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ST. MARK'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

DIOCESE OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

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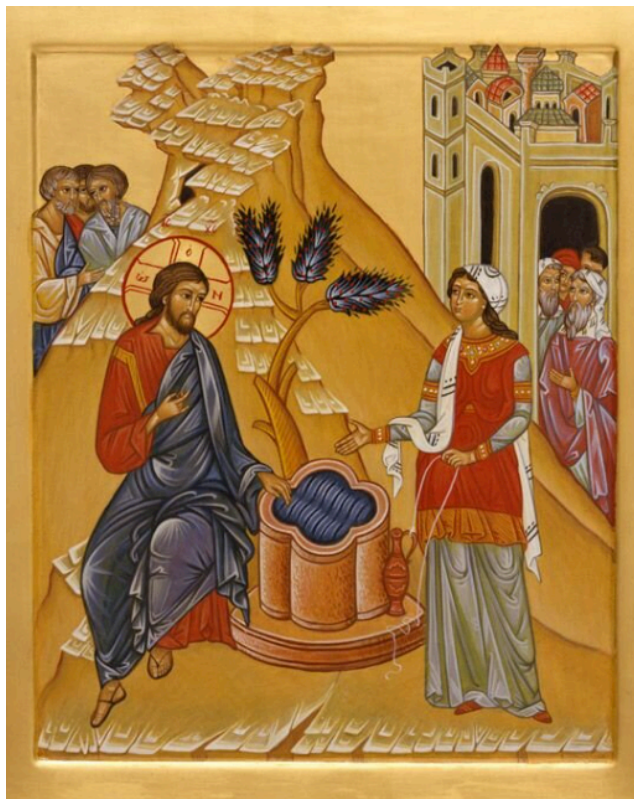
MAY 14TH, 2023 — THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

Tone 4 — The 5th Sunday of Pascha. The Samaritan Woman.

Martyr Isidore of Chios (251). Martyr Maximus (ca. 250). Ven. Serapion of Egypt (5th c.). St. Leontius, Patriarch of Jerusalem (1175). Ven. Isidore, Fool-for-Christ, Wonderworker of Rostov (1474). St. Nikita, Bishop of Novgorod and Recluse of the Kiev Caves. First Opening of the Relics of St. Tikhon of Zadonsk (1846).

Epistle: Acts 11:19-26,29-30

Gospel: John 4:5-42



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, May 14th:

Hours & Divine Liturgy — 9:15 AM
Choir Rehearsal and Coffee Hour

Tuesday, May 16th:

Stewardship Committee Meeting — 7:00 PM

Wednesday, May 17th:

Akathist w/ Litya — 9:15 AM

Friday, May 19th:

Social Gathering in Parish Hall — 6:30 PM

Saturday, May 20th:

Great Vespers & Confessions — 6:00 PM

Communion Announcement: As there will be only one Chalice available for the foreseeable future, we ask that you form one line. The altar servers receive first, followed by the children (with their parents, as needed), and then alternating rows, starting from the front Theotokos (left) side. Those who are infirm or unable to stand for too long may wait until others have received, or advise a Parish Council member Father will bring Holy Communion to you. This will contribute to good order and proper reverence during this time. Those on the way should be praying; those returning to their seats, likewise. *The easiest way to do that is to listen to what the choir is singing.*



Likewise, when the Thanksgiving Prayers are being said, *there should not be any other voices heard in the Church.* We should all say these prayers, whether on our own or together, being like the one leper who returned to thank the Lord for his healing, rather than the nine who went on their way ungratefully. (Luke 17:11-19)

A blessed, joyous, happy Mother's Day to all our mothers, grandmothers and Godmothers. May God grant you many years! And to all our departed mothers, grandmothers and Godmothers, may you receive the reward of your labors and a blessed repose, and may your memory be eternal!

The Sisterhood is gathering on Sunday, May 21st, to honor our sister and new graduate Nicoleta Vatov! We will meet for brunch at the Pineville Inn, which is on Route 413 in Wrightstown, at 12 noon. Please let Julie Stell know if you plan to attend. All women are invited.

The Wrightstown Food Cupboard needs **paper towels, cleaning supplies, peanut butter and jelly.** The Cupboard is a 501(c)3 charitable organization.

Birthdays: Sebastian Karaffa, Myron Sedor

Name Days: Sonia Lengel

Wedding Anniversaries: Sergei and Irene Arhipov; Jim and Monia Pitra, Marek and Renee Szeliga



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 Archpriests Stephen, Daniel and Michael

Matushki Elena, Laryssa, Lisa, Priscilla, Myra, Suzanne, and Jennifer

Servants of God Edward, Monk Nicodemos, Paul Wanko (brother of John), Karen, Rosemary, Charlotte, infant Luke, Larissa, Nicholas, Peter, Stephanie, Samuel, Sergei, Anna, Raymond, Andrew, Valerie, Charles, Margaret, Elena, Ayla, Sandra, Maria, Julia, child Jacob, Michael, Nancy, Eileen, Steven, Constance, Angela, Hunter, Jon Smith, Anselmo Pappas Scandalis, Shirley

DEPARTED

Newly departed: Mat. Galina, Eugene

Departed: Archpriest Daniel, Archpriest Theodore, Shirley (Stewart), Jonathan, Mat. Emily, Mat. Mary, Met. +HERMAN, Louis, Ruth, Nicholai, Thomas, Michael, Venus, Helen, Anthony, Robert, Michael, 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 THE RISTVEY FAMILY

FOR THE HEALTH OF: MARGARET, STEPHANIE, ANDREW, LORELLY, LUCY, STEPHANIE, CHARLOTTE, DELORES

IN MEMORY OF: GEORGE, PETER, KATHERINE, KATHLEEN, JOHN, THOSE WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE WAR IN UKRAINE

FROM JEANETTE RUANO
IN MEMORY OF: HELEN RUANO

FROM THE SWAN FAMILY
FOR THE HEALTH OF: CONSTANCE, THOMAS, KATHERINE, MICHELLE
IN MEMORY OF: THOMAS, MICHAEL, VENUS, NEVILLE, MICHAEL, HELEN

FROM ANONYMOUS
FOR THE HEALTH OF: SZVINIA KULCZYTZKY

CHORAL CORNER

Q: This week's "Sunday Hymns & Readings" (emailed to the parish every Saturday evening) includes some patristic Gospel commentary in the form of excerpts from a Kontakion by St. Romanos the Melodist. What is a Kontakion?

A: In present times, a Kontakion (pl. *Kontakia*) is a short, one-stanza hymn sung after the 6th Ode of the Matins Canon, and immediately after the Troparia during the Divine Liturgy; Kontakia are also chanted during the Hours*. The term *Kontakion* comes from the Greek word for "scroll, "pole" or "shaft", a reference to the long vellum scrolls upon which liturgical hymnography was inscribed in the early Church.

Originally, Kontakia were extremely long, elaborate compositions that were the centerpiece of Matins, until that place was usurped by the Canon (a gradual process that probably began in earnest in the late 13th century, spurred, at least in part, by the liturgical reforms of the 1274 Council of Vladimir). The original Kontakia consisted of a short sung hymn, followed by up to 24 additional verses called *Ikosi* (sing. *Ikos*), each of which concluded with the same refrain. Tragically, very few entire Kontakia remain today because they were written down on extremely delicate materials that degraded and disintegrated over time. However, portions — usually the initial sung strophe and the first ikos, which is usually chanted "straight" (as a Psalm would be) — have survived. Perhaps the most well-known Kontakion/Ikos pair appears in the Memorial Litya, Panikhida and Funeral services: "With the saints give rest, O Christ..." (the Kontakion) and "Thou only art immortal, who hast created and fashioned man..." (the Ikos, which in this case is sung).

The most prolific composer of Kontakia was St. Romanos the Melodist, a Greek hymnographer who reposed in 556. He composed over 8,000 hymns, including an estimated 1,000 Kontakia.

**And in a few other places in unique circumstances throughout the liturgical year, which are too granular to discuss right now.*

Previous entries can be found at www.dariacortese.com/my-blog

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Sunday Collection (5/7)

Weekly general: \$1,553

Candles: \$126

Pascha: \$50

Parish dev.: \$100

Total: \$1,829

Online Giving (5/1-5/7)

General: \$3,258

Parish development: \$3,000

Total: \$6,258

GRAND TOTAL: \$8,087

MONTHLY CONTRIBUTION TRACKER

	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	YTD
2023 Total General Contribution	\$30,706.59	\$16,021.00	\$17,413.00	\$19,862.30	\$84,002.89
2023 Avg. Per Week Per Unit	\$111.66	\$72.82	\$79.15	\$90.28	\$90.92
Change from 2022 (Goal >\$8)	\$35.45	-\$21.94	-\$8.91	\$16.82	\$11.01
2022 Avg. Per Week Per Unit	\$76.21	\$94.76	\$88.06	\$73.46	\$79.90
	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	YTD
Building Fund Contributions	\$13,055.00	\$4,155.00	\$3,605.00	\$3,305.00	\$24,120.00
% of Goal Obtained (\$100k)	13.06%	4.16%	3.61%	3.31%	24.12%



SERVICE SCHEDULE

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

CLERGY

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

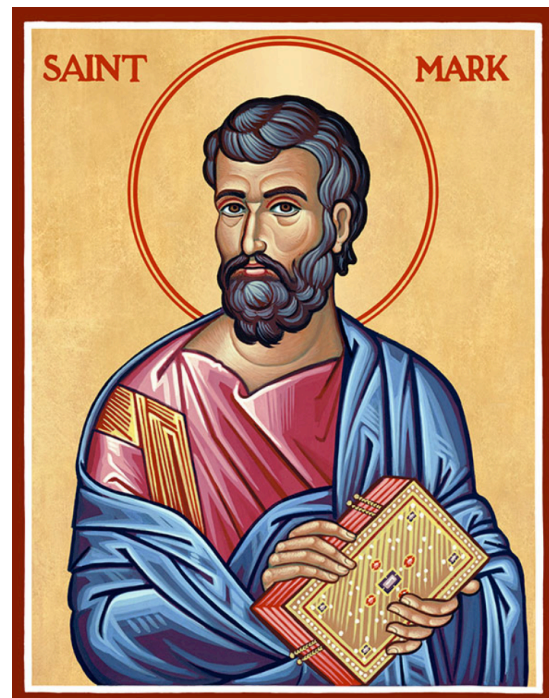
Protodeacon Gregory Moser, *Attached*
V. Rev. Michael Sekela (Retired), *Attached*
Subdeacons: Dustin Joseph Crosby
Sergei Arhipov
Marek Szeliga
Readers: G. Peter Bohlender
Samuel Regen

LAY LEADERSHIP

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

CHURCH SCHOOL COORDINATORS: Mat. Martha Moser
Julie Stell

SISTERHOOD OF THE HOLY MYRRHBEARERS: Julie Stell, President



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.**

