

## Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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### Sunday, November 6, 2016 | 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 3 – St Paul the Confessor, Archbishop of Constantinople (350). Venerable Varlaam,  
Abbot of Khuutyn' (Novgorod-1192)  
Venerable Luke, Steward of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves -13<sup>th</sup> c.)

### V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Acting Rector

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Parish President – Matthew Andrews

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### Weekly Schedule

- Today: St Herman's of Alaska Church Fall Festival continues in Glen Mills, PA from 12pm to 4pm!
- Tuesday: November 8 – Synaxis of the Archangel Michael
- Tuesday: November 8 – Election Day! (*Get out and Vote!*)
- Saturday: November 12 – Great Vespers at **5:00PM!**
- Sunday: November 13 – St John Chrysostom  
Reading of Hours – 9:30am  
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am  
*Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy*
- Sunday: November 13 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the church schoolroom.

## **Texts for the Liturgical Service**

### **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 3 –Saint Paul the Confessor)**

For confessing the divine faith, / among her priests the Church has likened thee to another Paul. / Abel cries out to the Lord together with thee, / as does the righteous blood of Zachariah. // Venerable Father, entreat Christ God to grant us His great mercy.

### **Kontakion (Tone 3)**

On this day Thou didst rise 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 Thy power.

### **Kontakion (Tone 2 –Saint Paul the Confessor)**

Paul, thou didst shine on the earth like a star of heavenly splendor; / now thou dost enlighten the universal Church for which thou didst suffer, / for thou didst lay down thy life, // and thy blood cries out to the Lord like that of Zachariah and Abel.

### **Prokeimenon (Tone 3)**

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our King, sing praises!  
v. Clap our hands, all ye people, shout to God with loud songs of joy!

### **Epistle Reading: Galatians 1:11-19**

But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 3)

v. In Thee, O Lord, have I placed my hope; let me not be put to shame.

Alleluia (3x's)

v. Be Thou a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me.

Alleluia (3x's)

**Gospel Reading: Luke 8:41-56**

And behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue. And he fell down at Jesus' feet and begged Him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter about twelve years of age, and she was dying. But as He went, the multitudes thronged Him. Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any, came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped. And Jesus said, "Who touched Me?" When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, "Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?' " But Jesus said, "Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me." Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately. And He said to her, "Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace." While He was still speaking, someone came from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, "Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Teacher." But when Jesus heard it, He answered him, saying, "Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well." When He came into the house, He permitted no one to go in except Peter, James, and John, and the father and mother of the girl. Now all wept and mourned for her; but He said, "Do not weep; she is not dead, but sleeping." And they ridiculed Him, knowing that she was dead. But He put them all outside, took her by the hand and called, saying, "Little girl, arise." Then her spirit returned, and she arose immediately. And He commanded that she be given something to eat. And her parents were astonished, but He charged them to tell no one what had happened.

**Communion Hymn:**

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

**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.

## **Announcements** (cont.)

The Witiak Family would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all of their family, friends, and parishioners who sent sympathy cards and offered donations on behalf of the handmaiden God, Annamae Witiak, who fell asleep in the Lord back in September. She will be remembered as a dedicated parishioner for all of the help she offered our parish from cleaning the church, to helping prepare food, to singing in the choir. May her Memory be Eternal!

### **A Selection on Spiritual Vigilance**

The most dreadful enemy created by post-industrial culture, the culture of information technology and the image, is cunning distraction. Swamped by millions of images and a host of different situations on television and in the media in general, people lose their peace of mind, their self-control, their powers of contemplation and reflection and turn outwards, becoming strangers to themselves, in a word mindless, impervious to the dictates of their intelligence. If people, especially children, watch television for 35 hours a week, as they do according to statistics, then are not their minds and hearts threatened by Scylla and Charybids, are they not between the devil and the deep blue sea?

The majority of the faithful of the Church confess that they do not manage to pray, to concentrate and cast off the cares of the world and the storms of spirit and soul which are to the detriment of sobriety, inner balance, enjoyable work, family tranquility and a constructive social life. The world of the industrial image degenerates into real idolatry...*In the industrial era, people became consumers and slaves to things produced. In post-industrial society, they are also becoming consumers and slaves to images and information, which fill their lives.*

Restraint and spiritual vigilance are, for all those who come into the world, a weapon made ready for the experience of the monastic life and Orthodox Tradition in general, one which abolishes the servitude of humanity and preserves our health and sovereignty as children of God.

From: Orthodox Spirituality & The Technological Revolution

The Authentic Seal: Spiritual Instruction and Discourse

By Archimandrite Aimilianos, Former Abbot of the Holy Monastery of Simonos Petras, Mount Athos, Greece

### **Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church 2016 Pierogie Sale!**

Call in orders **ONLY!!!** Orders taken Monday or Tuesday from 9AM to 11AM and pick up on Friday from 1PM-2PM. November order date: November 14 & 15. Pick Up Date: November 18.

Phone number: 302.798.4588. Church location: 1406 Philadelphia Pike – Wilmington, DE.

Cost: Potato = \$8/dozen      Sauerkraut = \$8/dozen      Cheese = \$12/dozen

**Announcements** (cont.)

**Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed**

**Health for the Living:**

Melanie Albrecht offered by Nina Patterson  
Margaret Pellack and Family offered by the Pellack Family  
Emelie Albrecht and David Albrecht Sr offered by Melanie Albrecht

**May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!**

**Memory for the Departed:**

Jean Hourahan offered by M/M Hourahan & Family

**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); Mat. Jan Koczak; Rick LeRoy, Julia Makara; Margaret Pellack; Helen Riley; Helen Wanenchak; 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!

For Sheeba Patton on receiving her nursing certification!

Also for the repose of the handmaiden of God Catherine Elizabeth Maymon, the mother of his Eminence Archbishop Mark, who passed away early morning on Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. May her Memory be Eternal!

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Building Fund – In Memory of Annamae Witiak

- |                                  |                            |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| * M/M Ken Kavalkovich            | * Matthew Andrews          |
| * Helen Sivak                    | * Martha Palubinak         |
| * Nina Patterson                 | * Melanie Albrecht         |
| * M/M Rick LeRoy                 | * David & Margaret Pellack |
| * Yongkuk Choe & Jamie Mak       | * Nancy Panza              |
| * Sandra Hourahan                | * Nancy Brasko Rabik       |
| * Peter Witiak                   | * M/M Albert Kavalkovich   |
| * Mr & Dr Michael McCartney      | * Jean Elliot              |
| * M/M Noel Kelly                 | * Emily Gerasimoff         |
| * M/M Michael McCartney          | * Eugene & Joan Witiak     |
| * Fred Stevens & Usha Srinivasan | * Barbara Andrews          |

**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 (October)

	<u>Week of Oct 24 to Oct 30</u>	<u>October Month-To-Date</u>
Attendance:	32	32 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 921.00	\$ 7,631.48
Funds Out:	\$ 0.00	\$ 6,429.26
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 921.00	\$ 1,202.22

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

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month** – Monthly Panikhida immediately after Liturgy.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month** – Bible Study at 6:30pm in church basement.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month** – Property Committee Meeting after Liturgy.  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month** – Property Committee Meeting after Liturgy. *(if needed)*  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month** – Church Life Discussion Class after Liturgy.

**Property Committee Meeting – Sunday November 13, 2016 after Divine Liturgy!** Property Committee members are asked to attend this meeting to discuss the preparation of a lease agreement for the Hall and discuss further details on the Hall kitchen area.

**Pre-Advent Dinner after Divine Liturgy – Sunday November 13, 2016:**  
Plans are under way on organizing this pre-Lenten luncheon. Please see Catherine Kavalkovich and discuss with her if you wish to contribute to the luncheon and provide a dish on this date. We will need volunteers to bring or prepare food items, along with setting up and cleaning up afterwards.

**Poinsettias/Christmas Flowers!** We will begin collecting for Christmas flowers on **Sunday, November 13**. There will be special envelopes available to be used for your offering for flower donations. Please give the envelopes to Debbie Kavalkovich or a member of the parish council. Thank you for your support!

**Bible Study – Tuesday November 15, 2016 after Divine Liturgy!**  
The Bible Study Group will gather together at this time and continue reading and studying the Book of Exodus. Keep attentive in your reading and be prepared to continue learning about God's rescue of his people from Egypt, their journey to Sinai, and the covenant between them.

**Church Fall Festivals in November:**  
Today:  
St Herman's of Alaska Orthodox Church – Glen Mills, PA – 12pm to 4pm  
  
Saturday, November 19 & Sunday, November 20:  
St Nicholas Eastern Orthodox Church – Philadelphia - 12pm to 4pm (both days)



## **Saint Paul the Confessor, the Archbishop of Constantinople [Nov 6<sup>th</sup>]**

Saint Paul the Confessor, Archbishop of Constantinople, was chosen to the patriarchal throne after the death of Patriarch Alexander (+ 340), when the Arian heresy had again flared up. Many of the Arians were present at the Council which selected the new Archbishop of Constantinople. They revolted in opposition to the choice of St Paul, but the Orthodox at the Council were in the majority.

The emperor Constantius, ruling over the Eastern half of the Roman Empire, was an Arian. He was not in Constantinople for the election of the Archbishop, and so it took place without his consent. Upon his return, he convened a council which illegally deposed St Paul, and the emperor banished him from the capital. In place of the saint they elevated Eusebius of Nicomedia, an impious heretic. Archbishop Paul withdrew to Rome, where other Orthodox bishops were also banished by Eusebius.

Eusebius did not rule the Church of Constantinople for long. When he died, St Paul returned to Constantinople, and was greeted by his flock with love. But Constantius exiled the saint a second time, and so he returned to Rome. The Western emperor Constans wrote a harsh letter to his Eastern co-ruler, which he sent to Constantinople along with the holy exiled archpastor. The threats worked, and St Paul was reinstated upon the archepiscopal throne.

But soon the pious emperor Constans, a defender of the Orthodox, was treacherously murdered during a palace coup. They again banished St Paul from Constantinople and this time sent him off in exile to Armenia, to the city of Cucusus, where he endured a martyr's death.

When the Archbishop was celebrating the Divine Liturgy, Arians rushed upon him by force and strangled him with his own omophorion. This occurred in the year 350. In 381, the holy Emperor Theodosius the Great solemnly transferred the relics of St Paul the Confessor from Cucusus to Constantinople. In 1326, the relics of St Paul were transferred to Venice.

St Athanasius the Great, a contemporary of St Paul, writes briefly about his exiles, "St Paul the first time was sent by Constantine to Pontus, the second time he was fettered with chains by Constantius, and then he was locked up in Mesopotamian Syngara and from there moved to Emesus, and the fourth time to Cappadocian Cucusus in the Taurian wilderness."