

**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 SEPTEMBER 4TH, 2016**

11th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 2.

Hieromartyr Gorazd, Holy  
Prophet and Godseer  
Moses (16th c. B.C.). Icon  
of the Most-holy Theotokos,  
"THE UNBURNT BUSH"  
(1680).

**Epistle:** 1 Corinthians 9: 9-12

**Gospel:** Matthew 18: 23-35

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**



**Confessions:** Saturdays  
Following Vesper  
*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, Sept 4:**

Hours and Divine Liturgy – 9:10am. Coffee Hour. Wedding of Dmitri Sosedeve and Rebecca Freeman, 2:30pm

**Wed, Sept 7:**

Akathist – 9:15am; Vigil for the Nativity of the Theotokos

**Thurs, Sept 8:**

Hours and Divine Liturgy for Nativity of the Theotokos – 9:10am

**Sat, Sept 10:**

Vespers and Confessions – 6pm

**Sun, Sept 11:**

Hours and Divine Liturgy – 9:10am. Coffee Hour. Beginning of Church School.

**Church Cleaning:** We are in need of cleaners for September due to unforeseen circumstances. If you can help, please put your name on the signup sheet in the Vestibule.

**Church School: The first day of Church School will be Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>.** We will have three classes. Parents interested in registering should speak with Jennifer Sremenak or Fr. Martin. We will have the Pre School Church School again this year meeting on Fridays, except for the first Friday of the month.

**Coffee Hour:** Thank you to those who have volunteered throughout the summer to provide the coffee hour. **We are in need of volunteers again. Please look at the calendar in the church hall and sign up for a Sunday.**

**Happy New Year!:** If you are interested in doing something different this Church Year, why not try and read the Bible over the course of the year? The Orthodox Study Bible has a one year reading plan. If you are interested in joining Fr. Martin in doing so, ask for a copy of the reading plan or find it online at <https://michaelhyatt.com/myresources/osb-bible-reading-plan.pdf>

**Holy Myrrbearers Sisterhood Meeting:** Sunday September 18 at Noon. All members and interested women of the parish are invited to attend. Discussion of the Fall Calendar and other items.

**Mirrors of Truth:** We will meet again on Tuesday September 27<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

**Orthodoxy in the Public Square:** We will resume our monthly meetings on September 12 at 7pm. We will begin a review of Orthodox Christian understanding of human gender and the implications of that for our lives in the public square.

**Parish Photograph:** If you would like an 8X10 copy, they are available for a \$5 donation. Speak with Jeanette.

**Scrip:** Thank you to all who participated. Profit \$96.25. YTD \$926.20.

**Wrightstown Food Cupboard:** Needs include pasta, tea, coffee, peanut butter, juices. **Please help!**



## VIGIL LIGHTS

### **From Anna Berestovksy**

*For the health of:* Anna, Victor, Michael, Vladimir, Olga, Valeriya, Valentina, Vladimir, Andrei, Valentin, Olga, Marina, Nataliya, Nataliya, Narine, Christine, Kamilla, Alfredo, Valeriy, Yulia

*In Memory of:* Valentina, Irina, Maxim, Valentin

### **From the Ristveys**

*For the Health of:* George and Margaret

### **From Dina Londar**

*For the Health of:* Susan, Elwin, Galina, Neli, Polina, Mike, Althea, Lena, Lena, Zoya, Jim, Ed

### **Birthdays**

Ellie Irene Crosby  
Dorothy Martiak



### **Names Day**

Elizabeth Werner  
Sharon Elizabeth Burkett  
Renee Elizabeth Szeliga

### **From the Arhipovs**

*For the Health of:* Sergei

*In Memory of:* Anna, Maria, Eugene

### **From the Mosers**

*For the Health of:* Diane, Stephanie, Peter

*In Memory of:* Dn John, Rebecca, Veronica, Charles, Stephen

## *The Old Testament - Continued*

### **Deuteronomy.**

The basic theme of Deuteronomy which means Second Law, is the renewal of the Covenant. At the end of the book of Numbers, Israel is encamped in the Plains of Moab, preparing for an attack upon Canaan from the East. Deuteronomy is essentially Moses' farewell address to the people in which he rehearses the mighty acts of the Lord, solemnly warns of the temptations of the new ways of Canaan, and pleads for loyalty to and love of God as the condition for life in the Promised Land. A distinctive teaching of Deuteronomy is that the worship of the Lord is to be centralized in one place, so that the paganism of the local shrines may be eliminated.

This book can be divided into four parts: 1) God's care for Israel from Sinai to Moab (Ch. 1-4); 2) The Covenant Proof of God's love (Ch. 5-11); 3) Moses' explanation of the Law (Ch. 12-26); and 4) Moses' last words and death (Ch. 27-34).

### **Joshua.**

The book of Joshua is the story of the Conquest of the Promised Land. The story opens with the passage of the Jordan River and the sack of Jericho (Ch. 1-6); it then tells how the Hebrew armies moved from the Jordan Valley up into the highlands to conquer Ai (Ch. 7-8) and, through a humorous deception, to become unwilling allies of the Gibeonites (Ch. 9). This led to a great battle with the chieftains of five other Canaanite cities and the conquest of the South (Ch. 10). A final engagement in the North resulted in the complete destruction of Canaanite power in Palestine (Ch. 11). Following a brief summary of Joshua's triumphs (Ch. 12), the book describes the division of the land among the several tribes (Ch. 13-23) and how Israel entered into a Covenant to serve forever the God Whose might had been so awesomely demonstrated (Ch. 24).

### **Judges.**

Despite the initial conquest of Palestine, the

process of subjugation continued and, in fact, some parts of the country were never conquered. Heroes (Judges) rose up amongst the people in times of crisis, and this book is primarily an account of their exploits.

The book opens with an account of the conquest of Canaan which is roughly parallel to that in the book of Joshua (Ch. 1-2:5); then follows the main body of the book, which, after a moralizing introduction (Ch. 2:6-3:6), relates the adventures of the individual Judges: Othniel (Ch. 3:7-11), Ehud (Ch. 3:12-30), Shamgar (Ch. 3:31), Deborah (Ch. 4-5), Gideon (Ch. 6-8) and his infamous son, Abimelech (Ch. 9), two minor Judges (Ch. 10:1-5); Jephthah (Ch. 10:6-12:7), three more minor Judges (Ch. 12:8-15) and Samson (Ch. 13-16). The book concludes with an appendix containing tales about the migration of the Tribe of Dan (Ch. 17-18) and the sins of the Benjaminites (Ch. 19-21). In all this, one clear lesson stands out: Loyalty to God is the first requisite for national success and disloyalty a guarantee of disaster.

### **Ruth.**

The book of Ruth speaks of the marriage of Ruth (a Moabitess a foreigner) to a Hebrew man and how, on his death, she chose to return to Judah with her mother-in-law, Naomi, to share the fortunes of her husband's people, rather than remain in the security of her native land (Ch. 1). There, her loyalty and kindness won her the love of Boaz (Ch. 2-4:12), and, through her marriage to him, she became the great-grandmother of David the King (Ch. 4:13-22).

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