

Saint Mark Orthodox Church

**Orthodox Church in America
Archdiocese of Washington**
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Bethesda, MD 20817
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MAY 17th, 2026

EPISTLE
Acts 16:16 – 34

GOSPEL
John 9:1 – 38

Tone 5

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

6th SUNDAY OF PASHCA – BLIND MAN. Apostle Andronicus of the Seventy and his fellow-laborer, Junia (1st c.). St. Euphrosyne (Princess Eudoxia) of Moscow (1407). Martyrs Solochon, Pamphamer, and Pamphalon, at Chalcedon (284 – 305). St. Stephen, Archbishop of Constantinople (893).

Saturday	May	16	5:30p	Vespers – YouTube Live Stream
			6:15p	Bible Study
Sunday	May	17	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – Blind Man – YouTube Live Stream
			11:30a	Coffee Hour Fellowship & Semi-Annual Meeting
			11:30a	Church School
Tuesday	May	19	10:00a	St. Olga of Alaska Prayer Group – Akathist
Wednesday	May	20	11:00a	Funeral for Nicholas Kuzemka
Thursday	May	21	10:00a	Divine Liturgy – Ascension – YouTube Live Stream
Saturday	May	23	4:30p	Memorial Service for Cathy, George and Arlene Tatusko and Mathew Lobas
			5:30p	Vespers – YouTube Live Stream
Sunday	May	24	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – Holy Fathers – YouTube Live Stream
			11:30a	Coffee Hour Fellowship
<i>Schedule continues on back page.</i>				

Sunday	May	24	11:30a	Church School
Saturday	May	30	5:30p	Vigil for Pentecost
Sunday	May	31	9:15a	Reading of the Third Hour
			9:30a	Divine Liturgy – PENTECOST – YouTube Live Stream <i>Kneeling Prayers immediately following Liturgy.</i>
			11:30a	Parish Picnic!

The **Sanctuary and Altar Candles** are offered by **Stephanie Kozemchak** in celebration of my daughter **Christina Hardy's** graduation from University of Maryland with her DNP. May God grant her many years!

Coffee Hour Fellowship

Date	Hosts/Hostesses	
May 17	Lungociu	
May 24	Parish Picnic	

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

Date	Director	Reader	Preparer	Greeter	Altar Servers
May 17	S. Hardy	E. Valentin-Morales	Rdr. V. Lutes	M. Valentin	All eligible altar servers welcome!
May 24	W. Tatusko D. Hardy	Rdr. V. Lutes	Mka. D. Mihailov	M. Kopcha	

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.)

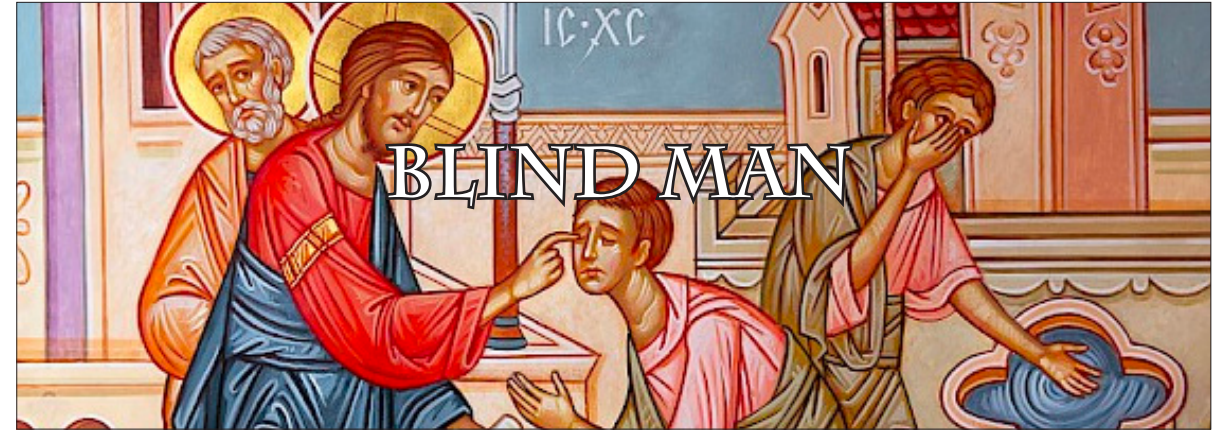
Thank you!



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: Christina & Michael Berencz; Vera Bumbak; Helen Damiani; Shirley & Paul Dean; Margaret Dove; Julia Flick; Philip Hydock; John & Patricia Ihnat; Linda Jackson; Stacy Jacobsen; Cindy & David Jefferson; Steve Kreta; 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 **Doreen** Dyer, friend of Jack and Ginny Albert. **Becky; Eileen, Rosemary and Robert**, friends of Tina Burpee. **Hannah**, friend of Theodora Dean. **Shannon and Matt**, daughter and son-in-law of John Hendrickson. **Paul** Giovetsis, **Denise** (Dionysia), Godsis-ter of Christina Kalavritinos, and also family friends **Constantine** and **Thomas; Olga**, friend of Helen Kerch; **Mary** Everhart, mother of Ted Koopersmith; **Alexandra**, Granddaughter of Larisa Looby; **Sandra** Little, Dawn Little's mother-in-law. Marilyn Macht's friend **Car-men**; 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!



BLIND MAN

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

LITURGY STREAMING DOWNSTAIRS For those that need it, the Liturgy will be streamed on the TV downstairs in the parish hall. The AC works very well down there and you may find it more comfortable than in the nave. Communion will be distributed upstairs as usual so if you are prepared, please come up for that.

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING will take place TODAY, following Liturgy. Please stay and sign in downstairs! Read-aheads are available on the table in the hallway outside of the nave and extra copies will be available downstairs, as well.

2026 GRADUATES Are you or someone in your family graduating from high school or college this May and June? If so, please let Fr. Gregory or Sharon Sielinski know. We will honor our graduates following Divine Liturgy on a date to be determined! Stay tuned!

COFFEE HOUR SIGN UP Our May-June coffee hour sign up is available downstairs near the walk-in fridge. Please consider where you are able to help. If you have any questions or want the link to the online version please see Debbi Dillon.

VESPERS BIBLE STUDY Bible Study will not meet Memorial Day weekend, Saturday, May 23rd. Earlier presentations are up on youtube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/@doug Dillon1956>

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

17	Sherry Safchuk	22	Simina Lal Ciubotaru
19	Carol Mary Ashley		Renee Zabela
	Stephen Ilario		Dominic Rotunda
	Timothy Masick	23	Cindy Jefferson
21	Coy Williamson		

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY IN OUR PARISH

- Library care and management
- Prospora baking
- Hydration of fresh decorative flowers in church
- Upkeep and maintenance of facility and grounds
- Parish hall setup for events
- Assistance with church school
- Coffee hour service
- Bell ringing
- Altar and Handmaid service
- Parish Council
- Choir
- Liturgical vestments repair (sewing buttons, etc.)

Check the bulletin for updates. Your help is greatly appreciated! Please see Fr. Gregory with questions.

CHANGES IN PRAYER Just a reminder that during this Paschal season, the prayer “Oh Heavenly King...” is replaced by “Christ is Risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs bestowing life” 3X. May 20th is the Leavetaking of Pascha at which time we conclude the use of “Christ is Risen...”. Then on Pentecost Sunday (May 31st) the prayer “Oh Heavenly King is reintroduced.

SAVE THE DATE! The 22nd Annual St. Andrew Orthodox Church Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, June 5th at Geneva Farm Golf Course in Street, MD. The tournament will be an afternoon tournament with a shotgun start beginning at 2:00P. Registration information and additional tournament information will be provided in late March to early April.

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: New in June! 1st or 3rd Saturday in June at the Orchard Cafe in Odenton, MD. 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 books for discussion are:
June 4 - “Persuasion” by Jane Austen

MEMORIAL DAY PILGRIMAGE St Matthew Church in Columbia is sponsoring a bus coach ride to St Tikhons for Memorial Day Monday May 25th. The bus will leave from the church parking lot at 6 AM arrive at St Tikhons around 10:00 AM. Departs St Tikhons 6 PM arrive back around 10:00 PM. It promises to be a day full of fellowship and spiritual enrichment. Cost per person is \$50. Registration and payment must be received by Tuesday, May 19th! Make Checks Payable to: "Orthodox church of St. Matthew"
Memo Line : "Bus Trip" Please include your email address on the check. Submit payment via offering or mail to: P.O. Box 2003 Columbia MD 21045

SWING DANCE FUNDRAISER Join us for an evening of swing dancing and community in support of Holy Cross Orthodox Church. This fundraiser will help support the ongoing mission and ministries of Holy Cross Orthodox Church, and we are grateful for your participation.

Event Details:

Date: Saturday, June 6, 2026

Location: Catonsville United Methodist Church

6 Melvin Ave Catonsville, MD 21228

Age Requirement: 18+

RSVP here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C48A8AB2BA4F58-63920029-swing#/>

GIFT SHOP Our parish Gift Corner is a small ministry created to serve and bless our church family. As we continue to stock it with meaningful items, we would love to hear from you! Please share your thoughts, suggestions, and preferences on what you would like to see offered in the Gift Corner so that we may better serve the needs and interests of our parish. Kindly direct your feedback to Carol Mary or Anelia. Thank you for helping this ministry grow in a way that best serves our parish community!

OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL Please visit our very own YouTube channel at <https://youtube.com/@stmarkoca!> Not only can you stream all of our regular services, but you can also see past Lenten lectures and some other special services.

While you are there, please take a moment to subscribe. There is no cost or obligation to you, but we do need another 150 or so subscribers to reach the level where we can more easily produce our videos. Please visit and subscribe!

FROZEN BAKED GOODS there are still a few frozen Pascha breads (\$15) and walnut and poppy seed rolls (\$25) available for sale. Proceeds go to the HVAC fund. See Tina Burpee during coffee hour if you are interested.

St. Mark T-Shirts Are Here! Get'em While It's Hot!

Show your support for St. Mark by purchasing a T-Shirt!

Black and White are standard cut.

Burgandy and Gold are women's cut.

Standard sizes available, special order sizes available by request!

All shirts are \$30 and proceeds go to the St. Mark HVAC Fund!

Cash, Check, Credit Card, Paypal payment methods accepted!

See Michael Lungociu during coffee hour.

