

## 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, October 2, 2016 | 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 6 – Hieromartyr Cyprian, Virgin Martyr Justina,  
and Martyr Theoctistus, of Nicomedia (304)

#### 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: Fall Festivals at the following Orthodox parishes:  
St Vladimir's Ukrainian Cathedral - 6740 N 5<sup>th</sup> St - Philadelphia, PA  
Christ The Savior Church – 5501 Old Locust Lane – Harrisburg, PA

Saturday: October 8 – Great Vespers at 5:00PM!

Sunday: October 9 – Holy Apostle James, Son of Alphaeus  
Glorification of St Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow  
Reading of Hours – 9:30am  
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am  
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: October 9 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the church school room

Friday to Sunday October 7 to 9 – St Michael's 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Russian Day Festival  
4<sup>th</sup> & Fairmount Ave - Philadelphia, PA

## **Texts for the Liturgical Service**

### **Troparion (Tone 6)**

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb; / the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, / seeking Thy most pure body. / Thou didst capture hell / not being tempted by it. / Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. // O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee.

### **Troparion (Tone 4 – Hieromartyr Cyprian)**

By sharing in the ways of the Apostles, / thou didst become a successor to their throne. / Through the practice of virtue, thou didst find the way to divine contemplation, O inspired one of God; / by teaching the word of truth without error, thou didst defend the Faith, even to the shedding of thy blood. // Hieromartyr Cyprian, entreat Christ God to save our souls!

### **Kontakion (Tone 6)**

When Christ God the Giver of Life, / raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand, / He bestowed resurrection on the human race. // He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

### **Kontakion (Tone 1 – Hieromartyr Cyprian)**

Thou didst turn from the art of sorcery to the knowledge of God, / and wast shown forth as a skillful healer for the world, Cyprian, inspired by God. / Together with Justina thou grantest cures to those who honor thee; // With her, pray to the Master Who loves mankind that He may save our souls!

### **Prokeimenon (Tone 6)**

O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance!  
v. To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

### **Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:6-15**

For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed – always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you. And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God. Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 6)



v. He that dwelleth in the aid of the Most High shall abide under the protection of the God of heaven. Alleluia (3x's)  
v. He shall say to the Lord: Thou art my protector and my refuge, my God. In Him will I trust! Alleluia (3x's)

**Gospel Reading: Luke 6:31-36**

And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise. But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

**Communion Hymn:**

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest! Alleluia (3x's)

#####

**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!

#####

**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 12<sup>th</sup> & 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 during the Fall General Parish Meeting on October 16. 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 offered by Nina Patterson  
Witiak Family offered by M/M Al Kavalkovich

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

**Memory for the Departed:**

John Pellack offered by Pellack Family  
John and Julia Drimak offered by Hourahan Family  
Annamae Witiak offered by M/M Al Kavalkovich

**May Their Memories Be Eternal**

#####

**Please remember in your prayers:** Cantrell Family; Grace Corba; Robert Corba; Ronald Kavalkovich (on his recovery from surgery); Mat. Jan Kozzak; 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!

#####

Building Fund – In Memory of Annamae Witiak

- |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| * M/M Ken Kavalkovich      | * Matthew Andrews          |
| * Helen Sivak              | * Martha Palubinak         |
| * Nina Patterson           | * Melanie Albrecht         |
| * M/M Rick LeRoy           | * David & Margarot Pellack |
| * Yongkuk Choe & Jamie Mak | * Nancy Panza              |

**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 19 to Sep 25</u>	<u>September Month-To-Date</u>
Attendance:	34	36 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,303.00	\$ 5,681.00
Funds Out:	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,729.05
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 1,303.00	(\$ 48.05)

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

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month** – Monthly Panikhida immediately after Liturgy.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month** – Bible Study at 6:30pm in church basement.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month** – Property Committee Meeting after Liturgy.  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month** – Property Committee Meeting after Liturgy.  
**4<sup>th</sup> 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 #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 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 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Russian Festival**  
**4<sup>th</sup> St & Fairmount Avenue – Philadelphia, PA October 7 to 9 2016.**

The parish's popular and festive event will be held next weekend (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](http://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!

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

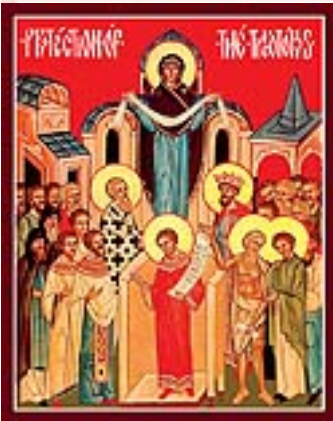
St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church – 900 S. Trooper Road – Jeffersonville, PA 19403

Hors d'œuvres 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](http://iocc.org/philadelphia)

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



## **The Protection of our Most Holy Lady the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary [Oct 1<sup>st</sup>]**

The Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos: “Today the Virgin stands in the midst of the Church, and with choirs of Saints she invisibly prays to God for us. Angels and Bishops venerate Her, Apostles and prophets rejoice together, Since for our sake she prays to the Eternal God!”

This miraculous appearance of the Mother of God occurred in the mid-tenth century in Constantinople, in the Blachernae church where her robe, veil, and part of her belt were preserved after being transferred from Palestine in the fifth century.

On Sunday, October 1, during the All Night Vigil, when the church was overflowing with those at prayer, the Fool-for-Christ St Andrew (October 2), at the fourth hour, lifted up his eyes towards the heavens and beheld our most Holy Lady Theotokos coming through the air, resplendent with heavenly light and surrounded by an assembly of the Saints. St John the Baptist and the holy Apostle John the Theologian accompanied the Queen of Heaven. On bended knees the Most Holy Virgin tearfully prayed for Christians for a long time. Then, coming near the Bishop’s Throne, she continued her prayer.

After completing her prayer she took her veil and spread it over the people praying in church, protecting them from enemies both visible and invisible. The Most Holy Lady Theotokos was resplendent with heavenly glory, and the protecting veil in her hands gleamed “more than the rays of the sun.” St Andrew gazed trembling at the miraculous vision and he asked his disciple, the blessed Epiphanius standing beside him, “Do you see, brother, the Holy Theotokos, praying for all the world?” Epiphanius answered, “I do see, holy Father, and I am in awe.”

The Ever-Blessed Mother of God implored the Lord Jesus Christ to accept the prayers of all the people calling on His Most Holy Name, and to respond speedily to her intercession, “O Heavenly King, accept all those who pray to You and call on my name for help. Do not let them not go away from my icon unheard.”

Sts Andrew and Epiphanius were worthy to see the Mother of God at prayer, and “for a long time observed the Protecting Veil spread over the people and shining with flashes of glory. As long as the Most Holy Theotokos was there, the Protecting Veil was also visible, but with her departure it also became invisible. After taking it with her, she left behind the grace of her visitation.”

At the Blachernae church, the memory of the miraculous appearance of the Mother of God was remembered. In the fourteenth century, the Russian pilgrim and clerk Alexander, saw in the church an icon of the Most Holy Theotokos praying for the world, depicting St Andrew in contemplation of her.

The Primary Chronicle of St Nestor reflects that the protective intercession of the Mother of God was needed because an attack of a large pagan Russian fleet under the leadership of Askole and Dir. The feast celebrates the divine destruction of the fleet which threatened Constantinople itself, sometime in the years 864-867 or according to the Russian historian Vasiliev, on June 18, 860. Ironically, this Feast is considered important by the Slavic Churches but not by the Greeks.



The Primary Chronicle of St Nestor also notes the miraculous deliverance followed an all-night Vigil and the dipping of the garment of the Mother of God into the waters of the sea at the Blachernae church, but does not mention Sts Andrew and Epiphanius and their vision of the Mother of God at prayer. These latter elements, and the beginnings of the celebrating of the Feast of the Protection, seem to postdate St Nestor and the Chronicle. A further historical complication might be noted under (October 2) dating St Andrew's death to the year 936.

The year of death might not be quite reliable, or the assertion that he survived to a ripe old age after the vision of his youth, or that his vision involved some later pagan Russian raid which met with the same fate. The suggestion that St Andrew was a Slav (or a Scythian according to other sources, such as S. V. Bulgakov) is interesting, but not necessarily accurate. The extent of Slavic expansion and repopulation into Greece is the topic of scholarly disputes.

In the PROLOGUE, a Russian book of the twelfth century, a description of the establishment of the special Feast marking this event states, "For when we heard, we realized how wondrous and merciful was the vision... and it transpired that Your holy Protection should not remain without festal celebration, O Ever-Blessed One!"

Therefore, in the festal celebration of the Protection of the Mother of God, the Russian Church sings, "With the choirs of the Angels, O Sovereign Lady, with the venerable and glorious prophets, with the First-Ranked Apostles and with the Hieromartyrs and Hierarchs, pray for us sinners, glorifying the Feast of your Protection in the Russian Land." Moreover, it would seem that St Andrew, contemplating the miraculous vision was a Slav, was taken captive, and became the slave of the local inhabitant of Constantinople named Theognostus.

Churches in honor of the Protection of the Mother of God began to appear in Russia in the twelfth century. Widely known for its architectural merit is the temple of the Protection at Nerl, which was built in the year 1165 by holy Prince Andrew Bogoliubsky. The efforts of this holy prince also established in the Russian Church the Feast of the Protection of the Mother of God, about the year 1164.

At Novgorod in the twelfth century there was a monastery of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos (the so-called Zverin monastery) In Moscow also under Tsar Ivan the Terrible the cathedral of the Protection of the Mother of God was built at the church of the Holy Trinity (known as the church of St Basil the Blessed).

On the Feast of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos we implore the defense and assistance of the Queen of Heaven, "Remember us in your prayers, O Lady Virgin Mother of God, that we not perish by the increase of our sins. Protect us from every evil and from grievous woes, for in you do we hope, and venerating the Feast of your Protection, we magnify you."