



# St. Mary Orthodox Church

## WEEKLY BULLETIN | NOVEMBER 23, 2025

**Tone 7 • 24th Sunday after Pentecost**

*Afterfeast of the Entrance into the Temple - St. Amphilochius, Bishop of Iconium*

### Today's Schedule

9:00am — Matins, Catechumen Prayer

10:00am — Divine Liturgy

*Following the service:*

*Fellowship Hour, served by Group Q-Z*

*IOCC Sunday -- Consider giving a donation!*

*Click with Caution @ 12:15pm*

*Safety Ministry Mtg @ 1pm*

12pm-1pm — Church School

6pm-8pm — Men's Fellowship @ the Faber Residence

### This Week At St. Mary's

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

#### **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24**

Parish Council | 7-9pm

#### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26**

Confessions | 6-7pm

Vespers & Thanksgiving Akathist |  
7-8pm

Confessions | 8-9pm

#### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29**

Baptism: Shin | 11am-1pm

Adult Catechism | 3-4:30pm

Holy Unction @ St. Andrew's, Poto-  
mac, MD | 5-7pm

#### **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30**

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

**Nativity Fast — November 15th-24th**



#### **Fellowship Hour Hosting Groups:**

Week 1: A-Di

Week 2: Do-Ke

Week 3: Kh-P

Week 4: Q-Z

**Week 5: Entire Parish ← Next Week's Host**

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 7. Troparion of the Resurrection*

BY Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. \* To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. \* For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy, \* and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, \* to proclaim that Thou art risen, // granting the world great mercy.

### *Tone 4. Troparion of the Feast*

TODAY is the prelude of the good will of God, \* of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. \* The Virgin appears in the Temple of God, \* in anticipation proclaiming Christ to all. \* Let us rejoice and sing to her: \* “Rejoice, O Fulfillment // of the Creator’s dispensation!”

### *Tone 4. Troparion of Sts. Amphilochius and Gregory*

O GOD of our Fathers, \* always act with kindness towards us; \* take not Your mercy from us, \* but guide our lives in peace // through the prayers of the hierarchs Gregory and Amphilochius!

### *Tone 7. Kontakion of the Resurrection*

THE dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, \* for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. \* Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: \* “The Savior has come to those in faith; // enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

### *Glory. Tone 2. Kontakion of St. Amphilochius*

HOLY thunder, spiritual trumpet, \* nurse of the faithful and axe striking down heresy, \* O hierarch Amphilochius, \* great and well-pleasing servant of the Trinity, \* as you stand forever with the Angels, // unceasingly pray for us all!

### *Both now. Tone 3. Kontakion of the Feast*

THE most pure Temple of the Savior; \* the precious Chamber and Virgin; \* the sacred Treasure of the glory of God, \* is presented today to the house of the Lord. \* She brings with her the grace of the Spirit, \* therefore, the angels of God praise her: // “Truly this woman is the abode of Heaven!”

## PROKEIMENON

**In the seventh tone:** The Lord shall give strength to His people. / The Lord shall bless His people with peace.

✠ *Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God!  
Offer young rams to the Lord!*

**In the third tone:** My soul magnifies the Lord, / and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.

## EPISTLE

### *The Reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians (2:14-22)*

*Brethren*, Christ is our peace, He who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man

### — *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 Eeskhros, Agios Athanatos, eleison imas

from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

*Alleluia, Tone 7:*

- ✠ *It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy name, O Most High!*
- ✠ *To declare Thy mercy in the morning and Thy truth by night.*

*Alleluia, Tone 8:*

- ✠ *Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline your ear!*

## GOSSPEL

*The Reading is from the Holy Gospel According to St. Luke (12:16-21)*

*The Lord spoke this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.'"* But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things

be which you have provided?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

## INSTEAD OF "IT IS TRULY MEET"

*Tone 4.* The angels beheld the entrance of the Pure One and were amazed. // How has the Virgin entered into the Holy of Holies?

Since she is a living Ark of God \* let no profane hand touch the Theotokos. \* But let the lips of believers unceasingly sing to her, \* praising her in joy with the angel's song: // "Truly, you are more exalted than all, O pure Virgin!"

## COMMUNION HYMN

- ✠ *Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!*
- ✠ *I will receive the cup of salvation / and call on the Name of the Lord!*
- ✠ *Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*



# IOCC Sunday: Nov. 23, 2025



## *Celebrating IOCC's Work*

Each year, the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops sets aside the Sunday before Thanksgiving to highlight humanitarian relief.

Please consider a gift to support IOCC's worldwide humanitarian work, or visit [ioccsunday.org](http://ioccsunday.org) for more ways to get involved, and help spread awareness about IOCC in your parish and community.



**IOCC**<sup>®</sup>  
[ioccsunday.org](http://ioccsunday.org)



**Saint Mary**  
ORTHODOX CHURCH

## Make a Good Thing Better.

We are pleased that our parish has been selected to participate in the Effective Parish Assessment by Orthodox Ministry Services to take an honest look at our strengths, identify areas for improvement, and ensure that our beloved community continues to grow and thrive for future generations. The professional results will inform development of St. Mary's new strategic plan and ministry priorities.



- ✓ Multiple choice survey and easy to complete on computer or smartphone
- ✓ Completely anonymous
- ✓ All parishioners are encouraged to participate, even if you do not regularly attend

Launches  
December 6

**COMING  
SOON!**



## Fellowship Hour Groups & Leaders

**Week 1:** A-Di — Jon

C. & Matt C.

**Week 2:** Do-Ke — Edward H. & Alison J.

**Week 3:** Kh-P — Melanie K. & Tom P.

**Week 4:** Q-Z — Nathan & Charity W.

**Week 5:** Entire Parish — Dsa. Irene L., Alyssa M.

## We Can Help You Join Realm Today!

Our parish uses [Realm](#) (available on browser or app) to share real-time 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 Lacie Faber during Fellowship Hour (or email [lacie@stmaryorthodox.org](mailto:lacie@stmaryorthodox.org)) and we'll get you set up!

## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

**Christmas Eve (Dec. 24th)**

**Royal Hours** | 10am - 12pm

**Vespertal Liturgy** | 5pm-6:30pm

**Candlelight Vigil** | 10pm - 11:30pm

**Christmas Day (Dec. 25th)**

**Christmas Liturgy** | 10am-11:30am

# Save the Date

*Services, holidays, and other events*

## DECEMBER

**St. Nicholas Retreat & Nativity Pageant Practice** | Dec. 6th

**FOCUS Presentation** | Dec. 6th @ 6-8pm

**Memorial: Miroy** | Dec. 7th @ 11:30am

**Reel Women** | Dec. 9th

**Gift Exchange Party (No-Sales Consignment)** | Saturday, Dec. 13 @ 3-5pm

**Great Vespers & Nativity Pageant** | Dec. 13 @ 5pm

**Divine Liturgy** | Dec. 20th @ 10-11am

**Great Vespers w/Group Confession** | Dec. 20th @ 5-6:30pm

## JANUARY

**St. Basil Liturgy** | Jan. 1st @ 10:30am-12pm

**Royal Hours of Theophany** | Jan. 5th @ 10-11:30am

**Vespertal Liturgy of Theophany with Blessing of Waters** | Jan. 5th @ 6-8pm

**Divine Liturgy with the Blessing of Waters** | Jan. 6th @ 10:30am-11:30am

# Upcoming Events & Outings

## Register for the St. Nicholas Retreat



Join us for this year's St. Nicholas Day Retreat, a parish gathering that brings together worship, fellowship, and a simple service project inspired by the life of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker. We will celebrate liturgy and enjoy brunch together, afterwards, the afternoon program is designed especially for children, including an opportunity to practice for the nativity pageant, a surprise visit from St. Nicholas himself, and a service activity. Though designed

for children, we encourage all ministries and parishioners to consider partnering with our children for the day! Scan or register here:

<https://tinyurl.com/2bjcvfax>



## Click with Caution: Recognizing Scams and Staying Safe in the Age of AI

We all know the internet can be a dangerous place. In Click with Caution, you will learn how to recognize some of the latest AI-enabled online cons, from phishing emails, to spoofed text messages, and even phone and voice calls impersonating your loved ones. Join cyber intelligence analyst and fellow parishioner Jeff M. on Nov. 23rd @ 12:30pm during fellowship hour to learn all about how to mitigate these risks!

## Attend the Safety Ministry Launch Meeting

If you're interested in participating in the new Safety Ministry, mark your calendars for Sunday, Nov. 23rd @ 1pm (after the Click with Caution training) for an introductory meeting in the Fellowship Hall. Interested in learning more? Contact Ioana M. on Realm.

## Learn about FOCUS North America and Help Bring a Center to the DMV

Register to attend a FOCUS retreat on Sat., Dec. 6th (after the St. Nicholas Retreat for a double dose of fun!) which includes dinner, talk, and Q&A with Steve Christoforou with the goal of building momentum for a FOCUS Center in the DMV. Scan or register here:

<https://tinyurl.com/3a7eerup>





# Parish News & Announcements

## Donate Non-Perishable Goods to Falls Church Food Pantry this Advent Season

Our Community Outreach Ministry highlights that donations will be received in the the donation box downstairs outside the restrooms and **particular needs include:**

- Diapers: larger sizes needed, size 4 and up.
- Canned pasta meals like ravioli, spaghetti-os, etc.
- Canned chicken and tuna
- Cooking oil
- Quart size shelf-stable milk
- Peanut butter and
- jelly/jam
- Oatmeal
- Pancake mix and syrup
- Masa flour
- 2-4lb bags of sugar
- 2-4lb bags of rice
- Instant and Ground Coffee
- Pasta sauce and spaghetti
- Mayo, ketchup, &
- mustard
- Laundry detergent
- Dish washing liquid
- Bar soap and body wash
- Shampoo
- Paper towels and toilet paper
- Toothbrushes for both children and adults
- Toothpaste

## Donate to Toys for Tots

**What:** New, packaged toys for ages 0-12 years

**Where:** Donation Box in the Fellowship Hall

**When:** November 15-December 11



## Help Us Reach our Matching Campaign Goal

Our parish has outgrown its space, and we're preparing for the next stage of growth! Two generous donors are matching all gifts up to \$20,000 toward our Capital Fund now through the end of the year. Every dollar you give will be doubled to help us build a more spacious and accessible St. Mary's.



## Submit items for the weekly bulletin or *The Veil*

Contact Lacie Faber at [lacie@stmaryorthodox.org](mailto:lacie@stmaryorthodox.org)

Newsletter deadline | Monday, Nov. 24 (for Dec. issue)

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

# God Grant You Many Years!



**Birthdays** Stephanie D., Jason R., Tatiana R.  
**Namedays** St. Catherine of Alexandria  
**Anniversaries** Jonathan C. & Anna C., Warren & Libby H.

## 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, after a morning Divine Liturgy TBD  
Philokalia Book Group | Fridays, 3pm–4pm  
Reel Women | Monthly, on a Tuesday TBD



## ***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!***