



St. Mary Orthodox Church

WEEKLY BULLETIN | AUGUST 31, 2025

Tone 3 · 12th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday of the Placing of the Cincture (Sash) of the Most-holy Theotokos

Today's Schedule

9:00am — Matins
10:00am — Divine Liturgy

Following the service:

Fellowship Hour, offered by Entire Parish

This Week At St. Mary's

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Church New Year

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Episcopate Congress (Office Closed)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Episcopate Congress (Office Closed)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Episcopate Congress (Office Closed)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Matins & Divine Liturgy | 9:00–11:30am

Annual Parish Picnic & Ministry Fair |

After Liturgy



Fellowship Hour Hosting Groups:

Week 1: A–D ← Next Week's Host

Week 2: E–Kl

Week 3: Kn–Paf

Week 4: Pag–Z

Week 5: Entire Parish

Parish Priest: Fr. David Subu | Parish Council President: David Dill
7223 Roosevelt Ave, Falls Church, VA 22042 | 703.280.0770 | stmaryorthodox.org

HYMNS OF THE DAY

Tone 3. Troparion of the Resurrection

LET the heavens rejoice! * Let the earth be glad! * For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. * He has trampled down death by death. * He has become the first born of the dead. * He has delivered us from the depths of hell, * and has granted the world // great mercy.

Tone 8. Troparion of the Theotokos

EVER Virgin Theotokos, protectress of mankind, * you have given your people a powerful legacy: * the robe and sash of your most honored body which remained incorrupt throughout your seedless childbearing; * for through you time and nature are renewed. // Therefore we improve you: “Grant peace to your people and to our souls great mercy!”

Glory. *Tone 3. Kontakion of the Resurrection*

ON this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, * leading us from the gates of death. * On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; * with the Prophets and Patriarchs // they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

Both now. *Tone 4. Kontakion of the Theotokos*

TODAY your flock celebrates the enshrinement of your precious sash, * and it earnestly cries out to you: // “Rejoice, O Virgin, boast of all Christians!”

PROKEIMENON

In the third tone: Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

✠ *Clap your hands, all peoples, shout to God with loud songs of joy!*

EPISTLE

*The Reading is from
the First Epistle of St. Paul to
the Corinthians (15:1-11)*

Brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you – unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time. For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain;

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

Romanian: Sfinte Dumnezeule, Sfinte Tare, Sfinte Fără de moarte, Miluiește-ne pe noi

Church Slavonic: Svyati Bozhe, Svyati Kreпки, Svyati Bessmertni, pomiluy nas

Arabic: Qudduson illah, Qudduson ilqawi, Qudduson illadhi, la yamoot urhamna

Greek: Agios O Theos, Agios Eeskhros, Agios Athanatos, eleison imas

but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Alleluia, Tone 3:

- ✠ *In You, O Lord, have I hoped; let me never be put to shame.*
- ✠ *Be a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me.*

GOSPEL

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew (19:16-26)

At that time, a young man came and said to Jesus, “Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?” So He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.” He said to Him, “Which ones?” Jesus said, “‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” The young man said to Him, “All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?” Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. Then Jesus said to His disciples, “Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of

God. When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?” But Jesus looked at them and said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

COMMUNION HYMNS

- ✠ Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!
- ✠ Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



A Little Church History:

The Placing of the Cincture (Sash) of the Mother of God

The Placing of the Venerable Belt of the Most Holy Theotokos in a church of Constantinople's Chalcoprateia district took place during the reign of the emperor Theodosius the Younger. Before this the holy relic, entrusted to the Apostle Thomas by the Mother of God Herself, was kept by pious Christians at Jerusalem after Her Dormition. During the reign of Emperor Leo the Wise (886-911), his wife Zoe was afflicted with an unclean spirit, and he prayed that God would heal her.

The empress had a vision that she would be healed of her infirmity if the Belt of the Mother of God were placed upon her. The emperor then asked the Patriarch to open the coffer. The Patriarch removed the seal and opened the coffer in which the relic was kept, and the Belt of the Mother of God appeared completely whole and undamaged by time. The Patriarch placed the Belt on the sick empress, and immediately she was freed from her infirmity. They sang hymns of thanksgiving to the Most Holy Theotokos, then they placed the venerable Belt back into the coffer and resealed it.

In commemoration of the miraculous occurrence and the twofold Placing of the venerable Belt, the Feast of the Placing of the Venerable Belt of the Most Holy Theotokos was established. Parts of the holy Belt are in the Vatopedi monastery on Mt. Athos, in Trier monastery, and in Georgia.

--From oca.org



Register for Adult Catechism Fall 2025: The Faith

This Fall, we are offering an Adult Catechism course--by the end, catechumens of St. Mary's will be well-prepared for reception into the Orthodox Church. The course will help you understand the history, purpose, and meaning of Orthodox dogma as outlined in the Nicene Creed. The first class begins at 3:00pm on September 13th. To join the Fall Session (covering the Creed and basics of Orthodox doctrine) sign-up on Realm here: <https://tinyurl.com/n4c779wy>

Hop on the Meal Train for the Williamson Family

Consider supporting the Williamson family as they adjust to life with a newborn and savor this time together as a growing family! Please sign-up at mealtrain.com/r0z9d2.



We Can Help You Join Realm Today!

Our parish uses [Realm](#) (available on browser or app) to share realtime updates on activities, ministries, and other church activities. We encourage parishioners to routinely check in on Realm and/or set up a daily digest of activity to be sent to your email to stay engaged with the community. If you're not yet on Realm, please reach out to Ileana C. at the Connections Center during Fellowship Hour and we'll get you set up!

Keep Our Parish Grounds Beautiful!



Please pick up all trash from the tables and playground after eating or playing. This keeps our space welcoming and prevents ants and insects. **Thank you!**



Fellowship Hour Groups & Leaders

- ▶ **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.

Save the Date

*Services, holidays,
and other events*

SEPTEMBER

St. Mary's Annual Parish Picnic | Sunday, Sept. 7

Financial Peace University | Sept. 10 - Nov. 5 @ 7:45pm-9pm

Adult Catechism I: The Faith | Sept. 13 - Nov. 15 | 3pm on Saturdays

Great Vespers with Group Confession | Saturday, Sept. 13 @ 5pm-6pm

Church School Open House | Sunday, Sept. 14 @ 11:30am-12:30pm

Parish Council | Sept. 15 @ 7pm-9pm

Divine Liturgy | Sept. 17 @ 7am-8am

Women's Bible Study | Friday, Sept. 29 @ 6:30pm-8pm

Active Shooter Response Training Session | Sunday, Sept. 21

Estate Planning Fireside Chat | Sunday, Sept. 28 during Fellowship Hour

OCTOBER

Connect DC Young Adults Conference | Oct. 3-5

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

Divine Liturgy of St. James | Oct. 23 @ 10am-11:30am

Doxacon | Friday, Oct. 31 & Sunday, Nov. 1 @ Catholic University

Upcoming Events & Outings



Grab Your Lawn Chairs - The Annual Picnic is Next Week!

Enjoy our annual parish cookout at the hall/outdoor area—bring games, instruments, chairs, and picnic gear! Volunteers are needed for food, setup/clean-up, and grilling. Sign up or reserve a ministry table at tinyurl.com/sdwfea5s. Rain or shine—we can't wait to see you there!



Join us for My Big Fat Greek Dinner Dance 2025

Join us Saturday, Oct. 11 @ 6pm for an adults-only evening full of authentic Mediterranean cuisine, Greek dancing, a silent auction, dessert auction, and more—all to support fellowship hour improvements and accessibility upgrades at St. Mary's. Tickets are \$75 and ticket sales close October 3. Sign up here: tinyurl.com/35ernpuz.



Bring Your Favorite Game to YAM's September Game Night

The Young Adult Ministry's next game night is Saturday, Sept. 13th at St. Mary's after vespers. Food will be provided, so please be sure to RSVP at YAM@stmaryorthodox.org so we can plan accordingly. We hope to see you there!



Visit Renaissance Festival with YAM

The Young Adult Ministry is also planning an outing to the Maryland Renaissance festival in Annapolis on Sunday, September 28th. Tickets are available for \$14. You can pay via Realm or check (Ren Fair in memo line). Join our distro at YAM@stmaryorthodox.org for more details.



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www.praythenewstoday.com



Parish News & Announcements



Attend an Active Assailant Training *Sunday, Sept. 21 @ 12:30pm* As a community, we must take a more proactive approach to safety and emergency preparedness. In that spirit, St. Mary's will be hosting a C.R.A.S.E. (Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events) presentation conducted by the Fairfax County Police Department. Please RSVP on Realm.

Find Financial Peace

St. Mary's is offering Financial Peace University this fall—a nine-week course by Dave Ramsey that has helped millions learn to budget, pay off debt, save wisely, and build lasting wealth. Each week includes a video lesson, group discussion, and practical steps you can use right away. As we grow in financial peace at home, we also strengthen our parish community. Don't miss this opportunity—register today: tinyurl.com/222m735y



Get Your Doxacon Tickets or T-Shirts Today!

Regular tickets are \$65 /\$25 student/\$20 t-shirts
Doxacon's theme this year is catharsis. Scroll down our homepage at www.doxacon.org to see all the ways our speakers plan to address this theme. You may even see a couple of familiar faces. Doxacon takes place this year at the Catholic University of America, Oct. 31 - Nov. 1. Scan the code to register. We hope to see you there!



Join us for the Doxacast Remix!

Catch our NEW episode on K-Pop Demon Hunters: "Get Up and Let the Jagged Edges Meet the Light Instead": K-Pop Demon Hunters and the Restoration of OUR Souls, featuring two Pauline Sisters scheduled to speak at the 2025 Doxacon. To hear this and other conversations, visit our home on Ancient Faith Radio <https://tinyurl.com/89s9kdj6> or check us out on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, or Pocketcasts.



Submit items for the weekly bulletin or *The Veil*

Contact Lacie F. at lacie@stmaryorthodox.org

Newsletter deadline | Monday, Sept 29 (for October/November issue)

Weekly bulletin deadline | by end-of-day Wednesday each week

God Grant You Many Years!



Birthdays Alexandra B., Matt H., Phil K., Luca M., Vittorio S., Fr. David

Namedays St. Elizabeth, St. Phoebe, St. David

Anniversaries Andrew & Paige B., Steve S. & Fotina N., Nick & Alina S., Robert & Paula Y.

Regularly Scheduled Activities

Sunday Liturgy | 9am Matins, 10am Divine Liturgy

Saturday Great Vespers | Saturday, 5pm-6pm

3rd & 6th Hours | Monday–Friday, 7:30am–8am

Women's Bible Study | 3rd Friday of the month, 6:30pm–8pm

Men's Fellowship | Monthly on a Sunday TBD, 6pm-8pm

Fellowship of Moms | Monthly TBD, after a morning Divine Liturgy

Philokalia Book Group | Fridays, 12pm-1pm (summer hours)

Reel Women | Monthly, on a Tuesday



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!