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

October 11th, 2026 — 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Tone 2—Commemoration of the Fathers of the 7th Œcumenical Council. Holy Apostle Philip of the 70, One of the Seven Deacons (1st c.). St. Theophanes the Confessor & Hymnographer, Bishop of Nicæa (ca. 850). Ven. Theophanes the Faster of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves — 12th c.). Ven. Leo of Optina (1841). Synaxis of the Optina Elders. Martyrs Zenaïs & Philonilla, of Tarsus in Cilicia (1st c.).

Epistles: 2 Cor. 11:31-12:9; Heb. 13:7-16
Gospels: Luke 7:11-16; John 17:1-13

Upcoming events

Sunday, Oct. 11th:	Hours & Divine Liturgy — 9:10 AM Choir Rehearsal Coffee Hour & Catechesis Class
Friday. Oct. 16th:	St. George Brotherhood — 6 PM
Saturday, Oct. 17th:	Great Vespers & Confessions — 6 PM
Sunday, Oct. 18th:	Hours, Divine Liturgy— 9:10 AM Coffee Hour & Catechesis Class

The Wrightstown Food Cupboard needs **rice, dried beans, jelly** and **cleaning supplies** Also, monetary donations to fix a roof leak would be appreciated. The Cupboard is a 501(c)3 charitable organization.

The St. Alexis Toth Brotherhood will begin a renewed chapter with a kickoff event on Saturday, Oct. 24th at 2:00 PM at Holy Trinity Church in Wilkes-Barre. This event will serve as an opportunity to renew the Brotherhood's efforts and welcome both new and returning participants. Men from parishes throughout the diocese are invited to gather in fellowship, build lasting friendships, and strengthen one another in the Orthodox Christian Faith. Named in honor of St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre, whose faithful priestly ministry holds a special place in the history of Orthodoxy in Eastern PA, the Brotherhood seeks to bring together diocesan men through a shared commitment to faith, fellowship and service. The kickoff event will allow attendees to learn more about the vision of the St. Alexis Brotherhood, reconnect with those who participated in its earlier gatherings, and help shape its future. The renewed effort hopes to establish a strong and lasting diocesan brotherhood that will encourage greater fellowship among men and strengthen connections between the parishes of Eastern Pennsylvania.
The schedule for the kickoff is as follows:

- 2:00 pm – Gathering for fellowship featuring a guest speaker
- 4:00 pm – Great Vespers with His Eminence Archbishop Mark
- 5:00 pm – Dinner

All men of the Diocese ages 18 and older are warmly invited to attend. Participants are also encouraged to bring a friend or another man from their parish and become part of this renewed effort from its beginning.Questions about the St. Alexis Toth Brotherhood or the upcoming kickoff event may be directed to Priest Kirill Zawatski at lemkopriest@gmail.com. **O Holy Father Alexis, pray unto God for us!**

If you are planning to attend the IOCC Banquet please call or text Stephanie Ristvey at 215-696-2031 **by Tuesday, October 13th.** This will help get an accurate headcount and assist with seating arrangements. Thank you!

Birthdays: Elizabeth Simon, Charles Bendas, Michael Baca, Sarah Browne
Name Days: Ken Gula, Fr. Raymond Martin
Wedding Anniversaries: Michael & Dorothy Baca

Church Etiquette

Attire — Using Good Judgment: When attending services, there are those who feel that God will accept us regardless of our attire. Yes, God does accept us as we are, but what are we doing to prepare ourselves for Him? This is why we must take proper care in what we wear. We need not be dressed "fancy" so as to impress others; we need to only be dressed *respectfully* so as to present ourselves to God. Preferably, the women should wear dresses and the men wear suits, or semi-formal attire during the summer season. From time to time, medical or other reasons arise which may prohibit the wearing of certain clothing. You should use your good judgment when these situations arise. Speaking with your priest will help also.

— From Ss. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church, Palos Hills, IL

VIGIL LIGHTS

From Irene Arhipov
For the health of: Sergei, Kathi, Michelle, Anna, Alexandra, Alexandra, Fr. Alexander
In Memory Of: Newly-Dep. Michelle, Newly-Dep. Robert, Stanley, Boris, Vera, Nadezda, Katherine, Lubov, Theophan, Pr. Philip

From the Moser Family
For the health of: Raymond, Mara, Ned
In Memory Of: Dn. John, Veronica, Rebecca, Charles, Stephen, Sophia, Peter, Stephanie

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

From the Ristvey Family
For the health of: Margaret, James, Those suffering in war-torn Ukraine, Lebanon, Gaza, Sudan and the Middle East; Those suffering in American internment camps
In memory of: George, Those who have lost their lives in the current wars and disasters around the world

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, Jonah, Jeff, Anatoly, Brady, Bohan
Catechumens Ruth, Chris, Kristen, Viggo, Wes, Shannon
Servants of God Paul, Herman, Juliana, Tyler, Natalia, Paul, Elaine, Richard, Jon Thoenebe, Jeanette Ruano, Thomas, Zina, William, Margaret, Ayla, Stephen, Deborah, Charlotte, Delores, Joseph, Margie, Michael, Eileen, Emily, John, Lucy, Karen, Rosemary, Sophia, Joyce, Rachael, Thomas, Julianna, Carmen, 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, Charla, Daria, David

Departed

Newly departed: Mat. Helen (Psinka), Archpriest Peter Bodnar, Michelle, Judy, Liliana
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 Collection

Sunday Collection (10/4)
$2,888 — General
$59 — Candles
$2,000 — Pledge Payments
$150 — Parish Dev.

$5,097 — Total

This QR code will take you directly to the online donation web form:

Online Giving (9/28-10/4)
$2,441 — General
$44 — Parish Development
$10 — Candles
$165 — Pledge Payments

$2,660 — Total

GRAND TOTAL: $7,757

	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sep-26	YTD
2026 Total General Contribution	$13,517.75	$27,020.00	$25,257.00	$21,855.00	$20,688.00	$16,054.00	$13,293.50	$21,133.00	$13,770.00	$172,588.25
2026 Avg. Per Week Per Unit	$43.89	$87.73	$65.60	$70.96	$53.74	$52.12	$43.16	$54.89	$44.71	$58.45
Change from 2025 (Goal >$8)	-$41.35	$9.12	-$11.44	-$5.63	-$15.94	-$6.61	-$29.57	-$13.16	-$12.93	-$11.40
2025 Avg. Per Week Per Unit	*$85.24*	*$78.60*	*$77.04*	*$76.59*	*$69.67*	*$58.73*	*$72.73*	*$68.05*	*$57.64*	*$69.86*

	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sep-26	YTD
Building Fund Contributions*	$4,306.00	$205,932.00	$4,358.00	$4,410.00	$4,234.00	$4,102.70	$4,238.50	$7,921.50	$4,139.00	$243,641.70
% of Goal Obtained ($100k)	4.31%	205.93%	4.36%	4.41%	4.23%	4.10%	4.24%	7.92%	4.14%	243.64%

** Does not include Capital Campaign Pledge Payments*

Dear Friends and Faithful Supporters,

We invite you to join the fundraising efforts of the **Greater Philadelphia Committee of International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)** by donating an item or gift certificate to our **Silent Auction**, to be held on **Sunday, October 25, 2026, at 3:30 p.m.,** during our **Fifteenth Annual Benefit Banquet for IOCC.** Your support is crucial for IOCC to continue its global lifesaving and life changing missions to help people in crisis. Please read on to learn the IOCC story:

Founded in 1992, IOCC is a humanitarian organization that ministers to those suffering the effects of political upheaval and war, famine, natural disasters, and community tragedies by sharing with them God's gifts of food, shelter, economic self-sufficiency and hope. Assistance is provided solely on the basis of need, and benefits orphans, refugees and displaced people, the elderly, schoolchildren, families and people with disabilities, without regards to race, religion, or ethnic identity. Through the generosity of caring donors like you, over **$887 million** in humanitarian aid and disaster relief has been distributed worldwide over the past 34 years following events such as: the war in **Ukraine;** the devastating earthquakes in **Turkey** and **Syria**; **Beirut** explosions; spring/summer floods in **the U.S.**; wildfires in **Greece** and **California**; and destructive hurricanes **(Louisiana/ U.S. Gulf Coast, the Carolinas**) and earthquakes **(Haiti).**

Thanks to the incredible efforts and generosity of our donors **last year**, IOCC was able to support projects around the world including:

- In **Greece**, IOCC is supporting monthly food assistance to struggling households, tutoring for high school students preparing for university entrance exams, and vocational training and small business support.
- In the **Holy Land**, IOCC expanded emergency relief efforts, providing food, clean water, hygiene items, infant care supplies, and critical medical assistance to families affected by ongoing conflict.
- In the **United States**, IOCC offered emotional and spiritual care to victims of the Los Angeles County wildfires, and continued long-term recovery efforts in Tennessee and Florida, helping rebuild in communities devastated by Hurricanes Helene and Milton.
- In **Lebanon**, IOCC continued providing essential nutrition and health services to vulnerable families amid conflict and socioeconomic crisis, helping communities meet urgent daily needs.
- In **Ukraine**, IOCC is providing safe shelter and specialized support to displaced families and people with disabilities, as well as vocational training and business grants to build sustainable livelihoods.

Finally, IOCC continues to support: **Syrian** war refugees living in the **Middle East** and throughout **the Mediterranean**; suffering families in the **West Bank and Gaza**, in post-war **Lebanon** and **the Balkans**, and in drought-stricken **Ethiopia** and other clean water deprived countries throughout **Africa**; and literacy and education in impoverished communities in American big cities. **IOCC's work is tireless, lifesaving, and life-changing,** both here in the U.S. and throughout the world. **The Greater Philadelphia Committee is honored to support IOCC's ongoing humanitarian programs.**

Therefore, the Fifteenth Annual Benefit Banquet will take place at **Adelphia Restaurant, 1750 Clements Bridge Road, Deptford Township, NJ** on **October 25, 2026,** and is expected to draw over 300 people from throughout the Delaware Valley. Anything you wish to donate to the **Silent Auction** will be graciously displayed and your business will be acknowledged. We respectfully ask that the fair market value of your donation be a minimum of $100.

Suggested donations include ***gift baskets, weekend getaways, jewelry, restaurant or store gift certificates, housewares, sports tickets, and symphony/theater tickets.*** Your donation is tax deductible and will be recognized in our program book, if received, along with the Gift-in-Kind form that accompanies this letter, by **October 16, 2026.**

Please contact **Rania Pappas at (856) 316-8914 (cell) or Pappasrania@aol.com with questions, or to offer or confirm a donation.**

Your generosity will ensure that IOCC's ministry to the needy continues effectively and efficiently - 90% of all funds raised goes directly towards emergency relief and development programs.

We thank you for considering our request for a donation and for your support of IOCC's mission to bring dignity, respect and hope to communities around the world.

Sincerely,

Greater Philadelphia Metropolitan Committee of IOCC,

Tony Pantazopoulos & Deacon Michael Sandilos, Greater Philadelphia Metropolitan Committee Co-Chairs
Rania Pappas, Silent Auction Chair

The Greater Philadelphia Committee of IOCC invites you to the

15TH ANNUAL BANQUET TO BENEFIT IOCC

Sunday, October 25, 2026

3:30pm Hors d'Oeuvres & Silent Auction • 5:00pm Dinner & Program

Adelphia Restaurant, Pan Athenian Grand Ballroom
1750 Clements Bridge Rd., Deptford, NJ 08096

Come and learn about IOCC's programs around the world and how your support makes a difference in places like Ethiopia, Greece, the Holy Land, Ukraine, and the US.

For tickets and sponsorships, contact your parish rep or visit:

iocc.org/philadelphia

Or make checks out to IOCC **(Memo: Philadelphia chapter)** and mail to IOCC | 110 West Road, Suite 360 | Baltimore, MD 21204

Tickets: $85 per person

Questions? E-mail Theodora Veronis at TVeronis@iocc.org

The following sponsorship opportunities are available:

- ☐ Grand Benefactor ($5,000+) – 10 total reserved seats
- ☐ Great Benefactor ($2,500+) – 8 total reserved seats
- ☐ Benefactor ($1,000+) – 6 total reserved seats
- ☐ Sponsor ($500+) – 4 total reserved seats
- ☐ Friend ($250+) – 2 total reserved seats

Sponsorships received by Oct. 16 will be recognized in the program.

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*
Deacon Marek Szeliga, *Attached*

Subdeacons: Sergei Arhipov
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

The St. George Brotherhood

Contacts: Dn. Marek Szeliga, Rdr. Gregory Pavlik, Denis Streltsov

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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.**