



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

August 4, 2024 — Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost



Icon of the Unforgiving Servant (Matthew 18:23-35)

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Divine Liturgy

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 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 our 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.

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: 1 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 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. (Dt.25:4) 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 you 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.

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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, Mt 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=\$17.00; donations=\$97.19; ordinary collections=\$1223.00. Thanks for your generosity!

Owed to eparchy (assessment, retirement and medical insurance; last updated May 5, 2024): \$18,504.57.

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: M.J. Harden and Ken Schmidt (sister and brother-in-law of Brian Harden), Barb Moden (sister of Jan Taylor), Eva Nora (niece of the Noras), Sandy Rabuse (godmother of Katerina Lessard), the Rebholz family, Eva Saseen (Theresa and Janelle Herro's niece), Jan Taylor, Kathy Tomaz and

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John Zambo. For those we have been asked to pray for: Justin & Krysten Hager (Jan Taylor). For the people of the Middle East.

Schedule for This Week

Tuesday: *Transfiguration of Our Lord*

6pm Divine Liturgy

Sunday: *Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost*

10:30am Divine Liturgy

The Transfiguration

Entrance Hymn: Come Tabor and Hermon shall rejoice in your name. O Son of God, Who were transfigured on mount Tabor, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Troparion: 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 prayer of the Mother of God, O Giver of light, glory to You.

Kontakion: 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 prayer of the Mother of God, O Giver of light, glory to You.

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

Epistle: 2 Peter 1:10-19

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

Coming Up

August 14th Dormition of the Mother of God
6pm, Divine Liturgy

September 28th and 29th: Doors Open Milwaukee

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 vaccinated and boosted when you are eligible, wear a mask in public spaces, wash your hands often and practice physical distancing.

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

How Often Shall I Forgive?

When Peter asked Him whether he should forgive his brother sinning against him up to seven times, the Lord replied, “Not up to seven times but up to seventy times

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seven times.’ In every way He teaches us to be like Him in humility and goodness. In weakening and breaking the impulses of our rampant passions He strengthens us by the example of His leniency, by granting us in faith pardon of all our sins. For the vices of our nature did not merit pardon. Therefore, all pardon comes from Him. In fact, He pardons even those sins that remain in one after confession.

The penalty to be paid through Cain was established at sevenfold, but that sin was against a man, against his brother Abel, to the point of murder. But with Lamech the penalty was established at seventy times seven times, and, as we believe, the penalty was established on those responsible for the Lord’s Passion. But the Lord through the confession of believers grants pardon for this crime. By the gift of bap-

tism He grants the grace of salvation to His revilers and persecutors. How much more is it necessary, He shows, that pardon be returned by us without measure or number. And we should not think how many times we forgive, but we should cease to be angry with those who sin against us, as often as the occasion for anger exists. Pardon’s frequency shows us that in our case there is never a time for anger, since God pardons us for all sins in their entirety by His gift rather than by our merit. Nor should we be excused from the requirement of giving pardon that number of times (i.e., seventy times seven), since through the grace of the gospel God has granted us pardon without measure.

St. Hilary of Poitiers

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