

ST. MARK'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA (OCA.ORG)

DIocese of Eastern Pennsylvania (DOEPA.ORG)

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2014

28th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 3. EVE OF THEOPHANY. Sunday before Theophany. Hieromartyr Theopemptus, Bishop of Nicomedia, and Martyr Theonas (303). Ven. Syncletica of Alexandria (ca. 350). Prophet Micah (9th c. BC). Virgin Apollinaria of Egypt (ca. 470). Ven. Phosterius the Hermit (9th c.). Ven. Menas of Sinai (6th c.). Ven. Gregory of Crete (ca. 820). Ven. Romanos, Martyr (1694).

Epistle: 2 Timothy 5:4-8

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8



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 5:** Hours – 9:10am, Divine Liturgy – 9:30am, Coffee Hour– 11:15AM: Church School to follow.
Great Vespers and Great Blessing of Waters – 7pm
- Mon, Jan 6:** Hours -9:10am, Divine Liturgy-9:30am, followed by Great Blessing of Waters.
- Wed, Jan 8:** Akathist to St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre – 9:15am followed by Adult Education.
- Sat, Jan 11:** Great Vespers – 4pm followed by trip to Longwood Gardens.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Protodeacon Gregory and Mat. Martha Moser – 10th

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.

Diocesan Assembly: The Annual Diocesan Assembly will be held on 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. Consider this in the coming week before the time of house blessing begins. SCHEDULE IS AVAILABLE TODAY. SIGN UP, MORNINGS, AFTERNOONS, EVENINGS AVAILABLE.

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

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

Social Activity: There will be a trip to Longwood Gardens next Saturday, but no bus as the number was insufficient. Vespers will be at 4pm and departure will be at 5pm. We will carpool. If you are interested in coming please be here no later than 5pm.

Scrip Program: Today we start a new year with the program. 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 January 20th. Visit the website for more information.**

VIGIL LIGHTS:

From Ida Trivelas:

o **For the Health of**

Ida, Nick, Alexandra, Elizabeth, Renee, Stella, Ann, Ann, Mary, Dorothy, Tina, Georgia, Steve, Joyce, George, Michael, Stefanie, Amanda, Jean & Family, Julie, George, Nick, Jade, Joanna, Ava, Elena, Anastasia, John, Soula, Kristina, Bridget, Joanne, John, Brian, Kristina, Jim, Michael, Nicholas

From the Moser Family

o **For the Health of**

Peter, Fr. Alexander, Fr. John, Fr. Paul
Dn. Peter, Nancy, Raymonde, Sophia

o **In Memory of**

Dn. John, Veronica, Rebecca, Pierre, Charles,
Stephen, Anne, Anne, Michael, Mary Alice

From the Perdakis Family

o **For the Health of**

Archpriest Theodore, Stamatina, Angela, Panayiotis
Mohammed, Patricia, Angelo, Kleo-Nikki, Demosthenes
Carmen, Jessica, Arthur Jr.

o **In Memory of**

Arthur, Evangelia, Ekaterini, Pierre