



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)

August 13, 2023 — Leave-taking of the Feast of the Transfiguration



Icon of the Dormition of the Theotokos (August 15th)

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Divine Liturgy

Intention: Happy and eternal repose of the soul of LUCILE Malay (req. by Jan Taylor)

Hymns

Troparion of the Resurrection (tone 2): When you descended to death, O Immortal Life, You destroyed Hades by the splendor of your Divinity, and when you raised the dead from under the ground, all the Powers of heaven cried out: O Christ our God, the giver of life, glory to you.

Troparion of the Transfiguration: You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ God showing your disciples as much of your glory as they could hold. Let your eternal light shine also upon us sinners, through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Giver of light, glory to You.

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!

Kontakion of the Transfiguration: On the Mountain, You were transfigured, O Christ God; and Your disciples saw as much of Your glory as they could hold, so that when they should see You crucified they would know that You suffered willingly and would proclaim to the world that You are verily the Splendor of the Father.

Hirmos of the Transfiguration: You gave birth without stain, for it was God incarnate in the flesh who came forth from your womb. He was seen on earth and conversed with men. Wherefore, O Mother of God, we all exalt you.

Kinonikon of the Transfiguration: Lord, we shall walk in the light of the glory of your Countenance forever. Alleluia!

Prokimenon: My strength and my courage is the Lord, and He has been my Savior.

Stichon: The Lord has chastised me through His teaching, yet He has not delivered me to death.

Apostolic Reading: Corinthians 9:2-12

BRETHREN, you are the seal set upon my apostleship in the Lord. My defense against those who question me is this: Have we not a right to eat and to drink?

Have we not a right to take around with us a sister woman, as do the other apostles, and the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who

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have not the right of exemption from manual labor? What soldier ever serves at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat of its fruit? Who tends the flock and does not drink of the flock's milk? Do I speak these things on human authority? Or does not the Law also say these things? For it is written in the Law of Moses. Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treads out the grain. Is God concerned about the oxen, or does he say this simply

for our sakes? These things were written for us. For he who plows should plow in hope, and he who threshes. in the expectation of partaking of the fruit. If we have sown for you spiritual things, is such an affair if we reap from your material things? If others share in this right over you. why should it not rather go to us? Yet, we have not used this right, but we bear all our expenses. lest we be a hindrance to Christ's Good News.

Alleluia: The Lord shall hear you on the day of distress: the name of the God of Jacob shall defend you.

Stichon: O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.

Gospel: "The Unforgiving Servant" Matthew 18:23–35

The Lord told this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who desired to settle accounts with his servants. And when he had begun the settlement, one was brought to him who owed him millions. And as he had no means of paying, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all he had, and payment to be made. But the servant fell down and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me and I will pay you all.' And moved with compassion, the master of that servant released him, and forgave him the debt. But as that servant went out, he met one of his fellow-servants who owed him a small amount, and he laid hold of him and throttled him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' His fellow-servant therefore fell down and began to entreat

him, saying, have patience with me and I will pay you all.' But he would not; but went away and threw him into prison until he would pay what was due. His fellow-servants therefore, seeing what had happened, were very much saddened, and they went and informed their master of what had taken place. Then his master called him, and said to him, 'Wicked servant, I forgave you all the debt, because you begged me. Should not you also have had pity on your fellow-servant, even as I had pity on you?' And his master, being angry, handed him over to the torturers until he would pay all that was due to him. So also, my heavenly Father will do to you, if you do not each forgive your brothers from your hearts."

Stewardship

Last Sunday: candles=\$15.00; ordinary collections=\$,1460.00. Thanks for your generosity!

Owed to eparchy (assessment, retirement and medical insurance; last updated April 23, 2023): \$37,386.

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Want to automate donations? One-time or monthly payments via **PayPal**: [byzantinemilwaukee.com/donate](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https://www.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.

Prayer List

Please remember—All those who are sick and in need: Barb Moden (sister of Jan Taylor), Eva Nora (niece of the Noras), Joe Radanovich, the Rebholz family, Eva Saseen (Theresa and Janelle Herro's niece), Dan Sylvester (neighbor of Benjamin Neumann), Jan Taylor, Kathy Tomaz, Espe Villasensor, John Zambo and Kathy Zambo. For those we have been asked to pray for: Justin & Krysten Hager (Jan Taylor).

Schedule for This Week

Tuesday: *The Dormition of the Theotokos*
6pm Divine Liturgy

Sunday: *Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost*
10:30am Divine Liturgy

Congratulations and Happy Birthday to Benedict Roxas (8/14) and Charlie McShane (8/16). May God grant you many years!

Feast of the Dormition

Troparion: In giving birth you have preserved your virginity and in falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Mother of God. You have passed to life being the Mother of Life. Through your intercession, save our souls from death.

Kontakion: Neither death nor the tomb could hold the Mother of God, our watchful Protectress and our unfailing hope. Since she is the Mother of Life. Christ who dwelt in her ever-virginal womb lifted her up to the eternal life.

Apostolic Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel: Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28

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://www.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://www.city.milwaukee.gov/coronavirus)

Falling Asleep, You Have Not Forsaken the World

At the time of her death, so it is believed, the Mother of God was living in the house of St. John on Mount Zion. 'The Twelve were preaching the Gospel in different parts of the world. But so that they might see the Virgin once again before her death, all of them except Thomas were carried miraculously on clouds to the Holy City. Besides the Twelve, the Apostle Paul, together with the bishops Dionysios the Areopagite, Hierotheos, and Timothy, were also present at her bedside. As they stood round her, the Holy Virgin commended her spirit into the keeping of her Son and God. He Himself descended from heaven and took her soul up with Him in His arms. Led by Peter, the apostles sang funeral hymns in her honor, and carried her body down to the valley of Cedron, close to Gethsemane, where she laid in a

tomb specially prepared for her. The Jews tried to interrupt the funeral procession, one of them even attempting to upset the bier. His hands were cut off by an angel, but he was subsequently healed. Thomas arrived on the third day after the burial. Since he was anxious to look for a last time on the Theotokos, the apostles opened the tomb — and found it empty.

Without insisting on the literal truth of every element in this account, Eastern tradition is clear and unwavering in regard to the central point: the Holy Virgin underwent, as did her Son, a physical death, but her body — like His — was afterwards raised from the dead and she was taken up into heaven, in her body as well as in her soul.

Bishop Kallistos of Diocletia

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