



St. Mary Orthodox Church

WEEKLY BULLETIN | DECEMBER 07, 2025

Tone 1 • 26th Sunday after Pentecost

St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan

Today's Schedule

9:00am — Matins

10:00am — Divine Liturgy

11:30am — Memorial: Mirov

Following the service:

*Fellowship Hour, served by Group A-Di
Church School*

This Week At St. Mary's

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

Vespers | 7-7:40pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

Divine Liturgy | 7-8am

Reel Women Movie Night | 6-9pm

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

Choir Rehearsal | 7:30pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

No-Sales Consignment & Gift Exchange | 3-5pm

Great Vespers & Nativity Pageant |
5pm-6:15pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

Matins & Divine Liturgy | 9-11:30am

Fellowship Hour | 12:00pm-1:00pm

No Church School - Holiday Break

Nativity Fast — November 15th-24th



Fellowship Hour Hosting Groups:

Week 1: A-Di

Week 2: Do-Ke ← Next Week's Host

Week 3: Kh-P

Week 4: Q-Z

Week 5: Entire Parish

Parish Priest: Fr. David Subu | Parish Council President: David Dill

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HYMNS OF THE DAY*Tone 1. Troparion of the Resurrection*

WHEN the stone had been sealed by the Jews, * while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, * Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, * granting life to the world. * The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: * “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! * Glory to Thy Kingdom! // Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!”

Tone 4. Troparion of the church

TODAY the faithful celebrate the feast with joy * illuminated by your coming, O Mother of God. * Beholding your pure image, we fervently cry to you: * Encompass us beneath the precious veil of your protection. * Deliver us from every form of evil, * by entreating Christ, your Son and our God, // that He may save our souls!

Tone 4. Troparion of St. Ambrose

IN truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith, * an image of humility and a teacher of abstinence; * your humility exalted you; * and your poverty enriched you. * O Hierarch Father Ambrose, * entreat Christ our God // that our souls may be saved!

Tone 1. Kontakion of the Resurrection

AS God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, * raising the world with Thyself. * Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. * Adam exults, O Master! * Eve rejoices, for

she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee: // “Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

Glory. *Tone 3. Kontakion of St. Ambrose*

YOU shone forth with divine doctrine, eclipsing the deception of Arius, * O shepherd and initiate of the mysteries, Ambrose. * You worked miracles through the power of the Spirit, * healing various passions; // righteous Father, entreat Christ our God to grant us His great mercy.

Both now. *Tone 3. Kontakion of the Forefeast of the Nativity*

ON this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to * God the Word ineffably, * Who was before all the ages. * Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing * the gladsome tidings; * with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him * Who is willing to be gazed on * as a young Child Who * before the ages is God.

PROKEIMENON

In the first tone: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on thee.

✠ *Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the just!*

EPISTLE

The Reading is from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians (5:9-19)

Brethren, walk as children of light, for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness,

— 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 Eeskhios, Agios Athanatos, eleison imas
Spanish: Santo Dios, Santo Fuerte, Santo Inmortal, ten piedad de nosotros

righteousness, and truth, finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light." See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.

Alleluia, Tone 1:

- ✠ *God gives vengeance to me, and subdues people under me!*
- ✠ *He magnifies the salvation of the King and deals mercifully with David, His anointed, and his seed forever.*

GOSPEL

*The Reading is from the Holy Gospel
According to St. Luke (17:12-19)*

At that time, as Jesus entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. And they lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" So when He saw them, He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a

Samaritan. So Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner? And He said to him, "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well."

COMMUNION HYMN

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



A Letter from the President

Dear St. Mary's Parishioners,

I am grateful to share that St. Mary's just launched the Effective Parish Assessment (EPA) survey on December 6. This program—offered to us free of charge—will help us better understand our strengths and needs as a parish, especially as we face ongoing overcrowding during Divine Liturgy and fellowship hour and prepare for the growing number of children who will soon need classrooms and ministry space.

As we prayerfully consider the direction of our future capital campaign, it is essential that we make decisions rooted in real data, good stewardship, and the lived experience of our parishioners. The EPA survey will give us exactly that.

The survey takes 20–25 minutes, is entirely anonymous, and can be completed on any computer or smartphone. Volunteers will be available to help anyone who needs assistance accessing or navigating the survey.

Please take the time to participate by checking your email or scanning the code. Your voice matters, and your input will directly shape the future of St. Mary's.

*With gratitude,
David Dill, Parish Council President*



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.





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) 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

Parish Council (Virtual) | Dec. 16th @ 7-9pm

Divine Liturgy | Dec. 17th @ 7-8am

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

Baptism: Asihel | Dec. 20th 11am-12pm

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

Baptism: Hall | Dec. 26th @ 10-11am

Great Vespers & Te Deum | Dec. 31 @ 7-8pm

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

Home Blessings: Arlington | Jan. 9th @ 7pm-8pm

St. John Dinner | Jan. 11th



Upcoming Events & Outings

Find Treasures at the No-Sales Consignment and Gift Exchange

Join us on Saturday, December 13th, 2025 @ 3-5pm to clean out your storage, bless others, and find "new-to-you" treasures--no money exchanged.

Bring your gently loved, gift-worthy items (clothes, household, toys, books, accessories), browse what

others have brought, and take what you'll use. Please arrive with items sorted and bring a bag to carry finds home. Leftovers will be donated. All are welcome!



Sing with our Choir

A choir rehearsal has been scheduled for Wednesday, December 10 at 7:30pm. All choir members are asked to attend. Contact Sdn. Nick J. with any questions. Thank you!




4th Annual
Christmas
Sing Along
with the
Archdiocesan Choir

December 28th at St. Luke Orthodox Church
Vespers at 6pm, doors open at 6:45 for
Carol Singing, drinks, desserts and coffee

Tickets are \$15 in advance
and \$20 at the door. Scan for
more info and to purchase tickets.

archdiocesanchoir.org



Parish News & Announcements

Volunteer with St. Mary's YAM at AFAC on December 13!

The St. Mary's Young Adult Group will be volunteering at the Arlington Food Assistance Center in Shirlington on Saturday, December 13, from 1:00–2:30 pm. We'll help with bagging produce, sealing dry goods, and sorting donated food. Anyone 12 and older is welcome (not just young adults). Minors will need to complete forms, so please contact us in advance so we can coordinate. Join us for a wonderful opportunity to help feed our community during the Advent season. Please RSVP to John G. if you are interested or have questions.

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.

Donate to Toys for Tots



What: New, packaged toys for ages 0-11 years

Where: Donation Box in the Fellowship Hall

When: November 15-December 11

Join us for the Doxacast Remix!

Our Babylon 5 panel, composed of St. Mary's parishioners, is back with a NEW episode titled The Coming of Shadows (and Light). To hear this an 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 Faber at lacie@stmaryorthodox.org

Newsletter deadline | *extended* Monday, Dec. 15 (for Dec. issue)

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

God Grant You Many Years!



Birthdays Amy D., Phoebe D., Michaela D., Sue K., Alice R., Angie Z.
Namedays St. Anna, St. Lucy
Anniversaries None.

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!