

# St. Mary Orthodox Church

WEEKLY BULLETIN | JUNE 1, 2025

**Tone 6** · 7th Sunday of Pascha Sunday of the First Ecumenical Council

## Today's Schedule

#### Please welcome Fr. Patrick today!

9:30am — Hours 10:00am — Divine Liturgy

Following the service:

Church School Recognition Day Fellowship Hour, offered by Group A–D

### This Week At St. Mary's

Daily 3rd & 6th Hours — Mon-Fri @ 7:30am-8am

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 6 Philokalia Book Group | 3pm-4pm

### SATURDAY, JUNE 7

Memorial Saturday Memorial Liturgy w/ Parastas | 10am-11:30am

Baptism: Zaki | 2:30pm-3:30pm Festal Vespers w/ Group Confession | 5pm-6pm

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 8

Holy Pentecost Matins & Liturgy | 9am-11:30am Kneeling Vespers | 11:30am-12pm

Fellowship Hour Groups



Week 1: A-D

Week 2: E-KI ← Next Week's Host

Week 3: Kn-Paf Week 4: Pag-Z Week 5: Entire Parish

#### HYMNS OF THE DAY

Tone 6. Troparion of the Resurrection

THE Angelic <u>Pow</u>ers were at Thy tomb; \* the guards became as <u>dead</u> men. \* Mary <u>stood</u> by Thy grave, \* seeking Thy most pure body. \* Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it. \* Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. \* O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, // glory to Thee.

Tone 4. Troparion of the Ascension

YOU ascended in glory, O <u>Christ</u> our God, \* granting joy to Your Disciples by the promise of the Holy <u>Spirit</u>. \* Through the blessing, <u>they</u> were assured \* that You are the <u>Son</u> of God, // the Redeemer of the world!

Tone 8. Troparion of the Fathers

YOU are most <u>glor</u>ious, O <u>Christ</u> our God! \* You have es<u>tab</u>lished the <u>Ho</u>ly Fathers as <u>lights</u> on the earth. \* Through them You have <u>guid</u>ed us to the <u>true</u> Faith. // O greatly com<u>passionate One</u>, <u>glory</u> to You!

Glory. Tone 8. Kontakion of the Fathers

THE Apostles' <u>preaching</u> and the <u>Fa</u>thers' doctrines have established one <u>Faith</u> for the Church. \* Adorned with the <u>robe</u> of truth, <u>wo</u>ven from heavenly the<u>ology</u>, // It defines and <u>glor</u>ifies the great <u>mys</u>tery of <u>piety</u>.

**Both now.** Tone 6. Kontakion of the Ascension

WHEN You had fulfilled the dispensation for our sake, \* and united earth to heaven: \* You ascended in glory, O <u>Christ</u> our God, \* not being <u>parted</u> from those who <u>love</u> You, \* but remaining with them and <u>cry</u>ing: // "I am <u>with</u> you, and there is no one against you!

#### **PROKEIMENON**

**In the fourth tone:** Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, / and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever!

V For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us!

#### **EPISTLES**

## The Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles (20:16–18, 28–36)

In those days, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he would not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hurrying to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the Day of Pentecost. From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church. And when they had come to him, he said to them: "You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived among you, Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn

#### — The Trisagion in Other Languages (Transliterated) —

Romanian: Sfinte Dumnezeule, Sfinte Tare, Sfinte Fără de moarte, Miluiește-ne pe noi Church Slavonic: Svyati Bozhe, Svyati Krepki, Svyati Bessmertni, pomiluy nas Arabic: Qudduson illah, Qudduson ilqawi, Qudduson illadhi, la yamoot urhamna Greek: Agios O Theos, Agios Eeskhiros, Agios Athanatos, eleison imas

everyone night and day with tears. So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me. I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive." And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

#### Alleluia, Tone 1:

- Y The Lord, the God of gods, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the suns to its setting.
- Gather to Me My venerable ones, who made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.

#### **GOSPELS**

#### The Reading is from the Holy Gospel According to St. John (17:1–13)

Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave

them to Me, and they have kept Your word. Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me. I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

## INSTEAD OF "IT IS TRULY MEET"

Magnify, O my soul, Christ the Giver of Life, Who hath ascended from earth to heaven!

We the faithful, with one accord, magnify thee, the Mother of God, who, beyond reason and understanding, ineffably gave birth in time to the Timeless One.

#### **COMMUNION HYMNS**

- Praise the Lord from the <u>heavens!</u>
  Praise Him in the <u>highest!</u>
- W Rejoice in the Lord, O you <u>rightous!</u> <u>Praise</u> be<u>fits</u> the <u>just!</u>
- 🕅 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



#### ABOUT THE FEAST: THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL OF NICEA

"On this seventh Sunday after Pascha, the Church commemorates and glorifies the 318 Holy and God-bearing Fathers of the First Ecumenical Synod, convened in the Greek city of Nicaea by the emperor Constantine the Great on May 20, 325 after the Nativity of Christ, for the affirmation of the true teaching about the Son of God, shaken by the false teaching of the heretic Arius, who rejected the Divinity of the Son of God, and other like-minded people.

All 318 fathers [present] were from different countries. But in spite of the extraordinary difference in the countries from which they came, the languages from which they spoke, and the customs to which these Holy Fathers adhered, those who came to the Synod testified by their unanimous confession of faith that the teaching of Arius and his accomplices, who dared to deny the eternity of the Son of God and that He was of one essence with God the Father, was new, contrary to the apostolic teaching, alien to the faith of the Church. The Holy Fathers equally testified that the Symbol of Faith composed by them at the Synod, beginning with the words: "I believe in one God the Father, the Almighty..." and known to all of you, is the universal faithful proclamation of the Apostolic Orthodox teaching, which is the faith of the entire Church and the tradition of the Fathers.

The Ecumenical Synod of Nicaea is a divinely wise preacher of the divine glory of the Most Holy Trinity, one in essence and indivisible, and, in particular, of the glory of Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the God-man. This apostolic faith, says Saint Chrysostom, stopped the mouths of the heretics and, like an unshakable wall, repelled all their intrigues.

The reading of the Gospel on the Sunday of the Holy Fathers teaches the faithful to turn with prayer to God in all matters, and the more important they are, the more they oblige us to prayer. When He prayed, the Savior raised His eyes to heaven. If the Son of God combined external prayer with internal prayer, bowing his knees at times, raising his hands, lifting up his eyes to grief, then how necessary and important it is for us to accompany internal prayer with external signs or rituals, testifying to the abundance and liveliness of heartfelt feelings: "For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks" (Matthew 12:34), says the Lord.

Brothers and sisters! Thanks to God and our holy Orthodox Church we were all born in the true faith, we firmly believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God, as well as in the Holy Trinity - God the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit; - and most of us, with our own experience, mind, soul and heart and with our whole being, have experienced and known and are constantly experiencing and learning that Jesus Christ is the Giver of Life and God and our Savior: for He continually reveals to us and in us the signs of His goodness, truth and holiness and almighty power. He revives us every hour and minute, we, deadened by sins, and has mercy on those who repent, cleanses, sanctifies, pacifies, consoles, enlightens, strengthens, heals mental and physical infirmities, miraculously helps in our affairs and crowns them with the desired success; directs our spiritual

feet to the fulfillment of His commandments and even here gives us the opportunity to anticipate the beginnings of eternal life in heaven. May we all steadfastly hold to our saving faith, fulfilling its holy commandments and statutes, and may the Lord Jesus Christ be for us the beginning and end of all our desires, thoughts and all our deeds, for to Him is the glory and power forever and ever. Amen."

—excerpted from the Homily for the Sunday of the Holy Fathers by St. John of Kronstadt. Read the homily in its entirety at <u>tinyurl.com/4rvaj4hz</u>

**Did you know?** This year, we celebrate the 1700th anniversary of the First Ecumenical Council in Nicea of 325!



- ▶ Week 1: A-D Dsa. Cathy D., Jonathan C.
- ▶ Week 2: E-KI Edward H., Allison J.
- ▶ Week 3: Kn-Paf Melanie K., Tom P.
- ▶ Week 4: Pag-Z Elaine P., Nathan & Charity W.
- ▶ Week 5: Entire Parish Dsa. Irene L., Alyssa M.

### Join Us Online

Join the parish on Realm: tinyurl.com/stmary-realm

Watch our livestream:

youtube.com/@stmaryorthodoxchurch

Visit our website: stmaryorthodox.org

## **Save the Date**

Services, holidays, and other events

#### JUNE

Holy Spirit Week (Fast Free) | Jun 9-13

**Divine Liturgy** (Day of the Holy Spirit) | Mon, Jun 9 @ 7am-8am

Nats Game Outing | Sun, Jun 15 @ 1pm-4pm

Men's Fellowship | Sun, Jun 15 @ 6pm-8pm

**Reel Women Film Night** | June 17, evening (time and film TBA)

Apostles' Fast | Jun 16-28

Parish Council | Mon, Jun 16 @ 7pm-8pm

**Women's Bible Study** | Fri, Jun 20 @ 6:30pm-8pm

#### **FARTHER AHEAD**

St. Mary's Dinner Dance | Oct. 11 @ 6pm at St. Luke's in McLean

Doxacon | Oct. 31-Nov. 1



Stay up-to-date with the online calendar: stmaryorthodox.org/calendar

Church School Recognition Day

Congratulations to all our students!
Thank you to all our teachers!

Also graduating this year:

- Demitri A. (high school)
- Gregory L. (college)
- Jason L. (college)
- Alex W. (college)
- Anna L. (college)



#### Serving Today:

### Rev. Dr. Patrick Viscuso

Professor of Canon Law at the Antiochian House of Studies and Former President of the Byzantine Studies Association of North America

Fr. Patrick is a Professor of Canon Law at the Antiochian House of Studies and a specialist in Byzantine and Oriental canonical legislation. He is a priest of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and holds a doctorate in historical theology from The Catholic University of America, a Master of Divinity from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, and a Bachelor of Science from Georgetown University. Dr. Viscuso has authored numerous scholarly articles and five books. including Orthodox Canon Law: A Casebook



for Study and Sexuality, Marriage, and Celibacy in Byzantine Law. He has spoken at prominent venues such as the Dumbarton Oaks Spring Symposium and the North American Patristic Society. He is a former president of the Byzantine Studies Association of North America.



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## Parish News & Announcements

Please welcome Fr. Patrick Viscuso, who is serving liturgy for us today in Fr. David's absence.

The Lost and Found basket will be emptied and donated in early June. Please see if any of the items are your missing treasures.

Bless someone with a meal train! — Are you expecting a new addition to your family? Or do you know someone who is sick and in need of assistance? Please allow us to set up a meal train and feed those going through a season in life when they could use a hand! Contact the Meal Train inbox to get started at mealtrainsatstmary@gmail.com

**Save the Date: Reel Women Film Night!** — Join us the evening of June 17 for our next Reel Women gathering! Movie options will be posted in the Realm group the week before—don't forget to <u>log in</u> and vote for your pick! Direct any questions to Christina J. via email (found on <u>Realm</u>).

Church School Seeking Teachers for the 2025-2026 School Year — We are seeking 6 volunteers to help teach Church School: two for PreK-Kindergarten, two for 1st-3rd Grade, one for 4th-5th Grade. For more information, please reach out to loana via Realm.

#### Connect with the parish at the Connections Corner!

Stop by during fellowship hour to check out our ministries, newsletter, or meet a couple friendly faces. It's a great place to learn for visitors, inquirers, or parishioners who want to get more involved at church.





Submit items for the weekly bulletin or *The Veil* Contact Lacie & Sophia at undertheveilofherprotection@gmail.com

Newsletter deadline | TBD for August issue Weekly bulletin deadline | by end-of-day Wednesday each week

## God Grant You Many Years!

**Birthdays** Nina A., Selene C., Mike G., Ioana M., Caleb P., Mihai R., Psa. Stephanie, Matt V.

Namesdays St. Justin the Philosopher (6/1), Ss. Martha & Mary (6/4) Anniversaries Ben & Jessie C.

### **Regularly Scheduled Activities**

Sunday Liturgy | 9am Matins, 10am Divine Liturgy Saturday Great Vespers | Saturday, 5pm-6pm Wednesday Vespers | Wednesdays, 7pm-7:45pm 3rd & 6th Hours | Monday-Friday, 7:30am-8am

Women's Bible Study | 3rd Friday of the month. 6:30pm Men's Fellowship | Monthly on a Sunday TBD, 6pm-8pm Fellowship of Moms | 4th Friday of the month, 9am-11:30am Philokalia Book Group | Fridays, 3pm-4pm Reel Women | Monthly TBD, often Tuesdays



### Giving to St. Mary's

There are three easy ways to give:

- in the collection bowl in the narthex
- in the collection plate in the nave as you exit for the Fellowship Hall
- click here to give online

Thank you for your generosity!

## Are you visiting? Welcome to St. Mary's!

We're delighted that you've joined us! Please feel free to watch, participate, or ask the person next to you if you have any questions. Check out the Connections Corner in the fellowship hall to learn more about us or Orthodoxy, to pick up a copy of our newsletter and ministry brochure, or to just meet a few friendly faces!

We try to avoid entering or exiting the nave during readings, processions, or the sermon. Please note that to receive Holy Communion in our church, one must be baptized Orthodox, recently-confessed, and at peace with one's fellows. At the end of the service, everyone is welcome to come up to kiss the Cross, greet the priest, and receive blessed bread.

Please join us for fellowship hour downstairs in the fellowship hall after liturgy. We'd love to meet you!