



*Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.”*

*Ephesians 2:19-22*

# 100th Anniversary



## St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Church

**1913 - 2013**



### Platinum donors:

Elena Lozne, DDS  
Anonymous  
Constanta & John Korolchuk  
Tudor & Maria Felea

### Golden donors:

Ann Marinkov  
Izvorasul  
Irinel & Ovidiu Ardeleanu  
Nicolae & Marinela Grigore

### Silver donors:

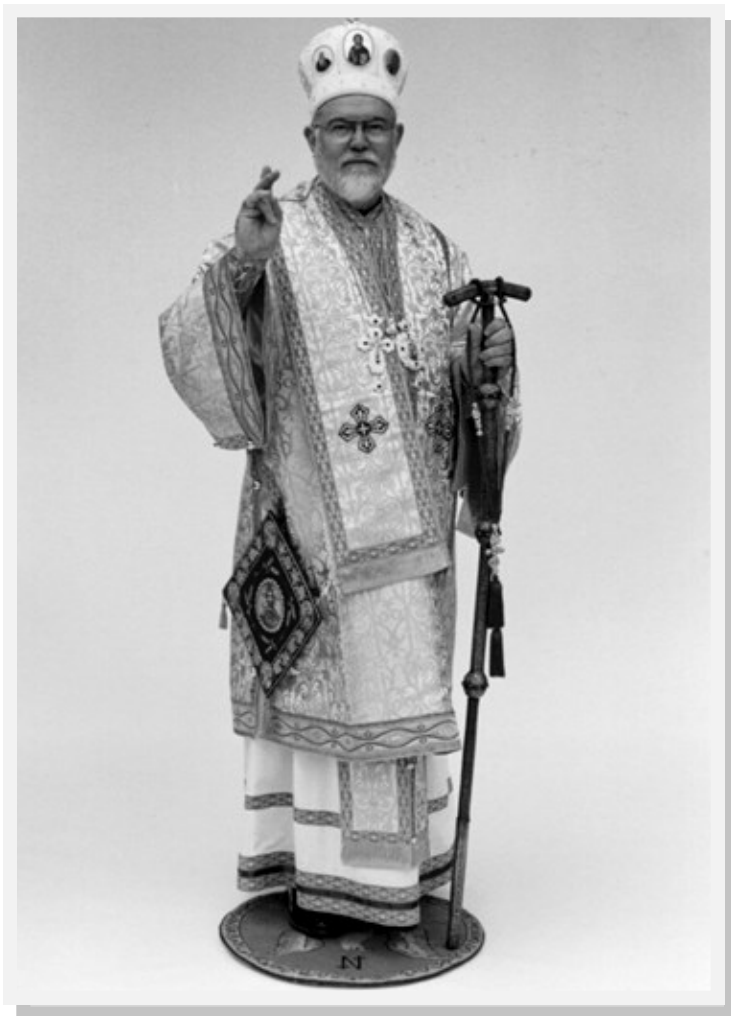
Fr. Mircea & Psa. Anca Vasiu  
Fr. George & Psa. Cristina Oanca  
Maria & Walter Golden  
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Dona Serban Laine  
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Veronica Ivans  
Nicoleta & Victor Agrigoroae Bolos  
Elena & Serban Simian  
Phillip Jr. & Myra Tocanita  
Thomas & Daniela Hoolihan  
Fiodor & Liuba Didenco



### His Eminence, Archbishop Valerian Trifa

Archbishop of Detroit and  
The Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America  
Consecrated: April 27, 1952

*He was the ruling bishop of the Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America from 1957 until 1984. His tenure as bishop was marred by allegations of association with the fascist-leaning Iron Guard during his youth in Romania. As a result of the allegations he retired as ruling bishop and entered into voluntary exile to Portugal, where he died.*



**His Eminence, Archbishop Dr. Nathaniel Popp**

Archbishop of Detroit and  
The Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America  
Consecrated: November 15, 1980  
Name-day: April 22

**ITEMS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST**

Donations to the Church in 1914:

Ștefan	Teodorescu .....	Church Banners - \$ 30
Frații	Vulcananti .....	“Cerimea” - \$ 75
Achim	Pupaza.....	Big Cross - \$ 40
Frații	Bebeni .....	Big Bell - \$ 239
Frații Simiclăușeni	.....	Small Bell - \$ 152
	.....	Original Oil Painting- \$500
Ion Lipovon	.....	Altar Doors - \$ 20
George Muntean	.....	Epistle Book - \$ 10

Other small necessity items were donated by many other people.

However, in 1914 the cost of constructing the church was \$ 4,430.45

The two lots were at a cost of \$ 650 and the fence was \$ 275. The painting and the 2 (two) crosses of the church were \$ 149.50. The first vestments for the Priest were \$ 96.08.

In 1913 there were approximately 170 members and their families.

The Society “Augustina” gave \$ 100 donation in 1913 and was instrumental in the founding of our church.

In 2013 a new Holy Altar Table was donated by Elena Lozne IMO her son Robert Neculai and her mother Anica .

**Other ad book sponsors:**

Constanta & John Korolchuk  
Margaret Ann Yorga Young and Family  
Doina Neculescu—IMO her mother Maria Miron  
Albert & Libby Imbrone



Prayers and blessings for Diane and Lloyd Hansen,  
of White Bear Lake,  
who had generously helped  
several Romanian families,  
including myself, settle in Minnesota.

**THANK YOU,**  
*Veronica Ivans*

**La Mulți Ani,  
Saint Mary Romanian Orthodox Church!**

*Felicitări Părintelui Mircea, Consiliului Parohial,  
Asociației Femeilor și tuturor celorlalți enoriași  
care s-au ostenit să pregătească acest eveniment!*

**Doamne ajută!**

*Ion Petrescu, Silvia Antonescu  
Mihai, Cătălin, Maria & Olive.*



THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA  
**THE ROMANIAN ORTHODOX EPISCOPATE OF AMERICA**

The Most Reverend Dr. NATHANIEL Popp, Archbishop  
The Right Reverend IRINEU Duvlea, Auxiliary Bishop



Vatra Românească  
1 Septembrie 2013  
Sf. Simeon Stîpnicul

Prea Cucernice Părinte MIRCEA VASIU,  
Iubiți Credincioși ai Parohiei Ortodoxe Române  
Adormirea Maicii Domnului, St. Paul, Minnesota

La acest ceas aniversar din viața Parohiei Ortodoxe Române Adormirea Maicii Domnului St. Paul, Minnesota, ne alăturăm și noi celor care aduc slavă lui Dumnezeu și mulțumire cu ocazia împlinirii a 100 de ani de activitate misionară și existență neîncetată a Comunității Românești din Minnesota și a spune tuturor: "Dumnezeu s-a preamărit prin slujitorii săi dreptcredincioși. Dumnezeu răsplătește și înmulțește ceea ce omul credincios a făcut cu sudoarea feței sale, cu credință și cu dragoste".

În toți acești ani, credincioșii și preoții au muncit ca să păstreze tradiția, credința și mai ales obiceiurile frumoase aduse de "acasă" de peste ocean și au contribuit prin talentul lor la întărirea credinței și a comunității Româno-Americane. Mulți din cei ce au slujit și și-au dăruit din puținul lor bisericii, astăzi nu mai sunt. Au plecat în veșnicie să-și primească plata și cununa de la Hristos, pentru tot ce au făcut pentru neamul lor și pentru Biserica. Pentru toți aceștia spunem din adâncul inimii: "Veșnica lor pomenire" și fie ca să audă glasul Domnului care îi cheamă la El, răsplătindu-i cu cununi veșnice în împărăția Sa.

În aceste momente istorice ne îndreptăm cu recunoștință la cei ce au adus pe acest continent lumina credinței noastre ortodoxe românești cu toată bogăția ei, Preasfințitul Episcop Policarp Morușca, Înaltpreasfințitul Arhiepiscop Valerian, preoții slujitori în cei 100 de ani de existență și credincioșii parohiei, iar noi cei de astăzi avem marea datorie de a duce mai departe și respecta cu sfințenie acest tezaur pentru generațiile următoare.

Cu această ocazie felicit pe P.C. Părinte MIRCEA VASIU pentru slujirea exemplară dăruită pentru Biserica lui Hristos și pentru păstrarea credinței noastre ortodoxe, a tradițiilor și identității noastre naționale fără de care aici pe acest continent nu am însemna nimic.

Acum la acest ceas aniversar, rugăm pe Bunul și Milostivul Dumnezeu să binecuvinteze lucrarea și jertfa bunilor noștri credincioși, să reverse peste toți binecuvântarea Sa, ca mulți ani de acum înainte, Parohia Adormirea Maicii Domnului din St. Paul, Minnesota să existe, să slujească și să crească spre slava Lui și a credinței noastre strămoșești.

La mulți ani tuturor!

Cu arhierestii și părintești binecuvântări

† IRINEU

Episcop de Dearborn Heights și Vicar al Episcopiei Ortodoxe Române din America  
Stareț al Mănăstirii Ortodoxe Române Înălțarea Domnului din Clinton, MI



**Rev. Fr. Mircea VasIU  
Parish Priest**



*Preoteasa Anca and I, along with our sons Andrew & Gabriel, are most privileged and honored to be together with you at this important event in the life of St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Church, its 100th Anniversary Celebration.*

*The orthodox family extends all the way back to the first disciples and Apostles who spread the Gospel of our Lord to the world. Today we still stand witness to the Truth and Love just as it was 2000 years ago.*

*An anniversary celebration is a time to look back to the past and to reflect on the future. On this day, we should remember those whose faith and hard work have made this moment possible. Our parish is truly a community that offers something for everyone and a place where everyone can feel at home.*

*I know that our potential is endless. All we have to do is to continue to put a part of our talents to work for the glory of God and His Holy Church. It is important that we re-dedicate ourselves today to the Christian principles of providing the love, fellowship and help that people seek and need so much. The role of the Church does not change, but it has to be "rediscovered" by each succeeding generation.*

*May God keep you, bless you and hold you in His hands. May His salvation be yours! Well done, o good and faithful servants.*

*With love in Christ,*

*Rev. Fr. Mircea VasIU*



*Blessings and gratitude  
to Jeannette and Stanley Bakke  
for their loving support over the years.*

**Thank you,**  
*Veronica Ivans and Don Ruzin*

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Happy 100th Anniversary!



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408 Grove St. S | STILLWATER, MN 55082

Centennial Anniversary



## St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Church Parish Council President

13 October 2013

*Dear St. Mary Faithful,*

*The devotion, vision, sacrifice and generosity of three generations of Orthodox Faithful have made it possible for us to gather and celebrate 100 years!*

*It is truly a blessing for me to greet you as your President and lifetime member of St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Church..*

*I stand on the shoulders of my ancestors as I try to emulate their perseverance, reverence and love for our church named after the Falling Asleep of the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary.*

*On the occasion of our Centennial year, please join me in caring for this jewel that we have inherited. As our Liturgical prayer guides us;*

*"O Lord, save Your people and bless Your heritage. Guard the fullness of Your Church and sanctify those who love the beauty of Your house..."*

*May God grant St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Church of St. Paul many, many years!*

*Respectfully Yours,*

  
Georgia Marinkov-Omorean

*Parish Council President*

Centennial Anniversary



## St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Church Ladies Auxiliary President

*Dear Members and Friends  
of the Romanian Community,*

*As President, I am honored to represent the Ladies Auxiliary of Saint Mary Orthodox Church, and ask you to join in celebration as our church marks its 100th anniversary.*

*The ladies are the backbone of our religious community and the spiritual leaders of their respective families. The ladies have also exhibited leadership and compassion as they continued to feed the hungry in poverty-stricken communities. We strongly believe that make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.*

*Without our ladies, our community would be devoid of the driving forces that keep our traditions alive. Indeed, for many years, the ladies have worked diligently to coordinate events such as New Year's, St. John's dinner, Mărtisorul, MEOCCA Vespers - Lenten Dinner, Festival of Nations, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Taste of Romania, and Christmas Day.*

*On this special occasion, I would like to remember and express my gratitude to all those who have been involved with our church over the last century. The Ladies Auxiliary wishes everyone - from the small children at Sunday School, to our parishioners, and clergy - a Happy Anniversary. May our traditions and faith keep going strong. God Bless.*

*La Multi Ani!  
Dorina Vincze Turcean,  
President of Ladies Auxiliary, 2013*

◆ Centennial Anniversary ◆



**IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

**my son Robert Neculai**

**and**

**my mother Anica Lozneau**

**Dumnezeu să-i odihnească în pace!**

Elena Lozne, DDS



**Congratulation for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary from**

**ANCA & JEFFREY BASINGER**

**ANDREI ANICESCU**

◆ Centennial Anniversary ◆



# COMMENDATION



# CERTIFICATE OF

*This certificate is presented to St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Church of St. Paul, in recognition of 100 years of service and commitment to your community. Your commitment to faith and dedication to service is inspirational to the congregation of the St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Church and the members of its surrounding community.*

*Therefore, with the appreciation and respect of the people of Minnesota, this certificate is presented in celebration of your centennial year to:*

## ST. MARY ROMANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: October 13, 2013



I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the Capitol in the City of Saint Paul, OCTOBER 13, 2013.

MARK DAYTON  
GOVERNOR



**Felicităm Biserica noastră Sfânta Maria  
cu ocazia Centenarului.  
Îi dorim multă longevitate și prosperitate.  
HAPPY 100<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY!**



*"Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart."- Psalms 37:4*

**Cu drag, familia Agrigoroae Boloș  
Victor, Nicoleta, Emma si Bianca**





The romantic customs with their music, dancing and other homeland traditions were maintained and preserved by the formation of a benevolent society in the growing Romanian population of the Rice Street area.

It was because their strong Faith that their thoughts were constantly focused on building a church of their own in St. Paul.



**Funeral at St. Mary—circa 1916**

On May 18, 1913 at a meeting of the “AUGUSTINA” Society (which was a benefit society for Romanians started in 1910) it was voted that a parish church be instituted with the name “*Biserica Greco-Orientală Ortodoxă Română Sfânta Maria*”.

A week later, on May 25, 1913 the church members met for the first time and elected the following officers:

President: A. Papiu

Secretary: J. Farca



## **Congratulations and Best Wishes on the 100TH ANNIVERSARY of our Church**



**From Fiodor, Liuba  
Andreica, Emil & Catalina  
DIDENCO**



**John Omorean and Georgia Marinkov-Omorean** extend their warmest wishes to St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Church for the centennial.

**LA MULTI ANI !**



**Parish Council 1981:** 1st Row Dorothy Opris, Phillip Tocanita Jr, Paul Muntean, **Rev. Fr. Constantin Alexe**, Nick Galetar, Dorothy Capeti  
2nd Row: Ali Tarziu George Muntean, Jim Capeti, Peter Orpis John Folea



**Sunday School of St. Mary's together with Rev. Fr. Filimon Barbos 1983**



**Ladies Auxiliary together with Rev. Fr. Cornel Todeasa - 1988**



**St. Mary's "COLINDATORII" - Christmas Caroling group together with Rev. Fr. Florin Mihalache - 1997**

← Centennial Anniversary →

**Very Rev. Fr. George & Psa. Cristina Oanca with their children Andrei, Elisabeta and Amalia**

are grateful to all the members and parishioners of St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Church for their dedication and support throughout the years to have such a blessed heritage.



**LA MULTI ANI PAROHIEI SF. MARIA !**

← Centennial Anniversary →



# Happy 100th Anniversary!



**From Tudor, Maria,  
Alex & Alexia FELEA**



**Christmas Program - 1999 - with Rev. Fr. Ioan Poptelecan  
Pasha Bornova (coordinator) & Dan Muntean (church cantor)**



**St. Mary's Parish Council - 2004**

Seated: Constanta Korolchuk, Ann Bongard, Phillip Tocanita Jr., Psa Cristina, **Rev. Fr. George Oanca** Carmen Teisanu, James Capeti, Andreea Grigore  
Standing: Eduard Teisanu, Myra Tocanita, Frank Belgea, Mike Pascutoi, Dan Muntean



**Falling Asleep of Ever Virgin Mary Church, St. Paul, Minnesota**

Credinciosii intr-o zi de Duminica dupa Sf. Liturghie impreuna cu Pr. Mircea VasIU (preot paroh),



## **Ladies Auxiliary**

of St. Mary Romanian  
Orthodox Church extend

**Congratulations and  
Best Wishes On our**

# **100th Anniversary**



**Falling Asleep of Ever Virgin Mary Church, St. Paul, Minnesota ~ Ladies Auxiliary officers ~ 2013**

**First row:** Dorina Vincze Turceanu (President),  
Fr. Mircea VasIU, Psa. Anca VasIU

**Second row:** Constanta Korolcuk, Silvia Antonescu,  
Irinel Ardeleanu, Doina Neculescu, Mirela Felea,  
Psa. Eugenia Cerghizan



**Parish Council of Falling Asleep of Ever Virgin Mary Church, St. Paul, Minnesota -2013**

**Front Row:** Georgia Marinkov Omorean (Parish Council President), Rev. Fr. Mircea VasIU, Adrian Pîrvu,  
**Second Row:** Psa. Eugenia Cerghizan, Dorina Vincze Turcean (Ladies Auxiliary President), Antonescu Silvia, Constanta Korolchuk  
**Back Row:** John Omorean, Nicholas Manciu, Octavian Cornea, Andrei Bortnov, Nicolae Grigore, Fiodor Didenco, Tudor Felea

**St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Church  
 Ladies Auxiliary**



**Falling Asleep of Ever Virgin Mary Church, St. Paul, Minnesota ~ Ladies Auxiliary**  
 together with Fr. Mircea VasIU, Psa. Anca VasIU  
 and Dorina Vincze Turceanu - President



*Harul Domnului nostru Iisus Hristos și dragostea lui Dumnezeu Tatăl și împărtășirea Sfântului Duh să fie cu voi cu toți (II Cor. 13,13)*

**Congratulations and Blessings  
on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
of Romanian Orthodoxy in St. Paul, MN**



**With love in Christ, Rev. Fr. Mircea VasIU,  
Preoteasa Anca Simona and our sons Andrew  
Mihai & Gabriel Mircea - MULȚI ANI FERICIȚI!**

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God  
the Father and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all. (II Cor. 13,13)*

Centennial Anniversary



**Church choir at Vatra in 1992 - Choir director Dan Muntean**



**Junior Camp Vatra 2012 - together with His Grace Bishop Irineu and  
Fr. Mircea VasIU, Psa. Anca & Andrew, & Psa. Mary Ellen (camp director)**

Centennial Anniversary



**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2013**

**6:00 p.m. "The next 100 Years"**

Children and parents' night with Archbishop  
Nathaniel - at our parish hall

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2013**

**10:00 a.m. - Hierarchical Divine Liturgy**

followed by lunch (with local clergy)

**3:30 p.m.** Blessing the graves at

Oakland cemetery

**5:00 p.m.** Vespers

**6:30 p.m. Romanian Cultural Evening at**

**St. Katherine Ukrainian Orthodox Church HALL**

- 1600 Hwy 96, Arden Hills MN 55112 -

\$30.00 admission (under 18 years free)

- Food, Authentic Romanian Orchestra

from Chicago,

- Local entertainers and IZVORASUL

performance followed by open dancing



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2013**

**10:00 a.m. - Hierarchical Divine Liturgy**

celebrated by His Eminence Archbishop  
Nathaniel (blessing of the new Holy Altar Table)

**1:00 p.m. - Traditional Romanian Festive**

Banquet - at our parish hall (your donations  
will be well received)

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to  
Archbishop NATHANIEL who honors us with his  
presence and makes this an event to remember.

A special thanks to the following individuals (together  
with their team) for their hard work and dedication to  
make this historic event such a great success.

Georgia Marinkov Omorean, Centennial Chairwoman

**Centennial Committee**

Rev. Fr. Mircea VasIU, Adrian Pirvu, John Omorean,  
Tudor Felea, Octavian Cornea, Psa. Eugenia Cerghizan  
& Dorina Vincze Turcean





**1913 - 2013**

**Saint Paul, MN**

Centennial Anniversary



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## St. Mary Romanian Orthodox Church

### Ladies Auxiliary - Officers - 2013

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**Ladies Auxiliary President:** Dorina Vincze Turcean

**Vice-president:** Pasa Bortnova

**Treasurer:** Psa. Eugenia Cerghizan

**Secretary:** Irinel Ardeleanu

**Auditors:** Doina Neculescu and Livia Poenaru

**Members:** Psa. Anca VasIU, Cora Pirvu,  
Silvia Antonescu, Maria Felea

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### 2013 Altar Servers

Andrei Bortnov  
Valeriu Bortnov  
Laurentiu Grigore  
Nicholas Manciu  
Michael Manciu  
Anthony Manciu  
Victor Ciurusniuc

Ad Book Production by Fr. Mircea VasIU

Centennial Anniversary