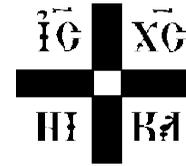


## Weekly Schedule

<b>Friday</b>	Acathisto de Maria, 6:00 p.m.
<b>Saturday</b>	Great Vespers, 6:00 p.m. Confessions following Great Vespers
<b>Sunday</b>	Reading of Hours, 9:40 a.m. Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m. <i>Fellowship Hour following Divine Liturgy</i>

**The Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke**, was a native of Syrian Antioch, a companion of the holy Apostle Paul (Phil.1:24, 2 Tim. 4:10-11), and a physician enlightened in the Greek medical arts. Hearing about Christ, Luke arrived in Palestine and fervently accepted the preaching of salvation from the Lord Himself. As one of the Seventy Apostles, St Luke was sent by the Lord with the others to preach the Kingdom of Heaven during the Savior's earthly life (Luke 10:1-3). After the Resurrection, the Lord Jesus Christ appeared to Sts Luke and Cleopas on the road to Emmaus. Luke accompanied St Paul on his second missionary journey, and from that time they were inseparable. When Paul's coworkers had forsaken him, only Luke remained to assist him in his ministry (2 Tim. 4:10-11). After the martyric death of the First-Ranked Apostles Peter and Paul, St Luke left Rome to preach in Achaia, Libya, Egypt and the Thebaid. He ended his life by suffering martyrdom in the city of Thebes. Tradition credits St Luke with painting the first icons of the Mother of God. "Let the grace of Him Who was born of Me and My mercy be with these Icons," said the All-Pure Virgin after seeing the icons. St Luke also painted icons of the First-Ranked Apostles Peter and Paul. St Luke's Gospel was written in the years 62-63 at Rome, under the guidance of the Apostle Paul. In the preliminary verses (1:1-3), St Luke precisely sets forth the purpose of his work. He proposes to record, in chronological order, everything known by Christians about Jesus Christ and His teachings. By doing this, he provided a firmer historical basis for Christian teaching (1:4). He carefully investigated the facts, and made generous use of the oral tradition of the Church and of what the All-Pure Virgin Mary Herself had told him (2:19, 51). In St Luke's Gospel, the message of the salvation made possible by the Lord Jesus Christ, and the preaching of the Gospel, are of primary importance. St Luke also wrote the Acts of the Holy Apostles at Rome around 62-63 A.D. The Book of Acts, which is a continuation of the four Gospels, speaks about the works and the fruits of the holy Apostles after the Ascension of the Savior. At the center of the narrative is the Council of the holy Apostles at Jerusalem in the year 51, a Church event of great significance, which resulted in the separation of Christianity from Judaism and its independent dissemination into the world (Acts 15:6-29). The theological focus of the Book of Acts is the coming of the Holy Spirit, Who will guide the Church "into all truth" John 16:13) until the Second Coming of Christ. The holy relics of St Luke were taken from Constantinople and brought to Padua, Italy at some point in history. Perhaps this was during the infamous Crusade of 1204. In 1992, Metropolitan Hieronymus (Jerome) of Thebes requested the Roman Catholic bishop in Thebes to obtain a portion of St Luke's relics for the saint's empty sepulchre in the Orthodox cathedral in Thebes. The Roman Catholic bishop Antonio Mattiazzo of Padua, noting that Orthodox pilgrims came to Padua to venerate the relics while many Catholics did not even know that the relics were there, appointed a committee to investigate the relics in Padua, and the skull of St Luke in the Catholic Cathedral of St Vico in Prague. The skeleton was determined to be that of an elderly man of strong build. In 2001, a tooth found in the coffin was judged to be consistent with the DNA of Syrians living near the area of Antioch dating from 72-416 A.D. The skull in Prague perfectly fit the neck bone of the skelton. The tooth found in the coffin in Padua was also found to fit the jawbone of the skull. Bishop Mattiazzo sent a rib from the relics to Metropolitan Hieronymus to be venerated in St Luke's original tomb in the Orthodox cathedral at Thebes.



## Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St  
Philadelphia, PA 19145  
Phone: (215) 94-7713 (Home)

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

**October 18, 2009**  
**19th Sunday after Penecost**  
**Tone 2**  
**Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke (1<sup>st</sup> c.). .**

**Troparion (Tone 2) (Resurrection)**  
When You descended to death, O  
Life Immortal, You destroyed hell  
with the splendor of Your God-  
head. And when from the depths You  
raised the dead, all the powers of  
heaven cried out://“O Giver of life,  
Christ our God, glory to You!”

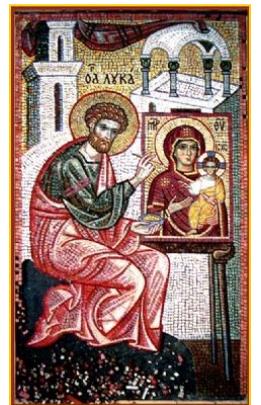
**Kontakion (Tone 2) (Saint)**  
Let us praise the godly Luke; he is the  
true preacher of piety, the orator of inef-  
fable mysteries and the star of the  
Church, for the Word, Who alone knows  
the hearts of men, // chose him, with the  
wise Paul, to be a teacher of the Gentiles!

**Troparion (Tone 3) (Saint)**  
Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke,  
entreat the merciful God to grant our  
souls forgiveness of transgressions!

### **Prayers for The Faithful and Departed**

**Kontakion (Tone 2) (Resurrection)**  
Hell became afraid, O almighty Sav-  
ior, seeing the miracle of Your Resur-  
rection from the tomb! The dead  
arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld  
this and rejoiced with You, // and the  
world, my Savior, praises You for-  
ever.

Micahel, Katie, Pa-  
rashioners, Corba fam-  
ily, Pellack family and  
friends, Kavalkovich  
family, Debra, Susan,  
James, Jennifer. **May  
God Grant Them  
Many Years!**



Margaret, Madeline,  
Burychka family, Pa-  
rashioners, Al, Mary.  
**May Their Memories Be Eternal!**

### **Epistle Reading**

#### **2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9**

The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. In Damascus the governor, under Aretas the king, was guarding the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, desiring to arrest me; but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped from his hands. It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord: I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago-whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows-such a one was caught up to the third heaven. And I know such a man-whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows-how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter. Of such a one I will boast; yet of myself I will not boast, except in my infirmities. For though I might desire to boast, I will not be a fool; for I will speak the truth. But I refrain, lest anyone should think of me above what he sees me to be or hears from me. And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

### **Gospel Reading**

#### **Luke 8:5-15**

A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold. When He had said these things He cried, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" Then His disciples asked Him, saying, "What does this parable mean?" And He said, "To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that 'Seeing they may not see, And hearing they may not understand.' Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.

### **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**

### **Ladies' Lunch**

Our new Women's Ministry will be holding a lunch/social/silent auction on Saturday, November 14. All women of our parish and any of their lady friends and relatives are most welcome to attend. Please see our President, Debbie, for more details.

### **Church Education**

Our parish has begun its Church Education program for our youth *after* the Divine Liturgy. I hope to expand our education offerings to include the adults as well.

### **Parish Lunch**

The parish will offer a chicken cutlet lunch after the Divine Liturgy on October 18 as a means of fund-raising. We would ask that you consider donating \$15.00. If you would like to invite some people from our neighborhood to eat with us, please see either Fr. Matthew or Catherine so that they wouldn't have to pay for the meal.

### **Christmas Ornaments**

Our church's youth group is making memory ornaments to adorn our Christmas tree. These glass ornaments are offered to remember your loved ones, as well as any important people and events in your life. Please see any of the youth or Debbie for more information.

### **Christmas Flowers**

We are beginning to collect donations for Christmas flowers. Please see Debbie. Thank you for helping to beautify our church this coming Nativity season.