

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

DECEMBER 2, 2018

EPISTLE

Eph. 6:10 – 17

GOSPEL

Luke 18:18 – 27

Tone 2

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

27th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. (11th of Luke) Prophet Habákkuk (Abbacum, Avakkum) (6th c. B.C.). Ven. Afanásii (Athanasius), Recluse, of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves – ca. 1176). Ven. Afanásii, Recluse, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves – 13th c.). Martyr Myrope of Chios (ca. 251). Ss. John, Heraclemon, Andrew, and Theophilus, of Egypt (4th c.). St. Jesse, Bishop of Tsilkansk in Georgia (6th c.). St. Stephen-Urosh, King of Serbia (1367).

Sunday	Dec	2	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy
			11:15a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
			11:30a	Church School
Tuesday	Dec	4	10:30a	Bl. Mka. Prayer Group – Int. Prayer
Thursday	Dec	6	10:00a	Divine Liturgy – St. Nicholas
Saturday	Dec	8	5:00p	Private Confession
			5:30p	Divine Liturgy
			6:30p	Bible Study
Sunday	Dec	9	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy
			11:15a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
			11:30a	Church School and St. Nicholas Workshop
Thursday	Dec	13	10:00a	Divine Liturgy – St. Herman
Saturday	Dec	15	5:00p	Private Confession
			5:30p	Great Vespers
			6:30p	Bible Study
			6:30p	Parish Council Meeting
			6:30p	FOCA Chapter Meeting

The **Altar Candles** are offered by **Tina Parrish** in honor of **Anna Mayberry's** 100th birthday! May God Grant Her Many Years!

The **Sanctuary Candles** are offered by **Michael Parrish** in honor of **Tina Parrish's** & **Anna Mayberry's** birthdays! May God Grant Them Many Years!

Coffee Hour Fellowship

Date	Hosts/Hostesses		Donuts/Bagels
Dec 2	Anderson/Barnewolt	Phelps	Bilyeu
Dec 9	Looby	Stanton	Phelps

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

Date	Director	Reader	Preparer	Greeter	Altar Servers
Dec 2	S&D Hardy	D. Rodak	V. Lutes	Mka. G. Phelps & N. Stanton	A. Ahmadi A. Datch C. Datch E. Pederson
Dec 9	J. Sokich	M. Phinney	D. Golembiewski	G. Freimann & K. Phinney	N. Pederson J. Sedor M. Sedor

Classes

Bible Study

Saturday, December 8 th	Following Vespers
Saturday, December 15 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; **Julia** Flick; **Marge** German; **Jurette** Heckscher; **Marcella** Hydock, **Philip** Hydock; **Alice** Krenitsky; **Evelyn** Leleck; **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**; The child **Penelope** ; 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; Jurette 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; Larisa Looby's daughter **Lisa** and granddaughters **Chelsea** and **Alexandra**. **Beth** and **unborn infant girl**. Marilyn Macht's cousins **Helen** and **Linda**. **Bridget**, friend of Skip & Barbara Mersereau's. 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 cousins **Frank McIntyre**, who has esophageal cancer; **Janet**, who has kidney cancer; and **Helen**, who has thyroid cancer. 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!

POST-BAZAAR MEETING will be held on TODAY, following Liturgy. Location to be announced.

CONGRATULATIONS to Aden Robert Bryan who was baptized yesterday morning. May God grant him Many Years!

MEMORY ETERNAL For Marcella Hydock's father, Michael Ference. Michael fell asleep in the Lord on Thursday morning, November 29th. Details on arrangements are forth coming. Please keep the Michael and the Hydock's in your prayers. May His Memory Be Eternal!

ST. NICHOLAS WORKSHOP On Sunday, December 9th, all children are invited to participate in our St. Nicholas Day workshop. There will be activities, crafts, and a visit from St. Nicholas. Please come to the downstairs double classroom during coffee hour. Any questions? See Kathy Rudin or Alexandra Sedor

LOST AND FOUND: Our lost and found box is overflowing a bit. Please stop by and take a look and see if anything belongs to you or your family. There are quite a few "little" coats in there! The Lost and Found box is located outside the sanctuary, in the pew closest to the external door. Thank you!

FOR SALE – ALL ITEMS ARE FROZEN: Meat Piroshki (10 per bag) \$15.00; Cabbage Pirog (9" x 13" pan) \$15.00; Spanakopita (9" x 13" pan) \$25.00; Piroghi (St. Mark 1 dozen frozen) \$5.00; Chicken Kiev (8 per bag) \$45.00; Black Bread \$5.00. Please see Tina Burpee in the kitchen if you are interested in purchasing anything.

CONTAINERS: If you brought something for the bazaar, your clean container is located on a table in the social hall. Please pick it up as soon as possible. Thank you!

ST. MARK APRONS: If you took the good embroidered St. Mark aprons home to launder after the bazaar, please return them to the red bin in the bottom of the gray cabinets next to the walk-in refrigerator ASAP. Many of them are currently missing. These were very expensive and are used for the bazaar and other St. Mark events.

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

1	<i>Tatyana Gleason</i>	6	<i>Rebekah Barber</i>
	<i>Nino Japaridze Henning</i>		<i>Victor Lutes</i>
2	<i>John Badila</i>	7	<i>David Burpee</i>
3	<i>Daniel Nakshin</i>		<i>Lucas Lindsay</i>
	<i>Tina Parrish</i>	8	<i>Kyla Prentice</i>
5	<i>Theresa Sekellick</i>		<i>Marie Wickard</i>

TOMB OF CHRIST EXHIBITION The National Geographic Museum currently has an exhibit on the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem. “Learn the fascinating history of the iconic Church of the Holy Sepulchre and be transported to Jerusalem for an immersive 3-D experience unlike anything you’ve seen in a museum before.” See the National Geographic Muesum website for details and tickets. <https://www.nationalgeographic.org/dc/>

CFC AND FOCUS HAVE TEAMED UP: If you are an employee of the federal government, you can maximize your support for FOCUS through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). FOCUS North America is an Approved CFC Charity CFC #19541. Choose FOCUS North America as YOUR Charity of Choice! Solicitation period ends January 11, 2019. Enroll Today <https://cfcgiving.opm.gov/welcome>

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 December 30th: Choose a story from *Chicken Soup for the Soul* and share with Christmas cookies. Copies of a few of these books are available from Joan Mitchum. Book suggestions are always welcome. See Mka. Sasha or any participant for more details.

Since we understand Communion to mean that we have all things in common, sharing an identical Faith, only those who are members of the Orthodox Church and who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and recent confession may participate in Holy Communion. Following reception of Holy Communion, we should stay in the church until the conclusion of the Liturgy. Our fellowship begins after we venerate the Cross and receive the Blessed Bread (of which all may partake). If you have questions concerning the above, please feel free to speak with Fr. Gregory after Liturgy.

CHILDREN’S BOOKS Two baskets of children’s books are now located in the vestibule, behind where the greeters stand and next to the stairway to the choir loft. Children should feel free to borrow the books and can return them to the baskets.

FOCA is accepting new members and signing up current members during the months of November and December. If you enjoyed “OPA! October” or the “Annual St. Mark Chili Cook-off” then prayerfully consider helping us by joining our Fellowship. Dues for Adults are \$40 College or Higher Education Students \$10. See George Freimann or Marcella Hydock.



Happy December Birthdays! May God Grant You Many Years!

1	Tatyana Gleason	18	Jenifer Calomiris
	Nino Japaridze Henning		Herman Carter
2	John Badila		Darren Tucker
3	Daniel Nakshin	19	Elizabeth Sedor
	Tina Parrish		Marsha Zellem
5	Theresa Sekellick	20	Anne Tucker
6	Rebekah Barber	21	Nicholas Masick
	Victor Lutes		Steven Sekellick
7	David Burpee	22	Caroline German
	Lucas Lindsay		Elaine (Petro) O'Halloran
8	Kyla Prentice		Mat. Christina Perry
	Marie Wickard		Mary Williams
9	Linda Marie Jackson	23	Eugene Borissow
	Gale Rutan		Audrey Henning
10	Ransom Berry		Alexander Landsburg
	Olga Uritskaye		Matthew Tatusko
13	Ivan Borissow		Andrew Tucker
	Micah Needham	24	Sophie Christine Balan
14	Mat. Helen Kuchta	25	Mat. Janet Koczak
	David Markovich		Margaret McCamant
	Timothy Petro	26	Marina McKee
15	Howard Guba	28	Cristian Ciubotaru
16	Patricia Koopersmith	29	Alexander Sokich
	Evelyn Leleck	30	Mat. Catherine Arnold
17	Christopher German		Ezanna Bezuneh
	Jesse Japaridze Henning	31	Wayne Cessna
	Catherine Steger		Charles Datch



THANK YOU: With a grateful heart, I thank each of you for your kindness, loving care and visits, and mostly for your prayers as I continue to recover. God's Blessing to you all, as I hope to be sitting in my pew before Christmas and thank you personally for all you have done for me. I miss you all! Alice Krenitsky

VESPERS BIBLE STUDY: After taking this week (12/1) off, our series on the Prophet Jeremiah by concludes by focusing on one amazing unsolved mystery that highlights God's providential work in big and small events.

ANGEL TREE AND GIFT CARD UPDATE: Please remember that this Sunday, Dec. 2nd, is the first of two collection dates for the angel tree gifts. There is a collection box just outside the side door of the church, near the top of the stairwell, leading down to the fellowship hall. Please ensure that you either affix the ornament to your collection of gifts or write the number of your ornament on the bag containing your gift(s): this will allow us to track donations vis-à-vis the sign-up list. Any gift cards associated with the angel tree should be handed directly to me or Nina before or after liturgy. I am hoping to receive most of the gifts this Sunday, as I have a meeting with the Community School Coordinator for the initial delivery on 6 December.

Great news on the grocery card front for Christmas. Due to your wonderful generosity, we will be donating \$50 in grocery cards to each of 31 families associated with Highland Elementary School. We saved 5% on the card purchase by using a new St. Mark account recently established with Giant Food. I will be delivering these cards to the Community School Coordinator next week too. Thank you for participating in these worthwhile charitable projects.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD! Once again, we will be sending out a Community Christmas card. If you would like your name included on the card, the cost will be \$15 per family name. Any profit will be used to defray the cost of flowers used to decorate the Church during feast days and for Nativity! If interested, please see Coy Williamson or Mka. Sasha to make a donation. **FINAL DAY TO HAVE YOUR NAME INCLUDED IS TODAY!** Thank you!

IT'S JUST BREAKFAST: A group of our St. Mark men meet for breakfast every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month. Second Saturday: IHOP 9490 Blake Ln, Fairfax, VA 22031 at 8am. Fourth Saturday: IHOP 18147 Village Center Dr, Olney, MD 20832 at 8am. Questions? See David Jefferson. Thank you! **The next meeting is Dec. 8th at the Olney, MD IHOP!**