

Saint Mark Orthodox Church

**Orthodox Church in America
Archdiocese of Washington**

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Bethesda, MD 20817
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Rector

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MARCH 22nd, 2020

EPISTLE

Heb. 4:14 – 5:6

GOSPEL

Mark 8:34 – 9:1

Tone 7

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT. Veneration of the Cross. Hieromartyr Basil of Ancyra (362 – 363). Martyr Drosida, daughter of Emperor Trajan (1st – 2nd c.). Ven. Isaac, Founder of the Dalmatian Monaster at Constantinople (4th c.). Monk-Martyr Euthymius of Prodromou (Mt. Athos – 1814).

Closed through April 1st Stay tuned for updates

Friday	April	3	7:00p	Akathist – Glory to God for All Things
Saturday	April	4	8:00a	Parish Clean Up Day
			4:30p	Memorial Service for Bill Dove
			5:00p	Private Confession
			5:30p	Great Vespers
			6:30p	Bible Study
Sunday	April	5	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – St. Mary of Egypt
			11:15a	Coffee Hour fellowship
			11:30a	Choir Rehearsal
			11:30a	Church School
Tuesday	April	7	10:30a	Bl. Mka. Olga Prayer Group – Int. Prayer
Wednesday	April	8	6:30p	Presanctified Liturgy
			8:00p	Lenten Lecture
Thursday	April	11	9:30a	Divine Liturgy – Lazarus Saturday
			5:00p	Private Confession
			5:30p	Palm Sunday Vigil & Blessing of Palms
			6:30p	Bible Study

Coffee Hour Fellowship

Date	Hosts/Hostesses	Donuts/Bagels

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

Date	Director	Reader	Preparer	Greeter	Altar Servers
					A. Ahmadi A. Datch C. Datch E. Pedersen N. Pedersen J. Sedor M. Sedor

Classes

Bible Study

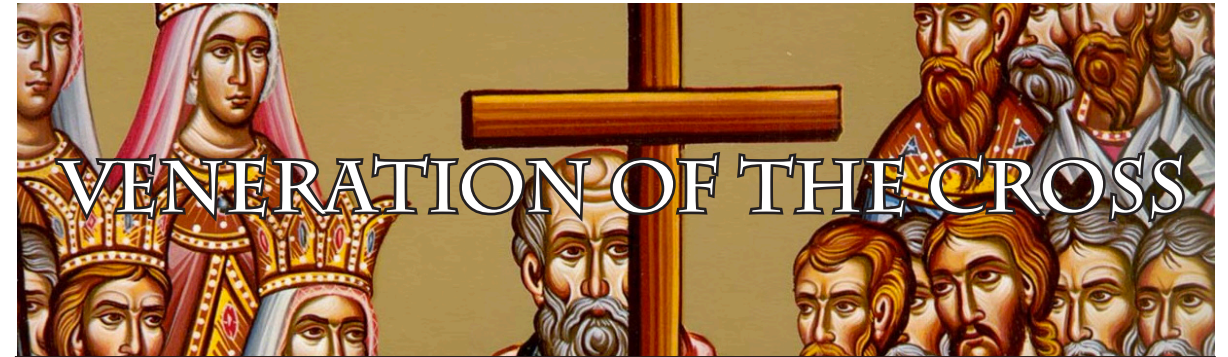
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TO OUR VISITORS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN: If you are seeking a quiet place to nurse or calm a rambunctious child, there are two rooms off of the main hallway on this floor to serve you. Our library is the second door on the left as well as our teen classroom, 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**; 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. Rose Zabela's brother, **Vincent Dumm**.

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!



CLOSED As you know, St. Mark is closed through April 1st. If we are allowed to congregate again with out restriction, the schedule is available on the first page and it starts on April 2nd. Please stay tuned to email for updates!

SUNDAY MORNING Although nothing can replace the experience of gathering together on the Lord's Day for the Divine Liturgy and Holy Eucharist, Fr. Gregory and Mka. Sasha will offer the service of the Akathist to the All-Merciful Lord, Physician of our Souls and Bodies at 9:30 AM this Sunday. Coffee hour via Zoom will follow. Please see emails for updates and ZOOM login information!

EVANGELIZER The April/May/June edition of the Evangelizer is due out on Sunday, March 29th. Sharon Carter will be sending out a digital copy to the friends email list as well as post on the website. When we are all allowed to congregate again, hard copies will be available.

CLEANING SUPPLIES if you are in need of cleaning supplies or paper goods and are having trouble finding some in the stores, please let us know. Pick up by appointment, please email or call Fr. Gregory.

AKATHIST If meeting restrictions are lifted, we will hold Akathist Glory to God for All Things on Friday, April 3rd at 7:00 pm. Please stay tuned to email for updates!

PARISH CLEAN UP DAY If restrictions have been lifted and we are allowed to congregate, Parish Clean Up Day will take place on Saturday, April 4th starting at 8:00 am. Please stay tuned to email for updates on this and additional events.

PUSSY WILLOWS If you have a tree, please check it to cut before the catkins go to seed. It would be great if we could avoid buying too many pussy willows this year.

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

25 Michael Mihailov
26 Kellie Holovac
27 Alice Krenitsky
Theo Sheppard

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.

ALL AMERICAN COUNCIL 2021: Baltimore, MD, has been selected as the site for the 20th All American Council to take place July 23-30, 2021. Since the event is hosted in our own Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., we will be needing volunteers to help out with planning and execution of things leading up to the event. Please see the letter and list of needs on the bulletin board in the parish hall. If you are interested in participating, please see Fr. Gregory.

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: April 26th - Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity and Love by Dani Shapiro; May 31st - The Woman on the Orient Express by Lindsay Jayne Ashford; June 28th - I Live Again: A Memoir of Ileana, Princess of Romania and Archduchess of Austria by Ileana, Archduchess of Austria 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. (On hold through April 1st) 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 (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: (On hold through April 1st)

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

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

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

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, buchansara@hotmail.com or Paula Massouh, pmassouh@gmail.com. Tickets payable to “St. Katherine Orthodox Church”, memo: OCMC

SERVANT LEADERSHIP RETREAT will be held on June 27th at St. Nicholas Cathedral. This is sponsored by the Orthodox Clergy Leadership Initiative and is one of four regional conferences that they are conducting to bring the Church a practical, biblically based foundation, for clergy and laity alike, in providing servant leadership in the Church. It promises to be a powerful and very helpful retreat. Lay, as well as clergy participation, is greatly encouraged and welcome. So please share this information with your parishioners. You can find further information in the link below. If you have additional questions, you can contact Claire Nobles (sophia.nobles96@gmail.com) our local representative on the OCLI.

HOUSE BLESSINGS: (On hold through April 1st) 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!

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

PASCHA BAKING WORKSHOPS will take place on April 9th, 10th, & 11th. All help would be greatly appreciated.

April 9th at 9:00 am - Nut & poppy seed baking

April 10 & 11 at 9:00 am - Pascha bread baking

PASCHA BAKE SALE - following Liturgy April 12 (Palm Sunday)

