The Scroll

Sunday Services

Matins...................9:00 a.m. Church School9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy10:00 a.m.

Saturday Services

Confession......4:30 p.m. Great Vespers.....5:00 p.m.

Church Contacts

Fr. Aaron Warwick, Pastor fraaron@stmarywichita.org

Fr. Deacon James Kallail kkallail@att.net

Chris Pearce, Admin. Asst office@stmarywichita.org

Curt Ratliff, Maintenance janitor@stmarywichita.org

Phone (316) 264-1576

Facebook

www.facebook.com/stmarywichita

The Scroll rokallail@att.net



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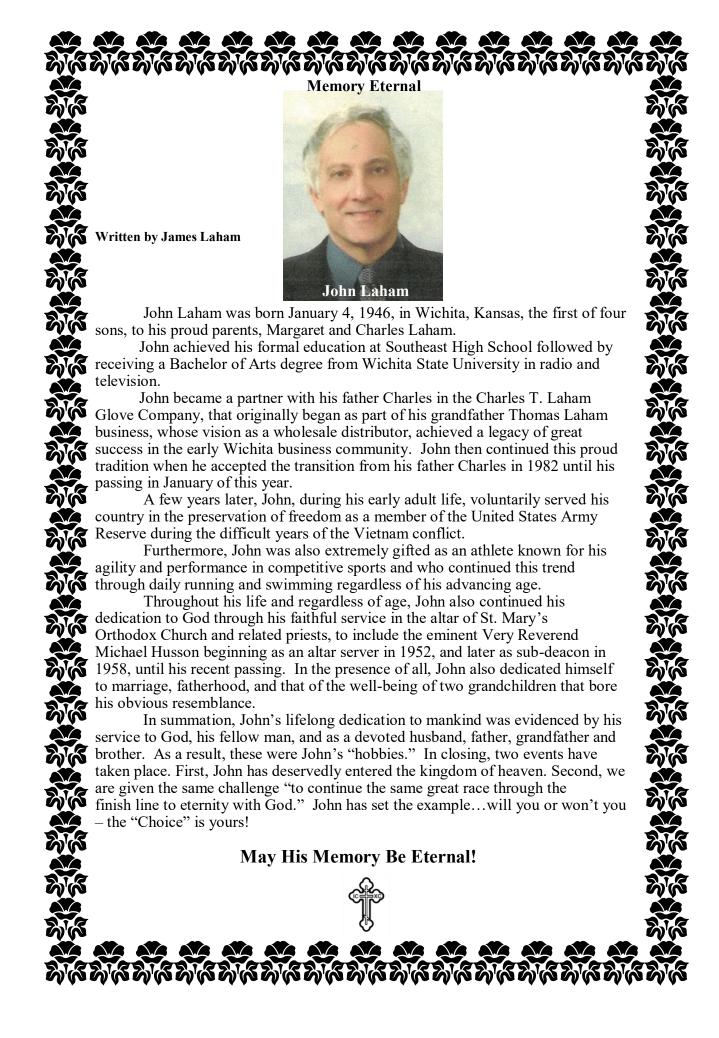
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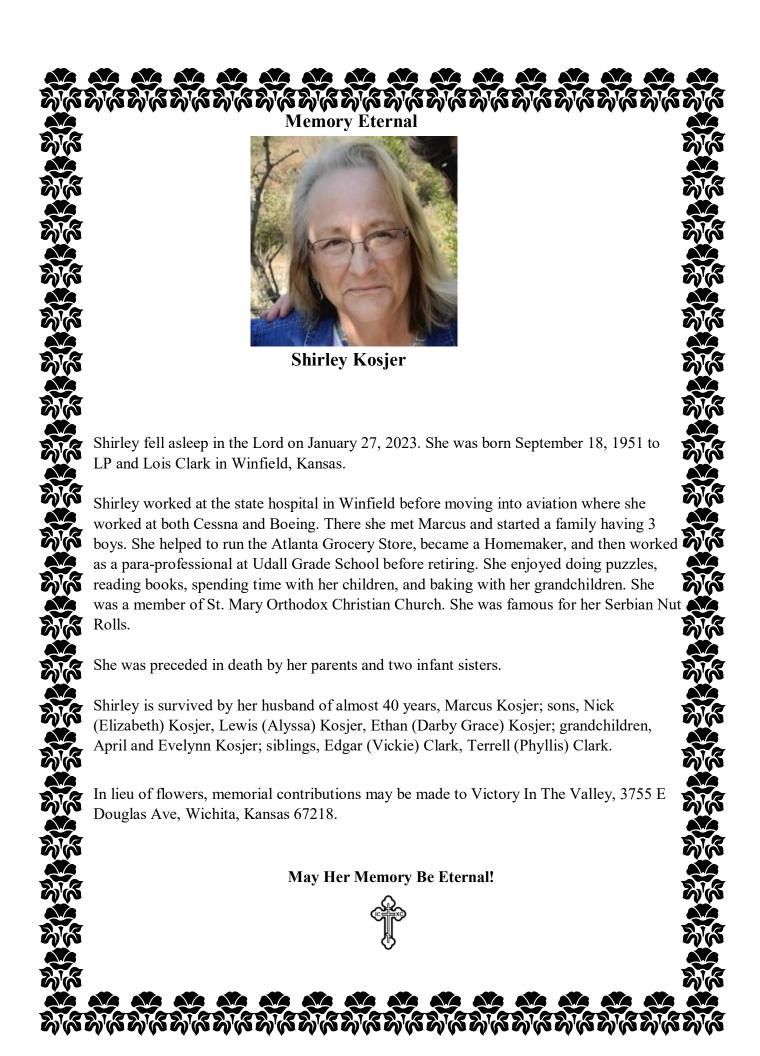
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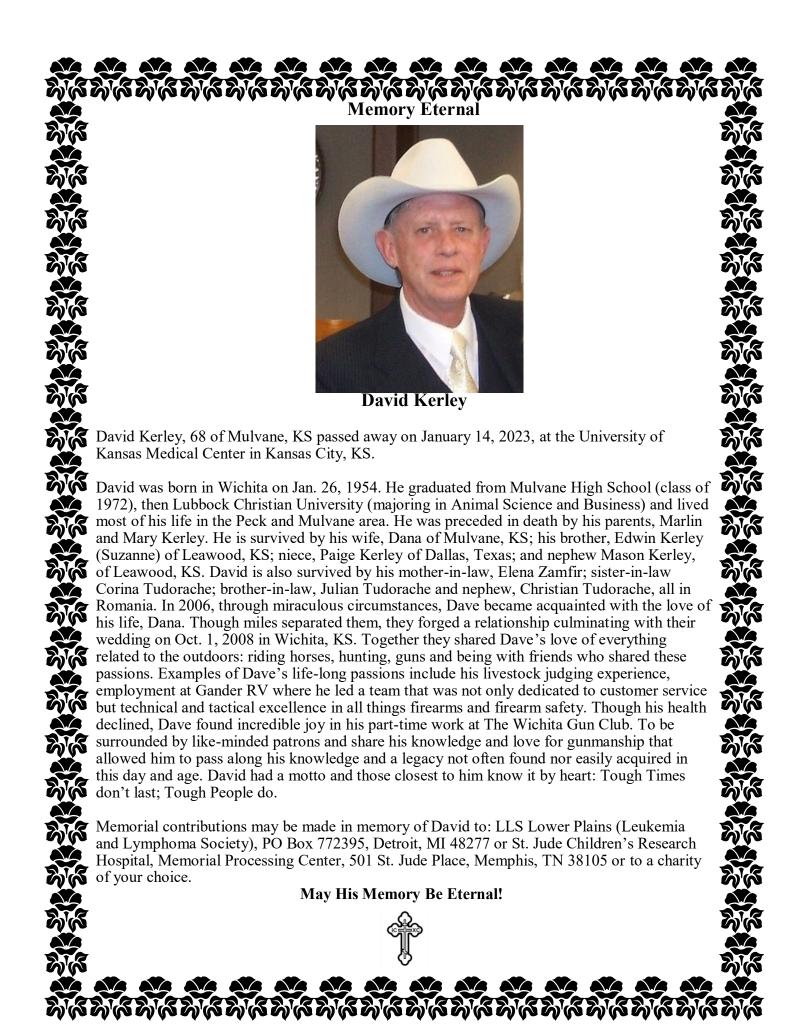
Plus....From the Ministry Teams, Celebrations, and Bits and

St. Mary Orthodox Christian Church 344 S. Martinson, Wichita, KS 67213 Rev. Fr. Aaron Warwick—Deacon James Kallail

Website:www.stmarywichita.org







Memory Eternal Joe Stevens Joe Stevens, the longtime owner of Stevens Magic Emporium in Wichita, fell asleep in the lord on January 29 at age 86. Joe was born in Wichita on April 26, 1936, and attended school in Wichita, including Marshall Middle School and North High. While at North, Joe became a star on the basketball court. He was recruited by Kansas State and Wichita State, ultimately deciding to continue his education and athletic pursuits for the hometown Shockers. 'Little Joe' became a star on the basketball team. Playing under legendary coach Ralph Miller, Stevens earned All Missouri Valley Conference honors three times as a Shocker, including first team in 1957. By the time his playing career was over, he was Wichita State's second all-time leading scorer, behind Cleo Littleton. He was inducted into the Shocker Sports Hall of Fame in 2014. Joe would often take the opportunity while on road trips with the Shockers to look through the phone books in towns the team was playing in to see if the town had a magic shop. He continued to collect magic tricks throughout his college playing days, After Joe's college playing career was over he was offered an opportunity to be drafted by the Minneapolis Lakers of the NBA. But Joe Stevens had recently become a new father, and the pay for a professional basketball player at the time wasn't great. He opted to stay home and forge a life in Wichita. Stevens soon became a door-to-door salesman for the Fuller Brush Co. He was a highly successful as a salesman due to his renown as Shocker basketball player. He eventually moved into

He was preceded in death by his Grandparents Joe & Humdumie, Parents, Joe and Eugenie Stevens, Wife, Martha McMillin Stevens and Brother, Gene Stevens. Joe is survived by his Children, Amy Jo Stevens & Barry Gordemer, Mark M. Stevens & Cilene Alves Stevens; siblings, Sandi Barrese, Judy Sayfie; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

management with the company. But the lure of magic and illusion never left Stevens. He

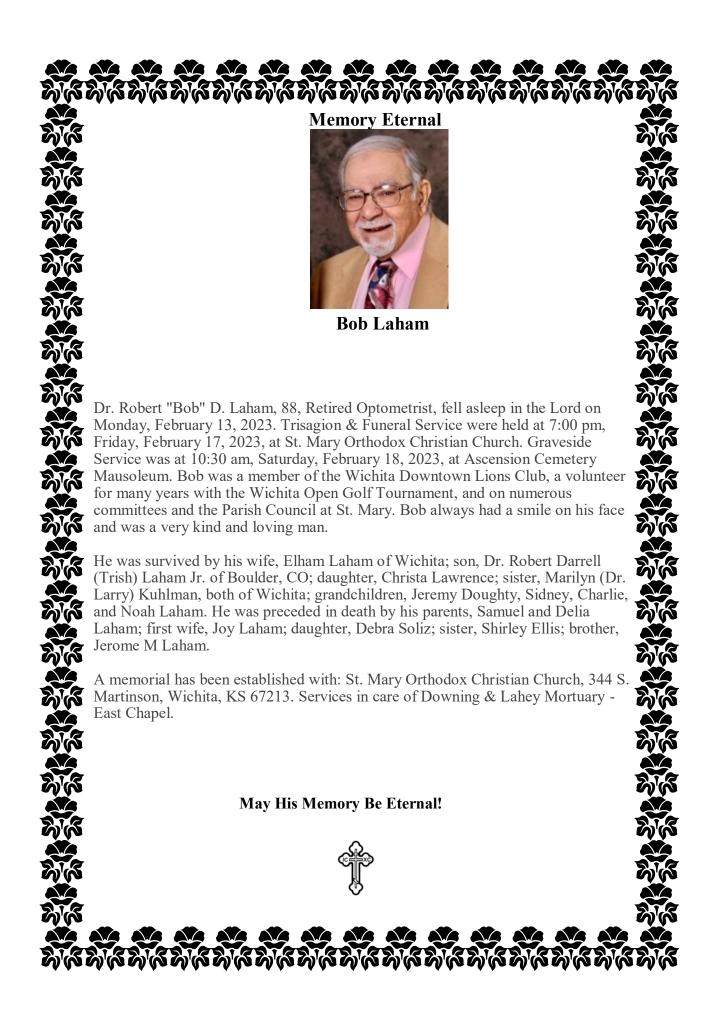
magicians such as David Copperfield, then in his early 20's, in attendance. So popular was The Wichita Conclave, it was moved to Las Vegas in 1978 and renamed the Desert Magic

started Stevens Magic Emporium In 1973. Two years later he created The Wichita Conclave, a magic convention that grew quickly in popularity and saw the likes of

Seminar.

May His Memory Be Eternal!





Stewardship & Giving by Fr Luke Veronis

The Church is our beloved family and our spiritual home. We support our Church by joyously giving of ourselves, offering our time through volunteering (like so many did at our festival and like many do at our Living Bread Luncheon and in other ways), offering our talents and gifts through the ministries of the church, and through our treasure and finances. We give to God and His Church because God has first given to us. We are blessed and express our gratitude by giving back to Him.

A little girl once noticed that after a collection was taken in church, the ushers brought it up to the altar to be blessed. She whispered to her mother, "Mommy, how do they get the money up to heaven?" To which the mother replied, "The church doesn't send money to heaven, but uses it to bring heaven down to us."

God, infinite though He is, has chosen to work through us, through our gifts, through our hands, through our resources, through our offerings. Always remember we are the body of Christ and through the ministries of the Church we try to continue His work in the world. In our giving, we ask everyone to reflect on what God has given you in your lives, and then to respond to His generosity accordingly. If we have been richly blessed, we joyously share these blessings with others through the church.

Saint Paul says that "God loves a cheerful giver." Mother Teresa used to say, "It does not matter how much we give, but rather how much love we put into our giving." Let us learn to become cheerful givers of love.

Remember the words of Saint John Chrysostom - "A rich man is not one who has much, but one who gives much. For what he gives away remains his forever." We want to invest in this type of eternal giving.

There is a legend about Zacchaeus the dishonest tax collector whom Jesus called down from a sycamore tree so he could have dinner with him. Zacchaeus, you recall, was converted as a result of this encounter with Jesus. After meeting our Lord, he gave away half of his wealth to the poor and promised that he would repay anyone he cheated four-fold back.

In later years, the legend says, Zacchaeus used to rise early every morning, carry a bucket of water to the sycamore tree and carefully water its roots. On one occasion his wife followed him and when asked the reason for this strange concern over an old tree, Zacchaeus replied, "This is where I found Christ. This is where I found the greatest blessing. This is where my life began." The Church is where we find Christ. The Church is where we are baptized. The Church is where we hear the eternal Words of Life. The Church is where Jesus comes to dwell in us every time we approach and receive Him in the Holy Eucharist. The Church is where we share in fellowship with our Christian brothers and sisters, finding love, comfort and encouragement in one another. The Church is where we find forgiveness, mercy, peace, healing, freedom and eternal salvation.

This is why we love the Church. We know how blessed we are to have this priceless treasure of faith. And this is why we joyously and generously support Jesus Christ and His Holy Church.

It is interesting how God taught the Israelites that everything they had was a gift from the Almighty and as a sign of their gratitude to the Lord, they should offer back to God the tithe, the first fruits of all they had. The tithe is giving back to God the first 10% of all that God has given to us.

The Prophet Malachi even criticizes the Israelites and chastises them because they hold back the tithe from the Lord. He says that the people of God are robbing Him because they are not giving the Lord the tithe, the first 10% of all they have.

This is a challenge to each one of us. Think about all your blessings and then think about what you offer back to God? Is it a small portion from your abundance or is it a conscious offering from the first fruits of all you have?

Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be." How we spend our money and what we give reveals what we value and how important something is. Where is the Church in your priorities and in your giving?

The Prophet Malachi goes on to say to the people of Israel that when they learn to offer the tithe to God, they will be richly blessed, "Put me to the test and see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing of blessings." We cannot outgive God.

Reflect on your blessings in life, and then reflect on what you offer to the Church through your Stewardship Giving. Don't compare your giving to one another, only compare your giving to how you have been blessed. We thank God for all of you, our generous stewards and supporters of our beloved Church. God has blessed us. May we offer these blessings back to Him.





WHEN

Saturday, May 6, 11-7 pm

Preparations for the 2023 Mediterranean Festival are well underway, and the Med Fest team is excited to tell you about this year's event. Our parish has many new faces since last year, so before we get into the details, let's introduce our event to those unfamiliar, or to anyone who needs a refresher.

WHAT

The Mediterranean Festival is the primary fundraiser for our parish, and helps us **meet the financial needs of our vibrant ministries** while also allowing us **to serve others** by donating a portion of our proceeds to local charities. The Festival is also a public outreach event which helps us **share our faith and our founding heritage** with the community. This event offers many opportunities for **fellowship** for the entire parish as we work together toward a common goal.

WHEN

Saturday, May 6, 11-7 pm

DRIVE-THRU & CARRY-OUT

The format this year is the same as last year, which is a drive-thru and carry-out only, plus the Mediterranean Marketplace inside. There is no indoor or outdoor seating.

PLATED MEAL - HONORING OUR ROOTS

We are returning to our roots with a single traditional plate that is nearly identical to our earliest known menu (pictured in graphic above) which features St Mary's most popular and well-known menu items:

Greek Salad, Rice & Green Beans, 2 Cabbage Rolls, Kibbee, Talame Bread, Baklawa

The plated meal costs \$20 and can be purchased the day of the event with cash, credit card, or pre-sale tickets in the drive-thru or carry-out.

MEDITERRANEAN MARKETPLACE

The Mediterranean Marketplace remains St. Mary's biggest opportunity for growth in revenue, and every year we run out of items. **Everyone's participation is needed by making baked goods!** This is so important! When everyone pitches in, it makes a huge impact on St. Mary's offering as well as income.

Ethnic foods are wonderful, but all baked goods sell. Even if you can't bake, there are opportunities to contribute to the Marketplace. Please contact Robbie Namee to find out how you can help.

PRE-ORDER EVENT

As always, some of the food is available to purchase in bulk quantities before the event during our pre-order sale in April. Watch all of the parish's communication channels for information about purchasing.

PRESALE TICKETS

While tickets are not required to attend or make purchases at the event (cash, check, credit card, and pre-sale tickets are accepted.), tickets help get people in the door and usually lead to additional purchases, especially in the Marketplace. Every year there are a significant number of unredeemed tickets, which is pure profit for St. Mary. Tickets and marketing materials are available late March. Tickets can be used for drive-thru, carry-out, or in the Marketplace. Please make sure to take some to sell!!

CHARITY PARTNER

This year, 10% of the Festival's net proceeds are donated to **Hope Ranch for Women**, a faith-based equine-assisted ministry empowering women who have been exploited and abused to rise above their circumstances.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

The bookstore is open, the church is open for tours, our charity partner has an information table, and there is a raffle for a gift basket.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

The help of the entire parish is needed to make this event possible. Helping on work days and on the day of the festival are great opportunities for fellowship, as well as a way to serve the parish and our community through our partnerships with local charities.

HELP ADVERTISE

The most effective way to help advertise is by liking and sharing the posts on Facebook. On posts where parishioner engagement is high, reach is nearly 5,000 people; when it is low, reach is only around 100. You can pick up printed marketing materials, and pre-sale tickets to help promote the festival. All are available in the parish hall at the end of March, or by talking to any member of the Med Fest Committee. Please help advertise this event! Every year, there are a large number of first time attendees; however, this is only possible if they see the Med Fest marketing materials. **The more guests, the more that's**

raised for St. Mary and Hope Ranch for Women!

SPONSORSHIP

The Med Fest sponsorship program is a great way for local businesses to advertise, while helping offset expenses. Robust marketing reaches tens of thousands of people on every platform including web, social media, TV, radio, and print. If you know of a business or individual who would like to be a sponsor for this year's festival, please contact Mike Zarich, Jason Ewertt, or TC Wallace.

As you can see, an exciting event is planned for this year, along with a wonderful cause to work hard for. It takes many hours, resources, and people to make this event come together, and it truly cannot happen without the help and support of the entire parish. Look for weekly updates about the festival, mark your calendars, invite your friends, and help make the 2023 Mediterranean Festival the best event yet!

The Mediterranean Festival Committee



What was your favorite thing you did over the holidays?

Helen Stitt – We celebrated our anniversary with our friends. We had dinner out, then came back to our house for dessert and refreshments.

Theodora Stevens – Spent four days in a row with cousins from out of town! Doesn't matter how old you are, always a great time!

TC Wallace – be with family

Dorothy Voth – My favorite thing I did this Christmas was to enjoy our family gathering and most of all was celebrating with my new Great Granddaughter Mia and of course the Birth of Christ. We are so blessed and thankful for God's Gifts to us.

Amy Minks – It never gets old! Seeing all the grandkids light up with excitement when Santa comes walking in ringing his bell and yelling Ho Ho Ho with his big bag over his shoulder. He sits down and each grandkid gets a turn on his knee as he reaches in his bag for the perfect gift personalized for each one. Even all of our grown kids and their spouses sit on his knee for a chocolate Ho Ho from the bag as they tell him what they want for Christmas too. The family keeps growing in numbers every Christmas! God Blessed You With Strong Knees Darren!!

Dennis Fairbanks – cleaned up my liquor cabinet:)

Ro Kallail - Getting to spend time with our children, family, and our miracle and precious Granddaughter, Mia!

5 Quotes To Make You Smile



"You know what I saw today? Everything I looked at!"

"If we shouldn't eat at night, why do they put a light in the fridge?"

"How do trees get online? They just log on!"

"What does the man in the moon do when his hair gets too long? Eclipse it!"

"Your mind is a garden, your thoughts are the seeds. You can grow flowers, or you can grow weeds!"

FROM THE MINISTRY TEAMS

THE SCROLL

Next Issue Will Cover -- March/April **Deadline to Submit -- April 22** On Website -- April 28 **Available in Foyer -- April 30**



FamilyPromise Family Promise of Greater Wichita unites hearts and hands to provide compassionate hospitality and empower homeless families with children to achieve sustainable independence.

Our Uniqueness

Our customized case management allows us to walk beside families in life, partnering with them to achieve their goals. This allows high-quality, high-impact care. There are three phases to our Sustainable Independence Program (SIP):

Phase 1: Support Services

Families are assisted with urgent/crisis needs for homelessness prevention, as we have resources.

Phase 2: Hospitality/Lodging

Our Rotation Program, to work towards sustainability. Other programs revolve around this. St. Mary recently completed a week of hosting families. Two families, two adults and eight children were provided nightly shelter and food for three meals a day. Approximately twenty volunteers came together to provide food, meals, transportation, laundry, or slept over at the church. Our remaining host weeks in 2023 are June 11 and December 24.

Phase 3: **Mentoring/Aftercare**

For families who have participated in/graduated from our Rotation Program.

Please contact Vicki Jones, 650-0658, if you have questions or would like more information.

Did you know? 92% of graduate families are stably housed! (Family Promise of Greater Wichita)

GREETER MINISTRY TEAM

The primary purpose of the Greeter Ministry Team is to make all of our visitors to St. Mary feel welcome in our parish home. To welcome the stranger is not just a nice or courteous thing to do, but is in fact one of the things mentioned by our

Lord by which we will be judged: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." To welcome the stranger is a great blessing to them and to us; the Greeter Ministry Team strives to fulfill this scriptural command together with our parish family. One responsibility of greeters is to greet visitors before Liturgy. This includes giving them a bulletin and visitor packet, asking them to sign the visitor book, and invite them to coffee hour. After Liturgy, greeters will seek out the visitors and introduce to at least one other person in church, introduce them to Fr. Aaron and Deacon James, offer to give a tour of the facility, and show them the rack of educational pamphlets in the foyer. During the following week, the greeter will complete a New Visitor Note Card that will be mailed to the visitor. There are currently six active members of the Greeters Team. There is a need for more members of the team. If you wish more information on this Ministry Team, contact Al Busada at busadaa44@cox.net.

MEAL TRAIN

The St Mary Meal Train ministry was formed in 2016 to serve the families in our parish immediately following the birth of a child. After the birth of a child, what to eat for dinner is not usually at the forefront of new parents' minds. Instead, new parents are focused on the new life they have created and finding their new normal between dirty diapers, seemingly near-constant cries, and many feedings. Our goal is to provide the evening meal every day for a week. The meals have been a mixture of home cooked, frozen, and store-bought meals as well as restaurant gift cards. We also provide a supply of paper products such as plates, napkins, cutlery, and cups to reduce the workload of the family. Being part of this ministry does not mean that you have to be involved every time a request is sent

help at all is much appreciated by the families we are serving. If you would like to be part of this ministry, please contact Jessica Lessman (Miriam121406@ live.com) to get on the mailing list.

out. Each of us has our own commitments and are sometimes unable to help. Any

THE LORD'S DINER



THE LORD'S DINER

The Lord's Diner exists to combat hunger in the community. The Diner's singular mission is to serve a nutritious meal with dignity and respect to anyone who is hungry. The Lord's Diner serves an evening meal 365 days a year. The Lord's Diner serves an average of 2,500 meals nightly at two dining facilities (one in downtown Wichita and one in south Wichita) and three food trucks (one in northwest Wichita, and one in southeast Wichita, and one in northeast Wichita) to any guest who needs a nutritious meal, 60 percent of which are families. St. Mary volunteers serve at The Lord's Diner on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. We gather at the downtown location, Central and Broadway, at 5:15 p.m. We are usually finished by 8:00 p.m., so come join us. This important ministry is in need of a new Team Leader. Contact Vicki Jones, 316-650-0658, if you need information about the duties of the leader.

THE BELLES



The Belles every other month business meeting was held in January. There were six attendees. In February The Belles hosted a Farkle Party. Twelve women and girls attended. Spirited rounds of Farkle were played while the guests enjoyed delicious snacks. March is Women's Month in our Archdiocese. In the past women of the parish have read the epistle and been the greeters during March. If you'd like to participate, please let Vicki Jones know, 650-0658. Sunday, March 8 we will host the Presanctified Liturgy and potluck with St. George parishioners. We need help to set up (4:00), serve, and clean up. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 14, at 6:30. We will meet at the church, please park in the back. NOTE: We will meet on Tuesday rather than Monday this month. Finally, we will be offering holy bread and hosting coffee hour on Sunday, March 26 in honor of Women's Month.

Cook's Corner





3-Ingredient Stovetop Mac and Cheese Recipe

Fewer ingredients than the boxed version but comes together in the same amount of time.

by J. Kenji López-Alt Updated Sep. 15, 2022 www.seriouseats.com

Ingredients

6 ounces (170g) elbow macaroni

Salt

6 ounces (180ml) evaporated milk

6 ounces (170g) grated mild or medium cheddar cheese, or any good melting cheese, such as Fontina, Gruyère, or Jack

Directions

Place macaroni in a medium saucepan or skillet and add just enough cold water to cover. Add a pinch of salt and bring to a boil over high heat, stirring frequently. Continue to cook, stirring, until water has been almost completely absorbed and macaroni is just shy of al dente, about 6 minutes.

Immediately add evaporated milk and bring to a boil. Add cheese. Reduce heat to low and cook, stirring continuously, until cheese is melted and liquid has reduced to a creamy sauce, about 2 minutes longer. Season to taste with more salt and serve immediately.

Notes

If you are willing to kick the total ingredients up to more than three, try a good dash of hot sauce, some mustard powder, or a little knob of butter stirred in with the evaporated milk.







BIRTHDAYS

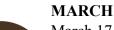
MARCH

- 1 Maher Gerges
- 2 Joey Salome
- 3 Matthew Allen
- 5 Ephraim Oller
- 7 Aidan Hewitt
- 9 Cliff Bragg
- 10 Charity Wagner
- 13 Cathy Fairbanks
- 14 Lydia Oller
- 15 Tracie Abdayem
- 20 Thaddeus Oller
- 22 Melissa Freeman
- 26 Cathy Morris
- 26 Micah Oller
- 26 Dennis Fairbanks
- 27 Tracy Namee
- 28 Megan Gilstrap
- 29 Paula Zarich
- 31 Mary Gerges

APRIL

- 1 Ronan Bragg
- 9 John Abdayem
- 10 Leslie Namee
- 11 Grace Namee
- 12 William Hernandez
- 13 Valerie DeBolt
- 15 Amy Minks
- 15 Kelly Hewitt
- 19 Richard Laham
- 20 Subdeacon Ken Dannenberg
- 20 Fr. Aaron Warwick
- 22 Finnian Bragg
- 24 Anthony Jacobs
- 24 Megan Patterson
- 25 Jeannie Gerges

ANNIVERSARIES



March 17 Dennis and Cathy Fairbanks

APRIL

April 14 Dick and Shirley Zarich

April 21 Subdeacon Ken and Claire Dannenberg

Baptism and Chrismation on December 18 of Shawn Vulgamore, Jennifer Lane, Brett, and Alexus Parrott.





On December 28, wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Hicks.

Congratulations and Many Years!









Epiphany - January 5





Hazel Elisabeth Oller was born on January 11. She weighed 9 lbs. 14 oz., and was 20 1/4 inches long. She is the daughter of Laura and Matt Oller.

Congratulations and Many Years!



New Parish Council Members January 11

Congratulations and Many Years!



Mediterranean Festival Preparations: Cabbage Rolls, January 21









Bits and Pieces Mediterranean Festival Preparations: Kibbee, February 11











Baptism of Mabel Mary Singiresu, she is the daughter of Melissa (Shippy) and Dheeraj Singiresu and granddaughter of Judith Shippy. Godparents are David Shippy and Amanda McMillian.

Congratulations and Many Years!









The Scroll Production Schedule - 2023

Issue: January/February, 2023 Deadline: February 17

On Website – February 24 In Foyer – February 26

Issue: March/April, 2023 Deadline: April 22

On Website – April 28 In Foyer – April 30

Issue: May/June, 2023 Deadline: June 17 On Website – June 23

In Foyer – June 25

Issue: July/August, 2023

Deadline: August 19On Website – August 25

In Foyer – August 27

Issue: September/October, 2023

Deadline: October 21On Website – October 27
In Foyer – October 29

Issue: November/December, 2023

Deadline: December 22 On Website – December 29 In Foyer – December 31

Send news to: rokallail@att.net

About The Scroll

The Scroll is the news magazine of St. Mary Orthodox Christian Church, 344 S. Martinson, KS, 67213. It was first published in March of 1974 as a newsletter and has evolved to its present magazine-style format. The Scroll includes information about our Orthodox Christian faith as well as news of our parish community. Deadline dates for publication are listed in each issue of The Scroll and also in the weekly church bulletins. Inquiries and news items should be sent to rokallail@att.net or to the above church address C/O The Scroll.

All news must be received by the announced deadline dates. Submitted material may be edited for content and space limitations. All submitted items should include the name of the person sending the material as well as identifying the original source of previously published pieces.

The Scroll Ministry Team

Deacon James Kallail Ro Kallail Amy Minks



LOOKING AHEAD

February 26 Cheesefare Sunday

February 27
Lent Begins

March 5 Orthodoxy Sunday

March 12 Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas

> March 17 St. Patrick's Day

March 18 Make meat pies

March 19
Veneration of the Cross

March 25
Annunciation of the Theotokos

March 26 Sunday of St. John Climacus

April 1Make Baklawa sticks

April 2 St. Mary of Egypt

April 8Lazarus Saturday

April 9 Palm Sunday

April 14 Holy Friday

April 16 Holy Pascha

April 22 Scroll deadline

April 29 Make Baklawa