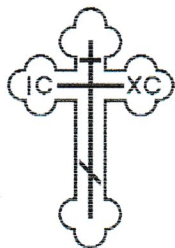


# St. Mark Evangelizer

Newsletter for Saint Mark Orthodox Church - 7124 River Road, Bethesda, MD 20817

Volume 17 - Number 2

April, May and June 2017 Issue



Saint Mark Church is a parish of the Orthodox Church in America, Archdiocese of Washington DC, under the omaphor of His Beatitude, Metropolitan, Tikhon.

**Divine Liturgy:** Sunday 9:30AM  
Weekday Feasts 10:00AM  
**Confession:** Saturday 5:00PM  
Vespers: Saturday 5:30PM  
**Church School:** Following Sunday  
Divine Liturgy (September - May)  
**Rector:** Archpriest, Gregory Safchuk  
**Telephone:** (301) 229-6300  
[www.saintmarkoca.org](http://www.saintmarkoca.org)

## On Healing

When we come to God, asking Him to heal us, we must prepare ourselves beforehand for healing. To be healed does not mean to become whole only in order to go back to the same kind of life that we lived before; it means to be whole in order to begin a new life, as if we realized that we died in the healing action of God; that the illness was of the old man in us – that is, the corruptible body which the Apostle Paul speaks about. This old man must die in order for the new man to live. We must be ready to become this new man through the death of the old in order to begin to live anew. Do we agree to take upon ourselves the responsibility of a new wholeness, in order to enter again into the world in which we live with knowledge of our renewal; to be light, to be salt, to be joy, to be hope, to be love, to be giving back to God and man?

- Metropolitan Anthony Bloom

## Did you ever wonder why?

Did you ever wonder why the gospel reading at the Paschal liturgy on early Sunday morning, is **not** the account of the Resurrection of our Lord? I have. It would seem appropriate after all, that it should be the gospel account of the discovery of the empty tomb and the first encounter with the risen Lord, but it is not. This crucial question and the responses to it are central to our understanding of not only the liturgical celebration of Pascha, but of our understanding of what God in His great love, has done for us - of how He has saved us and from what.

To begin to answer this question, I will point out that the gospel account of the discovery of the empty tomb is read in the Paschal celebration, but earlier on. It is the appointed reading for the liturgy on Holy Saturday morning. The purpose of which historically is to welcome the new members - the newly illumined catechumens, into the joy of communion with the resurrected Christ. We notice that during this vesperal liturgy of St. Basil the Great, we transition from darkness to light - gradually; from fallen life to risen life.

The actual Paschal gospel reading appointed during the midnight sequence of services is from the first chapter of the Gospel of St. John, which begins with words: ***"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with***

***God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."*** This at last was the message to the new Christians as well as to all Christians and all people of all ages. In our local tradition, these verses are of such importance, that they are read



in multiple languages in addition to English. Why? Not only to recall that the Gospel has been preached to all nations as Christ commanded, but because Pascha is the inauguration of a new age. It reveals the mystery of the eighth day. It is our taste, in this age, of

the new and unending day of the Kingdom of God. At last, by raising Adam and Eve, and all who perished as a result of the fall, Christ reveals that He has trampled down death by death, and offers new and unending life to all who desire to be united to Him who is the source of life. Darkness and death are no more. "The only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father" has made God the Father known to us.

"O Christ, great and most holy Pascha. O Wisdom, Word and Power of God, grant that we may more perfectly partake of Thee in the never-ending day of Thy kingdom". (9th. Ode of the Paschal Canon)

- Fr. Gregory

## THE HOLY WEEK HIT PARADE

*Submitted by: Matushka Alexandra Safchuk*

True story: Holy Thursday. The church phone rings in the choir director's parish apartment. He answers. The caller asks, "What time is the Razboiniki?" He responds that the service begins at 7:00 p.m. The caller asks, "Yes, but what time is the Razboiniki?"

With our Easter breads, our kholbasa, and our beautiful butter lambs, we emerge from an almost festive weekend of Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday. The Church has been decked out in green. We have traveled in procession (weather permitting) with the children and the palms (and pussy willows) of victory. Our feet are set toward Pascha.

Holy Week is always (confusingly) organized to reflect the anticipation of the day ahead. Orthodoxy is paradoxy. The Matins served on the first few evenings bring to mind our need to be vigilant

and ready. The Bridegroom Cometh reflects that need, and our own willingness (or unwillingness) to be present and prepared. Our choir practiced this piece the other night and it was sublime. Like a glass bell on a cold morning; clear and lingering.

On Tuesday evening we hear the ethereal Hymn of Cassia. Composed by a ninth century nun who fled to a monastery after a "bride show" encounter with Emperor Theophilos, an Iconoclast, Cassia writes about the sinful woman who washes Christ's feet and dries them with her hair. The woman lived, "shrouded in the dark and moonless love of sin." And like our foremother, realized her sin, "Once Eve heard Thy footstep in paradise in the cool of the day." Really? Can hymnography get any better than that?

At St. Mark, on Wednesday morning, we celebrate the Holy Unction service. In the midst of our intense walk to Pascha, punctuated by inspiring hymns, we do not forget that we need healing. It is so soothing to hear the words from the Gospel of Luke about the Good Samaritan, "he went to him and bound his wounds, pouring on oil and wine" (10:34) and from the Epistle of James, concerning the Church's response to illness, "let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord" (4:14). This is extant practice, for now, for us, for healing. That evening, at Matins, the Ninth Ode of the Canon, "let us enjoy the Master's hospitality; the banquet of immortality. In the upper chamber with uplifted minds" draws us ever closer.



*(Continued on next page)*

## THE HOLY WEEK HIT PARADE

*(Continued from Previous)*

At the Liturgy celebrated on Thursday morning we hear the heart-wrenching Gospel compilation of the betrayal, arrest and trial of Christ. For the clergyman who reads this Gospel it is invariably an emotional moment, because who, reading those words aloud in the Church, cannot help but feel the whip, the nails, the crown of thorns. But we are not abandoned and we hear again the call of the Master, to enjoy His hospitality.

That night we hear the long Gospel readings of the cross, the death, and the burial. After the difficult plow through these days of preparation, events move quickly, breathlessly. And tucked between the 8th and 9th Gospels we hear about the The Wise Thief, the Razboiniki. This hymn is sung three times. It is haunting. Christ is stretched out on that cross. There is agony and abandonment, and “in a single moment” there is salvation. Help me here. Is there anything more powerful than that?

At the Vespers of Holy Friday, the Noble Joseph. None of these events happen in a vacuum. Throughout these days we hear about the faithless and the faithful and are invited to join the faithful, sustained and inspired by these great hymns. That night, the Lamentations, with Psalm 119, the Praises and an amazing Canon. One year, during the Canon, I spent the time looking down at baby Adrian, an infant in his car seat on the pew in front of me, resting gently. It struck me that this beautiful child was now also part of this woven fabric of salvation, a witness to the miracle of God’s redemptive acts. Right here. Right now. And most especially during the never disappointing Ninth Ode, “Do not lament me,...for I shall arise and be glorified”.

On Saturday morning the pitch of our worship seems to enter a kind of turbo speed. During the readings from the Old Testament we sometimes receive Catechumens. The liturgical colors change and the mood of our worship alters dramatically as well. “For gloriously has He been glorified” and “Arise O God, judge the earth, for to Thee belong all the nations” become the clarion calls. We know what’s coming. Christ is in the tomb, but “Do not lament...for I shall arise and be glorified”. At the very end of the service we share bread and wine/grape juice together. To sustain us through this busy day, and ready us for the celebration to come.



That night, during the Nocturns, we hear the Ninth Ode again. I will admit that it is a weakness of mine, this particular hymn. It is during that moment, in the darkened Church, when the priest lifts the shroud and carries it into the sanctuary to place on the altar table. I may or may not have told Fr. Gregory that if he gets that

*(Continued on next page)*

## THE HOLY WEEK HIT PARADE

*(Continued from Previous)*

timing wrong he should not come home. (I did.) I may or may not have been completely serious. It is best not to find out. Then we pass the light, process and with “the angels in heaven sing”, proclaiming the Resurrection. Christ is Risen. Finally. Fearlessly. Faithfully.

We can listen to renditions of these beautiful hymns on CD or YouTube, Pandora or Spotify (yes, I am). They have been recorded in cathedrals with perfectly balanced acoustics (how do they do that?) or in studio live rooms professionally designed to deliver an optimal audio experience (thank you, Nathan). They are stunning and inspiring and available to us at almost any time. For some, they are enough. My experience is that these hymns, sung in the context of the liturgical services and especially by our wonderful choir, during the final week of our journey to Pascha, when we are tired, with a full “to do” list and an empty stomach, are nothing less than delicious. They dress our wounds. They comfort our hearts. They bless our ears. Go ahead. Let them.

With Love in Christ,  
Mka. Alexandra Safchuk



# SCOUT SUNDAY AT ST. MARK - A SCOUT IS REVERENT

*Submitted by Marsha Zellem*

On Sunday, February 12th, St. Mark acknowledged Scout Sunday. The Boy Scouts of America designates the Sunday that falls before February 8th (Scouting Anniversary Day) as Scout Sunday, which is the primary date to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to scouting. All Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Ventures' and their leaders were asked to wear their uniforms and received a Blessing from Father Gregory.



St. Mark has benefited from the required service projects completed by the Eagle Scouts. Sasha Lutes' project was cleaning and planting the Celebration of Life Garden behind the Church, on the hill side. Victor Lutes created the "Shaded Garden" behind the garage of the rectory. Additionally, an Eagle Scout from another troop designed and built wood and stone stairs leading from the bell tower exit door.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL SCOUTS AND THEIR LEADERS!**

**MAY GOD GRANT YOU MANY YEARS!**



## OUR LAST NOVOGODNY BALL?

*By Barbara Freimann*

On the weekend of January 14-16, 2017 (Martin Luther King), St. Mark parishioners, Mike and Marcella Hydock, Nancy Stanton, Diana Haverlack, Barbara and George Freimann, Doug and Debbie Dillon, Mark and Karen Phinney and John and Pat Ihnat traveled to Philadelphia, PA for the Annual Novogodny Ball. This year is the 80th year for this event. Paul Federonko from St. Stephen's OCF has organized this event for the past 20+ years. Due to his failing health he will not be chairing this event in the future. It remains to be seen if anyone will take on the responsibility to organize this wonderful dinner-dance. It was truly a bitter sweet evening on January 15, 2017; perhaps the last Novogodny Ball.

Here are a few historical tidbits about the Ball from the 75th Diamond Anniversary Novogodny Ball program:

“This event originated in 1937, hosted by the Alpha “R” Club, Chapter 53 – FROC of Philadelphia, PA as the Alpha “R” Club Dance. A member of Alpha at that time was Mischa Michaelson, in whose name a FOCA Seminarian Scholarship still exists.



In 1940 this event was renamed the “Novo Godni Ball” and it publicized its support of FROC charities.

Between 1937 and the early 1950s the ball was held at the Majestic, Broadroom, Arcadia, Drake and Ben Franklin Hotels, all in downtown Philadelphia.

In 1951 the cost of to attend at the Adelpia Hotel was \$2.25 and overnight rooms were available at \$4.50 - \$8.50. “All rooms with private bath – circulating water”.

Based on available records, The Paul Kauriga Orchestra began playing at the ball in the 1950s, but it could have been earlier. Identifiable chairpersons starting in the 1950s were John Hubiak, Vera Cucura, Nicholas Skovran, Paul Petuch, Marie Billy, Harry Petrowsky and Walter Stephan.

The 25th Novogodny Ball took place in 1961 at the Penn Sherwood Hotel (later Penn Sheraton) at 39th and Chestnut Streets in Philadelphia under co-chairs Theodore Pschick and Alexander Yankovoy. The ticket cost then was \$3.00.

In 1967 the ball was moved to the George Washington Motor Lodge in Willow Grove, PA where it celebrated its 50th Anniversary in 1986 under Chairman Theodore Pschick. The cost skyrocketed to \$12.00. This would be the last ball hosted by the Alpha “R” Club.



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## OUR LAST NOVOGODNY BALL?

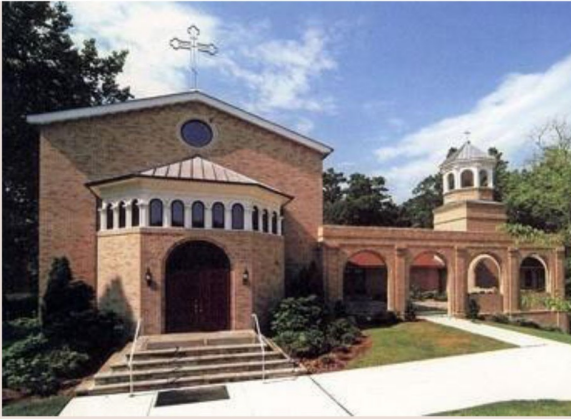
*By Barbara Freimann*

In 1987 there was no Novogodny Ball while the Alpha “R” Club considered the event’s fate. It was decided that the event’s good will would be passed along to St. Stephen’s OCF, Chapter 82 – FROC under the chair of Vera Hubiak (daughter of John Hubiak noted above). In 1988 the Novogodny Ball (51st) took place for the last time at the George Washington Motor Lodge and in 1989 it relocated to a hotel in Trevese, PA, which evolved through several names including Hilton, the Trevese Hotel and currently, Radisson. Paul Federonko assumed the chair in the early 1990s, joined by Lisa Lelo as co-chair in 2008.”

In 2012 the 75th Diamond Anniversary Novogodny Ball was held in conjunction with IOCC and moved to the Crowne Plaza Hotel - Philadelphia in Cherry Hill, NJ. It was extremely well attended with over 450 guests. This year 2017, we were back at the Radisson in Trevese, PA. The Kauriga Orchestra once again played polkas and ethnic dances, while a DJ offered popular dances to the very large crowd of young people. Special entertainment was provided by the Philadelphia Mummies. St. Mark has been represented at the ball for many years. Those of us who have attended in the past hope that it will continue.

The Novogodny Ball is indeed one of the longest standing examples of Orthodox Christian Fellowship in the USA.





# Rummage Sale

**Saturday, June 10 8 am – 2pm**

7124 River Road, Bethesda, MD  
301.229.6300 or <https://stmarkoca.org/>

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Offering a wide range of

- Furniture
- Books and Games
- Cookware and tableware
- Children's and Adult Clothing
- Rugs
- Linens

***Unsold items are donated to local causes***

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## Directions

### From Route 495- Capital Beltway

Exit 39 (River Road) towards Washington  
RIGHT at second traffic light (Nevis Road)  
Immediate RIGHT onto the access road Go  
100 yards to St. Mark Orthodox Church.

### Via Metro - Red Line

Red Line to the Friendship Heights station.  
T2 metro bus down River Road towards the  
beltway.  
Get off the bus at Nevis/Beech Tree Roads  
Walk across River Road  
Turn RIGHT onto the access road.  
Go 100 yards to St. Mark Orthodox Church





# St Mark Rummage Sale

## 2017 Donation Guidelines

7124 River Road, Bethesda, MD  
301.229.6300 or [admin@stmarkoca.org](mailto:admin@stmarkoca.org)  
<https://stmarkoca.org/>

*Do not bring to church before May 20<sup>th</sup>*  
(After church school last class)

### DO

- Clean, in working condition and not cracked/broken
- Not torn, stained, or frayed
- Area rugs rolled and tied with rope and labeled with size
- Sheets, towels, and cloth napkins sets tied together
- Belts, handbags, scarves
- Jewelry
- Good Books and paperbacks – *especially best sellers*
- Holiday decorations
- Clean Toys
- Furniture
- Games – no missing pieces

### DON'T

- Rusted toys
- Cracked cookware, glassware, dishes, ceramics
- Margarine containers
- Items with dirt and grime

*Ask yourself, would I buy it in this condition?*

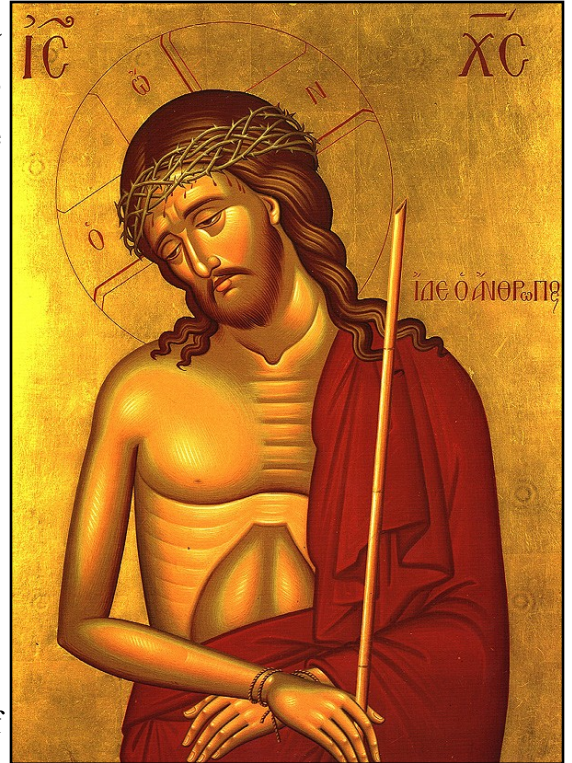
## A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

*Submitted by: Anelia Rotunda*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The saying goes: "A picture is worth a thousand words." To me, the portrait of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by Albanian artist Alaudin Elezi is worth so much more, as it reminds me of our own worth in the eyes of God--so much so to send His only son to die for us, including me, the greatest sinner...As I was driving a few weeks ago, I heard a song on Christian radio station and a verse of it pulled on my heart so much that it ached. The song is called "You Love Me Anyway" by Sidewalk Prophets and the verse goes like this:

*"I am the thorn in your crown  
But You love me anyway  
I am the sweat from Your brow  
But You love me anyway  
I am the nail in Your wrist  
But You love me anyway  
I am Judas' kiss  
But You love me anyway."*



Mediating on that artist's portrait of Christ, I look at the crown of thorns and my eyes are immediately drawn to the sharpest of thorn, which not only penetrates the skin and causes innocent blood to flow but pierces the very divine heart of our Savior....it is me...sharp and pointy and merciless that an artist half way around the world painted on his canvas, I am the sweat from the Savior's brow that causes Him unthinkable suffering, I am the nail in His wrist, I am the one who claims to love Him yet betrays Him by a kiss over and over again... And I can't help but feel pain... my heart is broken because I have broken His...over and over again... And then comes the verse: "But you love me anyway." And I love how that verse is repeated in the song over and over again because it truly is a kind of love that this world has never known before Christ came to live and die for us... It is a love that is constant, insurmountable, unconditional, inconsumable, incomprehensible, the kind of love that does not allow anything to separate us from the one who loves us and loved us into being.

And speaking of loving us into being, there is a prayer I came across, which is meant to be prayed at the end of the day as we surrender ourselves in God's loving hands before sleep finds us...

*(Continued on next page)*

## A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

*(Continued from Previous)*

*My dear God in heaven,  
O Creator, O One who loved me into being...  
Now that the voices are silenced and the crowded world of projects  
and overwhelming noise is hushed, here, at my bed, I seek your consolation.  
My spirit roots for you, as an infant seeks out the breast,  
seeks you as a child seeks the succor and embrace of a father —  
the parent who will whisper, "Shh, I am with you,"  
and bring solace to the soul with an unconditional love.  
I believe in your love, and I hope in you,  
and I pray you will grace me with the gift of faith, unfailing,  
the gift of wisdom, beyond my instincts, the gift of trust, which is so hard.  
I give glory and thanks to you for this day as it ends,  
and beg that you will give me eyes to see that in all things, you have been with me:  
in what was difficult, and what was easy, in what was anxious and what was peaceful.  
In those times I sought you out, or forgot to, you were with me, still, and I thank you.  
Today, I failed in love; you know this. I beg you to forgive me.  
Today, I lost my temper; you know this. I beg you to forgive me.  
Today, I was selfish; you know this. I beg you to forgive me.  
Today, I felt desolate, unsure, and afraid; I beg you to reach me,  
and to teach me again that you love me, and are near.  
That you are, O God, the safest of safe places, the wayside resting place,  
where I may catch my breath, and seek you out, before going on.  
Before I rest tonight, I must thank you for your love,  
beg your pardon for my failings, and your shelter from my interior storms.  
O my Lord, at this moment, all is calm, and sleep beckons me.  
It is your world! I place all of my concerns into your hands,  
and all of my fears into your Sacred Heart, the Self-immolating gift that is never consumed.  
I believe in you. Although I cannot understand all that is before me,  
I know all things work toward the purposes of your mysterious plans for my own good.  
And I trust in this. And I beg for the gift and grace to trust you even further, day by day.  
I ask this in the name of Christ Jesus, seeking the prayers of Mary, his Mother,  
and of my guardian angel and patron saint (Name).  
I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety. (Psalm 4:9)  
Amen.*

Isn't it amazing, dear brothers and sisters in Christ, that we have this kind of love to come to, the kind of Heavenly Father who whispers to us "Shh, I am with you" no matter what we have done (or have failed to do), the kind of love to sacrifice the dearest and most precious of all so that we may have life everlasting? Glory to you, oh God! Glory to you for loving us anyway!

With love in Christ,

Anelia, a sinner

# St Mark Orthodox Church

## Pascha Bake Sale

### PASCHA BREAD \$10.00

- Plain
- Lemon
- Raison



### BUTTER LAMBS \$2.00



*Happy  
Easter  
Day*

## FOCA HAPPENINGS

### **The Saint Mark Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America (FOCA) An Official Organization of The Orthodox Church in America**

*Submitted by Marcella Hydock*

We continue to meet on the 3rd Saturday of the month (unless otherwise noted) following Vespers. We meet in the church hall. You are welcome to join us for a meeting to learn how we provide fellowship, support charitable deeds, and offer family fun activities during the year.

There are 3 types of membership available. Adult, Student aged 18 +, Youth ages 10-18. If you have any questions please contact Marcella Hydock or George Freimann. We look forward to hearing from you!



## GIFTS OF LOVE PROJECT INITIATIVE

The St. Mark FOCA chapter will collect donations for the following 2017 Gifts of Love project. A collection basket will be available following Divine Liturgy on Sunday April 2nd & Sunday April 9th. Checks should be made payable to FOCA.

This year's project will raise funds to repair and restore the St. Nicholas Chapel, which is part of the Holy Assumption Russian Orthodox Church complex in Kenai, Alaska. This church is one of the oldest in Alaska – completed in 1896 – and the entire complex (church, chapel, rectory and cemetery) was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1970.



This church is a major link to western culture for the Kenaitze Indians who comprise a significant portion of the population. Unfortunately, the long-term preservation of the church with its rich collection of icons and historic objects is jeopardized due to lack of funding for conservation work, proper environmental controls and basic repairs. For more information, see Marcella Hydock or Barbara Freimann.

# BUTTER LAMB for EASTER



**Sunday, April 9**

**After Divine Liturgy**

Butter Lamb (Russian/Slavok/Ukrainian = Maslo)

This butter is shaped into a figure of a lamb and decorated as the cheese. Butter is to remind us of the goodness of Christ that we are to demonstrate to all men by our lives in Him!

**\$2.00 each**

For more information,  
email [admin@stmarkoca.org](mailto:admin@stmarkoca.org)  
phone (301) 229 6300  
add your name to the order form

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2017 Food Festival and Bazaar Dates Announced

The dates for 2017 have been selected! Our Food Festival and Bazaar will take place November 3rd, 4th & 5th! Save the Date!

### GROCERY CARDS

Please consider donating grocery cards for the needy all, and especially, through-out Lent! Please see Father Gregory, Skip Mersereau for questions or donations. Thank you!

### STEPPING STONES MEAL DELIVERY

Please sign up for monthly food preparation and delivery to Stepping Stones shelter in Rockville, MD. The sign-up sheets are on the Outreach bulletin board outside the fellowship hall.



### BLESSED MAT. OLGA OF ALASKA WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP

The Blessed Matushka Olga of Alaska Prayer Group meets regularly on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at 10:30 AM in the church nave for intercessory prayer. In addition, the group meets regularly to pray varying Akathists on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 10:30 AM in the church nave.

Please join us as you can and please remember us in your prayers. All prayer requests may be given to Debbi Dillon, Mat. Alexandra or Marcella Hydock. Also, there is a prayer request email address on the St. Mark website. We hope you can join us on:

#### Intercessory Prayer Dates & Times:

- TUESDAY, APRIL 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 AM
- TUESDAY, MAY 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10:30 AM
- TUESDAY, JUNE 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 AM

#### Akathist Dates & Times:

- TUESDAY, APRIL 18<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 AM
- TUESDAY, MAY 16<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 AM
- TUESDAY, JUNE 20<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 AM

### WOMENS BOOK GROUP

St. Mark Women's Book Group meets on the last Sunday of each month in the parish library after Liturgy. Upcoming books and meetings: January April 30<sup>th</sup> - *Spirituality: Volume 4 of The Orthodox Faith* by Fr. Thomas Hopko; May 28<sup>th</sup> - *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman Book suggestions are always welcome. See Mat. Sasha for more details.

# UPDATER

## **Births** (See next page for photos)

- 2/18/17 - Chloe Elizabeth, Daughter of Matthew and Stacy Nimmer.  
3/14/17 - Cormac Channell, Son of Jonathan (Moses) Allen and Wynne Allen.  
3/23/17 - Arun John, Grandson of Fr. John and Pda. Kitty Vitko

***May God Grant Them Many Years!***

## **Baptisms/Chrismations**

1/21/17 — Rebekah Rose Barber

***May God Grant Her Many Years!***

## **Deaths**

- 1/22/17 — Nicholas Sanders, Long-time Parishioner of St. Mark  
1/24/17 — Judith, Sister of Joan Mitchum  
1/28/17 — Joanne Yurchak, Long-tim Parishioner of St. Mark  
1/29/17 — Matushka Juliana Schmemann, Grandmother of Alexandra Sedor.  
2/20/17 — Ruby Weir, Mother of friend and former parishioner of St. Mark Linda Weir  
2/25/17 — Marjorie, Mother of Christine Cacic

***May Their Memory Be Eternal!***

## ***JOANNE YURCHAK—LONG TIME PARISHIONER OF ST. MARK***

Joanne Yurchak, 78, died Saturday at Mid Valley Health Care Center, Peckville. Born in Carbondale, she was the daughter of the late Constantine and Mary Sokalsky Yurchak. She was a legal secretary at Howrey and Simon and Arent, Fox, Kintner, Plotkin and Kahn in Washington D.C., before retirement.

Joanne was a member of St. Michael's Orthodox Church, Jermyn, and formerly of St. Mark's Orthodox Church, of Bethesda, Md.

Joanne was a loving and devoted godmother to Nicholas DiEugenio, concert violinist and professor of violin at UNC-Chapel Hill; Justin Peck, resident choreographer and dancer of the New York City Ballet; and Jennifer Buckley, of Macedon, N.Y., teacher of English as a foreign language.

Joanne is survived by Martha Solitsky, aunt; and cousins, including Arlene Kutch and Linda Cucura, of Jermyn; Eileen Ciance, of Rochester, N.Y.; and John Jubinski, of Honolulu, Hawaii.

Funeral will be Thursday at 11 a.m. in St. Michael's Orthodox Church, Jermyn, with the Very Rev. John Kowalczyk. Viewing at the church will be Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m. Parastas at 7.

Interment St. Michael's Orthodox, Jermyn. Arrangements, Battenberg Funeral Home, Jermyn.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be sent to St. Michael's Orthodox Church.





# UPDATER

## NEW BABY!

*Chloe Elizabeth Nimmer - February 17th, 2017*



*Congratulations*



*May God Grant Her Many, Many Years!*

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

## April

1 Kenneth Chrzanowski  
 2 Jack Albert  
 Olaf Aseev  
 Elizabeth Cannon  
 Elianna Niemi  
 4 Jessica Herrera  
 Paulina Masick  
 5 Barbara Kreta  
 Faith Skordinski  
 6 Helen Bezuneh  
 Mary Mytryshyn  
 Paul Shiller  
 7 Nathaniel Safchuk  
 Irene Tarp  
 8 Darlene Marti  
 10 Martin Riskam  
 Don Truitt  
 Aaron Wickard  
 11 Melanie Firestone  
 15 Christopher Safchuk  
 16 Sophia Nimmer  
 17 Helen Salas  
 19 Ashley Albert  
 20 Mary Rudin  
 21 Doug Burns  
 Anastacia (Stacy) Jacobsen  
 Angelina Lyubimova  
 Melania Schwartz  
 23 Lori Landsburg  
 Chloe Emerson Little  
 Kiprian Tatusko  
 24 Susan B. Petro  
 25 Sasha Lutes  
 26 Peter Truitt  
 27 Dorothy Gumpert  
 Sarah Jenkins-Petro  
 Justin Markovich  
 Victor Vasilian  
 28 Linda Weir  
 29 Sarah Hardy  
 Tristan Pearson  
 30 Marge Dove



## May

1 John Michael Mikuluk  
 2 Susan Rodak  
 Bryan Schar  
 3 Manuella Buzoianu Balan  
 4 Eleanor Carstea  
 7 Madeleine Voth  
 Nicholas Voth  
 8 Olga Lobas  
 Patricia Pearson  
 9 Michael Karas  
 10 Grace Dillon  
 12 Paul Antich  
 Shirley Dean  
 Joanna Navarro  
 13 Ellen Barber  
 14 Alexander Norton  
 15 Antonina Riscuta  
 16 Alexandra Brasoveanu-Tarp  
 Dorothy Dillon  
 17 Sherry Safchuk  
 19 Carol Mary Ashley  
 Stephen Ilario  
 Estelle Klirs  
 21 Coy Williamson  
 22 Simina Lal Ciubotaru  
 Renee Jones  
 Dominic Rotunda  
 23 Kenneth Bernstein  
 Carl Firestone  
 Cindy Jefferson  
 24 Nicholas Paul Moser  
 25 Talia Sieff  
 Florin Vasilian  
 26 Christina Berencz  
 Andrew Bumbak  
 27 Timothy Firestone  
 Fr. Mark Koczak  
 28 Shawn Niemi  
 29 Henry William Meyers  
 Lisa Munson  
 Laura Pierce  
 Patricia Prose  
 31 Michelle Bahumian  
 Hannah LeFors  
 Alexander Sedor



## June

1 Alexandra Zabela  
 3 Christine Cacic  
 James J. Rosolanka  
 5 Michael Cacic  
 Rachael Datch  
 Jennifer Malatesta  
 6 Donna Lulchuk  
 Robert Rudin  
 7 James W. (Skip) Mersereau  
 9 Simon Markovich  
 10 Nicholas Niemi  
 11 Mat. Gemma Phelps  
 12 Hannah Antich  
 Nicholas Corbin  
 Eliot Landsburg  
 13 David Burke Jackson  
 Ann Marie Steger  
 14 Maximus Timothy Masick  
 15 Tina Burpee  
 Mary Ann Holovac  
 John Humphries  
 Alexandra Kissell  
 16 Fr. David Cowan  
 Wright Steinberg  
 Kara Yakubik  
 18 Kathryn Balamaci  
 19 David Jefferson  
 Rachel LeFors  
 20 Karen Jankovic  
 21 Kimberly Yakubik  
 22 Salomea Jankovic  
 Peter Sielinski  
 23 Timothy Dillon  
 Michael Hydock  
 Ravyn Malatesta  
 Timothy Perry  
 24 Benjamin Oleynik  
 Joshua Tucker  
 25 Alexsandra (Sunny) Holovac  
 Harell Little  
 Tara Shimer  
 26 Nicola Ilario  
 Brian Schwartz  
 27 Dawn Little  
 29 Jerome Miller  
 30 Ella Rose Datch  
 Jenna Datch