



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

September 13, 2026 — Sunday before the Holy Cross



Icon of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross -- September 14th

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After Liturgy Today: Memorial for Antoinette Rofa (1-year)

Divine Liturgy

Hymns

Troparion of the Resurrection (tone 7): Through your Cross You destroyed death, You opened Paradise to the thief, and turned into joy the mourning of the ointment bearing women, and You ordered your Apostles to proclaim that You rose, O Christ God, Bestowing great mercy upon the world.

Troparion of the Preparation: We offer you, O Lord, as a means of intercession, the life-giving Cross, a sign of your bounty you have given us in spite of our unworthiness, save our country and your people who offer you their supplications through your Mother, O You who alone are the Lover of Mankind!

Troparion of the Dedication: As You had shown from on high the splendor of the firmament, so did You show on earth the

splendor of the dwelling-place of your holy glory. Make it stand firm for ever and ever, and accept the supplications which we offer there to You, unceasingly, through your Mother, O You the Life and Resurrection of all!

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 Dedication: You have made of the Church a resplendent heaven, enlightening all the faithful: wherefore we stand in the midst of this holy dwelling-place and cry out to you: "Make firm this house, O Lord!"

Prokimenon: The Lord will give strength to his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace.

Stichon: Give to the Lord. You sons of God, give to the Lord glory and praise.

Apostolic Reading: Gal 6:11-18

Gospel: Jn 3:13-17

Prayer List

Please remember—All those who are sick and in need: Natalie Herder, Walter Lourdes Najera Herder (family of Katerina Lessard), Kevin Kenney (Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis for the Latins), Nick Legendfield, Barb Moden (sister of Jan Taylor),

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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. For those who have died: Jannet Gotz (aunt of Benjamin Neumann). For the people of the Middle East.

Schedule for this Week

Monday *EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS*
Saturday *Saturday after the Holy Cross*
Sunday *Sunday after the Holy Cross*
 10:30am Divine Liturgy

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Troparion: 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.

Kontakion: O Christ God, who chose by Your free volition to be elevated upon the holy cross, grant Your mercies to Your new people who are called by Your name. In Your power gladden the hearts of our public authorities. Strengthen them in every good deed so that Your true alliance may be for them a weapon of peace and a standard of victory.

Coming Up

September 26th and 27th: Doors Open Milwaukee

September 27th: Middle Eastern Dinner

Middle Eastern Dinner

Sunday, September 27th

Noon–1:30pm

ALL DINNERS \$20

Our tempting menu includes:

- Riz OUZI bi Djaaj (chicken, rice with ground beef, spices)
- Sfiha-flat bread with ground beef, parsley, tomatoes, spices
- Flat bread with Zaatar – oregano, thyme, sesame seeds, olive oil
- Hummus
- Middle Eastern Salad



Facebook event

<https://www.facebook.com/events/2123937431842489/>

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Also for sale: mouth-watering Arabic Sweets, Turkish coffee, Pita bread, cookies; Byzantine icons and Religious articles; & our parish cookbook.

Doors Open

Saturday, September 26th, 10am–5pm

Sunday, September 27th, noon–5pm

Help give tour or simply greet visitors for as long as you're able. Even long-time parishioners might learn something by listening in on a tour or by taking a closer look of what is in the church! Contact Benjamin Neumann for more information.



Stewardship

Last Sunday: . Thanks for your generosity!

Owed to eparchy (assessment, retirement and medical insurance; last updated August 9, 2026): \$54,612.89.

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.

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Drawing All to Himself

O the marvelous power of the cross, the glory of the passion! No tongue can fully describe it. Here we see the judgment seat of the Lord, here sentence is passed upon the world, and here the sovereignty of the Crucified is revealed.

You drew all things to Yourself, Lord, when You stretched out Your hands all the day long to a people that denied and opposed You, until at last the whole world was brought to proclaim Your majesty. You drew all things to Yourself, Lord, when all the elements combined to pronounce judgment in denouncement of that crime; when the lights of heaven were darkened and the day was turned into night; when the land was shaken by unwonted earthquakes, and all creation refused to serve those wicked people. Yes,

Lord, you drew all things to Yourself. The veil of the temple was torn in two and the Holy of Holies taken away from those unworthy high priests. Figures gave way to reality, prophecy to manifestation, law to gospel. You drew all things to Yourself in order that the worship of the whole human race could be celebrated everywhere in a sacramental form which would openly fulfill what had been enacted by means of veiled symbols in that single Jewish temple. Now that the multiplicity of animal sacrifices has ceased, the single offering of your body and blood takes the place of that diversity of victims, since you are the true Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, and in Yourself you fulfill all the rites of the old law, so that as there is now a single sacrifice in place of

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all those victims, so there is a single kingdom formed of all the peoples of the earth

St. Leo the Great

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