

Saint Mark Orthodox Church

**Orthodox Church in America
Archdiocese of Washington**
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DECEMBER 29th, 2024

EPISTLE
Gal. 1:11 – 19

GOSPEL
Matt. 2:13 – 23

Tone 2

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

27th Sunday After Pentecost. Sunday after the Nativity. Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James the Brother of the Lord. The 14,000 Infants (Holy Innocents) slain by Herod at Bethlehem. Ven. Marcellus, Abbot of the Monastery of the “Unsleeping Ones.” Ven. Mark the Grave-digger, Theophilus, and John, of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves – 11th – 12th c.). Ven. Theóphil (Theophilus) of Luga and Omutch (15th c.). Ven. Thaddeus the Confessor, of the Studion (818). Ven. Vasilisk of Siberia (1824).

Saturday	Dec	28	5:30p	Vespers – YouTube Live Stream
Sunday	Dec	29	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – YouTube Live Stream
			11:30a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
			11:30a	Church School
Wednesday	Jan	1	9:30a	Divine Liturgy – Circumcision of Our Lord – YouTube Live Stream
Saturday	Jan	4	5:30p	Vespers – YouTube Live Stream
Sunday	Jan	5	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – YouTube Live Stream
			11:30a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
			11:30a	Church School
			5:30p	Theophany Compline and Great Blessing of Water
Schedule continues on back page.				

Monday	Jan	6	10:00a	Divine Liturgy – Theophany – YouTube Live Stream
Tuesday	Jan	7	10:30a	Bl. Mka. Olga Prayer Group – Intercessory Prayer
Saturday	Jan	11	5:30p	Vespers – YouTube Live Stream
Sunday	Jan	12	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – YouTube Live Stream
			11:30a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
			11:30a	Church School

The **Altar Candles** are offered by **Bella Amaha** in celebration of **Senai’s 12th birthday!** Many years!
The **Sanctuary Candles** are offered by **Don & Jan Truitt** in thanksgiving for our parents. God grant many years to Don’s mother, **Janet!**

Coffee Hour Fellowship

Date	Hosts/Hostesses	
Dec 29	Potluck	
Jan 5		

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

Date	Director	Reader	Preparer	Greeter	Altar Servers
Dec 29	W. Tatusko D. Hardy	K. Lungociu	V. Lutes	K. Phinney	S. Brhane H. Meyers E.J. Pedersen D. Roth E. Roth M. Sedor
Jan 5	J. Sokich	E. Valentin- Morales		J. Stevens	

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; Philip Hydock; John & Patricia Ihnat; Linda Jackson; Cindy & David Jefferson; Steve Kreta; Cristin and John Michael Kumar; Alex Landsburg; Marilyn Macht; Joan Mitchum; John Michael Mikuluk; Mary Mytryshyn; Millie Mytryshyn; Drs. Mary and Anna Nemesh; David Rodak; Alexandra Sedor; Mka. Alexandra Safchuk; Peter Sielinski; Ann Steger; Cliff Tarpy; Marsha Zelle.

Please pray for **Becky; Michael** Ouellette, brother-in-law of Ginny Albert. **Eileen and Rose-mary**, friends of Tina Burpee. **Hannah**, friend of Theodora Dean. **Lovie**, cousin of Chris German who was diagnosed with stage four pancreatic cancer. **Paul** Giovetsis, **Carmine** Carocella, friend of Pat Ihnat. **Denise** (Dionysia), 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; **Mka. Kelly** Oleynik; **Amanda** St.Cyr, sister-in-law of Susan Rodak; **Rosemarie**, sister-in-law of Nancy Stanton. Don Truitt's mother, **Janet**;

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.

THANK YOU to all those who contributed toward the restocking of our parish food pantry and thank you to the Sedor family for organizing it!

EVANGELIZER The latest edition of the Evangelizer is available and ready for pick up on the table outside of the nave!

DIVINE LITURGY FOR THE CIRCUMCISION OF LORD will take place at 9:30 am on Wednesday, January 1st.

PLEDGE CARDS FOR 2025 Pledge cards for 2025 are now available on the table in the hall, outside of the nave.

2025 WALL CALENDARS are now available on the table in the hall, outside of the nave!

2025 BOX SET ENVELOPES are now available on the table in the hall, outside of the nave!

BAZAAR 2024 CONTRIBUTIONS In the absence of a Bazaar this year, please prayerfully consider making an additional donation possibly reflecting what you might have spent or donated at the bazaar. This will help offset our income deficit for this year. Please indicate "Bazaar 2024" in the memo or note. Thank you!

VESPERS BIBLE STUDY is on a break until after the holidays. We will resume again in the new year. The most recent bible study "'Spirit,' a word study, a meditation" is now up on YouTube! Previous bible studies are also up on the channel. Check it out! There is approx 30 mins of study and then a discussion afterward. <https://www.youtube.com/@doug Dillon1956/videos> or with this QR code:



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

December		January	
29	Alexander Sokich	4	Samuel Kumar
31	Wayne Cessna Charles Datch	5	Michael Albert Anna Meyendorff

WINTER TEEN RETREAT The Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania (DOEP) is holding a Winter Teen Retreat and has once again invited the Archdiocese of Washington, DC to participate. Such great success was had with their summer camp (~24 of our youth) and their fall retreat (10 of our youth), that the Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors will again be offering full or partial scholarships to cover the \$200 per child fee!

The retreat will be held from Jan. 31st 2025 - Feb. 2nd, 2025 at a location just north of Lancaster, at Refreshing Mountain 455 Camp Rd, Stevens, PA 17578 <https://refreshing-mountain.com/>

This is the same venue they used last year and just like the Summer camp the teens had a blast!

If you are interested please contact Jake Toroney (toroney@hotmail.com).

And, mark your calendars! Next year's (2025) summer camp will in the first week of July!

The DOEP has added an option to the Teen Retreat online registration for kids in our Diocese. There's now a "7th-12th grade (Teen in Diocese of DC): \$0.00" in the drop-down menu.

Link to Register: <https://www.accounts.doepa.org/retreat>

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: **There is no men's breakfast this month.** A group of our St. Mark men meet for breakfast every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month. Questions? See David Jefferson. Thank you!

ST. MARK WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP will meet the first Tuesday of each month at 7:15 p.m. via Zoom. Watch this space for possible date changes. The next 3 books for discussion are:

Jan. 9 (date change) - *"the Berry Pickers"* by Amanda Peters

Feb. 6 - *"Home Front"* by Kristin Hannah

Mar. 6 - *"The Orthodox Way"* by Metropolitan Kallistos Ware

PRAYER GROUP The next Akathist will be on Tuesday, January 21st, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. on Zoom.