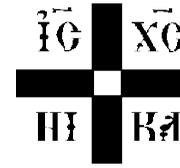
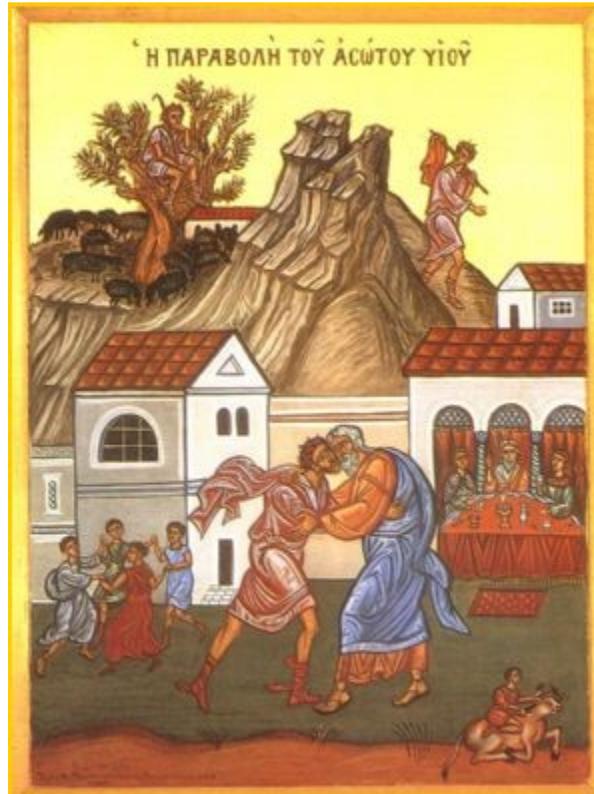


## Weekly Schedule

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>Saturday</b> | Great Vespers, 6:00p.m.<br>Confessions following Great Vespers   |
| <b>Sunday</b>   | Reading of Hours, 9:40 a.m.<br>Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.<br><i>Fellowship Hour following Divine Liturgy</i> |
| <b>Monday</b>   | <b>Great Vespers, 6:00 p.m.</b>  |
| <b>Tuesday</b>  | <b>Festal Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.</b>   |

The Sunday after the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. This parable of God's forgiveness calls us to come to ourselves, as did the prodigal son, to see ourselves as being "in a far country" far from the Father's house, and to make the journey of return to God. We are given every assurance by the Master that our heavenly Father will receive us with joy and gladness. We must only "arise and go," confessing our self-inflicted and sinful separation from that "home" where we truly belong (Luke 15:11-24). After the Polyeleion at Matins, we first hear the lenten hymn "By the Waters of Babylon." It will be sung for the next two Sundays before Lent begins, and it serves to reinforce the theme of exile in today's Gospel.



## Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St  
Philadelphia, PA 19145  
Phone: (215) 904-7713 (Home)  
Email: [frmatthew@comcast.net](mailto:frmatthew@comcast.net)

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

**January 31, 2010**  
**34th Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Tone 1**  
**SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON**

### **Troparion (Tone 1) (Resurrection)**

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure body, You rose on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to You, O Giver of Life: "Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Your Kingdom!//Glory to Your dispensation, O Lover of mankind!"

### **Troparion (Tone 4) (Saints)**

Today the Church of Russia joyfully forms a chorus, praising her new martyrs and confessors; hierarchs and priests, royal passion-bearers, right-believing princes and princesses, venerable men and women, and all Orthodox Christians.

Having laid down their life for faith in Christ during the days of godless persecution, they preserved the truth by the shedding of blood.//By their protection, O long-suffering Lord, preserve our land in Orthodoxy till the end of the age!

### **Kontakion (Tone 3) (Saints)**

Today the new martyrs of Rus' stand in white robes before the Lamb of God, and with the Angels they sing to God the hymn of victory: "Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and praise, and honor, and power, and strength be to our God// unto the ages of ages! Amen."

### **Kontakion (Tone 3) (Lenten Triodion)**

I have recklessly forgotten Your glory, O Father; and among sinners I have scattered the riches which You gave me. And now I cry to You as the Prodigal: "I have sinned before You, O merciful Father; receive me a penitent, and make me as one of Your hired servants!"

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

Kavalkovich family, Parishioners, Leni, Albrecht family, John, James, Pellack family, Rosemary, Steven, Witiak family, Margaret, Ronald, Albert, Patricia, Catherine, Marie, Mary, John, Marc. **May God Grant Them Many Years!**

Susan, Al, Mary, Vito, Anne, Helen, Al, John, Andrew, Anthony, Anna, Mary. **May Their Memories Be Eternal!**

***Glory to God For All Things!***

## **Epistle Reading**

### **I Corinthians 6:12-20**

All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For "the two," He says, "shall become one flesh." But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

## **Gospel Reading**

### **Luke 15:11-32**

Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants." ' And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. 'And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; 'for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry. Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.' But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. So he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. 'But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours.<sup>32</sup>It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.' "

## **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**

### **Food Collection**

Please bring any food you would like to donate to church. We, as a church, will offer food to one of the local food banks. **Next week is also "Souper Bowl Sunday," a day to make a donation to this organization that helps local food banks.**

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

We will hold our annual parish meeting today. I encourage all parishioners to attend and to participate in this important meeting.

### **Dinner Fund-Raiser**

Today, as part of our annual meeting, the parish will offer a dinner, which includes spaghetti and meatballs, with salad, rolls, butter, and desserts. The cost will be ten dollars a plate. If this cost is a problem, please see Fr. Matthew.

### **Church Telephone Number**

Our church's telephone number is 215-468-3535. If there is inclement weather, do please call the number and wait for the answering machine. If church is canceled, it will be announced here.

### **Bake Sale**

On Sunday, February 7, there will be a bake sale.

### **Haiti Relief**

On account of the horrible suffering in Haiti, we will send this month's charitable offering to the IOCC, which coordinates the Orthodox Christian response to those in need. **In addition, I wish to thank all of you who helped to assemble the IOCC health kits as part of the Haitian relief effort. We sent sixty-eight kits to the IOCC.**