

Saint Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church



Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America (O.C.A.)

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Hierarch: [The Most Reverend Archbishop Nathaniel](#)

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February Bulletin 2019

Services' Schedule / Programul Slujbelor

Sunday, February 3- *Righteous Simeon the God-receiver; Anna the Prophetess
32nd Sunday after Pentecost (Zacchaeus). Epis. 1 Timothy 4:9-15. Gos. Luke
19:1-10. Tone 3. Mat. Gos. 3.*

9:10 am — *Matins/Utrenia*

10:00 am — *Holy Liturgy/ Sfanta Liturghie*

Sunday, February 10 -+) *Hieromartyr Haralambos; Virgin Martyr Valentina
17th Sunday after Pentecost (Canaanite Woman). Epis. 2 Corinthians 6:16-18, 7:1.
Gos. Matthew 15: 21-28. Tone 4. Mat. Gos. 4.*

9:10 am — *Matins/Utrenia*

10:00 am — *Holy Liturgy/ Sfanta Liturghie*

Sunday, February 17 - *Great Martyr Theodore the Soldier ("Tyro"); St.
Mariamne; Holy Emperor Marcian & Empress Pulcheria. 33rd Sunday after
Pentecost (Publican and the Pharisee). Epis. 2 Timothy 3:10-15. Gos. Luke
18:10-14. Tone 5. Mat. Gos. 5*

9:10 am — *Matins/Utrenia*

10:00 am — *Holy Liturgy/ Sfanta Liturghie*

Friday , February 22 - 5.30 pm- Spiritual Conseling / Consiliere Spirituala/ Spovedanie - by appointment.

Sunday, February 24 - + The first & second findings of the honorable head of St. John the Forerunner. 34th Sunday after Pentecost (Prodigal Son). Epis. 1 Corinthians 6:12-20. Gos. Luke 15:11-32. Tone 6. Mat. Gos. 6.

9:10 am — Matins/Utrenia

10:00 am — Holy Liturgy/ Sfanta Liturghie

11.45 am - Annual Metting 2019

What is Orthodox Spirituality?

The term spirituality is used very loosely in our culture. But Orthodox spirituality has a very specific meaning. It is most clearly stated by Fr. Dumitru Staniloae a renown Romanian Theologian (1903 - 1993). He describes it as a life long process. It is a road that leads one to "perfection in Christ." This road involves the "cleansing of passions and the winning of virtues." It is a process that takes place in a certain order. It is a process that involves the cleaning of one passion and then another. At the same time one acquires different virtues. Once a certain level of perfection is reached it "culminates in love." Finally one has closed themselves of all passions and has attained all virtues. This is perfection. He says, "As man climbs toward this peak, he simultaneously moves toward union with Christ and the knowledge of Him by experience, which is also called deification." Orthodox Spiritually involves a step by step transformation. as one processes he is filled with more and more presence of God.

The aim is perfection in Christ, a full union with Him. Our will become one with His and we are able to do His will instead of your self-centered will as we pray for in the Lord's Prayer, "Thy will be done." Since God's goodness is infinite there is no end to this process. We never reach the point of total perfection.

He says,

"Our perfection, our union with God, is therefore not only a goal, but also an unending progress.... The culminating state of the spiritual life isis when the believer is raised higher than the level of his own powers,not of his own accord, but by the work of the Holy Spirit.

He describes this as a mystical life. He says,

"It is only by prolonged effort, by discipline, can testate of perfection and mystical union with God be reached."

Orthodox Spirituality by Fr. Dumitru Staniloae

Volunteers are needed in several areas. Being involved in your parish helps to build community and form new friendships! Please consider helping out. Call Father Lucian for more information about any of our volunteer roles.

*Altar Servers

*Flowers/Altar Decor

*Lady Auxiliary Committee

*Sunday School Teacher

Your church needs your financial support. Please consider donating regularly and charitably to support YOUR church. "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously...for God loves a cheerful giver" 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

***God Bless you all!
Father Lucian***