



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

April 27, 2025  
*Thomas Sunday*

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## THE DIVINE LITURGY

**Commemoration:** Thomas Sunday; Martyrs Emmanuel, Theodore, George, Michael and the other George of Samothrace; Symeon the Holy Hieromartyr; Eulogios the Innkeeper of Constantinople.

*Morning Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20*

*Tone: Second*

### VARIABLE HYMNS AND READINGS IN THE LITURGY

#### Hymn after Doxology (*Hymn of the Day*)

While the tomb was sealed, O Life, you did shine forth from the grave, O Christ our God. And while the doors were shut, you did come to your disciples, O Resurrection of all, renewing through them an upright spirit in us, according to your great mercy!

#### **Christ is Risen!**

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

Hristos anesti ek nekron, thanato thanaton patisas,  
ke tis en tis mnimasi zoin harisamenos.

#### *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*

#### Hymn of Pascha, *Plagal First Tone*

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

#### Hymn of Entrance

Bless God in the churches; the Lord from the fountains of Israel.  
Save us, O son of God who rose from the dead, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

#### *Repeat the Hymn of Pascha, above*

#### Hymn of the Day, *Grave Tone*

While the tomb was sealed, O Life, you did shine forth from the grave, O Christ our God. And while the doors were shut, you did come to your disciples, O Resurrection of all, renewing through them an upright spirit in us, according to your great mercy!

## **Kontakion of Pascha, *Plagal Fourth Tone***

Into the grave you descended, Immortal One, yet you destroyed the power of Hades, and as victor you arose, O Christ our God; you proclaimed to the myrrh-bearing women a greeting of joy, you brought peace to your holy apostles, and to the fallen you granted resurrection.

### ***Epistle*.....*Acts 5:12-20***

In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high honor. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the high priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the party of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

### ***Gospel*.....*John 20:19-31***

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe." Eight days later, His disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and My God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing, you may have life in His name.

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## 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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## Megalyrnation of Pascha, *First Tone*

In you, O woman full of grace, all creation rejoices, the orders of angels and the race of mankind. O hallowed temple and spiritual paradise, glory of virginal souls, from you our God was incarnate and became a child, he who is God from all ages. By making your womb his throne he made you more spacious, more spacious than all the heavens. In you, O woman full of grace all creation, all creation rejoices. Glory to you!

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

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### Communion Hymn

Receive the Body of Christ, and taste him who is  
the fountain of immortality.

*Instead of “We have seen the light...,” we chant  
“Christ is risen.”*

### The End of the Divine Liturgy

Priest: Christ is risen!

**People: Truly he is risen!** (*Proclaimed three times.*)

Priest: Glory to his third-day Resurrection!

**People: We adore his third-day Resurrection!**

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, by death,  
trampling down upon death, and to those  
in the tombs, he has granted life.

**People: Truly the Lord is risen!**

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## Today

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Prosforo is provided by **Ruta Kubits**.

40-Day Churching: **Vara Anne**, parents: **Stephen and Katherine Selinsky**

**Angelo and Jen Demitriades** will give a short presentation at the end of Liturgy about their enriching experiences with *Koinonia*.

### 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.

# Announcements



## A Note on Giving

When making a contribution of any type to St. Mary's with a check, the check must be made payable only to St. Mary's. As a safety precaution, our bank does not accept checks from us that are made payable to specific funds or individuals. This includes memorials, donations for holiday flowers, meals, and the like. Additionally, checks made payable to individuals, such as memorials, cannot be endorsed over to St. Mary's. If you have questions about this, please contact the Church Office.

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## Spring Parish Assembly

### Next Sunday, May 4

Please join us for our upcoming Spring Parish Assembly meeting next Sunday, May 4, 2025, following the Divine Liturgy, in the Great Hall. The Parish Council will be reviewing the following agenda items and a snack will be provided.

### 2025 Spring Parish Assembly Agenda

- Opening Prayer
  - Welcome
  - March 9, 2025 Special Parish Assembly Minutes Approval
  - 2024 Financial Summary (actual vs budget)
  - Elect 3 Parish Members for Board of Electors
  - 2025 Parish Council Priorities
  - Buildings and Grounds Update
  - Special PC Announcement
  - Closing Prayer and Adjourn
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## FOCUS Clothes Closet Update

### A Pause on Clothing

There is a pause through April on accepting clothing donations 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.



## Prayer Ministry

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

The family of Demos Hadjiyanis; 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; FOCUS Minnesota; Our brothers and sisters serving in the Armed Forces throughout the world especially Jassir; San Miguel Del Lago Orphanage; Elaine, Vonda, Andrew, Susan, Elias, Imogene, George, Becky, Elizabeth, Yvonne, Fran, Jim, Kathryn, Tom, Gina M., Elly K., Thomas, Panos, Connie, Evdoxia, Sylvia, Pete, 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, Eugenia, Ron, Matt, Laura, 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, Michael, Robbie, Judi, Evonne, James, Nichole, Constantine, Theodora, Irene Maria, Olivia, Lincoln, Carole, Patty, Karrisa, 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, 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 May 4



### *Ramen Noodles*

May'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

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## **Sunday, April 27: Thomas Sunday**

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

*after Liturgy – Come and See Reception and Presentation, Terrace Room*

## **Monday, April 28**

6:00 p.m. – Adult Open Gym Basketball, *Great Hall*

## **Tuesday, April 29**

6:00 p.m. – Adult Open Gym Basketball, *Great Hall*

## **Wednesday, April 30**

10:00 a.m. – Housekeeping Ministry

6:00 p.m. – Adult Open Gym Basketball, *Great Hall*

6:30 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal, *Nave*

## **Friday, May 2**

7:00 a.m. – Men’s Fellowship, *Fireside Room*

## **Saturday, May 3**

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

10:00 a.m. – HOPE/JOY Activity, *Youth Room*

5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

6:30 p.m. – OCMC Fundraiser, *St. Mary’s*

## **Sunday, May 4: Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women**

*“The Messenger” News Item Deadline*

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

*after Liturgy – Church School Prosforo Sale*

11:30 a.m. – Spring Parish Assembly, *Great Hall*

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“Never be upset. Christ was resurrected to give us much love and joy, from here on in. Now, let us begin to participate, more and more noticeably, in the bright day of the Kingdom of Christ’s love, where it never gets dark”

— *Saint Porphyrios of Kavsokalyvia*

# ALL ARE INVITED

## Fullness of Faith to the Ends of the Earth

**Saturday, May 3, 2025**

Social with Wine & Appetizers at 6:30pm;  
Dinner & Dessert at 7:00pm; Program at 8:00pm

**St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church**  
3450 Irving Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55408



**With OCMC Ambassador,  
Terri Leckas and St. Mary's  
parishioner, Dr. Steve Rakes**



OCMC Ambassador, Terri Leckas, will share highlights from her trip to Albania and St. Mary's parishioner, Dr. Steve Rakes, will also present from his recent trip to Africa. Both will share stories and recount experiences that have impacted them personally as well how Orthodox Christian Mission Center served as the pathway to take this journey of faith.

For questions please contact Special Events Coordinator, Elaine Drikakis at [elained@ocmc.org](mailto:elained@ocmc.org) or Event Chair & Ambassador, Terri Leckas at [thereseleckas@gmail.com](mailto:thereseleckas@gmail.com).



**\$15 Per Person**  
**RSVP by April 27, 2025**  
**Sponsorship Opportunities!**  
[ocmc.org/minneapolis-dinner](https://ocmc.org/minneapolis-dinner)



[www.ocmc.org](http://www.ocmc.org)



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# Philoptochos News

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## 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 two members to manage the Sunday table, providing updates on current volunteer opportunities, and addressing general inquiries about our mission and membership. Sign up at our table and choose a Sunday that works for you.



## Attention All Philoptochos Members

This year our Philoptochos chapter is celebrating 80 years of promoting charitable, benevolent, and philanthropic work for the Greek Orthodox Church. We would like to celebrate past and present members at our May Spring Finale. If you have any stories, pictures, or other memorabilia from the past 80 years, we would love it if you would share them with us. We are also looking for ladies to assist in planning this event. If interested...please contact Erline Holman, 507.259.5443, or [yiyaiierline@gmail.com](mailto:yiyaiierline@gmail.com).



## Philoptochos Board Elections in May

Philoptochos Board elections will be held in May, with up to 19 women able to join the team. This is a two-year term, and women experienced and new to the organization are welcome! The board meets eight times during the year and members serve on two committees. Lisa Gallmeyer, Carol Smith, and Paulette Hastings are leading the effort to create a slate of nominees. Please give some prayerful thought to taking on this role, talk with these three (or anyone on the board) to learn more, and become a leader in the philanthropic arm of the church!



## 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Spring Fling

*Tuesday, May 20, 5:30 p.m. – Social Time, 6:00 p.m. – Dinner, Program, and Meeting.* Join your Philoptochos' sisters for a fun evening celebrating our 80th Anniversary with food, beverages, games, and more. You don't want to miss this! Stop by our table to reserve your spot or sign up here, by scanning the code.



## Philoptochos/Women's Book Club

*Mother Theosemni* is the next book the women in the Philoptochos Book Club will be reading and discussing. **Copies are available in the bookstore.**

# Philoptochos News

## Volunteer Opportunities for Festival Baking Start in May

Opa! Taste of Greece 2025 baking starts in May and we're excited to welcome you to our baking sessions! Here's the schedule through June:

- Koulouria - Friday, May 9, 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
- Kourambiethes - Friday, May 16, 12:00 noon-7:00 p.m.
- Baklava Assembly - Tuesday, June 3 and Monday, June 9, 11:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
- Baklava Cut and Clove - Wednesday, June 11, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., and Thursday, June 12, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon (if needed)

These sessions are always fun and are a great way to be with old and new friends while supporting St. Mary's. Please join us when you can—for an hour or two or the entire session. Many hands lighten the load. No experience necessary...on-the-job training available! Volunteer via SignUpGenius or at the Philoptochos table after Sunday Liturgy.

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## Spring Chapter Connect Meeting - Saturday, May 10

All Philoptochos members are invited to attend the Spring Chapter Connect Meeting. This is a Metropolis event and will be held in person at St. Iakovos Retreat Center in Kansasville, Wisconsin. A Zoom link may be provided closer to the date. The agenda includes:

- How to file for 501c3, tax exemption etc.
- Discussion on the book, Membership, by Sarah Sladek.
- Much, much more!

Contact Connie Kouzes, kouzes@q.com or 612.804.2239 if interested in attending. More information to come!

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## The 19<sup>th</sup> Twin Cities Pan-Orthodox Tea

*Saturday, May 17, 3:30-5:30 p.m.*

Hosted by St. Panteleimon Russian Orthodox Church, 2200 Franklin Avenue, SE, Minneapolis MN 55414. Come together for fellowship and share ideas toward our common goals to learn from each other, share ideas from our parishes and to serve to be Christ-like. A service project grew out of our fellowship to serve those in need. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share.

Questions? Contact Ellada: [ellada\\_agadjanova@yahoo.com](mailto:ellada_agadjanova@yahoo.com)

# 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, April 28*

Acts 3:19-26 • John 2:1-11

### *Tuesday, April 29*

Acts 4:1-10 • John 3:16-21

### *Wednesday, April 30*

Acts 12:1-11 • Luke 9:1-6

### *Thursday, May 1*

Acts 4:23-31 • Luke 5:24-30

### *Friday, May 2*

Hebrews 13:7-16 • Matthew 5:14-19

### *Saturday, May 3*

Acts 5:21-32 • John 6:14-27

### *Sunday, May 4: Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women*

Acts 6:1-7 • Mark 15:43-47; 16:1-8



### **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