

ASSUMPTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH 2101
South 28th St. (corner of 28th St. & Snyder Ave.) Philadelphia,
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Mailing Address: PO Box 20083 * Point Breeze Station | Philadelphia PA 19145-0383

Sunday, May 22, 2016 | Fourth Sunday of Pascha

Tone 3 – Sunday of the Paralytic!

Martyr Baasiliscus, Bishop of Comana (ca. 308)

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Acting Rector

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Weekly Schedule

Today: Blessing of Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth & Debra Kavalkovich's marriage on their 25th Wedding Anniversary after the Divine Liturgy. A luncheon will be served in the church basement to celebrate event.

Wednesday: May 25 – MidFeast of Pentecost. The third finding of the Honorable Head of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John (ca. 850).

Saturday: May 28 - Great Vespers at **5:00PM!**

Sunday: May 29 – 5th Sunday of Pascha! Samaritan Woman!
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Saturday May 28 to 30 - Memorial Day Pilgrimage at Saint
to Monday: Tikhon's Monastery in South Canaan, PA.

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.

Kontakion (Tone 3 – Pentecostarion)

By Thy divine intercession, O Lord, / as Thou raised up the Paralytic of old, / so raise up my soul, paralyzed by sins and thoughtless acts; / so that being saved I may sing to Thee: / “Glory to Thy power, O compassionate Christ!”

Kontakion (Tone 8 – Pascha)

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, / Thou didst destroy the power of death. / In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, / proclaiming, “Rejoice!” to the Myrrhbearing Women, // granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

Prokeimenon (Tone 1)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee!
v. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the upright!

Epistle Reading: Acts 9:32-42

Now it came to pass, as Peter went through all parts of the country, that he also came down to the saints who dwelt in Lydda. There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden eight years and was paralyzed. And Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Arise and make your bed.” Then he arose immediately. So all who dwelt at Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord. At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated Dorcas. This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did. But it happened in those days that she became sick and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. And since Lydda was near Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him, imploring him not to delay in coming to them. Then Peter arose and went with them. When he had come, they brought him to the upper room. And all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them. But Peter put them all out, and knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body he said, “Tabitha, arise.” And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. Then he gave her his hand and lifted her up; and when he had called the saints and widows, he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed on the Lord. 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: John 5:1-15

After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath. The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed." He answered them, "He who made me well said to me, 'Take up your bed and walk.'" Then they asked him, "Who is the Man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk'?" But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a multitude being in that place. Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you." The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

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

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace: / "Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: Rejoice, / Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb! / With Himself He has raised all the dead." / Rejoice, O ye people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem! / The glory of the Lord has shone on you. / Exult now, / and be glad, O Zion! / Be radiant, / O pure Theotokos, / in the Resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymn:

Receive the Body of Christ, taste the fountain of immortality!
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.)

During the Reading of Hours! When entering the church after the bells have rung at 9:30am, the Reading of the Hours takes place. As you enter the church, **PLEASE** remain as quiet as you can! Remember that you are in God's House, and that the Reading of the Hours is just as important as Vespers, Matins, and Divine Liturgy. In addition, with people talking (sometimes even talking over the person who is reading the Hours), it is not only distracting to those who are already in church praying or listening to the Reading of the Hours, but also distracting to the individual themselves who is actually reading the Hours.

If it is important that you must speak to someone who is in church, please go out to the vestibule area in the back of the Church or meet them downstairs in the church basement and discuss your business before entering the church. Just please remember when entering back into the church to remain as quiet as you can. Thank you for your understanding regarding this matter.

Property Committee Briefing...

Last Sunday (5/15) the Property Committee met to discuss their walk through findings and report back what necessary and immediate areas of improvement need to be tackled.

The Property Committee will provide a detail report during the Spring Parish Meeting to be held on Sunday, June 5 after Divine Liturgy. Here is a general list of topics that were covered during last weeks Property Committee meeting:

1. Complete the repairs to the ceiling of the Church Hall entryway.
2. Replace all broken windows of the Church Hall
3. Assess the conditions of the roofs on both houses
4. Obtain a list of expenses for each property
5. Ensure what the Church's legal rights are regarding property rentals
6. Vet realtors with commercial leasing expertise to assess property and its rental potential.

This is a great first step for the committee that has only been together for just a few months (committee established during Annual Parish Meeting on January 31, 2016).

Thank you to all who are serving on the Property Committee and providing advice and offering solution on the parish buildings. May God continue to Grant You All Many Blessed Years!

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Ronald Kavalkovich offered by Albrecht Family
Peter Roberto offered by Melanie Albrecht
Ronald Kavalkovich & Sharon Orr offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Ronald Kavalkovich, Sharon Orr, Catherine & Albert Kavalkovich, Patricia Ferguson, offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Ronald Kavalkovich and Witiak Family offered by Pete Witiak

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

May Their Memories Be Eternal

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Please remember in your prayers: Cantrell Family; Grace Corba; Robert Corba; Ronald Kavalkovich (on his upcoming surgery); Julia Makara; Sharon Orr; Helen Riley; Helen Wanenchak; Annamae Witiak; 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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2016 PARISH CALENDAR:

A computer printout version of the 2016 church calendar for the months of May and June are located on the back pew in the church. If this version is acceptable, we will continue to generate the remaining months for 2016.

Also, for those who have access to the Internet, the calendar for May and June are posted in color on the parish website for your convenience under the "Service Schedule" tab section. 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. 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 (May)

	<u>Week of May 9 to May 15</u>	<u>May Month-To-Date</u>
Attendance:	23	48 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 883.00	\$ 6,109.00
Funds Out:	\$ 2,008.81	\$ 4,109.68
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 1,125.81)	\$ 1,999.32

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

Spring General Parish Meeting - Sunday, June 5, 2016 after Divine Liturgy in the church basement. This is Notice #2 of 3. According to Article 10, Section 1, of the Parish By-Laws, notice of all Parish Meetings shall be announced in the Parish Bulletin and read by the Parish Rector from the amvon on three consecutive Sundays preceding the date of the meeting. The Annual Parish Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 5. Discussions will include events since the Annual Parish Meeting; activities over the summer months; the status of the Property Committee and other committee reports; and any other business that needs to be discussed. Meeting should take about an hour but should not exceed past 90 minutes.

Sunday, June 12 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church School Room! All property committee members are asked to attend the meeting. Discussions will include any follow-ups from the previous meeting and any additional action needed to be taken as a result of deliberations that occurred during the Spring General Parish Meeting.

Bible Study – Tuesday, June 14 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.

Annual Pentecost (Pascha) Dinner – Sunday, June 19 after Vespers in the church basement. The parish will hold its annual Pentecost Dinner with Pascha food. If you wish to bring or donate Pascha food, beverages, or kitchen supplies, please see Catherine Kavalkovich to discuss what items the parish will need for our dinner. The dinner will be a free will offering and any monetary donations towards the dinner are always appreciated! Thank You!

Sunday, June 26 - Readers Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church School Room! All Readers are asked to attend the meeting. Father Mark, and those knowledgeable with the readings, will offer additional instructions and information regarding the readings for both the Hours and the Epistle.

The Great and Holy Council of the Orthodox Church is to take place from June 16 thru June 27, 2016, on the island of Crete. This Council will, for the first time ever, gather representatives from all fourteen autocephalous Orthodox Churches from around the globe. There will be five topics of discussion to be covered during this time ranging from: a common calendar; adapting an ancient faith to a modern reality; regulations of fasting and marriage in a multicultural and interreligious world; role of Orthodox Church in non-Orthodox countries (often referred to as Orthodoxy in the “diaspora”); and the manner of achieving the proper canonical status of one bishop per diocese (or city) when an existing diocese currently has a number of ethnic Orthodox Churches and, therefore, more than one bishop.



Sunday of the Paralytic [May 22nd]

On this day the Church remembers the man who lay by the Sheep's Pool in Jerusalem for thirty-eight years, waiting for someone to put him into the pool. The first one to enter the pool after an angel troubled the water would be healed of his infirmities, but someone always entered the pool before him. Seeing the man, the Lord felt compassion for him and healed him.

The Kontakion for this Fourth Sunday of Pascha asks Christ to raise up our souls, *“paralyzed by sins and thoughtless acts.”*

The Entrance of St Nino (Nina) the Enlightener into Georgia [May 19th]

The holy Apostles Andrew the First-called and Simon the Canaanite first preached the Christian Faith in Georgia in the 1st century, but at the beginning of the 4th century most of the country was still pagan.

After the Theotokos revealed God's will for her future, the Equal-to-the-Apostles Nino set off for Georgia to enlighten the Iberian people. She arrived in Armenia with the holy martyrs and virgins Rhipsimia, Gaiana and their fifty companions. The holy virgins were martyred in Armenia and, according to God's will, St. Nino journeyed on alone to Lake Paravani, entering Georgia from the Javakheti Mountains. She arrived in the spring, but the weather was unseasonably cold.

The Apostolic Church of Georgia has honored the Entrance of the holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Nino as a major feast day. The Church also commemorates her on January 14, the day of her repose.