



## 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)

**May 10, 2026 — Sunday of the Man Born Blind**



*Icon of the Gospel of the Man Born Blind*

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### Divine Liturgy

#### Hymns

**Troparion of the Resurrection (tone 5):**  
Let us O Faithful, praise and worship the Word coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He has willed to be lifted in the flesh upon the Cross, and to endure death, and to raise the dead by his glorious Resurrection.

**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:** Though You went down in the tomb, O immortal One, You overthrew the power of Hades and rose victorious, O Christ God. You greeted the ointment bearing women, saying "Rejoice!" You gave peace to Your apostles, and to those who had Fallen resurrection.

**Prokimenon:** You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation.

*Stichon:* Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any holy man, for truthfulness has vanished from among the children of men.

**Apostolic Reading:** Acts 16:16-34

**Gospel:** Jn 9:1-38

**Hirmos:** The angel cried out to the one who is full of grace: "Hail, O Immaculate Virgin! Hail, again! For your Son is risen from the tomb on the third day!" Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has shone upon you. Rejoice and be glad, O Sion; and you, O Pure One, O Mother of God, exult in the resurrection of your Son!

**Kinonikon:** Receive the Body of Christ and taste the Source of Immortality.

**Troparion of Pascha:** Christ is risen from the dead and by His death He has trampled upon death; and has given life to those who were in the tomb.

Christos anesti ek nekron thanato thanaton patissas; kai tis en tis mnimassis zoin charisamenos. (Greek)

Al Meseehu qam im bainil amwat wa wati al mawt a bil mawat; Wa wahhab el hayat li ladeena fil kubur. (Arabic)

### Stewardship

Last Sunday: candles=\$13.00; ordinary collections=\$445.00.

Thanks for your generosity!

Donate with PayPal



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Owed to eparchy (assessment, retirement and medical insurance; last updated May 3, 2026): \$67,287.19.

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).

## 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), Ken Schmitt (brother-in-law of Brian Harden), Geri Spankowski and Kathy Tomaz. For those who have died: Michael Lessard (uncle of Tyler Lessard). For the people of the Middle East.

## Schedule for this Week

**Wednesday:** *Leave-Taking of Pascha*

**6pm Vespers Liturgy for the Ascension**

**Thursday:** *THE ASCENSION*

**Sunday** *Sunday of the Fathers*

10:30am Divine Liturgy

## *The Ascension*

### Hymns

**Troparion:** You ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Your disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Through Your blessing they were confirmed in their belief that You are the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.

**Kontakion:** After fulfilling for us Your plan of redemption and joining the things of earth with those of heaven, O Christ our God, You gloriously ascended without abandoning us, but remained with us forever and reassured all who love You by

telling them: "Behold, I am with you: no one has power against you."

**Hirmos:** O you who have given birth in time to the One whom no limit of time can hold, and who thus have become the Mother of God in a manner beyond understanding and beyond words: we the faithful magnify you in unison.

**Kinonikon:** God ascended amid shouts of joy, the Lord amid trumpet blasts. Alleluia!

**Prokimenon:** Be exalted above the heavens, O God; above all the earth be Your glory!

*Stichon:* My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast! I will sing and chant praise.

**Apostolic Reading:** Acts 1:1-12

**Gospel:** Luke 24:36-53

## Paschal Greeting

The Paschal greeting is a custom among Eastern Christians, consisting of a greeting and response. Instead of “hello” or its equivalent, one is to greet another person with “Christ is risen!” The response is “He is truly risen!” This greeting is used during liturgical services and informally at other times, starting with the feast of Pascha and lasting until Ascension, the period known as Paschaltide:

English	Christ is risen! He is truly risen!
Greek	Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!
Arabic	Al-Maseehu Qam! Haqqan Qam!
Church Slavonic	Hristos voskrese! Voistinu voskrese!

## A Link to Baptism

The cure of the blind man also symbolizes mankind’s means for its recovery from its blindness. It symbolizes the Sacrament of Baptism. Baptism is called holy enlightenment. Those who have been recently baptized are called the newly enlightened. This gospel from Saint John was read in the ancient Church on Holy Saturday when Catechumens were baptized. As this man is cured of his blindness when he washes in the waters of the pool of Siloam, as Jesus tells him to do, so are we brought out of darkness into a new life when we are baptized as Christ instructed us to be. Jesus restores His creation, mankind, with the potential to become what it was meant to be before the fall of Adam.

We also hear in the reading that after this man was cured many of those who knew him before did not recognize him. He is

still the same man but something has significantly changed about him. He is no longer blind. So when we are illuminated we are also new persons, though our outward appearance might be the same. To symbolize this newness a white garment is put on us to show the purity with which we start this new existence. We must, however, become different and unrecognizable in our inward and outward actions also. We must manifest our new existence to those around us through these actions. We must radiate this new found light to others by the way we live our lives. We must say to the world, “I am he who was blind but now my eyes are opened. Credit must be given to Him who has cured us of our darkness by living our lives according to the lessons of the illumination we have received and the continued guidance we get with the reception of the Holy Spirit.

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