



**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)

**June 29, 2025 — Saints Peter and Paul**



*Icon of Saints Peter and Paul*

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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 the Apostles:** Peter and Paul, higher in rank than any other apostle, doctors of the world, intercede with the Master of All that He may give peace to the world and great mercy to us all.

**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:** The heavens declare God's glory and the firmament proclaims the work of his hands.

*Stichon:* The Lord has chastised me through His teaching, yet He has not delivered me to death.

**Apostolic Reading:** 2 Cor 11:21-33; 12:1-9

**Gospel:** Mt 16:13-19

### **Stewardship**

Last Sunday: candles=\$17.00; ordinary collections=\$227.00. 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](http://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

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(Theresa and Janelle Herro's niece), Geri Spankowski, Kathy Tomaz and John Zambo.  
For the people of the Middle East.

## Schedule for This Week

**Monday:** *Synaxis of the Twelves Apostles*

**Tuesday:** *Wonderworkers Cosmas and Damian*

**Wednesday:** *Deposition of the Mantle of the Mother of God at Blachernae*

**Sunday:** Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
10:30am Divine Liturgy

**Congratulations and Happy Birthday** to Ralph Audi (7/5). May God grant you many years!

## The Illustrious and Pre-Eminent Apostles Peter and Paul

The New Testament clearly shows Peter as the leader of the Apostles, chosen by Jesus to have a special relationship with him. With James and John he was privileged to witness the Transfiguration, the raising of a dead child to life and the agony in Gethsemane. His mother-in-law was cured by Jesus. He was sent with John to prepare for the last Passover before Jesus' death. His name is first on every list of apostles. But the Gospels prove their own veracity by the unflattering details they include about Peter. He clearly had no public relations person. It is a great comfort for ordinary mortals to know that Peter also has his human weakness, even in the presence of Jesus. After Jesus' Ascension, Peter presided in Jerusalem, was bishop of Antioch, and finally presided over the Church in Rome where on the Vatican Hill he was martyred, head downwards according to tradition, in the Circus of Nero.

Paul had been the most Pharisaic of Pharisees, the most legalistic of Mosaic lawyers. Following his

conversion, he suddenly appears to other Jews as a heretical welcomer of Gentiles, a traitor and apostate. Paul's central conviction was simple and absolute: Only God can save humanity. No human effort — even the most scrupulous observance of law — can create a human good which we can bring to God as reparation for sin and payment for grace. 'To be saved from itself, from sin, from the devil and from death, humanity must open itself completely to the saving power of Jesus. Paul never lost his love for his Jewish brothers and sisters, though he carried on a lifelong debate with them about the uselessness of the Law without Christ. He reminded the Gentiles that they were grafted on the parent stock of the Jews, who were still God's chosen people, the children of the promise. According to tradition, Paul was beheaded in Rome near the Ostian Way where the church of Tre Fontane now stands.

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