

The Annual Icon Festival began twenty five years ago to educate Basilica parishioners and the community about the history and significance of Icons, a tradition that is centuries old yet still very much a part of today's world. Interest in Icons was growing at that time and continues. The Festival provides opportunities for the communities and individuals involved to learn more about each other through art and music.



The Greek word 'Icon,' meaning 'image,' is used in Christianity to denote a Holy Image. Icons have profound historical and spiritual significance in the setting of the Orthodox liturgy, in private daily prayer rituals, and in the art world.

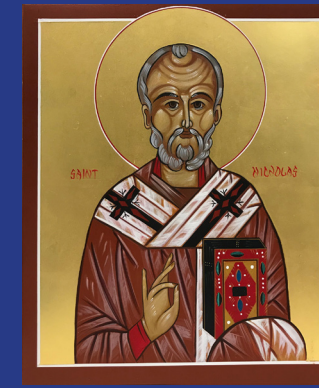
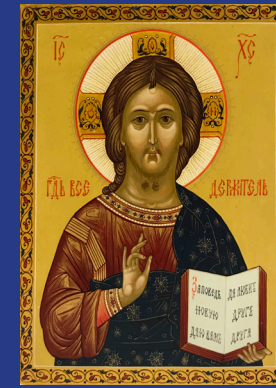
THE BASILICA OF SAINT MARY



THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL ICON FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER, 2019 • THE BASILICA OF SAINT MARY

Twenty five years ago, a group of unlikely collaborators sat down to talk. They met with a germ of an idea — to celebrate the holiness and beauty of the Icon as well as a common adoration and love of an art form whose sole purpose is to direct one's mind and heart to the Divine. Under the common umbrella of the icon, the friendship between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Roman Catholic Church began with a meeting between Johan van Parys, Carol Frenning, and Iconographer Debra Korluka. They had the idea of celebrating the Icon in November (traditionally the Catholic month of remembrance of the dead), and so it began in 1995 with a small display of Icons in the St. John the Baptist Chapel. As the number of Icons grew over the years, so did the people involved, and so did the festival. The festival eventually came to be opened by a special Icon procession during an early November liturgy, into the holiest space of The Basilica, the sanctuary. And here we are, twenty five years later.



Events

Icon Exhibit

November 1–24, at The Basilica of Saint Mary

Icons, dating from the 17th century to contemporary time, are collected and borrowed from churches and individuals throughout the Twin Cities to be displayed in the sanctuary at The Basilica of Saint Mary in downtown Minneapolis.

Icon Procession

Sunday, November 3, at The Basilica of Saint Mary

The Icon Festival officially opens with a procession of Icons during the 9:30am & 11:30am Masses on Sunday, November 3.

Maronite Divine Liturgy

Sunday, November 10, 4:30pm, at The Basilica of Saint Mary

As we celebrate our 25th annual Icon Festival, Chorbishop sharbel Maroun of the Church of St. Maron will celebrate the Divine Liturgy according to the Maronite Rite at The Basilica of Saint Mary at 4:30pm on Sunday November 10. The Choir of St. Maron will provide the music under the direction of Fr. Emmanuel of Holy Family Maronite church. The Maronite Church founded by Saint Maron, a 4th c. Syriac Christian monk is a self governing Eastern Catholic Church in full communion with the Pope and the Catholic Church.



Concerts

The Cathedral Choir of The Basilica of Saint Mary will join forces with members of the Minnesota Eastern Orthodox Christian Clergy Association to perform Rachmaninoff's All-Night Vigil. Sara Ann Pogorely and Teri Larson, conductors. The concert is free to all.

Friday, November 22, 8:00pm

at St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral

1701 Fifth Street NE

Minneapolis, MN 55413

612-781-7667 • www.stmarysoca.org

Saturday, November 23, 8:00pm

at The Basilica of Saint Mary

88 North 17th Street

Minneapolis, MN 55403

612-333-1381 • www.mary.org

Talk: Christians in the Middle East

Sunday, November 24, 11:00am-12:30pm, Saint Ambrose Room

What is it like to be a Christian in the Middle East today? How does one live out one's faith, among grave challenges and threats. Did you know the Arabic word for "witness" and "martyr" is virtually the same? Come to learn from our brothers and sisters from St. Maron's Maronite Catholic Church in Northeast Minneapolis. The conflict in Syria has lessons for us to learn. For more information, call 612.317.3477 or email jandersen@mary.org.

2020 Icon Classes

Saturday mornings: March 14, 21, 28 and April 4, 2020

The Basilica of Saint Mary has hosted annual Icon classes during Lent since 2011. Participants have painted Icons of The Holy Face, The Return of the Prodigal Son, John the Baptist, The Visitation, Mary of Magdala, Mother of God of Tender Feeling, Francis, Seraphim of Sarov, and Angels. During Lent 2020 participants will paint an Icon of Saint Mary – Untier of Knots. Tuition is \$295 for first time participants; this includes all materials. Contact Deb at akorluka@aol.com or 612-889-5868 to register.