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ST. MARK'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

DIOCESE OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

452 DURHAM ROAD, WRIGHTSTOWN, PA, 18940

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www.stmarksoca.org

Facebook: St. Mark's Orthodox Church, Wrightstown

Twitter: @stmarksoca

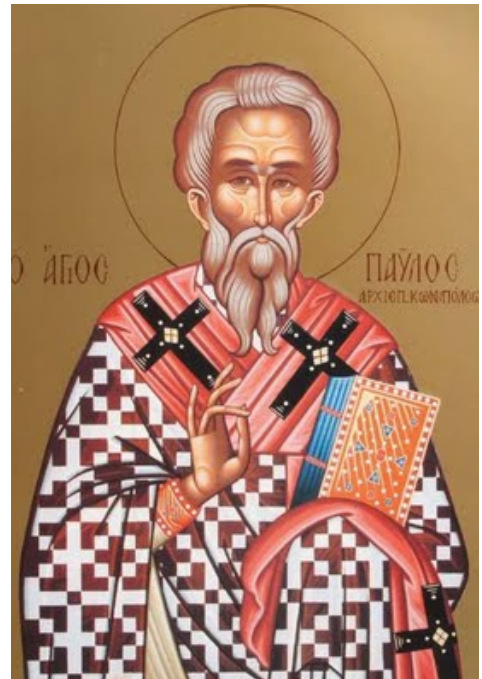
Instagram: @st.marksorthodox

NOVEMBER 6TH, 2022 — 21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Tone 4 — St. Paul the Confessor, Archbp. Of Constantinople (350). Martyrs Tecusa, Alexandra, Claudia, Matrona, Polactia, Euphrosyne and Athanásia, of Ancyra (3rd c.). Ven. Luke of Sicily (800-820). Ven. Varlaam of Khutyn' (Novgorod — 1192). Ven. Luke, Steward of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves — 13th c.). Repose of St. Herman, Archbp. Of Kazan' (1567). Ven. Barlaam of Keret Lake (16th c.).

Epistle: Gal. 2:16-20

Gospel: Luke 8:41-56



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, Nov. 6th:	Hours & Divine Liturgy — 9:10 AM Church School & Coffee Hour
Monday, Nov. 7th:	Preschool Church School — 10:45 AM Great Vespers w/ Litya for Synaxis of the Archangels — 7 PM
Tuesday, Nov. 8th:	Divine Liturgy for Synaxis of the Archangels — 9:10 AM
Wednesday, Nov. 9th:	Akathist w/ Litya — 9:15 AM Book Study Group — 7 PM
Saturday, Nov. 12th:	Vespers & Confessions — 6 PM
Sunday, Nov. 13th:	Hours & Divine Liturgy — 9:10 AM Choir Rehearsal & Coffee Hour

Adult Education for the Nativity Fast: The book group study on St. Nicholai of Zhicha's Prayers by the Lake will begin this Wednesday at 7 PM. The next session of Mirrors of Truth will be held on next Wednesday, November 16th, at 7 PM. The book group will also meet on November 30th and December 7th.



Beginning in November, choir rehearsals will take place after the Divine Liturgy on the second Sunday of each month. **If you are interested in joining the choir, please speak with Daria Cortése.**

Starting today, we will begin collecting food for the St. Basil's House Thanksgiving food drive. On Sunday, November 20th, the Church School will assemble the donation bags, so that is the last day to donate. Please give what you can from the following list: *cash or \$20 gift cards for turkeys (Walmart only), packaged stuffing, canned cranberry sauce, canned turkey gravy, canned corn, canned green beans, canned yams, packaged corn muffin mix, packaged rolls, large white baking potatoes, large yams, and bags of onions.* (Please wait until the last week to donate the rolls, onions and fresh yams). Thank you, and God bless you!

Hot off the Press! We have St. Mark's Divine Liturgy books for children available in the vestibule, so children can follow the service. There will also be take-home copies available in the bookstore for \$5 each.

The Wrightstown Food Cupboard needs **cranberry sauce** and **stuffing**. The Cupboard is a 501(c)3 charitable organization.

Name Days: Michael Bitny, Michael Browne, Colin (Michael) Miller, Michael Vatov

Wedding Anniversaries: Sbn. Dustin & Gillian Crosby, Anastasia & Ray Killough

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: Igumen Victorin, Ivan, Jonathan, Matthew

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, ANNA, VALERIE, MAT. TAMARA, FR. DANIEL, RUTH VALERIE

IN MEMORY OF: BR. JOSÉ (JOSEPH) — 25 YEARS, MET. HERMAN, VERA, DIMITRI, ALEXANDRA

CHORAL CORNER

Q: Why are there no instruments in Orthodox liturgical music?

A: Orthodox liturgical music actually *does* use instruments, but only those directly crafted by God Himself: human voices. While other instruments such as the pipe organ and piano can certainly produce beautiful sounds and inspire strong emotions, they cannot rationally communicate the word of God, nor offer praise to Him in the manner already taking place in the heavenly kingdom, where emotions are not aroused by the sensual beauty of artificial instruments, but by the action of the Holy Spirit.

Q: But the Psalms frequently reference artificial instruments in worship and prayer, so...?

A: *Coming next week!*

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.**

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, or Andy Skordinski at andy.home@comcast.net.

COLLECTION INFORMATION

Sunday Collection (10/30)

Weekly general: \$1,033

Candles: \$45

Total: \$1,078

Online Giving (10/24-30)

Weekly general: \$1,488

Total: \$1,488

Grand total: \$2,566



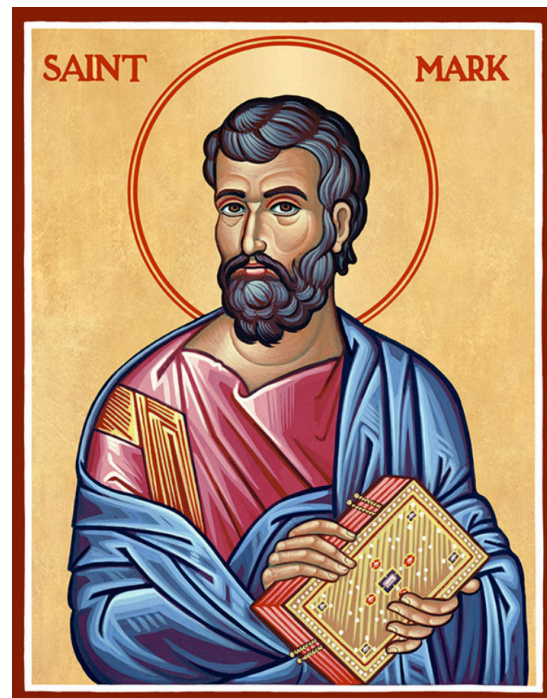
SERVICE SCHEDULE

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
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

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**.

GROCERY & TOILETRY ITEMS NEEDED FOR ST. BASIL'S HOUSE

- Canned pasta sauce & soup
- UHT milk (in tetraboxes, low-fat and whole, and non-dairy "milk" products)
- Canned peaches, pears, mixed fruit
- Jarred applesauce
- Fruit juice (cans/bottles)
- Grape jelly & strawberry jam
- Canned tuna, sardines, salmon, mackerel, chicken and turkey
- Canned prepared food (e.g. SpaghettiO's, ravioli, chili)
- Canned vegetables (corn, green beans, peas, carrots, etc.)
- Canned legume (chickpeas, kidney beans, etc.)
- Peanut butter, jelly, jam, honey, pancake syrup
- Dried pasta
- White & brown rice
- Oatmeal
- Cold cereals
- Bath & face soap
- Skin lotion
- Toilet paper
- Hand sanitizer
- Toothpaste and individually-wrapped toothbrushes
- Women's sanitary products
- Adult urinary incontinence products
- Deodorant

SEASONAL GIFT ITEMS NEEDED FOR ST. BASIL'S HOUSE

- Small toiletry items (e.g. lip balm, body wash, lotion)
- Re-usable folding shopping bags
- Pocket packs of antiseptic hand wipes and/or tiny bottles of hand sanitizer
- Pocket packs of tissues
- Tiny notepad-and-pen sets
- Socks
- Gloves
- Beanie hats
- \$25 gift cards (Wal-Mart or Visa)
- Icon cards
- Seasonal candy
- Granola/protein bars

ITEMS FOR DISTRIBUTION AT SATURDAY OPEN HOUSES

- New socks for men & women
- New underpants for men & women
- Crayons
- Colored chalk
- Bottles of soap bubbles

"For if we all took only what was necessary to satisfy our own needs, giving the rest to those who lack, no one would be rich, no one would be poor, and no one would be in need."

—St. Basil the Great

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THROUGH ST. BASIL'S HOUSE

Wednesday breakfast, Bible study, and distribution of groceries, clothing, and produce. We gather from 9am-11:30am. At present, Fr. Peter Baktis, and two volunteers from Mother of God (Princeton) are handling this activity on the second Wednesday of each month. Other volunteers are welcome, every week; help is needed with serving, cleaning up, and distributing items. Help would also be appreciated with the Bible study.

Saturday morning open house. We currently have volunteers hosting an open house on the morning of the first Saturday of each month. At 9am, coffee, snacks, and clothing are available. At 11am, there is a prayer service. Sometimes contributions of books or toys or new socks or new underwear are also

available. Volunteers are needed to host open houses on the other Saturday mornings. Contributions of items to be distributed are also needed.

Open house. We need to expand our hours of simply being present in the house, offering hospitality, conversation, prayer, clothing, and internet access. For safety reasons, we prefer to have two volunteers present at all times.

Food and toiletries.

- Groceries, fresh produce, and toiletries are distributed on Wednesday mornings after the breakfast and Bible study. A **separate list** of the items usually given is available, but any canned goods are welcome.
- Help would be appreciated picking up seasonal produce from Mother of God in Princeton/Montgomery and delivering it to the house on Tuesdays or early Wednesdays.
- We need a person take responsibility for making out the shopping list (after Wednesdays at noon), shopping, delivering items to the house, and organizing the items for distribution (no later than Wednesdays at 8:30am).
- The Giant supermarket on West Trenton Avenue in Morrisville, PA, participates in the “Flashfood” program, donating their unmarketable items to charities. A person is needed to register us and to pick up and deliver the items. Fresh food would need to be delivered to the house on Tuesdays (any time) or on Wednesdays (before 8:30am) or on time for a Saturday open house.
- Consider having a “Soup-er-Bowl” Sunday at your church on February 12, 2023. Encourage members of your congregation to bring canned food to church that Sunday, and deliver it to St. Basil’s House.

Clothing. Used clothing is distributed on Wednesday mornings after the breakfast and Bible study. Contributions of in-season clothing are welcome. Periodic help is needed sorting donations and organizing and vacuuming the garage.

- As seasons change, help is needed carrying clothes between the second floor of the house and the garage. Parishioners from St. John the Baptist in Alpha, NJ, have helped with this in the past.
- Consider having a clothing drive at your church. Encourage members of your congregation to bring used, clean clothing to the church, and deliver it to St. Basil’s House.

Computer instruction needed. We have received 3 MacIntosh computers, and we would love to have someone come and help our neighbors learn to use these.

Craft or Art or Class. We formerly offered a lunch and painting class on the first Saturday of each month. Volunteers from St. Anianus Coptic Orthodox Church (Monroe Township) provided lunch and clean-up help. Such a meal-plus-activity would be a wonderful addition to our regular offerings, on a weekday or weekend, any meal. A cooking class? Journaling? Candle making? Christian meditation? A book group?

Prepared food. We would welcome help with the food that we serve at breakfast and at the first-Saturday morning open house. Several people have brought home-made bread, muffins, soup, quiches,

pancakes, and desserts. These are very much appreciated by our neighbors, and our volunteers really appreciate the help.

House plants. House plants are also appreciated by our neighbors: spider plants, jade plants, wandering Jew, and aloe vera are easy to propagate, pot up, and give away.

Facebook. We would appreciate help setting up and maintaining a Facebook account.

Tutoring. There is a need for local tutoring for both children and adults. Commitment to a given time slot would be required. Macintosh computers are available, as is internet service. For safety reasons, we prefer to have two volunteers present at all times.

One-time projects.

- We need help cleaning up the back yard, doing the autumn clean-up and planting in the small front garden, and planting in the back yard.
- A bake sale or craft sale for the benefit of St. Basil's House would be appreciated; our neighbors might be willing to get involved with cooking, crafting, or selling.
- We need a volunteer to prepare and maintain a loose-leaf book to help volunteers give referrals for health care, housing, food sources, banks, and social services.
- There must be many, many other projects that need doing; often new-comers can identify these better than those of us who have grown accustomed to our defects and shortcomings.

