Room*

After Liturgy – Philoptochos Meeting, *Terrace Room*

1:00 p.m. – HOPE/JOY Basketball Event, *Great Hall*

Monday, February 24

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

Tuesday, February 25

6:30 p.m. – Byzantine Chant Class, *Classroom #2*

Wednesday, February 26

6:30 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal, *Nave*

Saturday, March 1: Second Saturday of Souls

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

10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

Sunday, March 2: Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare)

“The Messenger” News Item Deadline

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

10:45 a.m. – Seekers' Class, *Fireside Room*

After Liturgy – Take Heart Presentation by George Asselanis, *Terrace Room*

5:00 p.m. – Forgiveness Vespers



St. Mary's Night at the Timberwolves

Join us on, Monday, March 17, 7:00 p.m., for the Timber Wolves vs. Indiana Pacers 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 (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.



Prayer Ministry

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; Imogene, George, Becky, Elizabeth, Yvonne, Fran, Kosta, Jim, Kathryn, Tom, Gina M., Elly K., Thomas, Panos, Connie, Stan, Evdoxia, Sylvia, Pete, Maria, Karen, Steve A., Athena, Betty, Sean, Krisanne, Ann, Mark, Kostantinos & Georgia, Andreas, Jonathan, 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, Estelle, Justine, Melissa, Megan, Lisa, Michael, Robbie, Judi, Evonne, James, Nichole, Constantine, Theodora, Irene Maria, Olivia, Lincoln, Carole, Patty, Karrisra, Corina, George R., Ken, Nancy and Tim, Olga, Peter, Cora and family, 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 March 2



Oatmeal or Cream of Wheat

March's recipient is FOCUS Minnesota.

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



ST. MARY'S CAMP

EST. 1952

Saturday, June 28 – Friday, July 4, 2025
Camp Wapogasset • Amery, Wisconsin

A tradition of faith, fellowship, and joy.

By God's Grace, St. Mary's Summer Camp program has made a profoundly joyful impact on the lives of campers and staff. It is one week out of the year that provides a rare opportunity to live in true Orthodox community. **Youth entering school grades 3 through 12 in the fall of 2025 are eligible to attend.**

CAMP REGISTRATION WINDOW: MARCH 1-APRIL 15, 2025

Register between March 1-15 to get the early-bird reduced price.

For more information and to register, visit:

stmaryscamp.com



f Follow us @stmaryscamp on Facebook for updates
Email Questions to: **camp@stmaryscamp.com**

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ST. MARY'S
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Minneapolis, Minnesota

SAINT MARY'S VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL



Just as the early settlers faced challenges on their journey west, Christians also encounter obstacles on the path to our heavenly promised land. At Vacation Church School, kids will learn what spiritual equipment they need, how to be courageous, who helps them along the way, and how to use grit and perseverance to stay on the Christian trail to paradise.

Join us for an unforgettable faith-filled adventure with lessons, crafts, snacks, and fun! Scan the code to register your child today!

For cowpokes 4 years old (and potty trained) through entering 6th grade in the fall
Helper's needed: 7-12th graders (in the fall).

REGISTER HERE



JUNE 16 - 20, 2025

At Saint Mary's, 8:45 a.m. - 12:00 Noon

Quick Links

Stay in Contact



To join our mailing list or update your contact information, scan the code.

Digital Donation



To make a donation or stewardship offering, scan the code.

Daily Bible Readings

Monday, February 24

II Corinthians 4:6-15 • Matthew 11:2-15

Tuesday, February 25

Jude 1:1-10 • Luke 22:39-42, 45-71; 23:1

Wednesday, February 26

Joel 3:12-21 • Joel 2:12-26

Thursday, February 27

Jude 1:11-25 • Luke 23:1-31, 33, 44-56

Friday, February 28

Zechariah 8:7-17 • Zechariah 8:19-23

Saturday, March 1

Galatians 5:22-26; 6:1-2 • Matthew 6:1-13




Sunday, March 2: Forgiveness Sunday

Romans 13:11-14; 14:1-4 • Matthew 6:14-21



Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

3450 Irving Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408-3399

612.825.9595 | 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

Weekly Bulletin Submission Deadline: Mondays