

September 7, 2025



The Divine Liturgy

Sunday before Holy Cross

Commemoration: Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedeia; Holy Father Theoctistus and his fellow struggler Euthymius the Great; Polydorus the Martyr of New Ephesus; Translation of the relics of St. Nectarius the Wonderworker, Bishop of Pentopolis; Chariton the Martyr; Phoebe the Deaconess.

Morning Gospel: Mark 16:1-8 Tone: Fourth

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, 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 Resurrection Hymn, above

Hymn of the Forefeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos, Fourth Tone

Unto us is born today Mary the child of God, as the branch from Jesse's root, and as the fruit of David's loins, and all creation is re-created and deified. O heaven and the earth, rejoice in unison. Sing praises unto her, O all you Gentile clans. Joachim is exultant, and Anna is keeping festival, crying out: "The barren woman bears the Theotokos, the nourisher of our Life."

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!

Hymn of the Dormition of the Theotokos (Greek)

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 psichas imon.

Kontakion of the Preparation of the Nativity of the Theotokos, *Third Tone*

On this day the virgin Maid, Mary the true Theotokos, the inviolate bridal room of the heavenly Bridegroom, by the will of God is born of a barren woman, to prepare to be the carriage of God the Logos, as for this she had been destined, to be the gateway of God and Mother of Life.

Epistle.....Galatians 6:11-18

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

Gospel.....John 3:13-17

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

Today

Prosforo is provided by **Yana Patridge**.

40-Day Churching: **Ayla**, parents: **Auston & Melany Alvarez**

Welcome Visitors and Guests!

After Liturgy this morning, stop by the welcome and information table located in the narthex today. A couple parishioners are there to welcome you and answer your questions about St Mary's Greek Orthodox Church and the Orthodox faith. Our coffee hour resumes next week following Liturgy.

Announcements



Women's Book Club

The Women's Book Club will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 11, in a church school classroom. We are reading the first half of the book "The Way of the Pilgrim." The second half "The Pilgrims Continues his Way" will be discussed on November 6.



Women's Bible Study Resumes

Mark Your Calendars! Topic: *The Letters of St. Peter*

The fall schedule is: Saturdays, September 13 and 27, and Saturdays, October 11 and 25, beginning at 8:30 a.m. The study will meet again at Patty Christopulos' home: **5312 Highwood Drive W., Edina, 55436**. Please RSVP if you'll be attending or if you have any questions. patty@light-n-life.com or 952.200.9566



Senior Citizens' Meeting

Date Change—September 16

Saint Mary's Senior Citizens will meet at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, September 16 (the third Tuesday of the month), in the Terrace Room. We will celebrate all September birthdays and anniversaries with a group photo of all celebrants, a delicious buffet luncheon hosted by a committee of members, and a scrumptious cake by Terri Leckas. Afterwards, we will have a presentation on the history of our St. Mary's Seniors Club with a pictorial display. We will end with a short meeting and announcements. All St. Mary's Seniors (55+) are invited to join our lively group. Dues are currently \$15.00. For further information, please contact President Tessie Bourdamis or any current officer.



OCMC TREK4MISSIONS 2025

Be part of the TREK4MISSIONS on **Sunday, September 21, 2025**, and help the Mission Center recruit, train, and send people from our churches and seminaries that will foster lasting spiritual and personal transformation through the Orthodox Faith and the Fullness of a life in Christ. Support our St. Mary's team **The Mpls Golden Trekkers** by joining our team or donating to support Orthodox Missions. Contact Terri Leckas, 612.710.0609 or Maria Smith, 612.581.7298.



Men's Fall Retreat

This fall we will begin a new format that we hope will allow even more men the chance to participate in a day of faith building, fun, and fellowship. Save the date of **Saturday, October 4, 2025**, for a "Daytreat." Paul Karos has graciously agreed to lead two sessions on the topic of "Prayer." Steve Rakes and Andrew LeRoy have volunteered to help plan and execute some tasty meals. Activities may include fishing, volleyball, basketball, axe throwing, a long drive golfing contest, and of course, an evening bonfire. This will be hosted at the Twito home in Eagan between 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on October 4. More details will be forthcoming. Please RSVP to the David in the Church Office (david@stmarysgoc.org) ASAP so that we can anticipate the food quantities needed.
+Father Luke Twito



*Scan to
Sign Up*

BYZN-101: *Intro to Byzantine Music and Notation*

Love to sing? Join us for our Introductory Byzantine Notation and Chant course, BYZN 101! Whether you've never chanted before, or you've been chanting for many years, all are welcome! The first half of the class will be focused on learning Byzantine notation, then learning the modes (and their theory), two weeks at a time. This course is mostly focused on learning Byzantine notation; the musical system used around the world in Byzantine music. We'd love to have you join us for this college-style class (some lecture and some practical experience). The first class is Tuesday, October 7, meeting weekly on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. To register or for more information, contact ***Joseph@stmarysgoc.org***, or scan the QR code. The QR code is the registration form, which also has all class information.

Philoptochos News



Our Little Library Needs More Books

Our Little Library book stock is running low. We are looking for more Orthodox books to restock our supply. If you have some books at home that you have read and no longer need and would like to share with others, please bring them to the Philoptochos table on Sundays or drop them off in the church office. Thank You!



Please Sign Up to help at our Table on Sundays

We would love for you to help at our table on Sundays. Please stop by and sign up to sit at the table on a specific Sunday to assist in answering questions and promote individuals to sign up for activities happening in the coming weeks. We only need ladies to be there after Liturgy till about noon.



Fall Kick Off Dinner and Meeting

Tuesday, September 23, 5:30 p.m.

Philoptochos members will have a social gathering with beverages and appetizers on Tuesday, September 23, beginning at 5:30 p.m. with dinner served at 6:00 p.m. A short meeting will follow with information about what has happened in the past few months and all that is coming up. You don't want to miss this annual event. Stop by the Philoptochos table starting next weekend to sign up to attend, as well as to help with set-up, serving and clean-up.



Lyn Olson Medical Crisis Program Gala

Sunday, September 21

The 2025 gala will be held at Rustic Roots Winery, 20168 St Croix Trail N., Scandia, Minnesota, on Sunday, September 21, 2025, from 3:00-6:00 p.m. The event will take place at the same venue as last year, featuring the delicious Middle Eastern catering by The Church Ladies. Stephani Atkins returns as MC. We are simplifying our process with the following changes: We will now request a donation of \$40 per adult instead of handling tickets. There will be a cash bar and a live auction. Donations can be made prior to the event by scanning the QR code. Cash, Check, Venmo and PayPal accepted at the door. This year marks the tenth anniversary of the LOMCP becoming a 501(c) (3) organization!

Calendar of the Week

Sunday, September 7: Sunday before Holy Cross

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

12:00-5:00 p.m. – Greek Festival

5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers for the Nativity of the Theotokos

Monday, September 8: Nativity of the Theotokos

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

Tuesday, September 9

11:00 a.m. – Intercessory Prayer, *Nave*

11:30 a.m. – Senior Citizens' Bible Study, *Fireside Room*

6:15 p.m. – Parish Council Meeting, *Fireside Room*

Thursday, September 11

7:00 p.m. – Women's Book Club, *Church School Classroom*

Friday, September 12

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

Saturday, September 13

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

5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

Sunday, September 14: Elevation of the Cross

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

First Day of Church School

11:30 a.m. – Koinonia Kickoff Meeting, *Fireside Room*



“You must cross yourself more often because it guards you just like a lock on the door. Save yourselves and defend yourselves with the power of the honorable and Life-giving Cross.”

— Saint Matrona the Blind of Moscow



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 Conway; San Miguel Del Lago Orphanage; The family of Kathy Davis, Sophia and the students, staff, and parents of Annunciation Church and School, Janet, Andrew and Mari, Constantine James, Lauren, Anna, Kathleen Wendland and Julie Alvin, Gabriel, Linda, John and Johnny, Anastasia, Diane, Nicki, Dino, George, Billie, Nino, Kate, Elena, Mechelle, Elaine, Vonda, Andrew, Susan, Elias, Imogene, Becky, Elizabeth, Yvonne, Fran, Jim, Kathryn, Tom, Gina M., Elly K., Thomas, Panos, Connie, Sylvia, Pete, Steve A., Athena, Betty, Ann, Mark, Kostantinos & Georgia, Andreas, Jonathan, Jeanette, Mary, Ann, Marilyn, Donna, Dawn, Don, Nancy, Brad, Vangie, Jolene, Mikey, Aphrodite, James, Peter, Lyda, Owen, Michael, Jaclyn Jereczek, Dena, Chris, Joy Rose, Nick, John, Eugenia, Ron, Matt, Laura, Constance, Marina, Dion, Annali, Sofia, Juan Cruz & family, Charlie, Helena, Jennifer, John S., Becky, Noel, Stephen, Ray, Christina, Joanne, Charlie, Nuala, Pamela, Avgi, Elena, Speranta, Liz, Efstratia, Jordan, David, Nino, Joe, Donnarae, Mary K., Monte, Bethany, Mark, Owen, Estelle, Justine, Melissa, Megan, Michael, Robbie, Judi, Evonne, James, Nichole, Constantine, Theodora, Irene Maria, Olivia, Lincoln, Carole, Patty, Karris, 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, 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 September 14



Cereal (both hot and cold)

September's recipient is **Joyce Uptown Food Shelf**

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

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, September 8: Nativity of the Theotokos

Philippians 2:5-11 • Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

Tuesday, September 9

Galatians 4:22-27 • Luke 8:16-21

Wednesday, September 10

II Corinthians 13:3-13 • John 3:16-21

Thursday, September 11

Galatians 1:1-3, 20-24; 2:1-5 • John 12:19-36

Friday, September 12

Galatians 2:6-10 • John 11:47-54

Saturday, September 13

I Corinthians 2:6-9 • Matthew 16:13-19

Sunday, September 14: Elevation of the Cross

I Corinthians 1:18-24 • John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30



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Fr. Paul Kalina, Deacon, Fr. Luke Twito, Deacon, Fr. Stephen Wehr, Deacon*

Weekly Bulletin Submissions to: Communications@stmarysgoc.org

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