

## Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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### Sunday, November 8, 2015 | 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 6 – Synaxis of the Archangel Michael and the other Bodiless Powers: Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Selathiel, Jegudiel, and Barachiel

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

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Parish President – Matthew Andrews

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### Weekly Schedule

Today: November 8 – Halupki & Chicken Dinner

Today: November 8 – Annual Fall Food Festivals!  
St. Herman of Alaska – Gradyville, PA – 12p to 4p  
See Calendar of Events section in bulletin for details

Tuesday: November 10 – Bible Study at 6:30pm

Saturday: November 14 - Great Vespers at **5:00PM!**

Sunday: November 15 – Holy Martyrs and Confessors Gurias, Samonas,  
and Abibas, of Edessa (299-306)

#### **Beginning of Advent – The Nativity Fast!**

Reading of Hours – 9:40am

Divine Liturgy – 10:00am

*Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy*

## Texts for the Liturgical Service

### **Troparion (Tone 6)**

The angelic Powers were at Thy tomb; / the guards became as dead men. / Mary stood by Thy grave, / seeking Thy most pure body. / Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it. / Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. // O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee.

### **Troparion (Tone 4 – Angels)**

O Commanders of the heavenly hosts, / we who are unworthy beseech you: by your prayers encompass us beneath the wings of your immaterial glory, / and faithfully preserve us who fall down and cry to you: // Deliver us from all harm, for you are the Commanders of the Powers on high!

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

When Christ God the Giver of Life, / raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand, / He bestowed resurrection on the human race. // He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

### **Kontakion (Tone 2 – Angels)**

Commanders of God's armies / and ministers of the divine glory, / princes of the bodiless Angels / and guides of mankind; / ask for what is good for us, and for great mercy, // O Supreme Commanders of the Bodiless Hosts.

### **Prokeimenon (Tone 6)**

O Lord, save they people, / and bless Thine inheritance!  
v. To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

### **Epistle Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10**

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. Alleluia (3x's)  
(Tone 6)

- v. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God. Alleluia (3x's)  
v. He will say to the Lord: "My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I trust." 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!  
He makes His Angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire. Alleluia (3x's)

*[Note: The readings for the Angels is as follows: Epistle – Hebrews 2:2-10 and Gospel - Luke 10:16-21]*

### **Announcements**

**Biography of the Very Reverend Mark W Koczak.** The resume and biography of our parish priest, Archpriest Mark, are posted on the bulletin boards in the back of the church and in the church basement. This same information is also posted on the parish website under the section "About Us", then scroll down to the "Administration" area. Please take a moment and read about Father Mark's experiences and accomplishments.

## Announcements (cont.)

**Welcome to all of our visitors & guest worshipping 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.

**In the News...Orthodox Church in America (OCA):** [oca.org](http://oca.org)

The new [Statute of the Orthodox Church in America](#), adopted by delegates to the [18th All-American Council](#) in July 2015, became effective November 1.

As detailed in the *Statute's* Article XVIII, dioceses, parishes, monasteries, institutions, offices, and organizations of the Church shall review their governing documents and administrative practices and conform them to the Statute by December 31, 2017. The Diocesan hierarchs will be working with the parishes, monasteries and institutions under their omophoria in the review process as necessary. Speaking of Diocesan review process...(see below)

**In the News...Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania (DOPEA):** [dopea.org](http://dopea.org)

The Deaneries are having presentations to discuss the Diocesan Bylaws, the proposed process how parishes will fund the Dioceses in the future, and how Treasurers & Financial Secretaries are to complete the new financial statements sent to the Diocese. Deanery presentations are as follows:

Frackville Deanery – Sat Nov 14 @ 10am in Frackville (Holy Ascension Orthodox Church)

Philadelphia Deanery – Sun Nov 22 @ 4pm in Wrightstown (St. Mark's Orthodox Church)

**Poinsettias/Christmas Flowers!** We have begun collecting for Christmas flowers. 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!

**Holiday Basket Brigade!** The parish has begun accepting donations for the Holiday Basket Brigade. We will start with the traditional Thanksgiving items. Currently, the parish plans on providing two baskets to families in the community. If you know of a family unable to provide a traditional Thanksgiving Day meal, please inform a parish council member and we will plan accordingly. We will have a list available shortly of those items to be donated and the list will be located in the basement. The Thanksgiving Baskets will be delivered on Sunday, November 22!



**GOD BLESS OUR VETERANS!!!**



**Announcements** (cont.)

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

**Health for the Living:**

Kimberly Herbert, Olga Macalush, Helen Wanenchak, David Pellack, Margaret Pellack, Geraldine King, Rose Taninatz offered by M/M Herbert

Veterans of Armed Forces offered by Pellack Family

Sharon Orr, Ronald Andrew Kavalkovich, Albert Kavalkovich offered by Catherine Kavalkovich Parishioners offered by Barbara Andrews

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

**Memory for the Departed:**

William Sidoriak, Jean Hourahan, Pauline (Hudak) Cardow, Theodore Taninatz, Helen Paytas Wallace, Rosemarie Ebert offered by M/M Herbert

Veterans of Armed Forces offered by Pellack Family

Irene Kavcsak offered by M/M Rick LeRoy

Jean Hourahan offered by Hourahan Family

**May Their Memories Be Eternal**

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**Please remember in your prayers:** Cantrell Family; Grace Corba; Robert Corba; Julia Makara; Helen Riley; Helen Wanenchak; Robert Wanenchak; Annamae Witiak; Father John Udics; 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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**BULLETIN INFO:**

If you did not pick up a bulletin because there was none left on the Tetrapod, don't worry...a copy can be made. Please inform Dan Herbert or one of the parish council members that you would like that week's bulletin and a copy will be made for you. We also keep any extra bulletins back in the vestibule from the past three (3) months. They are located on the shelf where the prosfora is placed.

Also, for those who have access to the Internet, bulletins since June 2009 are posted on the parish website for your convenience. 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. 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 (October /November)

	<u>Week of Oct 26 to Nov 1</u>	<u>October Month (Unaudited)</u>
Attendance:	25	31 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,251.00	\$5,232.00
Funds Out:	\$ 1,500.00	\$4,255.87
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 249.00)	\$976.13

**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.

*“...to serve our neighbor is to serve Christ himself... Our brother is our salvation. Our brother, our neighbor is also our opportunity to save ourselves.”*  
~ Archbishop Benjamin – Diocese of San Francisco (OCA)

## Calendar of Events

**November 10** – Bible Study in church basement at 6:30PM!

**November 11** – Veterans Day

**November 15** – Beginning of Advent (The Nativity Fast!)

**November 21** – Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple

**November 26** – Thanksgiving Day

**November 30** – Holy Apostle Andrew the First-called

**St. Herman's of Alaska – Gradyville, PA hosting their Annual Food Festival and Shopping Extravaganza – Weekend of November 6 to November 8.** The parish is located at 1855 Middletown Road (Route 352) in Glen Mills, PA. Today, Sunday, Nov 8 – 12pm to 4pm. Please see the big colorful flyer downstairs on the bulletin board!

**Parish Pre-Advent Halupki and Chicken Cutlet Dinner – (TODAY) Sunday, November 8 after Divine Liturgy in the church basement.** The Halupki and Chicken Cutlet dinner will be prepared & provided by one of our parishioners. We are requesting volunteers to bake or donate one of their favorite deserts for the dinner. We are requesting for a contribution of \$10.00 towards the dinner. Whether you are able to donate or not, please join us for dinner Today. Thank you!

**Bible Study – Tuesday, November 10 at 6:30pm in the church basement.** The Bible Study Group will gather together at this time and begin reading and discussing the Book of Genesis.

**St. Nicholas Orthodox Church – Philadelphia, PA hosting their 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Ethnic Festival – Weekend of November 21 & 22.** The parish is located at 817 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street. — Phone # 215.922.9671. The time for both Saturday & Sunday (Nov 21-22) is from 12pm to 4pm.

**General Parish Meeting – Sunday, December 6 after Liturgy in the church basement.** A general parish meeting is scheduled for this date to discuss this past year and plan for next year. Meeting should take about an hour but will not be longer than 90 minutes. This is NOT the Annual Parish Meeting which is scheduled for sometime in late January.



## **Synaxis of the Archangel Michael and the Other Bodiless Powers [November 8<sup>th</sup>]**

The Synaxis of the Chief of the Heavenly Hosts, Archangel Michael and the Other Heavenly Bodiless Powers: Archangels Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Selaphiel, Jehudiel, Barachiel, and Jeremiel was established at the beginning of the fourth century at the Council of Laodicea, which met several years before the First Ecumenical Council. The 35th Canon of the Council of Laodicea condemned and denounced as heretical the worship of angels as gods and rulers of the world, but affirmed their proper veneration.

A Feastday was established in November, the ninth month after March (with which the year began in ancient times) since there are Nine Ranks of Angels. The eighth day of the month was chosen for the Synaxis of all the Bodiless Powers of Heaven since the Day of the Dread Last Judgment is called the Eighth Day by the holy Fathers. After the end of this age (characterized by its seven days of Creation) will come the Eighth Day, and then “the Son of Man shall come in His Glory and all the holy Angels with Him” (Mt. 25:31).

The Angelic Ranks are divided into three Hierarchies: highest, middle, and lowest.

The Highest Hierarchy includes: the Seraphim, Cherubim and Thrones.

The Middle Angelic Hierarchy consists of three Ranks: Dominions, Powers, and Authorities.

The Lowest Hierarchy includes the three Ranks: Principalities, Archangels, and Angels.

Holy Scripture and Tradition give us the names of the other Archangels:

**Gabriel:** strength (power) of God, herald and servitor of Divine omnipotence (Dan 8:16, Luke 1:26). He announces the mysteries of God. The icon depicts Gabriel with a branch from Paradise, presented by him to the Most Holy Virgin, or with a shining lantern in his right hand and with a mirror made of jasper in his left.

**Raphael:** the healing of God, the curer of human infirmities (Tobit 3:16, 12:15). The icon shows Raphael holding a vessel with healing medications in his left hand, and with his right hand leads Tobias, carrying a fish for healing (Tobit 5-8).

**Uriel:** the fire or light of God, enlightener (3 Ezdras 5:20). We pray for him to enlighten those with darkened minds. The icon shows Uriel in his raised right hand holding a naked sword at the level of his chest, and in his lowered left hand “a fiery flame.”

**Selaphiel:** the prayer of God, impelling to prayer (3 Ezdras 5:16). He prays to God for mankind. Icon depicts Selaphiel in a prayerful posture, gazing downwards, hands folded on the chest.

**Jehudiel:** the glorifying of God, encouraging exertion for the glory of the Lord and interceding for the reward of efforts. The icon shows Jehudiel holding a golden crown in his right hand, in his left, a whip of three red (or black) thongs.

**Barachiel:** distributor of the blessings of God for good deeds, entreats the mercy of God for people. The icon depicts Barachiel with a white rose on his breast.

**Jeremiel:** the raising up to God (3 Ezdras 4:36). The icon shows Jeremiel holding balance-scales in his hand.