



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

May 25, 2025 — Sunday of the Man Born Blind



Icon of the Gospel of the Man Born Blind

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Divine Liturgy

Hymns

Troparion of the Resurrection (tone 5):
Let us O Faithful, praise and worship the
Word coeternal with the Father and the
Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation.

For He has willed to be lifted in the flesh
upon the Cross, and to endure death, and
to raise the dead by his glorious Resurrec-
tion.

Troparion of Pascha: Christ is risen from
the dead and by His death He has tram-
pled upon death; and has given life to
those who were in the tomb.

Christos anesti ek nekron thanato thana-
ton patissas; kai tis en tis mnimassis zoin
charisamenos. (Greek)

Al Meseehu qam im bainil amwat wa wati
al mawt a bil mawat; Wa wahhab el hayat
li ladeena fil kubur. (Arabic)

Troparion of St. John the Forerunner: O
prophet and forerunner, Christ has re-
vealed to us your head as divine treasure

concealed in the earth. Assembled for this
discovery we praise Christ with hymns in-
spired of God. Through your intercessions
He saves us from corruption. Glory be to
the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy
Spirit

Kontakion: Though You went down in the
tomb, O immortal One, You overthrew the
power of Hades and rose victorious, O
Christ God. You greeted the ointment
bearing women, saying "Rejoice!" You
gave peace to Your apostles, and to those
who had Fallen resurrection.

Hirmos: The angel cried out to the one
who is full of grace: "Hail, O Immaculate
Virgin! Hail, again! For your Son is risen
from the tomb on the third day!" Shine,
shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of
the Lord has shone upon you. Rejoice and
be glad, O Sion; and you, O Pure One, O
Mother of God, exult in the resurrection of
your Son!

Prokimenon: O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance!

Stichon: To you, O Lord, I have called: O my Rock, be not deaf to me!

Apostolic Reading: 2 Cor 4:6-15

Gospel: Jn 9:1-38

Paschal Greeting

The Paschal greeting is a custom among Eastern Christians, consisting of a greeting and response. Instead of "hello" or its equivalent, one is to greet another person with "Christ is risen!" The response is "He is truly risen!" This greeting is used during liturgical ser-

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vices and informally at other times, starting with the feast of Pascha and lasting until Ascension, the period known as Paschaltide:

English	Christ is risen! He is truly risen!
Greek	Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!
Arabic	Al-Maseehu Qam! Haqqan Qam!
Church Slavonic	Hristos voskrese! Voistinu voskrese!

Stewardship

Last Sunday: candles=\$7.00; donations=\$50.00; ordinary collections=\$283.00. 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. 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.

Palm Sunday Brunch

Thank you to the Syrian-Lebanese Club, who donated \$500 to underwrite the Palm Sunday Brunch!

Women's Support Centers

The Women's Support Center extends their appreciation for the Lenten donations and invites us to Mass for their benefactors, June 9th, 9pm, St. Mary's Visitation in Elm Grove. Light refreshments to follow.

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), Geraldine Spankowski, Kathy Tomaz and John Zambo. For those who have died: Francis, Pope of Rome. For the people of the Middle East.

Schedule for This Week

Wednesday: *Leavtaking of Pascha*

6pm Vesperal Liturgy for the Ascension

Thursday: *THE ASCENSION*

Sunday: *Sunday of the Fathers*

10:30am Divine Liturgy

Congratulations and Happy Birthday to Marcelino Roxas (5/28) and Jack McShane (5/31). May God grant you many years!

The Ascension

Troparion: You ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Your disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Through Your blessing they were confirmed in their belief that You are the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.

Kontakion: After fulfilling for us Your plan of redemption and joining the things of earth with those of heaven, O Christ our God, You gloriously ascended without abandoning us, but remained with us forever and reassured all who love You by telling them: "Behold, I am with you: no one has power against you."

A Link to Baptism

The cure of the blind man also symbolizes mankind's means for its recovery from its blindness. It symbolizes the Sacrament of Baptism. Baptism is called holy enlightenment. Those who have been recently baptized are called the newly enlightened. This gospel from Saint John was read in the ancient Church on Holy Saturday when Catechumens were baptized. As this man is cured of his blindness when he washes in the waters of the pool of Siloam, as Jesus tells him to do, so are we brought out of darkness into a new life when we are baptized as Christ instructed us to be. Jesus restores His creation, mankind, with the potential to become what it was meant to be before the fall of Adam.

We also hear in the reading that after this man was cured many of those who knew him before did not recognize him. He is

still the same man but something has significantly changed about him. He is no longer blind. So when we are illuminated we are also new persons, though our outward appearance might be the same. To symbolize this newness a white garment is put on us to show the purity with which we start this new existence. We must, however, become different and unrecognizable in our inward and outward actions also. We must manifest our new existence to those around us through these actions. We must radiate this new found light to others by the way we live our lives. We must say to the world, "I am he who was blind but now my eyes are opened. Credit must be given to Him who has cured us of our darkness by living our lives according to the lessons of the illumination we have received and the continued guidance we get with the reception of the Holy Spirit.

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