

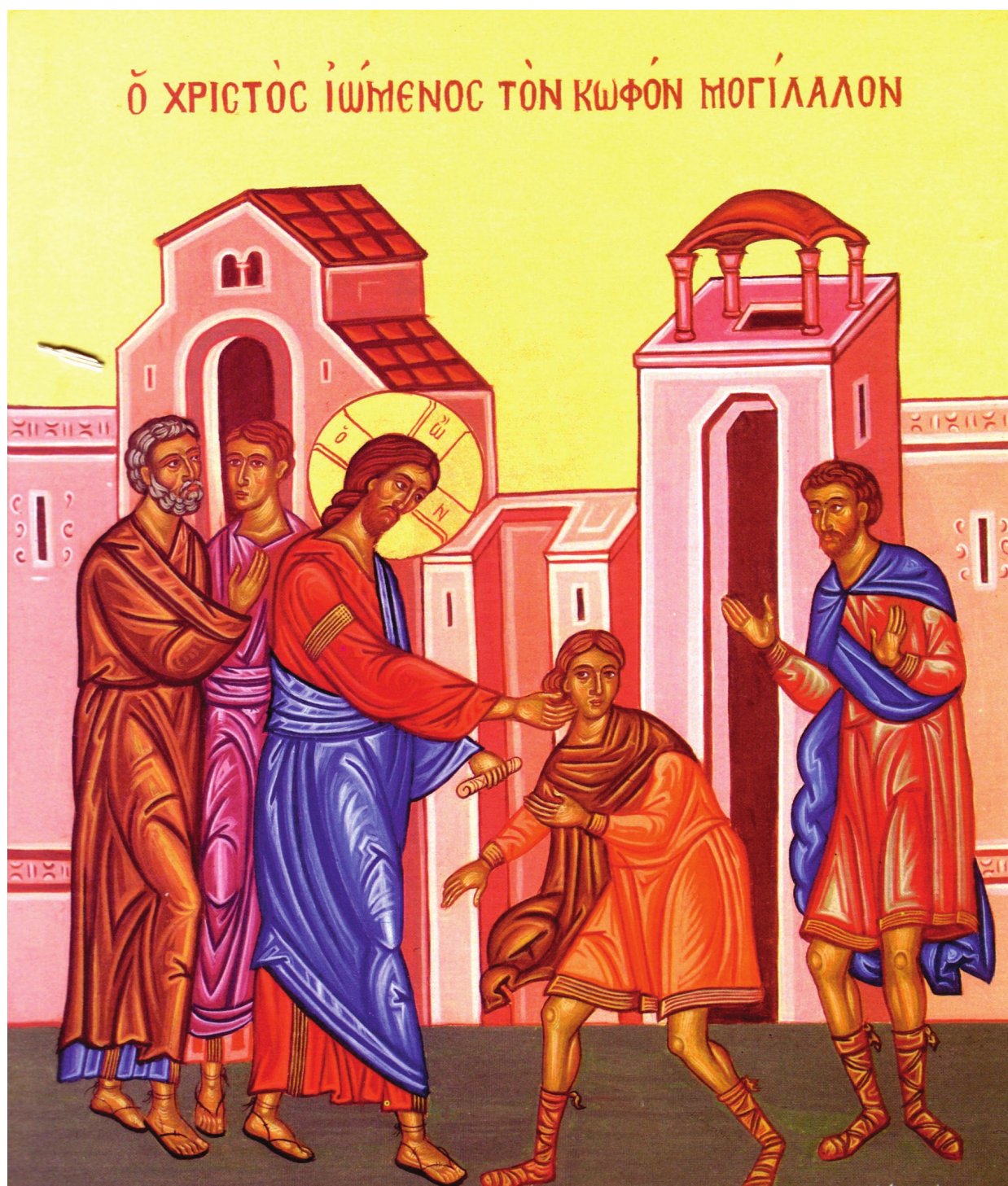


St. George Melkite-Greek Catholic Church
1617 West State Street Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233-1246
"An Eastern Church in communion with the Church of Rome"

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

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

March 19, 2023 — Sunday of St. John Climacus



Icon of the Healing of the Deaf Mute (Mark 9:17-31)

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Divine Liturgy

Intention: Health, peace and salvation of BARBARA Dintcheff (req. by Jan Taylor);
For Marilyn McPartland (req. by Eamon Doherty)

Hymns

Troparion of the Resurrection (tone 8): O Merciful One, Who came down from on high and endured burial for three days in order to save us from suffering. O our Life and our Resurrection, glory to you.

Troparion of St. John Climacus: Your abundant tears made the wilderness to sprout and bloom, and your deep sighings made your labors fruitful a hundredfold; you became a star shining over the world with miracles. Holy Father John, pray to Christ God that He may save our souls.

Troparion of 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!

Prokimenon: The Lord will give strength to his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace.

Stichon: Give to the Lord. You sons of God, give to the Lord glory and praise.

Apostolic Reading: Hebrews 6:13-20

Brethren, when God made his promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater to swear by, he swore by himself, saying, "I will surely bless you, and will surely multiply you (Gn.22: 14)." And so, after patient waiting, Abraham obtained the promise.

Kontakion of the Annunciation: Triumphant leader to you belongs our prize of victory! And since you saved us from adversity, we offer you our thanks. We are your people O Mother of God! So, as you have that invincible power, continue to deliver us from danger that we may cry out to you: Hail, O Virgin and bride ever pure.

Hirmos: In you, O full of grace, all creation rejoices, the orders of angels and the human race as well. O sanctified Temple, spiritual Paradise and glory of virgins from whom our God who exists before all eternity, took flesh and became a little Child. He has taken your womb as his throne making it more spacious than the heavens. Therefore O full of grace, in you all creation rejoices. Glory to you!

For men swear by one greater than themselves, and an oath given as a guarantee is the final settlement of all their disagreements. Hence God, meaning to show more abundantly to the heirs of the promise the firmness of his will interposed an oath, so

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that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to deceive, we may have the strongest comfort—we who have sought refuge in holding fast the hope set before us. This hope we have as a sure and

firm anchor of the soul, reaching even behind the veil where our forerunner Jesus has entered for us, as he became a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Alleluia: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High!

Stichon: To proclaim your kindness at dawn and your faithfulness throughout the night.

Gospel: “I have brought you my son possessed...”, Mark 9:17–31

At that time one of the crowds came to Jesus and bowed to him saying: “Master, I have brought to you my son, who has a dumb spirit; and whenever it seizes him it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth; and he is wasting away. And I told your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.” And he, answering him, said, “O unbelieving generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him to me.” And they brought him to him; and the spirit, when it saw Jesus, immediately threw the boy in convulsions, and he fell down on the ground and rolled about foaming at the mouth. So he asked his father, “How long is it since this has come upon him?” And he said, “From his infancy. Oftentimes, it has thrown him into the fire and into the waters to destroy him. But if you can do anything have compassion on us and help us.” But Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things are possible to the man of faith.” At once the father of the boy cried

out and said with tears, “I do believe; help my unbelief.” Now when Jesus saw that a crowd was rapidly gathering, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, go out of him and enter him no more.” And crying out and violently convulsing him, it went out of him, and he became like one dead, so that many said, “He is dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand, and raised him and he stood up. And when he had come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” And he said to them, “This kind can be cast out in no way except by prayer and fasting.” And leaving that place, they were passing through Galilee, and he did not wish anyone to know it. For he was teaching his disciples, and saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and having been killed, he will rise again on the third day.”

Palm Sunday Breakfast

Sunday, April 2nd, noon-1:30pm

Adults: \$12; Children (under 12): \$6

Pancakes, Eggs, Ham, Fresh Fruit, Juice, Coffee, Pastries and More

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Stewardship

Last Sunday: donations=\$1,043.02; candles=\$4.00; ordinary collections=\$464.00.
Thanks for your generosity!

Owed to eparchy (assessment, retirement and medical insurance; last updated January 29, 2023): \$37,136.

Want to automate donations? One-time or monthly payments via **PayPal**: 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.

Earthquake Relief: Second Collection

It has been customary for us during Great Lent to offer an opportunity for charitable giving through the eparchial Shepherd's Care. This year, all money donated through Shepherd's Care will be given for earthquake relief.

There will be a second collection on March 26th. Donations can also be made directly to the eparchy by check or credit card: <https://melkite.org/eparchy/bishops-appeal-for-the-syria-relief-fund>

Prayer List

Please remember—All those who are sick and in need: 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). For those who have died: Alice Herro, Carl Wallenmeyer (Jan Taylor) and George Baho. For all those living and deceased who have suffered in the recent earthquakes.

Schedule for This Week

Wednesday: 6pm Great Compline

Friday: 6pm Divine Liturgy

Thursday: *Thursday of Repentance*

Friday: *Preparation for the Annunciation*
6pm Divine Liturgy

Saturday: *Annunciation of the Mother of God*

Sunday: *Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt*
10:30am Divine Liturgy

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:

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- Get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as you can (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.
- 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

Healer of Infirmities

The deaf-mute, of whose marvelous cure by our Lord we have heard, represents those members of the human race who merit being freed by divine grace from the error brought on by the devil's deceit. Man became deaf, unable to hear the word of life after, puffed up as he was against God, he listened to the serpent's deadly words; he was made mute and unable to declare the praises of his Maker from the time when he presumed to have a conversation with his seducer. Rightly did God close man's ears from hearing the praises of his Creator along with the angels those ears which the unsuspected enemy by his speech had opened to hearing denunciation of this same Creator. Rightly did God close man's mouth from proclaiming the praises of his Creator along with the angels that mouth which the proud deceiver had filled with his lies about the forbidden food, in order, as the devil said, to improve

upon the work of this same Creator. And alas, the unfortunate rebellion of the human race, which sprouted in a corrupt manner at the root, began to spread in a much more corrupt way in shoots from the branches, so that when our Lord came in the flesh, with the exception of a few of the faithful from among the Jews, almost the entire world, now deaf and mute, was wandering away from recognition and confession of the truth. But where sin abounded, grace abounded all the more. Our Lord came to the Sea of Galilee, where He knew that there was a disabled person whom He would heal. He came by his benevolent grace to the proud, disordered, and inconstant hearts of the nations, since He knew that among them were some who would be receptive to His grace.

St. Bede the Venerable

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PO Box 3909 – Fairfax, VA 22038-3909
www.ecbulletin.com – Ph: 703-691-8862 – Fax: 703-691-0513