



# ST. MARY'S

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

April 5, 2026 — *Palm Sunday*



*“Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”*

**April 5, 2026**



**Palm Sunday**

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## **The Divine Liturgy**

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### **Commemoration:**

Palm Sunday; Monk-Martyrs Claudius, Diodore, Victor, Victorinus, Pappias, Nicephorus, and Serapion; Theodora the Righteous of Thessaloniki; Agathopodes and Theodulos the Martyrs; George the new Martyr.

*Morning Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11, 15-17*

## **VARIABLE HYMNS AND READINGS IN THE LITURGY**

### *At the Second Antiphon*

Save us, O Son of God, who rode on a donkey colt, save us who sing to you: Alleluia!

### *At the Third Antiphon*

Before Your passion You confirmed the resurrection of all by raising Lazarus from the dead, O Christ our God. Therefore, like the children of old, we also carry symbols of victory, and to You, the Victor over death, do we cry out: Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

### *At the Small Entrance*

### **Hymn of Entrance**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. The Lord is God and has appeared to us.

Save us, O Son of God, who rode on a donkey colt, save us who sing to you: Alleluia.

### **Hymn of the Feast, *First Tone***

Before Your passion You confirmed the resurrection of all by raising Lazarus from the dead, O Christ our God. Therefore, like the children of old, we also carry symbols of victory, and to You, the Victor over death, do we cry out: Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

### **Another Hymn of the Feast, *Fourth Tone***

In our baptism we were buried with you, O Christ our God, and by your resurrection you have granted us eternal life. Therefore, we sing your praises, O Lord: Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

### **Kontakion of Palm Sunday, *Plagal Second Tone***

In heaven upon the throne, on earth upon the colt, You were carried, O Christ our God; and the praise of the Angels, and the hymns of the children, You received as they cried to You, "Blessed are You, the One, who is coming to call Adam back again."

**Epistle ..... *Philippians 4:4-9***

BRETHREN, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

**Gospel..... *John 12:1-18***

Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at table with him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was to betray him), said "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not that he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me." When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus. The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of him and had been done to him. The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign.

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**Megalynarion for Palm Sunday**

The Lord is God, and has appeared to us. Prepare the feast and come with rejoicing. Let us magnify Christ; bearing palms and branches, let us sing praise to him: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, our Savior.

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

## Communion Hymn

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, blessed is He who comes  
in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel.

## Post-Communion Hymn (instead of “We Have Seen the Light”)

Before Your passion You confirmed the resurrection of all by raising Lazarus from  
the dead, O Christ our God. Therefore, like the children of old, we also carry symbols  
of victory, and to You, the Victor over death, do we cry out: Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

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# Today

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Prosforo is provided by:

**Yana Partridge and Photine Saar**



## Palm Sunday Spaghetti Lunch Today

Our choir is hosting the annual Palm Sunday Spaghetti Luncheon today, following Liturgy. Enjoy a delicious meal with the special sauce made by John Legeros and crew. A suggested donation of \$10 per adult and \$6 per child under 10 (credit card, cash, check, or Venmo) is accepted at the door. Proceeds benefit the choir's trip to the Federation Choir Conference in the fall. Come and support our choir.

## 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 lunch.



## Coffee Hour Host Needed

**Sunday, April 19**, is available for someone to host coffee hour. It is Thomas Sunday, so definitely not a fasting day! Please contact the church office if you'd like to host.



## Church Office Closures Next Weekend

The church office will be closed on Friday, April 10, in observance of Holy Friday. The building and office will be closed on Monday, April 13, for Bright Monday.



## 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; Sophia and the students, staff, and parents of Annunciation Church and School, Juliana, Beth, Bill & Marti, Mia, Deb, Dean, Ioanna, Santina, Tia, Margaret, Kathie, Owen, Missy, Anthony, 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, Michael, Jaclyn Jereczek, Dena, Chris, 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, Efstratia, Jordan, David, Nino, Joe, Donnarae, Mary K., Monte, Bethany, Mark, 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 April 12



### *Diapers (Size 5)*

April's recipient is Community Emergency Service (CES)  
*Please do not bring opened packages. They will be discarded.*

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# Calendar of the Week

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## **Sunday, April 5: Palm Sunday**

*“The Messenger” News Item Deadline*

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

after Liturgy – Palm Sunday Luncheon

6:00 p.m. – Bridegroom Matins

## **Monday, April 6: Holy Monday**

6:00 p.m. – Bridegroom Matins

## **Tuesday, April 7: Holy Tuesday**

9:30 a.m. – Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

6:00 p.m. – Bridegroom Matins

## **Wednesday, April 8: Holy Wednesday**

3:30 p.m. – Holy Unction

6:00 p.m. – Orthros of the Mystical Supper; Holy Unction

## **Thursday, April 9: Holy Thursday**

9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy of the Mystical Supper

6:00 p.m. – Service of Holy Passion

## **Friday, April 10: GREAT and HOLY Friday**

9:00 a.m. – Royal Hours

1:30 p.m. – Vespers of the Descent from the Cross

6:00 p.m. – Lamentations

## **Saturday, April 11: Holy Saturday**

10:00 a.m. – First Resurrection Divine Liturgy

11:30 p.m. – Midnight Office

## **Sunday, April 12: GREAT and HOLY Pascha**

12:00 midnight – Resurrection Service; Orthros; Divine Liturgy

Paschal Celebration follows the Liturgy

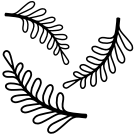
12:00 noon – Agape Vespers

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## **Holy Friday Memorial Luminary**

This upcoming Holy Week, YAL will be continuing on the tradition of lining the walkway for the Holy Friday procession of the Kouvouklion with memorial luminaries (white bags with votive candles) to remember and commemorate departed loved ones. Each luminary will have one name on it, each being \$5. This is a wonderful opportunity for ‘Memory Eternal’ prayers to be offered to our Lord from the St. Mary’s parish family. *See YAL members today after Liturgy or utilize Venmo (@Vasili-Nicklow) and type the name of departed loved ones in the description. The deadline for requests is this Wednesday, April 8.*



## Holy Week and Pascha Flowers

Contributions are being accepted for our Holy Week and Pascha flowers and greens. Forms and envelopes are available at the stewardship table in the narthex. Please place the form and your donation in an envelope and drop it in the stewardship box. Today, April 5, is the deadline for contributions.

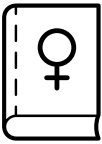
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## Book Store Will Be Open on Holy Saturday

The Bookstore will be open this coming Saturday morning following the First Resurrection Divine Liturgy.

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## Women’s Book Club Book Available in Bookstore

The next book the Women’s Book Club participants will be reading is *Toolkit for Spiritual Growth II: A Practical Guide to Scripture, Confession, and Time* by Father Evan Armatas. Attached is a link for a screenshot of the book cover to include. The next discussion date is set for Thursday, May 7, 7:00 p.m.

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## Senior Citizens’ Meetings Resume for the Season

Saint Mary’s Senior Citizens will meet on Tuesday, April 14, at noon in the Terrace Room. We will celebrate all January, February, March, and April birthdays and anniversaries with a group photo of all celebrants, and a delicious cake by Terri Leckas. The luncheon will be hosted by our Seniors’ officers. A short meeting and announcements will follow. All St.Mary’s seniors (55+) are welcomed to join our lively group. Dues are currently \$20/year payable to St. Mary’s Seniors. For further information, please contact President Tessie Bourdamis (tbourdamis@comcast.net) or any Seniors’ officers.

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## Your Help is Needed for the Metropolis’ Saint John Chysostom Oratorical and Fine Arts Festival

St. Mary’s will be hosting the Metropolis of Chicago 42nd Annual Saint John Chysostom Oratorical and Fine Arts Festival on Bright Saturday, April 18! If you would like to help prepare for the Festival, or work the morning of the festival, please reach out to Diakonissa Alexandria Kalina at: [ackalina@yahoo.com](mailto:ackalina@yahoo.com)

Let's Bring Hope to Our Neighbors

# This Lenten Season



WEEK 5:

## Almsgiving in **3** WAYS

*In the spirit of Almsgiving this Lenten season, here are some ideas for you and your families:*

### CONNECT

Reach out to Pan Orthodox friends who may be impacted by trouble in the Middle East



### THROUGHOUT LENT

### BRING

#### School Supplies for Bancroft School

- School Supplies (*Pencils, Folders...*)
- Healthy Snacks (*Granola Bars...*)
- Paper Products (*Tissues, Wipes...*)



### SUPPORT

Learn about **OneMpls Fund**.  
It annually targets 1-3 pressing needs in greater Mpls.  
Give if you can. ▶



SCAN TO  
LEARN MORE ▼



PRAYER,



FASTING,



AND ALMSGIVING.

2026 RESTORATION PROJECT  
CAMPAIGN UPDATE

FOR THE  
DOME



**\$273,000**  
still needed

**\$727,000**  
in commitments

**TARGETED GOAL: \$1M**

Thank you to everyone who has pledged a contribution to the building improvements project. We have received **\$727,000** in commitments towards our goal of raising **\$1M**. In order for us to begin the dome restoration project this spring, we need to secure a remainder of **\$273,000**. We invite every member of our community to join this sacred effort through *prayer, participation, and giving*. Please prayerfully consider *if* and *what* you can donate to help restore this blessed and treasured landmark.

Questions? Reach out to Nick Santrizos at: [nsantrizos@gmail.com](mailto:nsantrizos@gmail.com)



Electronic payment donations can be made by scanning the code.

All contributions for this project will be placed into the Saint Mary's Capital Improvements Reserve.

[www.stmarysgoc.org/For-The-Dome](http://www.stmarysgoc.org/For-The-Dome)

# Philoptochos News



## **Tandem Fundraising Drive: Ends Today, April 5**

This Lent Philoptochos is again partnering with the Tandem Family Resource Center to support families in need. The Tandem Center (formerly Tapestry) provides resources for women in crisis. Please stop by our table to pick up an envelope to make your donation. Learn more at: [www.wearetandem.org](http://www.wearetandem.org)



## **Signup to Help with Pascha Decorating**

Philoptochos is looking for volunteers to help with decorating the church for Pascha. Everyone is welcome! On Lazarus Saturday, we will make palm crosses for Palm Sunday and prepare the church for Holy Week. Also, we will need help on Holy Friday (April 10) plating cookies and decorating the kouvouklion. Then Holy Saturday (April 11) morning after the First Resurrection Liturgy to change the drapery from purple to white. Stop by the Philoptochos table to sign up or just come and help.



## **Volunteers Needed for Family Movie Night**

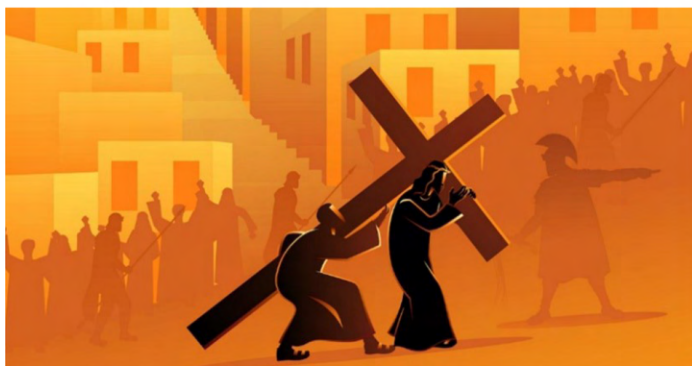
Philoptochos is hosting a Family Movie Night on **Bright Friday, April 17, at 6:00 p.m.** We will be looking for volunteers to assist with this event so please stop by the Philoptochos table on Sundays to sign up to help with this fundraising event.



## **Tandem Fundraising Banquet – April 13, 2026**

Philoptochos is a huge supporter of Tandem, and they will be holding a fundraising dinner on Bright Monday. You can join them to support this wonderful organization with an evening full of stories of resilience and courage. Monday, April 13, 2026 - Cocktails, Auction and Wine Pull 6:00 p.m., Dinner and Program at 7:30 p.m. Metropolitan Club, 5418 Wayzata Boulevard, Golden Valley, MN 55416. Tickets are complimentary, RSVP at [tandemevents.org](http://tandemevents.org) or [kimberly@wearetandem.org](mailto:kimberly@wearetandem.org). Please contact Connie Kouzes if you have any questions, 612.804.2239.

# Saint Mary's Holy Friday Retreat



## Walk with Christ to the Cross

*Friday, April 10, 2026 • 10:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m.*

*Taking Down from the Cross Service  
starts at 1:30 p.m.*

Pre-K (4 year old) through 12th grade

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/2026-Holy-Friday-retreat>

Please join us for an engaging day at our Church in which children will learn about Holy Week, the Crucifixion, and Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

We will have lessons, crafts, lunch, stations in the church, and gym time (to help get the wiggles out- even the big kids).

Retreat ends at 1:15 p.m. so please be here at that time to check out your child(ren) and accompany them for the Taking Down from the Cross Service.

Please register early so we can plan accordingly for helpers, supplies, and food ordering/ packaging.

**Adults**, we could use additional help with set up/clean up and food prep.

To volunteer or with questions, contact Dena Tortorelis  
[churchschool@stmarysgoc.org](mailto:churchschool@stmarysgoc.org)

Saint Mary's Vacation Church School

EXPLORE  
**GOD'S  
PROMISES**  
..... IN THE .....  
**GREAT NORTH**



**JUNE 15-19, 2026**

**Register today and Get ready for a great adventure!**

Vacation Church School is open to children, age 5 to those entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall. Five days of music, worship, activities, snacks, and games. Middle and high school youth are needed for staff support. If your teen is available and willing to help, please also sign them up. Scan the code to register your child.





St. Mary's Philoptochos Presents

# FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT



Watch one of four great movies!

Theater 1: Girlfriends on a Greek Island for a wedding

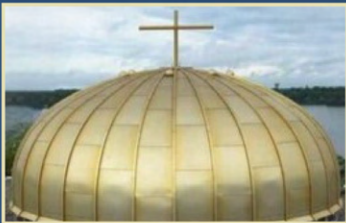
Theater 2: British spy at a royal casino

Theater 3: Michael Jordan and Bugs team up

Theater 4: NY zoo animal accidently shipped to island

**APRIL 17TH @ 6:00 PM**  
**BRIGHT FRIDAY - NO FASTING!**

Free will donation to enter.  
Pizza, popcorn & beverages  
for purchase.



"ONE NIGHT AT THE  
MOVIES — ONE STEP  
CLOSER TO A SHINING  
DOME."

All Proceeds will go to  
our new dome fund.

Wear your jammies, sweats, bring a  
pillow and blanket or just sit in our  
comfy chairs



**The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago**  
**42nd Annual**  
**SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**  
**ORATORICAL AND FINE ARTS FESTIVAL**

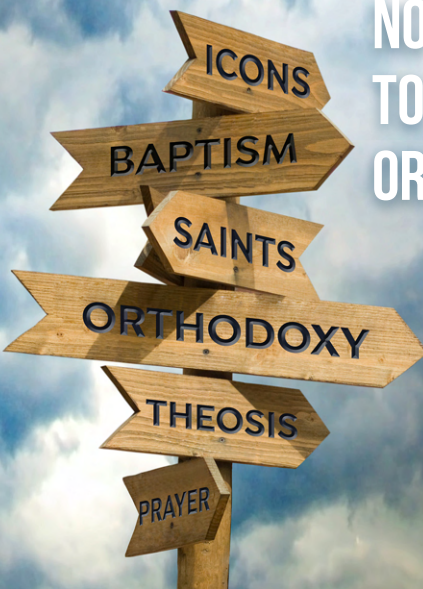


**Diamanto Mesiacos, 1st Place Iconography - Senior Division**  
St. Athanasios Greek Orthodox Church, Aurora, IL

**Bright Saturday, April 18, 2026**

**St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church**  
**Minneapolis, MN**  
Host Parish

*For more information, please contact [oratoricalfestival@gmail.com](mailto:oratoricalfestival@gmail.com).*



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

## SEEKER SATURDAY

May 9, 2026, 5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers,  
Followed by a Discussion with Q&A

For those seeking to become Orthodox Christians, we are here to guide you. Join us for Great Vespers on Saturday, May 9 at 5:00 p.m. Following the service, we'll gather for a discussion and Q&A (topic to be announced), along with a meal in the Terrace Room.

Beginning in June, meetings will resume on the second Sunday of each month at 11:45 a.m. in the Fireside Room.

- ▶ *If you've attended previously, please complete the Topic Survey sent via email, or visit the Welcome Table after liturgy on Sundays to share your input on future topics. Thank you.*

## 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 6: Holy Monday*

Matthew 21:18-43 • Matthew 24:3-35

### *Tuesday, April 7: Holy Tuesday*

Matthew 22:15-46; 23:1-39 • Matthew 24:36-51; 25:1-46; 26:1-2

### *Wednesday, April 8: Holy Wednesday*

John 12:17-50 • Matthew 26:6-16

### *Thursday, April 9: Holy Thursday*

Luke 22:1-39 • I Corinthians 11:23-32  
Matthew 26:1-20; John 13:3-17; Matthew 26:21-39;  
Luke 22:43-44; Matthew 26:40-75; 27:1-2

### *Friday, April 10: Great and Holy Friday*

I Corinthians 5:6-8 • Matthew 27:62-66

### *Saturday, April 11: Holy Saturday*

Romans 6:3-11 • Matthew 28:1-20

### *Sunday, April 12: Great and Holy Pascha*

Acts 1:1-8 • John 1:1-17



**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*