

Recently we have heard from a few of the Church Women, who have come up with the idea to designate the 2nd Sunday of each month for Parishioner's birthdays, and that the remaining three Sundays will be left open for Church Women's luncheons, and for those folks who prefer to bring refreshments on a Sunday that suits their personal schedules. It is also nice to know that the ladies are planning to provide cookies when needed.

We appreciate all the help from the faithful over the years. We are mindful that the social hour is not just about food. It is about spending time together, connecting and building stronger relationships within our Church family. So let us try something new - in the New Year! On Sunday, January 9th, all those who are celebrating their birthdays in January are welcome to write their names on the social hour chart in the parish hall and will be asked to combine their efforts and bring refreshments all on the same Sunday (everything and anything goes!

A Church Calendar for 2022 is now available for \$ 8.<sup>00</sup> each or 3 for \$ 20.<sup>00</sup> and the Lectionary / Ordo 2022 is \$ 15.<sup>00</sup> which prices will hold until December 25th, Christmas Day. Make checks to "LA Press." Calendars and Ordos are displayed in the parish hall. L. A. Press has become a business with a wide customer base and solid supporter of the BFSL Monastery at T-Creek.

**Save the Date:** There will be a piano recital and English Tea at SMP on Saturday, January 29th, 2022. The Church Women will be hosting this event. More details will be announced soon.

Father James Tochiara and perhaps nine men from St. Mark's, St. Columba, and St. Luke's fell into Retreat Mode two weekends ago at our Monastery of Our Lady and Saint Laurence. Subdn. John Brainerd said, it was a very good experience.

The Altar Guild will need volunteers to decorate the church for Christmas after the 10 o'clock Mass today.

Carol McCabe with daughter Debbie St. Clair at last Sunday's Bake Sale!



### - Service Schedule for the Week -

IV Advent, December 19, 2021

7:30 Morning Prayer / 8:00 o'clock Mass

9:45 Anglican Chant Matins

10:00 AM Solemn Mass

Social Hour 12noon

DECORATION of the Temple for Christmass

The work will go fast with helpers!

Tuesday, St. Thomas, Apostle Mass 12 noon

**Friday, Christmas Vigil Mass, 5:00 PM**

Evensong 7:00 Lessons & Carols 7:30

**Christmas Mass in the Night 8:00 PM**

**Christmas Day Mass 10:00 o'clock**

*Confessions by Appointment this week or before*

*the St. Thomas Day Mass*

*As difficult as some find the practice of Confession it is a saving Grace of this Religion. As may be observed, the clergy are usually too busy just before Mass unless we adopt the Greek "drive by" accelerated practice. "Just an absolution, Father." Absolve what? Lack of preparation for Confession? Take your time.*

# SAINT MARK'S CHURCH

An Orthodox Parish in the Western Rite Vicariate, Diocese of Wichita

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WWW.WESTERNORTHODOX.COM FR. JOHN CONNELLY, JCC@WESTERNORTHODOX.COM

THE REV'D JAMES TOCHIHARA, ARCHDEACON VLADIMIR McDONALD, DEACON JOHN WOOLLEY

## IV Advent December 19, 2021

Thanks to Fr. John Connely, Fr. James Tochiara, Archdeacon Vladimir McDonald and Deacon John Satorus Woolley for their Altar Service today. Archdeacon Vladimir is our preacher at both Masses this morning.

There will be a Vestry Meeting at 9:05 AM today.

The Our Lady of Walsingham Shrine Candle is given in loving memory of Kathryn Reeves for her faithful service as President of the Church Women's Group, Directress of the Altar Guild, Vestry Member and a Super Volunteer for chairing many Yard Sales, Bake Sales and Fund-raiser luncheons, by Fr. John and Matushka Deborah.

The Altar Guild will be accepting Christmas Flower donations up until Tuesday, December 21st. Please look for their special Christmas envelopes on the back table and on the pews. Make flower checks payable to the St. Mark's Altar Guild.

Please, look for the Christmas Window Candle sign up sheet on the wall in the parish hall. Make candle checks payable to St. Marks Parish.

Thanks to Margaret Murray for serving the Saturday Altar Guild duties to the Glory of God.

Here are names of the St. Mark's Parishioners who will be celebrating their birthdays in December: Shirley Riemenschneider, Tanya and Sarah Diederich, Debbie St. Clair, Guy Huft, Margaret Murray, Sandy Miller and Skylar Kelly.

Please look for the sign-up coffee hour calendar on the wall in the parish hall or you may let us know by sending an email message to matushka.deborah@gmail.com by noon on Friday.

*Thanks to Emily Huft Gallas and Katie Huft Brock for providing the social hour refreshments last Sunday in thanksgiving for Kenton Scott Gallas' Baptism today. His parents are Emily and Tyler Gallas and his God-parents are Katie and Micah Brock. Kenton's proud grandparents are Guy and Dana Huft, great-grandmother Carol McCabe, Uncle Sean Huft and Aunt Debbie and Uncle John St. Clair are all active members of St. Mark's Parish. We also welcomed Kenton's father's family and the Gallas' friends in celebrating this special event!*

The **St. Mark's Church Women** hosted their ANNUAL BAKE SALE last Sunday. Khouria Judith and the Church women would like to thank both the Bakers and the Shoppers for another successful Bake Sale. The baked goods were amazing and so delicious again this year. Thanks to Kh. Judith, Fr. John, Sarah, Carol, Debbie, Dana, Sh. Kristine, Tanya, Matushka Deborah for their food donations. This BAKE SALE will help raise money for worthy charitable causes.

*Thanks to the St. Mark's Church Women for hosting the Fleece Navidad Service Program again this year. As you may recall, parishioners were asked to consider buying a 2 piece fleece wear set for one of the residents at Franklin Park. Thanks to Emily Gallas, Katie Brock, Carol McCabe, Dana Huft, Khouria Judith, Debbie St. Clair, Natalie Lickteig, Tanya Diederich, Jane Long, Shamassy Kristine Woolley, Fr. James, Archdeacon Vladimir, Guy Huft and others for signing up to buy a 2 piece fleece set. Also, thanks to Dana Huft and Carol McCabe for delivery the presents to Franklin Park which is not far from downtown Denver.*