

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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Sunday, July 3, 2016 | 2nd Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 1 – Synaxis of All Saints of America | All Saints of Russia
Martyr Hyacinth of Caesarea in Cappadocia(108).

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Acting Rector

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Weekly Schedule

Today: Parish Picnic/Cookout after Divine Liturgy in the church basement.
(It was decided to remain indoors as a result of trying to prepare outdoor area on Sunday before Divine Liturgy & holiday attendance).

Monday: July 4 – Independence Day!! God Bless America!!!

Saturday: July 9 - Great Vespers at 5:00PM!

Sunday: July 10 – Ven. Anthony of the Kiev Caves,
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: July 10 – Property Committee Meeting after Liturgy

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 1)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, / while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: / “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom! // Glory to Thy dispensation, O thou who lovest of mankind!”

Troparion (Tone 8 - Saints)

As the bountiful harvest of Thy sowing of salvation, / the lands of North America offer to Thee, O Lord, all the saints who have shone in them. / By their prayers keep the Church and our land in abiding peace // through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One!

Kontakion (Tone 1)

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, / raising the world with Thyself. / Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. / Adam exults, O Master! / Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee: // “Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

Kontakion (Tone 3 - Saints)

Today the choir of Saints who were pleasing to God in the lands of North America / now stands before us in the Church and invisibly prays to God for us. / With them the Angels glorify Him, / and all the Saints of the Church of Christ keep festival with them; // and together they all pray for us to the Pre-eternal God.

Prokeimenon (Tone 1)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee.
v. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the upright!

Epistle Reading: Romans 2:10-16

But glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God. For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law (for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them) in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel. Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 1)

- v. God gives vengeance to me, and subdues people under me! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. He magnifies the salvation of the King and deals mercifully with David,
His anointed, and his seed forever. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 4:18-23

And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." They immediately left their nets and followed Him. Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him. And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest!
Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright! Alleluia (3x's)

[...continued from last page...Synaxis of the Saints of North America...]

St Tikhon traveled extensively throughout North America in order to minister to his widely scattered and diverse flock. He realized that the local church here could not be a permanent extension of the Russian Church. Therefore, he focused his efforts on giving the American Church a diocesan and parish structure which would help it mature and grow.

St Tikhon returned to Russia in 1907, and was elected as Patriarch of Moscow ten years later. He died in 1925, and for many years his exact burial place remained unknown. St Tikhon's grave was discovered on February 22, 1992 in the smaller cathedral of Our Lady of the Don in the Don Monastery when a fire made renovation of the church necessary.

St Raphael of Brooklyn (February 27) was the first Orthodox bishop to be consecrated in North America. Archimandrite Raphael Hawaweeny was consecrated by Bishop Tikhon and Bishop Innocent (Pustynsky) at St Nicholas Cathedral in New York on March 13, 1904. As Bishop of Brooklyn, St Raphael was a trusted and capable assistant to St Tikhon in his archpastoral ministry. St Raphael reposed on February 27, 1915.

The first All American Council took place March 5-7, 1907 at Mayfield, PA, and the main topic was "How to expand the mission." Guidelines and directions for missionary activity, and statutes for the administrative structure of parishes were also set forth.

In addition to the saints listed above, we also honor those saints who are known only to God, and have not been recognized officially by the Church. As we contemplate the lives of these saints, let us remember that we are also called by God to a life of holiness.

Announcements

A Warm Welcome to all of our visitors & guest who worshiped with us today and who have joined us in celebrating the Divine Liturgy. Please join us in the church basement for our Fellowship and Coffee Hour.

The Great and Holy Council of the Orthodox Church

officially concluded with the Patriarchal concelebration of the Divine Liturgy last Sunday, June 26 (the Sunday of All Saints) at which His All-Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople presided. The Council concluding session was held a day earlier.

Even though not all fourteen autocephalous Orthodox Churches from around the globe were in attendance, the Council still held fruitful discussions regarding their five main topics: a common calendar; adapting an ancient faith to a modern reality; regulations of fasting and marriage in a multicultural and interreligious world; role of Orthodox Church in non-Orthodox countries (often referred to as Orthodoxy in the “diaspora”); and the manner of achieving the proper canonical status of one bishop per diocese (or city) when an existing diocese currently has a number of ethnic Orthodox Churches and, therefore, more than one bishop.

For those who wish to learn more as to the discussions and events of the Holy and Great Council, please check out the following websites:

www.holycouncil.org

This is the official main site of the Holy and Great Council. This site has official documents from the Council; news bulletins; press briefings; photos, and videos of the sessions.

www.youtube.com

This Google video site has many videos relating to the Council. Just type in the search name “holy and great council” and there are many videos to choose from that have been posted by the following names: His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew; or Holy Council; or Orthodox Church; or Coffee with Sr. Vassa. Some of these videos may not be in English so you may have to continue with your search.

2016 PARISH CALENDAR:

A computer printout version of the 2016 church calendar for the months of July and August are located on the back pew in the church. We will continue to generate the remaining months for 2016.

Also, for those who have access to the Internet, the calendar for July and August are posted in color on the parish website for your convenience under the “Service Schedule” tab section. Thank you!



GOD BLESS AMERICA!!!



Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Ronald Kavalkovich, Lorraine Kavalkovich and Anastasia Kavalkovich offered by Catherine Kavalkovich

Ronald Kavalkovich and Mary Herbert offered by Nina Patterson

Ronald Kavalkovich and The Witiak Family offered by M/M Peter Witiak

Margaret Pellack offered by the Pellack Family

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

May Their Memories Be Eternal

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Please remember in your prayers: Cantrell Family; Grace Corba; Robert Corba; Dolores Helms (Fr. Mark's Mother); Ronald Kavalkovich (on his recovery from surgery this week); Julia Makara; Sharon Orr; Helen Riley; Helen Wanenchak; Annamae Witiak; Father Vincent Saverino; Father John Bohush and the parishioners of Saint Nicholas Eastern Orthodox Church in Philadelphia; and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

Please remember those who perished and the injured in the senseless and brutal attacks that have occurred recently in both Orlando, Florida and in Istanbul, Turkey!

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During this Independence weekend celebration, please remember in your prayers the founding fathers of this country, those who sacrificed their lives for this country, and all those currently serving in our Armed Forces that we may appreciate the life that we live and enjoy the freedoms that this nation has to offer. God Bless America!

Please ensure that your Mobile Phone is set to Silent (or at least set on vibrate) during the Divine Liturgy! Thank You!!!

Announcements (cont.)

Sign up sheets for Coffee Hour, Cleaning and Epistle & Hours Reading. Sign up sheets for the above items are posted on the bulletin board in the church basement. Please be considerate and volunteer to assist with some of the parish responsibilities. Your time is very much appreciated!

Special weekly collections taken after Gospel or Sermon. In addition to our general collection, the parish takes a special collection each week to fund certain parish projects. Please be generous with your offering. Every little bit counts. The special collections are as follows:

- First Sunday of every month – Kitchen Fund Project
- Second Sunday of every month – Icon Fund (2016)
- Third Sunday of every month - Restoration/Maintenance Fund
- Fourth Sunday of every month – Charity Giving

Note: if there is a Fifth Sunday during a month, the special collection is earmarked for the Kitchen Fund Project, unless otherwise noted and stated by the Parish Council.

Cash Flow Activity (June)

	<u>Week of June 20 to June 26</u>	<u>June Month-To-Date</u>
Attendance:	26	35 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 769.00	\$ 5,828.00
Funds Out:	\$ 55.45	\$ 5,294.35
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 713.55	\$ 533.65

Shop Rite Gift Cards: If you need to purchase Shop Rite Gift Cards, please see David Pellack to secure them. Your purchase of a Shop Rite Gift Card is an additional fundraising project that helps support the church at no additional expense to the purchaser.

Calendar of Events

Today – Parish Independence Day Picnic/Cook Out after Divine Liturgy in the Church Basement! We will be grilling hamburgers and hot dogs with all the fixin's (depending on what is brought to church today). We'll also have side dishes and beverages for you to consume. (FYI, last Sunday it was decided to remain indoors in the church basement as a result of 1) setting up tables and chairs first thing Sunday morning before Liturgy, 2) unable to determine attendance at Liturgy on a holiday weekend, and 3) status of today's weather. Even though there is this slight change of venue, we should all have a good time with our church family!

Sunday, July 10 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church School Room! All property committee members are asked to attend the meeting. Reports and discussions on the walk thru of the Church Hall by independent realtors will be on the agenda and deliberation regarding the agents' professional opinions of the property.

Bible Study – Tuesday, July 12 at 6:30pm in the church basement.
The Bible Study Group will gather together at this time and continue reading and discussing the Book of Genesis.

JULY'S Readers' Meeting: The next meeting will occur on a Sunday in July. As of this printing of the bulletin, a date has yet to be determined. When confirmed, it will be announced in church and in the bulletin. All Readers are asked to attend the meeting. Father Mark, and those knowledgeable with the readings, will offer additional instructions and information regarding the readings for both the Hours and the Epistle.

The Fellowship of Orthodox Christians (FOCA) of the Central PA Chapter is sponsoring a Family Picnic at Knobel's Grove Amusement Park in Elysburg, PA on Sunday, July 17 following Divine Liturgy. All families are Invited! Free Parking and Admission! Pay as you go on rides! At 6pm in Pavilion K, Hamburgers and Hot Dogs with sides and soda will be served. Cost is \$5 per person, children under 6 are free. Please RSVP Greg Ressetar (Christ Our Savior Church – Harrisburg, PA) by July 10 by calling Greg at 717.439.0527 or emailing him at ressetar@yahoo.com

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in McAdoo, PA - 115th Anniversary celebration - July 9-10, 2016. Liturgy, Lunch, & Lecture on Saturday. Divine Liturgy followed by picnic celebration on Sunday. [Notice posted on bulletin board].

St Tikhon Monastery Summer Events: St Anna's Day Sunday July 24 at 2pm with Akathist and anointing in honor of the Miraculous Icon of St Anna that resides at the Monastery. Patronal Feast Day of St Tikhon of Zadonsk on Sat Aug 13 @ 9am with Met Tikhon & Monastery Brotherhood celebrating Divine Liturgy & festive meal



Synaxis of the Saints of North America [July 3rd]

On the second Sunday after Pentecost, each local Orthodox Church commemorates all the saints, known and unknown, who have shone forth in its territory. Accordingly, the Orthodox Church in America remembers the saints of North America on this day.

Saints of all times, and in every country are seen as the fulfillment of God's promise to redeem fallen humanity. Their example encourages us to "lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily besets us and to "run with patience the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1).

The saints of North America also teach us how we should live, and what we must expect to endure as Christians.

Although it is a relatively young church, the Orthodox Church in America has produced saints in nearly all of the six major categories of saints: Apostles (and Equals of the Apostles); Martyrs (and Confessors); Prophets; Hierarchs; Monastic Saints; and the Righteous. Prophets, of course, lived in Old Testament times and predicted the coming of Christ

The first Divine Liturgy in what is now American territory (northern latitude 58 degrees, 14 minutes, western longitude 141 degrees) was celebrated on July 20, 1741, the Feast of the Prophet Elias, aboard the ship Peter under the command of Vitus Bering. Hieromonk Hilarion Trusov and the priest Ignatius Kozirevsky served together on that occasion. Several years later, the Russian merchant Gregory I. Shelikov visited Valaam monastery, suggesting to the abbot that it would be desirable to send missionaries to Russian America.

On September 24, 1794, after a journey of 7,327 miles (the longest missionary journey in Orthodox history) and 293 days, a group of monks from Valaam arrived on Kodiak Island in Alaska. The mission was headed by Archimandrite Joasaph, and included Hieromonks Juvenal, Macarius, and Athanasius, the Hierodeacons Nectarius and Stephen, and the monks Herman and Joasaph. St Herman of Alaska (December 13, August 9), the last surviving member of the mission, fell asleep in the Lord in 1837.

Throughout the Church's history, the seeds of faith have always been watered by the blood of the martyrs. The Protomartyr Juvenal was killed near Lake Iliamna by natives in 1799, thus becoming the first Orthodox Christian to shed his blood for Christ in the New World. In 1816, St Peter the Aleut was put to death by Spanish missionaries in California when he refused to convert to Roman Catholicism.

Missionary efforts continued in the nineteenth century, with outreach to the native peoples of Alaska. Two of the most prominent laborers in Christ's Vineyard were St Innocent Veniaminov (March 31 and October 6) and St Jacob Netsvetov (July 26), who translated Orthodox services and books into the native languages. Father Jacob Netsvetev died in Sitka in 1864 after a life of devoted service to the Church. Father John Veniaminov, after his wife's death, received monastic tonsure with the name Innocent. He died in 1879 as the Metropolitan of Moscow.

As the nineteenth century was drawing to a close, an event of enormous significance for the North American Church took place. On March 25, 1891, Bishop Vladimir went to Minneapolis to receive St Alexis Toth (May 7) and 361 of his parishioners into the Orthodox Church. This was the beginning of the return of many Uniates to Orthodoxy.

St Tikhon (Belavin), the future Patriarch of Moscow (April 7, October 9), came to America as bishop of the diocese of the Aleutians and Alaska in September 1898. As the only Orthodox bishop on the continent,