

St. George Melkite-Greek Catholic Church

1617 West State Street Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233-1246

"An Eastern Church in communion with the Church of Rome"

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February 17, 2019 — Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Intention: Private

Troparia:

1. *Resurrection (tone 6)*, p. 76
2. *St. George*, p. 24
3. Kontakion of the Prodigal Son: In my foolish wretchedness I ran away from your glory, and I squandered wickedly the riches You have given me. And so now, like the Prodigal Son, I cry out to You: I have sinned in your sight, Merciful Father, receive me now that I repent and make me as one of your hired servants.

Prokeimenon: May Your kindness, O Lord, be upon us / for we have hoped in You.

Epistle: 1 Cor 6:12-20 (Today: Benjamin Newman. Next Sunday: Maya Audi)

Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

Ushers: Mark Spankowski, Said Audi (Next Sunday: Joseph Wahhab, Mark Spankowski)

Stewardship

Last Sunday: bookstore=\$1; candles=\$20; ordinary collections=\$555; donations=\$360. Thanks for your generosity!

January cashflow report: Posted on the hall bulletin board.

Prayer List

Please remember—All those who are sick and in need: Mary Fisher (Benjamin Newman's aunt and godmother), John & Alice Herro, Bill Koutris, Bill & Kathy Jones, Nick Langenfeld, Henry Look, Fr. Frank Milienewicz (former pastor), Barb & Bruce Moden (sister- and brother- in-law of Jan Taylor), Eva Nora (niece of the Noras), Bob Peterson, Joe Radanovich, Beth Rodwell, Eva Saseen (Theresa and Janelle Herro's niece), Jan Taylor, Kathy Tomaz, Espe Villasenor, John Zambo and Kathy Zambo. All those who have died: Alice Nasr.

Coming Up: Great Lent

Cheesefare (Last Day when dairy and poultry is eaten): March 3rd

Start of the Great Fast: March 4th

First Akathist and Potluck: 6pm, March 8th (and the following four Fridays)

SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

Monday: 7:30am Morning Prayer: First Hour

Tuesday: 7:30am Morning Prayer: Third Hour

Wednesday: 7:30am Morning Prayer: First Hour

Thursday: 7:30am Morning Prayer: Third Hour

Friday: 7:30am Morning Prayer: First Hour

Saturday: 5pm Great Vespers

Sunday: *Sunday of Meat-Fare (Last Judgment Sunday)*

9:45am Orthros (Matins)

10:30am Divine Liturgy

After Liturgy: Chili Potluck

Congratulations and Happy Birthday to Kathleen Tomaz (2/22). May God grant you many years!

Akathist Hymn

The Akathist to the Theotokos is sung on the Friday evenings during the Great Fast in anticipation of Great Feast of the Annunciation, which falls on March 25. Since this feast falls during the Great Fast, like this year, or the Great Week it does not have the afterfeast which marks the other Great Feasts during the year. The Church "makes up" for this by celebrating the Annunciation in advance on these weekends.

Sayings from the Fathers on the Prodigal Son

"Let your prayer be completely simple. For both the publican and the prodigal son were reconciled to God by a single phrase" (St. John Climacus, *Ladder of Divine Ascent*)

"I have sinned, O Savior, yet I know that You are the Lover of men. You chastise with mercy and are fervent with compassion. You see me weeping and run towards me as the Father recalling the Prodigal... As the Prodigal, O Savior, I have wasted the substance of my soul in riotous living, and I am barren of the virtues of holiness. In my hunger I cry: O giver of mercy, come quickly out to meet me and take pity on me." (The Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete).

"All our attention must be centered on the parable of the Prodigal Son. We all see ourselves in it as in a mirror. In a few words the Lord, the knower of hearts, has shown in the person of one man how the deceptive sweetness of sin separates us from the truly sweet life according to God. He knows how the burden of sin on the soul and body, experienced by us, impels us by the action of divine grace to return, and how it actually does turn many again to God, to a virtuous life" (St. John of Kronstadt).