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**ВЕТИRИ SERVICE REQUESTED** 



# The Cathedral Monthly Bulletin

St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral • A parish of the Orthodox Church in America • Diocese of Chicago and the Midwest • Founded in 1887



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# **Pastoral Reflection**

Dear St. Mary's Parishioners and Friends,

You might receive this messenger before the Paschal greeting can be received with and in the spirit of the season. However, we are nearly there so I'm going to say Christ is Risen for the readers' hearing in a lesser tone because He always is, and there is a chance one of our readers will read this after or on May 5. The church proclaims this truth in all that it does, is and ever will be. It stands on 17th Avenue and 5th Street as a beacon of light to proclaim to the world this joyous message.

The power and significance of the Resurrection takes away the sting of death as we hear in the famous St. John Chrysostom sermon at the conclusion of matins of Holy Pascha. At the point of Christ's death, He descends into hades and removes the bars of hades so that (at least and if not more than) the righteous of the Old Testament can finally be with the Lord. In the icon of the Resurrection of Christ, we see that our most merciful Lord takes Adam and Eve by the wrists, restores their relationship to God, and brings them into the Kingdom of Heaven. From the fall until this point, heaven was not accessible, and all souls went to a dark place without God. Righteous souls are no longer held captive in that dark place and there is a change to the fabric and the way death works.

The Church offers for us a way to continuously restore our relationship with God (because we often fall into sin) through its sacraments, the celebration of the Liturgy/ services, the fasting/festal cycles, its wisdom, its testimony of its saints, and all that it offers. Through the church we learn how to live a life pleasing to God. We are often warned in the Old and New Testaments and in the teachings of the saints that not all souls can enter the Kingdom of God. Only those who follow Christ and do it faithfully can enter into the narrow gate that leads to heaven. Without living out the Truth and learning a right way that leads to salvation, we risk our entry into the Kingdom.

On May 12 or the Sunday after Pascha, we will be confronted with doubting Thomas Sunday. Sometime apparent but often times deeply imbedded into our subconsciousness, we likely have some level of doubt. We pray that God help's our unbelief. Lord I believe, help my unbelief (Mark 9:23-25). It is ok to shut our mind and our hearts off when it comes to doubt and just believe or attempt to believe. The outside world will continue to throw shade and doubt at us from all sides. It requires the strength of will and character to push forward believing. Sometimes it comes easy and other times it is difficult. When faith is easy, the church keeps us on track. When faith is hard, the church confronts us where we are at and helps us push through. It is even more important to go to church and do holy things when we are in states of doubt/disbelief. Faith becomes real when practiced.

Just like anything in this world, work is required when it comes to faith and belief. If we want to be good at golfing, playing the piano, or crocheting, it is important to practice until it becomes natural or instinctive. This is also true in the spiritual life. The repetitive prayers, the Liturgical cycle of fasting/feasting, the same Liturgical services week to week, the constant reading of scripture/lives of saints, and all of it practiced over and over helps us to become practically perfect (through God's grace and our will working harmoniously). It begins to change us and transform us in ways we can only dare to dream until one day we are with the saints glorifying God, and we do not have to wait until Pascha to say those life giving words: Christ is Risen! May all of us have a wonderful and blessed Pascha. May the light of Christ chase away all doubt and render us holy.

In Christ,

Fr. Benjamin

## Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Wishing all our friends and families a joyous Pascha. With love in the Resurrection of our Lord.

**Penny Peters** Jím & Angie Kara Irene & Jack Novak Barb Tique & Family Will & Lynn Bjornnes Helen Josul & Famíly Dorothy Zurbey & Family Todd & Madeline Pilacinski Mat. Virginia Lecko & Family Fr. Richard & Mat. Cassiane Flom Rdr. Mark & Michelle, Matt & Michael Fellegy Joanie Balach, Sydney, Payne, & Kennedy Olson Fr. Andrew, Mat. Alexandra & Family The Jack & Karen Schwebach Family Dan, Julie, Sophia, & Samuel Miller Dan Balach & Lara Cíganko Balach Fr. Benjamin, Mat. Lisa & Phillip The Peter & Ann Masley Family Agata McCutcheon & Famíly **Lorraine Parlow & Family** Iohn & Barbara Leschisin Phil & Myra Toconita The Manzuk Family Bob & Jane Smith **Iames** Varian

## Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

PASCHAL Troparion Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

## **President's Report**

Christ is Risen!

We have finally come to the end of lent and are entering into the joy of the resurrection!

With the approval of the parish home renovation project at the annual meeting, preparation for the work has begun. Materials have been selected and ordered and plans are being made for the work.

The work will begin with Fr. Benjamin's house. The Tucci's will move into the first floor of the house directly across the street at 1700 5th street the week of May 13. It is expected that they will move back into the house around July 10. Any of their belongings that don't move with them will be put in storage so the workmen will have the whole house for themselves while the work is being done.

The work on Fr. Andrew's house is expected to happen in the fall.

This is a large project for our parish, I hope everyone will consider being generous in their donations toward it, so it can be paid off as quickly as possible.

Wishing you a most blessed and joyous Paschal season, and as we joyfully sing every year:

Shine! Shine! O new Jerusalem! The Glory of the Lord has shone on you. Exult now and be glad, O Zion. Be radiant O pure Theotokos, In the resurrection of your Son!

With Love in the Risen Lord,

James Varian, President of St. Mary's Board of Trustees

## **Taste of NE Festival**

We have confirmed dates for the festival, September 20, and 21st. We are still in need for some key positions:

- Someone to coordinate getting permits from the city
- Secretary to take notes, coordinate with the church office
- Advertising coordinator recruit sponsors

Please consider joining the committee to fill these positions, we have former committee members willing to provide guidance. We will be meeting 1-2 times a month during Church School, until the end of the school year, as we get closer to the festival we meet every 2 weeks, then weekly evenings. The festival is a very profitable fundraising for the church. Any questions, contact Barb Dupay (Chairperson) at barb\_dupay@hotmail.com or (612) 237-1293.

## Holy Week Service Schedule 2024

Holy Monday, April 29

- 11:30 AM Presanctified Liturgy
- 7:00 PM Bridegroom Matins

Holy Tuesday, April 30

- 11:30 AM Presanctified Liturgy
- 7:00 PM Bridegroom Matins

Holy Wednesday, May 1

- 11:30 AM Presanctified Liturgy
- 6:00 PM Matins of Holy Thursday
- 7:00 PM Anointing Service

Holy Thursday, May 2

- 10:00 AM Vesperal Liturgy
- 7:00 PM Matins of Holy Friday (12 Gospels)

Holy Friday, May 3, (Strict Fast Day)

- 8:00 AM Royal Hours
- 2:00 PM Vespers (Procession of the Shroud)
- 7:00 PM Matins of Holy Saturday & Lamentations

Holy Saturday, May 4

- 11:00 AM Vesperal Liturgy
- 11:00 PM Nocturnes
- 11:30 PM Procession

Great & Holy Pascha, May 5

- 12:00 AM Paschal Matins & Liturgy (basket blessings & Agape meal to follow)
- 10:00 AM 2nd Paschal Liturgy (basket blessings to follow)
- 4:00 PM Paschal Vespers with Procession

### **Paschal Basket Blessings**

At the Cathedral, Paschal baskets will be blessed:

- 1. After the midnight Paschal Matins (gym)
- 2. After the 1st Paschal Liturgy (dining room)
- 3. After the 2nd Paschal Liturgy (10 am service)

Baskets can be placed on tables in the Parish Center gym and the dining room.

# **Choir Notes**

#### Pascha of Beauty!

Christ is risen!

A blessed Paschal season to you all!

You may be receiving this during Holy Week, but good news! Resurrection, Pascha, Christ is risen, is right around the corner. Indeed, there's no secret in the contemplations and hymnography of Holy Week. As we sing "We worship Thy Passion, O Christ," the next line is "show us also Thy holy Resurrection." As we sing with the voice of Joseph of Arimathea, taking the Body from the Tree, we already proclaim: "I magnify Thy Passion, I glorify Thy Burial, and Thy holy Resurrection." As we consider Christ lying in the tomb on Holy Saturday, we already sing of the Myrhhbearers and the empty tomb. We sing "Arise!" with increasingly joyful and triumphant melodies.

It is all one. Though we refer to Easter itself, the day of Resurrection, as "Pascha," one of my seminary professors always stressed that Holy Friday through Sunday was the "3-day Pascha." Passion, Death, Burial, and Resurrection are inseparable. The Passover of old in Egypt was Sacrifice and Salvation, the innocent Lamb killed, Death passed over, and the people of God were delivered, free, alive.

So, even if you receive this in Holy Week, I say again "Christ is risen!" for this is the purpose of it all, it is the end fulfilled, it's where it's all going, and also, this is just how the calendar works sometimes :).

#### Gratitude

Though I write this before the labors which will soon be at hand, I want to express my thanks for the work of the Choir, for the productive rehearsals, for the embrace of the process, for trying new things, new arrangements in the loft, new versions of old traditions, the new set up for our Friday Presanctified Liturgy, the embrace of the leadership of the liturgical singing. It's been an encouraging last few months. I think it's great actually that I get to write this before we sing the services, because I've come to believe that we are not defined or judged by outcomes of processes. We're not defined by whether everything goes perfectly at the services. All we can do is flow with what we encounter, live to what we value, know that there will be discomfort and pain, yet not despair or fear. But if we are striving with love, with care, with open hearts, and we endeavor to share that, and also to let go of expectation, fear, outcome...we might stumble upon something truly transcendent.

Thank you, my singers and friends.

Christ is risen!

#### Art-A-Whirl Concert

On May 18, the St. Mary's Choir will be performing their annual Art-A-Whirl Concert at 4:15 p.m. in the Cathedral.

We're very excited to present a program highlighting some of our favorites, as well as pieces of music we worked especially hard on for Holy Week and Pascha.

Singers, please sing! All others, please come!

Thank you!

Christ is risen!

#### -Zachariah Mandell, Music Director

"This is the day of Resurrection! Let us be illumined, O people! Pascha, the Pascha of the Lord! For from death to life and from earth to heaven has Christ our God led us as we sing the song of victory!" "Let us purify our senses, and we shall see Christ shining in the unapproachable light of His Resurrection. We shall clearly hear Him say, 'Rejoice'" as we sing the song of victory!" (From Ode 1 of the Paschal Canon)

"He who saved the three young men in the furnace became incarnate and suffered as a mortal man. Through His sufferings He clothed what is mortal in the robe of immortality. He alone is blessed and most glorious: the God of our fathers." *(Irmos 7 of the Paschal Canon)* 

"This is the day of Resurrection! Let us be illumined by the feast! Let us embrace each other! Let us call 'Brothers' even those that hate us and forgive all by the Resurrection, and so let us cry: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!" (Sticheron from the Paschal verses)

"Having beheld the Resurrection of Christ, \* let us worship the Holy Lord Jesus, \* the only sinless one. \* We venerate Thy Cross, O Christ, \* and we praise and glorify Thy holy resurrection. \* For Thou art our God, \* and we know no other than Thee. \* We call on Thy name. \* Come, all you faithful, let us venerate Christ's holy resurrection. \* For behold, through the cross, Joy has come into all the world. \* Let us ever bless the Lord, \* praising His resurrection. \* For by enduring the Cross for us, // He has destroyed death by death." *(Post-Gospel Hymn of Resurrectional Matins)* 

#### May Birthdays

15 - Emily Dzugan 16 - Rdr. Daniel Manzuk 26 - Elias Hodge 30 - Tim Monko

# **May Youth & Families News**

Thank you to our Students, Families, & Church School Teachers! It's been a fantastic year!

## **Congratulations!**

To all our Second Grade students on their first confession!



## Congratulations!

To our graduating high school seniors: Loryn Butzler, Dominic Dunn, Ali Herlofsky, Leighton Janssen, Melanie Mogollon, Johanna Rohmann, Anthony Scheglowski & Samuel Wiggins.

## **Calling All 2024 Graduates**

Calling all high school, college, trade school, secondary and post-secondary graduates. Congratulations and Many Years! We would love to honor you at a graduation recognition coffee hour on **Sunday**, **June 2**, during coffee hour. Please RSVP to Fr. Benjamin at frbenjamin@stmarysoca.org by **Wednesday**, **May 22**, and include a recent picture. Please also fill out an online questionnaire at: https://bit.ly/stmarysgraduate. If you can't be there, we do understand, but would still like to include your name, photo, and information. Please consider sending a photo and filling out the questionnaire.

## Borris-Hansen Scholarship Applications Coming Soon!

Beginning Monday, May 6, all eligible Orthodox Christians who fit one of the categories below are encouraged to apply for a Borris-Hansen Scholarship.

Applications will be available outside the parish office or by visiting the parish website at: https://stmarysoca.org/youth/ scholarships/borris-hansen.html

- High school graduate enrolling in a college or university
- High school student enrolling in a vocational or technical school
- Current college or university student
- Current vocational or technical school student
- Graduate or advanced degree (e.g. law or medicine)
- Adult Education (continuing education, professional development, etc. )

Application deadline is Monday, June 10, 2024.

## **Graduate Recognition Brunch**

The St. Mary's Graduate Recognition Banquet will be held during coffee hour on Sunday, June 2. All are invited to join us in recognizing our graduating students! If you are interested in volunteering to help please contact Fr. Benjamin Tucci at frbenjamin@stmarysoca.org.

#### May Youth Calendar

- Sunday, May 5 PASCHA: No Church School.
- Sunday, May 12 Last Day of Church School Classes.
- Fri. & Sat. May 17-18 Saints Volunteer at FOCUS MN.
- Sunday, May 19, 10:45 am Pascha Party Family Event (Parish Center).
- Sunday, May 19 High School Senior Recognition at Liturgy followed by brunch at Jax.
- Monday, May 27 Memorial Day Service (Cemetery Chapel).

#### June/July Youth Calendar

- Sunday, June 2 Graduation Recognition Coffee Hour
- Sunday, June 2 Cemetery Liturgy Services Begin
- Thursday, June 13 Ascension
- Sunday, June 23 Pentecost (one Liturgy, at the Cathedral)
- June 23-30 Fast Free Week!
- June 29-July 5 St. Mary's Summer Camp (Grades 3 -12)

#### August Youth Calendar

- Thursday, August 1 Procession of the Cross (Blessing of Honey) and Faith & Family Thursdays (PreK 5th grade)
- Tuesday, August 6 Transfiguration (Blessing of Fruits)
- Thursday, August 8 Faith & Family Thursdays (PreK 5th grade)
- Sunday, August 11 10:45 a.m. Calendar Planning for 2024-25 Youth Leaders (Parish Center)
- Thursday, August 15 **Dormition** (Blessing of Fragrant Herbs) **Faith & Family Thursdays** (PreK - 5th grade)
- Friday, August 16 Blessing of Animals
- Thursday, August 22 Faith & Family Thursdays (PreK 5th grade)



#### YOU'RE INVITED TO ST. MARY'S

# Youth & Family Pascha Party

SUNDAY, MAY 19TH - AFTER LITURGY ST. MARY'S PARISH CENTER & GYM

Volunteers Needed! Please contact Fr. Benjamin at frbenjamin@stmarysoca.org



### **Art-A-Whirl Volunteers Needed**

St. Mary's Cathedral will be open for the NE Mpls Art-A-Whirl, May 17-19, when NE artists open their studios to the public for the weekend. This is a way to share our faith with the community in a very non-threatening way. Will you join us as a volunteer for Art-A-Whirl? We especially encourage young people to help. 1) We need people to help set up Friday afternoon and take down Sunday afternoon. 2) We also need help in hospitality-baking cookies and serving in the Russian Tea House. 3) And, if you would like to welcome visitors, or tell them about the icons in the church or the Cathedral history, we welcome your help. There are signup sheets (for 2-hr shifts) during coffee hours. Or you can contact Marilyn Johnson at mjohnson@umn.edu. Thank you for sharing St. Mary's with the community in this annual event.

#### Perohi Update - May & June

The Perohi Group will not meet during the month of May but will resume June! Please consider spending a few hours on Monday and Tuesday mornings, twice a month to learn the art of Perohi making! Set-up and food prep on Monday begins at 7:30 a.m., forming the filling at 9:00 a.m. Set-up and dough making on Tuesday begins at 7:30 a.m., rolling, cutting, filling, pinching, cooking and packaging begins at 9:00 a.m. We need lots of volunteers to make this project a success. Our next work dates are June 3 & 4 and June 17 & 18. Contact Janice Strauss at jmbstrauss@gmail.com or 612-965-1775.



## Suprasl - Chicago 2024

The Diocese of the Midwest of the Orthodox Church in America in conjunction with SuprasI: A World Fellowship of Orthodox Youth, is hosting "Chicago 2024 – An International Orthodox Youth Encounter" which will be held in Chicago from June 21-28, 2024. This international event will bring together Orthodox youth from around the world for a week of worship, fellowship and action.

Participation in Chicago 2024 is open to Orthodox Christian youth aged 18- 30. Priority will be given to participants who are actively engaged in Orthodox youth work. You can apply here now: https://forms.gle/pSmCb35zhW1BmvWi7. The participation fee for Chicago 2024 is \$350.00 and includes all meals, accommodations, and excursions.

**Background** - Recognizing the need to network, connect, and gather in fellowship the youth of the Orthodox Church worldwide, nearly 100 youth from around the world gathered in Suprasl in July 2022 for the first World Gathering of Orthodox Youth. Motivated by their experience and desire for more opportunities to meet and share their Orthodox faith, the participants decided to establish an organization called Suprasl: A World Fellowship of Orthodox Youth. Chicago 2024 will be the first event organized by Suprasl in the US.

First and foremost we will come together in community to pray and worship our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Each day will begin and end with prayers and clergy will be available each evening for confession, and each morning a brief homily will be offered on the scripture of the day. Taking place over the feast of Holy Pentecost, the participants will have the unique opportunity of participating in the Divine Liturgy for the feast at Holy Trinity Cathedral. The theme of Chicago 2024 "Orthodoxy Unleashed" will be explored by a series of discussions offered by Archbishop Daniel of Chicago and Bishop David of Alaverdy of the Georgian Orthodox Church. Participants will be encouraged to offer their own reflections on the theme. Taking place between the Feasts of Pentecost and Saints Peter and Paul, Chicago 2024 will provide a unique opportunity for theological reflection and discussion on the practical actions youth can take to share the Gospel and the light of Jesus Christ. A key aspect of this year's gathering will be the participants will lead a three mile urban pilgrimage with the icon through the streets of Chicago from Holy Trinity Cathedral to Christ the Savior Church.

Other workshops will include: •Sharing our Faith in the World Today • Orthodox Action: the life and work of St. Maria of Paris • Liturgical Music and other practical workshops: prayer rope making, cheese making, and folk dancing.

# **Adults (age 18yr+) to enjoy time with each other and play games.**

NEXT GAME NIGHT ->> Saturday, May 11th - 7:00pm Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

956 Forest St N, St. Paul, MN 55106

\* In the Parish Center across the street from the church \*

**Bring a munchie or dessert to share** Any questions . . . call Nikki Beauchamp @ 612.910.2943



Want to learn a new game? Want to play a classic? Want to teach a game? Then this is for you! Questions? Contact *Nikki Beauchamp* 612.910.2943

(Sunday, May 12)

We wish a very happy Mother's Day to all Mothers, Grandmothers, & Godmothers! May God bless you and your families this Mother's Day.

## Transitions

#### Baptisms:

Joelle Labine: 3-30-2024 Aurelia Gulachek: 4-20-2024

#### Funerals:

Anne Kresa: 4-13-2024 Richard Chapman: 4-15-2024

## Many Years!

A very happy birthday to all who celebrate their birthdays in May, and especially to Dorothee Visintin, who is celebrating her 94th birthday on May 10; and Robert Feiker, who is celebrating his 94th birthday on May 22.

May God grant you many years!

## **Coffee Hour Update**

We are looking for about 15 volunteers who are willing to set up/clean up coffee hour on a rotation of 3-4 people each Sunday. These volunteers will be crucial in making sure coffee hour can still operate normally when other volunteers are sick or out of town. Please contact Shannon Combs at shannoncombs21@gmail.com if you are willing to help. To sign-up for coffee visit: https://bit.ly/coffee-hour-signup.

#### May Coffee Hour Rotation:

- May 5: Pascha No Coffee Hour
- May 12: M-R
- May 19: Camp Hosts
- May 26: S-Z

### **New Member Applicants**

In accordance with the Bylaws, Article IV, Section 3: Notice of the new member application shall be published in the next monthly *Bulletin*. The following individual(s) have submitted an application for membership to St. Mary's: *Samuel Miller*. If you have any comment pertaining to any applicant, please submit it to any Board member during this 45-day period, which began with the publication of this *Bulletin*.

#### **Olive Shoot Update**

It is hard to believe that another school year is almost over. The shop will once again be closed for the summer starting May 19 and open by appointment only. Should you need anything, feel free to contact Becky at oliveshoot@stmarysoca.org. Thank you so much for supporting the Cathedral Gift Shop. Have a wonderful summer!

## **Special Contributions**

#### **GENERAL FUND**

Pascha Donation - \$2,500 From: St. Mary's Perohi Club

In memory of Valentin Scheglowski From: Family & Friends

In memory of Anne Kresa From: Darlene Erickson

In memory of Anne Kresa From: Elsie Van Dyke

In memory of Anne Kresa From: Family & Friends

#### ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Tamara Samkowicz From: JoAnne & Michael Korluka

In memory of Anne Kresa From: Ron & Cindy Huber

#### ST. MARY'S WOMEN'S CLUB

In memory of Anne Kresa From: Family & Friends

#### PARISH HOMES PROJECT

Pascha Donation - \$2,500 From: St. Mary's Perohi Club

In memory of Anne Kresa From: Family & Friends

If you would like a donation or memorial you've made to be published, please be sure to write "to be published" or "publish" on the donation. In the event that a memorial or donation that you requested to be published has not been published, please contact the Cathedral Office.

# **St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral**

# May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Holy Wednesday	2 Holy Thursday	3 Holy Friday	4 Holy Saturday
			11:30 am Presanctified Liturgy	10:00 am Vesperal Liturgy	8:00 am Royal Hours	11:00 am Vesperal Liturgy
			6:00 pm Matins of Holy Thursday		2:00 pm Holy Friday Vespers	11:00 pm Nocturnes
			7:00 pm Anointing Service	(Reading of 12 Gospels)	7:00 pm Matins of Holy Saturday (Lamentations)	11:30 pm Procession
5 Most Holy Pascha	6 Bright Monday	<b>J</b>	8 Bright Wednesday	9 Bright Thursday	${f 10}$ Bright Friday	11
12:00 am Paschal Matins &	9:00 am Paschal Liturgy	St. Alexis Toth	6:15 pm Paschal Vespers	9:00 am Paschal Liturgy	5:30 pm Bright Friday Party	11:00 am Baptism
Liturgy	w/ Procession			5:00 pm Parish Center Reserved		5:00 pm Great Vespers
10:00 am 2 <sup>nd</sup> Paschal Liturgy				6:30 pm Women's Club Meeting		
4:00 pm Paschal Vespers						
12 St. Thomas Sunday	13	14	15	16 St. Brendan the Navigator	17	18
7:45 am Matins			6:15 pm Vespers	9:00 am Divine Liturgy	5-9 pm Art-A-Whirl	12-5 pm Art-A-Whirl
9:00 am Divine Liturgy			7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal			4:15 pm Choir Concert
11:00 am Last Day of Church School						5:00 pm Great Vespers
	20	21	22	23 Venerable Euphrosyne	24	25
Parastas Sunday 7:45 am Matins	7:00 pm Board Meeting		6:15 pm Vespers	9:00 am Divine Liturgy		5:00 pm Great Vespers
9:00 am Divine Liturgy			7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal			
10:30 am Family Pascha Party 11:00 am High School						
Senior's Brunch 12-5 pm Art-A-Whirl						
	27 Memorial Day	28	29	<b>30</b> Venerable Isaac	31	
7:45 am Matins	8:30 am Memorial Liturgy			9:00 am Divine Liturgy	~ -	
9:00 am Divine Liturgy			7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal			
	Pascha Basket Blessings: Please see the note on pg. 4 for more information			Schedule is subject to change. Please check the Messenger or www.stmarysoca.org		-

