



## 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

Website: [byzantinemilwaukee.com](http://byzantinemilwaukee.com)

The Rt. Rev. Paul G. Frechette, Pastor Facebook: [fb.me/ByzantineMilwaukee](https://www.facebook.com/ByzantineMilwaukee)

**March 8, 2026 — Sunday of the Holy Cross**



*Icon of the Sunday of the Holy Cross*

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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 Cross:** O Lord, save Your people and bless Your inheritance. Strengthen our public authorities in every good deed and protect Your nation by the power of Your Cross.

**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 Annunciation:** Triumphant leader to you belongs our prize of victory! And since you saved us from

**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:** Heb 4:4-14; 5:1-6

**Gospel:** Deny Yourself, Take Up Your Cross and Follow Me,, Mk 8:34-9:1-1

adversity, we offer you, our thanks. We are your people O mother of God! So, as you have that invincible power, continue to deliver us from danger that we may cry out to you Hail, O Virgin and bride ever pure.

**Anti-Trisagion:** We bow in worship before Your Cross, O Master, and we give praise to Your Holy Resurrection.

**Hirmos:** In you, O full of grace, all creation exults, the hierarchy of angels together with the race of men: in you, sanctified Temple, spiritual Paradise, Glory of virgins of whom God took flesh from whom our God who exists before the world, became a child! For He has made your womb his throne, making it more spacious than the heavens. In you, O Woman full of grace, all creation exults: glory to you!

**Kinonikon:** Let the light of your countenance shine upon us, O Lord, Alleluia.

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## Stewardship

Last Sunday: donations=\$142.14; candles=\$16.00; ordinary collections=\$523.00. 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](https://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).

Donate with PayPal



## Prayer List

Please remember—All those who are sick and in need: Natalie Herder, Walter Lourdes Najera Herder (family of Katerina Lessard), Nick Lagendfield, Barb Moden (sister of Jan Taylor), Edin Najera, 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: Rose Ernst (aunt of Benjamin Neumann). For the people of the Middle East.

## Schedule for this Week

**Tuesday**     *Forty Martyrs of Sebastea*  
**Wednesday**     6pm Pre-Sanctified Liturgy  
**Friday**     6pm Compline & Akathist  
**Sunday**     *Sunday of St. John Climacus*  
                 10:30am Divine Liturgy

### *Forty Martyrs of Sebastea*

Excerpt from [melkite.org/faith/sunday-scriptures/forty-holy-martyrs-of-sebaste-march-9](https://melkite.org/faith/sunday-scriptures/forty-holy-martyrs-of-sebaste-march-9)

The Forty Holy Martyrs are remembered for their steadfastness in trial. They came to be seen as personifying the words of Christ in the Gospel, "He who shall endure to the end will be saved" (Matthew 24:13). Their endurance earned them remembrance in our liturgical services. In the mystery of Crowning bride and groom are blessed with these words: "Remember them, O Lord our God, as you remembered Your Holy Forty Martyrs, sending down upon them crowns from heaven." The martyrs' faithfulness to Christ was rewarded; the couple's fidelity can expect a like reward.

As models of endurance the Forty Martyrs are the only saints commemorated on a weekday during the Great Fast, encouraging us to endure whatever hardships we may experience in this season.



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“O martyrs of Christ, you have made the holy Fast resplendent by your glorious deeds. Being forty in number, you hallowed the forty days of the Fast, imitating the redeeming Passion through your sufferings for Christ. Since you have boldness, intercede that we may celebrate in peace the third-day Resurrection of the God and Savior of our souls!” (Sticheron from Orthros)

### Coming Up

- March 20<sup>th</sup> 6pm Final Akathist, followed by Potluck  
March 21<sup>st</sup> *Saturday of the Akathist Hymn*  
March 25<sup>th</sup> *The Annunciation of the Mother of God*  
6pm Divine Liturgy for the Annunciation  
March 28<sup>th</sup> *Lazarus Saturday*  
TBD Hall Preparation for Brunch  
March 29<sup>th</sup> *Palm Sunday*  
After Liturgy, Pancake Brunch  
April 5<sup>th</sup> *PASCHA*

### The Cross, Our Victory

Have you seen the wonderful victory? Have you seen the splendid deeds of the Cross? ... Who can tell the Lord's mighty deeds? By death we were made immortal: these are the glorious deeds of the Cross.

Have you understood the victory? grasped how it was wrought? Learn now, how this victory was gained without any sweat or toil of ours. No weapons of ours were stained with blood; our feet did not stand in the front line of battle; we suffered no wounds; witnessed no tumults; and yet we obtained the victory.

The battle was the Lord's, the crown is ours. Since then victory is ours, let us imitate the soldiers, and with joyful voices sing the songs of victory.

Let us praise the Lord and say, “Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting?”

The Cross did all these wonderful things for us: the Cross is a war memorial erected against the demons, a sword against sin, the sword with which Christ slew the serpent.

The Cross is the Father's will, the glory of the Only-begotten, the Spirit's exultation, the beauty of the angels, the guardian of the Church. Paul glories in the Cross; it is the rampart of the saints, it is the light of the whole world.

*St. John Chrysostom*

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