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# ST. MARK'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

DIOCESE OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

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**NOVEMBER 27TH, 2022 — 24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**


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## **Tone 7— Greatmartyr Jacob (James) the Persian (421).**

Ven. Palladius of Thessalonica (6th-7th c.). Seventeen Monk-Martyrs in India (4th c.). St. Roman the Wonderworker of Cilicia near Antioch (5th c.). Uncovering of the Relics of St. Vsélovod, in Baptism Gabriel, of Pskov (1192). St. Jacob (James), Bishop and Wonderworker of Rostov (1392). Repose of Ven. Dorotheus, Abbot of Yuriev (Yuregórsk) Monastery (Solovétsky Monastery — 1633). Bl. Andrei (Andrew) of Simbirsk (1841). Commemoration of the Weeping Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos, called “Znameniyé” (The Sign) at Novgorod in 1170, and the other icons of the Most Holy Theotokos (“of the Sign”: the “Kursk-Root” (1295), Abalátskaya (1637), and others.

**Epistle: Eph. 2:14-22****Gospel: Luke 13:10-17**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

<b>Sunday, Nov. 27th:</b>	Hours & Divine Liturgy — 9:10 AM
<b>Monday, Nov. 28th:</b>	Preschool Church School — 10:45 AM
<b>Wednesday, Nov. 30th:</b>	Akathist w/ Litya — 9:15 AM Book Group — 7 PM
<b>Saturday, Dec. 3rd:</b>	Retreat w/ Fr. Victor Gorodenchuk — 10 AM Great Vespers and Confessions — 4 PM
<b>Sunday, Dec. 4th:</b>	Hours & Divine Liturgy — 9:10 AM

**The Nativity Fast** lasts until the Feast of the Nativity on December 25th. During this time we refrain from meat, dairy, wine and oil.

**Adult Education for the Nativity Fast:** The book group will meet on November 30th and December 7th.



**Pre-Nativity Retreat:** Next Saturday (Dec. 3rd) from 10 AM — 3 PM, with a break for a potluck lunch, Fr. Victor Gorodenchuk, Dean of St. Stephen's Cathedral, will present to us *The Divine Liturgy: History and Meaning*. All are invited to attend. Fr. Victor gave an abbreviated version of this several years ago, which was excellent. It is highly recommended for all. As we have done in the past, Vespers will be at 4 PM, with Confession available before and after Vespers.

**Thank you to all who contributed to the St. Basil's House Thanksgiving drive.** Instead of the 12 baskets we hoped to fill, we were able to fill 21! Thank you to the Church School for assembling the baskets, and to Julie Stell for leading the project.

**The Wrihtstown Food Cupboard** needs **coffee, tea and juices**. The Cupboard is a 501(c)3 charitable organization.

**Birthdays:** Andrew Tyshko

**Name Days:** Andrew Cortése, Andrew Tyshko

**Woods Services Secret Santa:** This year we are again participating in the Secret Santa program at Woods Services, where Renee and Marek work. You can donate money or pick an item from the following list:

Coffee  
Colored socks  
Dunkin' Donuts gift card  
Sweat pants, men's size medium  
Thermal Mug  
Socks, size 6-12  
White socks, men's size medium  
Blue t-shirt, size medium (blue)  
Phillies shirt, men's size medium  
T-shirts, ladies' size medium  
Metal thermal cup  
Pajamas, men's size medium (He loves art and music)  
Stationery (pens and paper)  
Black fanny pack  
Various Motown-era Music CD's  
Books (Scott loves to read and keeps up with current events)  
Eagles gear (knit hat and blanket)  
Winter socks (Size 6-12)  
Packs of undershirts, size XL  
Eagles' hat  
Shirts/pants, size L  
Blue sweatpants, women's size L

### **UPCOMING PRE-NATIVITY EVENTS**

<b>Saturday, Dec. 3rd</b>	Retreat w/ Fr. Victor Gorodenchuk — 10 AM Great Vespers & Confessions — 4 PM
<b>Monday, Dec. 5th</b>	Vigil for St. Nicholas — 7 PM
<b>Tuesday, Dec. 6th</b>	Hours & Divine Liturgy for St. Nicholas — 9:15 AM
<b>Monday, Dec. 12th</b>	Vigil for St. Herman of Alaska — 7 PM
<b>Tuesday, Dec. 13th</b>	Hours & Divine Liturgy for St. Herman of Alaska — 9:15 AM

## **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

### **LIVING**

**Captive Hierarchs** PAUL and JOHN

**All those, everywhere, who care for the sick, the suffering and the vulnerable.**

**Ill-afflicted Clergy Archbishop +MELCHIZEDEK, Archpriests Stephen, Daniel and Michael Matushki** Elena, Laryssa, Lisa, Priscilla, Myra, Suzanne, and Jennifer

**Servants of God** Monk Nicodemos, Charlotte, infant Luke, Larissa, Nicholas, Peter, Stephanie, Samuel, Sergei, Anna, Raymond, Andrew, Valerie, Charles, Margaret, Elena, Ayla, Sandra, Anatole, Maria, Julia, infant Jacob, Michael, Nancy, Eileen, Steven, Constance, Angela, Hunter, Jon Smith, Anselmo Pappas Scandalis

### **DEPARTED**

**Newly departed:** Richard, Pdn. Paul, Igumen Victorin, Ivan

**Departed:** Met. +HERMAN, Thomas, Michael, Venus, Helen, Anthony, All those who have died in service to their country, Archpriests Stephen and Vladimir, Mat. Mary, Priest George, Archpriest Paul, Kh. Shirley

## **VIGIL LIGHTS**

### **FROM IRENE ARHIPOV**

**FOR THE HEALTH OF:** SERGEI, STEPHANIE, PETER, ALEXANDRA, ALEXANDRA, ANNA, RUTH

**IN MEMORY OF:** MARY, BRADLEY, MET. HERMAN, TAMARA, FEODOR, BORIS, NIKOLAI

### **FROM THE MOSER FAMILY**

**FOR THE HEALTH OF:** STEPHANIE, PETER, LARISSA, MICHAEL, NICHOLAS, CHARLOTTE

**IN MEMORY OF:** DN. JOHN, VERONICA, REBECCA, CHARLES, STEPHEN, SOPHIA

### **FROM THE RISTVEY FAMILY**

**FOR THE HEALTH OF:** VALERIE, EILEEN, MARGARET, ANDREW, MATTHEW, MICHAEL, NANCY

**IN MEMORY OF:** GEORGE, PETER, JOHN, JOHN, STEPHEN, STEVEN, ANNA, GEORGE, MARY, MICHAEL, ANN, SUZANNE, ANNE, JOSEPH

### **FROM THE SWAN FAMILY**

**FOR THE HEALTH OF:** ANGELA, HUNTER, CONSTANCE

**IN MEMORY OF:** MICHAEL, VENUS, HELEN, THOMAS, NEVILLE, JOHN

## CHORAL CORNER

### Q: What is a *prokeimenon*?

**A:** A prokeimenon (Greek for “what is set forth”) is a short series of Psalm verses that precedes a Scripture reading. At the Sunday Divine Liturgy, this is usually the Resurrection prokeimenon in the tone of the week\*. When there are two appointed Epistle readings, there are usually two prokeimena, just as there are two alleluias before a double Gospel reading. Technically, the alleluia is itself a prokeimenon before the Gospel.

The prokeimenon is performed in responsorial style by the reader, who chants the verses, and the choir, which sings the verses melodically. When the rubrics for Great Vespers call for Old Testament readings, they are also preceded by a prokeimenon; the same is true when there is an appointed Gospel at Matins. In the Slavic tradition, these prokeimena are chanted by the priest/deacon and the choir. However, in the Greek tradition, these prokeimena are chanted in the same manner as at the Divine Liturgy.

*\*More information on tones coming soon. There is much to discuss.*

## FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

St. Mark's now has an Amazon Smile wishlist, which will allow donors to purchase needed supplies such as paper towels and have them shipped directly to the parish. The list may be viewed at <https://tinyurl.com/2s4fc5zp>.

Purchasing an item from this list will generate a receipt from Amazon you may use for tax purposes.

**If you want your donation to appear on your parish contribution statement, please submit your receipt to Andy Skordinski.**

## COLLECTION INFORMATION

### Sunday Collection (11/20)

Weekly general: \$1,189

Candles: \$141

Church store: \$30

**Total: \$1,360**

### Online Giving (11/14-20)

Weekly general: \$1,624

Parish development: \$515

Total: \$2,139

**Grand total: \$3,499**

**Online Giving Program:** As a reminder, St. Mark's offers an online giving program to contribute to the support of the parish. One of the biggest benefits of online giving is the ability to set up scheduled recurring donations. This allows you to be faithful and consistent in your generosity and allows us to plan and budget consistently as a church. Having more parishioners participate in scheduled, recurring giving is also important to financial institutions as we seek funding for our building expansion project by showing consistent month-to-month contributions.

If you are interested in participating in the online giving program:

1. Start here: <https://www.stmarksoca.org>
2. There is a DONATE button near the top of the page.
3. Help can be found by clicking on the Learn How or FAQ buttons next to the DONATE button.
4. If you have other questions, you may contact Kevin Swan at [kswan353@verizon.net](mailto:kswan353@verizon.net), or Andy Skordinski at [andy.home@comcast.net](mailto:andy.home@comcast.net).

## **St. Mark's Orthodox Church Expense Reimbursement Policy**

### **1. Expense Reimbursement Policy**

- a. Employees — In the course of your duties as an employee of St. Mark's Orthodox Church, you may be required to pay for goods/services that allow you to do your job. Any eligible expenses that you incur on behalf of St. Mark's Orthodox Church will be reimbursed in full.
- b. Parishioners and non-employees — Any parishioner or non-employee of St. Mark's Orthodox Church shall obtain approval from the Parish Council **prior** to incurring an expense on behalf of St. Mark's Orthodox Church for which the parishioner or non-employee would like reimbursement. If it is an emergency, contact the rector or the Parish Council president for tacit approval (with full Parish Council approval pending) **prior** to incurring any expense for emergencies.

### **2. Eligible Expenses**

- a. Employees — St. Mark's Orthodox Church will reimburse employees for all eligible expenses, including but not limited to:
  - Travel for business purposes
  - Conference fees
  - Accommodations while attending meetings, conferences, etc.
  - Office supplies
  - Professional certification/membership fees

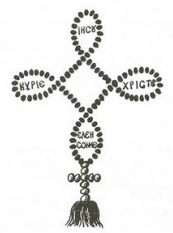
There are certain expenses that St. Mark's Orthodox Church will not be held responsible for, including but not limited to:

- Lost personal property
  - Baggage insurance
  - Parking tickets, fines and traffic violations
  - Other non-work-related expenses
- b. Parishioners and Non-employees — Each request for **prior** approval of an expense will be submitted for consideration by the Parish Council. If in its sole discretion such expense is determined to be necessary and reasonable, procurement and reimbursement will be approved, and reimbursement will be capped at the amount approved. **Any expense that does not have pre-approval will not be reimbursed.** Each request for prior approval will include the parishioner's or non-employee's name, description of the items to be purchased, the purpose or use of such items, and the cost.

### **3. Procedure**

- a. In order to ensure that you are reimbursed for work-related and/or pre-approved expenses, follow these steps:
  - Always keep original receipts or invoices and submit them as soon as possible, but no later than 30 days from the date incurred.
  - Complete, sign, and affix all applicable original receipts or invoices to the appropriate form. Employees will use the Employee Reimbursement Form (FRM-001), and parishioners/non-employees will use the Reimbursement Request Form (FRM-002).
  - Submit the form and original receipts or invoices to the Parish Council treasurer.
- b. All reimbursement records are subject to audit by the auditors of St. Mark's Orthodox Church.
- c. Any questions should be referred to a member of the Parish Council.





## SERVICE SCHEDULE

<b>Hours + Divine Liturgy:</b>	9:10 AM (Sundays & feast days)
<b>Great Vespers / Vigil:</b>	6 PM (Saturdays) 7PM (Eve of feast) 6PM (Eve of feast – Sundays)
<b>Confessions:</b>	Saturdays after Vespers & by appointment
<b>Akathist Service:</b>	9:15 AM (Wednesdays)
<b>Panikhidas/Lityas:</b>	as requested

### CLERGY

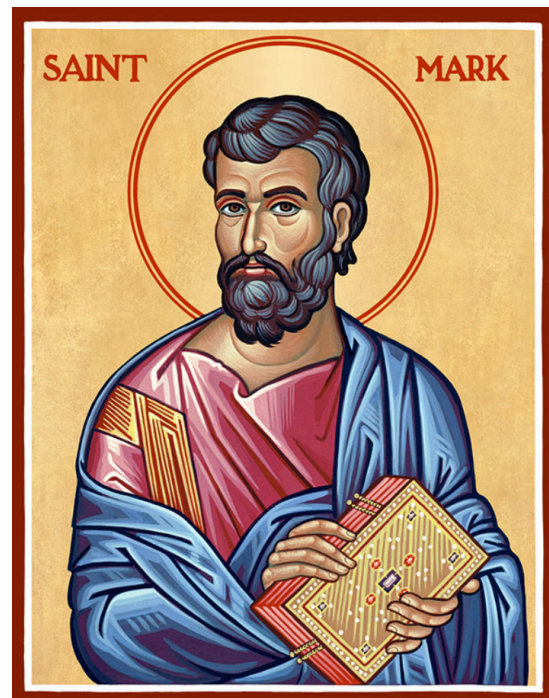
V. Rev. Raymond Martin Browne, *Rector*  
(570) 906-1388 (cell)  
stmarksorthodoxchurch@gmail.com

Protodeacon Gregory Moser, *Attached*  
V. Rev. Michael Sekela (Retired), *Attached*  
Subdeacons: Dustin Joseph Crosby  
Sergei Arhipov  
Readers: G. Peter Bohlender  
Marek Szeliga

### LAY LEADERSHIP

**CHOIR DIRECTORS:** Daria Cortése  
Mat. Martha Moser  
Sbn. Sergei Arhipov (Emeritus)

**CHURCH SCHOOL COORDINATORS:** Mat. Martha Moser  
Julie Stell



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**Baptisms:** Children must have **Orthodox Godparents** who provide a letter from their parish priest. Parents and Godparents are required to attend two preparatory classes. Please make scheduling arrangements by contacting Fr. Martin directly.

**Weddings:** Arrangement should be made **at least six months** prior to the wedding; scheduling is subject to the Church's liturgical calendar. Please speak with Fr. Martin **before making reception arrangements**.

