



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)

September 22, 2024 — First Sunday after the Holy Cross



Icon of the Call of the Apostles

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Divine Liturgy

Hymns

Troparion of the Resurrection (tone 1): While the stone was sealed by the Jews and soldiers were watching your sacred body, You rose, O Savior, on the third day, giving life to the world. Wherefore, O Giver of life, the powers of heaven cried out: Glory to your resurrection, O Christ. Glory to your kingdom, glory to your Plan of redemption, O You who alone are the Lover of mankind.

Troparion of St. George: O Great among the saints and glorious martyr, George,

Prokimenon: May your kindness, O Lord, be upon us, for we have hoped in you.
Stichon: Exult, you just, in the Lord; praise from the upright is fitting.

Apostolic Reading: 2 COR 9:6-12

BRETHREN, he who sows sparingly, will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Let everyone give as much as he has decided in his heart, not grudgingly or out of compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (Prv.22: 8) And God is able to make all grace abound in you, so that always having ample means, you may abound in every good work, as it is written, He has scattered abroad and has given to the

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.

poor: His righteousness remains forever. (Ps. 111: 9)

Now, He who provides the Sower with seed will both give you bread to eat and multiply your seed, and will increase the growth of the fruits of your justification — that being enriched in all things, you may contribute with simplicity of purpose, and thus through us evoke thanksgiving to God.

Alleluia: O God, You granted me retribution and made peoples subject to me and saved me from my raging enemies.

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Stichon: Therefore, I will proclaim You, O Lord, among the nations, and I will sing praise to Your name

Gospel: Miraculous Catch, Lk 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. 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.

Stewardship

Last Sunday: candles=\$5.00; stole offerings=\$10.00; ordinary collections=\$309.00.
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 John Zambo. For those we have been asked to pray for: Justin & Krysten Hager (Jan Taylor). For those who have died: Monica Zambo. For the people of the Middle East.

Schedule for This Week

Monday: *Conception of the Forerunner*

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Thursday: *The Repose of John, Apostle and Theologian*
Saturday: 10am–5pm Doors Open Milwaukee
Sunday: *Second Sunday after the Holy Cross*
10:30am Divine Liturgy
After Liturgy-5pm Doors Open Milwaukee

Doors Open Milwaukee

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.

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

Lower Your Net

Can you imagine the look on Peter's face when he realized how many fish were in his net? No wonder he dropped to his knees! He realized that he was in the presence of someone totally "other," someone he felt compelled to call "Lord" (Luke 5:8). From that moment on, Peter's life was changed. Now he was going to fish with a spiritual net, catching men and women for the Lord.

Jesus is still calling his disciples to lower their nets for a catch. But practically speaking, what does lowering our nets look like? First and foremost, it means acting and speaking in such a way that we shine the light of Christ into others lives.

Picture yourself carrying a big, invisible fishing net beside you and asking the Lord to sweep as many people as possible into

it. Remember, He is the One who does all the catching. Your part is to let your net down by practicing the kind of actions and behaviors that will attract people to Him. In other words, you are the "bait" that can draw others into the kingdom. As people see the light of Christ in you, they will be drawn toward it, so that Jesus can sweep them into the large net of God's kingdom.

Peter was fairly skeptical when Jesus first asked him to let down his nets. "The best response he could conjure up was something along the lines of: "Pm just doing this because you asked me to." And look how miraculously Jesus worked! So even if you feel like you have been "fishing" for a long time with few results, go ahead and throw that net out one more time today. You may just be amazed at the results!

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