



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

October 5, 2025 — Second Sunday after the Holy Cross



Icon of the Holy Apostle Thomas -- October 6th

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Divine Liturgy

Hymns

Troparion of the Resurrection (tone 8): O Merciful One, Who came down from on high and endured burial for three days in order to save us from suffering. O our Life and our Resurrection, 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: 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 Lord has chastised me through his teaching, yet he has not delivered me to death.

Stichon: Exult, you just, in the Lord; praise from the upright is fitting.

Apostolic Reading: 2 Cor 6:16-18; 7:1

Gospel: Love your Enemies, Lk 6:31-36

Stewardship

Last Sunday: fundraising=\$1924.00; candles=\$5.00; donations=\$312.00; ordinary collections=\$452.00. 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.

Donate with PayPal



Middle-Eastern Dinner and Doors Open Thank You

Thank you to every-one who helped make the Middle-Eastern Dinner a success!

Thank you also to everyone who helped with the tours during Doors Open this past weekend. We welcomed **59 visitors on Saturday** and **49 on Sunday (afternoon only)**.

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This was 35 more people than last year! It was a wonderful opportunity to share our beautiful church and its history with the community.

Prayer List

Please remember—All those who are sick and in need: Edin Najera, Natalie Herder, Walter Lourdes Najera Herder (family of Katerina Lessard), Barb Moden (sister of Jan Taylor), Sandy Rabuse (godmother of Katerina Lessard), the Rebholz family, Eva Saseen (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: *Apostle Thomas*

Thursday: *Apostle James, Son of Alpheus*

Sunday *Sunday of the Fathers of the Second Council of Nicea*
10:30am Divine Liturgy

St. Thomas the Apostle

Poor Thomas! He made one remark and has been branded as “Doubting Thomas” ever since. But if he doubted, he also believed. He made what is certainly the most explicit statement of faith in the New Testament: “My Lord and My God!” (see John 20:24-28) and, in so expressing his faith, gave Christians a prayer that will be said till the end of time. He also occasioned a compliment from Jesus to all later Christians: “Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed” (John 20:29). Thomas should be equally well known for his courage. Perhaps what he said was impetuous — since he ran, like the rest, at the showdown but he can scarcely have been insincere when he expressed his willingness to die with Jesus. The occasion was when Jesus proposed to go to Bethany after Lazarus had died.

Since Bethany was near Jerusalem, this meant walking into the very midst of His enemies and to almost certain death. Realizing this, Thomas said to the other apostles, “Let us also go to die with him” (John 11:16b).

Thomas shares the lot of Peter the impetuous, James and John, the “sons of thunder,” Philip and his foolish request to see the Father indeed all the apostles in their weakness and lack of understanding. We must not exaggerate these facts, however, for Christ did not pick worthless men. But their human weakness again points up the fact that holiness is a gift of God, not a human creation; it is given to ordinary men and women with weaknesses; it is God who gradually transforms the weaknesses into the image of Christ, the courageous, trusting and loving one.

Text and cover-icon courtesy of Eastern Christian Bulletin Service

PO Box 3909 – Fairfax, VA 22038-3909

www.ecbulletin.com – Ph: 703-691-8862 – Fax: 703-691-0513