



**JANUARY 2026**

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## Our Mission Statement

TO PROCLAIM, CELEBRATE, AND SHARE  
THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION IN  
JESUS CHRIST IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH THE ORTHODOX TRADITION.

## The Five Tasks of Our Parish Vision

Hear  
Pray  
Grow  
Serve  
Share



METROPOLIS  
OF CHICAGO

## Happy New Year! Καλή Χρονιά!



## Holy Theophany Worship Schedule

### Monday, January 5, Eve of Holy Theophany

9:00 a.m., Royal Hours;

6:00 p.m., Vespers Divine Liturgy and Great Blessing of Waters

### Tuesday, January 6, Holy Theophany

8:30 a.m., Orthos – 9:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy and Great Blessing of Waters

(Complete worship schedule for January on the next page)

# Our Life Together

## Study Groups

### Koinonia

(Tia Muchulas, coordinator)  
Thursday, January 15  
6:30 p.m., Fireside Room

### Men's Fellowship

Fridays, January 2 and 16  
7:00 a.m., Fireside Room

### Parish Night

Wednesday, January 21  
6:00 p.m., Nave and Terrace Room

### Saturday Bible Study

Saturdays, January 10, 17,  
24, and 31  
9:00 a.m., Fireside Room



## Congratulations!

On November 5 at the Metropolis of Chicago Clergy-Laity Assembly, His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael of Chicago bestowed the Gold Cross of the Metropolis of Chicago upon Nick T. Boosalis for his years of volunteer service and contributions to the life and ministry of the Metropolis. Nick served on the Metropolis Council, Executive Committee, and as Second Vice President. He chaired the Real Estate Committee for the past four years as the Metropolis pursued the purchase of a property for a new home for the Metropolis.

## Thank you

Thank you to everyone that supported OCMC by purchasing pumpkin bars. October is Support a Mission Priest month, and your generosity raised \$1,959.00 for this important program! Watch for upcoming OCMC Events.



## Share YourShelf

January's recipient is  
**JOYCE UPTOWN FOOD SHELF**

### IMMEDIATE NEEDS:

diapers and wipes, toothbrushes and  
toothpaste, Ramen Noodles

### Sunday, January 4

Ramen Noodles

### Sunday, January 11

Cereal (both hot and cold)

### Sunday, January 18

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

### Sunday, January 25

Coffee and Tea

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



Donate Online  
Visit the site, then,  
"Donate"

"Make us worthy, Lord, to  
serve those throughout the  
world who live and die in  
poverty or hunger. Give them,  
through our hands, this day  
their daily bread; and by  
our understanding love, give  
peace and joy. Amen."

~ Mother Teresa

## Weekly Worship Schedule

### Saturdays

Great Vespers – 5:00 p.m.

### Sundays (live-streamed)

Orthros – 8:30 a.m.

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

### Thursday, January 1:

#### Circumcision of Christ

Divine Liturgy – 10:00 a.m.

### Monday, January 5:

#### Eve of Theophany

Royal Hours – 9:00 a.m.;

Vespers Divine Liturgy –  
6:00 p.m.

### Tuesday, January 6:

#### Holy Theophany

Orthros – 8:30 a.m.

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

### Saturday, January 17:

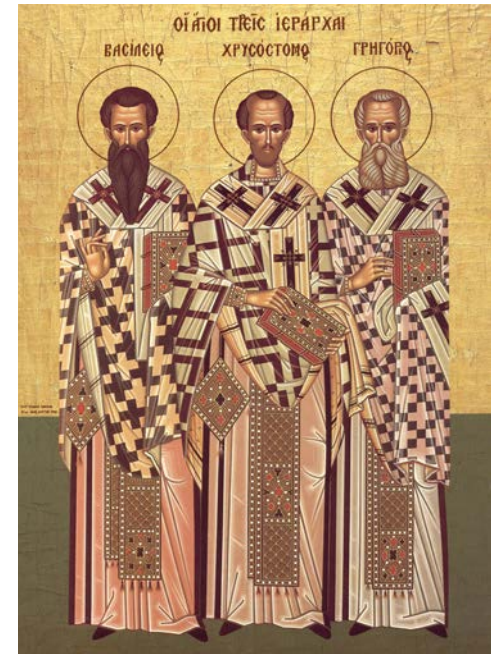
#### Saint Anthony the Great

Divine Liturgy – 10:00 a.m.

### Friday, January 30:

#### The Three Hierarchs

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.



## Note from the Office

The church office will be closed  
Thursday, January 1, in observance  
of New Year's Day.



# Parish News & Events

## St. Mary's Church Staff

### Proistamenos

Fr. Timothy Sas

### Associate Priest

Fr. Jason Houck

### Deacons

Fr. Paul Kalina

Fr. Luke Twito

Fr. Stephen Wehr

### Office Manager

David Mertesdorf

### Office Assistant

Giulia Chatfield

### Communications & Marketing

Nikolas Kouzes

### Finance

Michael Rakes

### Ministry Support

Doria Saros

### Youth Director

Scott Rudquist

### Church School Director

Dena Tortorelis

### Chanter

Joseph Karos

### Choir Director

Emily Skoutelas

### Building and Grounds

Dean Psychogios

## St. Mary's Parish Council

### President

Nicholas Santrizos

### Vice President

Louis Tiggas

### Secretary

Elisabeth (Libby) Cheolis

### Treasurer

Cristina Nicklow

### Assistant Treasurer

Athena Mihas

### Members

Benjamin Amundgaard

Jennifer Coin

Alex Dascalos

Louis Ellis

Andrew Gatchell

Andrew LeRoy

Sophia Rouman



## Contacting Our Clergy

"And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had done, and he rested."

~Genesis 2:2

### Our clergy need time to rest, too!

Let us be mindful of the clergy's scheduled days off:

Fr. Tim - Mondays and Tuesdays\*

Fr. Jason - Fridays and Saturdays\*

\*with the exception of Great Feasts and emergencies

Fr. Tim and Fr. Jason rotate being on call for emergencies. In order to be available to receive emergency messages (including text alerts), they must leave their cell phones on 24 hours a day. Therefore, out of respect to our priests and their families, **please do not call or text Fr. Tim or Fr. Jason before 8:30 a.m. or after 8:30 p.m.** - with the exception of emergency messages.

The same courtesy should apply to Deacons Paul, Luke, and Stephen and their families. Thank you for honoring our clergy and giving them the rest and respite they deserve and need.

~ St. Mary's Parish Council



## Sitari (Memorial Wheat) Workshop

February 13, 2026

A sitari workshop is planned for Friday, February 13, 2026, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the church kitchen. There is no charge to attend. All ingredients will be provided by St Mary's. Please bring a shallow 9-inch bowl to use for making your tray. If anyone can assist with the preparations and set up, please let Toni Bazakos know at [antigone.bazakos@gmail.com](mailto:antigone.bazakos@gmail.com) and plan to arrive around 3:00 p.m. on Friday, February 13.



## Holy Land Pilgrimage 2026

Tom and Mary Rudquist from St. George Antiochian Church in West St. Paul are planning a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in the fall of 2026. The pilgrimage will include visits to the Holy Sites in Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jericho, Galilee, and Nablus. The tentative dates for the pilgrimage are August 29, 2026, to September 7, 2026. If you are interested, please contact Tom Rudquist by phone or text at 651.890.6817 or by email at [abousean@yahoo.com](mailto:abousean@yahoo.com).

## Introduction to Orthodox Christianity Catechism Course - Winter 2026

The MEOCCA-sponsored catechism course, Intro to Orthodox Christianity, begins on Monday, January 5. Catechism is open to all: people interested in learning more about Orthodox Christianity, inquirers, catechumens, and current Orthodox Christians as well. Classes will be held on Monday evenings from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in person at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 1111 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, or online via Zoom. Details of the course as well as registration information is available at [www.meocca.org](http://www.meocca.org), under "Our Faith" tab.

# Parish News & Events



## Healing House Meal Leader and Volunteers Needed

Healing House Mother's and Children

Program began in 2006. It serves up to

20 women and 24 children in a 7-18-month program. It is the only Christ-centered recovery program in Twin Cities that allows mothers to live with their children (the family shares one room) full time to heal together and create a new life through power of Jesus. St. Mary's has been involved with this program since its inception. Along with the school supply drive, AHEPA Children's Christmas Party (with presents) and every other month we serve and share a meal with the moms and children. While some volunteers play, read books, and color with the children we hold a Bible study for the moms. We have had a faithful group of volunteers for all these years, however, as circumstances change, it's become clear we need to enlarge our volunteer base. Dates are every other month on the third Saturday (except November). The time commitment is 5:00-7:30 p.m. Needs for the meal are shared among the volunteers and includes a main dish, salad/side, beverages, dessert, plus tableware. Children are welcome, the kids of HH love the company!

The time has come for a new leader for this precious ministry, our current leader, Erika Kensington, has moved to Missouri and is no longer able to serve in the ministry.

The requirements of the leader are:

- Notify volunteers via email and bulletins of upcoming dinners
- Keep roster of volunteers
- Verify with HH contact how many we will be serving
- Make sure all dinner needs are filled

Our next dinner/Bible study will be Saturday, January 17, 2026. We ask that you prayerfully consider sharing your light with these moms and children who've had the courage to seek help in the depth of their difficulties.

**Contact Sandra Anderson with any questions, 612.940.8933 or asformess69@gmail.com.**



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

**January 30 – February 1, 2026**

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*

### Players and Volunteers Needed!

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

### Sponsorships 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 and find out how you can contribute.

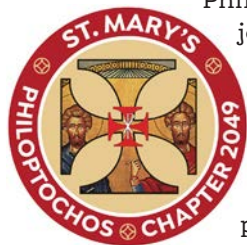


*Scan to Visit the Website*

### 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!

# Philoptochos



Philoptochos extends warm wishes for a joyful and blessed New Year in 2026 to you and yours! May God bless you and your families with health, happiness, and peace in the coming year! Blessings are like friends who love and labor with us. Let's raise our voices in praise and give thanks to the Lord so all Philoptochos friends can hear us.

## PHILOPTOCHOS MEETINGS

Board Meeting:  
**Tuesday, January 20, 6:30-8:30 p.m. – on Zoom**

General Meeting:  
**Sunday, January 25, 11:45 a.m. – Terrace Room**

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

### Vasilopita Cutting

**Saturday, January 10, at 9:00 a.m.**

Volunteers will cut and bag Vasilopita on Saturday, January 10, at 9:00 a.m., which will be distributed on Sunday, January 11 after Liturgy. You can purchase your loaves during the Sunday Coffee Hour on January 4 and 11 (if any left). Proceeds go to St. Basil Academy. The National Philoptochos Society purchased the estate that became St. Basil Academy in 1944 and has responded to the needs of the Academy and its children for more than 70 years. Located in Garrison, New York, St. Basil Academy is a home for children in need. The academy provides a loving Christian environment where resident children are nurtured to adulthood.

### Undecorate the Church

We will begin "undecorating" the church and halls in early January, following Holy Theophany, and would greatly appreciate your help! Schedule:

**Friday, January 9, 10:00 a.m.**

Take down the decorations from the trees.

**Sunday, January 11, after Liturgy** (with St. Olympia)

Undecorate Nave and return the trees to storage

If you can lend a hand, please visit the Philoptochos table to sign up. Thank you in advance for your support!

### Prosforo Workshop

**Friday January 23 at 6:00 p.m.**

We will have a prosforo workshop on Friday January 23 at 6:00 p.m., in the church kitchen. All ingredients will be provided. Please bring a sfragida if you have one. There are sfragides for sale in the church bookstore if you would like to purchase one. However, we will have plenty for your use at the workshop. Fr. Jason will join us at the beginning of the session to offer prayers and share with us a few words regarding the importance of prosforo in the Liturgy. You may register at the Philoptochos table after Liturgy each Sunday or call the church office. Please call Toni Bazakos at 612.554.7851 if you have any questions or email at [antigone.bazakos@gmail.com](mailto:antigone.bazakos@gmail.com)

## Membership Drive Begins

Being a member of Philoptochos is a wonderful way to connect with women and to serve and support many local, national, international charities as well as the needs of our parish. Our membership package will be mailed this month so you can join as a new member or renew your current membership! Our membership drive will run through March 2026!

## Women's Book Club

**Thursday, January 8**

The next Book Club discussion will be on Thursday, January 8. The book will be "Time and Despondency" by Nicole Roccas, (to be discussed in January and March). Copies of this book are available in the bookstore. This year we will be reading fewer books and taking more time for discussion. If you are interested in joining or reconnecting with the group, please reach out to Katherine Boosalis at [katherine@boosalis.net](mailto:katherine@boosalis.net). (Please note: If you previously declined a meeting invitation, your email might have been inadvertently omitted from future invitations).

## LITTLE ORTHODOX LIBRARY

If you have Orthodox books to donate, please bring them to the Philoptochos table after Sunday Liturgy or bring them to the church office during the week.

## THANK YOU...

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who purchased gifts for the children and mothers of Healing House—your generosity means so much!

Thank you to our volunteers who hosted the Christmas Coffee Hour!

A big thank you to all the volunteers who dedicated their time and talents to beautifully decorate the church for our Christmas celebration. Your efforts really brought so much spark to our Christmas Celebration!

**Watch for more postings of events in the parish weekly bulletins and sign up to attend!**

## Follow Saint Mary's Philoptochos on Social Media



Facebook



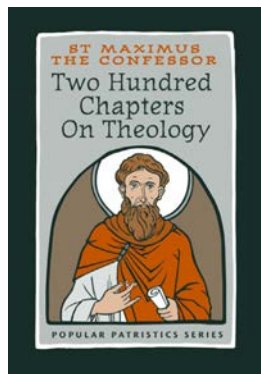
Instagram





# In the Bookstore

By Rebecca Myerly  
[bookstore@stmarysgoc.org](mailto:bookstore@stmarysgoc.org)



**Two Hundred Chapters on Theology** was written by Saint Maximus the Confessor (580-662). Saint Maximus lived a tumultuous life as a confessor of the true faith and proved to be an articulate witness, although sometimes difficult to readily understand. His life, especially his later life, was filled with conflict, all the while he lived the advice of Saint Athanasius to “Endure testing, persevere in toils.” He suffered persecution, physical torture, and exile for his defense of the true faith against the heresies prominent in his day.

Saint Maximus wrote **Two Hundred Chapters on Theology** in the “chapters” genre, a form well known at the time. “Chapters” comes from the Greek word *kephalaia*, literally meaning “headings,” or, in modern parlance, “thought bites.” Each chapter “tends to be a short aphoristic phrase with a single theme for facility of memorization and recitation.” (22) Writing in this genre is:

eclectic, dealing with wide-ranging topics often remotely organized around a unifying theme, to which each chapter contributes in a way appropriate to its conceptual content....As is characteristic of his work on the whole, certain topical threads are dropped at one point, only to be picked up at another, eventually weaving a complex tapestry. (23)

Luis Joshua Sales, the translator, wrote an introduction that is both helpful and edifying for the reader, including a section on the guiding ideas of and in **Two Hundred Chapters on Theology**. This is immensely helpful for the reader to appreciate the key themes Saint Maximus is writing about. These include *Radical Divine Transcendence and Limitation of Creation*; *Uncreated-Created Distinction: Divine Simplicity, Cosmic Plurality*; *Cosmic Sabbath: Mystical Contemplations of Scripture and the Practical and Contemplative Life*; *Transformation and Presence: Seeing the Logos*; *Asceticism and Ascent: Virtues and Vices, Similarity and Dissimilarity to God*; *Deification and the Principle of Reciprocity*; and *The Dwelling Place of God*. By sorting through these topics in the introduction, the reader is much better prepared to read the chapters. It should also be noted, perhaps emphasized, that “many chapters exhibit intentional ambiguities in order to speak meaningfully, within the same sentence, to those at different points in their spiritual journey.” (from the back cover) “The reader is automatically the student listening to wise sayings of an elder, or, perhaps even a pilgrim seeking out the renowned ascetic and begging for “a word.”” (25) For example:

The Word of God both is called and is dew, and water, and fountain, and river, as it is written; to be clear, he both is and comes to be these things in accordance with the underlying

capacity of those receiving him. For to some he is dew, as an extinguisher of the burning desire and perpetration of the passions, externally hemming them in all over the body. To those burning in their innermost parts by the poison of wickedness he is water, not only as though destructive of what is harmful through an antidote, but also as a bestower of vivifying force for well-being. And fountain for those who have the character state of contemplation ever gushing forth, as the giver of wisdom. And a river to those who pour forth like a stream with the pious, right, and salvific teaching, as abundantly giving humans, cattle, beasts, and plants to drink, that also humans might be deified, being exalted by the contemplations of the things here said...(151)

Even though **Two Hundred Chapters on Theology** is not easy reading, the “chapters” or “thought bite” genre makes understanding much more accessible. This is a good book to read over an extended period of time, perhaps on a daily basis, to give one time to contemplate each chapter in a spacious manner.

This article is based on the Popular Patristics Series version of this book published by Saint Vladimir’s Seminary Press, which includes the original Greek text on the facing pages of the translation.



## ST. MARY'S BOOKSTORE

***Two Hundred Chapters on Theology* is available now.**

Stop in to get this featured book and explore a wide selection of Orthodox Christian literature, icons, and gifts. **Sundays, after the Liturgy until 1:00 p.m.**

# Stewardship

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**Christ is Born! Glorify Him!** In 2026, we are continuing our stewardship theme of “Ownership, Engagement and Generosity” but with an emphasis on offering our “First Fruits” (Proverbs 3:9). We thank the many parishioners who have already submitted their Time and Talent pledge forms for 2026. Thank you for committing to Christ and His Church!



Below is a beautiful testimony from one of our parishioners, **Cooper Buss**, who shared his message of Stewardship following the Liturgy on **November 9, 2025**

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,  
When Declan grabs a toy away from Phoebe and yells “MINE” I correct him.

“Declan, these aren’t your toys, they are OUR toys. Phoebe gets to play with them too.” Then I have to correct myself and I will say out loud “Actually, these are God’s toys. All of this is God’s. We get to take care of it. And that means sharing.”

All of this is God’s. Your own, from your own, we offer to you.

We are a bit obsessed with ownership. Our country is built on opportunity. And these opportunities tend to manifest in the form of accumulation. I think that if I really lived like I believed all of this was God’s, I would want less, I would give more, because I wouldn’t trust myself to care for so much! Money gives us security, right? The rich keep getting richer. Why? Turns out more is never enough.

Before the Fall, Adam and Eve lived in the garden. They had nothing. Naked. Their entire lives were spent in harmony with nature and God, as stewards, caring for the garden. Growing in their relationship with God.

What is the first thing Adam and Eve did after they ate the fruit? I over looked this my whole life. They made clothes for themselves. They took something they were supposed to be taking care of, and applied it for a purely personal purpose. Ironically, this is the first act of technology, they fashioned clothes for themselves. The first act after the fall was technology, acquisition, using nature for our own aims. Next time you find yourself spending too much time on your phone, read Genesis 3 (about the fall) and then take a good look at the apple logo.

Then in Genesis 4, another lesson on stewardship! Funny how we are teaching most of the kids in Sunday school about Genesis this year.

Cain and Abel. Adam and Eve’s sons. Cain brings an offering to God, some of his crops. Abel brings God the firstborn of his flock. Abel gives God the best, the firstborn of his flock. God respected this offering and did not respect Cain’s offering. Cain didn’t have the right relationship with his stuff, and it distanced his heart from God. We all know what happens next. Murder. Cain wanders far from God. Oddly enough, in their wandering, Cain and his descendants become technologists and city makers. They named their cities after themselves and they made tools out of metal. Interesting.

We don’t know anything else about Abel. I would have liked to model my life after him I think. He gave the firstborn of his flock of sheep. He sacrificed a lamb. Another lamb, the Lamb, was a first born too, begotten of the Father before all ages. The firstfruit of all firstfruits. That’s what God gives to us.

Every year, when Jess and I look ahead and decide what percent of our income we are going to give to the church, it is not an easy decision. This giving should be a spiritual act. The process of deciding what percent of our income to give needs to be prayerful.

Firstfruits are hard to give up. We have to decide what our firstfruits are. I’m talking about treasure, but there is time and talent too.

After Cain gave his leftovers, his face fell and he became angry.

Here is one thing I am sure of. When we give of our first fruits, although it is difficult, we will have peace. You know that feeling you have walking out after Confession? Lightness, blessedness? Giving your firstfruits produces that too.

Ok, now it’s time to really sell it to you.

Being a steward means caring for what God has given us. Here is the church that we care for.

I was talking to a friend that helps with the youth group at a very healthy, thriving non orthodox church. They combine 6th through 12th graders. I asked if that gets chaotic. He said no, it’s typically 8-12 kids. The Sunday school class I teach is 7th and 8th graders. We average 8-12 kids a Sunday just in 7th and 8th grade.

This is the church we care for.



# Stewardship

When people ask what church I go to, I ask them if they've ever seen a golden dome rising above the tree line on the east side of the lake. That's my church, St. Mary's. Our church is iconic. The gold dome on the lake.

This is the church we care for.

We are challenged and yet we stay united. COVID. Turmoil in South Minneapolis. We are attacked. Our hearts and our children. We are united in prayer, and sometimes, by God's grace He answers us with miracles.

I love this place. And I want as many other people as possible to love it too. I want to fill these blank places with icons. I want our golden dome to shine brightly across the city. I want every open place in our church to be filled with a person.

I don't know if you've noticed. The pews are filling. If you want a "good" spot, you have to get here early! Something is happening.

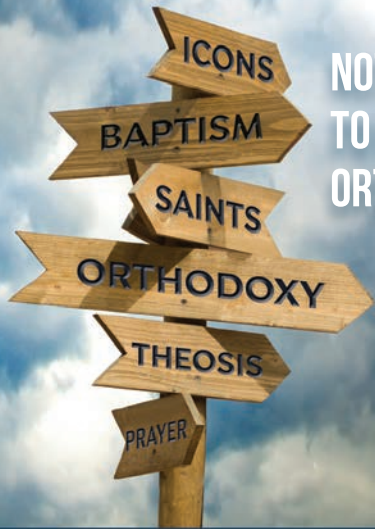
Let's keep making it happen.

So. Pray. Pray about giving. And give.

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



**Need a new Time, Talent, and Financial Pledge Form? Scan the Code.**



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

### SEEKER SUNDAY

**January 11, 2026 • 12:00–1:00 p.m.**  
**Fireside Room**

For those seeking to become an Orthodox Christian, we are here to help guide the way. Join clergy for a monthly Q&A session. Grab some refreshments in the Great Hall after Liturgy, then meet in the Fireside Room.

**QUESTIONS? Contact Linda Stanton: [mnlas@msn.com](mailto:mnlas@msn.com)**

## LOOKING FOR SOMETHING WORTH DOING ON YOUR PHONE?

# PRAY.

 **THE ENCOUNTER**

Join thousands of Orthodox Christians around the world praying daily with the **Encounter app**—now with a fresh look and new features to deepen your prayer life.

- Daily Orthodox prayers, and Gospel & Epistle lessons read aloud
- Byzantine and Choral Sacred Music
- Readings, videos and hymns for the Saint of the Day

When the digital world feels overwhelming, The Encounter helps you stay rooted in Christ—with just a tap.



Scan a QR code to download today:

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The Encounter is brought to you by Faithtree Resources. [faithtree.org/the-encounter](https://faithtree.org/the-encounter)



# Children and Youth News



## FOR ALL YOUTH Parish Night: On *Orthodox Ethics in the Modern World*

**Wednesday, January 21**  
**6:00-8:00 p.m.**

Please join us for the once monthly Parish Night! The event will commence with a prayer service, followed by a meal and educational sessions surrounding the Orthodox Ethics in the Modern World. Attendees will split up for the educational sessions into the following groups: adults, high school students, middle school students (grades 6-8), and grades K-5. We hope you can join for this night of prayer, fellowship, and learning!



**Friday, January 30–  
Sunday, February 1**  
All Weekend

Located in the Twin Cities. For more details, visit the website.



Scan to  
Visit the  
Website



**Friday-Saturday, January 2-3**  
**6:00 p.m.-10:00 a.m.**

**New Years Lock-in**

Starting with a pizza dinner, we will then bake cookies, play games, watch a movie, followed by free time.

**Sunday, January 11: Pancake Brunch**

After Communion we will prepare a pancake brunch in celebration of Godparents' Day.

**Wednesday, January 21: GOYA Night**  
**6:00-8:00 p.m.**

A prayer service followed by an open Youth Room.

**January 17-19: Winter Camp**



## Saint Olympia Ministry Events

Mark your calendars for upcoming St. Olympic activity dates:

**Prosforo Workshop:**

**Friday, January 23, 6:00-8:00 p.m.**

Bring mom and/or a friend and learn how to make this sacred bread of the Church.



**Sunday, January 11**  
**Pancake Brunch**

After Communion we will prepare a pancake brunch in celebration of Godparents' Day

**January 17-19: Winter Camp**



**Sunday, January 11**  
**Pancake Brunch**

After Communion we will prepare a pancake brunch in celebration of Godparents' Day.

## Our Children and Youth Mission Statement

To cultivate a safe and welcoming environment for kids by nurturing healthy relationships within the church family. We will teach the youth by building a strong foundation of knowledge, and together, we will experience the Orthodox tradition by following the four circles of youth ministry: Liturgia (Worship), Diakonia (Service), Martyria (Witness), and Koinonia (Fellowship), leading our youth to develop, by their own free will, a personal relationship with God and to pursue union with Him.



Follow the GOYAns on Instagram  
**@St\_Marys\_GOYA**

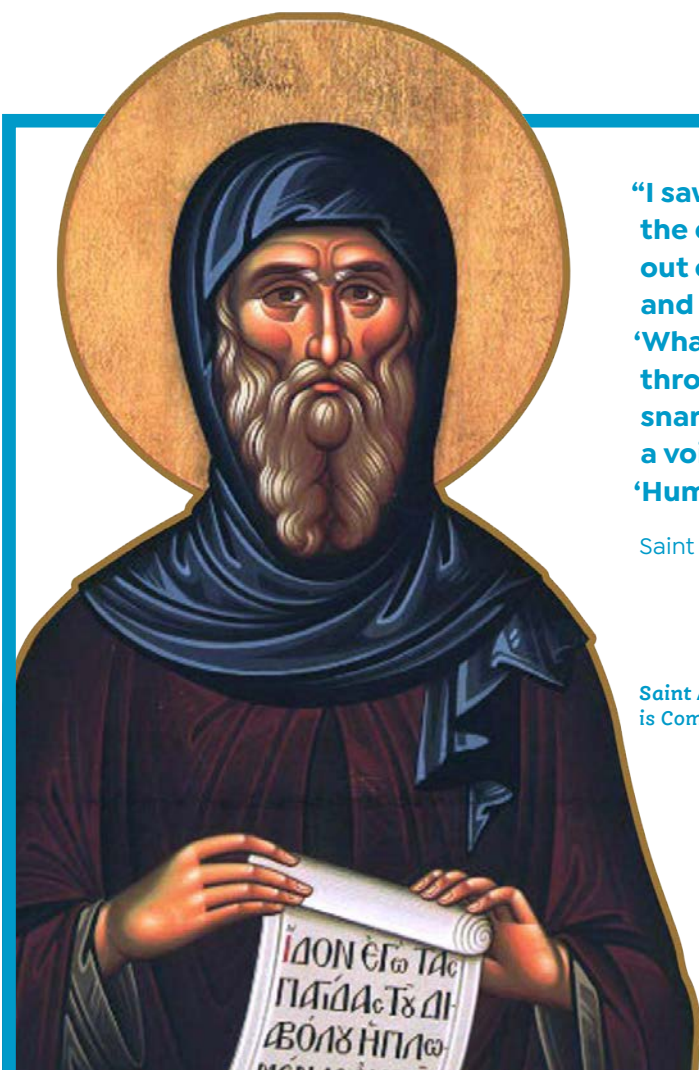
## Youth Feedback

If you have any comments, suggestions, or concerns regarding our youth program(s) please let us know. We have a new formal feedback process. Go to our St Mary's home page-Click on "Youth," then "Youth Program Feedback" Your comments will be forwarded to a member of the Parish Council and will be reviewed for follow up.

Saint Mary's Greek Orthodox Church  
3450 Irving Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**"I saw the snares that  
the enemy spreads  
out over the world,  
and I said groaning,  
'What can get  
through from such  
snares?' Then I heard  
a voice saying to me,  
'Humility.'"**

Saint Anthony the Great

Saint Anthony the Great  
is Commemorated on January 17

## THE MESSENGER

**JANUARY 2026**

The Messenger is published  
monthly by Saint Mary's  
Greek Orthodox Church.

### **PUBLICATION DEADLINES**

#### **The Messenger**

First Sunday of each month

#### **Sunday Bulletin**

Preceding Monday, 4:00 p.m.

### **CONTACT**

3450 Irving Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55408  
[stmarysgoc@stmarysgoc.org](mailto:stmarysgoc@stmarysgoc.org)  
612.825.9595 | 612.825.9283 Fax

**[stmarysgoc.org](http://stmarysgoc.org)**



@stmarysgoc



# January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1 New Year's Day</b> <b>Circumcision of Christ</b> 10:00am-Divine Liturgy  <i>Church Office Closed</i>	<b>2</b> 7:00am-Men's Fellowship	<b>3</b> <i>No Bible Study</i> 5:00pm-Great Vespers
<b>4 Sunday before Theophany</b> <b>"The Messenger" Deadline</b> 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy	<b>5 Eve of Theophany</b> 9:00am-Royal Hours 6:00pm-Vespersal Divine Liturgy and Great Blessing of Water	<b>6 Holy Theophany</b> 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy and Great Blessing of Water	<b>7 Synaxis of John the Baptist</b> 9:30am-Divine Liturgy	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 9:00am-Bible Study 10:00am-FAITH Playgroup 5:00pm-Great Vespers
<b>11 Sunday after Theophany</b> <b>Godparents' Sunday</b> 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy after Liturgy-Pancake Brunch 11:30am-Curriculum Mtg. 12:00noon-Seekers' Mtg.	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 6:15pm-Parish Council 6:30pm-Byzantine Chant Class	<b>14</b> 6:30pm-Choir Rehearsal	<b>15</b> 6:30pm-Koinonia ( <i>T. Muchalas</i> )	<b>16</b> 7:00am-Men's Fellowship	<b>17 Saint Anthony the Great</b> 9:00am-Bible Study 10:00am-Divine Liturgy 5:00pm-Great Vespers  <i>Healing House Dinner</i>
<b>18 Twelfth Sunday of Luke</b> <b>Saints Athanasios &amp; Cyril</b> 8:30am-Orthros <i>Prayers for the Unborn</i> 9:30am-Divine Liturgy	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:30pm-Byzantine Chant Class	<b>21</b> 9:00am-"The Messenger" Mailing 6:00pm-Parish Night 6:30pm-Choir Rehearsal	<b>22 Saint Timothy</b> 7:00pm-Stewardship Com.	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 9:00am-Bible Study 5:00pm-Great Vespers
<b>25 Fifteenth Sunday of Luke</b> <b>Saint Gregory</b> 8:30am-Orthros 9:30am-Divine Liturgy 11:30am-Philoptochos Mtg.	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 6:30pm-Byzantine Chant Class	<b>28</b> 6:30pm-Choir Rehearsal	<b>29</b>	<b>30 The Three Hierarchs</b> 9:30am-Divine Liturgy	<b>31</b> 9:00am-Bible Study 5:00pm-Great Vespers