

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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Sunday, July 31, 2016 | 6th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 5 – Forefeast of the Procession of the Honorable and Lifegiving Cross of the Lord.
Righteous Eudocimus of Cappadocia (9th c.)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Acting Rector

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Parish President – Matthew Andrews

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Weekly Schedule

Monday: August 1 – **Beginning Of The Dormition Fast!**

Monday: August 1 – Procession of the Honorable Wood of the Lifegiving Cross of the Lord (First of the three “Feasts of the Savior” in August).

Saturday: August 6 – Holy Transfiguration of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ (Second of the three “Feast of the Savior” in August)
Divine Liturgy – **9:00AM!**

Saturday: August 6 - Great Vespers at **5:00PM!**

Sunday: August 7 – Afterfeast of the Transfiguration
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 5)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, / co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, / born for our salvation from the Virgin; / for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, / to endure death, / and to raise the dead// by His glorious Resurrection.

Troparion (Tone 1 – For The Cross)

O Lord, save Thy people, / and bless Thine inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Thy Cross, / preserve Thy habitation!

Kontakion (Tone 5)

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior, / shattering its gates as Almighty, / resurrecting the dead as Creator, / and destroying the sting of death. / Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man, // and we cry to Thee: “O Lord, save us!”

Kontakion (Tone 4 – For The Cross)

As Thou wast voluntarily raised upon the Cross for our sake, / grant mercy to those who are called by Thy Name, O Christ God; / make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power, / granting them victories over their adversaries, / by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace!

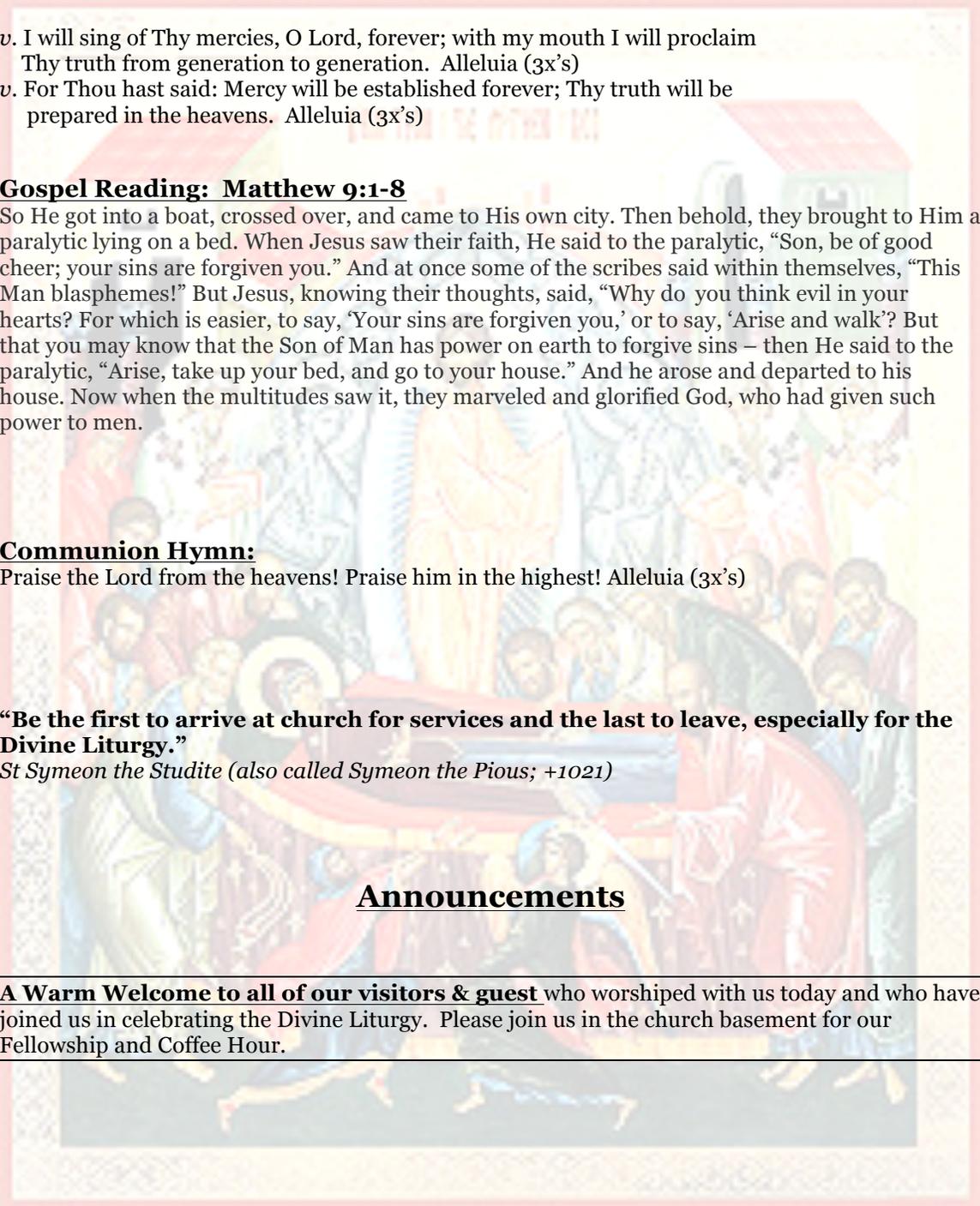
Prokeimenon (Tone 5)

Thou, O Lord, shall protect us / and preserve us from this generation forever!
v. Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly.

Epistle Reading: Romans 12:6-14

Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 5)

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- v. I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation. Alleluia (3x's)
 - v. For Thou hast said: Mercy will be established forever; Thy truth will be prepared in the heavens. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 9:1-8

So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city. Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you." And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man blasphemes!" But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins – then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." And he arose and departed to his house. Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest! Alleluia (3x's)

"Be the first to arrive at church for services and the last to leave, especially for the Divine Liturgy."

St Symeon the Studite (also called Symeon the Pious; +1021)

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.

Dormition of the Righteous Anna, the Mother of the Most Holy Theotokos [July 25th]



Saint Anna was the daughter of the priest Matthan and his wife Mary. She was of the tribe of Levi and the lineage of Aaron. According to Tradition, she died peacefully in Jerusalem at age 79, before the Annunciation to the Most Holy Theotokos.

During the reign of St Justinian the Emperor (527-565), a church was built in her honor at Deutera. Emperor Justinian II (685-695; 705-711) restored her church, since St Anna had appeared to his pregnant wife. It was at this time that her body and maphorion (veil) were transferred to Constantinople.

Portions of St Anna's holy relics may be found on Mount Athos: Stavronikita Monastery (part of her left hand), St Anna's Skete (part of her incorrupt left foot), Koutlounousiou Monastery (part of her incorrupt right foot). Fragments of her relics may also be found in her Monastery at Lygaria, Lamia, and in the Monastery of St John the Theologian at Sourota. Part of the saint's incorrupt flesh is in the collection of Saints' relics of the International Catholic Crusaders. The church of St Paul outside the Walls in Rome has one of the saint's wrists.

St Anna is also commemorated on September 9.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Ronald Andrew Kavalkovich, Sharon Orr, Richard Coan offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Ronald and Lorraine Kavalkovich offered by the Pellack Family
Witiak Family offered by M/M Witiak

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!

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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!

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 (July)

	<u>Week of July 18 to July 24</u>	<u>July Month-To-Date</u>
Attendance:	31	34 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,158.00	\$ 4,807.00
Funds Out:	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,649.15
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 1,158.00	(\$ 842.15)

Thank you all for your continuous offerings to maintain the parish!

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

St Tikhon Monastery Summer Events:

Patronal Feast Day of St Tikhon of Zadonsk will be held on Saturday, August 13 at 9am with Metropolitan Tikhon and the Monastery Brotherhood celebrating Divine Liturgy. A festive meal will be held following the Divine Liturgy.

Saturday, August 6 – The Holy Transfiguration of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ (the Second of the Three “Feast of the Savior” in August) - Divine Liturgy will be served at 9:00AM!!

On this day after Divine Liturgy, Father Mark will bless Baskets of Fruits (and vegetables). Please bring your baskets that day to get your fruit (and vegetables) blessed

Bible Study – Tuesday, August 9 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. The Group may finish the Book of Genesis during this study session. Be ready to bring learning the next book in the Bible.

Sunday, August 14 - 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 status of 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.

Monday, August 15 – The Dormition (“Falling Asleep”) of our Most-Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary - Divine Liturgy for this Feast Day To Be Determined!

Father Mark will announce within the next two weeks when services for this Feast Day will occur. This Feast day is also the names day of our parish.

August 16: Translation of the Image “Not-Made-By-Hands” of our Lord Jesus Christ from Edessa to Constantinople (the Third of three “Feast of the Savior” in August)

August 29: The Beheading of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John – *Strict Fast Day!*



Procession of the Honorable Wood of the Life-Giving Cross of the Lord [Aug 1st]

The Procession of the Venerable Wood of the Life-Creating Cross of the Lord: In the Greek Horologion of 1897 the derivation of this Feast is explained: “Because of the illnesses that occur in August, it was customary, in former times, to carry the Venerable Wood of the Cross through the streets and squares of Constantinople for the sanctification of the city and for relief from sickness. On the eve (July 31), it was taken out

of the imperial treasury, and laid upon the altar of the Great Church of Hagia Sophia (the Wisdom of God). From this Feast until the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos, they carried the Cross throughout the city in procession, offering it to the people to venerate. This also is the Procession of the Venerable Cross.”

In the Russian Church this Feast is combined also with the remembrance of the Baptism of Rus, on August 1, 988. In the “Account of the Order of Services in the Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Great Church of the Dormition,” compiled in 1627 by order of Patriarch Philaret of Moscow and All Rus, there is the following explanation of the Feast: “On the day of the Procession of the Venerable Cross there is a church procession for the sanctification of water and for the enlightenment of the people, throughout all the towns and places.”

Knowledge of the day of the actual Baptism of Rus was preserved in the Chronicles of the sixteenth century: “The Baptism of the Great Prince Vladimir of Kiev and all Rus was on August 1.”

In the present practice of the Russian Church, the Lesser Sanctification of Water on August 1 is done either before or after Liturgy. Because of the Blessing of Water, this first Feast of the Savior in August is sometimes called ‘Savior of the Water.’ There may also be a Blessing of New Honey today, which is why the Feast is also called “Savior of the Honey.” From this day the newly gathered honey is blessed and tasted.