



Sunday, January 26, 2020

Gospel: St. Matthew 15:21-28

Tone 7

Epistle: 1 Timothy 1:15-17

32nd Sunday after Pentecost

New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia / Ven. Xenophon, his wife, Mary, and their two sons, Arcadius and John, of Constantinople

January Bulletin Sponsor: *Father Andrew in memory of his father, George*

Liturgical & Events Schedule

Sunday, January 26

9:05 am: Hours followed by Divine Liturgy / Social

1:00pm: LOCAL MARCH FOR LIFE- Port Clinton

Tuesday, January 28

6:30 pm: Orthodoxy 101 Class

Wednesday, January 29

6:30 pm: Great Vespers

Thursday, January 30

9:30 am: Divine Liturgy for Feast of Three Hierarch'

Saturday, February 1

Noon: Blessing of the Lake followed by Social followed by Great Vespers

Sunday, February 2

9:05 am: Hours followed by Divine Liturgy / Social

FEBRUARY BULLETIN AND CANDLE SPONSORS

Bulletin: (\$50) Fr. Andrew in memory of Metropolitan Orestes

Chandelier: (\$50) Laura: In loving memory of her dad, Steve

Altar Candles: (\$50) Fr. Andrew for the health of his spiritual father, Fr. James on the occasion of his birthday

Candles on the Tomb: (\$25) Open

Eternal Light & Icon Screen: (25) Open



110 E Main Street, Marblehead, OH 43440
www.holyassumptionmarblehead.org

VIGILS -JANUARY 12

Susan Guzy (1) Health of mother, Julia

Laura Kovach (4) Continued recovery of Margi & Chuck; Health of Joe, H., Joe R., Lisa, Mark, Steve, Dana, Julia, Betty, Bohdi; Safe travel for family; Memory of Harley.

Sandy Martin (2) Memory Eternal for Harley; Special intentions

Twarek (7) God's Blessings and Peace; Memory Eternal for Harley Dilly; Health of Carter; Health and recovery of Rick Schlotterer, Mary Dziak, Claudia McDonald, Christian Maple & Maria Rodrigues; Health of Margi & Joe, Tom, MaryAnn and Bob, Christine, Judy, Matushka Melania, Chuck, Steve, Bohdi, Nancy, Heidi; Health of Liz, Joe, Sonya, Julia, Diane, Stella, Ron, Jake, Helen; Special intentions; Special intentions

LOCAL MARCH FOR LIFE- PORT CLINTON (TODAY)

WHEN: Sunday, January 26

WHERE: Water Works Park Fountain

TIME: 1:00pm

A prayer vigil will be held during the March at the Denny Bergman Hall / Knights of Columbus for those who can't walk the mile march. After the March everyone will head to the hall.

There will be refreshments and testimonies and the movie "Unplanned" will be played for all.

Rectory 419-798-4591 / Cell 570-212-8747
info@holyassumptionmarblehead.org

ATTENDANCE - DECEMBER

Wednesday January 1: 9 attended Liturgy

Sunday, January 5: 22 Total (18 members; 1 non-reg member; 2 children; 1 guest; 9 communicants; Vespers for Sat were canceled; 13 attended the Vigil Sunday night)

Monday, January 6: 10 attended liturgy

Sunday, January 12: 25 total (17 members; 4 children; 4 guests; 16 Communicants; No Vespers

Sunday, January 19: 22 total (17 members; 1 non-reg member; 3 children; 1 guest; 14 communicants; No vespers

Wednesday, Jan. 22: 9 attended Liturgy



January Special Collection

Marblehead, OH Police
Fr. Andrew serves as Chaplain.

MONTHLY TITHING ONLY JANUARY

Goal Pledged per month: \$4,600

Sunday, January 5: \$496
Sunday, January 12: \$732
Sunday, January, 19: \$1,531

READER SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY SERVICES

Wednesday, January 22: Natalie
Sunday, January 26: Ron
Thursday, January 30: Natalie
Sunday, February 2: Wayne
Sunday, February 9: Natalie
Sunday, February 16: Ron
Sunday, February 23: Tim

OTHER WEEKLY INCOME

Sunday, January 5: \$26 Candles; \$90 Vigils; \$50 Bulletin; \$50 Chandelier; \$10 Special Collection -Police Dept

Sunday, January 12: \$60 candles; \$50 altar candles; \$45 Vigils; \$158 (Special Collection (Police)); \$24 bookstore; Check rec'd for \$5,500

Sunday, January 19: \$20 Candles; \$60 Vigils; \$35 Special Collection (Police); \$50 bookstore; \$75 restoration



DANBURY FOOD PANTRY - FEBRUARY

Suggested donation of Apple Sauce (and other non-perishable goods) will be collected through February 9. Donations will be delivered to the food pantry Thursday, February 13.

Thank You & God Bless.

40 DAY REMEMBRANCE

January 12: Shooting victims from Pearl Harbor & FL Naval stations

January 19: Mary (Marika) Lefas; Jersey City shooting victims; Police officer killed in NJ, Ben the 8 yr old boy accidentally killed in Sandusky

January 26: Solider killed in Afghanistan; Susan La Valle

Feb. 2: Fr. John / Police officer killed in TN / TX Police Officer / TX Church shooting victims / Ed Pehanich, Sr /

Feb16: Clyde Madison / 2 soldiers killed in Afghanstan / Uk plane crash victims / Victims from Australia wild fires including the 5 FF

Feb 22: Harley Dilly

March 1: Fr. Michael Shuster / 2 police officers from HI / Dc. Mike Cinali / Police office from VA / Debbie Pribanic

PRAYER LIST Updated 1-23

Clergy:

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Theodosius
His Beatitude, Metropolitan Herman
John Duranko (*Father's home pastor*)
James Gleason (*Father's Spiritual Father*)
Moses Barry
Joseph Gibson
Gregory Grivna
Emilian Hutnyan
Josef Von Klarr
Fr. Dan Kovolick
Vladimir Lecko
Myron Manzuk
Philip Lasbrook
Maura McCartney
Christopher Phillips
Benjamin Tucci
Peter Tutko
Deacon Nicholas Denysenko
Deacon Paul Gansle
Deacon Gregory Krutchak
Deacon Paul Mitchell
Sub-deacon Wylie Meath

Matushkii:

Pani Patricia Duranko
Melania Adamcio
Myra Kovolick
Virginia Lecko
Snezana Ruzic
Sonya Tutko

Parishioners / & their Family:

John Beadle (*Elcishko*)
MaryAnn Cook (*Cousin to Twarek's*)
John Richard Elchisco
Ruthe Flewelling
Debbie Garnek (*Roddie's sister*)
Michael Glovinsky (*Basil's nephew*)
Heidi Golob
Ernest Gresh (*Basil's nephew*)
Shirley Gresh (*Wife of Ernest*)
Julia Guzy
Joseph Habegger (*Laura brother-in-law*)
Tom Hileman
Alice Jackson (*Mazurik*)
William Jappsen (*Diane T.*)
Michael Kouznetsov (*Mary Hiser's son*)
Kristen (*Cassell's daughter*)

David LaValle (*Fr.'s cousin*)
Helen Lis
Greg Mazur
Judy Mazurik (*Paul Mazurik's*)
Toddler Stella Miller
Teresa Miller (*Darlene sister*)
Katelyn Pipenur (*Niece of Jean*)
Earl Rindfleisch
Helen Jean Rofkar (*Elchisco*)
Maryann Royhab
Steven Schirtzinger (*Soski*)
Rick Schlotterer (*Twarek*)
Christy Schutt (*Joe's sister*)
Peter Truta (*Jean H's cousin*)
Diane Tryon
Greg Tryon
Christine Twarek
Tom Twarek
Carter Twarek
Katie and her baby Bodhi
(*Cassell's daughter-in-law*)
Pani Stacey Mihaley & her
unborn baby
Nikki & her unborn baby

Other Requests:

Alexia
Dick Biro (*Natalie's friend*)
Anna Burch (*Wayne's friend*)
Marge Dziama
Mary Dziak (*Twarek*)
Ben Franklin (*Laura friend*)
Theodore Geletka
(*St. Michael Broadview Heights'*
choir director)
Brad George (*Christi's friend*)
Donald Gresh (*Basil*)
Elliot Joy (*Police chief's son*)
Scott Kluding (*Twarek*)
Tommy Leonchik (*Fr's friend*)
Jake Lipstraw (*Twarek*)
Mark Ludvik (*Guzy*)
Anna Maiani (*Friend of Wayne*)
Claudia McDonald (*Twarek*)
Pauline Meath (*Fr's*)
Charlie Nowak (*Avery's*)
Infant Isla Ohm (*Twarek*)
Beth Reinhard (*Diane friend*)
Sandy Scafaria (*friend of Jean*)

Matthew Sterling (*Tyron*)
Janice Timko
Philip (Andy) Timko
Steve Turinsky (*Twarek*)
Bob Van Osdol (*Twarek*)
Chuck Wiedenhoft (*Twarek*)
Rachel (*Darlene M.*)
Tracy (*Cassell*)
Kristina and her unborn baby
(*Fr. Friend*)
Molly & her unborn child

Military:

Craig Cassell
Nathan Brown

Captives:

Metropolitan Paul
(*Orthodox Archdiocese of
Aleppo*)
Archbishop John
(*Syriac Archdiocese of
Aleppo*)

The UN & IOCC humanitar-
ian aid workers in & around
Syria; Those suffering perse-
cution in Iraq, Syria, Israel,
Egypt, Ukraine and through-
out the world

**NOTE: Please let Fr. Andrew
know when someone needs to
go on or come off the list.**

For Your Prayers

Julia Guzy (96 yrs old)
1601 Church Rd
Marblehead, OH 43440

Please remember her & Susan
(her daughter) in your prayers.
Send a card of greeting.

Hundreds of Students attend OCF's annual college conferences

Every December, hundreds of Orthodox Christian college students flock to one of two simultaneously held regional conferences during the week after the Great Feast of the Nativity. As in past years, the conferences sponsored by the [Orthodox Christian Fellowship](#) [OCF] were held at Antiochian Village, Bolivar, PA; and Saint Iakovos Retreat Center, Kansasville, WI, December 27 – 30, 2019.

The conference programs combined worship, fellowship, and discussions and presentations on how to become witnesses to Christ on campus and in the secular world. The Orthodox Church in America, [funded in part by the Stewards](#) provided scholarships to ten students from the Orthodox Church in America who otherwise would not have been able to participate.

This year Archpriest Sergius Halvorsen, Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program; Assistant Professor of Homiletics and Rhetoric at Saint Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary [SVOTS] was the key note speaker at the Midwest Conference. Fr. Sergius offers this reflection on his experience of this year's conference.

On Friday, December 27, as I stood in front of more than ninety college students at the OCF College Conference Midwest at the St. Iakovos Retreat Center in Kansasville WI, and as I began the first of three keynote addresses that I would deliver over the weekend, I couldn't help but think of the OCF college conference that I attended thirty years ago that changed my life forever. I was baptized and chrismated in the Orthodox Church during my college years, and from the very beginning, I thought that maybe I had a vocation to serve the Church. I once asked a senior priest about possibly going to seminary. His first question was, "Do you have a college degree?" I told him that I was close to finishing my BA. "What is your major?" he asked. "Biology," I said. Then he harrumphed and said, "Well...that doesn't have much to do with theology does it?" That was the end of the discussion, and almost the end of my vocation. A few months later I was at a summer OCF college conference at the Antiochian Village, and Fr. Thomas Hopko was the keynote

speaker. Of course I knew who Fr. Tom was...in those days it seemed like everyone did! We listened to his lectures on tape and read his books and knew that he was Dean of St. Vladimir's Seminary. Over the course of the retreat, I waited for a moment when he wasn't surrounded by too many people, and with all the courage I could muster, I introduced myself and asked about going to seminary. He cheerfully asked me about where I was from, where I was going to college, and then he asked me the question that I was dreading, "What is your major?" I sheepishly responded, "biology," fearing another bad response. Fr. Tom thought for a moment, and then he said, "Biology, that is wonderful! You know, St. Isaac the Syrian said that the Christian must love God, love neighbor, and love all of creation...including the lizards. And for someone who lived in the desert, that's really saying something!"

I shared this story with the students at the OCF conference and told them that no matter what you are studying in college, God is calling you to serve, to follow His commandments, and to build up the Body of Christ. The theme of the retreat was from the Prologue of St. John's Gospel, "The Light Shines in the Darkness" and over a remarkable three days of prayer, reflection, and fellowship, we all had an opportunity to allow the light of Christ to burn more brightly in our hearts. The retreat was entirely planned and run by college students, and I'm deeply grateful to all of them for the amazing work they did. The retreat also included a dynamic group of speakers including Fr. Panagiotis Boznos, Steven Christoforou, Paul Karos and Katrina Bitar. The diversity of the speakers gave the college students a concrete image of how Christian discipleship and vocation takes innumerable forms: lay and clergy; male and female; young and old; God calls every one of us to radiate the light of Christ in the darkness.

Coming away from the OCF College Conference Midwest reminded me of just how important it is to nurture and support our college students through the work of OCF. Thinking back on my own life, I was reminded of just how crucial an OCF experience can be to a young person discerning a vocation to serve Christ and His Holy Church. But my three days at the conference also reminded how remarkably life-giving it is for older people, like myself, to serve young people. In helping to kindle and nurture the fire of Christian faith in others, our own Orthodox Christian faith is renewed and strengthened. Glory to Jesus Christ!

January Celebrations

ANNIVERSARY	BIRTHDAY	
1-24-2015: Bishop Daniel of Santa Rosa 1-26-1969: Fr. James Gleason, Anniversary to the Holy Priesthood <p style="text-align: center;">NAMESDAY</p> 1-2: Retired Bishop Seraphim of Sendai	1- Jim Kovach 4- John Starcher 7- Susan Guzy 7- Lueleta Dardovski 8- Fr Silouan Rolando 8- Mat. Melania Adamcio 8- Barbara Mazurik 11- Toussaint Jones	13- Mary Elizabeth Blackford 14- Lauren Jerome 15- Brent Jones 23- Susan Beskid 25- Frank Batura 30- Stephanie Warnke 31- Julie Dardovski
<i>If there are those names to be added or removed, please contact Fr. Andrew. He would like to list all members of your family Orthodox and non-Orthodox.</i>		

January Reposed

3- Mat. Marilyn Federoff (2019) 3- Larry Naiser (2019) 4- Margaret Reavley (1965) 4- George Bartek (1983) 5- Russell (2019) 5- Donald (2019) 5- Maria Semionow (1981) 6- Helen Pender (2016) 8- Bishop Mark of Boston (2018)	11- Anna Tomko (1960) 15- Archpriest Pavel Soucek (2009) Former Pastor 20- Joshua Zdinak (2016) 21- Daniel Kowal (2006) 21- Philip Kobb (2018) 22- Fr. John Stefanik (2000) 23- Helen Beadle (1988) 23- Fr. Michael Sopoliga (2009) 25- Jane (2019)	29- Anna Kravetz (1973) 29- Marjorie Kowal (2003) 30- Archpriest John Mason (2019) 31- Edward Bartek (1983) Sara Rose (2005) Andrew Matway (1906) William Gratson (1908) Eva Hritsko (1908)
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1 Timothy 1:15-17 (Epistle)

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and

Matthew 15:21-28 (Gospel)

Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed." But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us." But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, help me!" But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

Sheep Dog or Guard Dog? By Fr. Lawrence Farley

In an issue of the *Road to Emmaus* journal I read a wonderful interview with Fr. Artemy Vladimirov, a priest in Moscow, in which he spoke at length about the sacrament of confession. In it he spoke of the well-intentioned but ultimately false and unhelpful zeal of some confessors who felt “like the archangel with a burning sword guarding the entrance to paradise. If one of the descendants of Adam and Eve even dares to approach [the Chalice], he immediately raises his sword to annihilate them. Or I sometimes see a young priest,” continued Fr. Artemy, “standing near the cross and gospel like a guard dog: ‘Who dares to approach Holy Communion?’ ... For him the one aim is not to permit [their approach], as if he were a judge in a Dickens novel, or a KGB officer”.

Fr. Artemy of course speaks from his experience in the Church in Russia, which is in many ways different from the experience of the Church here in North America. But his concern that clergy deal compassionately with their flock is surely universally applicable. Clergy must be like sheep dogs, not guard dogs.

It is true that one aspect of the clerical office involves the stewardship of the sacramental Mysteries, which includes not giving them out indiscriminately. For the Orthodox, the Eucharist should only be administered to Orthodox Christians. Those not in the communion of the Church and those living in open and defiant sin should not be communed, however much this may hurt their feelings. In the case of the latter, hurt feelings are one of the purposes of this excommunication and denial of the Chalice: St. Paul speaks of a “godly grief which produces repentance” (2 Corinthians 7:9-11). But either way part of pastoral stewardship involves discernment regarding the administration of the Eucharist.

The problem comes when this necessary stewardship leads to an ungodly sense of power in the steward so that he delights in his control over his flock. He then becomes not a sheep dog, but a guard dog—and a dangerous and snapping guard dog at that. Sometimes it is necessary to excommunicate someone for a fault, either to induce repentance in the defiant or

to therapeutically deal with the conscience of the sorrowful. But in either case the priestly steward acts for the salvation of his flock, and never forgets that he is there for no other purpose but to serve them. He must never delight in exclusion, as if his job were to limit communicants to an absolute minimum. His delight must be in his flock’s inclusion and their joy at the saving Chalice.

There is, of course, a danger in receiving the Eucharist too casually. But the answer is not to multiply conditions, and to insist upon all communicants first having jumped through the numerous hoops of confession, the saying of numerous canons and prayers, and a rigorous fast. All these things are good, but they are not conditions for reception, and it is not the job of the priest to act of policeman, judge, and jailor of the consciences of his flock. In the early church, let us remind ourselves, *no one* went to confession and received absolution unless they had been formally excommunicated and were returning in penitence to the communion of the Church, so it is simply untrue that our Tradition requires confession as an absolute precondition before one can partake of the Eucharist. If a person is devout, penitent, and living the Christian life, their baptism is the only absolute precondition for partaking the Eucharist. (Obviously merely nominal or lapsed Christians require different pastoral handling, and it is here that confession may be fruitfully required.) Confession, prayer, and fasting are helpful disciplines, and should never be casually dispensed with. But they are disciplines, not preconditions—much less weapons in the hands of a priest which he uses to control his flock. In this regard Fr. Artemy mentioned advice given by an older priest of the Soviet era which contains a timeless wisdom: “Be afraid of not permitting someone to partake of Holy Communion!”

The priest’s task therefore is not primarily protection of the Eucharist from the faithful, but sanctification of the faithful through the Eucharist. Like a good sheep dog, he should lead his flock to the green pastures of the Lord’s Eucharistic sheepfold, not protecting the Eucharist from them, but protecting them from wolves. For certainly wolves abound in our society, trying to hungrily devour Christ’s rational sheep through their lies, temptations, and persecutions. Through his preaching the priestly sheepdog must warn his flock and forearm them against the wiles of the World. **Con’t Pg 7**

Fr. Lawrence Con't

Like the Lord, he must wash the feet of his people, rejoicing in their victories and sorrowing over their sins like one invested personally in their salvation. And like St. John the apostle love, he must say, "No greater joy can I have than this, to hear that my children follow the truth" (3 John 4). For on the Last Day, he will have to give an account for those children to the Lord, the Chief Shepherd. He laid down His life for that flock, and His under-shepherds the priests must do no less.

New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia Commemorated on [January 26](#)

On the Sunday closest to January 25, the Church commemorates the Synaxis of the Holy New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia, remembering all those Orthodox Christians who suffered for Christ at the hands of the godless Soviets during the years of persecution. These include the royal Passion Bearers Tsar Nicholas II and his family, and the Grand Duchess Elizabeth. Countless thousands of martyrs, both clergy and laity also suffered, some of whose names are known, as well as millions of simple believers whose names have been lost to history.

It is estimated that the number of the New Martyrs of Russia, who were glorified by the Russian Orthodox Church at the Jubilee Council of 2000, far exceeds that of all the martyrs who died for Christ during the first three centuries of Christianity. The Russian Church lost millions of its sons and daughters, not only at the hands of external enemies, but also those of their own country. Among those who were murdered and tortured in the years of persecution were countless Orthodox: laity, monks, priests, and bishops, whose only "crime" was their unshakable faith in God.

In the long history of the world, never have so many new heavenly intercessors been glorified by the Church in such a way (more than one thousand New Martyrs were numbered among the saints). Among those who suffered for their faith were some who labored in America before the Russian Revolution: St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia (April 7); St. Alexander Hotovitzky (Dec. 4); St. John Kochurov (Oct. 31).

110 E Main Street, Marblehead, OH 43440
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New Midwest Diocese Communications Director appointed

Effective February 1, 2020, His Grace, Bishop Paul has appointed the Reverend Priest Alexander Koranda to the position of Communications Director for the Diocese of the Midwest.

Father Alexander was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Paul on May 6, 2017, and assigned to Holy Trinity Cathedral in Chicago in June of 2017. He became Dean of the diocesan cathedral on December 25, 2018. Father Alexander holds a Master of Divinity degree from Saint Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary, South Canaan, PA (2014) with an emphasis on Liturgical Studies. He was awarded the Bachelor of Arts from Northern Illinois University in the Spring of 2011, majoring in communication studies with an emphasis on organizational and corporate communications.

Father Alexander is married to Carly Roscoe, DNP. They have two daughters: Magdalena, age 2, and Anna, who is three months.

January Parish Development conference call announced

On January 23, 2020 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. EST the [Parish Development Ministry of the Diocese of Western Pennsylvania](#) will host the second in a series of monthly interactive video conference calls designed to share ideas and good practices for healthy parishes. The calls are open to any Orthodox clergy and lay leaders regardless of Diocese or Jurisdiction.

Each call will have a specific theme and often a guest contributor. The January call will continue the topic of stewardship and generosity begun in December 2019. [Online registration for the call](#) is now open, and background materials are available for download. Calls are recorded for later listening.

If you have questions please contact [Joe Kormos](#). Please pass this information to those in your parish who may be interested

Rectory 419-798-4591 / Cell 570-212-8747
info@holyassumptionmarblehead.org

Online giving now available for Mother Maria Ministry

The new website for the Mother Maria of Paris Charitable Ministry is now live, thanks to the work of Fr. Joel Wilson. The website can be found at charity.domoca.org.

Perhaps the most important function of the new website is that it allows users to process online donations for the Mother Maria Ministry's fundraising campaigns. Shortly after the website went public, the Mother Maria Ministry received a \$1,000 donation to match the Ministry's donation to Orthodox Detroit Outreach of the same amount. **Please share the link** to the Ministry's [fundraising campaigns](#) on your Facebook accounts, in emails, and on social media, to maximize its effectiveness throughout the Diocese of the Midwest.

The new website features ministries in the Diocese of the Midwest as well as in the OCA and in other jurisdictions and pan-Orthodox nonprofits. The site will be a place for parishes and individual Orthodox Christians to share ideas and learn about best practices concerning ministry work. In addition, it will also be a place to learn about the life and work of St. Maria Skobtsova, whose example this ministry seeks to imitate.

If you have any questions or would like your ministry to be highlighted on the website, contact Fr. Jonathan Lincoln at mothermariaminsty@domoca.org.

January's Monthly Matching Gift Challenge: FOCUS Minnesota

After a successful first [Monthly Matching Gift Challenge](#), the [Mother Maria of Paris Charitable Ministry](#) is commencing its second Monthly Matching Gift Challenge by offering a matching gift of \$1,000 to FOCUS Minnesota for a Beverage-Air Single Door Freezer, which will be used to appropriately store food for their weekly meal and their sandwich program to low-income and homeless school children, as well as for their food shelf.

[FOCUS Minnesota](#) is a basic needs assistance agency offering hospitality and hope to those in need in the Twin Cities. The adults and children

that they serve are located in a dense urban area that lacks adequate access to fresh and nutritional food. **Please help them fight food insecurity by donating toward the \$3,000 cost of a new freezer.** The Mother Maria Ministry is now calling on individuals in the diocese to support the work of FOCUS Minnesota by matching the Ministry's gift \$1,000, or as they are able to give.

This freezer will make a great difference in the lives of food insecure children and adults in the Twin Cities. The freezer's double-pane glass door provides visibility into the cabinet without the need to open the door. It has a self-closing feature to retain cold air, as well as a stay-open feature for restocking product. LED lights brighten the interior, making products easy to identify.

Last month, the Mother Maria Ministry successfully raised \$2,500 for a children's creative arts area for children served by [Orthodox Detroit Outreach](#). Through April 2020, the Ministry will continue to hold Monthly Matching Grant Campaigns by offering \$1,000 each month to an Orthodox ministry in Midwest America and asking for matching funds from individuals within the Diocese of the Midwest.

Find the Mother Maria Ministry online at charity.domoca.org and on their [Facebook](#) page, and contact Fr. Jonathan Lincoln for more information at mothermariaminsty@domoca.org.

Pilgrimages to Turkey and Greece announced for 2020

Faithful of the Diocese of the Midwest are invited to participate in a pilgrimage to Turkey and Greece in 2020.

Archpriest Andrew Harrison, retired Pastor of Saint Luke Church, Palos Hills, IL, will lead a pilgrimage "in the Footsteps of St. Paul," from May 7 through May 17, 2020. Organized through [AMI Travel](#), the pilgrimage price of \$3,597.00 plus \$485.00 tax includes round trip air fare from Chicago to Istanbul, four star hotels, daily breakfast and four dinners, comprehensive sight-seeing private tour guide and transportation, all entrance fees, and visits to numerous historic churches and shrines.

Comprehensive pilgrimage information and registration are [available online](#). Enquires may be directed to Father Andrew at 630-638-9462 or oandrey@aol.com.