



December 28, 2025

The Divine Liturgy

## Sunday after Nativity

**Commemoration:** Sunday after Nativity; 20,000 Martyrs burned in Nicomedia; Holy Martyr Glycerus; Simon the Myrrhbearer, Founder of Simonopetra, Monastery of Mount Athos; Afterfeast of the Nativity.

*Morning Gospel: John 20:1-10 ..... Tone: Fourth*

### VARIABLE HYMNS AND READINGS IN THE LITURGY

#### *At the Second Antiphon*

Save us, O Son of God, who were born of the Virgin,  
save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

#### *At the Third Antiphon*

#### **Hymn of the Nativity of the Lord, Fourth Tone**

Your birth, O Christ our God, did shine upon the world, and through the light of wisdom illumined the universe. And to those who held the stars in worship, did through a star learn to worship you, the Sun of Righteousness, and came to know you the Light from on high. Glory to you, O Lord.

#### *At the Small Entrance*

#### **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!

#### **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.

*Repeat the Hymn of the Nativity of the Lord, above*

#### **For the Ancestors of God, Mode 2**

Annunciate the miracles to David the ancestor of God, O Joseph. You saw the Virgin pregnant. You glorified with the shepherds. You worshipped with the Magi. And you were warned by an Angel. Entreat Christ God to save our souls.

### **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 katelypes,

Θεοτόκε. Μετέστης πρὸς τὴν ζωήν, μήτηρ ὑπάρχουσα τῆς ζωῆς, καὶ ταῖς πρεσβείαις  
Theotoke. Metestis pros tin zoin, mitir iparhusa tis zois, ke tes presvies  
ταῖς σαῖς λυτροῦμένη ἐκ θανάτου τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.  
tes ses litrumeni ek thanatu tas psihas imon.

### **Kontakion of the Nativity of the Lord, Third Tone**

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One, and the earth presents  
a cave to the Unapproachable one. Angels with shepherds give Him glory;  
wise men follow a star as they journey to him who is God from all ages,  
yet for our sake is born as a little child.

### **Epistle ..... Galatians 1:11-19**

Brethren, I would have you know that the gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

### **Gospel ..... Matthew 2:13-23**

When the wise men departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called my son." Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel

weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more.” But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” And he rose and took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaos reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

---

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

## Today

Prosforo is provided by **Presbytera Alexandra Houck**.

The coffee hour today is hosted by  
**Krissa Rovolis and Presbytera Alexandra Houck.**

---

## Welcome Visitors and Guests!

After Liturgy this morning, stop by the welcome and information table located between the Bookstore and Great Hall. A couple parishioners are there to welcome you and answer your questions about St. Mary’s Greek Orthodox Church and the Orthodox faith. Join us in the Great Hall for a cup of coffee and always enjoyable refreshments.

## Announcements



### Holiday Office Hours

The Church Office will be closed on January 1 in observance of the New Year holiday.



### Coffee Hour Hosts Needed!

Coffee hour hosts are needed for next Sunday, January 4. If you would like to host, please contact David in the Church Office, [david@stmarysgoc.org](mailto:david@stmarysgoc.org) or 612.825.9595.



### Summer Camp Staff Registration Deadline

Summer Camp Staff applications close this week, December 31. For those interested in applying to be a part of the Camp staff, please go to: [stmaryscamp.com/summer-camp](http://stmaryscamp.com/summer-camp)



## Prayer Ministry

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

The family of George (Wes) Pollnow; The family of Matina Houck; 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; Sophia and the students, staff, and parents of Annunciation Church and School, Diane, Missy, Abby Grund, Anthony, Liz, Julie, Ann, Jim, Maria, Joan, Jason, Janet (Dimitra), 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, Mark, Kostantinos & Georgia, Andreas, Jonathan, Jeanette, Mary, 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, 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, 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, Vicki, Diana, Doria, Mike, Stephanie, Tyler, Ben, Amy, Christy, Karen, Anastasia, Jamie, Alex and Alexander, Toni, Gina, R.J., Allie, Vickie, Petra, Bob, Joseph, Christopher, Elizabeth, Judi, Bodil, Ole, and others known to you.

## Food Shelf Needs for January 4



### Ramen Noodles

January's recipient is Joyce Uptown Food Shelf  
*Please do not bring opened packages. They will be discarded.*

---

# Calendar of the Week

---

**Sunday, December 28: Sunday after Nativity**

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

**Thursday, January 1: Circumcision of Christ; Saint Basil**

10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy

*Church Office Closed*

**Friday, January 2**

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

**Saturday, January 3**

*No Bible Study*

*No Great Vespers*

**Sunday, January 4: Sunday before Theophany**

*“The Messenger” News Item Deadline*

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

---



## Holy Theophany Worship Schedule

**Monday, January 5: Eve of Theophany**

Royal Hours – 9:00 a.m.

6:00 p.m. – Vespers Divine Liturgy and Great Blessing of Water

**Tuesday, January 6: Holy Theophany**

8:30 a.m. – Orthros; 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy and Great Blessing of Water

**Wednesday, January 7: Synaxis of John the Baptist**

9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy



## Vasilopita (New Year's Bread) Sale Continues Today

Vasilopita sales continue today through Sunday, January 11, or until the loaves are all sold, after the Liturgy. The price again this year will be \$15 via cash or check (to Philoptochos) and \$15.50 via credit card.



## St. Mary's Women's Book Club

Thursday, January 8, 7:00 p.m.

Our next book for both January and March will be *Time and Despondency* by Nicole Roccas. The book is available in the bookstore. We will meet on January 8 in the Fireside Room at 7:00 p.m. for our first discussion. Please attend even if you have not read the book yet. We will schedule the rest of the 2026 dates shortly.

## Upcoming Events

- Undecorate the Trees – Friday, January 9, 10:00 a.m.
- Cut Vasilopita for Parish Distribution – Saturday, January 10, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- Undecorate the Nave – *Return trees to storage* – Sunday, January 11, 11:30 a.m.
- Prosoporo Workshop – Friday, January 23, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- Sitari (Memorial Wheat) Workshop – Friday, February 13, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

\* Signup at the Philoptochos table for any of these events.

---



## Year-End Giving

Electronic donations, via online giving or Venmo, must be made by **today (December 28)**. Online contributions can take 3-5 days to process. Contributions made after today cannot be guaranteed to be recorded as a 2025 contribution. Please plan ahead when making your year-end contributions. Contributions placed in the offering tray today, will be credited as 2025 contributions.

- **Important note!** When giving through an investment account, please request that your name be included on the check. We have received a number of checks from investment companies that have no name on them and we need to take time to track down the donor. We cannot properly credit these donations without your name.



## Saint Mary's to Host the 2026 West Region Basketball Tournament!

January 30 - February 1, 2026 • Minneapolis, MN

We are thrilled to announce that St. Mary's is hosting this year's Metropolis Basketball Tournament! This is one of the largest family and youth events of the year and we need our whole parish community to make it a success.



*Scan to  
Volunteer*



*Scan to  
Visit the  
Website*

### Players and Volunteers Needed!

Whether you're playing, coaching, helping with hospitality, working the score table, or assisting with logistics, your participation is essential.

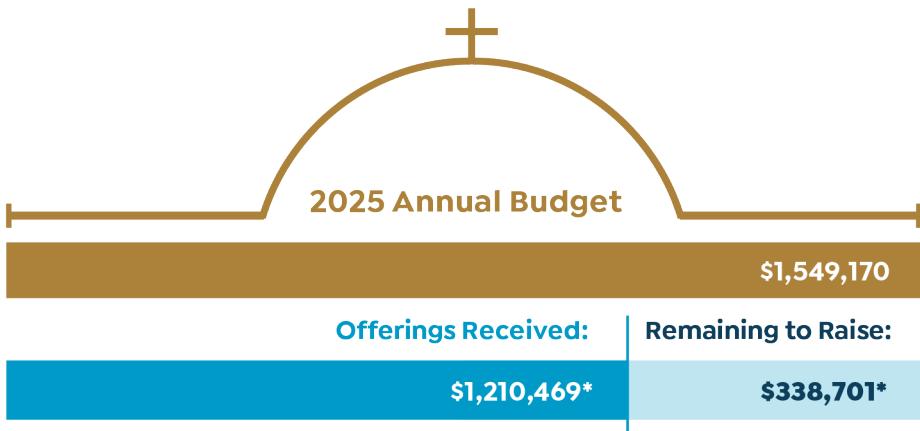
### Sponsorship Needed!

Want to support the Tournament? There will be a table set up during the coffee hour where you can sign up for sponsorship. Make sure to stop by.

### Want to Learn More About the Basketball Tournament?

Scan the code to visit our website. There you can learn more about the weekend schedule, meal tickets, hotel reservations, and more!

## Stewardship Update



\*As of December 12, 2025

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





## 2026 Board Application

We are so excited for this next calendar year and would love to have you join our team! Please consider this ministry prayerfully and apply if you are interested. Positions and their descriptions can be found within the application. Feel free to contact us or speak to a current board member with any questions you may have about the application. Application closes January 1.



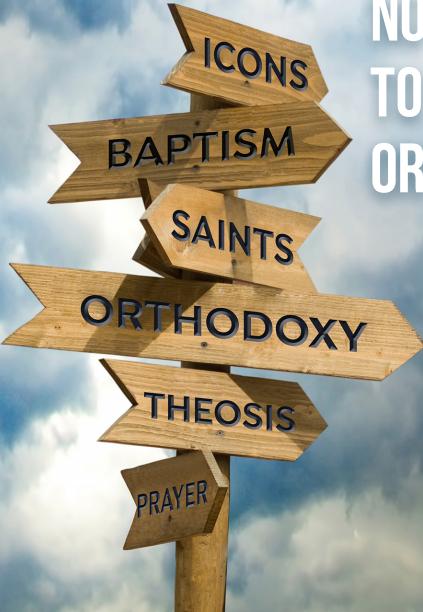
## YAL Chicago Conference

The Metropolis of Chicago's annual YAL conference will be taking place this Presidents' Day Weekend (February 13-16) in Downtown Chicago! This conference is filled with inspiring speakers, fulfilling workshops, fantastic service projects, amazing glendies, and many opportunities to connect with Orthodox young adults from across the country. Registration is now open with limited spots remaining. Register now!



## Support the YAL Conference

Many of you attended conferences back in the day, met some of your closest friends, and maybe even met your spouse at a YAL event. Oftentimes we hear the question, "where are the youth in the church?" The answer is here. There is a movement and desire to be connected with other Orthodox young adults and people in this age group look forward to these weekends each year. In order to keep ticket prices down (it costs YAL over \$500 per participant for food, entertainment, transportation, service project materials, etc.! ) We are looking for various forms of sponsorship and donations including: food and drink, merchandise, and monetary gifts. To donate or become a sponsor please visit the link in the QR code or reach out to Sia Tortorelis and the conference committee at [yalchicagoconference@gmail.com](mailto:yalchicagoconference@gmail.com)



NOT SURE WHERE TO GO  
TO LEARN ABOUT THE  
ORTHODOX FAITH?

## SEEKER SUNDAY

January 11, 2026 • 12:00-1:00 p.m.

*Room to be Announced*

For those seeking to become an Orthodox Christian, we are here to help guide the way. Join our monthly Q & A with clergy on Sunday, January 11 (second Sunday of the month). Grab some refreshments at the Coffee Hour, then meet us at noon. Come early for social time.

If you would like to send a question in advance, send it to: **welcome@stmarysgoc.org**

# CROSSROAD

CROSSROADINSTITUTE.ORG

10

*Days to Explore  
& Connect!*

11TH & 12TH GRADE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

## YOU BELONG AT CROSSROAD!

Join youth from across the country to explore your faith, purpose, and the Orthodox tradition.

CrossRoad is designed to give students:

- A deeper understanding of faith and purpose
- Transformative experiences in the Orthodox tradition
- New friendships with other Orthodox Christians

**Apply by December 20, 2025**

**SAVE \$50!** Hear by January 15, 2026

**Apply by January 20, 2026**

*Hear by February 15, 2026*

**Final Deadline:**

**Apply by February 20, 2026**

**LEARN MORE  
AND APPLY!**



[qrco.de/CR-Summer](http://qrco.de/CR-Summer)

# St. Mary's Winter Camp

January 16 - 19th 2026

Youth between **6th - 12th grade**

**Tuition: \$270.00**  
**Sign Up Deadline: Dec 31, 25**

Theme:

**Relationships  
in Christ**



Link to  
Camp  
Sign Up:



Link to  
Venmo  
Payment:



For any questions please  
reach out to - Mat Lisa Tucci  
**691-599-0814**

*St. Mary's Christmas decorations have been made possible  
through the generosity of the following:*

George & Samantha Asselanis in memory of Kosta Asselanis

The Barakos family in memory of Anna & Gerasimos Barakos; Felicia Aguilar; Pat, Leo, and Chris Fecht

Michael & Toni Bazakos in memory of their parents Fotios & Madgalene Georgopoulos and Elias & Maria Bazakos

Nick J. & Pamela Boosalis in memory of James N. & Susie Boosalis; John & Dorothy Felegy

Nicholas & Julie Boosalis in memory of Christos & Garifalia (Carrie) Boosalis; Alexis & Demetra Marouda

Nick T. Katherine Boosalis in memory of Demos Hadjiyanis; Theodore & Theodora Boosalis

Tessie Bourdamis in memory of Irene, Manuel, and George Bourdamis

Joan Calott in memory of Peter

Sandy & Alex Dascalos in memory of our parents

Athena Dascalos in memory of Kaliope & James Dascalos

Joe & Vicky DiGiovanni in memory of Demos Hadjiyanis; Sam & Paula DiGiovanni

Christina Doukas in memory of Rena Doukas, Katherine Boosalis, Peter Boosalis, Stamata Parthenios, Christ Parthenios

John & Dianne Dovolis in memory of Nick and Jimmy Dovolis

Sam & Kathy Economou in memory of our parents, grandparents, godparents, and loved ones

Marshall, Maria, Theodore, and Alexandra Estep in memory of Theodore & Theodora Boosalis

The Forchas family in memory of loved ones

Ben & Julie Frothingham in memory of Etta & Roy Frothingham; John & Jennie Maganas; Jane Ellen Brown; George & Peggy Maganas; Cliff & Elfie Carlson; Hazel Pearson

Nancy and Steve Gallos in memory of Christine & John Gallos

Jim Geogleris in memory of Sandra & George Geogleris

George Gerogeorge in memory of Evdoxia Gerogeorge

Nancy Grammas in memory of Nick Grammas

Sam, Bettina, Lucas, and Marcus Hanna in memory of Samira & Haleim Awad; Georgia & Louis Kokinis

Esme & Dave Harty in memory of Evdoxia Gerogeorge

Paul & Jenny Hibberd in memory of Connie, Raegan, Judith, David, Joan, Kathleen

Joe & Linda Hodge in memory of our loved ones

Juliana Hultstrom in memory of Evelyn Gerogeorge

Naira Istephanous in memory of Naim Istephanous

Mary & Fifi Kafkas in memory of Evangeline & Tom Kafkas; Peter & Hazel Chorakos; Katina, Costa, Paul, and George Nicolatos; Ione & Fr. Ted Filandrinos

Deacon Paul & Diakonissa Alexandria Kalina

Evangeline and Theodora Karakatsanis in memory of Stamati, Mimika, John, Evgenia, John, Stamati, Helen, George

Carol Karos in memory of John P. Karos

Mrs. Kathy Kirk-Malters in memory of the beloved Georgantones family of St. Paul (early members of St. Mary's)

Connie & George Kouzes in memory of Christina Kouzes Houck; Nicholas & Aphrodite Kouzes

Terri Leckas in memory of John Leckas

Annette Legeros in memory of Lamona Legeros

Erik & Anastacia Lindholm in memory of Tom Checheris, Bobby Lindholm, John & Eugenia Checheris, George Patronas, Tony Nicklow

The Louicas family in memory of Jim Louricas; Mark Louricas

Joanna Morgan

Tia Muchulas in memory of John Muchulas, Chris & Stamata Parthenios, George & Athanasia Grammas, Nick Grammas, Paul & Alexandra Muchulas, Jim Muchulas

Costas & Barbara Nichols in memory of Charles & Thera Nichols

Cristina & Gus Nicklow in memory of Bill K. Nicklow and Peter Prionas

Eleni and Greg Nicklow in memory of Baby Eleni Nicklow; Bill K. Nicklow

Vangie Nicklow in memory of John & Eugenia Checheris, Tom Checheris,  
Mimika & Stamati, John, Ageliki, Leonidas, Stamatis & Evangelia  
Libby and Lia Nicklow

Louis & Mary Pappas in memory of Pappas and Zarifis loved ones

The family of James & Helen Peters in memory of James & Helen Peters

Veula Possis in memory of Milt Possis, Theano, Christos, Thalia, Costandinos,  
George, Paul, Carol, Cleo, Robert, Virginia, John, JoAnn, Zinon, Mary,  
Emmel, Dell

Mike & Jeannie Possis in memory of Emmel & Della Possis

Margie Psychogios in memory of Peter Psychogios; Judy Psychogios

Steve & Popie Rakes in memory of George & Emily Regas; Pota & Mike  
Rakes

Brad & Kathy Richardson in memory of George & Cleo Zarifis

The Rist family

Georgia, Sam, and Sophia Rouman in memory of Michael & Panayiota  
Dovolos; George Rouman

Mary Kay Seidl and family in memory of Joseph Seidl

Leo & Cheryl Sioris in memory of Jim & Daphne Sioris; Paul & Pauline  
Peters; Bill Peters; Rose & John Mercury and Peter

Mark, Elizabeth, Kelsey, Ellie, and Preston Skoog in memory of Saleh  
Canavati, Eric Skoog, Valerie Milinkovich

Greg & Jeanette Swenson in memory of our parents Michael, Miriam, Lois,  
Elmer

Elaine Theis in memory of Socrates & Evangeline Stoyanoglow (parents);  
Chris & Panagoula Mouroutos (grandparents); John & Helen Stoyanoglow  
(grandparents)

Ann & Andrew Theodotou in memory of Chris Muzetras, Chris Theodotou,  
Helen Theodotou

Arlene Theros

Louis & Andrea Tiggas in memory of Constantine, Demetra, Andrew, Joy,  
George, Nicholas, Mary, Elias, Ioanna, John, Pepits, Constantine

Effy Triantafyllou in memory of Peter, Koula, Phil, Triantafylos, Athena,  
Efthimia, George, Maria, John, Vasiliki, John, Andreas, Mary, George,  
Violetta, Kyriakos, Ioanna, Daisy, Stella, Betty, Andy, Pearl, John and Helen

Kathy Trigas in memory of Georgia Fiffles, Peter Fiffles, Ted Fiffles, Pitsa Fiffles, Tom Mitropoulos

Louis Trigas and John Trigas in memory of John, Georgia, George, Eleni, Andreas, Dimitria, George, Elias, John, Dionisia, Hristos, Irini, Spiros, Marylou, John, Genevieve, Panayiot, Gregorio

Deacon Luke and Diakonissa Mary Kay Twito in memory of the Pantages, Twito, and Lulias families

Tim & Kathy Wahlers in memory of Christine & Clifford

Lori Wayman

Gregory & Harriet Witt in memory of Helen & Richard Hasselstrom;  
Donald & Marion Witt; Steven Witt

Theresa Zotateley in memory of Byron Zotateley



*Christ Is Born!  
Glorify Him!*

# 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, December 29*

Hebrews 2:11-18 • Matthew 2:13-23

### *Tuesday, December 30*

Hebrews 9:8-23 • Mark 11:11-23

### *Wednesday, December 31*

Hebrews 10:1-18 • Mark 11:22-26

### *Thursday, January 1: Circumcision of Christ; Saint Basil*

Colossians 2:8-12 • Luke 2:20-21, 40-52

### *Friday, January 2*

Hebrews 5:4-10 • John 3:1-15

### *Saturday, January 3*

I Timothy 3:13-16; 4:1-5 • Matthew 3:1-6

### *Sunday, January 4: Sunday before Theophany*

II Timothy 4:5-8 • Mark 1:1-8



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

3450 Irving Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55408-3399

[stmarysgoc.org](http://stmarysgoc.org) | 612.825.9595 |

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

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

**Weekly Bulletin Submission Deadline: Mondays**