

# ST. MARK'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

[www.stmarksoca.org](http://www.stmarksoca.org)

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Orthodox Church in America ([www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org))

Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern PA ([www.doeпа.org](http://www.doeпа.org))

452 Durham Road

Wrightstown, PA 18940

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MARCH 29, 2020

## Clergy

V. Rev. Raymond M. Browne,

*Rector*

Cell: 570-906-1388

Email: [frraymondmartin@hotmail.com](mailto:frraymondmartin@hotmail.com)

Protodeacon Gregory Moser, *Attached*

V. Rev. Michael Sekela, *Retired. Attached*

## Readers:

- ❖ G. Peter Bohlender
- ❖ Dustin Joseph Crosby

## Service Schedule

Great Vespers/Vigil

*Saturdays 6pm*

*Eve of Feast 7pm (6pm on Sundays).*

Hours

*Sundays and Feast Days 9:10am.*

*Sundays and Feast Days 9:30 am*

## Choir Directors:

- ❖ Daria Cortese
- ❖ Mat. Martha Moser
- ❖ Sergei Arhipov

## Church School

### Director

- ❖ Jennifer Sremanak



## Divine Liturgy

### Confessions:

*Saturdays after Vespers and by appointment.*

### Akathist Service

*Wednesdays at 9:15am.*

**Memorial Services (Panikhida/Litya):** as requested



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT — Tone 8. St. John Climacus (of The Ladder). Hieromartyr Mark, Bishop of Arethusa, Martyr Cyril the Deacon, of Heliopolis, and others who suffered under Julian the Apostate (ca. 364). Ven. John, Anchorite, of Egypt (4th c.). St. Eustathius the Confessor, Bishop of Bithynia (9th c.).**

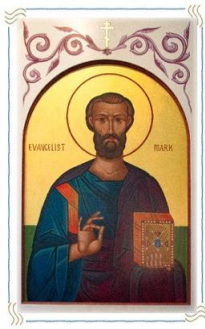
EPISTLE: **Hebrews 6:13-20; Eph 5:9-19**

GOSPEL: **MARK 9:17-31; MT 4:25-5:12**

**Baptisms:** Children must have Orthodox Godparents who provide a letter from their parish priest. Parents and Godparents are required to attend two preparatory classes. Scheduling arrangements should be made with the Rector by contacting him directly.

**Weddings:** Arrangements should be made **at least** six months prior to the wedding and scheduling is subject to the liturgical calendar of the church. **Please do not** make arrangements for receptions without speaking with the Rector first.

Weekly SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND EVENTS: UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, PUBLIC SERVICES ARE SUSPENDED.



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**Corona VirusTime: When time changed on the 8th who knew there would be another one this week?**

**Church will be open on the following days and times for people who might wish to come and light a candle and pray.** Monday 3-5pm, Tues 10am-12pm, Wednesday 3-5pm, Friday 10am-12pm. Make these visits brief and observe the distancing guidelines if others are there. I will be there and available for confession if you want at that time but I want to keep the density of people to an absolute minimum. This will continue for the duration of the Corona Crisis.

We will be making an online giving option available early in April. This had already been underway but we are able to do it now because our software provider has made it possible at this time. Further information to follow.

Again I strongly encourage you to reach out to fellow parishioners via phones and other media to keep in touch, offer support, pray together and offer or ask for assistance at this extraordinary time. Likewise I am keeping in touch with all and encourage you to contact me if you have questions, concerns or wish sacramental care.

<http://www.orthodoxmonasteryellwoodcity.org/chapel>

**Parish Development:** As part of our development work we have hired Raphael Architects of Doylestown to assist us in planning future physical development of our plant. They attended the Forgiveness Vespers last Sunday to see our space issues and will visit at other times for the same purpose. But, the most important step in the process is the parish participation in a **workshop is rescheduled for May 31 at the Coffee Hour.** It is vital that everyone participate. **Your input is essential.** The architects need to hear from you about what does and does not “work” for you with our present facilities and what you would like to see. **Save the date: Sunday, May 31 following Divine Liturgy.** Consider it a tithe of your time and talent to God to be there!

**Parish Meeting Minutes:** Copies of the unapproved minutes from our Annual Meeting are available on the bulletin board in the Hall and there are copies available in the vestibule.



**Financial Update for Sunday 3/22 & 29**

Update will be provided next week.  
Thank you to all who have mailed or dropped off their envelopes!

**Wrightstown Food Cupboard:** Looking forward to the Easter Baskets, at the meeting of the FoodCupboard members we have been asked to provide the following: Jelly Beans, Coffee, Tea, Pasta, Pasta Sauces, Cereal, Tuna & Canned Meat.



VIGIL LIGHTS  
FOR THE HEALTH OF ALL MANKIND  
BIRTHDAY  
DOUG YATES (29)  
NAMES DAY  
DOUG YATES (29TH & 30TH)



**Please remember in your prayers**

**Living:** Captives Hierarchs Paul and John III afflicted All those caring for the sick and suffering at this time throughout the world, especially our family and friends Charles and Erin, Ann Marie, Joseph, Alexis, Aphrodite, Archpriests Daniel and Alexander, Priest Stephen, *Matushki* Elena, Laryssa, Lisa, Priscilla, Myra, Suzanne, Anne, Jennifer, Emilia *Servants of God* Peter, Stephanie, Anthony, Samuel, Sergei, Tatyana, Vera, Anna, Scott, Dennis, David, Garry, Vincent, Anthony, Helen, Stephen, Raymond, Darrell, Andrew, Daniel, Amanda, Michael, Laura, Stephen, Jason, Katina, Donna, Nina, Rebekah, Anthony, Alexander, Grover, Valerie, Raymonde, Anita, Jim, Peter, Jonathan, Gregory, Charles, Kyra, Margaret, Arlene, Vaughn, Vitaly, Helen Good estate of Krastyo, Tom, Michael, Martin, Matthew, Nicoletta, Carmen and Nathan, Ferne.

**Departed:** *Newly departed* Archpriest Jozef, Helen, Archpriest Bernard *Departed* Archpriests Stephen and Vladimir & Mat. Mary, Priest George



Let us remember in our prayers all those medical professionals, scientists, public safety officers, truck drivers, pilots, managers and clerks in the grocery stores and pharmacies, especially Charla, Valerie, Joseph and Alexis, Aphrodite, Tiberiu, Ann Marie, Charles and Erin. May the Lord grant them peace, health, salvation and furtherance in all good things for many blessed years!

And for ourselves let us say: Lord, have mercy, 3x

### **Schedule of Lenten Services**



Sixth Week - Pending direction from the Holy Synod of Bishops

*Saint Mark's Orthodox Church, Wrightstown, Pennsylvania*



**As each has received a gift, employ it for one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace. 1 Peter 4:10**

*Once a month we will publish the information on budget to actual and how that reflects our commitment to the average increase of \$8 a week necessary to meet our annual budget, as well as to indicate how well we have done in collecting \$100,000 this year for our building project.*

*Here is the information for the latest months, January and February:*

	Jan-20	Feb-20	YTD
<b>Total General Contribution</b>	\$16,36600	\$10,024.00	\$26,390.00
<b>Avg. Per Week Per Unit (56)</b>	\$73.06	\$44.75	\$58.91
<b>Change from 2019 (Goal &gt;\$8)</b>	\$18.93	\$3.09	\$13.08
	Jan-20	Feb-20	YTD
<b>Building Fund Contribution</b>	\$2,365.00	\$2,415.00	\$4,780.00
<b>% of Goal (\$100k)</b>	2.37%	2.42%	4.80%

Fund raising means getting people to give more money. Christian stewardship on the other hand helps people to be more giving. Christian stewardship could be defined as **the effective commitment or investment of human and material resources in participation with Christ in his love for others.**

There are two primary points to be made. The first point is that **stewardship always has to do with a Christian's task of giving away gifts that have already been given to him by God.** This *presupposes, of course, acceptance of the belief that all things are conferred on us by God.* The second point is **that stewardship always has to do with a Christian getting free of what binds him.** In our culture, nothing binds us more than money - the symbol of material things...In other words, **stewardship is intertwined with conversion. One has to be turned away from what binds him, and turned towards what frees him. This is the test of genuine conversion**

Richard Reidy. **Stewardship.** [www.doepa.org/stewardship](http://www.doepa.org/stewardship)