



## St. George Melkite-Greek Catholic Church

1617 West State Street Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233-1246

*"An Eastern Church in communion with the Church of Rome"*

Rectory and Office: 414-342-1543  
The Rt. Rev. Paul G. Frechette, Pastor

Website: [byzantinemilwaukee.com](http://byzantinemilwaukee.com)  
Facebook: [fb.me/ByzantineMilwaukee](https://www.facebook.com/ByzantineMilwaukee)

**September 4, 2022 — Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**



*Icon of the Tenant Farmers (Matthew 21:33-42)*

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### Divine Liturgy

**Intention:** Health, peace and salvation of BILL Zahn (req. by Jan Taylor)

#### Hymns

**Troparion of the Resurrection (tone 4):**  
The Women disciples of the Lord heard from the Angels the joyful news of the resurrection, and casting away the ancestral sentence, they announced with pride to the Apostles: Death is vanquished, Christ God is risen! And has bestowed great mercy upon the world.

**St. George:** O Great among the saints and glorious martyr, George, since you are a deliverer of captives, a doctor for the sick and a noble attendant to kings, intercede

for us to Christ God, that he may save our souls!

**Kontakion of the Nativity of the Theotokos:** Through your holy birth, O Immaculate One, Joachim and Anne were delivered from the shame of childlessness, and Adam and Eve from the corruption of death. Your people, redeemed from the debt of their sins, cry out to you to honor your birth: "the barren one gives birth to the Mother of God the Sustainer of our life!"

**Prokimenon:** How great are your works, O Lord! in wisdom you have wrought them all.

*Stichon:* Bless the Lord, O my soul! You are very great indeed, O Lord my God!

**Apostolic Reading:** 1 Cor 16:13-24

Now, I beg you, brethren: you know that the members of Stephanas' family are the first-fruits of Achaia and have devoted themselves to the service of the saints. To such as these, you too become subject, and to every helper and worker. I rejoice at the presence of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because what was lacking on your part they have supplied — for they have refreshed both my spirit and yours. To such as these, therefore, give recognition.

The churches of Asia greet you. Acquila and Priscilla with the church at their house greet you heartily in the Lord. All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss.

I, Paul, greet you with my own hand. If any man does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you. My love is with all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen.

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**Alleluia:** String your bow, go forth, reign for the sake of truth, meekness and righteousness and your right hand shall lead you wonderfully.

*Stichon:* You loved righteousness and hated iniquity: therefore God, your God, anointed you with the oil of joy above your companions.

**Gospel:** The Wicked Tenants, MT 21:33-42

The Lord told this parable: "There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard, and put a hedge around it, and dug a wine vat in it, and built a tower; then he leased it to the vine-dressers, and went abroad. But when the fruit season drew near, he sent his servants to the vine-dressers to receive his fruits. And the vine-dressers seized his servants, and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again, he sent another party of servants more numerous than the first; and they did the same to these. Finally, he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But the vine-dressers, on seeing the son,

said among themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and we shall have his inheritance.' So, they seized him, cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. When, therefore, the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vine-dressers?" They said to him, "He will utterly destroy those evil men, and will lease the vineyard to other vine-dressers, who will render to him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures, 'The Stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone; by the Lord this has been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes.'"

### Upcoming Events

September 24<sup>th</sup> (10am–5pm) and 25<sup>th</sup> (12:15pm–5pm), **Doors Open Milwaukee** at St. George, free

Help give tour or simply greet visitors for as long as you're able. Even long-time parishioners might learn something by listening in on a tour or by taking a closer look of what is in the church! Contact Benjamin Neumann for more information.

September 25<sup>th</sup>, noon–1:30pm, **Middle Eastern Dinner**, \$15.00 standard dinner

Our tempting menu includes: kafta (beef, parsley, onion, spices) riz bi Djaaj (chicken, rice, spices), hummus and middle-eastern salad.

Your tempting sweet treats and savory items are needed for the bakery table! Syrian-Lebanese especially appreciated. Please include a note with a description of donated bakery item and suggested sale price (round dollars only). Just drop off your bakery at the table before Divine Liturgy that Sunday. See for Alison Sedlak or Gabrielle Diffenbaugh with questions or if you are able to help.

### Sunday School Signup

There will be a Sunday school sign up sheet in the church hall for the next few weeks. The plan is to begin classes Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Classes will end the last week of May.

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A schedule will be available soon with the days on which they will meet and breaks for feast days, holidays, etc.

### Stewardship

Owed to eparchy (assessment, retirement and medical insurance; last updated June 18, 2022): \$41,172.

Want to automate donations? One-time or monthly payments via **PayPal**: [byzantinemilwaukee.com/donate](https://byzantinemilwaukee.com/donate). Use your bank's **online billpay** (payee information): St. George's Syrian Congregation · 1617 W State St · Milwaukee, WI 53233-1246; phone: (414) 342-1543; email: [info@byzantinemilwaukee.com](mailto:info@byzantinemilwaukee.com).

### Prayer List

Please remember—All those who are sick and in need: Alice Herro\*, Nick Langenfeld, Barb Moden (sister of Jan Taylor), Eva Nora (niece of the Noras), Bob Peterson, Joe Radanovich, the Rebholz family, Eva Saseen (Theresa and Janelle Herro's niece), Jan Taylor, Kathy Tomaz, John Zambo and Kathy Zambo. For those we have been asked to pray for: Justin & Krysten Hager (Jan Taylor) and Carl Wallenmeyer (Jan Taylor). For those who have died: Fr. Philaret Littefield.

\* Please particularly remember Alice Herro who has been having health issues recently.

### Schedule for This Week

**Tuesday:** *Nativity of the Mother of God*  
**Friday:** *Ancestors of Christ Joachim and Ann*  
**Saturday:** *Saturday before the Holy Cross*  
**Sunday:** *Sunday before the Holy Cross*  
10:30am Divine Liturgy  
After Liturgy, Forty-day Memorial for Fr. Philaret

**Congratulations and Happy Birthday** to Kathy Solis (9/10). May God grant you many years!

### COVID-19

According to the Milwaukee Health Department, the best way to stop the community spread of COVID-19 is to take preventative action to protect yourself and others:

- Get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as you can ([city.milwaukee.gov/CovidVax](https://city.milwaukee.gov/CovidVax)). Vaccines are safe and readily available at walk-in clinics throughout the community for anyone over the age of six months old.
- Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth to help protect yourself and others, and stay at least 6 feet apart from others who don't live with you.
- Avoid crowds and poorly ventilated indoor spaces, and improve ventilation whenever possible.

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- Wash your hands often with soap and water. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water aren't available.

More information is available from the health department: [city.milwaukee.gov/coronavirus](https://city.milwaukee.gov/coronavirus)

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### **He Who is not With Me is Against Me**

When our Lord spoke in parables, He often used allegory familiar to His listeners. In today's Gospel reading, the vineyard represents Israel; the vineyard owner represents God; and, the managers (the tenants) of the vineyard represent the political and religious leaders of the time. Just as the responsibility of the vineyard managers was to produce a profit for the vineyard owner, so was it the responsibility of the religious leaders in the time of Jesus to bring God's people to fruitfulness in knowing, loving and serving God. But, they failed in this, just as the vineyard managers in the parable failed to bring a profit to the vineyard owner.

In response to this, the vineyard owner sent his servants to the vineyard, just as God sent the prophets into the world. However, like the prophets, the servants in

the parable were rejected, mistreated, ignored, even killed. Finally, the vineyard owner sent his son to reason with the managers, but they killed him out of jealousy. Jesus, too, was rejected and ultimately crucified at the hands of devious and jealous men.

Are we, at times, like the managers of the vineyard who rejected the Son? How often do we knowingly distance ourselves from God and His commandments? 'there is a pride in the human heart that urges us to take control of our own lives even if it means disobedience to all that we know to be right and true. Our Lord tells us that "he who is not for Me is against Me." (Matthew 12:30) When we act in such a way we really are no different from the tenant farmers in the parable.

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