

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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

Sunday, June 28, 2015 – 4th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 3 – Translation of the Relics of the holy and
wonderworking Unmercenaries Cyrus and John

Rev. Matthew Cantrell, Rector [*On Leave of Absence*]
Rev. Hieromonk Christopher Grecu, Interim Rector

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 5)

You have given us the miracles of Your martyrs, Cyrus and John, / as an invincible rampart, O Christ God; / through their prayers, frustrate the plans of the heathens, / and strengthen the faith of the Orthodox Christians,// for You alone are good and love mankind.

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.

Kontakion (Tone 3)

Having received the gift of miracles through divine grace, O saints, / you work wonders in the world unceasingly. / You remove all of our passions through your invisible surgery, / divinely-wise Cyrus and glorious John,// for you are truly divine physicians.

Prokeimenon (Tone 3)

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

Epistle Reading: Romans 6:18-23

And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness. For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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 of me, a house of refuge in order to save me

Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 8:5-13

Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him."

The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed.

For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it. When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour.

Communion Hymns:

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

Announcements

Welcome Rev. Hieromonk Christopher Grecu. The parish would like to welcome Father Christopher to our church. Father Christopher comes to us from the Romanian Episcopate and has been given permission to serve at our parish from the Most Reverend Nathaniel, Archbishop of Detroit and the Romanian Episcopate and his Grace Archbishop Mark of the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania. Father Christopher is no stranger to Holy Assumption. He filled-in and served as a substitute priest when Father John Udics was either on vacation or unable to serve Liturgy. **Father Christopher will only be available to serve Sunday Divine Liturgy.** Please introduce yourself and give Father Christopher a warm South Philly welcome.

If anyone is in need of a priest: With Father Matthew on a leave of absence until August 31 and **Father Christopher only performing Sunday Divine Liturgy,** please contact any one of the following priest if you request to arrange sacraments, instructions, counseling, home visits, sick calls, hospital visits or funeral arrangements:

Rev. Victor Gorodenchuk – St. Stephen’s Cathedral – Philadelphia, PA
Home# 215.745.3232 Parish Office# 215.342.0866
Email: dean@ststephenscathedral.org

OR

Very Rev. John Perich – St. Herman of Alaska Church–Gradyville, PA
Home# 610.494.6117 Parish Office# 610.459.5310

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

No Vespers served during the summer. Vespers will not be served on Saturdays or during the weekday the day before a feast day during the summer months (June 1 to August 31).

Bible Study – Tuesday, July 21 at 6:30pm in church basement. The Bible Study Group will continue to get together and informally meet over the summer. During the next gathering the group will continue to discuss the Book of the Prophet Zechariah.

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. The sheets have been pretty bare over the past few weeks. 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 – Youth Fund
- 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 15 to 21</u>	<u>June Month to Date</u>
Attendance:	37	34 (average)
Funds In:	\$1,780.00	\$4,341.00
Funds Out:	\$325.00	\$2,209.84
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$1,455.00	\$2,131.16

Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Living: Health of Simon Herbert, Michael Spack Jr., John Spack, John Herbert, Thomas Herbert, Joyce Spack, & Johnathan Bava offered by M/M Herbert.
Health of parishioners & families offered by Nina Patterson
Health of Margaret Pellack (Birthday) offered by David Pellack

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years

Announcements (cont.)

Prayers for the Faithful and Departed (cont.)

Departed: Memory of Emma Burychka, John Burychka, Onufrey Spack, Maxim Herbert, Michael Spack Sr., Michael Slivka, John Homa, and Anna Bondira offered by M/M Herbert.
Memory of Andrew Gerasimoff, Albert Kavalkovich, and John Rabik offered by Catherine Kavalkovich.
Memory of Anna & William Zuzulock offered by Pellack Family.
Memory of Paul Kavcsak & Fred LeRoy offered by M/M R Leroy
Memory of Stephen Spack, David Albrecht, & Dr Theodore Kaczmar offered by Emelie Albrecht.

May Their Memories Be Eternal!



Please keep in your prayers the victims and their families of the tragic shooting at the Emmanuel AME Church in Charleston, SC that left nine dead including their pastor and associate pastor. The violation of sacred space with violence is unacceptable and the senseless tragedy that led to the death of these innocent people is beyond comprehension. **Memory Eternal!**



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Building Fund Donations: Memory of Emma Burychka - \$675.00

- M/M Ken Kavalkovich
- M/M Rick LeRoy
- Nina Patterson
- Anonymou
- John & Fran Laughlin
- M/M Michael McCartney
- M/M Noel Kelly
- Robert Wanenchak
- M/M Michael Wanenchak
- Emily Gerasimoff
- Martin & Anna Petriccione
- Patricia Newnam

Thank you for your generosity! May her Memory Be Eternal!

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Orthodox Church Trivia: LAST WEEK'S ANSWER...B. The Protection (*Pokrov*) of the Most – Holy Theotokos (October 1) is NOT considered one of The Twelve Great Feasts Days in the Orthodox Church. Thanks for playing!

Announcements (cont.)

Scheduling Confession: If you wish to receive confession during the summer, please speak with Father Christopher to discuss scheduling a time for confession on a Sunday well before the Divine Liturgy. Please understand the priest needs to prepare that morning the sacraments and prayers before Divine Liturgy. He may limit the number of people scheduled to hear confessions that Sunday morning.

Attending Services on Feast Days during the week: If you wish to attend Divine Liturgy services during the week during the summer for a Feast or Holy Day, please contact one of the following OCA parishes in the area:

St. Herman of Alaska – Gradyville, PA (Delaware County)
Parish Phone: 610.459.5310 Website: www.sthermansoca.org

St. Michael the Archangel Church – Wilmington, DE
Parish Phone: 302-995-6775 Website: www.stmichael-delaware-oca.org

St Stephen Cathedral – Philadelphia, PA (Northeast Philly)
Parish Phone: 215.342.0866 Website: www.ststephenscathedral.org

Church of the Holy Cross – Medford, NJ (Burlington County)
Parish Phone: 856.665.2491 Website: www.holycrossmedford.org

The Diocesan Finance Committee, established to investigate how the Diocese will continue to support the work of the Church made two recommendations to the Diocesan Council during their meeting on June 16. Please see the reports posted on the church's bulletin boards for more info.

The Orthodox Church in America's 18th All-American Council (AAC) will be held July 20-24, 2015 in Atlanta, GA. As of Friday, June 5, 2015 the Hilton Atlanta Hotel (site of AAC) is fully booked and an additional hotel – the Hyatt Regency – is now accepting reservations for council participants. The Hyatt is rapidly selling out and the final day to make hotel reservations was last Friday, June 26, 2015. **Reminder:** the AAC registration process will close on Friday July 10, 2015.

If you are interested in attending, please see Matt Andrews or Dan Herbert for further information, or logon to the OCA's website at www.oca.org.

This 18th AAC will be voting on Major Proposed Revised Statues & Resolutions that will affect both the Dioceses and our local parishes!

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 fundraiser project that helps support the church at no additional expense to the purchaser.

Weekly Schedule and Calendar of Events

Monday: June 29 – The Holy Glorious and All-Praised Leaders of the Apostles, Saint Peter and Saint Paul

Saturday: Great Vespers – **There will be no Vespers served during the summer (June 1 to August 31).**

Sunday: July 5 – Venerable Athanasius - Founder of the Great Lavra and Coenobitic Monasticism on Mt Athos
Reading of Hours – 9:40am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & Coffee Hour follow the Divine Liturgy

July 11: Church Hall Yard Clean Up Day – 9:30AM!!!
(See the Bulletin and Bulletin Board for details)

July 15: Equal of the Apostles Great Prince Vladimir, in Holy Baptism Basil, the Enlightener of the Russian Land

July 21: Bible Study – 6:30PM – Book of the Prophet Zechariah

July 20-24: The OCA's 18th All-American Council – Atlanta, GA

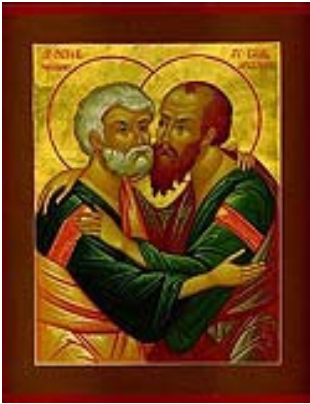
August 1: Procession of the Honorable Wood of the Life-Giving Cross of the Lord (First of the three “Feast of the Savior” in August)

August 6: The Holy Transfiguration of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ (the Second of the three “Feast of the Savior” in August)

August 15: The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary (Feast 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



The Holy Glorious and All Praise Leaders of the Apostles, Peter and Paul [June 29th]

Tomorrow the Church celebrates the Feast Day of the Holy Glorious and All Praise Leaders of the Apostles, Peter and Paul. The hymns for their Feast speak of Saints Peter and Paul as leaders (koryphaioi), and chiefs of the Apostles. They are, without a doubt, the foremost in the ranks of the Apostles.

The koryphaioi were leaders of the chorus in ancient Greek tragedy. They set the pattern for the singing, and also for the dance movements and gestures of the chorus. Before Sophocles, there were twelve members of the chorus, and Saints Peter and Paul were the leaders of the twelve Apostles.

Both Saints Peter and Paul received new names, indicating a new relationship with God. Simon the fisherman became known as Cephas (John 1:42), or Peter after confessing Jesus as the Son of God (Mt. 16:18).

Saint Peter, the brother of St Andrew, was a fisherman on the sea of Galilee. He was married, and Christ healed his mother-in-law of a fever (Mt.8:14). He, with James and John, witnessed the most important miracles of the Savior's earthly life.

Despite his earlier recognition of Christ as the Son of God, he denied Him three times on the night before the Crucifixion. Therefore, after His Resurrection, the Lord asked Peter three times if he loved Him. Then He told Peter to feed His sheep (John 21:15-17).

After the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, Saint Peter addressed the crowd (Acts 2:14), and performed many miracles in Christ's name. He baptized Cornelius, the first Gentile convert (Acts 10:48). He was cast into prison, but escaped with the help of an angel (Acts 5:19). Saint Peter also traveled to many places in order to proclaim the Gospel message. He wrote two Epistles, which are part of the New Testament.

Saint Peter was put to death in Rome during the reign of Nero. According to Tradition, he asked to be crucified upside down, since he did not feel worthy to die in the same manner as his Lord.

Saint Paul was of the tribe of Benjamin, and lived in Tarus in Cilicia. He once described himself as a Hebrew, an Israelite of the seed of Abraham (2 Cor. 11:22). He was also a Pharisee and a tent-maker (Acts 18:3) who had studied the Law with Gamaliel at Jerusalem.

At first, he was called Saul, and had persecuted the Church. He was present at the stoning of St Stephen (Acts 7: 58). Then, on the road to Damascus, he was converted when Christ appeared to him. Blinded by the vision, he was healed when Ananias laid his hands on him. After his cure, he was baptized (Acts 9:18).

Saint Paul preached the Gospel in Greece, Asia Minor, and in Rome, and wrote fourteen Epistles. Tradition says that he was martyred in Rome about the year 68.