

## Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St. (corner of 28<sup>th</sup> St. & Snyder Ave.)  
Philadelphia, PA 19145 \* Church Phone: (215) 468-3535

Website: <http://www.holyassumptionphilly.org>



<http://www.facebook.com/holyassumptionphilly>

Mailing Address: PO Box 20083 \* Point Breeze Station | Philadelphia PA 19145-0383

**Sunday, April 9, 2017 | Palm Sunday**  
**The Entrance of Our Lord Into Jerusalem**  
Martyr Eupsychius of Caesarea in Cappadocia (362).

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

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Parish President - Peter Parsells

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### **Weekly Schedule (Passion Week!)**

- Today: Choir Rehearsal in the church after fellowship/coffee hour!!!  
Today: Bridegroom Matins – St Stephen Orthodox Cathedral  
8598 Verree Rd | Philadelphia, PA 19111 Phone: 215.342.0866  
Time: 4:00pm Website: [www.ststephenscathedral.org](http://www.ststephenscathedral.org)
- Monday: Bridegroom Matins begins at 6:30pm (*with Archbishop Mark!*)  
Tuesday: Bridegroom Matins begins at 6:30pm  
*Wednesday: Service at St Stephens...Bridegroom Matins with Holy Unction at 6:00pm*
- Thursday: Vespers Divine Liturgy of St Basil begins at 10:00am  
Thursday: Friday Matins with reading of the 12 Passion Gospels at 6:00pm  
Friday: Holy Friday Vespers begins at 4:00pm  
Friday: Matins (with Procession & Reading of Ezekiel) at 6:30pm  
Saturday: Holy Saturday–Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great (with all 15 Readings) begins at 10:00am
- Sunday: April 16 – Pascha Service (Procession, Matins & Divine Liturgy) beginning at 8:30am  
Sunday: April 16 – Pascha Vespers approximately 15 minutes after the Blessing of the Easter Baskets

No Services to be held at the parish during Bright Week. Vespers Sat at 5pm

## Texts for the Liturgical Service

### **Troparion (Tone 1)**

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy passion, / Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, O Christ God. / Like the children with the palms of victory, / we cry out to Thee, O Vanquisher of Death: / “Hosanna in the highest! // Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.”

### **Troparion (Tone 4)**

When we were buried with Thee in baptism, O Christ God, / we were made worthy of eternal life by Thy Resurrection. / Now we praise Thee and sing:  
“Hosanna in the highest! // Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord!”

### **Kontakion (Tone 6)**

Sitting on Thy throne in Heaven, / carried on a foal on earth, O Christ God, accept the praise of angels and the songs of children, who sing: // “Blessed is He Who cometh to recall Adam!”

### **Prokeimenon (Tone 4)**

Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord! / God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us!

v. O give thanks to the Lord for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever!

### **Epistle Reading: Philippians 4:4-9**

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you. Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 1)



v. O sing to the Lord a new song, for He hath done marvelous things!

Alleluia (3x's)

v. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Alleluia (3x's)

### **Gospel Reading: John 12:1-18**

Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead. There they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him. Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil. But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said, Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor? This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it. But Jesus said, "Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial. For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always. Now a great many of the Jews knew that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead. But the chief priests plotted to put Lazarus to death also, because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus. The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out: Hosanna! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' The King of Israel!" Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written: Fear not, daughter of Zion; Behold, your King is coming, Sitting on a donkey's colt." His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about Him and that they had done these things to Him. Therefore the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of his tomb and raised him from the dead, bore witness. For this reason the people also met Him, because they heard that He had done this sign.

### **Instead of "It is truly meet..." we sing the following**

God is the Lord and hath revealed Himself to us! / Celebrate the feast and come with gladness! / Let us magnify Christ with palms and branches, / singing: "Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, our Savior!"

### **Communion Hymn:**

Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord! God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us!  
Alleluia (3x's)

### **Announcements**

**A Warm Welcome to all of our visitors & guests** 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.)

**Parish Hall Clean Up, Painting, and Minor Work Construction Day starting on Saturday Morning, April 29 from 9:00a to 4:30p.**

The Property Committee is asking parishioners to come out and volunteer to assist in painting, cleaning up and performing some light minor construction work in the parish Hall on Saturday morning, April 29 beginning at 9:00am!!! Please come out on this Saturday along with any family members or friends, especially if they have some type of construction work experience or painting experience.

Vespers will be served at its normal time at 5:00pm. Please plan on staying for vespers especially since this is a Saturday during the Pascha season!

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The parish has a HP Printer with a toner cartridge available for anyone who wants it. Also included is a CD disc with instructions and setup along with the original packaging box. The only issues with the printer is there is no Internet connection to perform wireless remote printing (say from an iPad or a smart phone), there is no USB port connections, and it only prints black & white copies. This printer is available due to the parish upgrading its printer last year that includes copying and scanning capabilities. If interested, please see either Kenny Kavalkovich or Matt Andrews for additional details. Even though the printer is being presented, a free will offering for the printer that will go towards future office supply purchases for the parish would be very much appreciated.

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**Attendance: Sixth Week of Great Lent Services**

Sunday Mission Service (4/2) = 7 attended from our parish.  
Wednesday (4/5) – Presanctified Liturgy = 11  
Friday (4/7) – Vespers for Lazarus Service = 12  
Saturday (4/8) – Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy = 16  
Saturday (4/8) – Vespers for Palm Sunday = 24 (A beautiful turnout!)

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**Please remember in your prayers those who perished and the injured in the senseless and brutal terrorist attacks that occurred this past week in St. Petersburg, Russia; Stockholm, Sweden, and in Syria.**



**Announcements** (cont.)

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

**Health for the Living:**

Family and Parishioners offered by Daria LeRoy  
Ellen, Obalu (both newly with a child), Alex, Ana, Marc, Catherine, Albert, Patrica, Sharon, Mrs Malloy, Mr Malloy, Sean, Susan, Colin, James, Barbara, Marc, Cyndi, Family and Friends offered by Mr. & Mrs. Ken Kavalkovich

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

**Memory for the Departed:**

Anastasia Scarloss, Peter Slivka, David O'Shura offered by M/M Herbert  
Stephen Spack offered by Nina Patterson  
Stephen Spack offered by Albrecht Family  
Kim Hughes offered by Melanie Albrecht  
John and Julia Jugan offered by the Pellack Family  
Betty Sapp and Maria Radjei offered by the Pellack Family

**May Their Memories Be Eternal**

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**Please remember in your prayers:** Dave Albrecht Sr (on his recovery & rehabilitation);  
Emelie Albrecht (on her recovery & rehabilitation); Cantrell Family; Grace Corba; Robert Corba;  
Ronald Kavalkovich (on his continuous recovery); 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!

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**Parish Meeting Minutes:**

The minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting held on January 22, 2017 and the minutes from the Special Parish Meeting held on February 5, 2017 have been posted on the bulletin board in the church basement (bulletin board where the sign up sheets are located) for your reading pleasure. Please ensure you review these minutes before our next parish meeting (scheduled to be held sometime during the month of May) since a motion to accept these minutes will be voted on during said meeting.

**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 (2016-17)
- 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 (March/April)

|                        | <u>Week of Mar 27 to Apr 2</u> | <u>March Month (Unaudited)</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Attendance:            | 46                             | 37 (average)                   |
| Funds In:              | \$ 2,427.16                    | \$ 5,944.16                    |
| Funds Out:             | \$ 3,382.75                    | \$ 8,825.30                    |
| Net Surplus/(Deficit): | (\$ 955.59)                    | (\$ 2,881.14)                  |

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** – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month** – Church Life Discussion Class after Liturgy.

**PASCHA FLOWERS.** We are still collecting for Pascha (Easter) flowers during Holy Week. There are special envelopes available to use for your offering for Pascha flower donations (envelopes located near the Prosfora table in the vestibule area). Please give the envelopes to the person overseeing the candle desk in the back of the church. Thank you!

**Wednesday, April 12 – Bridegroom Matins with Holy Unction Service at St Stephens Orthodox Cathedral beginning at 6:00pm.**

*Archbishop Mark will be serving at this service on Wednesday night!*

Saint Stephens Orthodox Cathedral \* 8598 Verree Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19111. Phone #215.745.3232 (Rectory)  
Website: <http://www.ststephenscathedral.org>

**Bible Study – Tuesday, April 18 at 6:30pm in the church basement.** The Bible Study Group will gather together at this time and is reading the next book in the bible. They will continue reading and discussing the Book of Leviticus. **Note Change in Date – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of month!**

**Sunday, April 23 - St Thomas Sunday**

After Divine Liturgy and if the weather cooperates with us, we will have our annual Blessing of the Graves at Mount Moriah Cemetery.

**The Schedule of Services during HOLY WEEK have been posted on the church bulletin boards (in the church vestibule and the church basement)** Please check them this week for the dates and times of the services. As always, if there are any changes to the service schedule, they will be announced in church, noted in the bulletin, and posted on the parish's social media outlets (i.e. parish website and parish Facebook page).



## Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday) [April 9<sup>th</sup>]

Palm Sunday is the celebration of the triumphant entrance of Christ into the royal city of Jerusalem. He rode on a colt for which He Himself had sent, and He permitted the people to hail Him publicly as a king. A large crowd met Him in a manner befitting royalty, waving palm branches and placing their garments in His path. They greeted Him with these words: "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel! (John 12:13).

This day together with the raising of Lazarus are signs pointing beyond themselves to the mighty deeds and events which consummate Christ's earthly ministry. The time of fulfillment was at hand. Christ's raising of Lazarus points to the destruction of death and the joy of resurrection which will be accessible to all through His own death and resurrection. His entrance into Jerusalem is a fulfillment of the messianic prophecies about the king who will enter his holy city to establish a final kingdom. "Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of an ass" (Zech 9:9).

Finally, the events of these triumphant two days are but the passage to Holy Week: the "hour" of suffering and death for which Christ came. Thus the triumph in an earthly sense is extremely short-lived. Jesus enters openly into the midst of His enemies, publicly saying and doing those things which mostly enrage them. The people themselves will soon reject Him. They misread His brief earthly triumph as a sign of something else: His emergence as a political messiah who will lead them to the glories of an earthly kingdom.

### Our Pledge

The liturgy of the Church is more than meditation or praise concerning past events. It communicates to us the eternal presence and power of the events being celebrated and makes us participants in those events. Thus the services of Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday bring us to our own moment of life and death and entrance into the Kingdom of God: a Kingdom not of this world, a Kingdom accessible in the Church through repentance and baptism.

On Palm Sunday palm and willow branches are blessed in the Church. We take them in order to raise them up and greet the King and Ruler of our life: Jesus Christ. We take them in order to reaffirm our baptismal pledges. As the One who raised Lazarus and entered Jerusalem to go to His voluntary Passion stands in our midst, we are faced with the same question addressed to us at baptism: "Do you accept Christ?" We give our answer by daring to take the branch and raise it up: "I accept Him as King and God!"

Thus, on the eve of Christ's Passion, in the celebration of the joyful cycle of the triumphant days of Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday, we reunite ourselves to Christ, affirm His Lordship over the totality of our life, and express our readiness to follow Him to His Kingdom:

... that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that if possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead (Philippians 3:10-11).

Very Rev. Paul Lazor