EST. 1974

St. Mark's Orthodox Church

Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

452 Durham Road, Wrightstown, PA, 18940

(215) 860-9640

www.stmarksoca.org
Facebook: St. Mark's Orthodox Church, Wrightstown
Livestream link: www.youtube.com/@stmarksoca/live

Twitter: @stmarksoca
Instagram: @st.marksorthodox

March 29th, 2026 — St. Mary of Egypt

The 5th Sunday of Great Lent.
St. Mary of Egypt. Tone 1.

Hieromartyr Mark, Bishop of Arethusa. Martyr Cyril the Deacon, of Heliopolis, and others who suffered under Julian the Apostate (ca. 364). Venerable John, Anchorite, of Egypt (4th c.). St. Eustathius the Confessor, Bishop of Bithynia (9th c.).

Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14; Galatians 3:23-29
Gospel: Mark 10:23-29; Luke 7:36-50

Upcoming events

Sun., March 29th:	Hours & Divine Liturgy — 9:10 AM Coffee Hour
Wed., April 1st:	Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts — 9:15 AM
Friday, April 3rd:	St. George Brotherhood Meeting — 6 PM Vespers with Canon to St. Lazarus — 7 PM
Sat., April 4th:	Hours & Divine Liturgy for Lazarus Saturday — 9:15 AM Vigil for Palm Sunday & Confessions — 6 PM

From the Wrightstown Food Cupboard: The Cupboard currently needs **coffee, cake mixes, pie crusts** and **feminine hygiene products.**

PLEDGE REMINDER from the Stewardship Committee: For those members of the parish that have made pledges to be paid periodically each year, it would be greatly appreciated that you make your 2026 payment as soon as possible to maximize the amount of money we have "in the bank" before we begin negotiating financing for construction. Thank you!

VIGIL LIGHTS

From the Ristvey Family
For the health of: Margaret, Stephanie, Andrew, Margaret, Lorelly, Delores, Helen, Jennifer, Joseph, Michael, Nancy
In Memory of: George, Those who have lost their lives in the wars in Ukraine, Africa and the Middle East

From the Swan Family
For the health of: Thomas S. III, Michelle S., Peter M.
In Memory of: Thomas S. Jr., Venus L., Helen L., Michael L., Constance S., Neville N., Michael V., Francis M., Daniel B.

From Irene Arhipov
For the health of: Kathi, Sergei, MaryAnne, Ann, Alexandra, Fr. Alexander
In Memory of: Maria, Lydia, Lydia, Vera, Tamara, Angelina, Eda

Birthdays: Doug Yates, Maria Kulczytzky, Giovanni Martini, Jacob Hawthorne

Name Days: Riley Tanner, Gillian Crosby, Charla Bendas

Please remember in your prayers

Living

All those, everywhere, who care for the sick, the suffering and the vulnerable.
Ill-afflicted Clergy Archbishops Alexander & Benjamin; Archpriests Alexander & James
Matushki Mary Sedor, Elena, Laryssa, Lisa, Myra, Suzanne, and Jennifer
Inquirers Adam, Chris, Quin, Tyler, Karsyn, Vigo, Kristen, Wes
Catechumens Angie, Timothy
Servants of God Paul, Elaine, Richard, Jon Thoenebe, Jeanette Ruano, Amanda, Thomas, Zina, William, Margaret, Ayla, Stephen, Deborah, Charlotte, Delores, Joseph, Margie, Michael, Eileen, Emily, John, Lucy, Karen, Rosemary, Sophia, Joyce, Rachael, Thomas, Julianna, Carmen, Sharon, Tovi, John, Anastasia, Shelby, Suzanne, Ned, Larissa, Nicholas, Samuel, Sergei, Anna, Raymond, Andrew, Valerie, Charles, Elena, Sandra, Maria, Julia, child Jacob, Angela, Hunter, Jon Smith, Anselmo Pappas Scandalis, Katrina, Aidan, Aaron, Gloria, Margaret, Dennis, Shane, Charla, Daria

Departed

Newly departed: Patriarch Ilia of Georgia, Archpriest John, Archpriest Theodore (Mozes), Monk Kirill (Yefimov), Larissa
Departed: Archpriest Daniel, Archpriest Theodore, Peter, Jonathan, Mat. Mary, Met. +HERMAN, Louis, Ruth, Nicholai, Thomas, Michael, Venus, Helen, Anthony, Robert, Michael, All those who have died in service to their country, Archpriests Stephen and Vladimir, Mat. Mary, Priest George, Archpriest Paul, Kh. Shirley, Susan, Maria, George, Natalie, Louis, Dorothy, Katherine, Alexander, Anthony

Weekly Contribution Information

Sunday Collection — 3/22/26
General — $2,760
Candles — $149
Pledge Pmts. — $975
Parish Dev. — $175

Total: $4,059

Online Collection — 3/16 - 3/22/26
General — $1,886
Parish Dev. — $60
Pledge Payments — $66.25

Total: $2,012.25

GRAND TOTAL: $6,071.25

The Orthodox Church in America
DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA AND EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
The Most Rev. Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia

March 24, 2026

KNEELING IN THE CHURCH

PDF Viewer

Dear to clergy and faithful of the Diocese,

Christ is in our midst! He is and ever shall be. I pray your Lenten Journey is fruitful. Please forgive the delay in addressing the issue of kneeling in the Church. There are matters of Church decorum that are universal, such as not crossing your legs, not chewing gum, not moving around or entering and exiting the Church during the reading of the Gospel or during the censing of the Church.

As Sunday is the Day of Resurrection, kneeling is prohibited in many of the Orthodox Churches as it is considered penitential. In Carpatho-Rusyn tradition, people kneel during the anaphora and the Lord's prayer. Either is acceptable. The Antiochians introduced kneeling on Sundays when they were not celebrating Feast Days during the week but transferred them to nearest Sunday several years ago. Now that they resumed weekday festal liturgies kneeling on Sunday is declining and they are returning to their authentic tradition of only kneeling at a weekday liturgy. I mention these things to underscore that there remains a distinction between Tradition with a capital "T" and traditions with a small "t," sometimes referred to as local pious customs.

As we approach Holy Week, I want to remind you that kneeling during the Passion Gospels on Holy Thursday is a local custom. Both kneeling and standing are, however, acceptable. If kneeling is too painful and distracts you from hearing the Gospel, then remain standing. We must be reasonable and realize that if all we can think about when kneeling is how much pain we are in, then we are not able to hear about the sufferings of our Lord.

Sincerely,

+ Mark

+ MARK, Archbishop of Philadelphia and the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

APPLY TO BE A COUNSELOR TODAY

AT ST. TIKHON'S SUMMER CAMP 2026

LEAD CAMPERS THROUGHOUT THE WEEK, GROW IN LEADERSHIP, SERVICE, AND FAITH, AND BE PART OF A GREAT WEEK OF FELLOWSHIP AT ST. TIKHON'S MONASTERY!

CONTACT YOUTH@DOEPA.ORG WITH ANY QUESTIONS!

PLEASE SHARE THIS WITH FRIENDS, FAMILY, AND PARISHIONERS WHO WOULD LOVE TO TAKE PART IN THIS MEANINGFUL MINISTRY!

JUNE 27 THROUGH JULY 4, 2026

Service Schedule

Hours + Divine Liturgy:	9:10 AM (Sundays & feast days)
Great Vespers / Vigil:	6 PM (Saturdays)
	7PM (Eve of feast)
	6PM (Eve of feast — Sundays)
Confessions:	Saturdays after Vespers & by appointment
Akathist Service:	9:15 AM (Wednesdays)
Panikhidas/Lityas:	as requested

CLERGY

V. Rev. Raymond Martin Browne, *Rector*
(570) 906-1388 (cell)
stmarksorthodoxchurch@gmail.com

Protodeacon Gregory Moser, *Attached*

Subdeacons: Dustin Joseph Crosby
Sergei Arhipov
Marek Szeliga
Readers: Gregory Pavlik
Samuel Regen

LAY LEADERSHIP

Choir Directors: Daria Cortése
Mat. Martha Moser
Sbn. Sergei Arhipov (Emeritus)

Church School Coordinators: Ruth Pavlik & Riley Tanner

Baptisms: Children must have **Orthodox Godparents** who provide a letter from their parish priest. Parents and Godparents are required to attend two preparatory classes. Please make scheduling arrangements by contacting Fr. Martin directly.

Weddings: Arrangement should be made **at least six months** prior to the wedding; scheduling is subject to the Church's liturgical calendar. Please speak with Fr. Martin **before making reception arrangements.**

Online Donation Guidelines - If you regularly use our online giving portal, please keep in mind that we are charged a fee for those donations, so not all of your donation is actually received as income. Below is a table showing suggested amounts that will ensure that your intentions are met. For larger amounts we suggest that a check be provided directly to us.

$50.00	$52.00	$53.00
$75.00	$77.00	$79.00
$100.00	$102.00	$105.00
$150.00	$153.00	$157.00
$200.00	$203.00	$209.00
$250.00	$254.00	$261.00
$300.00	$305.00	$313.00
$350.00	$355.00	$365.00
$400.00	$406.00	$417.00
$450.00	$457.00	$469.00
$500.00	$507.00	$521.00

Caption