

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, JANUARY 12, 2014

29th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 4. Afterfeast of the Theophany. Sunday after Theophany. Martyr Tatiana of Rome and those who suffered with her (226-235). St. Sava I, first Archbishop of Serbia (1237). Ven. Martinian, Abbot of Belozérsk (1483). Martyr Mertius of Mauretania (284-305). Martyr Peter Apselamus of Palestine (309-310). Ven. Eupraxia of Tabenna, in Egypt (393). The "AKATHIST" and "THE MILKGIVER" Icons of the Most-holy Theotokos. Icon of the Mother of God, the "Priestly".

Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-17



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, Jan 12: Hours – 9:10am, Divine Liturgy – 9:30am, Coffee Hour – 11:15am:

Wed, Jan 15: Akathist to St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre – 9:15am followed by Adult Education.

Fri, Jan 17: Special Diocesan Assembly to Nominate a Bishop, St. Nicholas Church, Bethlehem, 5pm.

Sat, Jan 18: Annual Diocesan Assembly, St. Nicholas, Bethlehem, 8am-3pm.

Sat, Jan 18: Great Vespers – 6pm followed by Confessions.

Brethren, Christians are constantly in battle, in battle for the victory of the spirit over the material, in battle for conquest of the higher over the lower, man over beast. Is it not, therefore, absurd to engage in battle and not to worry about victory but to concern oneself with external decorations and ornaments? Is it not foolish to give to one's enemies the marks of identification? Our invisible enemy [Satan] rejoices at our vanity and supports us in every vain thought. The invisible enemy occupies us with every possible unreasonable pettiness and idleness only to impose upon our minds the heavy forgetfulness relative to that for which we are here on earth. The invisible enemy [Satan] presents to us the worthless as important, the irrelevant as essential and that which is detrimental as beneficial only in order to achieve victory and to destroy us forever. St. Nicholai of Zhica, The Prologue, January 10.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Diocesan Assembly: The Annual Diocesan Assembly will be held next Saturday January 18th at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Bethlehem. It will be preceded on the 17th with a Special Diocesan Assembly to elect a nominee for the Office of Bishop of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania. Based on the approved possible candidates provided by the Holy Synod of Bishops, the Episcopal Search Committee will present His Grace, Bishop Mark as the candidate. A copy of His Grace's answers to questions put to him by the Committee is on the Bulletin Board.

House Blessing: This is a unique aspect 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. SCHEDULE IS AVAILABLE TODAY. SIGN UP, MORNINGS, AFTERNOONS, EVENINGS AVAILABLE.

ORTHODOXY IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE: Next Meeting on January 20 at 7pm.

Orthodoxy and Recovery: Several pamphlets have been added to the pamphlet rack providing basic information on Orthodoxy and the 12 steps, the Church as Ark of Salvation, Spiritual Narcissism, and Codependency. Written by Fr. George Aquaro of the Antiochian Archdiocese they provide excellent information about these topics which touch the lives of so many. Take one, share them, they are free. Check out his blog, <http://orthodoxyandrecovery.blogspot.com>.

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: **If God is for us, who can be against us?**

Scrip Program: Orders will be taken again today due to the bad weather last week. 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.

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 NEXT MONDAY. Visit the website for more information.**

VIGIL LIGHTS:

From the Pitra Family:

- **For the Health of**
Sonya Lengel, Peter Bohlender and Nancy Letzo

From the Moser Family

- **For the Health of**
Peter, Nancy, Fr. Alexander, Fr. John, Fr. Paul
Dn. Peter, Raymonde, Sophia
- **In Memory of**
Pierre, Dn. John, Veronica, Rebecca, Charles,
Stephen, Anne, Anne, Michael, Mary Alice

From Olga Rosik

- **For the Health of**
Melissa, Julia, James, Natalie, Gregory
- **In Memory of**
Grigoriy, Katerina, Ulyana