

EST.



1974

ST. MARK'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

DIOCESE OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

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(215) 860-9640
www.stmarksoca.org

Facebook: St. Mark's Orthodox Church, Wrightstown

 Livestream link: www.youtube.com/@stmarksoca/live

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APRIL 6TH, 2025 — ST. MARY OF EGYPT

Tone 8— The Fifth Sunday of Great Lent. St. Mary of Egypt. St. Eutychius, Patriarch of Constantinople (582). St. Methodius, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Archbishop of Moravia and Enlightener of the Slavs (885). St. Platonis (Platonída) of Nisibis (Syria — 308). 120 Martyrs of Persia (344-347). Martyrs Jeremiah and Archilias the Presbyter. Ven. Gregory the Byzantine (1308). Monk Martyr Gennadius of Dionysiou (Mt. Athos — 1818).

Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14
Galatians 3:23-29

Gospel: Mark 10:32-45
Luke 7:36-50



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, April 6th:	Hours & Divine Liturgy — 9:15 AM Coffee Hour
Wed., April 9th:	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts — 9:15 AM
Friday, April 11th:	Chrismation of David Philippi — 6:30 PM Vespers w/ Molieben to St. Lazarus — 7 PM
Saturday, April 12th:	Hours & Divine Liturgy for Lazarus Saturday — 9 AM Vigil for Palm Sunday — 6 PM

The Wrightstown Food Cupboard needs **coffee, pancake mix & syrup, jelly beans (for Easter)** and canned fruit. The Cupboard is a 501(c)3 charitable organization.

Please see the attached article on how to prepare a Pascha basket, courtesy of stphillip.net.

The Stewardship Committee will be kicking off the capital campaign for the building project shortly after Pascha. We are doing this before final approval of the project by the parish to establish our financing levels for the project. Our plan is to solicit pledges to help determine what, if any, outside financing could be needed. The Committee is looking for volunteers to assist in the drive. You will receive training and materials before it begins. We have been fortunate to receive a donation of assistance for this from a close relative of one of our parishioners, who lives in this area. If you are interesting in assisting the Committee, please contact any of its members: Fr. Martin, Pdn. Gregory, Kevin Swan, Andy Skordinski, Joe Durshaw or Michael Bitny. Thank you!

Registration for the St. Tikhon's Summer Camp is now full, but there is a waiting list. Visit the camp website at <https://www.sttikhonscamp.org> for more information.



Name Days: Charla Bendas, Gillian Crosby, Charlotte Regen, Riley Tanner

Wedding Anniversaries: Daria & Andrew Cortése

LENTEN SERVICE SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 13th	Bridegroom Matins (St. Stephen's Cathedral)	4 PM
Monday, April 14th	Presanctified Liturgy	9:15 AM
	Bridegroom Matins	7 PM
Tuesday, April 15th	Presanctified Liturgy	9:15 AM
	Bridegroom Matins	7 PM
Wednesday, April 16th	Presanctified Liturgy	9:15 AM
	Bridegroom Matins & Holy Unction (St. Stephen's)	5:30 PM
Thursday, April 17th	Vesperal Liturgy	9:15 AM
	Matins of Holy Friday (12 Passion Gospels)	7 PM
Friday, April 18th	Royal Hours of Holy Friday	9:15 AM
	Vespers of Holy Friday	3 PM
	Matins of Holy Saturday (Lamentations)	7 PM
Saturday, April 19th	Vesperal Liturgy with 15 Prophecies	9:15 AM
	Nocturns	11:30 PM
Sunday, April 20th	Matins, Hours and Divine Liturgy of PASCHA	12:00 AM
	Paschal Vespers	12:00 PM

VIGIL LIGHTS

FROM IRENE ARHIPOV

FOR THE LIVING: JOHN, SERGEI, ELIZABETH,
JOHN, ANNA, ALEXANDRA, FR. ALEXANDER

IN MEMORY OF: NEWLY-DEPARTED FR. DANIEL,
NEWLY-DEPARTED DOUGLAS

FROM THE SWAN FAMILY

FOR THE LIVING: THEODORE, HUNTER, THOMAS
III, DANIEL B.

IN MEMORY OF: THOMAS JR., VENUS L., HELEN
L., MICHAEL L., CONSTANCE S., NEVILLE N.,
MICHAEL V., FRANCIS M., DARYL M.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

LIVING

Captive Hierarchs PAUL and JOHN

All those, everywhere, who care for the sick, the suffering and the vulnerable.

Ill-afflicted Clergy Archbishop Nathaniel, Archpriests Alexander (Golubov), Stephen & Daniel

Matushki Elena, Laryssa, Lisa, Myra, Suzanne, and Jennifer

Servants of God John Rumsey, 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, Constance, Angela, Hunter, Jon Smith, Anselmo Pappas Scandalis, Katrina, Aidan, Aaron

DEPARTED

Newly departed: Archpriest Daniel (Skvir), Archpriest Paul (Harrilchak), Hieromonk Pedro, Priest Jonas (Worsham), Mat. Mary, Mat. Sophia, Douglas (Robinson), Paul (Bihuniak)

Departed: Archpriest Daniel, Archpriest Theodore, Peter, Shirley (Stewart), 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

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTION INFORMATION

Sunday Collection (3/30/25)

Restricted Donation — \$50

Candles — \$167

Burnt Offering — \$2,323

Parish Dev. — \$100

Subtotal — \$2,640

Online Collection (3/24-3/30)

Burnt Offering — \$1,160.94

Parish Dev. — \$100

Subtotal — \$1,260.94

GRAND TOTAL — \$3,900.94

How to Prepare a Traditional Pascha Basket



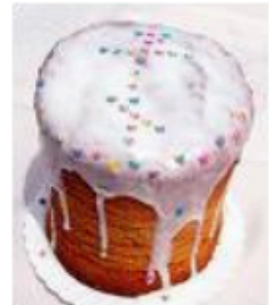
In many Orthodox countries, it is the custom to bring foods in a basket to be blessed at Pascha. The foods traditionally brought in the basket have special significance, but many people will add the foods they've missed the most during the Fast. The basket is usually covered with a white cloth embroidered with the words, "Christ is Risen." It is also customary to have a blessed candle in it to light at the Blessing, which takes place at church following the Resurrection services.

At St Philip's, it is our custom for parishioners to prepare a table in the Great Room on Holy Saturday where we place our baskets in preparation for the Blessing and our Paschal Meal together following the services. If there are visitors, please invite them to join you.

What goes into the Pascha basket?



SWEET BREAD—Called Kulich or Paska by some, many "old country" traditions and recipes exist. This is a sweet yeast bread, rich in eggs, butter, milk, etc., sometimes with raisins, and perhaps baked with a red egg or decorated with Christian symbols. The Pascha bread is symbolic of Christ Himself, who is our Living Bread, and who has come down from heaven to give eternal life in the Eucharist. Just as bread is the "staff of life," Christ is our spiritual nourishment for eternal life.



EGGS—Hardboiled & decorated, eggs are always considered a symbol of the resurrection, the emergence of new life. At Pascha, our Savior came forth from the tomb as a chick breaks forth from its shell.



BUTTER—Traditionally shaped in the form of a lamb (can be just a stick), butter represents the Lamb of God who was offered on the altar of the cross for the life of the world.



MEATS—Lamb, Ham, Sausage, Veal, etc. A portion of any or all of these meats are put in the basket. The meat products symbolize the sacrificial animals of the Old Testament, foreshadowing the true sacrifice of our Savior, who became for us "the Lamb of God, taking away the sins of the world." As we learn from the prayer of blessing, the meat products also symbolize the fattened calf prepared for the Prodigal Son on his return to his Heavenly Father. Thus at Pascha we celebrate our return to God and our joyous participation in the blessings of our Savior, who promised to be our "true food."

SALT—Salt is necessary for flavor, and reminds the Christian of his duty to others. As salt preserves food, we are to be as salt in the world.



HORSERADISH—In some traditions mixed with grated red beets, this is symbolic of the Passion of Christ still in our minds, but sweetened with sugar because of the Resurrection. A bitter-sweet red mixture reminds us of the sufferings of Christ.



CHEESE—A custard-type cheese shaped into a ball having a rather bland but sweet taste indicative of the moderation that Christians should have in all things. Also, creamed cheese is placed in a small dish and decorated with Christian symbols.

SPECIAL ITEMS—Chocolate, candy, wine, and other food items extend the joy of the Resurrection. The Church takes ordinary food and blesses it as an aid in making us holy. God's blessing changes us from children of natural descent into sons and daughters of the Kingdom of God.





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*

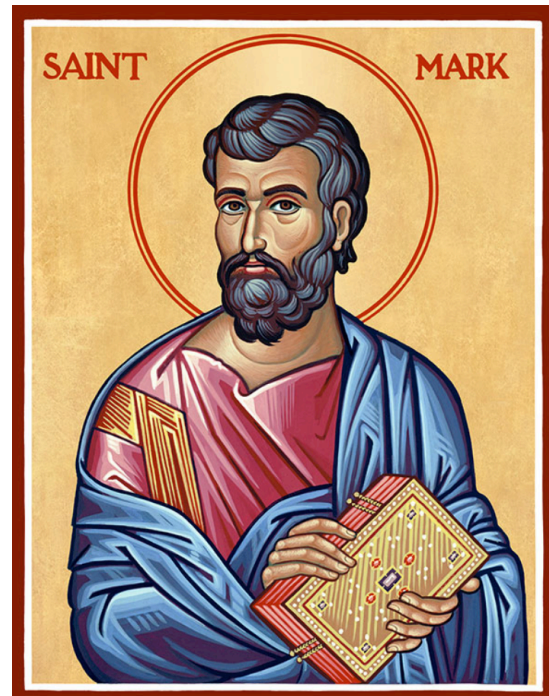
Subdeacons: Dustin Joseph Crosby
Sergei Arhipov
Marek Szeliga

Reader : Samuel Regen

LAY LEADERSHIP

CHOIR DIRECTORS: Daria Cortése
Mat. Martha Moser
Sbn. Sergei Arhipov (Emeritus)

CHURCH SCHOOL COORDINATOR: Mat. Martha Moser



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.**

