



ST. MARY'S
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

May 25, 2025

Sunday of the Blind Man

THE DIVINE LITURGY

Commemoration: Sunday of the Blind Man; Third Finding of the Precious Head of St. John the Baptist; Therapon the Hieromartyr, Bishop of Cyprus; Finding of the Icon of St. Demetrios the Great-Martyr and Myrrh-Streamer on Syros; Aldhelm, Bishop of Sherborne.

Morning Gospel: John 20:11-18

Tone: Plagal First

VARIABLE HYMNS AND READINGS IN THE LITURGY

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!

Resurrection Hymn, Plagal First Tone

To the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, let us, the faithful, give praise and worship. For he willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to endure death and raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

Hymn of the Third Finding, Fourth Tone

Now Christ has revealed to us your sacred head once again, a most holy treasure hidden underground for so long, O Prophet and Forerunner. Therefore we have assembled for the feast of its Finding, singing our God-inspired hymns in praise of the Savior, who saves us from destruction, by your earnest prayers to Him.

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 γενήσῃ τὴν παρθενίαν ἐφύλαξας, ἐν τῇ κοιμήσῃ 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 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* *II Corinthians 4:6-15

Brethren, it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you. Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believe, and so we speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

Gospel* *John 9:1-38

At that time, as Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen

him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess him to be Christ he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped him.

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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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Megalyrnarion of Pascha, *First Tone*

The Angel spoke to her who is full of grace: Rejoice, O pure virgin, and again
I say rejoice; your Son is risen from the grave on the third day.

Shine, Shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.
Now dance and be glad O Sion; and you, O pure Theotokos, exalt in the
rising of your Son!

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

Communion Hymn

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

Today

Prosforo is provided by **Barbara Nichols**

Memorial Prayers today are offered for **Dena Karigan (40 days);**
Ken, father of Giulia Chatfield (1 year);
Demetri (Jim) (20 years) and Giannoula Bakritzes (3 years)

The coffee hour today is hosted by the
Hellenic Post 129 American Legion and Auxiliary
in observance of Memorial Day.

Welcome Visitors and Guests!

Members of our Missions and Outreach Committee are at the welcome and information table during coffee hour. Stop by after Liturgy this morning to introduce yourself and join us for a cup of coffee and always enjoyable refreshments. They are happy to answer your questions about St Mary's Greek Orthodox Church and the Orthodox faith.

Announcements



Fr. Harry's Retirement

Father Harry Pappas, who served St. Mary's from 1995-2006, is retiring this summer. Anyone wishing to send a congratulatory note is invited to bring a card to church by Sunday, June 15, and we will send them to Father Harry in time for his and Presvytera Kerry's retirement banquet. A drop box for cards is in the narthex.



Paschal Reflection

Parishioner Ben Wehr assembled a mix of photos and videos taken during Holy Week and Pascha at St. Mary's. The images are presented in chronological order and feature the beautiful voices of our choir and chanters. **WATCH THE VIDEO. SCAN THE CODE.**



Women's Book Club

Mother Theosemni is the next book the Women's Book Club will be reading and discussing. Copies are available in the bookstore. The next discussion is on **Thursday, June 12 at 6:30 p.m.**, beginning with dinner. Please bring a salad, drinks, or dessert to share. A meat dish will be provided.



Greek Dance Program to Resume Practices

Register by June 8 — The Greek dance program will resume dance practices on Monday, June 9 and running through September 3. Practices take place on Monday evenings, 6:00-8:00 p.m., with added practices from time to time on Sunday afternoons. We will focus on preparing to perform for our Greek Festival, September 5-7. All youth of St. Mary's, ages 6 to 19 years, are welcome to join this fun cultural program. For further details on schedule, please contact Tessie Bourdamis, tbourdamis@comcast.net or Jim Canelake, agrimi01@gmail.com. Please register by June 8.

Calendar of the Week

Sunday, May 25: Sunday of the Blind Man

Junior Olympics in Chicago

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

12:15 p.m. – Cemetery Service, *St. Mary's Section in Lakewood Cemetery*

Monday, May 26: Memorial Day

Junior Olympics in Chicago

Church and Office Closed

Wednesday, May 28: Leave-Taking of Holy Pascha

9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy

6:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

after Vespers – Choir Rehearsal, *Nave*

Thursday, May 29: Holy Ascension

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

Saturday, May 31

8:30 a.m. – Women's Bible Study, *Patty Christopoulos' home*

Sunday, June 1: The First Ecumenical Council

"The Messenger" News Item Deadline

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



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; FOCUS Minnesota; Our brothers and sisters serving in the Armed Forces throughout the world especially Jassir; San Miguel Del Lago Orphanage; Filio, Mechelle, 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, 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 June 1



***Canned Meal – large cans
(e.g., Chili / Pork and Beans)***

May's recipient is **Simpson Food Pantry**.

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

Philoptochos News



Sunday Table Coverage – *Still Need Ladies to Help*

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.



Volunteer Opportunities for Festival Baking Start in May

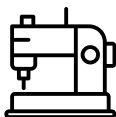
Opa! Taste of Greece 2025 baking starts in May and we're excited to welcome you to our baking sessions! Here's the schedule through June:

- **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)



Scan to
Sign Up

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.



Service Day...Mark Your Calendars!

Thursday, June 5

Join us for a day of service in the Terrace Room (any time between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.) to sew simple items for various organizations like Tandem Family Resource Center and general health care centers. **No need to know how to sew to attend!** We'll have plenty of needs for ironing and cutting, **so all are welcome!** Come for an hour, two hours, or whatever works for you! If you plan to attend, please bring a pair of scissors, or if you are a sewer, bring your sewing machine or serger. Donations of new or gently used hand towels to sew baby bibs are welcomed!

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.

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, May 26: Memorial Day

Acts 17:1-9 • John 11:47-54

Tuesday, May 27

Acts 17:19-28 • John 12:19-36

Wednesday, May 28: Leave-Taking of Holy Pascha

Acts 18:22-28 • John 12:36-47

Thursday, May 29: Holy Ascension

Acts 1:1-12 • Luke 24:36-53

Friday, May 30

Acts 19:1-8 • John 14:1-11

Saturday, May 31

Acts 20:7-12 • John 14:10-21

Sunday, June 1: Sunday of the First Ecumenical Council

Acts 20:16-18, 28-36 • John 17:1-13



Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

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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