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

April 5th 2026 — Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem

The Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem. Palm Sunday. Martyrs Agathopodes the Deacon, Theodulus the Reader, and those with them, at Thessalonica (ca. 303). Ven. Publius of Egypt (4th c.). Ss. Theonas, Simeon and Phorbinus, of Egypt (4th c.). Ven. Mark the Anchorite, of Athens (400). St. Plato the Confessor, of Studion (814). Ven. Theodora of Thessalonica (892). Translation of the Relics of St. Job, Patriarch of Moscow & All Russia (1652).

Epistle: Phil. 4:4-9
Gospel: John 12:1-18

Upcoming events

Sun., April 5th:	Hours & Divine Liturgy — 9:10 AM Coffee Hour Bridegroom Matins (St. Stephen's Cathedral) — 4 PM
Mon., April 6th:	Bridegroom Matins — 7 PM
Tues., April 7th:	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts — 9:15 AM Bridegroom Matins — 7 PM
Wed., April 8th	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts — 9:15 AM Holy Unction & Bridegroom Matins (St. Stephen's) — 5 PM
Thurs., April 9th:	Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil — 9:15 AM Matins of Holy Friday w/ 12 Passion Gospels — 7 PM
Friday, April 10th:	Royal Hours of Holy Friday — 9:15 AM Vespers of Holy Friday — 3 PM Matins of Holy Saturday w/ Lamentations — 7 PM
Saturday, April 11th:	Vesperal Liturgy w/ 15 Prophecies — 9:15 AM Nocturns of PASCHA 11:30 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!

Tomb Vigil: If you are interested in reading the Scriptures over our Lord's Tomb, please sign up using the following link:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1n3dPzkVpuwx18iO8_Ziq1H8dC1ADNeDRX0hY1UQdUE/edit?usp=drivesdk

Wedding Anniversaries:
Daria & Andrew Cortése

VIGIL LIGHTS

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

From Anonymous
For the health of: Sergei, Olga, Vladimir, Julie
In Memory of: Valentina, Vera, Arkadiy

From Anonymous
For the health of: Olena, Andrey, Yakaterina, Gabriel, Max, Yelena, Anastasia
In Memory of: Antonina, Yuriy, Alexander, Elvina, Bella, Emma

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 Michael Bitny
For the health of: Erin, Anatoly, Oleg, Peter, Jens, Luise, Rafaella John, Joanna, Michael, Lisa, Thomas, Annie, Michael
In Memory of: Vigor, Ingeborg, Valentina, Alexandra, Eugene, Nicholas, Maria, Josef, Maria, Marietta, Rudy, Michael, Elizabeth, Walter, Natalie, Vincent, Michael, George Roman

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 — 3/29/26
General — $1,198
Candles — $223
Pledge Pmts. — $13,275
Parish Dev. — $50

Total: $14,746

Online Collection — 3/23 - 3/29/26
General — $2,941
Candles — $9
Parish Dev. — $40
Pledge Payments — $145

Total: $3,135
GRAND TOTAL: $17,881

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 a check provided directly to St. Mark's.

Target Donation	Suggested Donation - ACH/Direct	Suggested Donation - Credit/Debit
$25.00	$26.00	$27.00
$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	$204.00	$209.00
$250.00	$254.00	$261.00
$300.00	$305.00	$313.00
$350.00	$356.00	$365.00
$400.00	$406.00	$417.00
$450.00	$457.00	$469.00
$500.00	$508.00	$521.00
$1,000.00	$1,014.00	$1,041.00
$1,500.00	$1,521.00	$1,561.00
$2,000.00	$2,027.00	$2,081.00

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

Pray
Fast
Give alms

Memorial Veterans Drive

St. Francis of Assisi

Located in Scranton, PA, this veteran transitional home receives no government assistance, and relies entirely on donations.

March 29 - May 10

veronica@mycollegeaid.org
(484) 201 - 4368
kennethgula@yahoo.com
(402) 202 - 4273

Pray
Fast
Give alms

Veteran Drive List

All Sizes (clothing):

Leisure Pants
Sweat Shirts
T-Shirts
Sweaters
Pajamas & Slippers
Gloves & Hats
Towels
Twin Sheet & Blankets
Washcloths & Pillows
Shampoo & Body Soap
Canned Goods
Ground Regular (caffinated) coffee :)

***Monetary Donations:**

Accept cash or check. Please address check to "**St. Francis of Assisi Commons**".

veronica@mycollegeaid.org

(484) 201 - 4368

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.**