

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

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**Church School Director: Jennifer Sremenak**



**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 26TH, 2017**

**SUNDAY OF CHEESEFARE** — Tone 3. The  
**Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise.** St.  
Porphyrius, Bishop of Gaza (420). Ven. Sebastian  
of Poshekhónsk (ca. 1500). Martyr Sebastian (1st  
c.).).

**Epistle:** Romans 13:11-14:4

**Gospel:** Matthew 6:14-21

**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, Feb 26:** Hours and Divine Liturgy – 9:10am; Forgiveness Vespers; Coffee Hour.  
**Mon, Feb 27:** Great Compline with Canon of St. Andrew of Crete -7pm  
**Tues, Feb 28:** Great Compline with Canon of St. Andrew of Crete -7pm  
**Wed, Mar 1:** Akathist – 9:15am; Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete -7pm.  
**Thurs, Mar 2:** Great Compline with Canon of St. Andrew of Crete -7pm  
**Fri, Mar 3:** No Preschool Church School; Liturgy of PreSanctified Gifts -7pm  
**Sat, Mar 4:** Vespers and Confessions -6pm.

**Birthdays**

*Jim Pitra*

*Judy Rybny*

*Anastasia Killough*

Calin Andrei  
**Names Day**  
John Cassian Lauro

**Appeal for Fr. John Nightingale:** Attached to today's bulletin is a letter from Archbishop Mark asking for donations to assist Fr. John Nightingale, a priest of our diocese, who suffered a spinal injury last Lent. Please take the time to read the letter and consider making a donation to the Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania for Fr. John. You may mail them directly to the diocese at the address on the letter or submit them through us. Please make checks payable to the Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania, **not St. Mark's. Thank you in advance for your generosity.**

**Church Cleaning:** The 2017 Cleaning Schedule is in the Vestibule. **Please consider taking a week or two or a month. Only February is covered at this point!** Ten months to go!

**Coffee Hour: We need people to sponsor Sunday Coffee Hour..** St. Benedict of Nursia says the following about The Reception of Guests: "*All guests who present themselves are to be welcomed as Christ, for he himself will say: I was a stranger and you welcomed Me (Mt 25:35). Proper honor must be shown to all, especially to those who share our faith (Gal. 6:10) and to pilgrims.*" RB53:1,2.

**Parish Council:** Met on Thursday February 16<sup>th</sup>. Heard reports on ongoing septic system project, affirmed parish compliance with O.C.A. Policies, Standards and Procedures on Sexual Misconduct, approved title of Superbowl food sale, contacting a land use attorney for advice on facility expansion options, set the date for the Special Parish Meeting regarding By-Law updates for Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup>, heard financial reports for the month of January. Income \$14634.54, Expense \$9264.

**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](mailto: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 27<sup>th</sup> – Forgiveness Sunday.

**Scrip: Today. Profit \$42, YTD \$160.55**

**Wrightstown Food Cupboard:** St. Mark's is asked to contribute the following for the Easter Baskets, 140 of which will be packed on April 8<sup>th</sup>: **Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Baby Food, Coffee/Tea – 35 units, Jellybeans – 35 units.**

**Vigil Lights**

From Perdikis

*For the Health of:* Patricia, Michele, Arthur J.,  
Mohamed, Donna, Tom, Terri, Colleen, Zografia,  
Raymond, Demetra, Theodore, Raymond, Basil,

Demosthenes

*In Memory of:* Colleen, Angelo, Arthur, Evangelia,  
Spyridon, Anna, Christopher

### **Lenten Schedule**

First Week of Great Lent – Canon of St. Andrew Monday to Thursday 7pm

Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts Friday 7pm

Second Week to Holy Week- Presanctified at 9am on Wednesday

And 7pm on Friday, except Friday March 10, when it will be at 9am.

#### **Vesper Mission Services: Sundays at 4pm**

MARCH 5: First Sunday of Great Lent, Orthodoxy Sunday, at SS Peter and Paul Ukrainian, DE with Bishop Thomas of the Antiochian Archdiocese, presiding and homilist.....4:00 pm

MARCH 12: Second Sunday of Great Lent, Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, Pottstown (Daylight Savings Time Begins) 4:00pm

MARCH 19: Third Sunday of Great Lent, Holy Cross Sunday, at SS Peter and Paul Albanian. NE Philadelphia, at.....4:00 pm

MARCH 26: Fourth Sunday of Great Lent, St. John Climacos Sunday, at St. Mark OCA Church, Bucks County, Wrightstown, PA, at.....4:00 pm

APRIL 2: Fifth Sunday of Great Lent, St. Mary of Egypt Sunday, at St. Herman OCA Church, Gradyville, PA at .....4:00 pm

#### **Fifth Week –**

Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete – TBA

#### **Memorial Saturdays:**

Saturday March 11 – Panikhida 9am

Saturday March 18 – Hours and Divine Liturgy 9:10am, followed by Lunch and Parish Lenten Retreat

*Repentance: A Positive Approach* given by Fr. Martin Noon to 3pm

#### **Confessions:**

Throughout Lent at the *usual times on Saturdays, after Vespers*

*Also before scheduled Lenten Services – please come early enough* if you choose confess at the time. Father is at church one hour before the scheduled time for the service.

*By appointment–* speak with Fr. Martin directly or make an appointment via email, text or phone call.

#### **PLEASE !**

MAKE A POINT OF COMING TO CONFESSION DURING GREAT LENT – PREPARED.

DO NOT WAIT UNTIL HOLY WEEK TO DO SO.

#### **Lenten Discipline:**

The Church prescribes a discipline of intensified prayer, fasting and almsgiving as the way through Great Lent. Notice that fasting is only one of the pillars of Lent, and according to the Gospel of Meatfare Sunday, not the most important one.

**Make your resolutions for Lent positive and achievable.** Add to your daily prayer rule a prayer or series of prayers.

**Read the Scriptures**, slowly and attentively. Use the calendar to guide you. **Follow the fasting discipline as you are best able to do so.** Remember fasting is not only about not eating certain foods, but about eating less. Eat good food rather than junk food. Fast from sounds and images that stir up passions and plant unhealthy seeds in our memory.(Not just TV, movies or music, but especially gossip, criticism of others, judgment)

**Give alms** – give of your time and your talent and your treasure. Give to our parish community but also to the community where you live. Find ways to serve, without expectation or reward. Do it because it is needed and Christ asks us to.