

May 17, 2026



The Divine Liturgy

## Sunday of the Blind Man

### Commemoration:

Sunday of the Blind Man; The Holy Apostles Andronicus and Junia; Theophanes and Nectarios, Builders of the Holy Monastery of Varlaam of Meteora; Nicholas the Younger who was martyred in Metsovo, Epirus; Theodotos the Martyr of Ancyra and the seven Virgin-martyrs; Athanasios, Archbishop of Christianopolis; The New Martyrs of Batak, Bulgaria.

Morning Gospel: John 20:11-18 ..... Tone: Plagal First

### VARIABLE HYMNS AND READINGS IN THE LITURGY

#### Hymn of PASCHA, Plagal First Tone

- Christ is ris - en from the dead, by  
 Χρι-στός ἀ - νέ - στη ἐκ νε - κρῶν, θα -  
 Hri - stos a - ne - sti ek ne - kron, tha -

death tram - pling down up - on  
 νά - τω θά - να - τον πα - τή -  
 na - to tha - na - ton pa - ti -

death, and to those in the  
 σας, και τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνή - μα -  
 sis, ke tis en tis mni - ma -

tombs He has (\* ) grant - ed life.  
 σι, ζω - ῆν χα - ρι - σά - με - νος.  
 si zo - in ha - ri - sa - me - nos.

\* Notes in parenthesis are for Greek only.

## 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 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 iparhousa tis zois, ke tes presvies

ταῖς σαῖς λυτρουμένη ἐκ θανάτου τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.  
tes ses litrumeni ek thanatu tas psihhas 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*..... *Acts 16:16-34*

IN THOSE DAYS, as we apostles were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and

suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in 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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**Megalynarion, *First Tone***

The Angel cried aloud to the Lady full of grace: Rejoice, O pure Virgin; and again I say  
Rejoice. Your Son has truly risen from the grave on the third day.  
Be glad and exultant, divine gate of the light. For your Son, namely Jesus, having set  
within the tomb, rose and is shining more brightly than the sun, and He has fully  
illumined all the faithful, O Lady full of the grace of God.

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

**Communion Hymn**

Receive the body, the body of Christ,  
drink from the font of immortality.

*Instead of "We have seen the light..." we chant "Christ is risen."  
(See hymn graphic on page 1.)*

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# Today

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## Fun Jam 2026

Today after Liturgy, enjoy hot dogs and chips as well as cupcakes and ice cream (compliments of Harry Legeros Memorial). There'll be all sorts of fun things for the kids. Coffee hour in the Terrace Room and fun for the kids in the Great Hall.



## 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 Terrace Room for a cup of coffee and always enjoyable refreshments.



## Congratulations Graduates!

Congratulations to our high school seniors who are graduating this spring!

- **Sophia Amundgaard**
- **Gilbert Atsidakos**
- **Edward Buss**
- **Michalis Checheris**
- **Jack Dillon**
- **Anastasia Gilbert**
- **Marcus Hanna**
- **Aleka Houck**
- **Nicholas Lindholm**
- **Alexandra Nelson**
- **Theodor Pirvu**
- **Aspasia Rovolis**
- **Sammy Stephenson**
- **Andrew Swenson**
- **Sosuna Tsegai**

*Please greet them in the Terrace Room during coffee hour.*



## 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; Ivan, Dan, Greg, Matthew, Judy, Bettsy, Mr. Berscheit; Juliana, Beth, Mia, Deb, Dean, 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, 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, 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 May 24



### *Peanut Butter*

May's recipient is Joyce Uptown Food Shelf

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

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# Calendar of the Week

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## **Sunday, May 17: Sunday of the Blind Man**

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

after Liturgy – Church School Fun Jam, *Great Hall and Terrace Room*

11:30 a.m. – Visitation Ministry Meeting, *Fireside Room*

## **Tuesday, May 19**

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

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

5:30 p.m. – Philoptochos Spring Finale and Meeting, *Terrace Room*

## **Wednesday, May 20: Leave-taking of Holy Pascha**

9:00 a.m. – “The Messenger” Mailing, *Fireside Room*

9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy

after Liturgy – Housekeeping

6:00 p.m. – Great Vespers for Holy Ascension

after Vespers – Choir Rehearsal, *Nave*

## **Thursday, May 21: Holy Ascension; Saints Constantine and Helen**

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

after Liturgy – Koulourakia Baking, *Kitchen*

6:30 p.m. – Koinonia, *Fireside Room*

## **Saturday, May 23**

5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

## **Sunday, May 24: Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council**

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

12:00 noon (approximately) – Cemetery Service, *Lakewood Cemetery, St. Mary's section*

## **Saturday, May 25: Memorial Day**

*Church and Office closed*

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“When we are at the beginning of our spiritual life, God, by His love, does not allow us to have awareness of our sinfulness, for us not to bend under its weight. Some ambitious and sensitive souls would not be able to bare it and would be harmed. Thus, God blinds our eyes, and we do not see all our sins...However, when we succeed in our spiritual struggle, God slowly allows us to see our mistakes. Simultaneously He gives us strength to struggle and correct these mistakes. When there is no experience delicate work is not useful. The same thing is with awareness of God's blessings. If a person, being in the beginning of his spiritual life, sees God's blessings, he gets spiritual effusion of blood. Because seeing God's blessings and realizing his ingratitude for them, a person suffers, he melts.”

— *Saint Paisios the Athonite*

2026 RESTORATION PROJECT  
CAMPAIGN UPDATE

FOR THE  
DOME



**\$144,000**  
still needed

**\$856,000**  
in commitments

**TARGETED GOAL: \$1M**

Thank you to everyone who has pledged a contribution to the building improvements project. We have received **\$856,000** 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 **\$144,000**. 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)



## Lost and Found

Now that the nice spring weather is setting in, it's time to reclaim lost winter clothing and other items left around the building over the last several months. We have collected all the found items – indoor and outdoor clothing, books, shoes, and more – and placed them in the coat area in the hallway leading to the office. Please look over the items and take what is yours. Items not claimed by Memorial Day will be given to an outreach agency or discarded.



## Greek Dance Practices to Resume

Greek dance practices will resume on Monday, June 1, and continue through the summer months until our Greek Festival in September. We will be practicing dances for the performances at the Festival. All St. Mary's youth, ages 6 to 18 years, are welcome to join. All veteran dancers (18+) are welcome to help with dance instruction. For further details and to register, please contact Tessie Bourdamis (tbourdamis@comcast.net) by Sunday, May 24.



## Children's Greek Dance Practices

Greek Dance registration for Sunday dance groups is now open. Sunday practices will begin on July 12 and will conclude with our Festival performances. We are offering two groups: children ages 4–6 and ages 7-9. Please register by completing the *Google Doc Response Form* by scanning the code or by contacting Lea at [angelea.hoeft@gmail.com](mailto:angelea.hoeft@gmail.com)



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**FOCUS**  
+ MINNESOTA

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## Save the Date

Project Hope Food Packing Event for FOCUS on **Sunday, May 31**, following Divine Liturgy ~ *More to come!*

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## 2026 Taste of Greece *Let the Baking Begin!*

In May, we start stocking the freezer with cookies and pastries for the 2026 Taste of Greece Bake Sale! Co-chairs Paulette Hastings, Tina Menter, and Photine Saar, have been making plans along with the cookie captains, and we have two remaining sessions in May:

**1. Koulouria:** Thursday, May 21: 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
(Come to one or both shifts, 9:30-1:30 or 1:30-4:30)

### **2. Baklava:**

- Thursday, May 28, 10:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m.  
(assembly - bring a saucepan and pastry brush)
- Monday, June 1, 10:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m.  
(assembly - bring a saucepan and pastry brush)
- Wednesday, June 3, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.  
(cut, clove, and syrup - Bring a sharp knife)
- Thursday, June 4, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (if needed)



No experience necessary - we provide on the job training. Please come for an hour or two (or more) and bring a friend as many hands lighten the load. You can sign up here (scan the QR code or use this URL: <https://bit.ly/4csN1SZ>) or at the Philoptochos table on Sundays. Thank you for volunteering!

*Scan to  
Sign Up*



## **Sign Up Today for the Spring Finale!**

**Tuesday, May 19**

Come celebrate Philoptochos together at our final meeting for the season. We will have a social time starting at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner 6:00 p.m. and the meeting around 7:00 p.m. Come and learn about all the activities planned from May through September. We will also vote for delegates to attend the Philoptochos meetings at Clergy Laity Congress in Cleveland, June 29 – July 2. Please RSVP at our table or on the link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C49A8A722AAF85-63771365-philoptochos>

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. Scan the code to register your child. **Registration closes May 31 (or sooner if we are at capacity).**



## 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 18*

Acts 17:1-9 • John 11:47-54

*Tuesday, May 19*

Acts 17:19-28 • John 12:19-36

*Wednesday, May 20: Leave-taking of Holy Pascha*

Acts 18:22-28 • John 12:36-47

*Thursday, May 21:*

*Holy Ascension; Saints Constantine and Helen*

Acts 26:1, 12-20 • Luke 24:36-53

*Friday, May 22*

Acts 19:1-8 • John 14:1-11

*Saturday, May 23*

Acts 20:7-12 • John 14:10-21

*Sunday, May 24:*

*Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council*

Acts 20:16-18, 28-36 • John 17:1-13



**ST. MARY'S**  
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*Weekly Bulletin Submission Deadline: Mondays*