

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

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

Sunday, September 25, 2016 | 14th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 5 – Repose of Ven. Sergius (Sergii) Abbot and
Wonderworker of Radonezh and All Russia (1392)
Ven Euphrosyne of Alexandria (5th c.)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Acting Rector

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Parish President – Matthew Andrews

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Weekly Schedule

Today: Church Life Discussion Class after the Divine Liturgy and the Fellowship hour. Location: TBD after Liturgy
Topic: History of the Divine Liturgy

Saturday: October 1 – Great Vespers at 5:00PM!

Sunday: October 2 – Hieromartyr Cyprian, Virgin Martyr Justina, and Martyr Theoctistus of Nicomedia
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

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 4 – Saint Serguis)

A zealot of good deeds / and a true warrior of Christ our God, / thou didst struggle greatly against the passions in this passing life; / in songs and vigils and fasting thou wast an image and example to thy disciples, / thus the most Holy Spirit lived within thee, / and thou wast made beautiful by His working. / Since thou hast great boldness before the Holy Trinity, / remember the flock which thou hast wisely gathered, // and do not forget to visit thy children as thou didst promise, venerable Sergius, our father!

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 8 – Saint Serguis)

Bound by the love of Christ, O venerable one, / and following Him with unwavering desire, / thou didst despise all carnal pleasures, shining like the sun in thy land. / Therefore, Christ has enriched thee with the gift of miracles. / Remember us, who venerate thy most holy memory // and who call out to thee: Rejoice, O Sergius, made wise by God!

Prokeimenon (Tone 5)

Thou, O Lord, shalt 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: 2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4

Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. Moreover I call God as witness against my soul, that to spare you I came no more to Corinth. Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy; for by faith you stand. But I determined this within myself, that I would not come again to you in sorrow. For if I make you sorrowful, then who is he who makes me glad but the one who is made sorrowful by me? And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having confidence in you all that my joy is the joy of you all. For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you. Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 5)

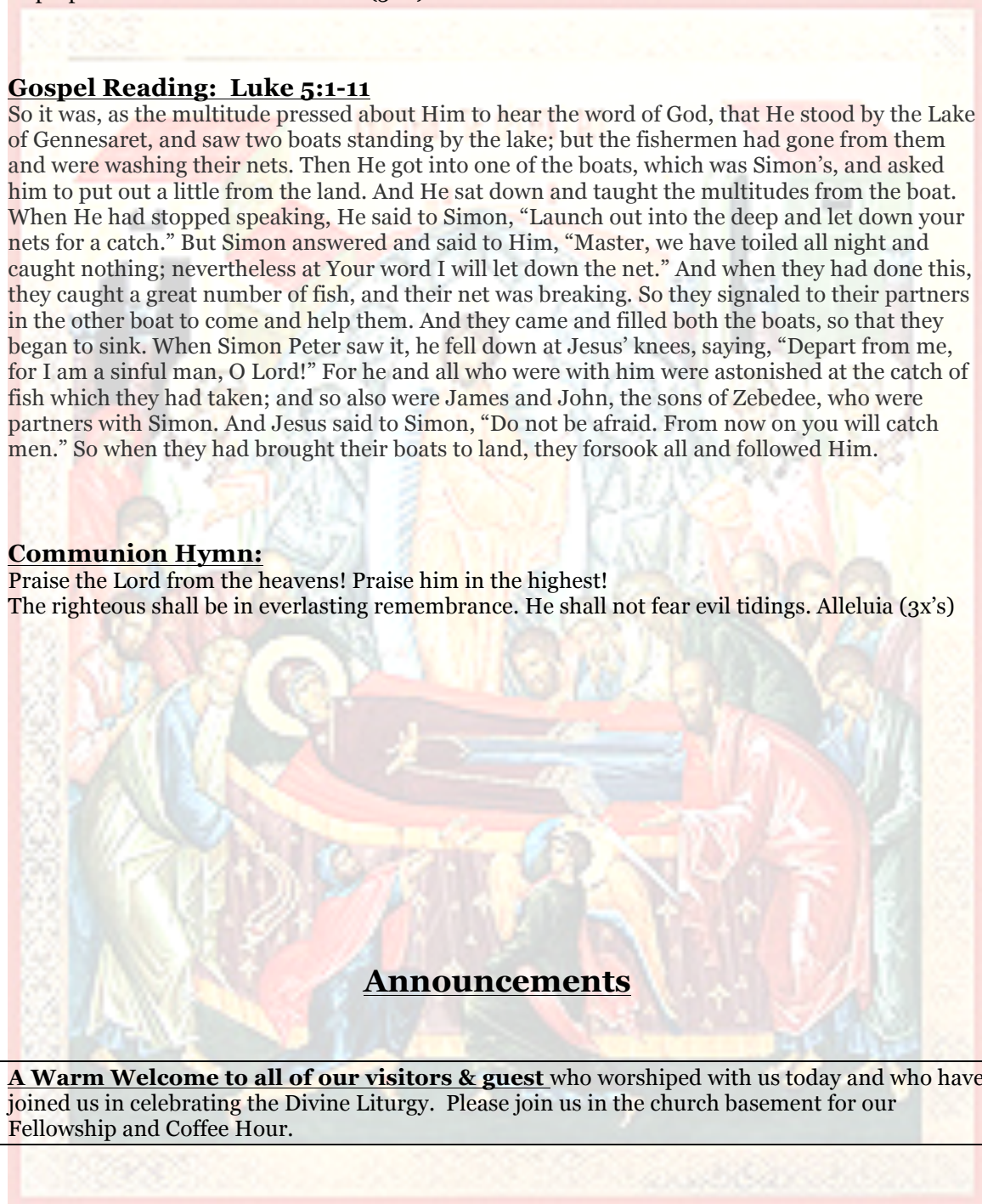
- v. I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim
Thy truth from generation to generation. Alleluia (3x's)
- v. For Thou hast said: "Mercy will be established forever; Thy truth will be
prepared in the heavens. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Luke 5:1-11

So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets. Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat. When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

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.)

40 Days For Life – Philadelphia Campaign – Fall Season:

The next 40 Days for Life begins this week (from September 28 to November 6). This will be the largest campaign ever with peaceful vigils occurring in ALL 50 states at the same time! Meanwhile the killing still continues at Planned Parenthood. Thank you so much in advance for signing up for this list and being willing to continue standing up for those that can't speak for themselves.

Information:

- * Contacts: Monique Ruberu or Pat Stanton at 469.231.9084
- * Email: roobearoo@hotmail.com
- * Website: <https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/philadelphia/>
- * Prayer vigil located at 12th & Locust St, Philadelphia – Planned Parenthood
- * Vigils open Monday-Saturday from 8am-5pm.
- * Try to have at least one person there to cover the hour.
- * There are more abortions performed there than at any other Planned Parenthood in Pennsylvania!

The 40 Days For Life is not a political organization or a protest group. They stand and pray as a peaceful physical presence and witness for the lives of the unborn, who cannot speak for themselves.

Other peaceful vigils located in the surrounding areas include:

New Jersey - Absecon (Atlantic City area) and Cherry Hill
Pennsylvania – Bryn Mawr, Norristown, Warminster, and West Chester
Delaware - Wilmington

Clean up day outside the Church & Hall – Sat Oct 29, 2016!

The parish will be cleaning up around the outside of the church and the hall on this day. Please bring, if you can, tools and supplies to assist in the beautification of the property. Items that you may find helpful in cleaning up are: broom, shovel, trash bags, shears, branch clippers, rake, leaf blower, weed wacker, and any other type of gardening equipment or outdoor cleaning supply. Time TBD within the next few weeks. Rain Date – the following Saturday, Nov 5

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. October order date: October 10 & 11. Pick Up Date: October 14.

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

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

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Emelie Albrecht and Peter Ruberty offered by Melanie Albrecht
Sean Walsh offered by Emelie Albrecht
Parishioners offered by Margaret Pellack

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Thomas Mattie, Annamae Witiak, John Sidoriak offered by M/M Herbert
Annamae Witiak offered by Nina Patterson
Annamae Witiak offered by Emelie Albrecht

May Their Memories Be Eternal

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Please remember in your prayers: Cantrell Family; Grace Corba; Robert Corba; Ronald Kavalkovich (on his recovery from surgery); Mat. Jan Koczak; Julia Makara; Helen Riley; Helen Wanenchak; Annamae Witiak (newly departed); 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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2017 Saint Tikhon’s Monastery Calendar - Taking orders now:

The parish will be ordering 2017 calendars from Saint Tikhon’s Monastery. There is a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board downstairs next to the other three sign up sheets (i.e. cleaning, coffee hour, reading schedule). The cost of the 2017 St Tikhon’s calendars is \$6 per calendar. The deadline for ordering these calendars will be: Sunday, October 30, 2016!

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 (September)

| | <u>Week of Sep 12 to Sep 18</u> | <u>September Month-To-Date</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Attendance: | 30 | 36 (average) |
| Funds In: | \$ 1,800.00 | \$ 4,378.00 |
| Funds Out: | \$ 1,733.06 | \$ 5,729.05 |
| Net Surplus/(Deficit): | \$ 66.94 | (\$ 1,351.05) |

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

2nd Tuesday of each month – Bible Study at 6:30pm in church basement.
2nd Sunday of each month – Property Committee Meeting after Liturgy.
3rd Sunday of each month – Property Committee Meeting after Liturgy.
4th Sunday of each month – Church Life Discussion Class after Liturgy.

Fall General Parish Meeting - Sunday, October 16, 2016 after Divine Liturgy in the church basement. This is Notice #1 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 General Parish Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 16. Discussions will include events since the June Parish Meeting; activities over the next few months; the status of the Property Committee; and any other business that needs to be discussed. Meeting should take about an hour but should not exceed past 90 minutes.

St. Michael Russian Orthodox Church 40th Annual Russian Festival
4th St & Fairmount Avenue – Philadelphia, PA October 7 to 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.

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 YouTube.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!

IOCC Fifth Annual Benefit Banquet – Friday, October 28, 2016!

St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church – 900 S. Trooper Road – Jeffersonville, PA 19403

Hors d'oeuvres and Silent Auction at 6:00pm * Dinner and Program at 7:30pm

Tickets are \$60 per person.

Register online at IOCC website at: iocc.org/philadelphia

Flyer and Information posted on Bulletin Board down in the church basement



Martyr Sophia and her three daughters at Rome: Faith, Hope, and Love [Sep 18th]

Last week, the Church celebrated the Holy Martyrs Saint Sophia and her Daughters Faith, Hope and Love who were born in Italy. Their mother was a pious Christian widow who named her daughters for the three Christian virtues. Faith was twelve, Hope was ten, and Love was nine. St Sophia raised them in the love of the Lord Jesus Christ. St Sophia and her daughters did not hide their faith in Christ, but openly confessed it before everyone.

An official named Antiochus denounced them to the emperor Hadrian (117-138), who ordered that they be brought to Rome. Realizing that they would be taken before the emperor, the holy virgins prayed fervently to the Lord Jesus Christ, asking that He give them the strength not to fear torture and death. When the holy virgins and their mother came before the emperor, everyone present was amazed at their composure. They looked as though they had been brought to some happy festival, rather than to torture. Summoning each of the sisters in turn, Hadrian urged them to offer sacrifice to the goddess Artemis. The young girls remained unyielding.

Then the emperor ordered them to be tortured. They burned the holy virgins over an iron grating, then threw them into a red-hot oven, and finally into a cauldron with boiling tar, but the Lord preserved them.

The youngest child, Love, was tied to a wheel and they beat her with rods until her body was covered all over with bloody welts. After undergoing unspeakable torments, the holy virgins glorified their Heavenly Bridegroom and remained steadfast in the Faith.

They subjected St Sophia to another grievous torture: the mother was forced to watch the suffering of her daughters. She displayed adamant courage, and urged her daughters to endure their torments for the sake of the Heavenly Bridegroom. All three maidens were beheaded, and joyfully bent their necks beneath the sword.

In order to intensify St Sophia's inner suffering, the emperor permitted her to take the bodies of her daughters. She placed their remains in coffins and loaded them on a wagon. She drove beyond the city limits and reverently buried them on a high hill. St Sophia sat there by the graves of her daughters for three days, and finally she gave up her soul to the Lord. Even though she did not suffer for Christ in the flesh, she was not deprived of a martyr's crown. Instead, she suffered in her heart. Believers buried her body there beside her daughters.

The relics of the holy martyrs have rested at El'zasa, in the church of Esho since the year 777.