

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
Website: <http://www.holyassumptionphilly.org>



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

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

Sunday, January 8, 2017 | 29th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 4 – Afterfeast of the Theophany. Sunday after the Theophany.

Venerable George the Chozebite (6th c.)

Venerable Domnica of Constantinople (474)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Acting Rector

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Parish President – Matthew Andrews

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Weekly Schedule

Today: Church clean-up of Christmas decorations and flower removal (Except for the 6 large plants on Altar steps and 4 large plants on Tetrapod)

Tuesday: January 10 – Bible Study at 6:30pm in the Church Basement!
Continue reading the Book of Exodus.

Saturday: January 14 – Great Vespers at **5:00PM!**

Sunday: January 15 – Ven. Paul of Thebes and John Calabytes
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: January 15 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the church schoolroom. Also scheduled to be in attendance around noontime is Pastor Gregory S. Morgan from God's House who will address any questions or concerns the committee has regarding the Hall rental.

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 4)

When the women disciples of the Lord / learned from the angel the joyous message of thy Resurrection, / they cast away the ancestral curse / and elatedly told the apostles: / “Death is overthrown! / Christ God is risen, // granting the world great mercy!”

Troparion (Tone 1 – Feast of Theophany)

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, / the worship of the Trinity was made manifest. / For the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, / and called Thee His beloved Son; / and the Spirit in the form of a dove / confirmed the truthfulness of His word. / O Christ our God, Who hast revealed Thyself // and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

Kontakion (Tone 4)

My Savior and Redeemer / as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. / He has shattered the gates of hell, / and as Master, // He has risen on the third day!

Kontakion (Tone 4 – Feast of Theophany)

Today Thou hast shone forth to the world, O Lord, / and the light of Thy countenance has been marked on us. / Knowing Thee, we sing Thy praises: / Thou hast come and revealed Thyself, // O unapproachable Light.

Prokeimenon (Tone 1 – Sunday After Theophany)

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: Ephesians 4:7-13 (Sunday After Theophany)

But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ’s gift. Therefore He says: “When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men.” (Now this, “He ascended” – what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

Alleluia (3x’s) (Tone 5 – Sunday After Theophany)

- 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: Matthew 4:12-17 (Sunday After Theophany)

The Now when Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, He departed to Galilee. And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, And upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

[Instead of "It is truly meet.." we sing the Hymn to the Theotokos]

Magnify, O my soul, the most-pure Virgin Theotokos,
more honorable and more glorious than the heavenly hosts!
No tongue is capable of praising you worthily;
The angelic mind is overawed in exalting you, O Theotokos!
But since thou art good, accept our faith,
Since you are gracious and knowest our divine love,
Thou art the defender of Christians, and we magnify thee!

Communion Hymn:

The grace of God hath appeared for the salvation of all men.
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.)

Father Mark & Matushka Jan Koczak wish to thank you for all of your prayers, thoughts, cards, and gifts during Matushka's extended health challenges and recovery. They also want to thank you all for your prayers, kind thoughts and gifts following the death of Father Mark's beloved mother Dolores. May her memory be eternal! Also, they wish to thank everyone again for your Christmas cards and gifts. We rejoice together in the Birth of Our Lord and God and Savior!

Martha Palubniak would like to thank everyone who attended her Christmas House party on Sunday, December 18. She would like to thank everyone for their kind Christmas cards and gifts. Also, she was very appreciative for all the delicious food that anyone prepared and brought with them to the party. Your presence made that afternoon a festive occasion.

2017 House Blessing

If you wish to have your home blessed, please speak with Father Mark for date availability to schedule a house blessing. The blessing of houses will begin after Theophany which is Friday, January 6. Items of importance when having your home blessed: 1) have a candle available to be burned during the house blessing, 2) a bowl of blessed holy water, 3) an icon (preferably the icon of Christ being baptized in the Jordan River), and 4) please make enough space for Father Mark to maneuver in the rooms you wish him to bless.

Greater Blessing of the Waters – Sunday, January 22, 2017 – 3pm The Pan-Orthodox Christian Brotherhood of Greater Philadelphia announces a joint Orthodox Christian Celebration of Epiphany on Sunday, January 22, 2017 at 3pm at the Fairmont Boat House, located at 1 Boat House Row and Kelly Drive, Philadelphia, PA. This traditional service known as “The Greater Blessing of the Waters” will commemorate the Baptism of Jesus Christ in the River Jordan by St. John the Baptizer. For more information please speak with Father Mark Koczak or contact Vice-Chairman Protodeacon Gregory Moser at P: 215.794.8980 or email pdengmoser@gmail.com

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Family and Parishioners offered by Nina Patterson
Family and Parishioners offered by Melaine Albrecht
Kalish Family offered by Pellack Family

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Sophie Herbert, Benjamin Macalush, Reader Leonty Macalush, Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Mary Spack offered by M/M Herbert
Andrew and Helen Gerasimoff, Albert and Marion Kavalkovich, Anna Kapusnik, Leonard Kavalkovich, John and Julia Rabik offered by Mr & Mrs Al Kavalkovich
Mother Anna Rabik offered by her son Joseph Rabik

May Their Memories Be Eternal

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Please remember in your prayers: Cantrell Family; Grace Corba; Robert Corba; Ronald Kavalkovich; 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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2017 St Tikhon's Lectionary Church Wall Calendars!

We still have a few 2017 calendars for sale (at least 2 remaining as of Thursday night (January 5)) at \$6 each. We do have two families who ordered calendars who still need to pick theirs up. Also, if you still owe for your calendar, please settle up your balance with a member of the parish council or someone at the candle desk. 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 2017 Coffee Hour, Cleaning and Epistle & Hours Reading. Sign up sheets for the above items for 2017 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 (December/January)

	<u>Week of Dec 26 to Jan 1</u>	<u>December Month (Unaudited)</u>
Attendance:	38	38 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,981.15	\$ 8,652.15
Funds Out:	\$ 4,946.38	\$ 6,309.40
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 2,965.23)	\$ 2,342.75

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

1st Sunday of each month – Monthly Panikhida immediately after Liturgy.
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. *(if needed)*
4th Sunday of each month – Church Life Discussion Class after Liturgy. *see below*

Poinsettias/Christmas Flowers! After Liturgy Today, please take any poinsettias in the church EXCEPT for the six large plants on the Altar steps AND the four large plants on the Tetrapod. Thank you!

80th Annual Novogodny Ball – Sunday, January 15, 2017

St Stephen's OCF – Chapter #82 of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America (FOCA) will host this annual event. This year's semi-formal gala will be located at the Radisson Hotel – Philadelphia Northeast | 2400 Old Lincoln Highway | Trevoise, PA 19053. **DEADLINE WAS YESTERDAY - JANUARY 7, 2017**

Dinner begins at 5:00PM Dancing from 7:30PM to 11:30PM

Dinner & Dancing

Age 23+: \$91 | Ages 13-22: \$81 | Age 12 & Under: \$54

Dancing & Treats Only

Age 23+: \$50 | Ages 13-22: \$39 | Age 12 & Under: \$34

Radisson Hotel Info & Room Reservations:

Phone#: 215.638.8300 Website: www.radisson.com/trevoise

Room Rate: \$87/night between Jan 13 & Jan 16

Reservations **MUST** be made by **Jan 5, 2017 (Last Thursday)**

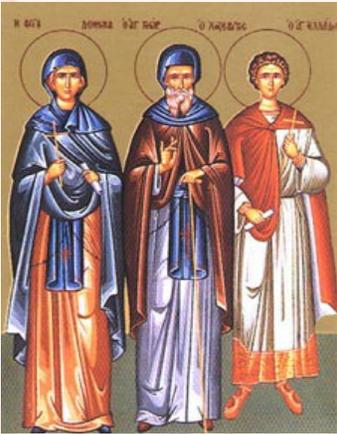
Novogodny Ball reservation forms are available in the back of the church.

Annual Parish Meeting – Sunday, January 22, 2017 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 Annual Parish Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 22. Much will be discussed covering events over the past year and the upcoming 2017 calendar. Meeting should take about 90 minutes but should not exceed two hours since there will be election of officers taking place.

Soup N' Bowl II Challenge - Sunday, February 5, 2017 after Divine Liturgy (including Stews & Chili)!

We are looking for participants to prepare their best soup, stew, or chili and faceoff against each other. The parishioners & guest will indulge in each dish & cast a ballot for which one they enjoyed the most. Additional details to follow!



Venerable George the Chozebite, Abbot [Jan 8th]

Saint George the Chozebite was born on the island of Cyprus toward the end of the sixth century. After the death of his parents, he went to Palestine to worship at the holy places. Here he entered into the monastic community of Chozeba between the River Jordan and Jerusalem, and he later became head of this monastery. Saint George presented the monks example in fasting, vigil and physical efforts. Having lived as an angel upon the earth, he died in peace.

Venerable Domnica of Constantinople [Jan 8th]

Saint Domnica came from Carthage to Constantinople in the time of the holy Emperor Theodosius the Great. Here she was baptized by Patriarch Nectarius and entered a women's monastery.

Through strict and prolonged ascetic effort she attained to high spiritual perfection. The saint healed the sick, demonstrated power over the natural elements, and predicted the future. By her miracles the saint moved inhabitants of the capital towards concerns about life eternal and the soul. Adorned by virtues, the saint departed this life a spotless virgin in her old age.

