

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: Thomas Jenkins Home: 410-643-9249 taj@toucan411.com
APRIL 27th, 2025				
EPISTLE Acts 5:12 – 20		GOSPEL John 20:19 – 31		Tone 1
DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM				
ANTIPASCHA – 2 nd Sunday of Pascha. St. Thomas Sunday. Hieromartyr Simeon, the kinsman of the Lord (107). Ven. Stephen, Abbot of the Kiev Caves and Bishops of Vladimir in Volyn' (1094). St. Eulogius the Hospitable, of Constantinople (4 th c).				
Saturday	Apr	26	5:30p	Vespers – YouTube Live Stream
Sunday	Apr	27	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – St. Thomas – YouTube Live Stream
			11:30a	Church School and Egg Hunt
			11:30a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
Saturday	May	3	4:30p	Memorial Service for David Burpee
			5:30p	Vespers – YouTube Live Stream
Sunday	May	4	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – Myrrhbearing Women – YouTube Live Stream
			11:30a	Church School
			11:30a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
Tuesday	May	6	10:30a	Bl. Mka. Olga Prayer Group – Intercessory Prayer
Saturday	May	10	5:30p	Vespers – YouTube Live Stream
				Schedule continues on back page.

Sunday	May	11	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – Paralytic – YouTube Live Stream
			11:30a	Church School
			11:30a	Coffee Hour Fellowship


The **Altar Candles** are offered by **Don & Jan Truitt** in thanksgiving for our son, **Peter**. May God grant him many years!

Coffee Hour Fellowship		
Date	Hosts/Hostesses	
April 27	McDonald/Tsuchida	
May 4	Burpee	

Choir Directors, Readers, Preparers, Greeters, & Altar Servers					
Date	Director	Reader	Preparer	Greeter	Altar Servers
April 27	S. Sielinski W. Tatusko	T. Jenkins	Dn. M & Mka. D Mihailov	M. Kopcha	S. Brhane H. Meyers E.J. Pedersen D. Roth E. Roth M. Sedor
May 4	S. Sielinski	K. Lungociu	V. Lutes		

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!

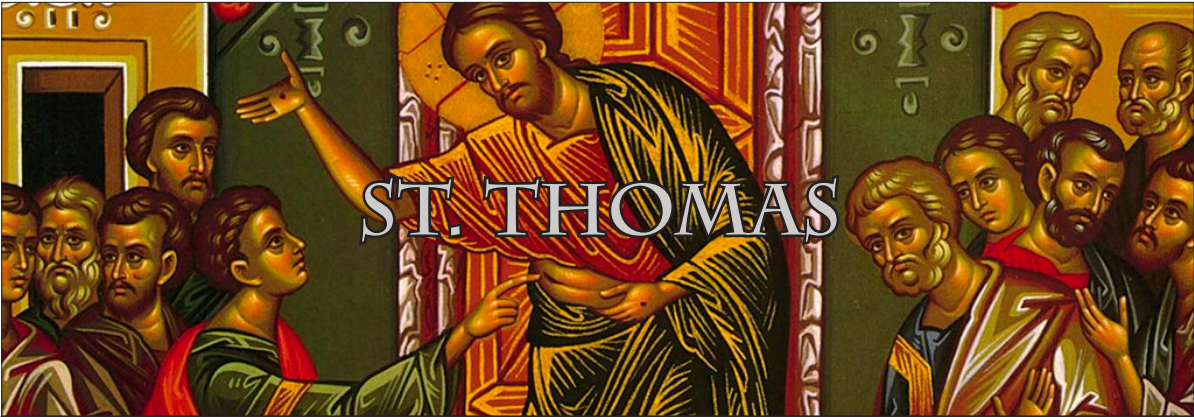
Donation



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; 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 Zelle.

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.

CALLING KIDS OF ALL AGES Weather permitting, the annual **St. Mark Easter Egg Hunt** will take place today! We encourage all children to bring an Easter basket with them to hold their eggs, but we will also have bags available. Following liturgy, please enjoy a cup of coffee and a snack in the Parish Hall and we will make an announcement when the hunt is ready to begin! Any volunteers who would like to assist in hiding the eggs, please meet outside the front doors and/or find Kyra Smerkanich following Liturgy. Any questions, please contact Kyra Smerkanich (610-513-2307 or kyra.smerkanich@gmail.com).

PASCHA BREAD/KIELBASA SALE -- THANK YOU A heartfelt thank you to Nikolay Korokhov and Vera Simonenko for spearheading the Pascha bread baking workshop. A thank you also to Tammy and Gene Jacobsen who helped with baking, braiding and bagging and to Ginny Albert and Paula Zabela for help with dough braiding for the lovely designs. All of the breads were sold. There are still a few sticks of kielbasa available for purchase. The sale raised \$990 which will be donated to Holy Archangels Orthodox Mission in Maryland.

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:



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

27 Dorothy Gumpert
Sarah Jenkins-Petro
Justin Markovich
29 Sarah Hardy
30 Marge Dove

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.

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

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.sttikhon-scamp.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

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)

IN GRATITUDE Thank you to all who worked so hard to make Holy Week and Pascha such a great success. Much of that necessary work goes on “behind the scenes” - the changing from Palm Sunday greenery to Holy week purple and then to white, candles, serving, singing, chanting, cooking serving, cleaning up, arranging flowers, watering, setting up the tomb, taking down the tomb, more cleaning up, preparing and printing service books and propers, dying eggs, providing the Friday meal, making coffee, bread, doing the Pascha Prep Workshop, facilitating the streaming of our services online and... more cleaning up!

For all of this and more, I am deeply grateful to you for quietly planning, laboring and accomplishing that which is needed.

In the Risen Lord,
Fr. Gregory



Natalia - Carol

MEMORY ETERNAL Alex Norton’s mother, Carol (Natalia), fell asleep in the Lord on April 17th, 2025. Funeral services will take place on Thursday, May 1st, at 10:00 am at St. John the Baptist Russian Orthodox Cathedral. The family would appreciate your presence and support during this difficult time. All are welcome.

CONSECRATION OF NEW CHURCH BUILDING The consecration of the new church building at St. Luke Orthodox Church in McLean will take place on May 9th and 10th. Friday, May 9th, Vespers and Presentation is at 7:00pm. Saturday, May 10th, is the Consecration and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy. A celebratory banquet will take place following the service. All are welcome!

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.

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>