

## Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St. (corner of 28<sup>th</sup> St. & Snyder Ave.)  
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<http://www.facebook.com/holyassumptionphilly>

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

### Sunday, November 27, 2016 | 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 6 – Great Martyr James (Jacob) the Persian (421)

Ven Palladius of Thessalonica (6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> c.)

St Jacob (James), Bishop and Wonderworker of Rostov (1392).

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

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Parish President – Matthew Andrews

Phone: 856-217-8075

### Weekly Schedule

Today: Church Life Discussion Class after Divine Liturgy.  
Topic: History of the Divine Liturgy

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

Sunday: December 4 – Great Martyr Barbara and Martyr Juliana  
Reading of Hours – 9:30am  
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am  
*Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy*

## 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 – Great Martyr James the Persian)**

Long-suffering James, thou didst astound all / by enduring horrible tortures with great patience. / As the evil assembly performed the slaughter, / thou didst utter prayers of thanksgiving to the Lord. / Through thy sufferings thou didst receive thy crown, / and didst come to the throne of the heavenly King, Christ God. // Entreat Him 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 2 – Great Martyr James the Persian)**

Thou didst listen to thy faithful wife / and didst contemplate the judgment of God, holy James; / thou didst despise the threats and commands of the Persians, / accepting the cutting of thy body and though thee were a vine. //  
Therefore thou wast revealed as a martyr worthy of honor.

### **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: Ephesians 2:4-10**

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. Alleluia (3x's)  
(Tone 6)

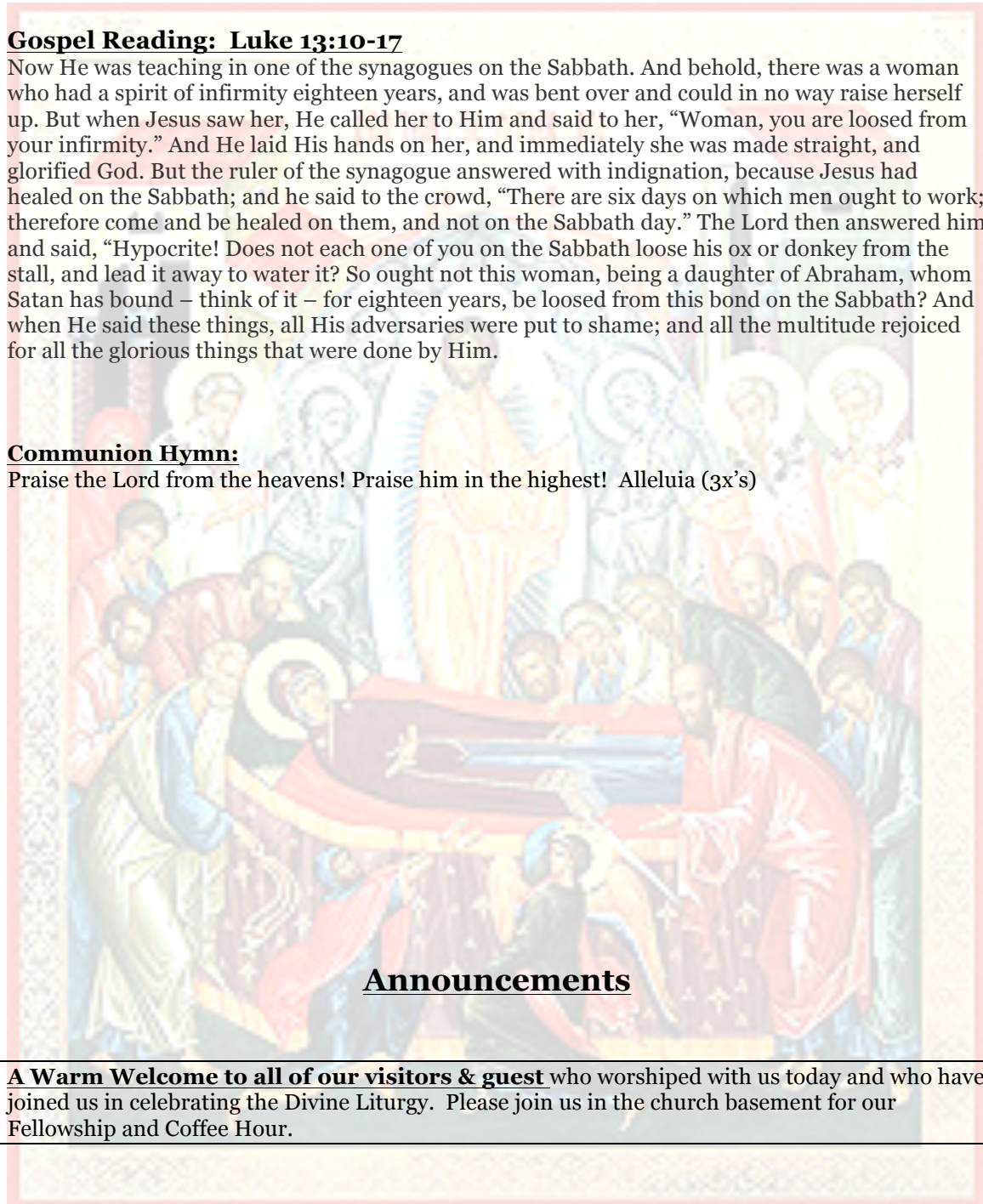
- v. He that dwelleth in the aid of the Most High shall abide under the protection of the God of heaven. Alleluia (3x's)
- v. He shall say to the Lord: Thou art my protector and my refuge, my God. In Him will I trust! Alleluia (3x's)

**Gospel Reading: Luke 13:10-17**

Now He was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise herself up. But when Jesus saw her, He called her to Him and said to her, "Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God. But the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath; and he said to the crowd, "There are six days on which men ought to work; therefore come and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath day." The Lord then answered him and said, "Hypocrite! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or donkey from the stall, and lead it away to water it? So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound – think of it – for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath? And when He said these things, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by Him.

**Communion Hymn:**

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.)

### **Advent Season Tutelage - 2016**

We are providing this tutelage for those who are unable to attend or view either the Bible Study or Church Life Discussion Classes during the Advent Season but wish to still remain closer to God as we prepare for the Holy Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

This season we will provide information on the Ranks of Angels, the Hierarchies, and the names of the Archangels. So let's continue...

There are Nine Ranks of Angels and the Angelic Ranks are divided into three Hierarchies: highest, middle, and lowest. This week we will provide information on the Three Ranks of Angels in the Middle Hierarchy which include the Dominions, Powers, and Authorities.

#### **Middle Hierarchy:**

##### **DOMINIONS:**

DOMINIONS (Col 1:16) hold dominion over the angels subject to them. They instruct the earthly authorities, established by God, to rule wisely, and to govern their lands well. The Dominions teach us to subdue sinful impulses, to subject the flesh to the spirit, to master our will, and to conquer temptation.

##### **POWERS:**

POWERS (1 Pet 3:22) fulfill the will of God without hesitation. They work great miracles and give the grace of wonderworking and clairvoyance to saints pleasing to God. The Powers assist people in fulfilling obediences. They also encourage them to be patient, and give them spiritual strength and fortitude.

##### **AUTHORITIES:**

AUTHORITIES (1 Pet 3:22, Col 1:16) have authority over the devil. They protect people from demonic temptations, and prevent demons from harming people as they would wish. They also uphold ascetics and guard them, helping people in the struggle with evil thoughts.

Next week we will provide information on the next Three Ranks of Angels in the Lowest Angelic Hierarchy which include Principalities, Archangels, and Angels.

**Announcements** (cont.)

**Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed**

**Health for the Living:**

Roger Currier offered by Albrecht Family  
Anastasia Kavalkovich, Alexander Kavalkovich, Ronald Kavalkovich offered by Catherine Kavalkovich  
Margaret Pellack offered by Pellack Family  
Anastasia, Alexander, Marc, Albert, Catherine, Patricia, Margaret, William, Family and Friends offered by M/M K Kavalkovich

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

**Memory for the Departed:**

Mary Spack (Winton St) offered by Albrecht Family  
Dolores Helms offered by Nina Patterson  
John & Julia Jugan offered by Pellack Family  
Florance Savchak offered by Pellack Family  
Florance Telichan offered by Pellack Family

**May Their Memories Be Eternal**

#####  
**Please remember in your prayers:** Cantrell Family; Grace Corba; Robert Corba; + Dolores Helms (newly departed and Fr. Mark's Mother); Ronald Kavalkovich (on his recovery from surgery); Mat. Jan Kozzak; Rick LeRoy, Julia Makara; Margaret Pellack; Helen Riley; Helen Wanenchak; 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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**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 (November)

	<u>Week of Nov 14 to Nov 20</u>	<u>November Month-to-Date</u>
Attendance:	26	32 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,812.00	\$ 4,599.28
Funds Out:	\$ 1,892.11	\$ 6,148.15
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 80.11)	(\$ 1,548.87)

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.(if needed)  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month** – Church Life Discussion Class after Liturgy.

**Today - Church Life Discussion after the Divine Liturgy and Fellowship hour in the church.**  
The Topic – History of the Divine Liturgy. Please note the Church Life Discussions on the History of the Divine Liturgy are held on the **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday** of each month.

**FYI – The December Church Life Discussion will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month December 18<sup>th</sup> as a result of Christmas occurring on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Decmeber this calendar year.** Please make a note of this change and mark it in your calendars for next month! Thank You!

**Poinsettias/Christmas Flowers!** We have begun collecting for Christmas flowers! There will be special envelopes available to be used for your offering for flower donations. Please give the envelopes to Debbie Kavalkovich or a member of the parish council. Thank you for your support!

**Saturday – December 10, 2016 – Advent Adult Education Presentation:**

### **The Mary & Martha in Us!**

With Vasiliki Tsigas-Fotinis Ph.D., guest speaker and facilitator

Sponsored by St. Irene Philoptochos Society of St Thomas Greek Orthodox Church

Time: 9:15am to 2:30pm

Location: St Thomas Greek Orthodox Church – 615 Mercer St – Cherry Hill, NJ

Fee: \$10 (includes breakfast, lunch, and refreshments)

Registration Deadline: **December 3, 2016**

Please bring your Holy Bible & writing materials. Childcare service is available by reservation. Please see Flyer & Registration Form up on the bulletin boards.

### **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.  
December order date: December 5 & 6. Pick Up Date: December 9.

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

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



## **Greatmartyr James (Jacob) the Persian** [Nov 27<sup>th</sup>]

The Holy Great Martyr James the Persian (the Sawn-Asunder) was born in the fourth century into a pious Christian family, both wealthy and illustrious. His wife was also a Christian, and the couple raised their children in piety, inspiring in them a love for prayer and the Holy Scriptures.

James occupied a high position at the court of the Persian emperor Izdegerd (399-420) and his successor Barakhranes (420-438). But on one of the military campaigns James, seduced by the emperor's beneficence, was afraid to acknowledge himself a Christian, and so he offered sacrifice to idols with the emperor.

Learning of this, James' mother and wife wrote him a letter, in which they rebuked him and urged him to repent. Receiving the letter, James realized the gravity of his sin. Faced with the horror of being cut off not only from his family, but also from God Himself, he began to weep loudly, imploring the Lord for forgiveness.

His fellow-soldiers, hearing him pray to the Lord Jesus Christ, reported this to the emperor. Under interrogation, St James bravely confessed his faith in the one True God. No amount of urging by the emperor could make him renounce Christ. The emperor then ordered the saint to be put to death.

They began to cut off his fingers and his toes one by one, then his hands and his feet, and then his arms and legs. During the prolonged torture St James offered prayers of thanksgiving to the Lord, Who had granted him the possibility of redemption from his sins by enduring these terrible torments. Finally, the martyr was beheaded. Christians gathered up the pieces of his body and buried them with great reverence.