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# ST. MARK'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

DIOCESE OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

452 DURHAM ROAD, WRIGHTSTOWN, PA, 18940

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Facebook: St. Mark's Orthodox Church, Wrightstown

Twitter: @stmarksoca

Instagram: @st.marksorthodox

**JULY 03, 2022 — THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**Tone 2 — Martyr Hyacinth of Caesarea in Cappadocia (108).** Martyrs Diomedes, Eulampius, Asclepiodotus and Golinduc, who suffered with Hyacinth (2nd c.). Martyrs Mocias (Mucian) and Mark (4th c.). St. Alexander, Founder of the Monastery of the “Unsleeping Ones” (ca. 430). St. Anatolius, Patriarch of Constantinople (458). Ven. Anatoly (Anatolius) of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves — 12th c.) and Ven. Anatoly (another), Recluse, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves — 13th c.). St. Vasily (Basil), Bishop of Riazan’ (1295). Rt. Blv. Princes Vasily and Constantine of Yaroslavl’ (13th c.). Ven. Bl. John of Moscow, Fool-for-Christ (1589). Ven. Nikodim (Nicodemus), Abbot of Kozhenezersk (1640). Translation of the Relics of Hieromartyr Philip, Metropolitan of Moscow (1652). Monk-Martyr Gerasimus (1812). Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos, the “Milk-Giver” of Chilandari Monastery on Mt. Athos. **All Saints of the British Isles.**



**Epistle:** Romans 5:1-10

**Gospel:** Matthew 6:22-33

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, July 3rd:**

Hours & Divine Liturgy — 9:10 AM  
Choir Rehearsal, Coffee Hour

**Wednesday, July 6th:**

Akathist w/ Litya — 9:15 AM

**Saturday, July 9th:**

Great Vespers & Confessions — 6:00 PM

**The St. Mark's Sisterhood** will meet after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, July 17th at the Moser residence. All women of the parish are invited.

**The Wrightstown Food Cupboard** needs coffee and cleaning supplies.

**Birthdays:** Charla Bendas, Connie Borichevsky, Michael Browne, Margaret Karaffa, Katerina Moser, Renee Szeliga, Nicoleta Vatov

**Name Days:** Sbdn. Sergei Arhipov, Rdr. Peter Bohlender (belated), Sergei Borichevsky, Fr. Michael Sekela, Elza Tyshko



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## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

### LIVING

**Captive Hierarchs** PAUL and JOHN

**All those caring for the sick and suffering at this time throughout the world, especially our families and friends:** Charles and Erin, Ann Marie, Joseph, Alexis, Aphrodite, Charla, Sandy

**Ill-afflicted Archpriests** Daniel and Michael

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

**Servants of God** Erin, Charlotte, Sbdn. Sergius, infant Luke, Ada, Larissa, Nicholas, Peter, Stephanie, Samuel, Sergei, Anna, Scott, Dennis, David, David, Garry, Vincent, Stephen, Raymond, Darrell, Andrew, Daniel, Amanda, Michael, Laura, Jason, Katina, Donna, Rebekah, Anthony, Alexander, Grover, Valerie, Raymonde, Anita, Jim, Peter, Jonathan, Gregory, Charles, Kyra, Margaret, Arlene, Vaughn, Helen, Nicholas, Elena, Nicholas, John, Alice, Edward, Sydney, Susan, John, Patricia, Ayla, Elizabeth, Sandra, Paul, Anatole, Maria, Julia, Charla, infant Jacob, Alexei.

### DEPARTED

**Newly departed:** Deborah, Pdn. Averky, Mat. Eugenia, Mat. Lovey

**Departed:** Archpriests Stephen and Vladimir, Mat. Mary, Priest George, Archpriest Paul, Kh. Shirley

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## VIGIL LIGHTS

### FROM ELENA

**FOR THE HEALTH OF:** SOFIA, PETER, VIKTORIYA, ELENA, GALINA, LUBOV

**IN MEMORY OF:** EKATERINA, BORIS, LIDIA, KLAUDIA

### FROM MARGARET RISTVEY

**FOR THE HEALTH OF:** STEPHANIE, ANDREW, MARGARET, DELORES, VALERIE, MARGARET, HELEN, KATHERINE, JOSEPH

**IN MEMORY OF:** GEORGE, PETER

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## STEWARDSHIP

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.**

## A Letter from Elza Tyshko

Dear St. Mark's Parish,

I have some updates for Yuri's and my charity work in Ukraine. Many thanks for many of you who have donated to the fundraiser we have been hosting earlier in spring. With your help we have purchased 1000 high quality commercial grade water filters to the heavily shelled Donbas region, which would be able to provide 30 million liters of drinking water, as many shelled cities have fully lost their clean water supply. Also, with money collected from donations, we were able to sponsor transfer and distribution of 10 tons of humanitarian aid of food and hygiene products to Zaporizhya Oblast. 10 drones were also purchased and sent to eastern Ukraine to aid with inspection and excavation of the bombed and destroyed buildings, so they get inspected before evacuation team personnel risk their lives to get inside. You can see pictures at [www.directhelpfoundation.org](http://www.directhelpfoundation.org), or at the Facebook page.

This time, volunteers at the Direct Help Foundation are organizing a charity concert of Ukrainian classical and folk music, featuring beautiful and unique Ukrainian instruments such as bandura and domra. The concert will be held on July 23rd 2:00PM, at St George Greek Orthodox Cathedral at 256 S. 8th Street, Philadelphia.

Tickets can be purchased through <https://www.eventcreate.com/e/ukrainian-classical-music-c>  
We'll also have an art auction there. Hope some of you can make it, and enjoy beautiful music for a great cause.

Thank you so much for your prayers and ongoing support. Looking forward to seeing you there.

In Christ,  
Elza



## COLLECTION INFORMATION

### Sunday, June 19th

General: \$2,788  
Candles: \$73  
Food Pantry: \$10  
**TOTAL: \$2,781**

### Online Giving, June 13th-19th

General: \$1,468  
Parish Dev.: \$515  
**TOTAL: \$1,983**

### **GRAND TOTAL: \$4,854**

### Week Ending June 26th:

Sunday General: \$1,517  
Candles: \$67  
Special Services: \$50  
Church Store: \$70  
Cupola Fund: \$10  
Picnic: \$50  
**TOTAL: \$1,764**

### Online Giving, June 20th-26th

General: \$2,525  
Candles: \$9  
**TOTAL: \$2,534**

### **GRAND TOTAL: \$4,298**

## MONTHLY DONATION TRACKER:

	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	YTD
2022 Total General Contribution	\$20,194.59	\$20,090.00	\$18,668.00	\$15,574.00	\$26,949.00	\$101,475.59
2022 Avg. Per Week Per Unit (56)	\$72.12	\$89.69	\$83.34	\$69.53	\$96.25	\$79.16
Change from 2021 (Goal >\$8)	\$5.23	\$40.54	\$12.64	\$9.80	\$42.12	\$17.56
2021 Avg. Per Week Per Unit	\$66.89	\$49.15	\$70.70	\$59.73	\$54.13	\$61.60
	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	YTD
Building Fund Contributions	\$13,305.00	\$3,055.00	\$3,505.00	\$3,190.00	\$6,155.00	\$29,210.00
% of Goal Obtained (\$100k)	13.31%	3.06%	3.51%	3.19%	6.16%	29.21%

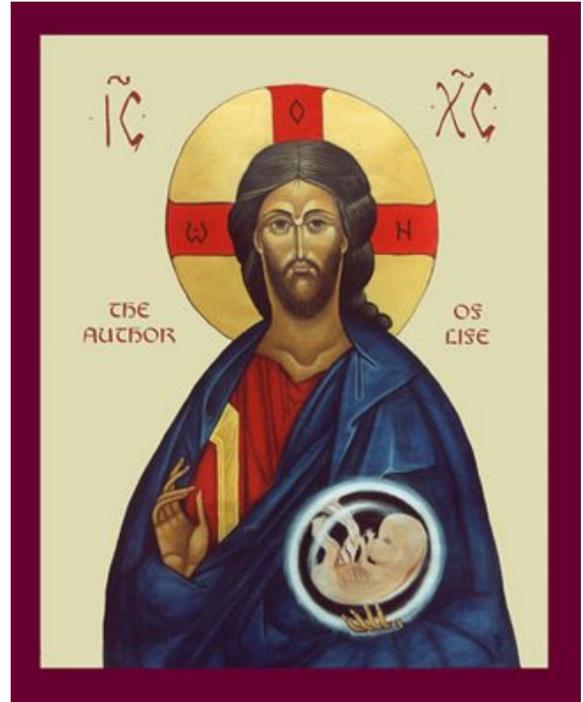
## Archpastoral Message of His Beatitude, Metropolitan TIKHON, on the Overturning of Roe vs. Wade

**Monday, June 27, 2022**

To the Hierarchs, Clergy, and Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America:

Christ is in our midst! He is and ever shall be!

On June 24, the American people received the news that the Supreme Court of the United States, in its opinion concerning the case of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, has overturned the right to abortion created by the court in its 1973 decision in *Roe v. Wade*. Undoubtedly, this should be a cause for rejoicing for all Orthodox Christians. As I affirmed in my recent archpastoral message for the feast of the Annunciation, “The Orthodox Church in America has always believed, upheld, preached, and defended the sanctity of human life from the time of conception in the womb.” From the earliest times, the shepherds of the Church have taught that abortion and the exposure of infants, even when accepted by the wider culture, are violations of the sanctity of human life and an offense against God and man. The overturning of *Roe v. Wade* is the first step towards a society and culture that recognizes the value of all human life and every human being made in the image of the Creator.



As such, in the wake of the *Dobbs* decision, in many jurisdictions, the dignity of unborn human persons is or will be recognized by law, affording them protection from violence and death in the womb. Broadly speaking, this, too, should be a cause for rejoicing.

Furthermore, it has not escaped our notice that this decision was handed down on the feast of the Nativity of the Forerunner, whose leaping in the womb of his mother Elizabeth is, for us, a miraculous sign of the divine value of the lives of the unborn: God, who knows us even before we were formed in the womb, accepts not just the praise of babes and infants, but even the adoration of an unborn child (Jer. 1:5; Ps. 8:2; Lk. 1:42).

However, we must avoid all triumphalism. Though we disagree with those who believe that legal abortion is necessary to protect the rights of women, we must recognize that this belief, however mistaken, is sincerely held by many people of goodwill. For those of us in the United States, these people are our fellow-citizens. They, too, bear the image of God.

As Orthodox Christians, we are called to be peacemakers, and to do good even to those who hate us. Christians have been and may continue to be targets of anger and even violence on

And so, though we rejoice that the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* may allow our civil authorities to pass more just laws to protect the lives of the unborn, we recognize that the court's decision is, as I have stated, but the first step in building a culture and society that value human life unreservedly. Such a culture and society would not merely satisfy the demands of justice by protecting human beings in the womb; it would also do everything possible to ensure that mothers and children are provided with all the conditions and means to flourish throughout their lives.

As such, it is heartening that politicians from both of our major political parties have increasingly turned their attention to crafting policies that support children and families. We should pray always that God give our political leaders wisdom and prudence while strengthening them in their good intentions.

However, a society and culture that truly recognizes the dignity of all human life is not just a question of laws and government policies. Such a society and culture must also be the result of our decisions and efforts as individuals, families, and parishes on the local, civil level to do all that we can to support women, children, and families in our communities. The *Dobbs* decision, as has been observed widely, is not the end of the pro-life cause, but its beginning.

Now is a time to heal and a time to build (Eccl. 3:3). May God strengthen us all in love for one another. May this court decision become a reason for us to love all our neighbors more fervently: the unborn, mothers, families, people of all political beliefs, the happy and the angry, the jubilant and the hurting. May we speak the truth in love and suffer with all the suffering. May we temper our passions—now and always—through fasting and prayer, self-reflection and self-reproach. And may the Lord Almighty bless all of our efforts to work together for a more just and more compassionate society and culture, one that welcomes all human life with joy.

Yours in Christ,

+TIKHON

Archbishop of Washington, Metropolitan of All America and Canada



## 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>	9:30 AM (Wednesdays)
<b>Panikhidas/Lityas:</b>	as requested

### CLERGY

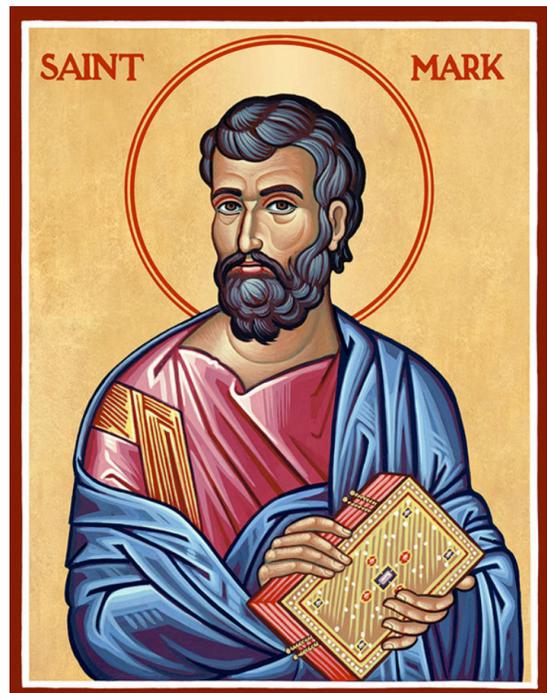
V. Rev. Raymond Martin Browne, *Rector*  
(570) 906-1388 (cell)  
stmarksorthodoxchurch@gmail.com

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

### LAY LEADERSHIP

**CHOIR DIRECTORS:** Daria Cortése  
Mat. Martha Moser  
Subdn. 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.**

