

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

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



SUNDAY NOVEMBER 27TH, 2016

23rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 6.

Greatmartyr James the Persian (421). Ven. Palladius

of Thessalonica (6th-7th c.). St. Jacob, Bishop and Wonderworker of Rostov (1392). Commemoration of the Weeping Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos, called "ZNAME NIYE" ("THE SIGN") at Novgorod in 1170, and the other Icons of the Most-holy Theotokos, "OF THE SIGN": the "KURSK-ROOT" (1295), "ABALATSKAYA" (1637), and others.

Epistle: Ephesians. 2:4-10

Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

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, Nov.27:** Hours and Divine Liturgy – 9:10am Coffee Hour. Church School. Service at Golden Living in Doylestown.
- Wed, Nov 30:** Akathist – 9:15am.
- Fri, Dec 2:** **Deadline for submitting orders for the Food Sale.**
- Sat, Dec 3:** **Parish Advent Retreat: The Healing Agony of Forgiveness.** 9:30am to 2:30pm, followed by Confessions and Vespers at 4pm.

Names Day

Andrew Cortese
Katerina Sremenak

Wedding Anniversary

John & Carol Wanko

Food Sale: Our annual Christmas Food Sale **will be held on Saturday, December 10th** from 9am to 2pm. Order forms have been emailed to those on our list. Hard copies are available for download on our website and in the Church vestibule. **Please submit your orders no later than December 2nd.** While we have a limited number of items beyond those ordered, the only guaranteed way to get what you want is to preorder, **mailing the order form to Jeanette Ruano.**

Volunteers are needed to pack orders on Friday evening for pickup between 5 and 7pm. Volunteers are also needed for Saturday. Whatever time you can offer on either day is welcome and appreciated. Speak with Fr. Martin, Martha, Jeanette if you are able to help either day.

Nativity Fast:

Recommended spiritual reading: **THE NAMES OF JESUS**, Father Thomas Hopko. 53 names/titles of Our Lord each examined from its biblical, liturgical, dogmatic perspective. This is a wealth of insight and source not only of knowledge but spiritual nourishment.

Annual Advent Retreat: **Saturday, December 3rd 9:30am to 2:30pm**, followed by Confessions and Vespers at 4pm. Topic is *The Healing Agony of Forgiveness*. Presenter: Fr. Martin Browne. As we prepare to celebrate "peace on earth, good will to men" we often find ourselves struggling with forgiveness – giving and receiving. Join us for a practical approach to forgiveness, borne of the experience of unjust hurt and the challenge of forgiving. What does it mean to forgive? How do I forgive? Why should I forgive? These and other questions will be examined from an unusual angle. Please join us.

Operation Christmas Child: Thank you to all those who donated to Operation Christmas Child this year. Thanks also to our Church School students, teachers and other assistants who packed **88** shoeboxes for needy children at home and abroad! This surpasses last year by 43, a 95% increase. Once again a generous donor has provided the funds to pay for shipping these boxes. May the Lord abundantly bless all who contributed in any way.

Parish Council: The Council also voted, in response to parishioner feedback, to change the liturgical schedule for feast days that fall on Sunday/Monday so that beginning this evening Vigil or Great Vespers on a Sunday evening will be at 5pm. Weekday Vigils/Vespers will continue to be at 7pm, Saturday evening will continue at 6pm.

Scrip: Thank you to all who participated last week. Profit \$136.58, YTD 1481.56! **Do your Christmas shopping with us!** Purchase gift cards or cards with which you can do your shopping and at the same time, without extra cost to you, benefit St. Mark's. A brief presentation of the vendors will be offered next week for your information.

Work Day: As we have done in the past, **we will have a work day on December 10 during the Food Sale.** There are both inside and outside tasks that need to be completed before Winter arrives, such as gutter cleaning, leaf blowing, polishing and cleaning in the church in anticipation of Christmas. Please offer your help if you are not working the Food Festival.

Wrightstown Food Cupboard: During the nativity fast let us offer a sweet aroma of self sacrifice to Christ by donating food and/or money to the food cupboard. If you donate money please put it in an envelope marked Wrightstown Food Cupboard or write it on the memo line of a check. Canned food, tea, coffee, pasta and juices welcome. Thank you for your generosity throughout the year!

Vigil Lights

From the Swan Family

*In Memory Of: Samuel Litvin, Amelia Litvin
Shane Litvin, Fred Bell*

For the Health of: Venus Love

From Alan Lee Litvin

For the Health of: my daughter Tara