

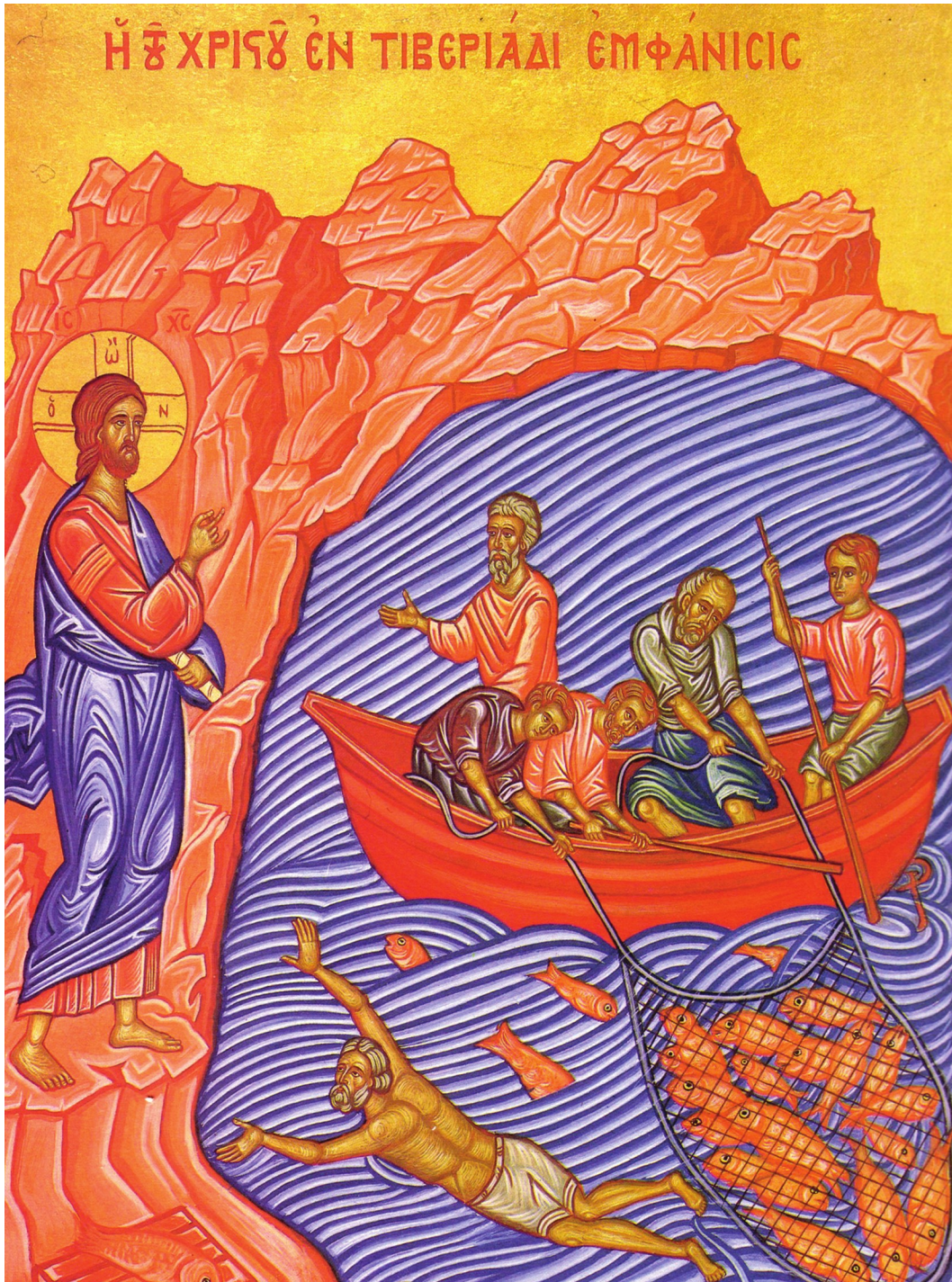


St. George Melkite-Greek Catholic Church
1617 West State Street Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233-1246
"An Eastern Church in communion with the Church of Rome"

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

Website: byzantinemilwaukee.com
Facebook: fb.me/ByzantineMilwaukee

September 24, 2023 — First Sunday after the Holy Cross



Icon of the Catch of Fish

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Divine Liturgy

Intention: Health, peace and salvation of BARBARA Moden (req. by Jan Taylor)

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. 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: O never failing Protectress of Christians and their ever-present intercessor before the Creator, despise not the petitions of us sinners, but in your goodness extend your help to us who call upon you with confidence. Hasten, O Mother of God, to intercede for us, for you have always protected those who honor you.

Prokimenon: Make vows to the Lord your God and fulfill them: let all round about Him bring gifts to the awesome Lord!

Stichon: God is renowned in Judah; in Israel, great is his name.

Apostolic Reading: 2 Cor 6:16-18, 7:1

Brethren, you are the temple of the living God, as God says, I will be their God and they shall be my people. Wherefore, come out from among them, be separated, says the Lord, and touch not an unclean thing; and I will welcome you in, and will be a

Father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord almighty.

Having therefore these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of the body and of the spirit, perfecting sanctity in the fear of God.

Alleluia: Come; let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us sing joyfully to God our Savior!

Stichon: Let us greet His presence with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to Him.

Gospel: Miraculous Catch, Luke 5:1-11

At that time Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret. And he saw two boats moored by the lake, but the fishermen had left them and were washing their nets.

And getting into one of the boats, the one that was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And sitting down, he began to teach the crowds from the boat.

September 24, 2023 — First Sunday after the Holy Cross

But when he had stopped speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep, and lower your nets for a catch." And Simon answered and said to him, "Master, the whole night through we have toiled and have taken nothing; but at your word I will lower the net." And when they had done so, they caught a great number of fishes, but their net was breaking. And they called to their comrades in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that

they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw this, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord," For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish they had made; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you shall catch men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left all and followed him.

After Liturgy Today: Doors Open

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=\$294.00; donations=\$55.00. Thanks for your generosity!

Owed to eparchy (assessment, retirement and medical insurance; last updated August 20, 2023): \$25,903.

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.

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). For those who have died: the Very Rev. Maxim Hancher (father of Krystia Nora).

Schedule for This Week

- Tuesday:** *Rest of John the Theologian*
- Friday:** *Apostle Thomas*
- Sunday:** *Second Sunday after the Holy Cross*
10:30am Divine Liturgy

September 24, 2023 — First Sunday after the Holy Cross

Congratulations and Happy Birthday to Jerry Nora (9/24). 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). 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

Christ Continues to Catch People

He told Simon and his companions to sail off a little from the land and to let down the net for a draught. But they replied that they had been toiling the whole night and had caught nothing. However, in the name of Christ, they let down the net, and immediately it was full of fish. By a visible sign and by a miraculous type and representation, they were fully convinced that their labor would be rewarded, and the zeal displayed in spreading out the net of the gospel teaching would be fruitful. Within this net they should most certainly catch the shoals of the heathen. But note that neither Simon nor his companions could draw the net to land. Speechless from fright and astonishment for their wonder had made them mute, they beck-

oned to their partners, to those who shared their labors in fishing, to come and help them in securing their prey. For many have taken part with the Holy Apostles in their labors, and still do so, especially those who inquire into the meaning of what is written in the holy Gospels. Yet besides them there are also others: the pastors and teachers and rulers of the people, who are skilled in the doctrines of truth. For the net is still being drawn, while Christ fills it, and calls to conversion those who, according to the Scripture phrase, are in the depths of the sea, that is to say, those who live in the surge and waves of worldly things.

Saint Cyril of Alexandria

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Text and cover-icon courtesy of Eastern Christian Bulletin Service
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