

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>



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

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

Sunday, April 17, 2016 | Fifth Sunday of Great Lent

Tone 5 – Saint Mary of Egypt
Hieromartyr Simeon, Bishop in Persia. (3rd c.)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Acting Rector

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Parish President – Matthew Andrews

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Weekly Schedule

Today: Mission Service – St Michaels Orthodox Church
2300 West Huntington Drive | Wilmington, DE 19808
Time: 4:00pm Website: www.stmichael-delaware-oca.org

Today: Property Committee Meeting following Divine Liturgy

Wednesday: April 20 - Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts begins at 6:30pm

Friday: April 22 – Akathist service begins at 6:30pm

Saturday: April 23 – Lazarus Saturday! Reading of Hours – 8:30am
Divine Liturgy – **9:00am**

Saturday: April 23 - Great Vespers at 5:00pm. (Blessing of Branches also)

Sunday: April 24 – Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday)!
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am (Procession around Church after Liturgy)
Fellowship Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: April 24 – Bridegroom Matins – St Stephen Orthodox Cathedral
8598 Verree Road | Philadelphia, PA 19111 Time: 4:00pm
Website: www.ststephencathedral.org Phone: 215.342.0866 (church)

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 8 – St Mary of Egypt)

The image of God was truly preserved in thee, O Mother, / for thou didst take up the Cross and followed Christ. / By so doing, thou taughtest us to disregard the flesh for it passeth away; / but to care instead for the soul, for it is immortal. // Therefore thy spirit, O holy Mother Mary, rejoiceth with the angels.

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 3 – St Mary of Egypt)

Having been a sinful woman, / thou becomest through repentance a bride of Christ. / Having attained angelic life, / thou didst defeat demons with the weapon of the Cross. // Therefore, O most glorious Mary, thou art a bride of the Kingdom.

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: Hebrews 9:11-14

But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 5)

- 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: Mark 10:32-45

Now they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was going before them; and they were amazed. And as they followed they were afraid. Then He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them the things that would happen to Him: Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit on Him, and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again. Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask." And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" They said to Him, "Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They said to Him, "We are able." So Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared. And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John. But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

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

All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace: / the assembly of Angels and the race of men. / O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, / the glory of virgins, / from whom God was incarnate and became a Child: / our God before the ages. / He made thy body into a throne, / and thy womb He made more spacious than the heavens. / All of creation rejoiceth in thee, O Full of Grace. // Glory to thee!

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest!
The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings.
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.)

Remaining 2016 Lenten Service Schedule (Outside of Parish)

Sunday, April 24, 2016 – 4:00pm – **Bridegroom Matins Service**
Saint Stephen Orthodox Cathedral (OCA) | 8598 Verree Road
Philadelphia, PA 19111 | Phone: 215.342.0866 (church)
Website: <http://www.ststephenscathedral.org>

PASCHA FLOWERS. We are collecting for Pascha (Easter) flowers until next Sunday (Palm Sunday). There are special envelopes available to use for your offering for Pascha flower donations. Please give the envelopes to Debbie Kavalkovich or to a member of the parish council for your offering.

THANK YOU TO ALL!!!! A special Thank You to all the parishioners, families, and friends who assisted in cleaning and preparing the parish, setting up the basement, cooking the food, cleaning up afterwards, and most importantly, attending last week's Mission Service which was held in our parish last week! We had 88 people attend the Mission Service. A lovely turnout. May God Grant You Many Happy and Healthy Years!!!

The parish has decided to purchase a new vestment robe for Reader Daniel (Kenneth) Kavalkovich. Kenny has only two robes to wear during services (a gold and a reddish/purple vestment) and they have become pretty worn over the years. We have requested Ivan Adamovich to tailor Kenny with a new robe that will fit his build. Ivan (who only does tailoring work part time now) has made vestment covers and robes for our parish in the past. Ivan is only charging the parish for the cost of materials (high quality materials); he is donating his time and labor. The cost for the materials to tailor a new robe (along with cuffs and a stole) is \$800. Parish is requesting donations to assist in offsetting some of the cost for the new vestment set. Thank You!!!

This month's Sunday Charity collection taken next week (April 24) will be earmarked for the Father Matthew Baker Fund. As many of you remember, a little over a year ago, Father Matthew passed away after a terrible automobile accident while driving during a winter storm. All six of his children were in the vehicle at this time and God's will, they all survived. This parish provided a donation to a fund in memory of Father Matthew last year and we received a lovely thank you note from his family. Today, the family is doing well. The thank you note is posted on the bulletin board in the basement above the display counter.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Mary Kaczmar offered by Emelie Albrecht
Family and Friends offered by M/M R LeRoy
Family offered by Peter Witiak
Marybeth, Carol, June, Matushka Jan, Father Mark, Family, Friends, Marc on his birthday,
Barbara, David, Alex, Hope, Alex, Ken, Matthew, Anastasia, offered by M/M K Kavalkovich &
Family
Matushka Jan, Family, and Friends offered by M/M A Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

William Liney offered by Nina Patterson

May Their Memories Be Eternal

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Please remember in your prayers: Cantrell Family; Grace Corba; Robert Corba; Matushka
Jan Koczak; Father Mark Koczak; Julia Makara; Helen Riley; Helen Wanenchak; Annamae
Witiak; + Father John Udics; + Father Athanasy Mastalski; 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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Attendance: Fifth Week of Great Lent Services

Sunday (4/10) – Mission Service = 88 attended (25 from our own parish)
Wednesday (4/12) – Presanctified Liturgy = 8
Thursday (4/14) – Canon of St Andrew of Crete = Service was Cancelled
Friday (4/15) – Akathist = Service was Cancelled

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 (April)

| | <u>Week of Apr 4 to Apr 10</u> | <u>April Month-to-Date</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Attendance: | 35 | 40 (average) |
| <i>Sat Vespers (4/9)</i> | <i>cancelled</i> | |
| Funds In: | \$ 1,857.00 | \$ 3,907.00 |
| Funds Out: | \$ 488.00 | \$ 3,872.82 |
| Net Surplus/(Deficit): | \$ 1,369.00 | \$ 34.18 |

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

Today – Mission Service 4:00pm.

St Michaels Orthodox Church (OCA)
2300 West Huntington Drive | Wilmington, DE 19808
Website: www.stmichael-delaware-oca.org

Today – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church School

Room! All property committee members are asked to attend the meeting. A walk thru of both row homes is scheduled during this time to identify concerns and list problems that need addressing and repairing.

Sixth Week of Great Lent - Mon, April 18 – Sat, April 23

Service schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, April 20 - The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts - 6:30pm

Friday, April 22 – Akathist service - 6:30pm

Saturday, April 23 – Divine Liturgy (Lazarus Saturday) – **9:00am**

Saturday, April 23 – Great Vespers at 5:00pm

Any changes in the schedule or time will be announced in church & bulletin.

Bible Study – Tuesday, May 10 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.

St. Herman of Alaska exhibition at Villanova University!

In honor of the 45th Anniversary of the Glorification of Saint Herman of Alaska, an exhibition – “Russian America: The Alaskan Native Spiritual Legacy” – is being held at Villanova University from January 22, 2016 and will run until **through May 16, 2016**. The exhibit is organized by Archpriest John J. Perich.

Detail information:

www.ArtGallery.Villanova.edu

www1.villanova.edu/villanova/studentlife/artgallery/current_exhibit.html

Villanova University Art Gallery location
2nd Floor Connelly Center (University Campus)
800 Lancaster Avenue
Villanova, PA 19085
Phone: 610-519-4612
Gallery Hours: Monday-Friday: 8am-11pm | Sat-Sun: 11am-11pm



Fifth Sunday of Great Lent: St Mary of Egypt [April 17th]

On the fifth Sunday of Great Lent, the Church provides us with one final theme of prayer and repentance before we enter Holy Week, the life of Saint Mary of Egypt. Saint Mary explained to Abba Zosimas, “I was born in Egypt, and when I was 12 years old, I left my parents and went to Alexandria. There I gave myself to unrestrained sensuality. For more than 17 years I lived like that.”

Saint Mary described how she boarded a ship of pilgrims on its way to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Upon arrival she attempted to enter the church, but a force prevented her entrance. She realized that she had to repent of her sinful ways, and the Blessed Theotokos revealed to her that salvation awaited her in the desert beyond the Jordan River by means of continual prayer and fasting.

Abba Zosimas asked her, “How many years have passed since you began to live in the desert?” She replied, “It is 47 years.” Abba Zosimas asked, “What food do you find here?” She said, “I had two and a half loaves of bread when I crossed the Jordan. Eating a little at a time, I finished them after a few years.”

On this Sunday of Great Lent, the Church encourages us to emulate this powerful example of lifelong repentance by prayer and fasting. While we all surely eat more than two and a half loaves of bread in a few years, our meager fasting should heighten our compassion for the poor and the hungry, and whatever resources we are able to preserve by fasting become available for “the least of these my brethren.” Let us reach out to the poor and destitute throughout the world with the inspiration of Saint Mary of Egypt, especially during this time of tumult and suffering.

[Source: Very Reverend Father Michael Ellias from *Weekly Spiritual Reflections for Great Lent – Journey to Pascha* booklet by the IOCC]

NOTE: If anyone wishes to read more about the life of both Saint Mary of Egypt and Abba Zosimas, please go on the OCA website (www.oca.org) and click on the Feast & Saints link, then select today’s date, and then click on the “Read the Life” box for 5th Sunday of Great Lent: St Mary of Egypt.