

# ST. MARK'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA ([OCA.ORG](http://OCA.ORG))

DIocese of Eastern Pennsylvania ([DOEPA.ORG](http://DOEPA.ORG))

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## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2013

**26th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 1. Forefeast of the Nativity of Christ. Sunday before the Nativity.**

Great Martyr Anastasia, "Deliverer from Bonds", and her teacher, Martyr Chrysogonus, and with them Martyrs Theodota, Evodias, Eutychianus, and others, who suffered under Diocletian (ca. 304).

**Epistle:** Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23,32-40

**Gospel:** Matthew 1:1-25



## 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 22:** Hours – 9:10am, Divine Liturgy – 9:30am, Fellowship Hour– 11:15AM. Church School -11:30AM.

**Tues, Dec 24: Vespertal Liturgy and Royal Hours – 9:30AM**

**Vigil – 7pm**

**Wed, Dec 25:** Hours– 9:10am, Divine Liturgy – 9:30am

**Thurs, Dec 26:**Hours– 9:10am, Divine Liturgy – 9:30am

**Fri, Dec 27:** Divine Liturgy – 9:30AM St. Stephen's Cathedral with Bishop Melchisedek.

**Sat, Dec 28:** Great Vespers – 6pm followed by Confessions.

**Remember the Newly Departed Pierre Djokic – 40<sup>th</sup> Day December 29.**

**Recovering** - Peter Bohlender and Nancy Letzo continue to make excellent recoveries. Peter is home. Nancy is at Powerback Rehab 3484 Davisville Road, Hatboro 19040. Cards, calls and visits, when appropriate, are welcome. Your (continued) prayers are deeply appreciated. Thank God for his mercy to both. We look forward to seeing them in our midst.

# 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.

**Christmas Greetings:** Wishing all the parishioners and friends of St. Mark's a Blessed and Joyous Nativity. Christ is Born! Glorify Him!  
Fr. Martin and Family.

**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](mailto:ravetto2001@gmail.com), or fill out an order form in the vestibule and leave it with payment with Larissa, Julia, Doug, or Jeanette.

**Weekly Services:** Wednesday mornings at 9:15 we have an Akathist Hymn, followed by Adult Education. Currently our Adult Education is making its way through **THE TYPICON DECODED**, an overview of the services of the Church. Each week we have a different Akathist.  
First week is to St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre for Church Revitalization, Second Week is to the Theotokos of the Inexhaustible Cup for those suffering from alcoholism and other addictions (if you have names you would like remembered, give them to Fr. Martin), Third Week is to the Iveron Icon of the Theotokos, for the spiritual health of our parish, and the Fourth Week is variable, depending on the saints commemorated that month. Consider joining us if you can. You can come to pray and for the class or just pray. We have a core of regular attendees so you will not be alone!

**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](http://www.ocayouth.org/wtr). Deadline is January 20th. Visit the website for more information.**

## VIGIL LIGHTS:

From the Swan Family:

- **For the Health of**  
Michael Love

From the Pitra Family:

- **In Memory of**  
Michael Bodulow, Dec. 17, 2012

## NAMES DAY:

- Anastasia (Nancy) Letzo – December 22
- Anastasia Sedor – December 22

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

- \* Fr. Martin & Mat. Heidi Browne – December 27

