

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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A monthly publication of
St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral
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Pastorally Speaking

Hopefully the month of April will bring plenty of sunshine and seasonable weather to make the grass green and the flowers to bloom. It has been a snowy and cold winter. The days are getting brighter with more light in the day to accomplish our outdoor tasks. Although most of this month will be in the purple and black of Lent, April also brings with it the light of Pascha. This movement of darkness to light in the height of the spring season as we watch life emerge from the slumber of wintery sleep seems to be an icon of what we celebrate in the feast of Pascha. Death to life. Cold dark to warm breath of life and even new life as birds emerge from their nests. It is amazing how the Lenten journey for the most part happens in the spring. Glory to God for illuminating us even through the calendar year.

Spiritual renewal also needs to be a part of this journey. In the springtime of this Lenten journey, we are to learn how to glorify God with all that we have. We move from the depths of despair and grief over the sorrow of our fallen state to the understanding of great hope in the light of Pascha...that great joy that we experience together in the dark church on Holy Saturday night. When we light our candles together, the church becomes full of light. The hope of spring emerges. Life begins to dominate, and what was dark and full of mystery now appears to us. Each face in the church can be seen, illuminated by the light of Christ. We place our hope and our love in the knowledge, power, and glory of our Lord Jesus who rose from the dead. We embrace each other and joyfully exclaim: "Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!" May that joy be complete for each and every one of us. We must continue to love God and each other as Christ loves us. Spiritual refreshment, renewal, and transformation will indeed happen when we set on the journey of Lent and allow the grace of God's springtime to brighten the garment of our soul. May it wash us clean and set us on the task of worshiping and giving glory to God who gives us life, love, light, wisdom, and everything we have in His created world. Pascha is before us. Let us run that race so that in the end we will be made worthy and ready to receive Christ. This month may you have a blessed journey to Pascha!

- Fr. Benjamin

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 individuals have submitted an application for membership to St. Mary's: **Shelby Staszewsky, Nathaniel Kostick, Carl Swenson, and Mariya Bragina**. 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*.

President's Column

Mid-March was surely a tough time for a lot of us living here in Minnesota. A continuance of a very harsh, cold, and drawn out winter, followed by a quick thaw that led to many basements flooding, including mine. Water was coming in faster than the wet vac could pick it up – and from different areas. It's amazing how quickly you can feel helpless when alone – and desperation can set in when trying to save your home. A most blessed thank you to Steve Memorich, who arrived at a time I was literally ready to collapse from exhaustion. He forwarded my plight to Charlie Freeburg who thankfully arranged to have a sump pump ready to go. Within 15-minutes of arriving, the tide began to recede – and so the long cleanup could begin.

I was quick to realize something throughout all this. Who was I able to turn to in a most desperate time? The answer came just as quickly. Our blessed St. Mary's family. At times in need, or at times when you just want them to pull up an ice block and lend an ear – they are there. While cleaning, I reminisced about another time when I needed to restore an ill-built bathroom and needed to “right some wrongs”. Mark Holscher, Tim Kaseno, Vlad Scheglowski, Charlie Freeburg, and Steve Memorich. These weren't strangers, they were all from our St. Mary's family, and people that I have been most blessed, honored and grateful with whom to serve.

The day following the flood issue was a Friday, with an evening Presanctified Liturgy. The candle-lit setting and gentle Lenten chants provide the opportunity for us to literally – lay aside all earthly cares. A most sincere thank you to Dn. Gregory and our wonderful choir that evening. Upon hearing 'Now the Powers of Heaven', I was able to completely “decompress”, and if even for a brief moment, brush away all earthly cares. While Great Lent (and confession) provides us the opportunity to forgive each other, we mustn't forget to also – forgive ourselves.

Onto another time – eight years ago. To some of us... a moment in time. To a 2nd grader... a lifetime. As for me, I looked back at the very first column I wrote eight years ago when first elected president of St. Mary's. What were some of the trials and

tribulations with which we dealt? What has transpired around our parish since then? I recognized quite a different scene, notably from the standpoint of what it was to be a board member, as well as other changes that have since taken place. As a board member back then, you were not only on the governing body, but also had the responsibilities of a service attendant – reporting to a team “Captain”. Thirdly, you had to be on one of (4) key committees. For many, this was an immediately daunting undertaking, making it challenging at times to find board members. In an effort to ease the sharing of responsibilities needed to maintain our parish, our Church By-Laws were completely re-drafted such that members need only participate in (1) of those electives – if desired. With the separation of Service Attendants from the board, we reduced the amount of Trustees needed. We added a 2nd Treasurer position, and even shifted some responsibility onto the Vice President, heading (4) separate Property Committees.

More recently, Steve Tomczyk performed an amazing job as our President, and also in that time, Steve chaired an invaluable committee that oversaw another renovation phase of our Cathedral's interior. This included more inspirational iconography, as well as the unveiling of the beautiful wooden floor beneath the altar. We are so blessed that your continued support allowed us to complete a long overdue parking lot renovation. There is a new driveway through the cemetery, along with major cemetery chapel restoration work that's taken place. From eight years ago – when at times we had to dip into reserves for emergency repairs – to the present, when we look forward to a revitalized kitchen and bathrooms. In teaching Church School's Kindergarten class, we were sometimes down to four students – now we may need to order more chairs. This is indeed a welcomed problem, and a most joyous time to be a part of the St. Mary's family.

God Bless,
Michael Kokosh
President of the St. Mary's Board of Trustees

Choir Notes

by Deacon Gregory Ealy

As many of you know, St. Mary's Cathedral Choir is made up of roughly sixty singers. Many of these singers have been part of the choir for decades, starting in the mid-20th century in the "Junior Choir" under the guiding hand of Fr. Dzubay. Others have only been part of our community a few years, having moved here from other parts of North America for schooling, work, or family. Even though we rehearse every Wednesday and sing at the services on weekends and other days during the week, it's quite possible that not many people know each other well.

Beginning in May of 2018, I started a series of articles highlighting each month one of our choir members. I think the goal of this is obvious. Our lives are busy, we don't live in close proximity to each other, and we don't have necessarily the same common history as many choir members did 50 or 75 years ago. This week we hear from Miho Ochiai Ealy.

Choir and My Life



"How did you become Orthodox?" is one of the most frequently asked questions in my life. I always answer by saying "I had no choice." I was barely two years old at the time of baptism. Yes, both my parents are Orthodox Christians. Yes, there's an Orthodox Church in Japan. My

father became Orthodox Christian at the age of 18. He met an Orthodox priest who worked at his high school as a social science teacher. This priest, Fr. John Kuriyagawa, was such an inspiring man and influenced my parents' spiritual formation. Soon after my father became Orthodox, my grandmother followed him, and four of my father's siblings became Orthodox as well. I grew up going to Holy Resurrection Orthodox church in my hometown, Hakodate. My parents were always active in church, and I knew the church was a good place to be. My home parish had about 30-40 people on any given Sunday. It was small and comfortable.

When I was 9 years old, my mother suggested I take singing lessons from a lady who came to teach vocal technique to our parish choir. My mother said, "Miho, your grandmother is pretty sick. We never know what happens to her and we need singers for her funeral." That's how I started singing in the choir. Well, my grandmother became gravely ill more than a few times and always came back. She finally died in February 2004, just before her 99th birthday.

In 2000, I graduated from high school and moved to Ottawa, Canada to go to a university. My English was so poor (ask any Morbey!), but for some reason, as a young adventurous girl, I knew I had to cross the Pacific Ocean and see the world. I found

an English speaking Orthodox parish in town, and that's where I met Fr. Andrew Morbey and his family. There I joined the choir and started singing in English. I had no idea what "Thee" and "art" meant at first. The electronic English dictionary was my best friend back then. As I got to learn how to sing hymns in English, the church really became an integral part of my life. Through singing, I learned about the Orthodox liturgical tradition and what the Orthodox faith really teaches us. After a few years in Ottawa, I went back to Japan. But, in 2008, my academic interest in Orthodox theology brought me back to the North American continent again, and I entered into a master's program at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA. While in Berkeley, I visited many churches from various jurisdictions. One of my classmates was a priest in a Serbian church in San Francisco, and I was asked to help the choir there. I learned to sing in Slavonic during that time.

Being Orthodox and singing in church has brought so many friends and opportunities to me. Perhaps one of the most impactful events in my life is the Psalm Orthodox Liturgical Music conference in Chicago in 2006. I met "the one" there. This guy was very shy and cute (at least I thought he was). He was helping to direct at the conference. You know who...yes, it was my future husband, Gregory. We corresponded while I was still in Japan, and our relationship grew to be more than friends in 2008. We got married in October 2009 while Gregory was a choir director at Holy Trinity Cathedral in Chicago. We moved to Minneapolis in 2011. We've been blessed to be part of St. Mary's community since then. I would say singing in the choir has led me to meet a husband and so many dear friends. It literally brought me all the way from Japan to Minneapolis!

- Miho Ochiai Ealy

April Birthdays

6, Irene Memorich
9, Lorraine Parlow

21, Lynn Bjornnes

April's Schedule

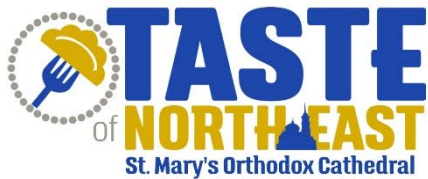
3, Rehearsal, 7 PM
10, Rehearsal, 7 PM
17, Rehearsal, 7 PM
21, Palm Sunday

22, Bridegroom Matins, 7 PM
23, Bridegroom Matins, 7 PM
and Choir Rehearsal (Note: Tuesday)

24, Matins, 6 PM
25, Passion Gospels, 7 PM
26, Holy Friday Vespers, 2 PM
26, Lamentations, 7 PM
27, Liturgy of St. Basil, 11 AM
27, Nocturnes, 11 PM
28, Paschal Vespers, 3 PM
29, Liturgy 9 AM

Taste of Northeast Announcement

We are collecting bottles of wine and raffle basket items for the 2019 St. Mary's Festival. Please give donated items to Barb Dupay or Natalie Tangen at coffee hours.



Save the Date

St. Mary's Women's Club

Spring Salad Luncheon

At St. Mary's Parish Center
1701 5th St. NE, Minneapolis, MN

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Watch future Messengers for more
information coming soon!



Save the Date

St. Mary's Charity Golf Tournament Sunday, July 28, 2019

Open to all ages and skill levels!
This year our goal is to have **100** golfers
join us for a great day of golfing and fellowship to support
St. Mary's Cathedral.

ST. MARY'S YOUTH & FAMILY

END OF YEAR SPRING FESTIVAL

Join us for a wonderful afternoon featuring a taco dinner, family
fun activities, a bounce house, and more!

SUNDAY, MAY 19TH FROM 12-2 PM
IN THE GYMNASIUM
COST: \$5.00 PER PERSON, 3 & UNDER FREE





Cathedral Monthly Bulletin

Article deadline for the
May 2019 bulletin is
April 15.



From the Youth Office...

April Youth News

- * **Saints Sponsored Dinners:** Each year our Saints group sponsors the Lenten dinners on Friday evenings with an educational talk. The dinners usually involve Lenten main dish, salad, and desserts. \$10.00 adult \$5.00 youth. This is a principal fundraising event for our youth group known as the Saints (6th to 12th graders). We hope you can come, be enlightened, enjoy our hospitality, and support us. We will use the money collected this year to go on a mission trip.
- * **2nd Graders First Confession** will be on Lazarus Saturday, April 20th, before Presanctified Liturgy, followed by a breakfast for the students and their families.
- * **Palm Sunday Procession:** There will be a children's procession during the 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy on Palm Sunday, April 21.
- * **5th Grade Bake Sale** - Please stop by and support the 5th Grade Bake Sale, following Liturgy on Palm Sunday, which in turn will be donating all proceeds to the Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry. Donations of baked goods to help are also welcome! 
- * **Readers by the Tomb on Holy Friday** - Following the Burial of Christ, Church School children have the opportunity to read the Psalms by the tomb following the 2 p.m. Vespers on Holy Friday. Chanting is not necessary. Please come to the front of the Cathedral following the service.
- * **Holy Saturday** - Vespers at 11:00 a.m. On Holy Saturday, there is a special opportunity to see the Preparation of Holy Communion out on the Plashchanitsa. If you have young children, plan to sit near the front so you can see what normally takes place behind the altar.
- * **PASCHA - Feast of Feasts!** Nocturnes will again begin at 11:00 p.m. this year, to allow for the Procession to arrive at doors of the church at midnight. Matins and Liturgy will follow. Morning Liturgy will begin at 10:00 a.m. and Agape Vespers at 3:00 p.m. with procession. There will be the annual photograph with the Altar Servers and Communion Assistants following Paschal Vespers, so please have your children stay for the photo!
- * **Save the Date - St. Mary's Summer Camp** June 29-July 6, 2019, for those entering 3rd through 12th grade in the fall of 2019. Early Bird discounted Registration (\$445/camper) will begin on Tuesday, April 16, at 10 a.m. through May 3, 2019, at www.stmaryscamp.com. The Standard fee is \$495 until Camp Registration closes on Thursday, May 23, at 4:30 p.m. If you have questions about camp, there will be a brief meeting during Coffee Hour on Sunday, April 15th, or you can reach out to Fr. Ben at frbentucci@gmail.com or [612-599-1125](tel:612-599-1125). 
- * **Save the Date - Vacation Bible School** will be June 17-21, for students entering Pre-K through 5th in the Fall of 2019. \$35 per student. Questions, please contact Father Benjamin at frbentucci@gmail.com. Online registration coming in April. Watch the Messenger for registration information.

Transitions

Please join us in giving a warm welcome to our newest members:

Viatcheslav Trusov & Alevtina Dubovtseva

Funerals:

Lawrence Grivna, 3-05-2019

Leonard Soroka, 3-14-2019

Many Years!

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY to all who celebrate their birthdays in April, and especially to Leonard Kirvida who is celebrating his 91st birthday on April 15; Joseph Lasho who is celebrating his 100th birthday on April 18th; Daniel Korba who is celebrating his 91st birthday on April 18th; Mary Manoleff who is celebrating her 90th birthday on April 18th; Anne Lundberg who is celebrating her 90th birthday on April 27th; Martin Tich who is celebrating his 91st birthday on April 27th; Anna Tich who is celebrating her 91st birthday on April 28th.

May God grant you many years!

Cathedral Information

✚ *Fr. Andrew's Scheduled Office Hours* for pastoral appointments: Tuesdays & Thursdays: 7-9 PM; Tuesdays & Wednesdays: 11-3 PM; Fridays: 10-1:30 PM. Other times by appointment-please call the office at 612-781-7667.

✚ *Fr. Benjamin's Scheduled Office Hours* are: Tuesdays: 11-1 PM and 7-9 PM; Thursdays: 9:30-11:30 AM.

✚ *The Visitation Ministry* is continually updating its list of parishioners who are homebound or in nursing homes and would like to be on our Visitation List. If you or a loved one is a member of St. Mary's and physically unable to attend church and church activities and would enjoy a visit or telephone call from a member of our Visitation Committee, please notify the Church Office (612-781-7667).

✚ *Moving?* Please contact the Church Office with your new address and phone number (office@stmarysoca.org or 612-781-7667).

✚ *Church Envelopes* Please contact the Church Office if you want to: (a) receive envelopes weekly or monthly; (b) stop envelopes; (c) combine envelopes (e.g., to receive only one set per household); (d) correct information on the envelope (including the title, e.g., from Mrs. to Mr. & Mrs.).

✚ *Automatic Donations* Forms are available in the rack outside the Church Office or contact one of our treasurers.

Special Contributions

CHURCH DONATIONS / MEMORIALS

In memory of Mary Cook
From Betty Mlinar

In memory of Jean Seymour
From Bob & Helen Feiker

In memory of Lawrence Grivna
From St. Mary's 'O' Club

In memory of Leonard Soroka
From St. Mary's 'O' Club

Pascha Donation, \$ 200.00
From St. Mary's 'O' Club

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (Kitchen)

In memory of Mary Cook
From Lynn Barnes

In memory of Helen & George Jarosak
From Irene Mikkelson

In memory of Leonard Soroka
From Bill & Jan Varhol

PASCHA GREETING

Looking for a way to send your best wishes for a glorious Pascha to your friends and family at St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral? Look no further.

You and your family can be part of a Pascha Greeting page in our Pascha Messenger and the May 2019 Monthly Bulletin. Just print your family listing on the form below and submit it with a \$20 payment to St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral, 1701 Fifth Street N.E., Minneapolis, MN 55413, by **April 7**, and your listing will appear in both the Pascha Messenger and the May Monthly Bulletin.

Sample listings would read: *The Thomas Smith Family*, or *Mr. & Mrs. John Doe*, or *Jane Doe*, or *Jim and Jane Doe*. Proceeds from this Pascha Greeting Page will be placed in the General Fund of our Cathedral.

2019 Pascha Greeting Listing

Name _____

Amount Enclosed:
_____cash _____check

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS: THE EUCHARISTIC JEWEL IN LENT'S LITURGICAL CROWN

By Rdr. Daniel Manzuk

The Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts – attributed to the holy Archbishop/Pope Gregory Dialogos (known in the west as “the Great”) – is one of the most beautiful and unique services in the Church. Like the Vespereal Liturgy, it begins with the Vespers starting the next day but, since ‘Vouchsafe O Lord’ is never reached, the Eucharistic portion is for the day which is ending... pushed far late in the day extending the Eucharistic/preparatory and Lenten fasts as long as possible. Unlike the Vespereal Liturgy, the format of the Presanctified Liturgy is uniquely tailored to its purpose, permitting the reception of the Eucharist during the solemnity of the weekdays of Lent. The Divine Liturgies of Ss. Basil and John - which are celebrated as Vespereal Liturgies - are full foretastes of the heavenly Liturgy described in Revelations ch.4, the Church reveling in Christ's victory over death; expressed in the Anaphoras describing Christ's saving Passion and Resurrection and in such joyous hymns as the ‘Holy, Holy, Holy’. Such Paschal joy is something wholly inappropriate for the weekdays of Lent, and the first three days of Holy Week; a period which is intended to be solemn, reflective and penitential, yet with a ray of hope. This mindset is perfectly expressed in the Presanctified Liturgy's texts and hymns. Consequently, powerful and vibrant vocalization is incompatible with this Liturgy just as it is with the similarly-crafted Great Canon of St. Andrew, and Lent and Holy Week in general. The hopeful aspect of this Liturgy, the very brief moment of joy, is found in the reception of the Holy Things - consecrated at the preceding Sunday Liturgy (thus, “Pre-sanctified”) - which replaces the end of Vespers.

The Presanctified Liturgy begins as Daily Vespers; the three Stases/divisions of 18th Kathisma of the Psalter (Ps.129/130-133/134) are sung antiphonally, therefore they are often called this Liturgy's ‘Antiphons’. The reason 18th Kathisma is almost always sung is preserved in Greek/Antiochian practice. During the 3rd Stasis, when the choir gets to: “*Arise, O Lord, and go to Thy resting place, Thou and the ark of Thy might*” (Ps. 132/133:8), the choir stops and all kneel as the Priest solemnly carries the Lamb back to the Oblation Table; after he places the Diskos on the table, the Stasis resumes. This Kathisma is replaced during the 5th week of the Fast: by the 7th Kathisma (Ps.46/47-54/55) at the Liturgy Wednesday night and by the 12th Kathisma (Ps.85/86-90/91) at Presanctified on Thursday night – book-ending the recitation of the full Great Canon of St. Andrew at Matins Thursday morning. Unlike the Antiphons of the “regular” Liturgies, during which nothing happens and sitting is common, important liturgical actions take place while these Antiphons are sung; during these actions it is widely customary to stand or kneel in reverence, if physically able. During the 1st Antiphon/Stasis, the Priest reverently removes the Lamb from the pyx and places it on the Diskos, prostrating when he is done. During the 2nd Antiphon/Stasis the Priest censes around the Lamb three times. As stated above concerning the procession at the 3rd Antiphon/Stasis, the common tradition is to kneel.

After the Entrance, the two Prokeimena are accompanied by Old Testament readings, as was the practice in the ancient Church. During the 40 days, the readings are from Genesis (the beginning of God's people) and Proverbs (divine wisdom); during the first 3 days of Holy Week, they come from Exodus (leading up to the Passover, in Greek – Pascha) and Job (a blameless man unjustly persecuted, prefiguring Christ, the ‘Man of Sorrows’ Is.53). ‘The Light of Christ’ along with ‘Let My Prayer Arise’ - superseded by the singing of stichera at ‘Lord I Call’ - are remnants of the ancient form of Vespers. Together with ‘Lord I Call’ and ‘O Gladsome Light’, they are connected to the lighting of the lamps and the light of Christ amidst the darkness of night and of this world. At ‘The Light of Christ’ the people prostrate like Moses before the Burning Bush, and during ‘Let My Prayer Arise’ the people kneel and/or prostrate according to varying customs. This is followed by the ‘Prayer of St. Ephraim’, without the bows and fourth prostration. As the weekday Lectionary for Lent itself is strictly Old Testament, unlike “regular” and Vespereal Liturgies, Epistle and Gospel readings only occur on certain feasts (40 Martyrs, Ss. Innocent, Tikhon, etc.). This difference from the ordinary Lectionary is part remnant of the ancient catechism, part preparation for Holy Week and Pascha. The Lectionary does prescribe Gospel readings for Holy Monday through Wednesday, but no Epistle readings.

The Litany of the Catechumens is then always read, as Lent was originally the period of preparation for Baptism. From the Mid-Fast (4th Wednesday) the ‘Litany of Illumination’ is added after it, praying for the Catechumens who are ready for Baptism/Illumination. The Great Entrance is accompanied by ‘Now the Powers’ which reminds us that the Mystical Sacrifice is already fulfilled. As was the original practice in all Liturgies (before the Anaphora prayers went “silent”), no one is prayed for. Uniquely, the Priest places the veil over his head so all eyes are on the Lamb, as the people kneel before Christ Himself in procession. Then comes St. Ephraim again as before, followed by the ‘Litany Before the Lord's Prayer’ and the ‘Lord's Prayer’. Other than adding “Presanctified” to “The [] Holy Things are for the holy” - during which the Priest only touches the Lamb, as it was elevated at the Sunday Liturgy - and the singing of ‘O Taste and See’ as the Communion Hymn, the Service proceeds like a Sunday Liturgy through Communion. After Communion, the subdued character of the Service is reinforced as ‘We Have Seen the True Light’ is replaced with ‘Taste the Heavenly Bread’ and the Presanctified Liturgy's own ‘Prayer Before the Amvon’ is read. Thus, without really breaking the soberness of the Fast, we are able to receive the Holy Things for our salvation and as an aid to “*complete the course of the Fast... and to attain unto and to worship the holy Resurrection.*” (Prayer before the Amvon – Presanctified Liturgy).

Kozlak-Radulovich Funeral Chapel

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