

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 MARCH 26TH, 2017

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT — Tone 7.

Leavetaking of the Annunciation. Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel. St. John Climacus (of *The Ladder*).

Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20; Ephesians 5:9-19

Gospel: Mark 9:17-31; Matthew 4:25-5:12

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, Mar 26:

Hours and Divine Liturgy – 9:10am; Coffee Hour. Mission Service – 4pm here at St. Mark's.

Wed, Mar 29:

Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts 9:15am

Thurs, Mar 30:

Matins with Great Canon of St. Andrew – 7pm

Fri, Mar 31:

Preschool Church School-12:30pm; Akathist to the Theotokos -7pm.

Sat, Apr 1:

Vespers and Confessions -6pm.

Sun, Apr 2:

Hours and Divine Liturgy – 9:10am, Coffee Hour. Mission Service at St. Herman of Alaska, Gradyville 4pm.

Names Day

Douglas John Yates

John Yates

Birthdays

Doug Yates

Appeal for Fr. John Nightingale:

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: Thank you to those who have signed up to help not only in March and April, but beyond. Additional help is needed. Please consider volunteering for a week or two or even an entire month, if you can.

Coffee Hour: Also, thank you to those who have signed up for Coffee Hour. The signup sheet has been moved so everyone can see it and easily signup.

Food Sale: Our annual Pascha Food Sale will be Saturday, April 8 from Noon to 3pm. This is Lazarus Saturday and we will have Divine Liturgy at the usual time, 9:30am. We will need assistance as usual, packing orders the evening before – not during the Presanctified, but before and after. And help is needed that day as always. If you can help, please let Fr. Martin, Jeanette or Martha know.

Scrip: Thank you to all who participated last week. Profit \$47.26, YTD 288.60.

CHURCH SCHOOL LENTEN PROJECT: Together We Rise: This Lenten season, our church school students will participate in a service project to benefit local children in foster care. We are teaming up with an organization called *Together We Rise* to provide duffel bags to children in foster care who would otherwise carry their belongings from house to house in a garbage bag.

Each duffel bag costs \$25 and will come with a stuffed animal, some school supplies, and personal hygiene items. The duffel bags that we purchase will then ship directly to us, and the children are invited to join our celebratory event on Bright Monday when they will attend Divine Liturgy, then decorate the duffel bags during a pizza party.

Our fundraising for this project ends today.

All checks can be made out to St. Mark's, please write *Together We Rise* on the memo line. We will also have an online website where donations can be made.

The Church School would like to thank all those who participated in the Breakfast last Sunday, especially to Peter Bohlender who oversaw the pancake making. As of today we have raised \$1250 for this project, that is 50 duffel bags, 50 foster children who will know that they are loved. May God bless all those who have offered earthly gifts with Heavenly ones in return!

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

Vigil Lights

From Olga & Sergei Danilchak

For the Health of: Valentina, Vera,
Oleg, Oleg.

From the Arhipovs

For the Health of: John, Adrienne, Cindy, Stephanie
Peter
In Memory of: Newly departed Margaret, Robbie

From Alan Litvin

For the Health of: Tara, Phyllis, Alan
In Memory of: Aemelia, Samuel, Shane

From the Mosers

For the Health of: Samuel, Stephanie, Rdr. Peter,
Fr. John, Fr. John, Alina, Paula, Phillip, Diane, Anthony
In Memory of: Dn. John, Veronica,
Rebecca, Charles, Stephen

Lenten Schedule

Second Week to Holy Week- Presanctified at 9am on Wednesday
And 7pm on Friday except March 31,

Vesper Mission Services: Sundays at 4pm

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

APRIL 2: Fifth Sunday of Great Lent, St. Mary of Egypt Sunday, at St. Herman OCA Church, Gradyville, PA at4:00 pm

Fifth Week -

Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete - Thursday, March 30 - 7pm.

Akathist to the Theotokos - Friday, March 31 - 7pm.

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.