

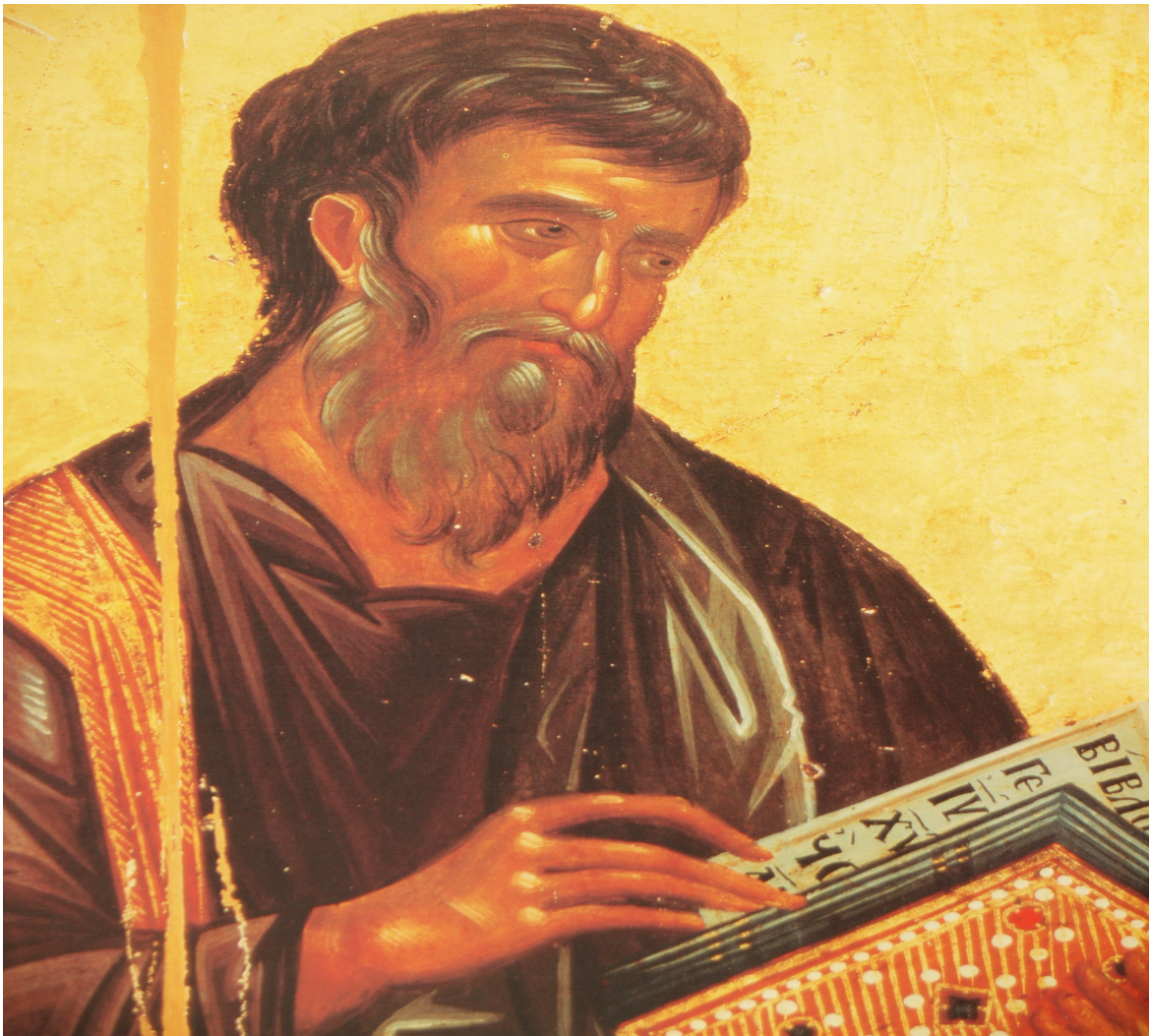


St. George Melkite-Greek Catholic Church
1617 West State Street Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233-1246
"An Eastern Church in communion with the Church of Rome"

Rectory and Office: 414-342-1543
The Rt. Rev. Paul G. Frechette, Pastor

Website: byzantinemilwaukee.com
Facebook: fb.me/ByzantineMilwaukee

November 16, 2025 — St. Matthew



Icon of St. Matthew

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Divine Liturgy

Hymns

Troparion of the Resurrection (tone 6):

The angelic powers appeared at your tomb, and the guards became as dead men, and Mary stood by the Sepulcher seeking your spotless Body. You despoiled Hades and yet were not tempted by it, You met the Virgin O Bestower of Life. O Lord who rose from the dead glory to you.

Troparion of the Holy Apostle Matthew:

O Holy Apostle Matthew the Evangelist, intercede with God all-merciful that He may grant us the remission of our sins.

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

since you are a deliverer of captives and a defender of the poor, a doctor for the sick and a noble attendant to kings, intercede for us to Christ God, that he may save our souls!

Kontakion of the Presentation of our Lady to the Temple:

The most pure Temple of our Holy Savior, and the most precious and bright bridal chamber, the Virgin, sacred treasury of the glory of God, openly appears today into the temple of the Lord, bringing with her the grace of the most Holy Spirit. Wherefore the angels of God are singing: "This is the heavenly tabernacle!"

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: 1 Cor 4:9-16

Gospel: Calling of St. Matthew, Mt 9:9-13

Winter Weather

Please take care with winter weather. Even if services are not canceled, only come if it is safe for you to travel. We are still making arrangements to find a new snow-removal service, so please be attentive and cautious.

Sophia

A new issue of *SOPHIA* has been published. Check your mailbox or read it online: melkite.org/sophia-journal. There are articles pertaining to the Pastoral Appeal, the Bishop's Visit to Rome, remembering Fr. Joe Haggar, and more.

Stewardship

Last Sunday: candles=\$6.00; donations=\$350.00; ordinary collections=\$743.00. Thanks for your generosity!

Donate with PayPal



November 16, 2025 — St. Matthew

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.

Pastoral Appeal (Formerly the Bishop's Appeal)

The annual Pastoral Appeal helps fund the vital works of the Melkites in the United States, such as: publishing SOPHIA magazine; supporting our seminarians for the Priesthood and Diaconate; providing for our elderly priests; teaching the Faith to our children and young adults; establishing/supporting new missions and outreaches.

Additional information is available on the tables in the back. Donations can also be made online: Melkite.org/Appeal

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 those who have died: Dennis Newman (uncle of Benjamin Neumann). For the people of the Middle East.

Schedule for this Week

Thursday: *Preparation for the Feast of the Entrance*

Friday: *ENTRANCE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD INTO THE TEMPLE*

Sunday *Ninth Sunday after the Holy Cross*

10:30am Divine Liturgy

The Presentation of the Theotokos

Troparion: Today is the prelude of the benevolence of God, and the announcement of the salvation of men. In the Temple of God the Virgin is seen openly, foretelling to all the coming of Christ. Wherefore let us cry to her in a loud voice, "Hail! O fulfillment of the Creator's plan!"

Hirmos: The angels were stunned as they beheld the most pure one coming in, and they said: "O wonder! The Virgin enters into the Holy of Holies!" O Mother of God, you are the precious Ark of God: no profane hand may touch you. But the lips of the faithful will never cease to sing your praise, repeating with joy the angel's words: "O pure Virgin, you are indeed raised above all creatures!"

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.

I Will Pay You

And so our sins become greater, and not only from this but also from the benefits and honor which we enjoy from them. If you want to learn how our sins against God are like ten thousand talents, or more in fact, and even much more, I will try to show you briefly. But I fear, lest to those who are inclined to wickedness and love continually to sin, should appear to provide them with still greater security; or that I might drive the meeker sort to despair, and that they should repeat the despairing question of the disciples: "Who then can be saved?"

... But nevertheless I will continue on in the hope that I may make those who pay attention more secure and more amenable. For those who suffer an incurable disease and feel no pain are untouched by these words and do not change from their natural wickedness and inertia. And even if in the future they derive from my words greater occasion for contempt, that should be attributed not to this kind of argument but to their own insensibility. What I will

say ought to be able to arouse them if only they attend to it and let it prick their hearts.

And so it is necessary that I speak. In speaking of our sins, I will distinguish between those we commit against God and against other persons. I will set forth not each person's own but what are common. But then I will ask individuals to add their own sins according to an examination of their conscience. I will do this, having first set forth the good deeds of God to us. What then are God's good deeds? He created us from nothing; he made the whole visible world for us, the heaven, the sea, the earth, animals, plants and seeds.... He gave us a helpmate and set us over all the brute species, and He crowned us with glory and honor.

And yet after all this, when humanity turned out ungrateful toward its benefactor, He thought us worthy of an even greater gift forgiveness.

St. John Chrysostom

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