St. Mary’s 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

A Message from Father George
Father George Dokos, Proistamenos

“I look forward to the Resurrection of the dead and the Life of the Age to come. Amen.”

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,
Christ is Risen! Χριστὸς Ανέστη!

The two-year anniversary of my father’s death is approaching (he fell asleep in the Lord on Monday, May 22, 2017, at 9:00 a.m.). His death was near to some very special days in the Church, such as the Wednesday of the Leave-taking of Pascha and the Thursday of Ascension (which joyful Feasts we celebrate this year in June). For the day of his burial I wrote a brief reflection on his life, and his death, and wanted to share it with you as these significant events in my life and the life of the Church approach.

May his memory be eternal.

As I think about my father’s life, I cannot help but connect key moments in it to the sacred. These are somewhat and maybe disconnected random musings, but they are what pass through my heart and mind when dwelling upon his life, and his death. I take nothing as insignificant or coincidental, as all things – for those who are of faith – are under the providential care and guidance of God.

He was born on January 17, the day we commemorate the great ascetic father, Saint Anthony. In his affliction my father patiently endured all things like another Job, the much-suffering, and he indeed lived a very ascetic life his last few years, something pointed to by the very day of his birth. His true character shone through in that throughout the course of the debilitating disease and humiliations that accompanied it, his love of his God-given life was not diminished, nor was his happiness and joy. One could very easily – and even understandably – become quite self-centered and bitter when unable to move or eat or go to the bathroom by one’s self, to name just a few of his struggles. But for him just the opposite was true. As he was throughout his life, he continued to be concerned always for the other, wanting nothing for himself, caring only about everyone else, most especially his wife, children, and grandchildren. Never murmuring or grumbling, he received all that came his way with steadfast faith, and his ever so characteristic joyful smile – a smile that was contagious and lit up the room – never forsook him. In the type of martyrdom he endured, he bore witness to the strength and inner joy that only Christ can give, and it is fitting that he passed on May 22, the day another Dimitrios, the New Martyr...
Birth
Alexander
Parents: Daniel & Katerena
April 19, 2019 Krmpotich

Chrismations
Candace Castillo
Alex Schatz
April 27, 2019

Marriage
Candace Castillo to Alex Michael
May 4, 2019

Memorial Prayers
Sunday, June 23
Stamata Angelos (6 months)

Sunday, June 9
Potatoes
(boxed, instant, or canned)

Sunday, June 16
Cereal (hot and cold)

Sunday, June 23
Hygiene items
(toothpaste, soap, shampoo, etc.)

Sunday, June 30
Pasta
(Creamettes, egg noodles, spaghetti)

Thank You
A big thank you to all who helped make Holy Week and Pascha so beautiful. Thank you to the clergy, musicians, readers, altar servers, myrrh-bearers, altar guild and decorators, all those who provided food and cooked for the various events, cleaned the church, and carried out all the general tasks that helped make the week go so smoothly. May God richly bless you all!

Share YourShelf
June’s recipient of Share YourShelf contributions is Simpson Food Pantry.

St. Mary’s Church Staff
Priest
Fr. George Dokos

Associate Priest
Fr. Jason Houck

Attached Priest
Fr. John Kostas

Emeriti
Fr. Anthony Coniaris
Fr. Theodore Filandrinos

Deacon
Deacon Paul Kalina

Administrator
Julie Moricz

Parishioner Support Communications
David Mertesdorf

Ministry Support
Doria Saros

Youth Director
Jonathan Klein

Facilities Coordinator
Bob Yang

Music Director
Thespina Macres

Organist
Mark Macres

Charity sees the need not the cause. —German Proverb

Saint Mary’s Visitation Ministry
Our Visitation Ministry is continually updating its list of parishioners who are homebound or in care facilities and would like to be on our Visitation List. If you or your loved one is a member of St. Mary’s and physically unable to attend church and would enjoy a visit or a telephone call from either a member of our clergy and/or a member of our Visitation Committee, please notify the Church Office, 612.825.9595, or doria@stmarysgoc.org.

If you are interested in being trained as a member of our Visitation Team, please contact Doria.

St. Mary’s Parish Council
President
Joseph DiGiovanni

Vice President
Dean Murdakes

Secretary
Andrew Theodotou

Treasurer
Michael Rakes

Assistant Treasurer
John Beauchamp

Members
George Andreadakis
Paul Hastings
William Hoeft
Naira Istephanous
Pamela Nelson
Dean Psychogios
Randy (Luke) Twito

Share YourShelf
June’s recipient of Share YourShelf contributions is Simpson Food Pantry.

Sunday, June 2
Canned meals – large cans (e.g. chili, pork and beans)

Sunday, June 9
Potatoes
(boxed, instant, or canned)

Sunday, June 16
Cereal (hot and cold)

Sunday, June 23
Hygiene items
(toothpaste, soap, shampoo, etc.)

Sunday, June 30
Pasta
(Creamettes, egg noodles, spaghetti)

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—Fr. George's article, continued from page 1

of Peloponnesus, is remembered in our Orthodox Calendar. Giving up his spirit at the Third Hour, one is reminded that this was the Hour at which the All-Holy and Life-giving Spirit descended from heaven on Pentecost, the same Spirit that will raise him to an immortal and incorruptible life on the Last Day. His friends and loved ones will be visiting him and memorializing him on the Leave-taking of Holy Pascha, on which day we conclude the celebration of the Feast of Feasts by singing and triumphantly proclaiming one last time, "Christ is risen and has trampled down death by His death!" And he will be buried and sent off on the holy day of our Lord's Ascension into heaven, pointing the way for his own soul's ascent to the Father.

I have passed over much of my father's life and shared only a few things, but the way he conducted himself during his final days upon this earth is indicative of his entire life: patient, content, caring, selfless, joyful, a family man, a genuine friend, and full of love. As he died, so did he live, so does he live.

With love in Christ Who is risen from the dead,

+Fr. George, son of Dimitrios Dokos

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**Fellowship and Study Groups**

**Adult Senior Bible Study**
- Wednesdays, June 12 and 26
- 1:30 p.m., Fireside Room

**Intercessory Prayer**
- On Summer break

**Men's Fellowship**
- Friday, June 7
- 7:00 a.m., Fireside Room

**Evening Men's Fellowship**
- Thursday, June 13
- 7:00 p.m.
- Louis & Mary Pappas' home
- 6321 Halifax Avenue South, Edina

**Saturday Bible Study**
- Every Saturday
- 9:00 a.m., Fireside Room

**Senior Citizens**
- Tuesday, June 11
- 12:00 noon, Lecture Room

**Women's Bible Study**
- On Summer break

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**Koinonia**

**Edina Koinonia**
- Thursday, June 27, 7:00 p.m.
- Joan Calott's home
- 952.944.9397

**Lake Calhoun Koinonia**
- On Summer break

**Northeast Metro Koinonia**
- Thursday, June 27, 7:00 p.m.
- Costas & Barbara Nichols' home
- 763.571.0460

**South of the River Koinonia**
- Date and time to be announced.
- Mark & Elizabeth Skoog's home
- 612.743.2789

**West Metro Koinonia**
- On Summer break

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**Sunday Schedule**

- Saturday Great Vespers – 5:00 p.m.
- Orthros – 8:30 a.m.
- Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

---

**Weekday Schedule**

**Tuesday, June 4**

*Eve of the Leave-Taking of Pascha*
- Orthros – 5:00 p.m.
- Evening Divine Liturgy – 6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, June 5**

*Leave-Taking of Holy Pascha*
- Leave-Taking Service – 6:00 p.m.

**Thursday, June 6**

*Holy Ascension*
- Orthros – 8:30 a.m.
- Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

**Saturday, June 15**

*Saturday of Souls*
- Orthros – 9:00 a.m.
- Divine Liturgy – 10:00 a.m.

**Monday, June 17**

*The Holy Spirit*
- Orthros – 8:30 a.m.
- Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

**Monday, June 24**

*Nativity of John the Baptist*
- Orthros – 8:30 a.m.
- Divine Liturgy – 9:30 a.m.

**Saturday, June 29**

*Saints Peter and Paul*
- Orthros – 9:00 a.m.
- Divine Liturgy – 10:00 a.m.

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**Saints Peter and Paul**
Families Moving Forward
June 16-29, 2019

Families Moving Forward is a beautiful opportunity to show love and hospitality to four homeless families in need. We provide an evening meal, activities for the children, a place to sleep, and breakfast on the run. This is a Pan-Orthodox ministry with St. Mary’s being the host providing the Terrace Room for dinner, Great Hall for play, a common room for games and arts and crafts. Four spacious Sunday school rooms overlooking the Lake are converted into comfortable efficiency apartments for each family. The bus drops them off at our church at 6:00 each evening and picks them up again in the morning at 7:00.

Opportunities to Serve
• Dinner, 6:15-7:00 p.m. (approximately 25 guests)
  Food can be prepared at church or brought in.
• Evening Host, 5:30-8:30 p.m. (two per evening)
  Provide hospitality, assistance as needed, and leadership to ensure all is running smoothly for volunteers and guests.
• Childcare, 6:45-8:00 p.m.
  Activities provided. Play with the kids in the gym, read stories, do crafts, play board games.
  Bring your family and have fun with our guests.
• Overnight Hosts, 8:15 p.m.-7:00 a.m. (two adults)
  Quiet time with families in the lounge area (no later than 9:00 p.m. for the kids)
  Wake up call for guests. Set out the morning breakfast (juice, coffee, and cereal.)

“It is not enough to help the poor. We must help them with generosity and without grumbling. And it is not enough to help them without grumbling. We must help them gladly and happily. When the poor are helped, there ought to be these two conditions – generosity and joy.” —John Chrysostom

Myrrh-bearer Greeter Ministry
Young ladies of St. Mary’s ages 12-18: We need you!

St. Mary’s has a year-round Myrrh-bearer Greeter Ministry and we’re looking for young ladies who are interested in being greeters for our parishioners and guests (you will be paired with an adult greeter). Please prayerfully consider joining – it’s easy and fun, and you can sign up to greet when it works for your schedule (via Doodle). You will go through a brief training, then you and a parent/guardian will sign a consent/commitment form. If interested, or have any questions, please contact Mrs. Beauchamp, 952.906.8974, or inkehoots@q.com.

Summer Camp Scholarships

Summer Camp scholarships provide many of our Orthodox children to attend camp who might not otherwise be able to. If you would like to help a child go to camp, please send a check to the church, made out to “St. Mary’s Camp” with a memo of “Scholarship.” The Camp registration fee is $495. All donations are deeply appreciated!

Senior Citizens’ Theater Outing

The Senior Citizens’ Club is planning a gathering at the Chanhassen Dinner Theater to see the matinée performance of “Mamma Mia” on Saturday, August 10. Tickets for the lunch and the show are $35.50 for Senior Citizen Club members. Watch the Sunday bulletin for ticket information.

American Legion Hellenic Post 129
100 Celebration Year!

Have you saved the date for a major milestone? Plan to attend the 100-year celebration of St Mary’s American Legion Post 129 on Saturday, November 9, 2019.

For fun, here is another “did you know…”

Some of the more notable members of American Legion Posts have included:

Presidents~

Generals~
Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. (son of the President), Douglas MacArthur, George Patton, Jr.

Actors~
Humphrey Bogart, Clark Gable, Mickey Rooney
Greek Festival 2019

A Taste of Greece ~ September 6-8

Kick Off Coffee Hour
Sunday, June 26

What’s needed...

Volunteer to bake
Sign up is underway

Volunteer to work at the Festival
Sign up begins Sunday, June 23
Don’t miss out!

Chloe’s Fight
Sign up to run/walk in this Friday event

Advertise your business
Ad forms go in the mail soon
Deadline for submission is July 24

Be an individual sponsor
Sponsor letter will also be mailed soon

In the Bookstore

by Rebecca Myerly
“Putting Joy into Practice: Seven Ways to Lift Your Spirit from the Early Church” by Phoebe Farag Mikhail is a recently published book of great enduring value. The author guides the reader into an understanding and appreciation of genuine joy—joy that comes in and through Christ’s Resurrection.

The first chapter of the book, “What Is Joy?,” clarifies what genuine joy is and what it is not—and how both look in daily living. The following chapter is “The Joy Thieves.” Phoebe writes, “Many external circumstances have the potential to steal our joy... This can happen when we abandon the spiritual practices that help us experience joy. The good news is that they are there for us to begin again, one minute at a time. Joy is a state of being entirely independent of our circumstances, sometimes even the result of going through those circumstances.... This is how St. Paul can exhort his congregations to “rejoice in the Lord always” (Philippians 4:4) even while he is in chains.”

The following chapters in the book are about the seven practices of joy: “Praying the Hours,” “Visiting the Sick,” “The Joy of Repentance,” “Giving Thanks,” “Hospitality,” “Arrow Prayers,” and “Singing Praise to God.” The author roots each practice in the early church, explaining the actual practice, the value of each practice then and the relevance of the practice today as an invitation to readers to think about and practice in their lives. Phoebe Farag Mikhail knows her subject through study and her life experience. As a daughter of a Coptic Orthodox priest, the wife of a Coptic Orthodox priest, and a mother of three young children, she is very knowledgeable about how these practices look when lived, the blessings in the process, and the fruitful result. She is gentle yet forthright in her approach and manner, always joyful even in the midst of many concerns. Her perspective is inspiring and encouraging, grounded and rooted in faith—Resurrection faith. “Rejoice in the Lord always.”
Mission & Outreach

Check This Out
*Missions and Outreach, A St Mary’s Ministry Team*

Who we are:
- Men and women lovingly carrying out Matthew 25:34-40
- “Serve” and “Share” from our Parish Mission Statement

Who we help:
- Our neighbors
  - *Joyce Food Shelf, CES (Community Emergency Service), St. Stephen’s, Minneapolis Council of Churches*
- Those struggling with addiction
  - *Metro Hope*
- The hungry
  - *Simpson House, FOCUS Minnesota*
- Disaster victims, persecuted Christians, and others
  - *IOCC, Take Heart*

Welcome:
Among the first introducing newcomers to our parish
Welcome and Information Table following Liturgy

Beyond a Budget:
- Missions leaving parishioners feeling glad they gave their time and talents
- June 23: Meal pack event, sign-up Genius
  - Intergenerational volunteering opportunity
  - Seeking non-traditional funding

Raise Awareness:
- Hands-on volunteer opportunities and contacts
- “Focus on Missions” in Sunday bulletins
- Volunteer calendar and Sign Up Genius
- Parishioner phone calls
- Display case updates
- Messenger articles

Going Digital:
- Missions Overview Video
- Website postings
- Online calendar of volunteer events
- Digital welcome card

Women and men who seek to live as stewards learn that all things work for the good for those who love God. –*Romans 8:28*

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**FOCUS Minnesota House Blessing**
*Saturday, June 1*

FOCUS Minnesota is celebrating the next phase in their beautiful new building. Saturday, June 1, will be the blessing of FOCUS House. The celebration begins at 10:00 a.m. with prayers of thanksgiving and the blessing followed by refreshments and self-guided tours until 12:00 noon.

FOCUS Minnesota is now located at 550 Rice Street in St. Paul. On-street parking is available, or in the Affinity Credit Union parking lot (in a spot with *MN Women’s Building* sign only).

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**Joyce Uptown Foodshelf Turns 50**
*Sunday, June 2*

Come and celebrate 50 years of Joyce Uptown Foodshelf on Sunday, June 2, 2:00-5:00 p.m., at the Bryant Square Park, 3101 Bryant Avenue South, Minneapolis. The theme is *Foodstock!* Groove to the vibes of 1969 with family-friendly fun, games, music, and more. All are welcome to join the celebration.
By Paulette Hastings  

By the time this issue of “The Messenger” is published, a new Philoptochos Board will have been elected. Many thanks to the women serving in these leadership roles in order to serve others! We are grateful to them as well as to those retiring from the board after their years of service. Installation of the board will take place on a Sunday in June.

**Wednesday, June 12, 3:00-8:00 p.m.**  
**Festival Baklava Assembly Begins!**

Due to the high demand at the Taste of Greece, FOUR dates have been scheduled to assemble, cut and clove the largest number of baklava pans we’ve ever made!

- Wednesday, June 12, 3:00-8:00 p.m.
- Thursday, June 13, 3:00-8:00 p.m.
- Monday, June 17, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
- Tuesday, June 18, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Elena Gabor is chairing the baklava preparation, and Stephanie Panos is the overall Bake Sale Chair. See them to thank them for their leadership and offer support, then volunteer after church on Sundays or online through Sign-Up Genius (coming soon!).

**Future Bake Sale Dates**

- Wednesday, July 24: Kourambiethes
- Tuesday, July 30: Melomakarona
- Monday, August 26: Theples Fry Day
- Wednesday, August 28: Theples Honey Day
- Date to be determined: Koulouria
- Tuesday, September 3-Thursday, September 5: Package and Set-Up
- Friday, September 6-Sunday, September 8: Taste of Greece!

**Days for Girls Day of Service**  
**Monday, July 8, 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.**  
Back by popular demand, a full day of service is planned to prepare reusable menstruation kits for girls around the world. All supplies will be provided, but you can bring your favorite sharp scissors, sewing machine or serger if desired. Mark your calendar and come for an hour, a morning or afternoon, or the day. Chair: Sofia Johnson.

**Thank You**

To the many people who participated in the programs of Journey through Lent with Philoptochos – preparing, making or serving the meal after Salutations or Presanctified Liturgy, volunteering at and/or donating socks and underwear to FOCUS Minnesota, donating to the Tandem Baby Bottle Bank collection, boiling, dyeing and wrapping red eggs, participating in Lazarus Saturday events, decorating the church, kouvouklion, icons and more, joining the Pascha Burger Night team! What a wonderful way to serve the church and others together. Christ is Risen!

Jeanne Forchas and Linda Hodge, for serving on the Nominating & Elections Committee, and to Olga Berkovskaya, Jennifer Coin, and Paulette Hastings for preparing the election mailing.

Mary Kay Twito, for hosting Ladies Night Out in May.

Julie Moricz, for leading the May book discussion of “Beauty for Ashes: The Spiritual Transformation of a Modern Greek Community” by Stephen R. Lloyd-Moffett, and to Paulette Hastings for hosting the group.

**Other Upcoming Events**

**Prepare and Host Meal for Families Moving Forward**  
**Sunday, June 16**  
Philoptochos will host the guests of Families Moving Forward on their first evening at St. Mary’s. If you’d like to join the group organizing and serving the meal, please contact Paulette at: MplsPhilo@gmail.com.
Christ Is Risen! Truly He Is Risen!

The way to the Stewardship Committee’s heart is through seeing many people in church-engaged and vibrant—and our Paschal weekend did not disappoint! Many hundreds of flowers were placed, candles sold, eggs dyed and burgers cooked, but mostly, we all stood together walking with Christ though Holy Week—lamenting the Lord’s passion and celebrating His resurrection (in many different languages, and most enthusiastically, thanks to Deacon Paul). All of our clergy gave moving homilies, the choir and chanters were magnificent, and the congregation participated in many ways, from volunteering to cleaning, decorating, preparing meals or simply singing and praying fervently from their pews. Throughout our Holy Week services and ultimately, through Christ’s death and resurrection, St. Mary’s was so alive!

Did You Know?

There are 16 services from Sunday evening of Holy Week through Pascha.

As we enter the beautiful post-Paschal celebratory period, we hope that those who found joy, comfort, love and fellowship through Lent and Pascha will continue to attend services and other events, both spiritual and social, held by our parish. To that end, we want to tell you about an exciting endeavor we are undertaking as a Stewardship Committee this summer and fall:

Pot Luck Dinners

What: Small group dinners (10-12 people per dinner) at host family homes throughout the Twin Cities

When: August-October, 2019

Who: Open to all parishioners

Why: To continue facilitating close-knit relationships within our congregation. No set agenda, just fun.

If you are interested in hosting one of these dinners (no cooking necessary, they are pot luck!) please contact the church office at 612.825.9595 or at david@stmarysgoc.org.

Appreciation Glendi October 26, 2019

Save the date for our fourth annual FREE Appreciation Glendi, open to all parishioners. If you attended any of the previous Glendi’s you know how much they are. If you haven’t attended, do not miss this!!

2019 Ark of the Covenant

Pledge Cards

If you have not submitted your 2019 Pledge yet, we ask you to prayerfully consider doing so.

2019 Ark of the Covenant Campaign Progress Update

You are the STEWARDS OF OUR FAITH!

We truly appreciate your participation in our 2019 Stewardship Campaign this year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2019 Offering Income Payments as of 04/30/19</th>
<th>2019 YTD Actual</th>
<th>2019 Annual Budget</th>
<th>Additional Needed This Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Payments Received</td>
<td>$285,240</td>
<td>$1,068,143</td>
<td>$782,903</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Offering Gift payments received so far this year are behind last year at this time by: $59,742:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2019 Offering Income as of 4/30/19</th>
<th>2019 YTD Actual</th>
<th>2018 YTD Actual</th>
<th>Decrease vs. Last Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Payments Received</td>
<td>$285,240</td>
<td>$344,982</td>
<td>($59,742)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2019 Pledge Update as of 04/30/19

We just need 48 more pledges to reach the same number as we had last year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pledges as of 4/30/19</th>
<th>2019 YTD</th>
<th>2018 Total</th>
<th>Increase/ (Decrease)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Pledges</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>(48)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Pledges</td>
<td>$367,050</td>
<td>$488,988</td>
<td>($121,938)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Pledge</td>
<td>$1,942</td>
<td>$2,063</td>
<td>($121)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Here is a reminder on how you can help make the ARK OF THE COVENANT campaign a success in 2019:

**Prayerfully consider:**
- Sharing your time and talents by joining one of St. Mary's ministries
- Increasing your annual stewardship contribution in 2019
- Consider making a financial commitment and completing the Financial Commitment form for 2019

If you have not received a stewardship packet from a Stewardship Captain or in the mail, please contact David in the Church Office.

For more information, contact:
- Diakonissa Alexandria Kalina at: 952.913.7540 or ackalina@yahoo.com
- Athena Mihas at: 612.387.3890 or athenamihas@gmail.com

*Thank you for your participation in our 2019 Stewardship Campaign.*
Children & Youth

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.

Junior GOYA
Grades 6-8
▶ Wednesday, June 5, 6:15-8:00 p.m.
Location TBD
End of Year Party
The party location will be determined depending on what the kids would like to do (refer to prior emails and complete the GoogleForm).
Please RSVP to Jon@stmarysgoc.org if you plan on attending. More information will be emailed.

Senior GOYA
Grades 9-12
▶ Thursday, June 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
End of Year Party
Nicklow home – be on the lookout for emails from Jon or Alexis!
▶ Friday, June 14, 1:00-2:00 p.m.
St. Mary’s Church
Families Moving Forward needs 4-6 volunteers to help set up the rooms in the church school classrooms. Please contact jon@stmarysgoc.org if you are available to help.

Family Event
Harvest Pack following Divine Liturgy on June 23
Saint Mary’s is hosting a food packing event on Sunday, June 23. Our goal is to have at least 50 volunteers (kids and adults) to package 15,000 meals in 2½ hours. Sign up with your family by looking for information in the Sunday bulletins, emails, and postings.

Thank you Hellenic Post!
A big thank you to the Hellenic Post American Legion for donating $1,085 to support our Senior GOYAns at the Junior Olympics over Memorial Day weekend in Chicago.

Congratulations High School Graduates
The following St. Mary’s high school seniors were honored on Sunday, May 19. Congratulations!
Eva Bruer • Maxwell Demou • Nico DiGiovanni
Marc Dufresne • Alexis Fotopoulos
Eva Hadjiyanis • Alexis Friesen
Anastasia Friesen • Nicholas Hainlin
Sophia Hicks • Alexandra Karos
Matthew Katsyiannis • Sophia Lind
Sophia Martin • Alexandra Nicklow
Alexander Nicklow • Taylor Norbie
Anthony Patridge • Nathan Patridge
Christopher Ploumidis • Charles Possis
Mark Possis • Elijah Richardson
David Shipp • Kelsey Skoog • Patrick Wehr

April Recap
In April, our Junior and Senior GOYAns continued their mini-meetings on the evenings of Presanctified Liturgy. These mini-meetings consisted of discussions, Q&A and fellowship with their peers. The Senior GOYAns also had a lock-in where we played many different games and enjoyed fellowship with each other.

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.

Follow the GOYAns on Instagram: St_Marys_GOYA
Join us in the Great Northern Woods for Vacation Church School as we learn about God’s promises.

Hang out at the cabin
Walk down the dock
Make fun crafts
Sit by the campfire
Hear amazing stories of saints and events from long ago.

Our week in the Woods is June 10-14, 8:45 a.m.-12:00 noon.

VCS is for kids three-years old (toilet trained) to grade six in the fall.

RSVP on our website: stmarysgoc.org
Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them, and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and they returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.  

# June 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<td>9:00am-Bible Study</td>
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<td>5:00pm-Great Vespers</td>
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| 2 **The Blind Man**  
*The Messenger* Deadline  
Last Day of Church School  
8:30am-Orthros  
9:30am-Divine Liturgy after Liturgy-Fun Jam | 3 | 4  
5:00pm-Orthros  
6:00pm-Evening Divine Liturgy for the Leave-Taking of Holy Pascha | 5 **Leave-Taking of Pascha**  
6:00pm-Leave-Taking Service  
6:15pm-Junior GOYA Party | 6 **Holy Ascension**  
8:30am-Orthros  
9:30am-Divine Liturgy | 7 | 8  
9:00am-Bible Study | 9:00am-Bible Study |
| 9 **Holy Fathers**  
8:30am-Orthros  
9:30am-Divine Liturgy  
Church School Teacher Recognition | 10 | 11 **Saint Nathanael**  
(No Divine Liturgy today)  
12:00noon-Senior Citizens  
6:15pm-Parish Council | 12  
1:00pm-Adult Senior Bible Study  
3:00pm-Baklava Project | 13  
3:00pm-Baklava Project  
6:30pm-Senior GOYA Party  
7:00pm-Evening Men’s Fellowship | 14  
1:00pm-Senior GOYA set up for Families Moving Forward | 15 **Saturday of Souls**  
9:00am-Orthros  
10:00am-Divine Liturgy  
9:00am-Bible Study  
5:00pm-Great Vespers | 16 **Holy Pentecost**  
Father’s Day  
8:30am-Orthros  
9:30am-Divine Liturgy  
11:45am-Mission/Outreach | 17 **The Holy Spirit**  
8:30am-Orthros  
9:30am-Divine Liturgy  
8:00am-Baklava Project | 18  
8:00am-Baklava Project  
Simpson House Dinner | 19  
9:00am-*The Messenger* Mailing | 20  
6:30pm-Stewardship Committee | 21 | 22  
9:00am-Bible Study  
5:00pm-Great Vespers | 23 **All Saints**  
8:30am-Orthros  
9:30am-Divine Liturgy  
Festival Kick-Off after Liturgy-CES Meal Packing | 24 **Nativity of John the Baptist**  
8:30am-Orthros  
9:30am-Divine Liturgy | 25 | 26  
1:00pm-Adult Senior Bible Study | 27  
7:00pm-Edina Koinonia  
7:00pm-Northeast Metro Koinonia | 28 | 29 **Saints Peter and Paul**  
9:00am-Orthros  
10:00am-Divine Liturgy  
9:00am-Bible Study  
Camp Training and Departure  
5:00pm-Great Vespers | 30 **Synaxis of the Twelve Apostles**  
8:30am-Orthros  
9:30am-Divine Liturgy | Vacation Church School: 8:45 a.m.-12:00 noon | Families Moving Forward: June 16-29 | | |
On May 11, 2019 the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate unanimously elected Metropolitan ELPIDOPHOROS of Bursa to be the Archbishop of America

Let us join together in welcoming Archbishop-elect Elpidophoros! AXIOS!

His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros (Lambriniadis) of America was born in 1967 in Bakirköy, Istanbul. He studied at the Department of Pastoral Theology at the Theological School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, graduating in 1991. In 1993, he completed postgraduate studies at the Philosophical School of the University of Bonn in Germany, submitting a dissertation entitled: “The Brothers Nicholas and John Mesarites.” He was ordained to the Diaconate in 1994 at the Patriarchal Cathedral and appointed Kodikographos (Scrivener) of the Holy and Sacred Synod.

In 1995, he was appointed Deputy Secretary of the Holy and Sacred Synod. From 1996-1997 he studied at the Theological School of St. John the Damascene in Balamand, Lebanon, where he advanced his knowledge of the Arabic language. In 2001, he presented a doctoral dissertation at the Theological School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki under the title: “Severus of Antioch and the Council of Chalcedon” and was proclaimed a Doctor of Theology. In 2004, he was invited to Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Boston, where he taught as Visiting Professor for a semester.

In March 2005, at the proposal of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, he was elevated by the Holy and Sacred Synod to the position of Chief Secretary and ordained to the priesthood by the Ecumenical Patriarch in the Patriarchal Cathedral. In 2009, he submitted two dissertations to the Theological School of Thessaloniki and was unanimously elected Assistant Professor of Symbolics, Inter-Orthodox Relations, and the Ecumenical Movement.


In March 2011, he was elected Metropolitan of Bursa and in August of the same year was appointed Abbot of the Holy Patriarchal and stavropegial Monastery of the Holy Trinity on the island of Halki. He has served as Orthodox Secretary of the Joint International Commission for the Theological Dialogue between the Orthodox Church and the Lutheran World Federation and member of the Patriarchal delegations to the General Assemblies of the Conference of European Churches and the World Council of Churches. He was the Secretary of the Pan-Orthodox Synods in Sofia (1998), Istanbul (2005), Geneva (2006), and Istanbul (2008). He has been a member of the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches since 1996.