



THE Veil

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
ST. MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH
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Take Cover and Get Smeared!

BY FR. DAVID, PARISH PRIEST

Last year, for our adult education series on Wednesday nights, we began a deep dive study of *The Religion of the Apostles: Orthodox Christianity in the first century* by Fr. Stephen De Young from Ancient Faith Publishing. We only got through about two-thirds of the book before breaking for the summer. This September, we will pick back up with Chapter 7: "Atonement of the Whole World." This is an appropriate time to study this as *Yom Kippur*, the Day of Atonement commanded by God in the Torah, is traditionally celebrated at this time. We'll look at the meaning of this feast and the very concept of Atonement and see how it is understood within the context of Apostolic, Orthodox Christianity — how the day of Atonement is fulfilled by Christ on the Cross. Now we no longer perform the sacrifice of goats and the smearing with blood that was the shadow of things to come, but something far greater.

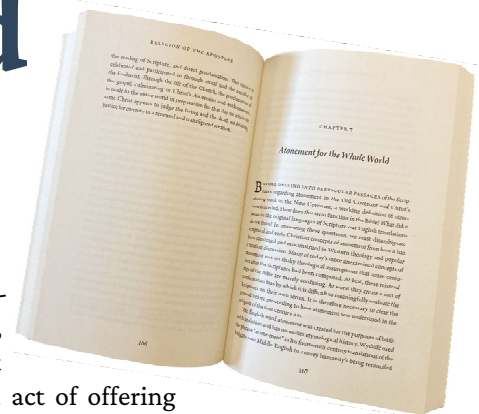
The very term *atonement* is problematic, as Fr. De Young points out. It is a word that was invented first by Wycliffe in English to translate the Vulgate into Middle English to represent how we were made "at one" with God, reconciled and purified. Atonement is therefore trying to translate a Hebrew word that is difficult to translate because it has no direct parallel. It contains the ideas of covering something over, in order to pacify, to appease, to forgive, and to purify. But at its core is the concrete liturgical act of covering something, usually by wiping or smearing it with blood. When we read that the priest made atonement for

a person, people, or place, it meant that

there was an act of offering something sacred to God to restore it to its original holiness. Atonement both gave a person a new "covering" before God (*propitiation*) even as it wiped away their sins (*expiation*). We see this play out still in all our sacraments — through them we are both forgiven, renewed, and even improved.

While today, in our germophobic, medicalized world, blood might be the last thing we would think of using as a cleanser, in the ancient world of the Scriptures, it made perfect sense. Blood represents the life of a creature, the sacred gift of life given by God. When disease, sickness, and sin came into the community's life, an offering of life through blood was viewed as a means of restoring life and order so that death and disorder would not hold sway—the blood covering was a shield. This is how the tribes of Israel mitigated the danger of sin and unholiness in their midst, so that they could remain close to God the Life-Giver. Yearly, on the Day of Atonement, that shield of life was renewed as the temple, the altar, the holy place, and the people of God were cleansed of any residual stain of sin and death.

In the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the meaning and purpose of the priestly atonement is filled to overflowing. He both destroys the power of sin and death, pouring forth (*continued on back*)



Saint Mary
ORTHODOX CHURCH

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God grant you many years!

Don't see your name? Join us on Realm and fill out your profile. If you include your birthday, nameday, and/or wedding date, you'll see them here.

BIRTHDAYS

Stephanie C.	Inna K.	Julia M.	Vittorio S.	Matthew T.
Alexandra B.	Jesse D.	McKensie K.	Katherine Mc.	Steve S.
August C.	Eva F.	Phil K.	Katherine Mi.	Kellie S.
Ben C.	Margaret G.	Sally M.	Mircea M.	Fr. David

NAMEDAYS

Sophia P.
Stephanie C.
Lauren H.
Alyssa M.
Zachary P.
Fr. David
Elizabeth S.

ANNIVERSARIES

Stephano & Robin
Joe & Alyssa
Robert & Paula
Adrian & Mihaela
Dn. Nicholas & Dsa. Cathy
Nick & Melanie



ST. MARY ORTHODOX Church School 2022-2023

**First Day: Sun, Sept 18
following Liturgy**

[Register on Realm](#)

St. Mary Orthodox Church is pleased to invite all the children of the parish to Church School for the 2022-2023 school year! We are looking forward to another enriching year of education and practice of our faith, which guides our lives.

Parents, you can register your children on Realm or at the Ministry Fair on Sept 11.



Adult Catechism I: The Faith

**First Day: Sat, Sept 17
3pm-4:30pm**

[Register on Realm](#)

Catechumens — the Adult Catechism virtual class begins this fall on Saturday, September 17th. Register on Realm to get the class link and syllabus. This course will help you articulate the history, purpose, value, and meaning of the Eastern Orthodox Church's dogma and doctrine as stated in the Nicene Creed.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Adult Ed

**First Day: Wed, Sept 14
following Vespers**

Dive deeper into the myster-ies of the faith! Wednesday Adult Education starts again this fall, continuing its read through *The Religion of the Apostles: Orthodox Christianity in the First Century* by Fr. Stephen De Young, picking up again at *Chapter 7: Atonement for the Whole World*. Join in person or online.



Sign up for the Annual Parish Picnic!

SEPT 11 @ 12PM-2PM
RSVP on Realm

Kick-off the year with us at Tyler Park right by the church!

Sign up to bring food at
tinyurl.com/2p926ktw



NOVEMBER 4-5, 2022

*Depictions of Evil and Redemption in
Sci-fi and Fantasy*

BUY TICKETS AT:
[doxacon.regfox.com/
doxacon-2022](https://doxacon.regfox.com/doxacon-2022)



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 9am Matins 10am Liturgy	29	30	31 7pm-8pm Vespers	1 Church New Year	2 12pm-1pm Philokalia Book Group	3
4 9am Matins 10am Liturgy	5 7p	6 St. David of Egypt	7 7pm-8pm Vespers	8 Nativity of the Theotokos 7am-8am Festal Liturgy	9 12pm-1pm Philokalia Book Group	10
11 9am Matins 10am Liturgy 11:30am Memorial: Berg 12pm-2pm Parish Picnic & Ministry Fair	12	13	14 Exaltation of the Cross 7pm-7:40pm Vespers 7:45pm-9pm Adult Education	15	16 12pm-1pm Philokalia Book Group	17 Ss. Sophia, Faith, Hope, and Love 11am-12pm Baptism: Shin 3pm-4:30pm Adult Catechism 6pm-7:30pm NPF: Newly-Planted Fellowship
18 9am Matins 10am Liturgy Church School	19	20	21 7pm-7:40pm Vespers 7:45pm-9pm Adult Education	22	23 Conception of St. John the Baptist 12pm-1pm Philokalia Book Group	24 11am-12pm Baptism: Vogt 3pm-4:30pm Adult Catechism 5pm-6pm Great Vespers
25 9am Matins 10am Liturgy Church School	26	27	28 7pm-7:40pm Vespers 7:45pm-9pm Adult Education	29	30 12pm-1pm Philokalia Book Group	1 Protection of the Mother of God 10am-11:30am Divine Liturgy 3pm-4:30pm Adult Catechism 5pm-6pm Great Vespers

Events are subject to change. Please check the online calendar at stmaryorthodox.org/calendar for the most updated listings. Most services are streamed online on Zoom, YouTube, and StreamingChurch. Find the streaming links on the calendar, and the Zoom password on Realm.



ST. MARY ORTHODOX Church School 2022-2023

The new church school year begins following liturgy on Sunday, September 18, 2022. Who is teaching this year, and what kind of curriculum will be used?

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Ages: 3-5 years

Teachers: Jessica Oberlin and Betsy Berry

About: CGS is a training program designed in a Catholic context, using the Montessori method to expose children to theological concepts, the Liturgy and other services, and other elements of the faith in an experiential way. Jessica will be using a modified version appropriate for Orthodox religious education.

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Ages: 1st–3rd grade

Teachers: Nicole Fernandez and Ho Kim

About: Will use age-appropriate curriculum offered by the Orthodox Christian Education Commission. The total expense will be around \$20-\$30 per student. Lower Elementary will focus on three elements: “Use New Life in Jesus”, “Making Things Right”, and “New Life in the Church”

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Ages: 4th–5th grade

Teachers: Elaine Paap and Sara Chamma

About: Will use age-appropriate curriculum offered by the Orthodox Christian Education Commission. The total expense will be around \$20-\$30 per student. Upper Elementary will focus on three elements from OCEC: “Use Jesus”, “The Promise of God”, and “Our Life in the Church”

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Ages: 6th–8th grade

Teachers: Amy Browning-Dill and Maria Mitran

About: Middle School will use a hybrid curriculum developed largely by Renee and Jonathan in their prior teaching roles. It will include lessons from the OCA “Lives of the Saints” plus other planned discussions on the Old and New Testaments. We also hope to have speakers from the High School group or adults.

HIGH SCHOOL

Ages: 9th–12th grade

Teachers: Renee Lerner and Jonathan Jacobson

The High School curriculum will include Orthodox Christian foundations in the Fall, and comparative religions later in the year.

KEY DATES FOR PARENTS

Registration Opens: Sunday, August 7

Parish Picnic and Registration: Sunday, September 11

First Day of School: Sunday, September 18

St. Nicholas Retreat: Saturday, December 17

Christmas Pageant and Children’s Choir: Sunday, December 18

Lazarus Saturday Retreat: April 8, 2023

Palm Sunday and Children’s Choir: April 9, 2023

Last Day of School: Sunday, May 7, 2023

Church School Recognition: Sunday, May 21, 2023

Vacation Church School: late June/early July 2023

Upcoming Events

Join us in service, worship, learning, spiritual enrichment, and fellowship!



Festal Liturgy for the Nativity of the Theotokos

THURSDAY, SEPT 8 @ 7AM-8

The Nativity of the Theotokos marks the change of the times when the great and comforting promises of God for the salvation of the human race from slavery to the devil are about to be fulfilled.



Church Picnic & Ministry Fair

SUNDAY, SEPT 11 AFTER LITURGY

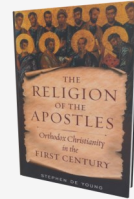
Join us for our annual church picnic to enjoy delicious grilled foods, learn about and join ministries, register children for Church School, and enjoy the last days of summer together.



NPF: Newly-Planted Fellowship

SATURDAY, SEPT 17 @ 6PM-7PM

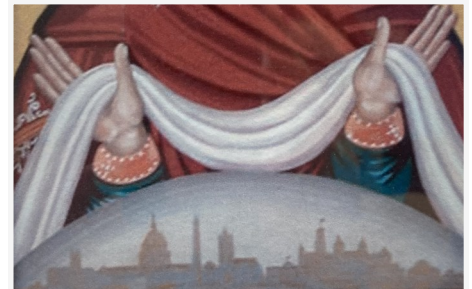
Young in the faith? Fr. David invites you to explore Orthodoxy and life over a potluck dinner on the second Saturday of each month. This is especially geared towards those who are exploring Orthodoxy, are in the catechumenate, are still relatively new to the faith, or if you're a cradle discovering the depths of the faith. RSVPs on Realm are appreciated! Contact Ken L. with any questions.



Adult Education Class Begins

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 14 AFTER VESPERS

Dive deeper into the mysteries of the faith! Wednesday Adult Education starts again this fall, continuing its read through *The Religion of the Apostles: Orthodox Christianity in the First Century* by Fr. Stephen De Young, picking up again at Chapter 7: *Atonement for the Whole World*. Join in person or online.



Parish Feast Day: Divine Liturgy for the Protection of the Mother of God

SATURDAY, OCT 1 @ 10AM-11:30AM

Celebrate the parish feast day with us! On the Feast of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos, we implore the defense and assistance of the Queen of Heaven.

Looking for New Members for Our Parish Connections Team

MINISTRY REPORT | ILEANA C.

The number of visitors to St. Mary's has continued to increase, which is great for the growth of our church. Our Connections Team is looking for new members to join our team, so we can continue to ensure that everyone who visits

our church receives first-class attention. Our team's greatest need currently is volunteers who can serve as greeters during Sunday liturgy. The more people who volunteer, the longer the rotation schedule becomes, making it easier for our team overall. Volunteers are also

able to pick the dates they want to serve, making this a very flexible volunteer opportunity. If you would like further information about our team, or would like to volunteer, please reach out to Ileana C. at imciobanu@yahoo.com or Anna C. at caraveli.anna3@gmail.com.✝



CHURCH MOUSE'S CORNER

Local Tradition and Color

Column | Katherine M.

Last month, I wrote about how liturgical rubrics specify only light and dark for the various services and seasons. There is another element that plays a role in which color is used and that is tradition and local custom.

Because the rubrics are so flexible, various regions for various reasons adopted different colors. For example, Theophany colors vary a lot regionally: gold (Russian), white (various including Russian and Greek), or blue (some Greek). Local custom also considers what the priest or bishop decree. The first time I changed the paraments for Theophany, I put out white, but Father said gold — so the gold went on.

In America, a number of our color traditions arose from the dominance of the Western Christian liturgical color usage. For many years, the only place Orthodox churches could purchase liturgical fabrics was from local Western Christian fabric suppliers. These companies only sold liturgical fabrics in solid colors like blue-purple or true bright green. Colors such as burgundy and coral were seldom, if ever used. Purple is so closely associated with Lent now, that if a burgundy parament set were to be used during Lent, people would be thrown off.

There is one color tradition that is universal across Orthodox jurisdictions and that is blue for the feasts of the Theotokos. While over time, our Catholic brethren started associating a sky blue with the Blessed Virgin, the Orthodox have kept to a muted blue to reflect the dark the rubrics specify. I read a stat that in 3/4s of her icons, her dress is blue. And though this is argued in the forums, this blue symbolizes her humanity.

But where did the idea of blue symbolizing her humanity come about? Blue is usually associated with divinity or royalty. I'll be honest, I can't find anything definitive (*cont'd on p.7*)

Parish Young Adults Enjoy Two August YAM Events

MINISTRY REPORT | JOSEPH J.

August was a fruitful month for St. Mary's Young Adult Ministry (YAM), with two different events on consecutive weekends.

The first event was a game night, which took place on August 20. Though we hold this favorite fellowship event regularly, we saw several newcomers, both to the event and to the parish. We shared a meal together, then split off into two groups, one of which carried on lively discussion on a variety of topics, from church history to modern events, and the other which carried on a rousing game of Catan, including both new players and veterans.

The second event was the ever-popular wine-and-paint event, on the afternoon of August 27. Guided by Amy D., attendees painted in acrylics a landscape of a sunset in Tuscany, Italy, with the town of San Gimignano in the background. The mood was enhanced by listening to 1950s music in Italian, while sipping red and white wines and sharing both snacks and conversation.

The event was summarized by one parishioner, who wrote: "The paint event is emblematic of the warmth of St. Mary's. There was much camaraderie, humor, laughter, and joy for the group painting a Tuscan sunset on canvas that can be proudly displayed at home. This event highlights what makes St. Mary's such a fun and active church of which to be a part." ✂



Dormition Fast Book Sale to Support Parish Library Growth

MINISTRY REPORT | ILEANA C.

Many thanks to all the parishioners at St. Mary's who took advantage of the Dormition Fast book, CD, and DVD sale, making the most recent sale yet another success. As a result of this "fast" two-week sale, the gift shop raised money that will help cover the increased costs the library has experienced this year with its massive growth. More books will be coming to the gift shop this fall, as another deep dive review of the library will take place to uncover even more duplicate discounted books that can be sold at the gift shop.

For those who would like to help pull those duplicate books from our library shelves, we will be having a Love Your Library Redux event on Saturday, October 15 at 9 am, where those books will be pulled for sale at the gift shop. All volunteers are welcome to stay for as long as they can that morning to help find duplicate books. If you plan on coming on October 15, please RSVP to Ileana C. at imciobanu@yahoo.com. ✂



Fr. Turbo Qualls to Speak as Doxacon Clergy Keynote

MINISTRY REPORT | DANIEL S.

The summer really flew by this year, and Doxacon is now only a few months away.

For our clergy keynote speaker this year, we are thrilled to host Fr. Turbo Qualls of St. Mary of Egypt Serbian Orthodox Church in Kansas City, Missouri, where he lives with his wife Juliana and eight children. Fr. Turbo is a retired tattoo artist who has also studied iconography under the contemporary master iconographer, Fr. Stamatis Skliris of Athens.

We felt that this combination perfectly encapsulated Doxacon's mission of bringing together the secular and religious in examining popular culture. Fr Turbo will be talking about the nature of evil and its influence in fandom and pop culture.

See the Doxacon website for more information on our upcoming speakers. Last month, we shared our excitement with you that our own Amy Browning-Dill will be speaking this year (on the redemption arcs of Gaius Baltar from *Battlestar Galactica* and Loki from the Disney+ series, if you didn't read it before), but there are a lot more speakers to check out as well.

If you haven't gotten your tickets yet, you can pick them up at doxacon.regfox.com/doxacon-2022. This year we're back in person, so we can enjoy one another's company up close and personal again! ✂



Can You Help Stocking the Supply Closet?

We could use an assistant to help keep our plates, toilet paper, utensils, etc. in good supply. We have someone leading the effort, but we could use a helper. If you're able to assist, please reach out to Maggie J. or Ellen R. on Realm for more details.

Thank you!

(*Color, cont'd*) indicating how blue became associated with humanity but there are some possibilities.

According to Dr. R. Jared Staudt, the color is specifically mentioned as the color of the people of Israel in the book of Numbers:

"Speak to the people of Israel, and bid them to make tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and to

put upon the tassel of each corner a cord of blue; and it shall be to you a tassel to look upon and remember all the commandments of the Lord, to do them, not to follow after your own heart and your own eyes, which you are inclined to go after wantonly."
—Numbers 15:38-39, (RSV)

This was perfectly lived out by the Theotokos who said in Luke 1:38, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord;

let it be to me according to your word." from her." (RSV). She was the faithful Daughter of Zion who fulfilled the call of obedience that God had asked of the Israelites. Another possibility is that the Theotokos has been compared to the Ark of the Covenant, which was covered with a blue cloth when transported from place to place. ✂

(Take Cover, cont'd) healing and forgiveness onto the world, but he also renews and restores our human nature in the image of its Creator. What was once a powerful witness to God's mercy and love, on the annual Day of Atonement in one place for one people, is now made available once and for all through the death and resurrection of our Savior, renewable daily through our participation in Him through the life of faith manifested in the Church and her sacraments and prayer life for and throughout all the world.

This is just the beginning of the topics we will cover in our adult education class starting September 14th, the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross (which, appropriately, the first time this was celebrated in Jerusalem in the 4th century coincided with the Day of Atonement.) We'll also consider topics such as the wrath of God, Christ as our Passover, Israel and the people of God, and the Torah. You may join us in person or on-line, and classes will be recorded as usual for asynchronous viewing. May God bless you! ✠

Starting the Church New Year on the Right Foot

REFLECTION | ILEANA C.

September 1 marks the start of the church new year, so why not make some church-specific resolutions this month? St. Mary's has many different active ministries and the more volunteers for each ministry, the more successful each ministry becomes. Please

consider volunteering for one or more ministries this coming church year, and see which ministries are the best fit for you and your God-given gifts. If you would like a refresher on all of St. Mary's ministries, please come by the Connections Center, where you can pick up our 2022 Parish Ministries Brochure,

which has the contact information for the lead of each ministry. If you need help further connecting, the Connections Center, a ministry that exists for both visitors and members, can facilitate introductions. Let the Connections Center help you start the church new year on the right foot! ✠

Join a Group or Ministry

Come join us in our ministry efforts, develop relationships, and enrich your life and the lives of others. Learn more about this year's groups, ministries, and activities on the website or the **2022 Parish Groups** brochure!



Send your writeups about parish events, offer your reflections and encouragement, or educate us on your special interest area in the faith. Keep journalism alive in our community!

To get involved, email the editor Sophia P. at UnderTheVeilOfHerProtection@gmail.com



THE Veil

The Official Newsletter of the Protection of the Holy Mother of God Orthodox Church
Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America, Orthodox Church in America (OCA)

Hierarch: Archbishop NATHANIEL of Detroit | **Parish Priest:** V. Rev. Dr. Fr. David G. Subu

Deacons: Protodn. Peter Danilchick, Dn. Nicholas Dujmovic | **Choir Director & Head Chanter:** Sdn. Nicholas Jones

Subdeacons: Sdn. Eugene Huang, Sdn. Nicholas Jones, Sdn. Bogdan Maxim | **Parish Council President:** Todd Sweet

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