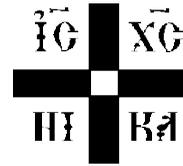


Weekly Schedule

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

The Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenary Physicians Cosmas and Damian and their mother St Theodota were natives of Asia Minor (some sources say Mesopotamia). Their pagan father died while they were still quite small children. Their mother raised them in Christian piety. Through her own example, and by reading holy books to them, St Theodota preserved her children in purity of life according to the command of the Lord, and Cosmas and Damian grew up into righteous and virtuous men. Trained and skilled as physicians, they received from the Holy Spirit the gift of healing people's illnesses of body and soul by the power of prayer. They even treated animals. With fervent love for both God and neighbor, they never took payment for their services. They strictly observed the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Freely have you received, freely give." (Mt. 10:8). The fame of Sts Cosmas and Damian spread throughout all the surrounding region, and people called them unmercenary physicians. Once, the saints were summoned to a grievously ill woman named Palladia, whom all the doctors had refused to treat because of her seemingly hopeless condition. Through faith and through the fervent prayer of the holy brothers, the Lord healed the deadly disease and Palladia got up from her bed perfectly healthy and giving praise to God. In gratitude for being healed and wishing to give them a small gift, Palladia went quietly to Damian. She presented him with three eggs and said, "Take this small gift in the Name of the Holy Life-Creating Trinity, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit." Hearing the Name of the Holy Trinity, the unmercenary one did not dare to refuse. When St Cosmas learned what had happened, became very sad, for he thought that his brother had broken their strict vow. On his deathbed he gave instructions that his brother should not be buried beside him. St Damian also died shortly afterward, and everyone wondered where St Damian's grave should be. But through the will of God a miracle occurred.... *For the rest of the account, please see <http://ocafs.oca.org/FeastSaintsViewer.asp?SID=4&ID=1&FSID=103133>*



Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St
Philadelphia, PA 19145
Phone: (215) 904-7713 (Home)

Rev. Matthew Cantrell, Acting Rector

Rev. Sergius Willis, Associate Pastor

Call to arrange sacraments, services, instruction, counseling, home visits, sick calls.

November 01, 2009

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Tone 4

Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenary Physicians
Cosmas and Damian of Mesopotamia, and
their mother, St. Theodota.

Troparion (Tone 4) (Resurrection)

When the women Disciples of the Lord learned from the Angel the joyous message of the Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the Apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!"

Kontakion (Tone 2) (Saint)

Having received the grace of healing, you grant healing to those in need. Glorious wonder-workers and healers, Cosmas and Damian, visit us and put down the insolence of our enemies, and bring healing to the world through your miracles!

Troparion (Tone 8) (Saint)

Holy Unmercenary and Wonderworkers, Cosmas and Damian, heal our Infirmities! Freely you have received; freely you give to us.

Prayers for The Faithful and Departed

Kimberly, McCartney family, Makara family. **May God Grant Them Many Years!**

Julia, Alex, Mary. **May Their Memories Be Eternal!**

Kontakion (Tone 4) (Resurrection)

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master, He has risen on the third day!

Epistle Reading

Galatians 2:16-20

Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Gospel Reading

Luke 8:26-39

Then they sailed to the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee. And when He stepped out on the land, there met Him a certain man from the city who had demons for a long time. And he wore no clothes, nor did he live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before Him, and with a loud voice said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You, do not torment me!" For He had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For it had often seized him, and he was kept under guard, bound with chains and shackles; and he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the wilderness. Jesus asked him, saying, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," because many demons had entered him. And they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the abyss. Now a herd of many swine was feeding there on the mountain. So they begged Him that He would permit them to enter them. And He permitted them. Then the demons went out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the lake and drowned. When those who fed them saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. Then they went out to see what had happened, and came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. They also who had seen it told them by what means he who had been demon-possessed was healed. Then the whole multitude of the surrounding region of the Gadarenes asked Him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. And He got into the boat and returned. Now the man from whom the demons had departed begged Him that he might be with Him. But Jesus sent him away, saying, Return to your own house, and tell what great things God has done for you. And he went his way and proclaimed throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.

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.

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.

Memorial Services

Fr. Matthew will offer a brief memorial service after the Divine Liturgy on the first Sunday of the month. Please give him the names of the people you would like to remember then.