



## 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)

**August 27, 2023 — Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**



*Icon of the Beheading of Saint John the Forerunner (August 29)*

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### Divine Liturgy

#### 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.

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

**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

BRETHREN, watch, stand fast in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let everything you do be done out of love.

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.

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, celebrate your birth crying out to you: "the barren one gives birth to the Mother of God the Sustainer of our life!"

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” Matthew 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 23<sup>rd</sup> (10am–5pm) and 24<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.

### Stewardship

Last Sunday: ordinary collections=\$1,634.00; donations=\$98.17. Thanks for your generosity!

Owed to eparchy (assessment, retirement and medical insurance; last updated August 20, 2023): \$\$25,902.93.

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).

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### 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:** *Beheading of St. John the Forerunner*  
**Thursday:** *Deposition of the Cincture of the Theotokos in Calcoprateia*  
**Friday:** *Ecclesiastical New Year*  
**Sunday:** *Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost*  
10:30am Divine Liturgy



**Congratulations and Happy Birthday** to Said Audi (8/29) and Robin Roxas (9/2). 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.
- 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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### The Passion of John the Forerunner

Today while the virtue of John and the ferocity of Herod are related to us, our inwards were shaken, our hearts trembled, our sight grew dim, our mind became dull, our hearing deserted us. For is there anything within human sensation that remains undisturbed when a large amount of vice destroys a large amount of virtue?

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Herod, it says, apprehended John, and had him bound, and put in prison (Mt 14:3). John was the school of the virtues, the instructor of life, the model of sanctity, the pattern of morality, the mirror of virginity, the epitome of purity, the example of chastity, the way of penitence, the pardon of sins, the discipline of faith. John was greater than a human being, equal to the angels, the apex of the Law, the seed of the Gospel, the harbinger of the Apostles, the silence of the prophets, the lamp of the world, the herald of the Judge, the forerunner of Christ, the preparer for the Lord, the witness of God, the mediator of the whole Trinity.

But Herod is the very one who desecrated the Temple, ruined the priesthood, disturbed its proper order, profaned the kingdom, corrupted anything that had to do with religion, the Law, life and morals, faith, and discipline. Herod was ever an assassin toward his fellow citizens, a brigand toward people of any distinction, a ravager toward his allies, a robber toward those of his own household, a killer of the common folk, a murderer of his children, a slayer of foreigners, a murderer towards his own, drenching the land with gore in his bloodthirstiness. And, so it is that he gulped down the hallowed blood of John from his enormous cup of cruelty.

*St. Peter Chryologous*

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