

Saint Mark Orthodox Church

Orthodox Church in America Archdiocese of Washington 7124 River Road Bethesda, MD 20817 Church Office: 301-229-6300 www.stmarkoca.org	Rector V. Rev. Gregory Safchuk Office: 301-229-6300 Home: 301-320-0739 gsafchuk@hotmail.com admin@stmarkoca.org	Parish Council President: Michael Thompson Home: 703-204-9092 dunaad@msn.com
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NATIVITY OF FORERUNNER AND BAPTIST JOHN JUNE 24, 2018

EPISTLE Rom. 6:18 – 23 Rom. 13:11 – 14:4	GOSPEL Matt. 8:5 – 13 Luke 1:5-25, 57-68, 76, 80	Tone 3
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DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. NATIVITY OF THE HOLY GLORIOUS PROPHET, FORERUNNER AND BAPTIST, JOHN. Ven. Anthony, Abbot of Dymsk (Novgorod – 1224). Righteous Youths John and Jacob (James) of Mengiui (Novgorod – 1566-69). Seven Martyred Brothers: Orentius, Pharnacius, Eros, Firmus, Firminus, Cyriacus, and Longinus, in Georgia.

Sunday	June	24	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – Nativity of Forerunner and Baptist John
			11:15a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
			11:30a	Women’s Book Club Meeting
Friday	June	29	10:00a	Divine Liturgy – Ss. Peter and Paul
Saturday	June	30	11:00a	Baptism of Bella Prose
			5:00p	Private Confession
			5:30p	Great Vespers
			6:30p	Bible Study
Sunday	July	1	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy
			11:15a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
Tuesday	July	3	10:30a	Bl. Mka. Olga. Prayer Group – Int. Prayer
Saturday	July	7	5:00p	Private Confession
			5:30p	Great Vespers
Sunday	July	8	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy
			11:15a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
			11:30a	50 th Anniversary Committee Meeting

The **Altar Candles** are offered by **Marilyn Macht** in honor of **Dawn & Harrell Little’s** birthday. May God Grant Them Many Years!

The **Sanctuary Candles** are offered by **Nicholas Lapato** in memory of **Tillie Lapato**. May Her Memory Be Eternal!

Coffee Hour Fellowship

Date	Hosts/Hostesses		Donuts/Bagels
June 24	Rose Zabela	Renee Zabela	Tatusko
July 1	POTLUCK	COFFEE	HOUR

Choir Directors, Readers, Preparers, Greeters, & Altar Servers

Date	Director	Reader	Preparer	Greeter	Altar Servers
June 24	J. Sokich	M. Baxtresser	D. Golembiewski	M. Hydock & C. Williamson	A. Ahmadi A. Datch C. Datch E. Pederson
July 1	S&D Hardy	Mat. A. Prentice	Mka. G. Phelps	N. Kumar & N. Stanton	N. Pederson J. Sedor M. Sedor

Classes

Bible Study

Saturday, June 30 th	Cancelled
Saturday, July 7 th	Following Vespers

TO OUR VISITORS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN: If you are seeking a quiet place to nurse or calm a rambunctious child, there are two rooms off of the main hallway on this floor to serve you. Our library is the second door on the left as well as our teen classroom, the last door on the left, at the end of the hallway. The library has rocking chairs, and both rooms offer comfortable couches and moderate privacy. Changing tables are located in the Ladies room on the upper level and in the Men’s room on the lower level.

PRAYER REQUEST – O Christ, You alone are our Defender: Visit and help Thy servants who are in need of your help, protection and healing. Among them: Christina Berencz, Migs & Helen Damiani; Shirley & Paul Dean; Margaret & Bill Dove; Mary Ann Fitzgerald; Julia Flick; Marge German; Jurretta Heckscher; Philip Hydock; Evelyn Leleck; Larisa Looby; Marina McKee; Catherine Mikuluk; David Rodak; Alexandra Sedor; Peter Sielinski; Beth Tucker.

Please pray for **Margaret**, Mary Carol Ashley's mother; Ellen Barber's friends **Bruce and Pamela**; Tina Burpee's brother-in-law **James**; Christine Cacic's friend, **Carmen**; Barbara Freimann's niece **Samantha, Tristan, Betty**, and the **Hanway Family**. Julia Flick's son, **James** Shimer, and her stepdaughter, **Jeanie** Folton; Karina Fortuny's god-daughter infant **Maria**, Maria's parents **Tzvetelina** and **Lyubomir**, and brother **Ioan**; Marge German's grandson **Joshua** and friend **Louise**, who is recovering from triple by-pass surgery; **Jeff** Jordan, friend of the Hardy family; Jurretta Heckscher's father, **Stevens**; **Will & Janie** McNamara, friends of Christina Kalavritinos; **Carole** Roberts, mother of Tammy Karas; **Olga**, friend of Helen Kerch; Mat. Jan and Fr. Mark Koczak's friend, **Metropolitan Isaiah** (Georgian Patriarchate); **Mary** Everhart, mother of Ted Koopersmith; Michael Kopcha's mother-in-law **Barbara** Durynski; Larisa Looby's daughter **Lisa** and granddaughters **Chelsea** and **Alexandra**. Marilyn Macht's cousins **Helen** and **Linda**. Anelia Rotunda's father, **Ivan**; Friend of Debbie Sieff, **Fr. Taras** Chubenko, of St. Demetrius Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Carteret, NJ, who is recovering from esophageal surgery; Sharon Sielinski's friend **Marilyn**. Olga & Slavina Skenderska's cousins, **Desi & Stanislav**, and friends **Catherine & Justin**; **Fr. Basil Summer**; Ellen Thompson's daughter, **Sonya**; Don Truitt's parents; friends of St. Mark, **Tanya & James** Twyman; Friend of St. Mark **Linda Weir**; **Christen** and infant **Alexander**. Paula Zabela's brother-in-law **Thomas** Broskey. Rose Zabela's father **Ed** Dumm. **Syd**.

Deliver them from sickness and grievous pains. Raise them up that they may sing to Thee and praise Thee without ceasing, through the prayers of the Theotokos and all your Saints!

50th ANNIVERSARY PLANNING MEETING will take place Sunday, July 8th, following Liturgy. The group will meet in the library. Anyone is welcome to attend.

BAZAAR PLANNING MEETING Sunday, July 15 at 11:30 in the teen room. Food and department chairpersons are asked to attend, but the meeting is open to everyone.

BOOK DISCUSSION: A discussion group will meet on July 15 following liturgy to discuss John Meacham's The Soul of America. Join us to discuss this book and how it may inform our understanding of contemporary events. Questions? see Kim Lungociu or Jerry Marti.

PIROGHI LUNCHEON A piroghi luncheon will be held after liturgy on Sunday, July 22. This luncheon is scheduled to use up the remaining St. Mark piroghi. The proceeds will go towards the purchase of this year's bazaar ingredients. Help will be needed in the kitchen to serve the food. Please let Tina Burpee know if you can help.

NEW PHOTO DIRECTORY It's that time again! We are setup to take portraits on Sunday's after liturgy in my office. Please take a few moments to sign in and smile for the camera. Victor Lutes, Jim Lacko or Steve Sekellick will be taking the photos. It's our goal to include everyone. Thanks for your cooperation! - Fr. Gregory

"WE SEE; WE DESIRE; WE TAKE..." guess what comes next and join as we resume our tour through the book of Joshua and consider a major spiritual step up towards enjoying our new life in Christ. Bible study meets on Saturday evenings, following Vespers in the Teen room.

CALLING RISING SENIORS! Would you like to represent the Archdiocese of Washington at the IOCC Serve X-treme Youth Leadership Conference? The conference is to be held in Minneapolis from July 28th - August 3rd 2018 and all expenses will be paid. Young people entering their senior year of high school in the fall of 2018 are to be considered. If you are interested, please see Fr. Gregory!

SS. PETER AND PAUL we will celebrate Divine Liturgy for Ss. Peter and Paul on Friday, June 29th at 10:00 am

MEMORY ETERNAL Daniel Lulchuk fell asleep in the Lord on the morning of June 15th. Please keep him and his family in your prayers. May his memory be eternal!

SAVING LIVES ~ SUPPORTING FAMILIES Want to be involved in pro-life work? Consider volunteering at the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center as a volunteer counselor. We will train you! Training consist of 8 classes held Mon./Thurs. from 6:30 to 9:30 pm. Dates: July 19, 23, 26, 30th, Aug. 2, 6, 9, 13th. For details, call Jackie Stippich, Exec. Director at 301-963-6223. I'd love to hear from you.

CENTER FOR BYZANTINE MATERIAL ARTS UPCOMING EVENTS

Iconographer Andrei Zharov of Belarus — Intensive 5-Day Iconography Course in Encaustic.

- OCTOBER 1–5, 2018 10AM–3PM
- St. Nicholas Cathedral (annex) - 3500 Massachussetts Ave NW, Washington DC 20007
- Cost: \$650 (all supplies included)

In this five-day intensive course, Andrei Zharov will demonstrate the practical application of the ancient encaustic method—a wax-casein (protein) composition described in Hermineia by the Athonite monk Dionysius of Fournia—while giving careful instruction to each student on the icon of St. Katherine of Alexandria. For more information about the course or to sign up, visit www.byzarts.com/zharov/. To watch Andrei writing an icon in wax, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=UyPaf4iKUmc

The Center for Byzantine's Material Arts Program for 2018 at Trinity House Cafe

Drawing and Other Courses and Activities \$125 each (unless marked otherwise all are three-hour courses and taught by Colette Kalvesmaki) Follow-up practice workshops \$10; Painting Courses individually priced For a full list of courses available, please visit: <http://www.byzarts.com/category/events/courses/>

EMBRACED BY FAITH Fr. Vladimir Berzonsky has recently published a book of reflections on faith. Fr. Vladimir is the former pastor of Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Parma, OH. He wrote numerous articles for The Orthodox Church newspaper and some of you may remember the monthly insert of short prayers accompanying the daily scripture readings. These short prayers were also the work of Fr. Vladimir. His eldest son was choir director at St. Mark some years ago. I have some copies of the book Embraced by Faith, available for \$30 each. If you are interested, see me. In Christ, Mka. Sasha.

Happy Birthday To You! May God Grant You Many Years!

24	Benjamin Oleynik	26	Nicola Ilario
	Joshua Tucker	27	Dawn Little
25	Alexsandra (Sunny) Holovac	30	Ella Rose Datch
	Harell Little		Jenna Datch
	Tara Shimer		

VCS 2018 We are looking for volunteers for this year's Vacation Church School to be held at St Mark on July 23-26 from 11 am – 2 pm. Please contact Rachael Datch at rachael@datch@gmail.com or Mary Niemi at mhniemi@hotmail.com if you are interested in helping. Our theme this year is "Let Your Light Shine So." Teachers will be provided the curriculum so there will be little advanced preparation required.

Parents of children Ages 4-11, please complete the registration form at the back of the church and give to Mary or Rachael to save your child's spot! Children will enjoy classes, prayers, singing, lunch, games, music, and crafts. Children younger than 4 are welcome to come with a caregiver and middle school students can volunteer to earn service learning hours. Registration Deadline July 1. We hope to see you there!

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY FOR DOUG PIERCE: As many of you may not know this year I was chosen to be a Maryland Arts Council grantee and fellow. I will need your help to make my project a reality. In 2006, Laura and I were Chrismated into the Eastern Orthodox Christian faith. During this time I came up with a three movement suite entitled "Suite for the Panaghia: Songs for the Theotokos." The piece will involve quite a few different moving parts and because of the need for rehearsals and planning with a high caliber group of musicians and technicians I need your help to pull this off. Here is the link to my GoFundMe Page. Please check out the video and we thank you for anything you are able to donate to help make this project happen. In Christ, Doug Pierce. The link is www.gofundme.com/douglaspiercesuite

LIFE LINE SCREENING: Time is running out for July 18th, 2018. Sign up today!

Did you know?

- Most people can't identify a single risk factor or a warning sign of stroke, yet over 750,000 Americans will be affected by a stroke this year alone!
- Stroke is the 4th leading cause of death and the #1 reason for nursing home admission.

You can take advantage of these health screenings today by signing up for the complete stroke screening package (which includes 4 screenings for vascular disease and an osteoporosis screening) for \$139 when Life Line Screening comes to our location.

With the number of people already signed up, appointment spaces are very limited so please don't miss your chance to confirm your appointment today before the event is full! Pre-registration is required. Sign up now by calling toll free to 1-888-653-6441 or text the word circle to 797979 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle

COLLECTION FOR BACK TO SCHOOL BACKPACKS BEGINS (for the year 2018-2019):

For many years, St. Mark has been honored to help kids in need get started with a core set of school supplies. We're in fact one of the very few churches listed as sponsoring the **Montgomery County Public School Foundation's** program for getting kids going in this way. (see below as well as link <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/community-engagement/donate.aspx?id=535601>). A great thing about this effort is the leverage in buying power we gain, allowing for each \$10 gift to deliver a backpack filled to the brim with supplies for \$10..

This year we've committed once again to filling the needs of a whole **Grade Level**. This means our **\$1,500 will help 150 children. We can't do it without your help. Please join in and give generously.**

St. Mark's efforts to collection for this program will begin ASAP after Divine Liturgy and run through mid-July. You can give cash through the plate collection, or make your check out to "St. Mark" with BACKPACKS in your memo field. For further information, please feel free to ask, or see the link: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/community-engagement/backpacks.aspx>

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY: The Presbytera Athena Kalpaxis Memorial Educational Fund has announced the availability of scholarships for qualified college students for the upcoming 2018-2019 academic year.

From 1971 until her untimely death in 1984, Presbytera Athena faithfully served as the helpmate to her husband, Father George, as he pastored the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Baltimore. During the period of her long illness which led to her falling asleep in the Lord, Presbytera often expressed the desire to assist deserving young people who because of limited financial resources might not be able to pursue worthy educational endeavors. To honor her wishes--and through the generosity of many benefactors and the efforts of the late Father George and of his family--this scholarship fund was established.

These awards--based primarily on financial need-- are available to, entering or current, undergraduate, graduate, law, and medical students, who are, or will be, attending any accredited college or university, and are Orthodox Christians actively participating in the community life of an Orthodox Church in the State of Maryland.

The current application form is located on the bulletin board in the parish hall. Forms may also be obtained by writing to the Fund at P.O. Box 18294, Baltimore, MD 21227, or by email at kalpaxis2002@yahoo.com.

There is no definite deadline for submission of an application and all the supporting materials but it would be appreciated if applicants for the coming academic year, apply as soon as possible.

ST. MARK WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP: If you enjoy a good read followed by a worthy discussion, please consider attending the St. Mark Women's Book Group. We choose books well in advance and then meet in the library on the last Sunday of every month to discuss the merits of our choices. On June 24th we will meet to discuss choices for the remainder of 2018. On July 29th—A Gentleman in Moscow: A Novel by Amor Towels (moved from June because people were having difficulty getting the book); August 26th—I Was Anastasia: A Novel by Ariel Lawhon. Book suggestions are always welcome. See Mka. Sasha or any participant for more details.