

## 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, July 10, 2016 | 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

Tone 2 – Ven. Anthony of the Kiev Caves,  
Founder of Monasticism in Rus' (1073)

Holy 45 Martyrs at Nicopolis in Armenia (ca. 319)

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

615 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street | New Castle, DE 19720-6020  
Phone: Home: 302-322-0943 | Mobile: 302-547-4952  
Email: [mwkoczak@gmail.com](mailto:mwkoczak@gmail.com) or [mkoczak05@aol.com](mailto:mkoczak05@aol.com)

*Parish President – Matthew Andrews*

*Phone: 856-217-8075*

### **Weekly Schedule**

Today: Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the church schoolroom.

Tuesday: July 12 – Bible Study at 6:30pm in the Church Basement! Continue reading the Book of Genesis.

Saturday: July 16 - Great Vespers at **5:00PM!**

Sunday: July 17 – Holy Fathers of First Six Ecumenical Councils  
Reading of Hours – 9:30am  
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am  
*Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy*

Sunday: July 17 – St Michael's Russian Orthodox Church Parish Picnic after Divine Liturgy – 335 Fairmount Ave – Philadelphia, PA. Phone 215.627.6148

## Texts for the Liturgical Service

### **Troparion (Tone 2)**

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, / Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. / And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, / all the powers of heaven cried out: // “O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

### **Troparion (Tone 4 – Venerable Anthony)**

Having left the turmoil of the world, / thou didst renounce the world to follow Christ in accordance with the Gospel. / Living a life equal to the Angels, / thou didst reach the quiet haven of the Holy Mountain of Athos. / With the blessing of the Athonite fathers, thou didst come to the hills of Kiev, / where thou didst labor with love and didst illumine thy homeland. / There thou leddest a multitude of monastics to Christ / showing them the path that leads to the Kingdom of Heaven. // Venerable Anthony, pray to Him that our souls may be saved!

### **Kontakion (Tone 2)**

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior, / seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb! / The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee, // and the world, my Savior, praises Thee forever.

### **Kontakion (Tone 8 – Venerable Anthony)**

Having loved God above all from thy childhood, O ven’rable one, / thou didst surrender thyself to Him and followed Him with all thy soul. / Despising the material things of this world, / thou didst make a cave in the earth, where thou didst fight the good fight against the invisible Enemy. / Like a brilliant sun thou didst illumine all the ends of the earth, / and with rejoicing thou didst pass into the heavenly chambers. / Now as thou dost stand with the Angels before the Throne of the Master, remember us who honor thy memory as we cry to thee: // “Rejoice, our Fa-ther Anthony!”

### **Prokeimenon (Tone 2)**

The Lord is my strength and my song / He has become my salvation.  
v. The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.

### **Epistle Reading: Romans 5:1-10**

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 2)

- v. May the Lord hear thee in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect thee! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call! Alleluia (3x's)

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 6:22-33**

The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

**Communion Hymn:**

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest!  
The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not be afraid of evil tidings.  
Alleluia (3x's)

**“Be the first to arrive at church for services and the last to leave, especially for the Divine Liturgy.”**

*St Symeon the Studite (also called Symeon the Pious; +1021)*

**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.

**[...continued from last page...Venerable Anthony of the Kiev Caves...]**

At the insistence of Prince Izyaslav, the igumen Barlaam withdrew to the Dimitriev monastery. With the blessing of St Anthony and with the general agreement of the brethren, the meek and humble Theodosius was chosen as igumen. By this time, the number of brethren had already reached a hundred men. The Kiev Great Prince Izyaslav (+ 1078) gave the monks the hill on which the large church and cells were built, with a palisade all around. Thus, the renowned monastery over the caves was established. Describing this, the chronicler remarks that while many monasteries were built by emperors and nobles, they could not compare with those which are built with holy prayers and tears, and by fasting and vigil. Although St Anthony had no gold, he built a monastery which became the first spiritual center of Rus.

For his holiness of life, God glorified St Anthony with the gift of clairvoyance and wonderworking. One example of this occurred during the construction of the Great Caves church. The Most Holy Theotokos Herself stood before him and St Theodosius in the Blachernae church in Constantinople, where they had been miraculously transported without leaving their own monastery. Actually, two angels appeared in Constantinople in their forms (See May 3, the account of the Kiev Caves Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos). Having received gold from the Mother of God, the saints commissioned master architects, who came from Constantinople to the Russian land on the command of the Queen of Heaven to build the church at the Monastery of the Caves. During this appearance, the Mother of God foretold the impending death of St Anthony, which occurred on July 10, 1073.

Through Divine Providence, the relics of St Anthony remain hidden.

**IOCC Responds To Communities Drenched By Deadly West Virginia Floods!**

Baltimore, MD (IOCC) – In the aftermath of record-breaking rains and destructive flooding in West Virginia that have left least 23 people dead and hundreds of families homeless from storm damage, International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) has been in contact with Orthodox Church parishes in the most impacted areas of West Virginia, and with local ecumenical partners to determine the best emergency response for families in distress. Members of the IOCC Emergency Response Network, known as Frontliners, living in the affected area have been called on for possible deployment as the needs emerge.

"We send our thoughts and prayers to those who have lost loved ones to the storm and to the families who have been affected by this disaster," stated IOCC US Country Representative Daniel Christopoulos. "IOCC is committed to working with our Orthodox Church community and local ecumenical partners to do our part in helping those impacted."

**2016 PARISH CALENDAR:**

A computer printout version of the 2016 church calendar for the months of July and August are located on the back pew in the church. We will continue to generate the remaining months for 2016.

Also, for those who have access to the Internet, the calendar for July and August are posted in color on the parish website for your convenience under the "Service Schedule" tab section. Thank you!

## Announcements (cont.)

### Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

#### Health for the Living:

Family and parishioners offered by Nina Patterson  
Dave & Emelie Albrecht offered by Melanie Albrecht  
Ronald Kavalkovich offered by the Albrecht Family  
Jared and Rosemary offered by the Pellack Family  
Catherine, Patricia, Albert, Ronald Sr, Family & Friends, Kim, Charles, Cathy, Kimberly, Andrew,  
Margaret Pellack, Emelie, Rose offered by M/M K Kavalkovich and Family

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

#### Memory for the Departed:

Helen (Paytas) Wallace, Michael Slivka Jr, Pauline (Hudak) Cardow, Tedd Taninatz offered by  
M/M Herbert  
Ellie Wiesel offered by the Pellack Family  
Newly departed Maryanne offered by K Kavalkovich Family

**May Their Memories Be Eternal**

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**Please remember in your prayers:** Cantrell Family; Grace Corba; Robert Corba; Dolores Helms (Fr. Mark's Mother); Ronald Kavalkovich (on his recovery from surgery this week); 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!

Please remember those who perished and the injured in the senseless and brutal attacks that have occurred this week in Baghdad, Iraq; Dhaka, Bangladeshi; and in Dallas, Texas!

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**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 (June/July)**

	<u>Week of June 27 to July 3</u>	<u>June Month (Unaudited)</u>
Attendance:	38	35 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,344.00	\$ 5,828.00
Funds Out:	\$ 4,149.15	\$ 5,294.35
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	<b>(\$ 2,805.15)</b>	\$ 533.65

*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 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church School Room!** All property committee members are asked to attend the meeting. Reports and discussions on the walk thru of the Church Hall by independent realtors will be on the agenda and deliberation regarding the agents' professional opinions of the property.

**Bible Study – Tuesday, July 12 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.

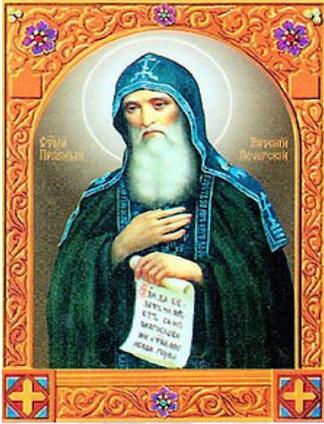
**JULY'S Readers' Meeting:** The next meeting will occur on a Sunday in July. As of this printing of the bulletin, a date has yet to be determined. When confirmed, it will be announced in church and in the bulletin. All Readers are asked to attend the meeting. Father Mark, and those knowledgeable with the readings, will offer additional instructions and information regarding the readings for both the Hours and the Epistle.

**Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in McAdoo, PA - 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration - July 9-10, 2016.** Liturgy, Lunch, & Lecture on Saturday. Divine Liturgy followed by picnic celebration on Sunday. [Notice posted on bulletin board].

**St Michael's Russian Orthodox Church will be having a summer parish picnic on July 17, 2016 after Divine Liturgy.** Father Vincent Saverino has extended an invitation to our parish to join them for their picnic. The parish is located at 335 Fairmount Ave (corner of 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Fairmount Avenue) here in Philadelphia, PA 19123. For more information, please contact the parish at the Church Phone: 215-627-6148

**The Fellowship of Orthodox Christians (FOCA) of the Central PA Chapter is sponsoring a Family Picnic at Knobel's Grove Amusement Park in Elysburg, PA on Sunday, July 17 following Divine Liturgy.** All families are Invited! Free Parking and Admission! Pay as you go on rides! At 6pm in Pavilion K, Hamburgers and Hot Dogs with sides and soda will be served. Cost is \$5 per person, children under 6 are free. Please RSVP Greg Ressetar (Christ Our Savior Church – Harrisburg, PA) by **July 10** (that's Today!!!) by calling Greg at 717.439.0527 or emailing him at ressetar@yahoo.com

**St Tikhon Monastery Summer Events:** St Anna's Day Sunday July 24 at 2pm with Akathist and anointing in honor of the Miraculous Icon of St Anna that resides at the Monastery. Patronal Feast Day of St Tikhon of Zadonsk on Sat Aug 13 @ 9am with Met Tikhon & Monastery Brotherhood celebrating Divine Liturgy & festive meal



## **Venerable Anthony of the Kiev Far Caves, Founder of Monasticism in Russia [July 10<sup>th</sup>]**

Saint Anthony of the Kiev Caves was born in the year 983 at Liubech, not far from Chernigov, and was named Antipas in Baptism. Possessing the fear of God from his youth, he desired to be clothed in the monastic schema. When he reached a mature age, he wandered until he arrived on Mt. Athos, burning with the desire to emulate the deeds of its holy inhabitants. Here he received monastic tonsure, and the young monk pleased God in every aspect of his

spiritual struggles on the path of virtue. He particularly excelled in humility and obedience, so that all the monks rejoiced to see his holy life.

The igumen saw in St Anthony the great future ascetic, and inspired by God, he sent him back to his native land, saying, "Anthony, it is time for you to guide others in holiness. Return to your own Russian land, and be an example for others. May the blessing of the Holy Mountain be with you.

Returning to the land of Rus, Anthony began to make the rounds of the monasteries about Kiev, but nowhere did he find that strict life which had drawn him to Mt. Athos.

Through the Providence of God, Anthony came to the hills of Kiev by the banks of the River Dniepr. The forested area near the village of Berestovo reminded him of his beloved Athos. There he found a cave which had been dug out by the Priest Hilarion, who later became Metropolitan of Kiev (October 21). Since he liked the spot, Anthony prayed with tears, "Lord, let the blessing of Mt. Athos be upon this spot, and strengthen me to remain here." He began to struggle in prayer, fasting, vigil and physical labor. Every other day, or every third day, he would eat only dry bread and a little water. Sometimes he did not eat for a week. People began to come to the ascetic for his blessing and counsel, and some decided to remain with the saint.

Among Anthony's first disciples was St Nikon (March 23), who tonsured St Theodosius of the Caves (May 3) at the monastery in the year 1032.

The virtuous life of St Anthony illumined the Russian land with the beauty of monasticism. St Anthony lovingly received those who yearned for the monastic life. After instructing them how to follow Christ, he asked St Nikon to tonsure them. When twelve disciples had gathered about St Anthony, the brethren dug a large cave and built a church and cells for the monks within it.

After he appointed Abbot Barlaam to guide the brethren, St Anthony withdrew from the monastery. He dug a new cave for himself, then hid himself within it. There too, monks began to settle around him. Afterwards, the saint built a small wooden church in honor of the Dormition of the Mother of God over the Far Caves.