

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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Philadelphia, PA 19145 * Church Phone: (215) 468-3535
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<http://www.facebook.com/holyassumptionphilly>

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

Sunday, August 28, 2016 | 10th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 1 –Uncovering of the Relics of Ven. Job,
Abbot and Wonderworker of Pochaev (1659)
Ven Moses the Black of Scete (4th c.)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Acting Rector

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Parish President – Matthew Andrews

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Weekly Schedule

Today: Philadelphia Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood Service of Supplication to the Theotokos (Akathist) - **4:00PM**
Saints Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church
1406 Philadelphia Pike – Wilmington, DE 19809
Phone: 302.798.4455
Website: www.sspeterandpauluoc.org

Monday: August 29 - Beheading of Saint John the Baptist. **Strict Fast Day**

Thursday: September 1 – Church New Year (Indiction)

Saturday: September 3 – Great Vespers at **5:00PM!**

Sunday: September 4 – Hieromartyr Babylas (Vavilla)
Holy Prophet and Godseer Moses
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 1)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, / while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: / “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom! // Glory to Thy dispensation, O thou who lovest of mankind!”

Troparion (Tone 4 –Venerable Job)

Having acquired the patience of thy Forefather, / and having resembled the Baptist in abstinence, / thou didst share the divine zeal of both / and wast made worthy to receive their names. / Thou wast a fearless preacher of the True Faith; / in this way thou didst bring a multitude of monastics to Christ. / Thou didst strengthen all people in Orthodoxy, / Job, our venerable father; // pray that our souls may be saved!

Troparion (Tone 1 –Venerable Moses)

Dweller of the desert and angel in the body, / thou wast shown to be a wonder-worker, our God-bearing Father Moses. / Thou didst receive heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer, / healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to thee by faith. / Glory to Him Who gave thee strength! / Glory to Him Who granted thee a crown! / Glory to him Who through thee grants healing to all!

Kontakion (Tone 1)

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, / raising the world with Thyself. / Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. / Adam exults, O Master! / Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee: // “Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

Kontakion (Tone 4 –Venerable Job)

Thou wast a pillar of the True Faith; / a zealot of the commandments of the Gospel; / a denouncer of pride, / and a defender and teacher of the humble. / Therefore, those who honor thee pray for the remission of their sins, / and that this, thy holy habitation, be kept safe from all harm, // Job, our father, who resembled the long-suffering Patriarch of old.

Kontakion (Tone 2 –Venerable Moses)

Thy mind was filled / with a holy inspiration from God, / turning thee from the lust and pleasures of the flesh, / and bringing thee to the height of the city of God. / Holy Father Moses, / intercede with Christ God that he may grant us great mercy!

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: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16

For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ! We are weak, but you are strong! You are distinguished, but we are dishonored! To the present hour we both hunger and thirst, and we are poorly clothed, and beaten, and homeless. And we labor, working with our own hands. Being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure; being defamed, we entreat. We have been made as the filth of the world, the offscouring of all things until now. I do not write these things to shame you, but as my beloved children I warn you. For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel. Therefore I urge you, imitate me. Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 1)

v. God gives vengeance unto me, and subdues people under me.

Alleluia (3x's)

v. He magnifies the salvation of the King and deals mercifully with David,
His anointed, and his seed forever. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 17:14-23

And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying, Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water. So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him. Then Jesus answered and said, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me." And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting. Now while they were staying in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and the third day He will be raised up. And they were exceedingly sorrowful.

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.)

St. Tikhon's Seminary Opens Parish Lay Leadership Training Program in Philadelphia, PA

SOUTH CANAAN, PA [STOTS Communications] – St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary is pleased to announce a new program of studies developed for theological training of lay parishioners who are involved in various leadership activities in their parish. This program is an expansion of already existing Diaconal Formation program, which has been successfully offered off-campus for last 9 years. Just like the Diaconal Formation program, Parish Lay Leadership Training Program is comprised of 4 semesters (2 academic years) during which participants are enrolled in graduate level courses in theology, scripture, church history and liturgics. In addition to this, the new program will also offer courses that are specifically geared towards training students to be better assistants to the pastor in various areas of parish life, like catechetical and Sunday school instructions, liturgical services and parish management.

For 2016-2017 school year the new program will only be offered in Philadelphia location with plans to expand it to other locations and possibly add more topic areas in the future. "The setting of the Diaconal Formation program proved to be very appealing to those who live within driving distance from our location and who can attend the program on Saturdays while holding full-time jobs" remarked Fr. Victor Gorodenchuk, the administrator of Philadelphia location of the program. "While we continue to give theological training to Diaconal candidates, we realize that there is a clear need to help parishes of our area by training those lay parishioners who desire to be actively involved in the lives of their communities and who could greatly benefit from structured coursework in such areas as Theology, Liturgy and Scripture."

Archpriest Steven Voytovich, Seminary dean, shared his enthusiasm regarding the program development. "With the solid foundation of the diaconal training program components already in place, this expansion will offer significant opportunities for motivated laypersons to more actively serve the Church by accessing this spiritually enriching formational training," stated Fr. Steven.

Flyers with more information are posted up on the parish bulletin boards, To learn more about the details of new Diaconal Formation and Parish Lay Leadership Training program or to enroll in the program, with the blessing of your parish priest, please contact Archpriest Victor Gorodenchuk by calling 215-745-3232 or emailing dean@ststephencathedral.com.

Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church 2016 Pierogie Sale!

Call in orders ONLY!!! Orders taken Monday or Tuesday from 9AM to 11AM and pick up on Friday from 1PM-2PM. September order date: September 12 & 13. Pick Up Date: September 16.

Phone number: 302.798.4588. Church location: 1406 Philadelphia Pike – Wilmington, DE.

Cost: Potato = \$8/dozen Sauerkraut = \$8/dozen Cheese = \$12/dozen

St. Michael Russian Orthodox Church 40th Annual Russian Festival – October 7 to October 9 2016.

The parish's popular and festive event will be held the first full weekend of October (this year from Friday, October 7 to Sunday, October 9). The weekend will feature a range of Russian food delights for lunch through dinner, live accordion music, the Sunday School's Russian Dancers, and specialty shops from Russian made artifacts, books of interest, handmade decorations, drawing opportunities, and a variety of collectibles and treasures for ones enjoyment.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Family and parishioners offered by Nina Patterson
Family and friends offered by David Pellack

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; Dolores Helms (Fr. Mark’s Mother); Ronald Kavalkovich (on his recovery from surgery); Mat. Jan Koczak; Julia Makara; Helen Riley; Helen Wanenchak; Annamae Witiak; John Sidoriak; 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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Matushka Jan would like to thank all of the parishioners for your prayers and thoughtful gestures (cards and gifts) while she recovered. All of you are in her prayers. On Friday, she had an emergency hospital visit related to the post-op healing. May God grant you all of you many happy, healthy years!

2016 PARISH CALENDAR:

A computer printout version of the 2016 church calendar for the months of September and October will be located on the back pew in the church next week. We will continue to generate the remaining months for 2016.

Also, for those who have access to the Internet, the calendar for September and October will be posted next week 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 (August)

| | <u>Week of August 15 to August 21</u> | <u>August Month-to-Date</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Attendance: | 24 | 34 (average) |
| Funds In: | \$ 622.00 | \$ 3,412.00 |
| Funds Out: | \$ 1,587.05 | \$ 5,755.34 |
| Net Surplus/(Deficit): | (\$ 965.05) | (\$ 2,343.34) |

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

Vesperal Liturgy Services - September 2016 - All Services at 6:30PM:

Wednesday, September 7 – Eve of The Nativity of Our Most-Holy Lady The Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

Tuesday, September 13 – Eve of The Universal Exaltation (Elevation) of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

Sunday, September 11 - Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church

School Room! All property committee members are asked to attend the meeting. Continued discussions on the status of the Church Hall along with the other properties will be on the agenda.

Tuesday, September 13 20 – Bible Study at 6:30pm in church basement.

The Bible Study Group will gather together at this time and begin reading and studying the next book in the Bible...Exodus. Yes, they have completed Genesis, so be prepared to begin leaning about God's rescue of his people from Egypt, their journey to Sinai, and the covenant between them. **NOTE CHANGE OF DATE!!!!**

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church - Bethlehem, PA - 35th Annual Russian Day Festival – September 9 to September 11 2016.

The parish's annual festive event will be held in two weeks on the weekend from Friday, September 9 to Sunday, September 11). The weekend will feature a range of Russian food delights throughout each day, live Polka music, the Russian Tea Room and home baked goods, and specialty shops with Treasurers of Russian.

Information Flyer is posted on our parish bulletin boards!

Coffee with Sister Vassa – October 2016 Speaking Tour:

Sister Dr. Vassa Larin will be making a series of presentations around the Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania beginning on October 17, 2016. The closet her speaking schedule brings her to the Philadelphia area will be on Thursday, October 20 at 7:00pm at St. Stephen Orthodox Cathedral (Northeast Philadelphia)

8598 Verree Rd – Philadelphia, PA 19111. Phone: 215.342.0866

Her Topic: *Keeping Christ in Orthodoxy*

To learn more about Sister Vassa, please visit her website at:
www.coffeewithsistervassa.com

You can also view her presentations on the Internet website YouTub.com and use the search: Coffee with Sr Vassa. Each of her video presentations are about 10 to 20 minutes in length.

Information and Flyer are posted on our parish bulletin boards!



Venerable Moses the Black of Scete [Aug 28th]

Saint Moses lived in Egypt during the fourth century. He was an Ethiopian, and since he was black of skin he was called “Murin” (meaning “like an Ethiopian”). In his youth he was the slave of an important man, but after he committed a murder, his master banished him, and he joined a band of robbers.

Because of his bad character and great physical strength, they chose him as their leader. Moses and his band of brigands were feared because of their many evil exploits, including murders and robberies. People trembled at the mere mention of his name.

Moses the brigand spent several years leading a sinful life, but through the great mercy of God he repented, left his band of robbers and went to one of the desert monasteries. Here he wept for a long time, begging to be admitted as one of the brethren. The monks were not convinced of the sincerity of his repentance, but the former robber would neither be driven away nor silenced. He continued to implore that they accept him.

St Moses was completely obedient to the hegoumen and the brethren, and he poured forth many tears of sorrow for his sinful life. After a certain while St Moses withdrew to a solitary cell, where he spent his time in prayer and the strictest fasting.

Once, four of the robbers of his former band descended upon the cell of St Moses. He had lost none of his great physical strength, so he tied them all up. Throwing them over his shoulder, he brought them to the monastery, where he asked the Elders what to do with them. The Elders ordered that they be set free. The robbers, learning that they had chanced upon their former ringleader, and that he had dealt kindly with them, followed his example: they repented and became monks. Later, when the rest of the band of robbers heard about St Moses repentance, then they also gave up their thievery and became fervent monks.

St Moses was not quickly freed from the passions. He went often to the hegoumen, Abba Isidore, seeking advice on how to be delivered from the passions of profligacy. Being experienced in the spiritual struggle, the Elder taught him never to eat too much food, to remain partly hungry while observing the strictest restraint. But the passions did not cease to trouble St Moses in his dreams.

Then Abba Isidore taught him the all-night vigil. The monk stood the whole night at prayer, so he would not fall asleep. As a result of his prolonged struggles, St Moses fell into despondency, and when he began to have thoughts about leaving his solitary cell, Abba Isidore instead strengthened the resolve of his disciple.

In a vision he showed him many demons in the west, prepared for battle, and in the east a still greater quantity of holy angels, also ready for fighting. Abba Isidore explained to St Moses that the power of the angels would prevail over the power of the demons, and in the long struggle with the passions it was necessary for him to become completely cleansed of his former sins.

St Moses drove himself to additional labors. Making the rounds of the wilderness cells at night, he carried water from the well to each brother. He did this especially for the Elders, who lived far from the well and who were not easily able to carry their own water. Once, kneeling over the well, St Moses felt a powerful blow upon his back and he fell down at the well like one dead, laying there in that position until dawn. Thus did the devils take revenge upon the monk for his victory over them. In the morning the brethren carried him to his cell, and he lay there crippled for a whole year. After he recovered, the monk with firm resolve confessed to the hegoumen, that he would continue with his ascetic struggles. But the Lord Himself put limits to this toil which lasted for many years: Abba Isidore blessed his disciple and told him that the passions had already left him. The Elder commanded him to receive the Holy Mysteries, and to go to his own cell in peace. From that time, St Moses received from the Lord power over demons.

Accounts about his exploits spread among the monks and even beyond the bounds of the wilderness. The governor of the land wanted to see the saint. When he heard of this, St Moses decided to hide from any visitors, and he departed his own cell. Along the way he met servants of the governor, who asked him how to get to the cell of the desert-dweller Moses. The monk answered them: “Go no farther to see this false and unworthy monk.” The servants returned to the monastery where the governor was waiting, and they told him the words of the Elder they had chanced to meet. The brethren, hearing a description of the Elder’s appearance, told them that they had encountered St Moses himself.

After many years of monastic exploits, St Moses was ordained deacon. The bishop clothed him in white vestments and said, “Now Abba Moses is entirely white!” The saint replied, “Only outwardly, for God knows that I am still dark within.”

Through humility, the saint believed himself unworthy of the office of deacon. Once, the bishop decided to test him and he bade the clergy to drive him out of the altar, reviling him as an unworthy Ethiopian. In all humility, the monk accepted the abuse. Having put him to the test, the bishop then ordained St Moses to the priesthood. St Moses labored for fifteen years in this rank, and gathered 75 disciples around himself.