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

May 24th, 2026 — Fathers of the 1st Council

The 7th Sunday of Pascha. The Holy Fathers of the First Œcumenical Council.
Tone 6. Afterfeast of the Ascension. Ven. Simeon the Stylite (the Younger) of the Wonderful Mountain (596). Ven. Nikita the Stylite, Wonderworker of Pereyaslavl'-Zalesski (786). Martyrs Meletius Stratelates, Stephen, John, and 1,218 soldiers, with women and children, including Serapion the Egyptian, Callinicus the Magician, Theodore, Faustus, Marciana, Susanna, and Palladia, and the children Cyriacus and Christian, and 12 Tribunes: Faustus, Festus, Marcellus, Theodore, Meletius, Sergius, Marcellinus, Felix, Phontinus, Theodoriscus, Mercurius and Didymus, all of whom suffered in Galatia (128-161). St. Vincent of Lérins.

Epistle: Acts 20:16-18, 28-36
Gospel: John 17:1-13

Upcoming Events

Sun., May 24th:	Hours & Divine Liturgy — 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal & Coffee Hour
Wed., May 27th:	Akathist w/ Litya — 9:15 AM
Thurs., May 28th:	Parish Council Meeting — 7 PM
Sat., May 30th:	Soul Saturday Panikhida — 9:15 AM Vigil of Pentecost — 6 PM

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

Soul Saturday: We will have a Soul Saturday Panikhida on Saturday, May 30th at 9:15 AM. Please give Father the names of any departed you want remembered who have reposed since Great Lent. Thank you!

Marriage Blessings: Anyone celebrating a wedding anniversary that is a multiple of 5 years (5, 10, etc…) in the coming year (June '26-'27), please make Father aware. While we have the anniversaries of many, we do not have all, especially since we have new members. **Deadline for submission is Memorial Day weekend.**

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!

St. Mark's will host our annual Legacy of Life Baby Bottle Drive on June 7-28th, 2026. For over 15 years, Legacy of Life has supported women and families in our community and helped save more than 5,000 lives. Please mark your calendar and join us in supporting this life-saving mission!

Birthdays: Leona Streltsov, Isaac Chappe, Christina Hadgimallis, Sbn. Sergei Arhipov, Katerina Sremenak, Ruth Pavlik

Name Days: Michael Bitny

Wedding Anniversaries: Charles & Charla Bendas, Myron & Linette Sedor

The ministry of the Church…exists as an expression of the totality of the [Divine] *Economy.* We cannot, therefore, understand the nature of the ministry by seeing it simply in terms of the past (Christ's ministry in Palestine) or a present (ministry as service to the needs of today), but of the future as well, namely as sustaining for creation the hope of the *eschata* — of sharing God's very life. Just as the Church becomes, through the ministry, a relational entity both in itself and in its relation to the world, so also the ordained man becomes, through his ordination, a relational entity. In this context, looking at the ordained person as an individual defeats the very end of ordination. For ordination…aims precisely at making man not an individual, but a person — i.e. an *ek-static being* — that can be looked upon not from the angle of his "limits," but of his overcoming his "selfhood" and becoming a related being. In light of the *koinonia* of the Holy Spirit, ordination relates the ordained man so profoundly and so existentially to the community that in his new state after ordination he cannot be any longer, as a minister, conceived in himself. Only in terms of love can one understand the mystery of charismatic life, and therefore of ministry.
—Met. John (Zizioulas) of Pergamos. Being as Communion

VIGIL LIGHTS

From Irene Arhipov
For the health of: Sergei, Anna, Alexandra, Mary Anne, Fr. Alexander
In Memory of: Katherine, Nadezhda, Maria, George, Maria, Maria, Natalia, Sally, Peter, Alla

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.

From Marina
For the health of: Marina, Anna, Michaela
In Memory of: Larissa

From the Ristvey Family
For the health of: Margaret, Valerie, Andrew, Stephanie, Margaret, Lorelly, Delores, Jeffrey, Helen, Joseph, Jeffrey, Jennifer, Andrew, Eileen, America, Those suffering in war-torn Ukraine, Gaza, Lebanon, Sudan, Iran and Israel; those in internment camps in America
In Memory Of: George, Those who lost their lives in the wars in Ukraine, Gaza, Africa, Syria, Lebanon, Iran

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 Natalia, 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: Stephanie, Nancy
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 — 5/17/26
General — $1,171
Candles — $139
Pledge Pmts. — $263
Parish Dev. — $50

Total: $1,623

Online Collection — 5/11-17/26
General — $1,581
Parish Dev. — $32
Pledge Payments — $1,110

Total: $2,723
GRAND TOTAL: $4,346

CELEBRATING *Over 5,000* LIVES SAVED!

Legacy of Life FOUNDATION

For over 15 years, we have been reaching women who are seeking abortions and helping them choose life through our three women's centers in Bucks County and Philadelphia.

Our Services:

- Free pregnancy testing & ultrasounds
- Compassionate information session & advocacy for women who feel abortion is their only option
- Comprehensive aftercare program that provides ongoing support for at least 3 years

Together, we can save lives!

June 7 - 28, 2026

Please make a gift to support women, children & families during our annual baby bottle drive at St. Mark's Orthodox Church.

215-788-4051 | legacyoflifefoundation.org

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

The St. Joseph & Holy Myrrbearers Society

(A ministry of charitable service and social interaction)

Clergy contact: Pdn. Gregory Moser
Lay contact: Melissa Ciatto

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.**