

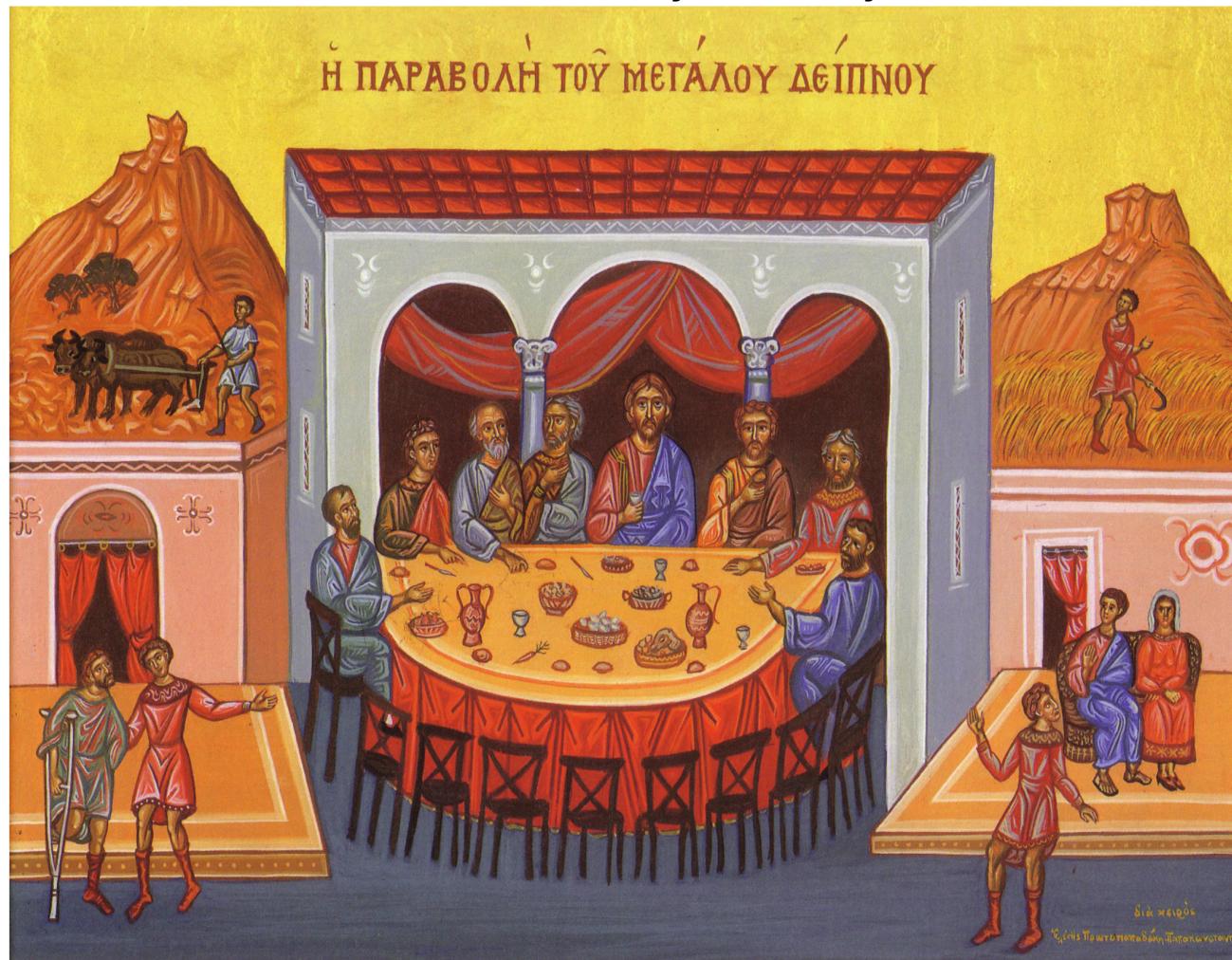


Rectory and Office: 414-342-1543  
The Rt. Rev. Paul G. Frechette, Pastor

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

Website: [byzantinemilwaukee.com](http://byzantinemilwaukee.com)  
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**December 14, 2025 — Sunday of the Holy Ancestors**



*Icon of the Great Banquet (Luke 14:16-24)*

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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 Forefathers:** Through faith, You have justified Your Ancestors, O Christ our God, and through them You have espoused in advance the Church set apart from the Gentiles. The saints rejoice in glory because, from the seed of these Ancestors, has come forth the glorious fruit, who gave You birth without seed. Through their intercession, O Christ God, save our souls

**Prokimenon:** Blessed are You, O Lord, God of our fathers, and Your name is worthy of praise and glorious forever.

**Stichon:** For You are just in all You have done to us, and all Your works are true and Your ways right.

**Apostolic Reading:** Col 3:4-11

**Gospel:** Great Banquet, Lk 14:16-24

## Winter Weather

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

## Stewardship

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

*Donate with PayPal*



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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).

#### *Annual Donation Letters*

Donation letters for tax purposes will be sent in January. Please contact Benjamin with any questions.

#### *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](http://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), Abbot Nicholas (Holy Resurrection Monastery), 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**

**Saturday:** *Saturday before the Nativity*

**Sunday** *Sunday before the Nativity*

10:30am Divine Liturgy

**Congratulations and Happy Birthday** to Solanus Roxas (12/15). May God grant you many years!

#### **Coming Up**

December 24<sup>th</sup>: 6pm, Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil for the Nativity

December 25<sup>th</sup>: 10:30am, Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom for the Nativity

January 6<sup>th</sup>: 6pm, Service with the Great Blessing of the Water for the Theophany (bring a container if you'd like to bring any home)

#### **Invited to the Banquet**

It is written in the Gospel: The Master sent out his servants to call them who wish to come, inviting them: "My banquet is ready." But those who were called began to excuse themselves, one saying: "I bought some yoke of oxen." Another: "I

have married" (Luke 14:16ff). You see, he was ready who called, but the invited refused. 'They themselves were alone responsible in the way they answered. Thus, so great is the dignity of Christians. Consider, the Lord has prepared for them

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the Kingdom and has called them to enter, but they have refused.

Concerning the gift that Christians will receive by way of their inheritance, one could rightly say that if anyone, from the time of Adam's creation to the end of the world, should battle against Satan and put up with afflictions, it would be nothing in

comparison to the glory which he is to obtain. For he will reign forever together with Christ. Glory to Him who so loved such a person that He gave himself and His grace and entrusted himself to Him. Glory to His greatness!

*Pseudo-Macarius*

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