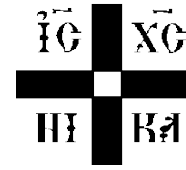
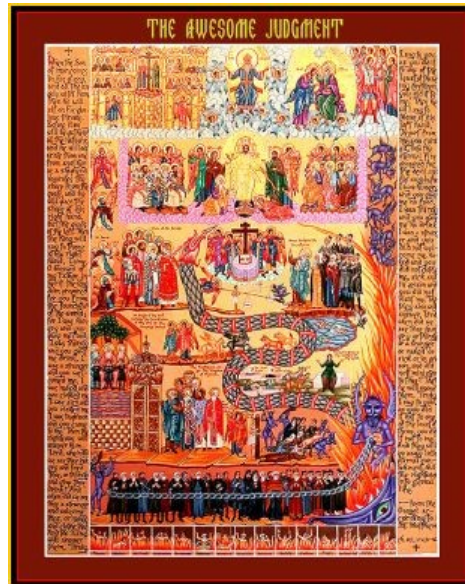


Weekly Schedule

Monday-Thursday	Canon of St. Andrew, 6:00 p.m.
Friday	Akathist, 6 p.m.
Saturday	Great Vespers, 6:00p.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>

Today's Gospel reading is Matthew 25:31-46, the parable of the Last Judgment. It reminds us that while trusting in Christ's love and mercy, we must not forget His righteous judgment when He comes again in glory. If our hearts remain hardened and unrepentant, we should not expect the Lord to overlook our transgressions simply because He is a good and loving God. Although He does not desire the death of a sinner, He also expects us to turn from our wickedness and live (Ezek. 33:11). This same idea is expressed in the prayer read by the priest after the penitent has confessed his or her sins (Slavic practice). The time for repentance and forgiveness is now, in the present life. At the Second Coming, Christ will appear as the righteous Judge, Who will render to every man according to his deeds" (Rom. 2:6). Then the time for entreating God's mercy and forgiveness will have passed. As Father Alexander Schmemmann reminds us in his book GREAT LENT (Ch. 1:4), sin is the absence of love, it is separation and isolation. When Christ comes to judge the world, His criterion for judgment will be love. Christian love entails seeing Christ in other people, our family, our friends, and everyone else we may encounter in our lives. We shall be judged on whether we have loved, or not loved, our neighbor. We show Christian love when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit those who are sick or in prison. If we did such things for the least of Christ's brethren, then we also did them for Christ (Mt.25:40). If we did not do such things for the least of the brethren, neither did we do them for Christ (Mt.25:45). Today is the last day for eating meat and meat products until Pascha, though eggs and dairy products are permitted every day during the coming week. This limited fasting prepares us gradually for the more intense fasting of Great Lent.



Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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

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

February 07, 2010
SUNDAY OF MEATFARE
Tone 2.

Sunday of the Last Judgment.

Troparion (Tone 2) (Resurrection)

When You descended to death, O
Life Immortal, You destroyed hell
with the splendor of Your Godhead.
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!”

Prayers for The Faithful and Departed

Albert, Ronald, Catherine, John, Mary-
ann, Sam, Kavalkovich family and
friends, Alexandra, Riley family. **May
God Grant Them Many Years!**

Anastasia, Nadine. **May Their Memo-
ries Be Eternal!**

Troparion (Tone 1) (Triodion)

When You, O God, shall come to
earth with glory, all things shall trem-
ble, and the river of fire shall flow
before Your judgment seat; the books
shall be opened, and the hidden
things disclosed; then deliver me
from the unquenchable fire, //and
make me worthy to stand at Your
right hand, O Righteous Judge!

Glory to God For All Things!

Epistle Reading

I Corinthians 8:8-9:2

But food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse. But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols? And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble. Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 25:31-36

When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 'for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'

Glory to God For All Things!

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. **This Sunday is also “Souper Bowl Sunday,” a day to make a donation of soup to our local food bank.**

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 a bake sale. **This sale has been cancelled due to the inclement weather.**

Memorial Service

There will be a brief memorial service today following the Divine Liturgy to commemorate all those loved ones who have fallen asleep during the month of February. Moreover, on Sunday, February 21, following the Divine Liturgy, there will be a panakhida for William Brasko, Sr. on the first anniversary of his passing.