

Saint Mark Orthodox Church

**Orthodox Church in America
Archdiocese of Washington**
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FEBRUARY 9th, 2025

EPISTLE
2 Tim 3:10 – 15

GOSPEL
Luke 18:10 – 14

Tone 8

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee. [Beginning of the Lenten Triodion]. Leavetaking of the Meeting. Martyr Nicephorus of Antioch in Syria (ca. 257). Uncovering of the Relics of St. Innocent, Bishop of Irkutsk (1805). Ven. Pankratii (Pancratius) of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves – 13th c.). Ven. Nikifor (Nicephorus) – (1557) and Gennadii (Gennadius) of Vazheozérsk (ca. 1516). Hieromartyrs Macellus, Bishop of Sicily, Philagrius, Bishop of Cyprus, and Pancratius, Bishop of Taoromina (1st c.).

Saturday	Feb	8	5:30p	Vespers – YouTube Live Stream
			6:15p	Bible Study
Sunday	Feb	9	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – Publican and the Pharisee – YouTube Live Stream
			11:30a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
			11:30a	Choir Rehearsal
			11:30a	Church School
				<i>Fast Free Week</i>
Saturday	Feb	15	5:30p	Vespers – YouTube Live Stream
			6:30p	AAC Reflection Group Meeting
Sunday	Feb	16	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – Prodigal Son – YouTube Live Stream
			11:30a	Chili Cook Off!
				<i>Schedule continues on back page.</i>

Sunday	Feb	16	11:30a	Church School
Tuesday	Feb	18	10:30a	Bl. Mka. Olga Prayer Group – Akathist
			7:00p	Parish Council Meeting
Saturday	Feb	22	5:30p	Vespers – YouTube Live Stream
Sunday	Feb	23	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – Meatfare – YouTube Live Stream
			11:30a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
			11:30a	Church School

The **Altar Candles** are offered by **The Hydock Family** in loving memory of Mother & Baba, **Olga Ference**. May her memory be eternal! The **Altar Candles** are offered by **Marilyn Macht** in memory of **Helen Schuett** (2/6) and **Bonnie Schuett** (2/9). May their memory be eternal! The **Sanctuary Candles** are offered by **The German Family** in memory of **Margarite German** on the occasion of her birthday. (2/11) May her memory be eternal!

Coffee Hour Fellowship

Date	Hosts/Hostesses
Feb 9	Albert
Feb 16	Potluck – Chili Cook Off!

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

Date	Director	Reader	Preparer	Greeter	Altar Servers
Feb 9	J. Sokich	M. Mihailov	V. Lutes	P. Zabela	S. Brhane H. Meyers E.J. Pedersen D. Roth
Feb 16	W. Tatusko S. Hardy	V. Lutes	Mka. G. Phelps	M. Kopcha	E. Roth M. Sedor

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 Bumbak; 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 Zellem.

Please pray for **Becky; Michael** Ouellette, brother-in-law of Ginny Albert. **Eileen, Rosemary and Robert**, 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), Godsisiter 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**;

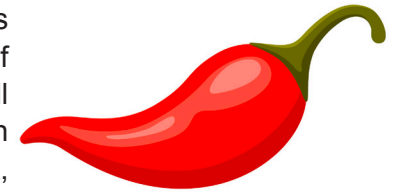
Deliver them from sickness and grievous pains. Raise them up that they may sing to Thee and praise Thee without ceasing, through the prayers of the Theotokos and all your Saints!



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

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

CHILI COOK OFF Chili cookers wanted!! Please join us Sunday, February 16th, following Liturgy for an afternoon of friendly competition, chili, bingo and more! This is a free will donation fundraiser. If you have questions, see a Jacobsen or Prose! If you would like to make chili or bring a dessert, please let us know! We look forward to seeing you!



HOUSE BLESSINGS I am available to come bless your homes. Please let me know if and or when you might like me to visit. It is a wonderful tradition seasonally associated with the Feast of Theophany and the blessing of water. It affords us an opportunity to pray together and spend some quality time in conversation and fellowship. I look forward to hearing from you. - Fr. Gregory

COFFEE HOUR UPDATE! We're growing here at St. Mark, which is wonderful, but it's made coffee hour a little more challenging for our hosts. To lighten the load and encourage more parishioners to participate in this ministry, we will return to having coffee hour teams. We will have assigned team leaders who will be the main point-person for that week. Then, we have tasks that others can sign up for, like set-up and clean up, bringing donuts, bringing a portion of the food. Sign up every week for a month to do a task or do it once every few months. This gives everyone the flexibility to help as often as they can and offers new people an opportunity to participate without having to host by themselves. In March we will have sign-up sheets available near the kitchen for the April-June schedule. Please consider what way you can be part of the coffee hour team. Thank you!

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

- 11 Stefan Gleason
Thomas Jenkins
Tammy Karas
Anna Nakshin
Jacob Prose
- 14 Luke Matthew Tatusko

OCMC MISSIONS DINNER FEBRUARY 22 in Potomac, Maryland – Everyone is welcome to attend the Missions Dinner at SS Peter and Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church, 10620 River Road, Potomac, Maryland 20854 (just past the village center) on Saturday, February 22, 2025. Vespers begins at 5:00pm. The Missions Dinner begins with appetizers and social time, followed by the dinner and program at 6:30pm. Please use the link below to register prior to February 15th, as tickets will not be available at the door. Please note that ticket prices are much lower than in previous years: \$45 for adults; \$25 for those 25 years old and younger. You will have opportunity to meet a missionary priest, a priest from the Orthodox Mission Center, hear from a missionary in the field, & learn what it's like to serve at Project Mexico. It's a must to attend this lovely event which will fill your heart with the joy of Christ and inspire you with learning about Orthodox missions! Registration link: <https://ocmc.org/potomac-dinner>. For more information, please contact Paula Massouh at pmassouh@aol.com.

INVITATION FOR REFLECTIONS In anticipation of the upcoming All-American Council in July, His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon has asked all of the communities of the Orthodox Church in America to consider submitting “a reflection on this moment in the life of the Church: whence we have come, where we are now, and whither the Spirit may be calling us”. To this end, study guide questions have been prepared to facilitate thought and discussion about the Church on the areas of mission, education, finance and philanthropy. These questions will be distributed soon via our parish email list. All are encouraged to look them over and offer responses. We plan to gather in person on Saturday, February 15, following vespers to discuss those questions and topics. If you can attend, please bring your responses with you. If not, please send them to me (at gsafchuk@hotmail.com) by Sunday, February 9th. Please do not send them to the “grand invitation” email address listed. One reflection will be submitted from St. Mark incorporating the gathered input.. Thank you in advance for your interest and input. - 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. 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 David Jefferson. Thank you!

ST. MARK WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP will meet on one Thursday of each month at 7:15 p.m. via Zoom. Watch this space for possible date changes. The next 3 books for discussion are:
Mar. 6 - “*The Orthodox Way*” by Metropolitan Kallistos Ware

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 20, 2025 - Sunday, February 23, 2025 **Where:** Antiochian Village Conference Center. For more information, please visit: <https://store.ancient-faith.com/singles/>