

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

Priest Raymond Martin Browne, Acting Rector

Phone: 570-906-1388

Email: frraymondmartin@hotmail.com

Archpriest Michael Sekela, Attached

Phone: 540-841-3202

Protodeacon Gregory Moser, Attached

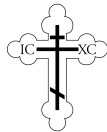
Phone: 215-794-8980

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2013

27th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 2. Afterfeast of the Nativity of Christ. Sunday after Nativity. Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James the Brother of the Lord. The 14,000 Infants (Holy Innocents) slain by Herod at Bethlehem. Ven. Marcellus, Abbot of the Monastery of the "Unsleeping Ones" (485). Ven. Mark the Grave-digger, Theóphil, and John, of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves—11th-12th c.). Ven. Theóphil of Luga and Omutch (15th c.). Ven. Thaddeus the Confessor, of the Studion (818).

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES



Confessions:

Saturdays Following Vespers
Also by appointment

**Vespers:
Vigil**

Saturdays at 6pm
Eve of Feasts at 7pm

Divine Liturgy:

Sundays at 9:30am
Feast Days at 9:15am

UPCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS:

Sun, Dec 29: Hours – 9:10am, Divine Liturgy – 9:30am, Panikhida– 11:15AM: Pierre Djokic 40th Day and Sam Mervis First Anniversary. Coffee Hour and Church School to follow.

Tues, Dec 31: **Great Vespers for Circumcision of the Lord/St. Basil – 7PM**

Wed, Jan 1: Hours– 9:10am, Divine Liturgy – 9:30am

Sat, Jan 4: Great Vespers – 6pm followed by Confessions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Assessments: If you have not paid your O.C.A. assessments for 2013, please do so. The parish is obliged to pay them for all those on our census. The annual assessment is \$155, which is just under \$3 a week and supports both the Central and Diocesan Administrations in their necessary work. Part of the work of the diocese is helping parishes and we have received \$1000 towards the cost of replacing the air-conditioning/heating unit.

House Blessing: This is a unique element of our Orthodox Church life that allows us to physically and spiritually renew our homes as places dedicated to and protected by the Lord. It is an opportunity to extend the baptismal cleansing of the Jordan waters to the center of our lives as Christian families. The Lord knocks at your door and seeks to enter to be with you in this special way. Will you welcome Him, or tell Him He is unwanted. Consider this in the coming week before the time of house blessing begins.

ORTHODOXY IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE: Next Meeting in January.

Parish Income and Expense: Financial Reports for **November** are posted on the Bulletin Board in the Church Hall. November 2013 Income \$5743, Expense \$6846. Year to date Income \$80,845, Expense \$88,888. Please take the time to reconsider your regular level of giving to the Church.

Parish Council 2014: Nominations for the 2014 Parish Council can be made to Sergei Arhipov. All current members are willing to serve, but some are willing to step aside so others can serve and they can take a break, while others are willing to serve but might like to serve in a different capacity. We are blessed to have a dedicated Council, but the welfare of the parish is EVERYONE'S responsibility. Talents and experiences previously unshared could be tremendously beneficial to our parish life. Consider the possibility, prayerfully discern and then decide. Qualifications and duties of Parish Council members are found in Article 4 of the Parish By-Laws accessible on the parish website.

Question: What do you have that you have not received?

Social Activity: January 11 is the final day for the Christmas display at Longwood Gardens. If there is sufficient interest we would like to have a parish trip to Longwood Gardens that evening, departing here at 5pm, following an early Vespers, and returning at 11pm. Cost for ticket and bus would be \$30. If you would like to join us on that day let Jeanette know ASAP. The trip is open to parishioners and friends alike.

Scrip Program: Thank you to all who participated. This month we raised \$246.73 bringing our annual total to \$1336.36! To place orders see Larissa Ravetto, phone (215) 766-1220 or email ravetto2001@gmail.com, or fill out an order form in the vestibule and leave it with payment with Larissa, Julia, Doug, or Jeanette.

Thank You: To all those who attended, sang, served, prepared for and cleaned up after the Services of the Nativity of the Lord. They were beautiful, joyful, and above all prayerful. And they were well attended. Your presence makes a noticeable difference.

Winter Teen Retreat 2014: The Office of Young Adult Activities has officially announced the 2014 Winter Teen Retreat on February 7th-9th at Fatima Renewal Center in Dalton, PA. **Grades 7-12. Registration forms can be downloaded on www.ocayouth.org/wtr. Deadline is January 20th. Visit the website for more information.**

VIGIL LIGHTS:

From Ida Trivelas:

- o **For the Health of**
Ida, James, Mike, Lisa, Renee, Nick, Lexi, Kristina, Joanne, Michael, Brian, John
- o **In Memory of**
Sam, Michael, Zinon, Alice, John, Zoe, Mike, Charlie, Michael, Rena

From SaraLee Pindar:

- o **In Memory of**
Nadezhda, Gerald

From the Ristrey Family

- o **For the Health of**
Heather
- o **In Memory of**
Ristrey Family
Tatusho Family
Gaydos Family
Stephen

From the Perdakis Family

- In Memory of**
Arthur, Evangelia, Paul, Ivan, Ekaterini
- For the Health of**
Patricia
Angelo
The Roda Family

BIRTHDAY:

- o Irene Arhipov – December 31