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| 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: Tom Jenkins Home: 410-643-9249 taj@toucan411.com | |
| SEPTEMBER 10th, 2023 | | | | | | |
| EPISTLE Gal. 6:11 – 18 2 Cor. 1:21 – 2:4 | | GOSPEL John 3:13 – 17 Matt. 22:1 – 14 | | Tone 5 | | |
| DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM | | | | | | |
| 14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Sunday before the Exaltation of the Cross. Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos. Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora, at Nicomedia. (305 – 311). Apostles Apelles, Lucius, and Clement of the Seventy (1 st c.). Martyr Barypsabas in Dalmatia (2 nd c.) Rt. Blv. Pulcheria, the Empress of the Greeks (453). Ss. Peter and Paul, Bishops of Nicæa (9 th c.). Ven. Paul the Obedient, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves – 13 th – 14 th c.). Bl. Prince Andrew, in monasticism Joasaph, of Kubénsk (Vologdá – 1453). | | | | | | |
| Saturday | Sept | 9 | 5:30p | Vespers – YouTube Live Stream | | |
| Sunday | Sept | 10 | 9:15a | Reading of the Third Hour – YouTube Live Stream | | |
| | | | 9:30a | Divine Liturgy – YouTube Live Stream | | |
| | | | 11:30a | Coffee Hour Fellowship | | |
| Thursday | Sept | 14 | 10:00a | Divine Liturgy – Exaltation of the Cross – YouTube Live Stream | | |
| | | | 7:00p | Parish Council Meeting | | |
| Saturday | Sept | 16 | 5:30p | Vespers – YouTube Live Stream | | |
| Sunday | Sept | 17 | 9:15a | Reading of the Third Hour – YouTube Live Stream | | |
| | | | 9:30a | Divine Liturgy – YouTube Live Stream <i>Church School blessing immediately following.</i> | | |
| | | | 11:30a | Church School | | |
| | | | 11:30a | Coffee Hour Fellowship | | |
| Tuesday | Sept | 19 | 10:30a | Bl. Mka. Olga Prayer Group - Akathist | | |
| | | | | <i>Schedule continues on back page.</i> | | |

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|----------|------|----|--------|---|
| Saturday | Sept | 23 | 4:30p | Memorial Service for Vassil Georgiev |
| | | | 5:30p | Vespers – YouTube Live Stream |
| | | | 6:30p | Bible Study |
| Sunday | Sept | 24 | 9:15a | Reading of the Third Hour – YouTube Live Stream |
| | | | 9:30a | Divine Liturgy – YouTube Live Stream |
| | | | 11:30a | Church School |
| | | | 11:30a | Coffee Hour Fellowship |

The **Altar and Sanctuary Candles** are offered **Drs. Mary & Anna Nemesh** in loving memory of parents **Charles & Annie Nemesh** and brother **Dr. Walter Nemesh**. May their memory be eternal!

| Coffee Hour Fellowship | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|--|----------------------|
| Date | Hosts/Hostesses | | Donuts/Bagels |
| Sept 10 | Karas | | |
| Sept 17 | Jacobsen | | |

| Choir Directors, Readers, Preparers, Greeters, & Altar Servers | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|--|
| Date | Director | Reader | Preparer | Greeter | Altar Servers |
| Sept 10 | W. Tatusko D. Hardy | JM Mikuluk | D. Golembiewski | K. Phinney | H. Meyers E.J. Pedersen M. Sedor |
| Sept 17 | W. Tatusko | R. Kundell | Mka. G. Phelps | | |

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: Vera Bum-bak; Helen Damiani; Shirley & Paul Dean; Margaret Dove; Julia Flick; George Freimann; Marge German; Jurretta Heckscher; John & Patricia Ihnat; Linda Jackson; Cindy & David Jefferson; Katherine Johnson; Cristin and John Michael Kumar; Alex Landsburg; Marilyn Macht; Joan Mitchum; John Michael Mikuluk; Mary Mytryshyn; Millie Mytryshyn; Drs. Mary and Anna Nemesh; Matthew Nimmer; David Rodak; Alexandra Sedor; Mka. Alexandra Safchuk; Peter Sielinski; Ann Steger; Cliff Tarpy; Gregory Yakubik.

Please pray for the child **Penelope**; Christine Cacic’s friend, **Carmen**; Sharon Carter’s mother **Marjorie**, brother **Stephen**, step-son **Nicholas** and sister-in-law **Anita**. **Hannah**, friend of Theodora Dean. Marge German’s grandson **Joshua**; friend **Louise**, who is recovering from triple by-pass surgery, and sister **Mary** Rodzon, neice **Debbie** Kuhl. **Denise** (Dionysia), Godsister of Christina Kalavritinos, and also family friends **Constantine** and **Thomas**; Tammy Karas’ mother **Carole** Roberts. **Olga**, friend of Helen Kerch; **Mary** Everhart, mother of Ted Koopersmith; **Sandra** Little, Dawn Little’s mother-in-law. Kim Lungociu’s cousin **Doug**. Marilyn Macht’s friend **Carmen**; friend **Ken** Reichard; cousins **Helen** and **Linda**. **Marina** McKee; **Katherine** Nyce, friend of Mary Mytryshyn. **Mka. Kelly** Oleynik; **Amanda** St.Cyr, sister-in-law of Susan Rodak; Anelia Rotunda’s father, **Ivan**. Don Truitt’s mother, **Janet**; Paula Zabela’s cousin **Helen**. **Fr. Patrick** of St. Mary’s in Pittsburgh.

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!

WELCOME VISITORS! We invite you downstairs following Liturgy for coffee and light refreshments in the parish hall.

CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION There is still time to register! Parents of school-aged children and volunteers are encouraged to register for the upcoming Church School Year which will start soon after Labor Day. Registering children and volunteers helps us to plan for the year. Please go to this link to register: <https://forms.gle/jZAeF9EHAmjFunCw5>
Church school will begin on Sunday, September 17th. We will bless our church school teachers and students immediatly following Liturgy.

VIGIL FOR THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS Come and celebrate the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross on September 13th at 7:00 pm at St. Nicholas Cathedral. Heirarchical Divine Liturgy will take place on September 14th at 9:00 am. Please see the flier on the candle stand for more information!

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING The parish council meeting will take place via Zoom on Thursday, September 14th, at 7:00 pm.

NEXT VESPER’S BIBLE STUDY IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY SEP 23.
Here’s what’s interesting about our previous Vesper’s bible study:
(1) It’s up on youtube (feel free to forward this to anyone who might be interested). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=erCOBBaQpvs> or <http://tinyurl.com/mrxbkdvz>
(2) Has a unique combination of video and a dense supply of still photos and picturesque slides.
(3) Starts with how the Return Of The King Movie betrayed J.R.R. Tolkien.
(4) Covers what Jesus said to folks who had been and were about to suffer great tribulation and how that might apply to us and people we care about. Particularly interesting as we consider end-of-life issues and situations where there might not be a return to health.
(5) Provides a useful model for understanding the book of Revelations that you may not be familiar with and which allows real application to everyday Christian life.
(6) Covers the apostolic fathers in a fresh way, in particular, Polycarp’s relationship to the Apostle John and so to the Book Of Revelation. “

DEAR ST. MARK FAMILY Thank you for your prayers. They comforted me and carried me through my surgery and recovery. I am truly grateful for your love, concern and encouragement. With Love in Christ, Marcella

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

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|----|---|----|-------------------------------|
| 10 | Dn. Mark Oleynik Nathan Pearce Natalie Ticich | 15 | Anna Hardy John Steger |
| 11 | Mat. Katherine Vitko | 16 | Adina Carstea Bryce Pierce |
| 13 | Dr. Gerald Marti | | Cameron Lewis |
| 14 | Claire McHugh | | |

ST. MATTHEW MULTI-CULTURAL FESTIVAL The Orthodox Church of St. Matthew is hosting their annual Multi-Cultural Festival on Friday, October 6 through Sunday, October 8, 2023. Festivities will begin on Friday evening with Oktoberfest, featuring German music and food. On Saturday and Sunday, join us for the Multi-Cultural Festival with delicious ethnic food from around the world, a wine and beer garden, entertainment featuring the music and dancers of many countries, church tours, unique vendors, beautiful themed basket raffles and a kid's area. Fliers for additional details about the festival and also for the icon raffle are available on the candle counter. More information is available through the website, <https://www.stmatthewoca.org/festival>

FOOD FESTIVAL Nativity of Our Lord Orthodox Church of Manassas, Virginia, will host an International Food Festival on Saturday, September 16th, from 11:00 am - 5:00 pm. Food, live entertainment, face painting, music & dancing, and more! See the flier on the bulletin board in the parish hall for more details!

SS. PETER AND PAUL MEDITERRANEAN FESTIVAL will take place September 22nd - 24th featuring authentic middle eastern food, vendor booths, fun for kids, Arabic music and raffle prizes! Free parking and admission. For more information: <https://www.peterpaulpoto-mac.org/festival.html>

EMAIL LISTS All of the St. Mark email lists appear to be functioning properly again. Thank you for your patience! In the troubleshooting and repair process, many old, bounced, and orphaned email addresses were removed. This has significantly improved the health of the list. If you think you may have been inadvertantly removed, please let Sharon Carter know and she will add you back.

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. Thanks! Fr. Gregory

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.

IT'S JUST BREAKFAST: A group of our St. Mark men meet for breakfast every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month. Questions? See Mark Phinney. Thank you!

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.

ST. MARK WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP We will be reading and discussing the following books: **September 7th** – *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. We meet virtually at 7:15 p.m. on Zoom. The link is sent usually the day before. Please join us if you are able to.

BAZAAR/FOOD FESTIVAL SALE Frozen piroghi \$5.00 per bag of 12; See Regina Kundell 410-430-3713.



SANCTUARY ICONOGRAPHY As reported at the semi-annual meeting the iconographers will be able to begin working for the completion of the third phase of our project after June 2023. They plan to complete some of the work ahead of time on canvas at their studio in Russia and then take approximately 10 days to complete the work here in the church. The approximate cost to complete the work in the nave including the angels and ornamentation around the stained-glass windows and columns, and the banner under the choir loft is \$32,000 with additional \$20,000 for transportation, scaffolding, housing, and car rental; \$52,000 for the total project cost.

Currently with a balance of **\$50,718.50** in the Iconography Fund, we need approximately **\$1,281.50** to complete the project.

Please consider supporting the completion of the iconography in our nave by making a contribution of any size towards the project as a whole or with a targeted amount towards one of the one of the following:

~~Sponsorship of one or more of the 12 Angels at \$2,000 each angel or \$24,000 total -~~ ***Sponsored***

~~Sponsorship of the Banner under the choir loft = \$900 total -~~ ***Sponsored***

~~Sponsorship of the Ornamentation around the windows, columns, and marbling under the lattice icon screens: \$1,466 total -~~ ***Sponsored***

Sponsorship of any amount towards travel, lodging, car rental, food , gas, and scaffolding: any amount or \$20,000 total - **\$19,080.21 Sponsored.**

Checks may be made out to St Mark Church with a note to target a specific area or sponsorship , or to the general iconography fund. Thank you for your prayerful consideration to further beautify our lovely church.

A WARM WELCOME to Fr. John Parker, Dean of St. Tikhon’s Seminary, who is visiting with us today. Fr. John will share with us some information on the health and growth at St. Tikhon’s. See his message below:

“Here at St Tikhon’s Seminary, we are experiencing growth in spirit and in numbers, thanks to God. I find it truly amazing just how much is happening here, given our limited resources, both human and financial.

While we are truly being blessed with health and strength, we have a ways to go! I describe St Tikhon’s as a three-legged horse: a happy, contented, hardworking, but nevertheless, three-legged horse.

We have been growing the faculty; we are adding a much needed administrative position. Our student body is increasing (recall that we have had 16 ordinations since Christmas--among our *current* students!). Our incoming class is 14--recall that we have only one degree, the MDiv, and one central focus: to form clergy. We are doing all that we can to fulfill our mission!

I am writing to ask for your help For our 85th year, we have the goal to add 85 more monthly Sustainers--folks like you who make a monthly, recurring gift to St Tikhon’s Seminary. Some sustainers give \$10 or \$25 per month. Others give \$1000 a month or more. Every single Sustainer sustains us!”

SHADY GROVE ANNUAL BENEFIT BANQUET (see above) will take place on Thursday, October 26th at 6:30 pm. Fr. Gregory would like to host a table of 10 as we have done in the past. Please let Fr. Gregory know if you’d like to attend.

FLOORS The linoleum floors through out the church have been recently stripped, waxed and polished. To keep them looking their best, please take care to not drag tables and chairs across the floors. Please pick them up to move them. Your cooperation and help to keep our church looking it’s best is greatly appreciated!

2023 Youth Activities

Bowling



Sun, Sep 17, 12:30-2:30

departing from and returning to St Mark teen room

Fall Colors Hike



Sun Oct 15, 12:30-3:00

Let us know if your teen is planning on coming to either or both.
Contact Stacy Pedersen: pedersenclan4@gmail.com, 614-506-0801

SAVE THE DATE!! The 2023 St Mark Orthodox Church Ethnic Food Festival will be held on Saturday, November 4th from 11am-8pm and Sunday, November 5th from 12pm-4pm. We need help during the festival, but also with the food workshops that begin in September. As you can see below, there is a lot of work that goes into making the food for our festival. You don't have to have any experience but you are guaranteed to have a lot of FUN and FELLOWSHIP!!! Please consider serving St Mark's with this annual event. If you have any questions, please contact Regina Kundell at 410-430-3713 or email rlkundell@gmail.com

| September 2023 | October 2023 | November 2023 |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| Sept 21: Piroghi Prep #1 | Oct 1: Piroghi pinching (after Liturgy) | Nov 4: Food Festival 11 am – 8 pm |
| Sept 23: Assembling Piroshki – 9am | Oct 6: Walnut Roll – 9:30 am | Nov 5: Food Festival 12 pm – 8 pm |
| Sept 24: Piroghi pinching (after Liturgy) | Oct 7: Chicken Kiev – 8:30 am | |
| Sept 28: Piroghi Prep #2 | Oct 11: Poppy Seed Roll – 9:30 am | |
| Sept 29: Slavic torte - 9:30 am | Oct 13: Spanakopita prep – 9:30 am | |
| Sept 30: Blini - 2:30 pm | Oct 14: Spanakopita assembly – 9:30 am | |
| | Oct 18: Apricot Roll – 9:30 am | |
| | Oct 25: Slavic Black Bread – 9:30 am | |
| | Oct 29: Food Festival set-up after coffee hr | |