

Saint Mark Orthodox Church

**Orthodox Church in America
Archdiocese of Washington**

7124 River Road
Bethesda, MD 20817
Church Office: 301-229-6300
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Rector

V. Rev. Gregory Safchuk
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JANUARY 7th, 2024

EPISTLE

Eph. 4:7 – 13
Acts 19:1 – 8

GOSPEL

Matt. 4:12 – 17
John 1:29 – 34

Tone 6

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

**31st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Sunday After the Theophany. Afterfeast of the Theophany.
SYNAXIS OF THE HOLY GLORIOUS PROPHET, FORERUNNER AND BAPTIST JOHN.**

Friday	Jan	5	7:00p	Theophany Compline and Blessing of Water – YouTube Live Stream
Saturday	Jan	6	9:30a	Divine Liturgy – Theophany – YouTube Live Stream
			5:30p	Vespers – YouTube Live Stream
Sunday	Jan	7	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour – YouTube Live Stream
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – YouTube Live Stream <i>Installation of Parish Council members immediately following Liturgy.</i>
			11:30a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
			11:30a	Church School
Saturday	Jan	13	1:00p	Memorial Service for Thomas Vreszh
			5:30p	Vespers – YouTube Live Stream
Sunday	Jan	14	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour – YouTube Live Stream
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – YouTube Live Stream
			11:30a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
			11:30a	Church School
Schedule continues on back page.				

Tuesday	Jan	16	10:30a	Bl. Mka. Olga Prayer Group – Akathist
			7:00p	Parish Council Meeting
Saturday	Jan	20	4:30p	Memorial Service for Olga Lobas and John Petro
			5:30p	Vespers – YouTube Live Stream
Sunday	Jan	21	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour – YouTube Live Stream
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – YouTube Live Stream
			11:30a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
			11:30a	Church School

The **Altar Candles** are offered by **Michael & Tammy McDonald** in honor of **Heather & Brett Parshall** for their first wedding anniversary! May God grant them many years!
The **Sanctuary Candles** are offered by **Larisa Looby** in celebration of daughter **Lisa's** birthday. Also, granddaughters **Katherine & Alexandra's** birthdays! May God grant them many years!

Coffee Hour Fellowship

Date	Hosts/Hostesses	Donuts/Bagels
Jan 7	Brasoveneau-Tarpy	
Jan 14	McDonald/Tsuchida	

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

Date	Director	Reader	Preparer	Greeter	Altar Servers
Jan 7	S. Hardy	R. Kundell	V. Lutes		H. Meyers E.J. Pedersen M. Sedor
Jan 14	W. Tatusko D. Hardy	A. Boyd	D. Golembiewski		

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; Philip Hydock; John & Patricia Ihnat; Linda Jack-son; Cindy & David Jefferson; Katherine Johnson; Steve and Barbara Kreta; Cristin and John Michael Kumar; Alex Landsburg; Marilyn Macht; Joan Mitchum; John Michael Mikuluk; Mary Mytryshyn; Millie Mytryshyn; Drs. Mary and Anna Nemesh; Matthew Nim-mer; David Rodak; Alexandra Sedor; Mka. Alexandra Safchuk; Peter Sielinski; Ann Ste-ger; Cliff Tarpy; Gregory Yakubik.

Please pray for the child **Penelope; Michael** Ouellette, brother-in-law of Ginny Albert. Christine Cacic's friend, **Carmen**; Sharon Carter's mother **Marjorie**, brother **Stephen**, step-son **Nicholas**, and friend **Leah. Hannah**, friend of Theodora Dean. Marge German's grandson **Joshua**; friend **Louise**, who is recovering from triple by-pass surgery, and sister **Mary** Rodzon, niece **Debbie** Kuhl. **Heng-Jin** Park, friend of David Hardy. **Denise** (Diony-sia), Godsister of Christina Kalavritinos, and also family friends **Constantine** and **Thomas; Olga**, friend of Helen Kerch; **Mary** Everhart, mother of Ted Koopersmith; **Sandra** Little, Dawn Little's mother-in-law. 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; 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 re-freshments in the parish hall.

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS AND STUDENTS will dismiss immediately at the conclu-sion of Liturgy, before the announcements. Any children between the ages of 4-18 who are visiting St. Mark today are welcome to join the children for Church School!

INSTALLATION OF PARISH COUNCIL will take place immediately following Liturgy.

ARCHDIOCESAN CHOIR CONCERT *Behold How Good - A Concert of Psalmody* - Janu-ary 19th, 2024 at 7:30 pm. Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church. 10620 River Road, Poto-mac, MD. Reception to follow..
For more information and to purchase tickets, visit: <https://www.archdiocesanchoir.org/>

PLEDGE CARDS FOR 2024 Pledge cards for 2024 are now available on the table in the hall, outside of the nave.

2024 WALL CALENDARS The 2024 wall calendars are now available on the table in the hall, outside of the nave.

50th ANNIVERSARY BOOK is finally here! If you'd like a copy, please see Jerry Marti, Martha Baxtresser, Mike Chow, or Sharon Carter at coffee hour.

BIBLE STUDY will resume Saturday, January 20th, 2024.

EVANGELIZER The January-February-March edition of the Evangelizer is ready and avail-able for pick up on the table outside of the nave!

FUNDRAISING FOCUS GROUP As follow up from last month's Parish meeting, we are looking for parishioners to get together to discuss what the future of our annual fundraiser looks like moving forward. We need representatives from the younger members and those that have been involved for a long time. If you are interested in being a part of this, please email Regina Kundell at rlkundell@gmail.com. We would like to present some options at our May Parish meeting.

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

7	John Bainbridge Lisa Cannon Ted Koopersmith Pamela McHugh	9	Susan Petro Debbie Sieff
8	Alexander Masick	11	Debbi Dillon Anelia Rotunda
		12	Regina Kundell

2023 BAZAAR FOOD FOR SALE (ALL FROZEN) - Chicken Kiev (8/bag) \$40; Halupki (8/bag) \$40; Pierogi (1 doz.) \$5; Piroshki (1 doz.) \$20; Kielbasa (1 lb.) \$6.50; Nut Roll \$10. Please see Regina Kundell or Tina Burpee if you are interested.

TEEN SOYO INTERNATIONAL NIGHT Come dance the night away! January 13th, 2024 - 6pm - 9pm at Ss. Peter and Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church. Vespers at 6:00 pm, Dinner at 7:00 pm and then dancing! To register scan the QR code below:



SINGLES RETREAT The Ancient Faith Singles Retreat 30+ is a gathering of Orthodox Christians who are at least 30 years of age, unmarried (single, divorced, widowed), and living in the world. The weekend will include daily matins and vespers, and Sunday Divine Liturgy. The group will participate in interactive, leader-led discussion sessions, opportunities for community service, games, and social activities, and free time for relaxation and fellowship. **When:** Thursday, February 29, 2024 - Sunday, March 3, 2024 **Where:** Antiochian Village Conference Center. For more information, please visit: <https://store.ancientfaith.com/singles/>

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 On February 1st, we will discuss *The Lost Summer of Louisa May Alcott* by Kelly O'Connor McNeese. On March 7th we will discuss *The Sisters of Summit Avenue* by Lynn Cullen. The Zoom link will be sent the day before each discussion. We begin at 7:15 p.m.

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!

Happy January Birthdays!
May God Grant You Many Years!

4 Samuel Kumar
5 Michael Albert
Anna Meyendorff
7 John Bainbridge
Lisa Cannon
Ted Koopersmith
Pamela McHugh
8 Alexander Masick
9 Susan Petro
Debbie Sieff
11 Debbi Dillon
Anelia Rotunda
12 Regina Kundell
14 Joan Mitchum
15 Michael Beddow
Michael Bezuneh
Nicholas Bilyeu
16 Justin Ciubotaru



17 Hannah Perry
Janice Victorov
18 Katheryn Cannon
19 Tom Cipu
23 Eugenia Jankovic
24 Anthony Sekellick
25 Rose Zabela
26 Matthew Nimmer
Ivana Rotunda
27 Michael Berencz
James Lacko
28 Kaitlin Barber
Nicholas Herrera
29 Tyler Church
Jurretta Heckscher
Marilyn Macht
30 Michelle Corbin
31 Rodica Cipu

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