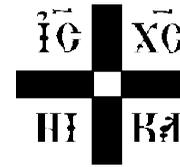


Week Schedule

Saturday Great Vespers, 6:00 p.m.
Confessions following Vespers

Sunday Reading of Hours, 9:40 a.m.
Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m.
Fellowship Hour following Divine Liturgy

Saint Sava the Sanctified was born in the fifth century at Cappadocia of pious Christian parents, John and Sophia. His father was a military commander. Journeying to Alexandria on military matters, his wife went with him, but they left their five-year-old son in the care of an uncle. When the boy reached eight years of age, he entered the monastery of St Flavian located nearby. The gifted child quickly learned to read and became an expert on the Holy Scriptures. In vain did his parents urge St Sava to return to the world and enter into marriage. When he was seventeen years old he received monastic tonsure, and attained such perfection in fasting and prayer that he was given the gift of wonderworking. After spending ten years at the monastery of St Flavian, he went to Jerusalem, and from there to the monastery of St Euthymius the Great (January 20). But St Euthymius sent St Sava to Abba Theoctistus, the head of a nearby monastery with a strict cenobitic rule. St Sava lived in obedience at this monastery until the age of thirty. After the death of the Elder Theoctistus, his successor blessed St Sava to seclude himself in a cave. On Saturdays, however, he left his hermitage and came to the monastery, where he participated in divine services and ate with the brethren. After a certain time St Sava received permission not to leave his hermitage at all, and he struggled in the cave for five years. St Euthymius attentively directed the life of the young monk, and seeing his spiritual maturity, he began to take him to the Rouba wilderness with him. They set out on January 14, and remained there until Palm Sunday. St Euthymius called St Sava a child-elder, and encouraged him to grow in the monastic virtues. When St Euthymius fell asleep in the Lord (+ 473), St Sava withdrew from the Lavra and moved to a cave near the monastery of St Gerasimus of Jordan (March 4). After several years, disciples began to gather around St Sava, seeking the monastic life. As the number of monks increased, a lavra sprang up. When a pillar of fire appeared before St Sava as he was walking, he found a spacious cave in the form of a church. St Sava founded several more monasteries. Many miracles took place through the prayers of St Sava: at the Lavra a spring of water welled up, during a time of drought there was abundant rain, and there were also healings of the sick and the demoniacs. St Sava composed the first monastic Rule of church services, the so-called "Jerusalem Typikon", accepted by all the Palestine monasteries. The saint surrendered his soul to God in the year 532.



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 3)

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down death by death. He has become the first born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted to the world//great mercy.

Troparion (Tone 8)

By a flood of tears you made the desert fertile, and your longing for God brought forth fruits in abundance. By the radiance of miracles you illuminated the whole universe//Our Father Sabbas, pray to Christ God to save our souls!

Kontakion (Tone 3)

On this day You rose from the tomb, O Merciful One, leading us from the gates of death. On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; with the Prophets and Patriarchs//they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Your power.

December 05, 2010
28th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST —
Tone 3 (11th of Luke). Ven. Sabbas the Sanctified (532).

Kontakion (Tone 8)

From your youth you offered yourself to God as a blameless sacrifice, having been dedicated to Him before your birth, blessed Sabbas. You were an adornment of the righteous and a praiseworthy citizen of the desert. Therefore, we cry to you: "Rejoice, ever-glorious Father!"

Prayers for The Faithful and Departed

Dn. Peter Skoog, Bill and Marie Simpson, clergy and parishioners, Jack and Lynn Drimak, Riley family, Andrews family, Lena Robovitsky. **May God Grant Them Many Years!**

Matthew Parks, all the beloved departed of our parish. **May Their Memories Be Eternal!**

Epistle Reading

Colossians 1:12-18

Giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Gospel Reading

Luke 17:12-19

Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. And they lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" So when He saw them, He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan. So Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner? And He said to him, "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well."



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

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 on the machine.

House Blessings

I've posted a sign-up sheet for house blessings in January. If you would like me to bless your house and/or visit you then, please don't hesitate to sign-up!

Flowers for Nativity

Please see Debbie to order flowers for the Feast of the Nativity.

Church Decorating

On December 19, parishioners will decorate our church for the Feast of the Nativity. Moreover, if someone were willing to coordinate a parish clean-up before this, please see Fr. Matthew.

Memorial Prayers

As per our usual practice, there will be brief memorial prayers after the Divine Liturgy today for all those who have fallen asleep in December.

Lecture

Our Philadelphia deanery is sponsoring a lecture next Sunday, December 12, at St. Stephen's Cathedral at 5:00 p.m. The lecturer is Dr. Harry Boosalis and he has titled his talk, "St. Silouan of Mt. Athos and Orthodox Spiritual Life." Please see the flier downstairs for more information.

Cantrells Travelling

Fr. Matthew and family will be travelling from December 5 through December 10. If there were an emergency, please call Fr. Victor Gorodenchuk at 215-745-3232.