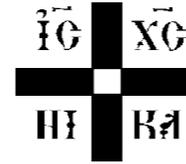


Weekly Schedule

Monday	Festal Divine Liturgy (Cross), 10:00 a.m.
Friday	Acathisto de María, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday	Great Vespers, 6:00 p.m. Confessions following Great Vespers
Sunday	Reading of Hours, 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m. <i>Fellowship Hour following Divine Liturgy</i>

The Dedication of the Temple of the Resurrection of Christ at Jerusalem celebrates the dedication of the Church of the Resurrection, built by St Constantine the Great and his mother, the empress Helen. After the voluntary Passion and Death on the Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the holy place of His suffering was long trampled on by pagans. When the Roman emperor Titus conquered Jerusalem in the year 70, he razed the city and destroyed the Temple of Solomon on Mount Moriah, leaving there not a stone upon a stone, as even the Savior foretold (Mt. 13:1-2). Later on the zealous pagan emperor Hadrian (117-138) built on the site of the Jerusalem destroyed by Titus a new city named Aelia Capitolina for him (Hadrian Aelius). It was forbidden to call the city by its former name. He gave orders to cover the Holy Tomb of the Lord with earth and stones, and on that spot to set up an idol. On Golgotha, where the Savior was crucified, he constructed a pagan temple dedicated to the goddess Venus in 119. Before the statues they offered sacrifice to demons and performed pagan rites, accompanied by wanton acts. In Bethlehem, at the place the Savior was born of the All-Pure Virgin, the impious emperor set up an idol of Adonis. He did all this intentionally, so that people would forget completely about Christ the Savior and that they would no longer remember the places where He lived, taught, suffered and arose in glory. At the beginning of the reign of St Constantine the Great (306-337), the first of the Roman emperors to recognize the Christian religion, he and his pious mother the empress Helen decided to rebuild the city of Jerusalem. They also planned to build a church on the site of the Lord's suffering and Resurrection, in order to reconsecrate and purify the places connected with memory of the Savior from the taint of foul pagan cults. The empress Helen journeyed to Jerusalem with a large quantity of gold, and St Constantine the Great wrote a letter to Patriarch Macarius I (313-323), requesting him to assist her in every possible way with her task of the renewing the Christian holy places. After her arrival in Jerusalem, the holy empress Helen destroyed all the pagan temples and reconsecrated the places desecrated by the pagans. She was zealous to find the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, and she ordered the excavation of the place where the temple of Venus stood. There they discovered the Sepulchre of the Lord and Golgotha, and they also found three crosses and some nails. In order to determine upon which of the three crosses the Savior was crucified, Patriarch Macarius gave orders to place a dead person, who was being carried to a place of burial, upon each cross in turn. When the dead person was placed on the Cross of Christ, he immediately came alive... *for the rest of this account, please see <http://ocafs.oca.org/FeastSaintsViewer.asp?SID=4&ID=1&FSID=102593>*



Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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Rev. Matthew Cantrell, Pastor
Rev. Sergius Willis, Associate Pastor
Call to arrange sacraments, services,
instruction, counseling, home visits, sick
calls.

Troparion (Tone 5) (Resurrection)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead//by His glorious Resurrection.

Troparion (Tone 4) (Dedication)

You have revealed the beauty of the holy dwelling place of Your glory on earth to be like the splendor of the heavenly firmament, O Lord. Through the prayers of the Theotokos, strengthen it for ever and ever and accept our supplication which we ceaselessly offer to You therein, the life and resurrection of all!

Troparion (Tone 4) (Forefeast)

We offer in supplication the life-creating Cross of Your goodness, O Lord, which You have granted to us although we are unworthy. Through the Theotokos, save all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of mankind!

Kontakion (Tone 5) (Resurrection)

You descended into hell, O my Savior, shattering its gates as Almighty, resurrecting the dead as Creator, and destroying the sting of death. You have delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Man, and we cry to You: "O Lord, save us!"

September 13, 2009
14th Sunday after Pentecost
Tone 5

Forefeast of the Elevation of the Cross.
Sunday Before the Elevation. Commemoration of the Founding of the Church of the Resurrection (Holy Sepulcher) at Jerusalem (335).

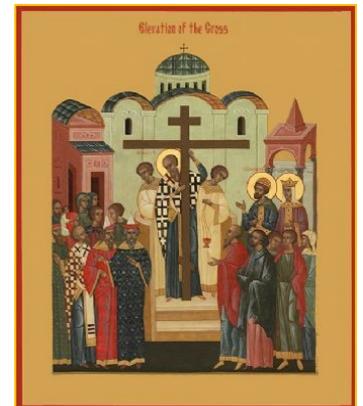
Kontakion (Tone 4) (Dedication)

The Church has been revealed to be a heaven filled with light, which enlightens all the faithful. Standing within it we cry: "Establish this house, O Lord!"

Prayers for our beloved Living and Departed:

Susan, John, Teresa, students returning to school, Neil, McCartney family. **May God Grant Them Many Years!**

Helen, Anne,
Alexander, Andrew, William,
Mary, Alex.
May Their Memories Be Eternal!



Epistle Reading

2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4

Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. Moreover I call God as witness against my soul, that to spare you I came no more to Corinth. Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy; for by faith you stand. But I determined this within myself, that I would not come again to you in sorrow. For if I make you sorrowful, then who is he who makes me glad but the one who is made sorrowful by me? And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having confidence in you all that my joy is the joy of you all. For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:1-14

And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. Again, he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding.' 'But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. 'Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.' So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen.

Welcome to our Visitors!!

A warm welcome to all our visitors and guests who have joined us in celebrating the Divine Liturgy. Please join us for our Fellowship Hour in the Church Hall . Please note: Only those Orthodox Christians that have properly prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and confession of sins may approach the Chalice and receive Holy Communion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Youth Event

Scheduled for next Saturday, September 19th, is a youth event at the zoo. We will meet at the zoo entrance at 1:00pm to purchase tickets; afterwards we will return to our parish for some food and then Great Vespers. Please note that you may invite friends to this event and that the parish will purchase the tickets for all children of our church.

Fr. Moses Berry to speak at our parish

On Monday, September 28, at 7:00pm, Fr. Moses Berry, a priest from Missouri, will offer a presentation at our church titled, **“Honoring a Shared Heritage, Orthodox Christian Witness to the African-American Community.”** Please make every effort to come and hear this talk, as it relates directly to our mission in our South Philly neighborhood.

Ladies' Evening

On Saturday, November 14, our new women's group will meet for an evening of fellowship, with Vespers to follow at our church. The event itself will occur from 2:00-5:30pm. We will be inviting women from our neighborhood to attend as well. Please see Debra with any of your questions.

Collections

Our first weekly collection is as follows:

1st Sunday	Centennial Fund
2nd Sunday	Youth Group
3rd Sunday	Property Management
4th, 5th Sunday	Charity

Announcements?

Do you have any announcements for the parish that you would like to see included in the weekly bulletin? If so, please email or call Fr. Matthew by Tuesday.