



**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://fb.me/ByzantineMilwaukee)

**February 23, 2025 — Meatfare Sunday**



*Icon of the Last Judgment*

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### Divine Liturgy

**Intention:** Health, peace and salvation of MARY JO Zachow (req. by Jan Taylor)

#### Hymns

**Troparion of the Resurrection (tone 7):**  
Through your Cross You destroyed death,  
You opened Paradise to the thief, and  
turned into joy the mourning of the ointment bearing women, and You ordered your Apostles to proclaim that You rose, O Christ God, Bestowing 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 doc-

tor for the sick and a noble attendant to kings, intercede for us to Christ God, that he may save our souls!

**Kontakion of Meatfare:** O God, when You shall come down upon earth in your glory, every creature shall tremble before You. A river of fire shall flow before your judgment-seat, the books shall be opened and all secrets revealed. On that day, O Just Judge, deliver me from eternal fire and make me worthy to stand at your right!

**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 Cor 8:8-13; 9:1-2

Brethren, food does not commend us to God. For neither shall we gain any advantage if we eat, nor suffer any loss if we do not. And yet, beware lest perhaps this right of yours become a stumbling-block to the weak. For if a man sees you who "have knowledge" sitting at table in a place dedicated to idols, will not his conscience, weak as it is, be emboldened to eat idol offerings? And through your "knowledge" the weak one will perish, the brother for whom Christ died. Now, when

you sin in this way against the brethren and wound their weak conscience, you are sinning against Christ. Therefore, if food scandalizes my brother, I will never again eat any more meat so as not to scandalize my brother.

Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? And if to others I am not an apostle, yet to you I am. For you are the seal set upon my apostleship in the Lord.

**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.

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**Gospel:** "When the Son of Man comes to His glory", Mt 25:31-46

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### Stewardship

Last Sunday: donations=\$292.15; stole offerings=\$10.00; candles=\$11.00; ordinary collections=\$459.00. Thanks for your generosity!

Owed to eparchy (assessment, retirement and medical insurance; last updated January 12, 2025): \$25,828.49.

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).

### Prayer List

Please remember—All those who are sick and in need: Barb Moden (sister of Jan Taylor), 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 the people of the Middle East.

### Schedule for This Week

**Tuesday:** *First and Second Discoveries of the Head of the Forerunner*

**Saturday:** *Saturday of Our God-Bearing Fathers the Ascetics*

**Sunday:** *Cheesefare Sunday*

10:30am Divine Liturgy

After Liturgy: Dairy potluck

**Congratulations and Happy Birthday** to . May God grant you many years!

### Coming Up

- Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>: Start of Great Lent
- March 10<sup>th</sup>: Start of Daylight Saving Time

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### **Practical Suggestions for Fasting**

Fasting, like prayer, is something we can grow into. If you are not accustomed to fasting, it can be helpful to begin at one level and deepen your practice as you grow in your life in Christ. The following plan might be helpful.

**Beginning level:** On Wednesdays and Fridays do not eat any meat and offer a brief prayer several times throughout the day. During the fasting seasons of Great Lent and the Dormition Fast, attend at least one Lenten Service each week. Before the Presanctified Liturgy during Great Lent, do not eat anything for several hours.

**A deeper level:** In addition to the above, on fast days, do not eat anything before noon and no meat thereafter. Keep additional fast days during the fasting seasons. During Great Lent, in addition to avoiding meat on Wednesdays and Fridays, also avoid dairy products. Attend two Lenten Services weekly and perform some act of charity each day.

**A further level:** In addition to the above, keep each day in the fasting seasons as a fast day. Attend all the Divine Services during the fasting seasons. Replace entertainments such as TV, movies, shopping, etc. with prayer, spiritual reading and acts of charity.

### **Winter Weather**

Please take care with winter weather. Even if services are not canceled, only come if it is safe for you to travel.

### **The Twofold Coming of Christ**

We do not preach only one coming of Christ, but a second as well, much more glorious than the first. The first coming was marked by patience; the second will bring the crown of a divine kingdom.

In general, whatever relates to our Lord Jesus Christ has two aspects. There is a birth from God before the ages, and a birth from a virgin at the fullness of time. There is a hidden coming, like that of rain on fleece, and a coming before all eyes, still in the future.

At the first coming He was wrapped in swaddling clothes in a manger. At His sec-

ond coming He will be clothed in light as in a garment. In the first coming He endured the cross, despising the shame; in the second coming He will be in glory, escorted by an army of angels.

We look then beyond the first coming and await the second. At the first coming we said: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. At the second we shall say it again; we shall go out with the angels to meet the Lord and cry out in adoration: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

*St. Cyril of Jerusalem*

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