

Saint Mark Orthodox Church

**Orthodox Church in America
Archdiocese of Washington**
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FEBRUARY 23rd, 2020

EPISTLE
1 Cor. 8:8-9:2

GOSPEL
Matt. 25:31 – 46

Tone 3

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Sunday of the Last Judgement. Hieromartyr Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna (167). Ven. Gorgonia, sister of St. Gregory the Theologian (ca. 372). Ven. John, Antiochus, Antoninus, Moses, Zebinas, Polychronius, Moses, and Damian, Ascetics, of the Syrian deserts (5th c.). Ven. Alexander, founder of the Monastery of the "Unsleeping Ones" (ca. 430). Ven. Damian of Esphigmenou (Mt. Athos – 1280). Monk-Martyr Damian of Philtheou (Mt. Athos – 1280). Monk-Martyr Damian of Philtheou (1568). Ven. Polycarp of Briansk (1620 – 1621)

Sunday	Feb	23	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – Last Judgment (Meatfare)
			11:15a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
			11:30a	Choir Rehearsal
			11:30a	Church School
			11:30a	Women's Book Club Meeting
Monday	Feb	24		Meatfast begins
Saturday	Feb	29	5:00p	Private Confession
			5:30p	Great Vespers
			6:30p	Bible Study
Sunday	Mar	1	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare) Forgiveness Vespers immediately following.
			11:15a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
			11:30a	Church School
Monday	Mar	2		Lent Begins
			7:00p	Canon of St. Andrew
Tuesday	Mar	3	10:30a	Bl. Mka. Olga Prayer Group – Int. Prayer
			7:00p	Canon of St. Andrew
Wednesday	Mar	4	6:30p	Presanctified Liturgy

Wednesday	Mar	4	8:00p	Lenten Lecture
Thursday	Mar	5	7:00p	Canon of St. Andrew

The **Altar Candles** are offered by **The German Family** in honor of **Caleb's 6th birthday**. (2/24) The **Altar Candles** are also offered by **The Mihailov Family** in honor of **Nancy Stanton's birthday**! May God Grant **Caleb** and **Nancy** Many Years! The **Altar Candles** are offered by **The Reeves Family** in memory of **Bethan Louise Reeves**. May Her Memory Be Eternal! The **Sanctuary Candles** are offered by **Joan Mitchum** in celebration of **Roberta and Michael McCunney's** birthdays! May God Grant Them Many Years!

Coffee Hour Fellowship

Date	Hosts/Hostesses	Donuts/Bagels
Feb 23	Lacko-Gleason	Phinney Helba
Mar 1	Cheesefare Sunday	Potluck ***

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

Date	Director	Reader	Preparer	Greeter	Altar Servers
Feb 23	C. Berencz	J. Rosolanka	Mka. G. Phelps	J. Mitchum & M. Kopcha	A. Ahmadi A. Datch C. Datch E. Pedersen
Mar 1	J. Sokich	D. Rodak	Dn.D Phelps	K. Phinney & G. Freimann	N. Pedersen J. Sedor M. Sedor

Classes

Bible Study

Saturday, Feb. 29th

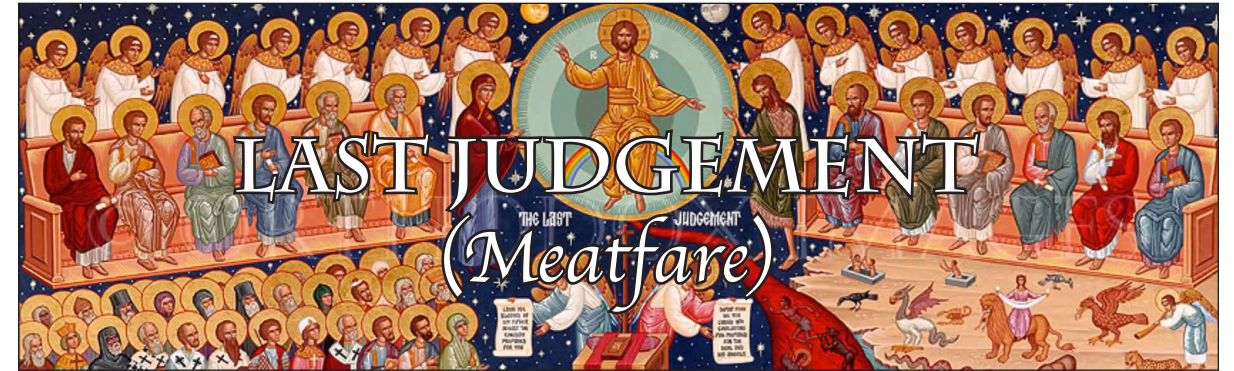
Following Vespers

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: Michael Ahmadi; Christina Berencz, Helen Damiani; Shirley & Paul Dean; Margaret Dove; Julia Flick; George Freimann; Marge German; Jurretta Heckscher; Cindy Helba; Patricia Ihnat; Alice Krenitsky; Catherine Mikuluk; Susie Needham; David Rodak; Alexandra Sedor; Mka. Alexandra Safchuk; Peter Sielinski; Ann Marie Steger; Cliff Tarpy.

Please pray for the child **Penelope**; **Fr. Dennis Buck**; Christine Cacic's friend, **Carmen**; Barbara Freimann's niece **Samantha**; **Misha** Freimann, who is being treated for cancer. Marge German's grandson **Joshua** and friend **Louise**, who is recovering from triple bypass surgery, and sister **Mary** Rodzon; **Denise (Dionysia)**, Godsister of Christina Kalavritinos; Tammy Karas' mother **Carole** Roberts, and friend **Charlene**; **Olga**, friend of Helen Kerch; **Mary** Everhart, mother of Ted Koopersmith; Sandra Little, Dawn Little's mother-in-law. Marilyn Macht's friend **Theodora** who was diagnosed with lung cancer; cousins **Helen, Linda** and sister-in-law **Bonnie**. **Marina** McKee; **Mka. Kelly** Oleynik; Anelia Rotunda's father, **Ivan**; Sharon Sielinski's Mother-in-Law **Patricia**, and **Lucille**. **Catherine** Steger Miller, Daughter of Ann Marie Steger. **Fr. Basil Summer**. Don Truitt's parents; Friend of St. Mark **Linda Weir**; Paula Zabela's Uncle **Nick**, cousins **Janet** and **Helen**, all battling cancer.

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!



CHOIR REHEARSAL will take place today, following Liturgy!

MEAT FAST begins tomorrow!

SAVE THE DATE! St. Mark 2020 Food Festival -November 6, 7, 8. Mark your calendars!

HIS GRACE, BISHOP ALEXIS will be a special guest on AFN with Fr. Tom Soroka! *Preparing for Great Lent* will take place on Tuesday, February 25th at 9 pm ET/8 pm CT. Listen here: ancientfaith.com/live.

YES DAY AT ST. MATTHEW YES (Youth Equipped to Serve) is coming to Columbia, MD to serve the needy! The event is open to people 13 years - college students and will take place Saturday, February 29th, 2020 from 9:30am – 7pm. The group will meet at the Orthodox Church of St. Matthew, cost is a gift of \$25 per person. For more information on the event please see the flier in the parish hall or contact Katrina Bitar: kbitar@focusna.org. For more information on the YES organization, please visit: <https://yesnorthamerica.org/>.

FOR SALE (ALL ITEMS ARE FROZEN): Plumpy's Pierogies (3 doz bag) \$8.00;

HOUSE BLESSINGS: Fr. Gregory will be contacting parishioners to schedule house blessings, but if parishioners have a preference for a specific date and time, they may contact Fr. Gregory at any time. Thank you!

LADIES LUNCHEON The next St. Mark Ladies Lunch will take place on February 24th, 2020 at noon at Trapezaria Mediterranean Kuzina, a Greek restaurant located at 11 N. Washington St., Rockville, MD 20850. Please respond to Marilyn Macht (mmacht973@gmail.com) if you will attend by Thursday, 2/20/2020.

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

24	Caleb German	27	Isaiah Rodak
	Michael McCunney	28	Marjorie Sielinski
25	John Bilyeu		
	Stacy Nimmer		
	Tabitha Voth		

LENTEN RETREAT AT ST. KATHERINES Please join us for a Lenten retreat *Acquiring the Mind of Christ Embracing the Vision of the Orthodox Church*. The retreat will be led by Archimandrite Sergius (Bowyer) Abbot of Saint Tikhon's Monastery. The retreat will take place on Saturday April 4, 2020 9:30am - 3:30pm. Paraklesis will follow the retreat. Fr. Sergius will be accompanied by the Wonderworking Icon of Saint Anna, the Mother of the Theotokos. Location: Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church 3149 Glen Carlyn Road, Falls Church, VA RSVP at stk.retreat@gmail.com. For more information, please see the flier on the bulletin board in the parish hall.

ST. GEORGE MISSION TEAM, of the Greek Orthodox Church of St. George, still has space available for the July 12-18, 2020 trip! We will be working with the OYMT (Orthodox Youth Mission Team) and the Appalachia Service Project to repair homes in a very poverty stricken area of Appalachia. This is wonderful opportunity to put your faith to work for some very well deserving people. The more St. George can bring on this trip the more families we can assist. Please consider joining the 2020 team. We are looking for youth from 8th grade and above and adults. Contact Athena Kaiser at avkmail@verizon.net or 240-498-0870 with questions and registration information.

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES OF INTEREST: The following performances are scheduled for the Hylton Performing Arts Center in Manassas, VA, 10900 University Boulevard, Manassas, VA 20220, 703-993-7759, hyltoncenter.org.

- Russian National Ballet, The Sleeping Beauty, Friday, March 6 at 8 pm

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.

ON COMMUNION: The fasting rules concerning communion apply to those who are healthy enough to keep them. If for example, you require medication that cannot be taken on an empty stomach, please speak to me about the possible need to eat or drink something along with it in the morning prior to 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.

ST. MARK WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP: The women's book club meets on the fourth Sunday of the month, following Liturgy, in the Library for discussion. Upcoming books: February 23rd - Pavilion of Women by Pearl S. Buck; March 22nd - Everyday Wonders by Michael J. Oleksa. Any questions, please see Joan Mitchum, Mka. Sasha or any of the participants.

AKATHIST BOOK: On the third Tuesday of each month the Matushka Olga prayer group prays an Akathist to address a special need. The collected Akathists are in black loose leaf notebooks in the library on the bottom shelf of the first bookcase on the left as you walk in. Please feel free to take a look at these Akathists and copy them for your personal use.

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!

LENTEN LECTURE SOUP AND BREAD. The Lenten Lecture series continues this year, following the Wednesday Presanctified Liturgies. The St. Mark tradition of bringing a sack “lunch” continues as well, but for those who are visiting, those who forget their dinner, those who are moved at the last minute to attend the Presanctified, and those who are just plain hungry, we will have peanut butter, jelly and bread to make sandwiches, and at least two pots of hot soup. Anyone who might be able to make a soup or bring a loaf of bread on one of the Wednesday evenings (March 4, March 11, March 18, April 1 and April 8 are all currently available) please let Matushka Sasha know either in person, on the phone (301-320-0739), by email (asafchuk@hotmail.com) or carrier pigeon what date you could bring soup for. We can do this the easy way, where others bring soup, or the hard way, where week after week Sasha’s Cabbage Soup is the only choice, magnifying your Lenten experience. All Lenten soups and bread are gratefully accepted. If you would like to bring a soup, but don’t have a Lenten recipe, never fear, we have a number of seasoned soup makers who would share a recipe. Thank you all.

LENTEN LECTURES 2020 SCHEDULE:

March 4th - Richard Reeves Topic: *“Earthquakes and Ottomans: The Hagia Sophia”*

March 11th - Carrie Frederick Frost Topic: *“Orthodoxy and Motherhood”*

March 18th - Bill Black Topic: *“The Orthodox Church in Kenya”*

April 1st - Bishop Alexis Topic: *“The Suffering Servant in Isaiah”*

April 8th - Pdn. Peter Danilchick Topic: *“Orthodox Christian Leadership”*

OCMC ANNUAL BENEFIT DINNER MAY 3, 2020: Our annual OCMC Benefit Dinner will be on May 3, 2020. We are pleased to have Rev. Demetrios Andrews, Executive Director, Project Mexico and the St. Innocent Orphanage, as our main speaker. His topic is “The Mission of Serving Christ in the Other: St. Silouon and St. Sophrony’s Theology of Service”. We also expect OCMC long term Kenya missionary, Bill Black, will be present and make a short presentation. Vespers at 4:30 pm; Hors d’oeuvres & Dinner begin at 5:00 pm. A \$45.00 donation is requested; a table of 10, \$400.00 donation; the student rate: \$20.00 donation; children under 12 and Clergy are FREE. Reserve your place with Antonia Chelpon, achelpon@aol.com, Sara Buchanan, buchanansara@hotmail.com or Paula Massouh, pmassouh@gmail.com. Tickets payable to “St. Katherine Orthodox Church”, memo: OCMC

