## Saint Mark Orthodox Church

<b>Orthodox Church in America</b>
<b>Archdiocese of Washington</b>

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:

Thomas Jenkins Home: 410-643-9249 taj@toucan411.com

**APRIL 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025** 

EP	ISTLE
Phil.	4:4 – 9

GOSPEL

John 12:1 – 18

#### DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

**ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM (PALM SUNDAY)** Hieromartyr Artemon, Presbyter, of Laodicea in Syria (303). Martyr Crescens, of Myra in Lycia. Woman Martyr Thomaïs, of Alexandria (5<sup>th</sup> c.).

Saturday	Apr	12	9:30a	Divine Liturgy – Lazarus Saturday – YouTube Live Stream		
			2:00p	Pascha Prep Workshop		
			5:30p	Vigil for Palm Sunday – YouTube Live Stream		
Sunday	Apr	13	9:00a	Reading of the Third Hour		
			9:15a	Greeting of His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon		
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – Palm Sunday – YouTube Live Stream		
			11:30a	Coffee Hour Fellowship		
			11:30a	Church School		
Monday	Apr	14	7:00p	Bridegroom Matins – YouTube Live Stream		
Tuesday	Apr	15	7:00p	Bridegroom Matins – YouTube Live Stream		
Wednesday	Apr	16	10:00a	Unction Service – YouTube Live Stream		
			7:00p	Matins – YouTube Live Stream		
Thursday	Apr	17	10:00a	Vesperal Divine Liturgy – YouTube Live Stream		
			7:00p	Matins and Passion Gospels – YouTube Live Stream		
Friday	Apr	18	4:00p	Vespers and Burial Service – YouTube Live Stream		
				Schedule continues on back page.		

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Friday	Apr	18	5:00p	Lenten Meal	
			7:00p	Matins and Praises – YouTube Live Stream	
Saturday	Apr	19	9:30a	Vesperal Divine Liturgy – YouTube Live Stream	
			11:30p	Nocturns, Matins and Divine Liturgy for PASCHA – YouTube Live Stream	
Sunday	Apr	20	2:30a	Pascha Agape Meal	
			12:00p	Pascha Vespers	
Monday	Apr	21	10:00a	Divine Liturgy – Bright Monday – YouTube Live Stream	

The Altar Candles are offered by Tom & Rodica Cipu in loving memory of Nicholas & Sylvia Lungociu and George & Julie Cipu. May their memory be eternal!

The Sanctuary Candles are offered by Christina Kalavritinos in thanksgiving for Eric Efstratios.

Coffee Hour Fellowship					
Date	Hosts/Hostesses				
April 13	Jacobsen				
April 20	PASCHA				

Choir Directors, Readers, Preparers, Greeters, & Altar Servers						
Date	Director	Reader	Preparer	Greeter	Altar Servers	
April 13	A. Boyd		D. Dillon	N. Stanton	S. Brhane H. Meyers E.J. Pedersen	
April 20	S. Hardy W. Tatusko S. Sielinski J. Sokich	J. Sokich			D. Roth E. Roth M. Sedor	

Donation

To make a donation electronically, please scan the QR Code: Please specify the purpose of your donation in the text box.

(Example: candles, general purpose, pledge, etc.)

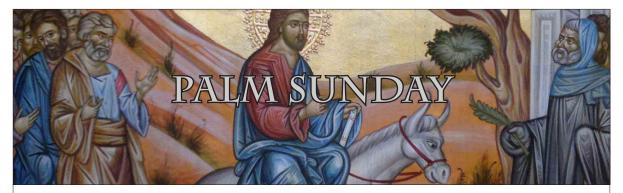
Thank you!



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; Stacy Jacobsen; 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; Eileen, Rosemary and Robert, friends of Tina Burpee. Hannah, friend of Theodora Dean. Pia Shepherd, sister of Sarah Hardy. 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; Marjorie Sielinski; 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.

**EIS POLLA ETI, DESPOTA** Welcome, Your Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon. On this Great Feast of the Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem we are honored to have His Beatitude with us. Always a glorious feast in the life of the Church, St. Mark celebrates this day festively and today the presence of our hierarch makes it even more joyful. Thank you!

**CONGRATULATIONS!** Today at the Little Entrance His Beatitude will bestow the Gold Cross, an award for priestly service in the Orthodox Church, on Fr. Nicholas Roth. Many blessed years to Fr. Nicholas and his family.

**AXIOS!** Following the vesting of the Metropolitan, our Reader Mihail Mihailov will be ordained to the subdiaconate and just ahead of the Litany before the Lord's Prayer Subdeacon Mihail will be ordained to the Holy Diaconate. May his ministry among us and in the Orthodox Church be blessed always. Many years to Father Deacon Mihail, Matushka Daniela and their families.

**MANY YEARS!** Though we see him often behind the camera and assisting in the sanctuary, today Victor Lutes will be set apart as a Reader. Just after His Beatitude is vested in the center of the Church the prayers for this will take place and Victor will read from the scripture, marking the call for him to "peruse the scriptures daily". Many years to Reader Victor and his family.

**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!

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

- 15 Christopher Safchuk
- 16 Sophia Nimmer
- 18 Nina Uritsky
- 19 Ashley Albert

Chloe Bryan

Fr. Nicholas Roth

**OUR NEW COFFEE HOUR SIGN UP IS AVAILABLE!** Please look over the schedule and the task list located downstairs by the kitchen window. There are slots available to bring donuts and creamers, set up and make coffee, clean up, and assist team leaders with bringing food. There is something available for everyone to help. If you prefer, sign up via SignUp Genius available here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054EAEA-B2EA02-55615087-coffee

THE 21ST ANNUAL ST. ANDREW ORTHODOX CHURCH GOLF TOURNAMENT Registration is now open!! The tournament will take place on Friday, June 13th at Geneva Farm Golf Course in Street, MD. We hope to see you there for this fun-filled fellowship event! See the church website for more details and the regstration form: https://standrew-baltimore.org/upcoming\_events (scroll until you see the golf tournament information)

**AKATHIST HYMNS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE LIBRARY**. They are located on the large book case on the right. The color coded folders contain various Akathist Hymns to Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ, The Most Holy Theotokos, Blessed Matushka Olga of Alaska, The Repose of Those Who Have Fallen Asleep, The Life of Mary of Egypt, and Prayers for the Sanctity of Life. You are more than welcome to take one or make copies.

**BLESSED MKA. OLGA PRAYER GROUP** There will be no prayer group meeting on Tuesday, April 15th. The Akathist is rescheduled to Tuesday, April 22nd via Zoom. Thank you!

**ST. MARK PARISH EMAIL LIST** "The Friends List" If you are new to our parish, or not new, and would like to be added to our parish email list please email admin@stmarkoca.org and we will add you!

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.

**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.

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 the first Thursday of each month at 7:15 p.m. via Zoom. Watch this space for possible date changes. The next book for discussion is

May 1 - "Rebecca" by Daphne du Maurier

June 5 - "Dead Souls" by Nikolai Gogol

July 3 - "Isola" by Allegra Goodman

Aug 7 - "The Shell Seekers" by Rosamunde Pilcher

WHERE ARE YOU ADAM? A showing of the film will take place on April 13th at 3:00pm at SNF Parkway Theater in Baltimore, MD. There will be another showing on May 1st at 8:00pm at the Avalaon Theater in Washington, DC. See the flier on the candle counter and bulletin board for more information and to scan for tickets!

**VESPERS BIBLE STUDY** will resume after Pascha! Access presentations (typically 3 slides a minute and less than 30 minutes) of previous studies at www.youtube.com/@dougdillon1956 or by following this QR code:



ST. TIKHON'S SUMMER CAMP Saint Tikhon's Summer Camp is a one-week sleep-away camp program for Orthodox Christian children between the ages of 7 and 17. It is held on the grounds of Saint Tikhon's Monastery and Seminary annually during the first week of July (June 29 to July 5). Participants enjoy a host of outdoor recreational activities (e.g. field sports, swimming, boating) with their peers as well as a superior religious education program and daily church services. The camp does have a limited number of spaces and it's first come first serve. Registration opens on February 14th here: https://www.sttikhonscamp.org/. For more information or questions about the camp, please reach out to Jake Toroney Email: Toroney@hotmail.com Phone: 610-223-3919. There are a limited number of need-based scholarships available from the Archdiocese, please see Fr. Gregory for more information on scholarships.

Additionally, St. Tikhon's Summer Camp is looking for volunteers. We are in need of kitchen staff, age group counselors, area counselors, and lifegaurds. You must be 18 years or older and Orthodox Christian in good standing to apply. If interested, apply here: https://accounts.doepa.org/counselor\_application

**BOOKSHELVES** We have been blessed with additional books for our parish library. In fact, we need some additional bookshelves to put them on. It will take some rearrangement of our current configuration, but it will be worth it. If you have a bookshelf that you no longer need, please see Fr. Gregory.

**HOLY FRIDAY PROCESSION** At Vespers on Holy Friday afternoon and, at Matins in the evening, there is a procession with the winding sheet. Six women carry icons of the women handmaidens, following the winding sheet, in the procession. If you would like to carry an icon in one of these two processions, please contact Marcella Hydock.

**BATTERY OPERATED CANDLES** This year, during Holy Week, in addition to our regular candles we will be offering another option. To cut down on the wax stains to our new(ish) carpet and pews, we will have battery operated candles available for "rent" at the same price as the small wax candles, \$1. We ask only that you return them to the candle counter at the end of the evening's service.

**READING AT THE TOMB** The sign up sheet for Reading at the Tomb on Holy Friday through Holy Saturday is available on the table outside of the Nave. Please sign up, if you can, so we can make sure all spots are filled. We will not offer an online sign up this year and reading will be done in person. However, we will broadcast the Reading at the Tomb if you'd like to listen in online. If you have any questions, please see Mka. Sasha or Sharon Sielinski.

**PASCHA AGAPE MEAL** Please stay to break the fast and share a meal following the Paschal service in the early morning hours on Sunday, April 20th. Many people bring baskets of food to be blessed and then enjoy that food together. A common table will be available for all to share as well. Please feel free to bring your favorite Paschal dish to share!

**PASCHAL GOSPEL READING** If you are fluent in a language other than English and would like to read a portion of the Gospel in that language at the midnight Pascha service, please contact Fr. Gregory.

**PASCHA BAKE SALE TODAY** Pascha breads, kielbasa, and butter lambs will be available today for purchase during coffee hour. Cash or checks will be accepted for payment.

**THANK YOU** to those who gathered pussy willows and brought them for today's Palm Sunday celebration. We have several different kinds, wild and tame. They are all beautiful.

## Service Schedule for Palm Sunday & Holy Week Palm Sunday

## April 13th - Palm Sunday

9:00 am - Reading of the Third Hour

9:15 am - Greeting of His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Procession immediately following Liturgy, weather permitting.

## Pascha Bake Sale following Liturgy!

## **Holy Week**

## **April 14th - Great and Holy Monday**

7:00 pm - Bridegroom Matins

### **April 15th - Great and Holy Tuesday**

7:00 pm - Bridegroom Matins

## April 16th - Great and Holy Wednesday

10:00 am - Unction

7:00 pm - Matins

## April 17th - Great and Holy Thursday

10:00 am - Vesperal Divine Liturgy

7:00 pm - Matins for Holy Thursday Passion Gospels

## **April 18th - Great and Holy Friday**

4:00 pm - Vespers and Burial Service

7:00 pm - Matins and Praises

## April 19th - Great and Holy Saturday

9:30 am - Vesperal Divine Liturgy

11:30 pm - Nocturns, Matins and Divine Liturgy for Pascha

Pascha Agape Meal following Liturgy

### CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

April 20th - PASCHA April 21st - Bright Monday

Noon - Pascha Vespers 10:00 am - Divine Liturgy