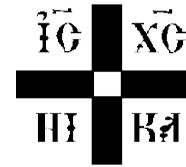


Weekly Schedule

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

The Holy Prophet Zachariah and the Righteous Elizabeth were the parents of the holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John. They were descended from the lineage of Aaron: St Zachariah, son of Barach, was a priest in the Jerusalem Temple, and St Elizabeth was the sister of St Anna, the mother of the Most Holy Theotokos. The righteous spouses, "walking in all the commandments of the Lord (Luke 1:6), suffered barrenness, which in those times was considered a punishment from God. Once, during his turn of priestly service in the Temple, St Zachariah was told by an angel that his aged wife would bear him a son, who "will be great in the sight of the Lord" (Luke 1:15) and "will go before Him in the spirit and power of Elias" (Luke 1:17). Zachariah doubted that this prediction would come true, and for his weakness of faith he was punished by becoming mute. When Elizabeth gave birth to a son, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit she announced that his name was John, although no one in their family had this name. They asked Zachariah and he also wrote the name John down on a tablet. Immediately the gift of speech returned to him, and inspired by the Holy Spirit, he began to prophesy about his son as the Forerunner of the Lord. When King Herod heard from the Magi about the birth of the Messiah, he decided to kill all the infants up to two years old at Bethlehem and the surrounding area, hoping that the new-born Messiah would be among them. Herod knew about John's unusual birth and he wanted to kill him, fearing that he was the foretold King of the Jews. But Elizabeth hid herself and the infant in the hills. The murderers searched everywhere for John. Elizabeth, when she saw her pursuers, began to implore God for their safety, and immediately the hill opened up and concealed her and the infant from their pursuers. In these tragic days St Zachariah was taking his turn at the services in the Temple. Soldiers sent by Herod tried in vain to learn from him the whereabouts of his son. Then, by command of Herod, they murdered this holy prophet, having stabbed him between the temple and the altar (MT 23: 35). Elizabeth died forty days after her husband, and St John, preserved by the Lord, dwelt in the wilderness until the day of his appearance to the nation of Israel. On the Greek calendar, Sts Zachariah and Elizabeth are also commemorated on June 24, the Feast of the Nativity of St John the Baptist.



Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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Rev. Matthew Cantrell, Acting Rector

Rev. Sergius Willis, Associate Pastor

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

Troparion (Tone 6)

The angelic powers were at Your tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Your grave, seeking Your most pure body. You took captive hell, // not being tempted by it. You came to the Virgin, granting life. // O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You.

Troparion (Tone 4)

Robed in the vestments of the priesthood, according to the Law of God you offered whole-burnt offerings in a sacred manner, wise Zachariah. You became a luminary and a seer of the mysteries, bearing within yourself the signs of grace, all-wise one. Slain by the sword in the temple of God, O prophet of Christ, intercede together with the Forerunner // that our souls may be saved!

Kontakion (Tone 6)

When Christ God the Giver of Life, raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand, He bestowed resurrection on the human race. // He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

September 05 2010

**15th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST —
Tone 6.** Holy Prophet Zachariah and Righteous Elizabeth, parents of St. John the Baptist (1st c.).

Kontakion (Tone 3)

Today the Prophet Zachariah, priest of the Most High and parent of the Forerunner, has prepared a banquet to his memory to nourish the faithful, mixing the drink of righteousness. // Therefore we praise him as a divine initiate of the grace of God.

Prayers for The Faithful and Departed

Derick, Laura, Helen, clergy and parishioners, Diane, Bonson family, Olga, Jim, McCartney family, teachers and students, Kavalkovich family and friends, Albert.
May God Grant Them Many Years!

Mary, Barbara, Kavalkovich family. **May Their Memories Be Eternal!**

Epistle Reading

2 Corinthians 4:6-15

For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you. And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you.¹⁵ For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:35-46

Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets. While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David." He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying: The LORD said to my Lord, Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"? If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son? And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore.

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 should 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, Philabundance.

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.

Bulletin Board

Please do check the bulletin board for announcements.

Community Picnic

The council and I have decided that it would be good to have a picnic the end of September or the beginning of October. I would need help in planning and running this event, especially as it relates to community outreach. If you could help plan the event, please see me.

