

ST. MARK'S ORTHODOX CHURCH
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA (OCA.ORG)
DIocese of Eastern Pennsylvania (DOEPA.ORG)

452 DURHAM RD, WRIGHTSTOWN, PA 18940

PHONE: 215-860-9640 • EMAIL: INFO@STMARKSOCA.ORG

WWW.STMARKSOCA.ORG

Follow us on Facebook at *St. Mark's Orthodox Church, Wrightstown,*
on Twitter *@stmarksoca* and Instagram *@st.marksorthodox*



Archpriest Raymond Martin Browne, Rector

Phone: 570-906-1388

Archpriest Michael Sekela, Attached

Phone 540 -841-3202

Protodeacon Gregory Moser, Attached

215-794-8980

Choir Directors: Sergei Arhipov, Martha Moser, Daria Cortese,
Church School Director: Jennifer Sremenak



SUNDAY JANUARY 29TH, 2017

32nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone

**7. Sunday of Zacchaeus. New Martyrs and
Confessors of Russia. Translation of the
Relics of Hieromartyr Ignatius the
Godbearer, Bishop of Antioch (107)**

Epistle: 1 Timothy 4:9-15

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

 **SCHEDULE OF SERVICES** 

Confessions: Saturdays Following Vespers
Also by appointment

Vespers: Saturdays at 6pm

Vigil: Eve of Feasts at 7pm

Divine Liturgy: Sundays at 9:30am
Feast Days at 9:30am

UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS:

- Sun, Jan 29:** Hours and Divine Liturgy – 9:10am Coffee Hour. Annual Parish Meeting. Service at Golden Living, Doylestown-2:30pm
- Wed, Feb 1:** Vigil of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple – 7pm
- Thurs, Feb 2:** Hours and Divine Liturgy for Meeting of the Lord – 9:10am
- Fri, Feb 3:** No Preschool Church School
- Sat, Feb 4:** Super Bowl Food Sale
- Sun, Feb 5:** Hours and Divine Liturgy- 9:10am, Coffee Hour, Church School

Birthdays

Raymonde Djokic

Wedding Anniversary

Yuri and Elza Tyshko

Church Cleaning: The 2017 Cleaning Schedule is in the Vestibule. Please consider taking a week or two or a month. January and February are covered. Ten months to go!

Coffee Hour: We need people to sponsor Sunday Coffee Hour. Please look at the calendar and take a Sunday, on your own or with someone else. The ministry of hospitality is one that reaches beyond the beginning of the Church to the Exodus, where God commands His people to welcome those who come to His

Exhibition: An exhibition entitled The 1917 Revolutions of Russia will be held at Villanova University from February 8th to September of this year. It is jointly curated by Fr. John Perich of St. Herman's Church in Gradyville and of the Metropolitan Theodosius Museum at St. Tikhon's Monastery. The opening will take place on Wednesday, February 8th at 4pm with a Panikhida for all those who perished in the Revolutions. His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon will lead the clergy in this service. His Beatitude will wear vestments belonging to St. Patriarch Tikhon for the service. All are invited. If you are interested in seeing this exhibit we can have a parish group tour. Let Fr. Martin know of your interest and he will arrange with Fr. Perich for a guided tour.

Great Blessing of the Waters: Thank you to those parishioners who attended the Service last Sunday.

House Blessings: All Orthodox Christians should have their homes blessed annually. It is an ancient tradition of our Faith, a rite of renewal and cleansing that welcomes the Holy Spirit in our homes and all they symbolize. Blessing begins on January 6 and will continue until the week before the beginning of Great Lent, this year the week of February 20th. So far, 19 homes, with have been blessed, with four scheduled for this week, but only one for next week. Speak with Fr. Martin in the next weeks or he will call you.

Parish Directory: It is two years since our last directory and it is time to update it. If you are in it and your information has changed, please email Fr. Martin at frraymondmartin@hotmail.com with the changes. If you are not in it and wish to be in it, email Father with the information you wish to have included. Deadline is February 27th – Forgiveness Sunday.

Scrip: Today. Profit last week and YTD, \$85.10.

Vigil Lights

From Olga Rosik

For the Health of: Julia, Gregory, James, Natalie, Noelle,

In Memory of: Grigoriy, Valentina, Ulyana,
Katerina

From the Arhipovs

In Memory of: Dimitri, Ivan, Anna, Peresvet,
Ludmilla, Maria, Katherine

From John Wanko

In Memory of: Peter Wanko, Wanda Wanko,
Peter Wanko Jr.

Toward A Definition Of Christian Stewardship

Can we now build a definition for stewardship? How might we describe "stewardship in action?" The following list is adapted from one prepared by Ron Nicola:

Stewardship is our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.

Stewardship is caring for the needs of others.

Stewardship is offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us.

Stewardship is what a person does after saying "I Believe . . .", as proof of that belief.

Stewardship is learning how to be a responsible and concerned caretaker of Christ's Church; it is learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work, for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God.

Stewardship is devotion and service to God and his Church as persons, as families, as deaneries, as diocese, as national Church, and as the Church universal. (Ron Nicola, "Stewardship - A Set of Basic Principles," The Word, November 1982,4.)

Perhaps we could summarize the points just mentioned this way: Christian stewardship is a life in service to God and His Church motivated by our thankfulness for His love to us . ".... in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." It is the wise and proper use of all the gifts God has entrusted to our care. (See Romans 5:8) What then are the essential elements of stewardship?

THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

1 Acceptance of the belief that all life and life itself is a gift from God.

2 Freedom to choose not to sin and freedom from the constraints, pressures and temptations of the world that smother the expression of this belief.

Life in the Spirit which is characterized by behavior that uses and nurtures the time, talents, and treasure entrusted to us by God.

From Benjamin D. Williams. An Orthodox Understanding of Stewardship.

From <https://oca.org/the-hub/the-church-on-current-issues/an-orthodox-understanding-of-stewardship>