

ST. MARK'S ORTHODOX CHURCH
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA (OCA.ORG)
DIocese OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA (DOEPA.ORG)

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*Follow us on Facebook at St. Mark's Orthodox Church, Wrightstown,
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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 DECEMBER 25TH, 2016

27th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone

**2. THE NATIVITY ACCORDING TO THE
FLESH OF OUR LORD GOD AND SAVIOR**

JESUS CHRIST. The Adoration of the Magi:
Melchior, Caspar, and Balthasar.

Commemoration of the Shepherds in
Bethlehem who were watching their flocks,
and went to see the Lord. Priestmonk Jonah
the Martyr of Pechenga (1590)

Epistle: Galatians 4: 4-7

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

 **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, Dec 25: Hours and Divine Liturgy – 9:10am Coffee Hour. Service at Golden Living, Doylestown – 2:30pm
Mon, Dec 26: Hours and Divine Liturgy-9:10am
Tues, Dec 27: Divine Liturgy for St. Stephen at St. Stephen's Cathedral – 10am
Sat, Dec 31: Vespers and Confessions – 6pm

Names Day

Stephen Sedor

Birthdays

Ann Hamerstone
Irene Arhipov
Elizabeth Werner

Wedding Anniversary

Fr. Martin & Mat. Heidi Browne

Calendars: 2017 Calendars are available in the Vestibule, one per family. Please take only one until we are sure all families have gotten one. If there are extras for any reason in a couple of weeks, you may take another.

Envelopes: 2017 Envelopes can be picked up in the Vestibule. If you don't have envelopes you would like to use them for your weekly contributions, there are blank sets. Please take one and write your name and the envelope number on the legal pad next to the envelopes so that the Treasurer can accurately record donations.

80th Novogodny Ball will take place on Sunday 1/15/17 for the benefit of St. Tikhon's Summer Youth Camp & other deserving charities. For info & reservations call Paul Fedoronko at 610-328-6911 or email novogodnyball@verizon.net

Scrip: Last week profit \$188. **Profits for the year \$1834.08.** Thank you to all who have participated this past year and made it possible for the sisterhood to support Church School and other ministries of our Church.

Vigil Lights

From the Chernoff Family

For the Health of: Anna, Igor, Stanislav, Elena, Irina, Svetlana, Tatiana, Alina, Anna, Meriamne, Valentina, Dmitry.

In Memory of: Anastasia, Michael, Pavel, Alexandra, Maria, Tegep

CHRISTMAS GREETING:

Dear Faithful, Friends and Visitors to St. Mark's,

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

The Feast of the Lord's Nativity is, like Theophany, Pascha and Transfiguration, a feast of Light. Coming as it does quickly after the shortest day of the calendar year, the darkest day, it reminds us of the truth so simply proclaimed by St. John the Theologian, "The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend/overcome it." (Jn 1:5). In many ways for many people the year now ending has been one of darkness, but this Feast proclaims that the darkness cannot comprehend or overcome the Light of Christ, which has been given to us. We have each received this Light in our Baptism and Chrismation, and it is fed with the Precious Body and Blood of the Lord in our Eucharistic communion.

This knowledge that we have seen the true light and received the Heavenly Spirit, and that the darkness, whatever darkness we may now experience cannot overcome this light, can be a source of hope and of consolation but above all, a source of joy. God is with us!

I pray that each and everyone of us may know this hope, consolation and joy in the celebration of the Feast, that we may bring this Light to those around us, and that we may all cast off the works of darkness and be sons of the Light and of the Day. Wishing you the Blessing of Peace on earth and God's goodwill to men,

In the Newborn Lord,

FR. MARTIN