

## Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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

**Sunday, January 22, 2017 | 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

Tone 6 – Apostle Timothy of the Seventy (96)

Monk Martyr Anastasius the Persian (628)

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

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*Parish President – Matthew Andrews*

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### Weekly Schedule

Today: Annual Parish Meeting immediately following Divine Liturgy in the Church Basement. Parish status, financial reports, and election of 2017 officers will be on the agenda.

Today: The Greater Blessing of the Waters at **3:00PM** located along the banks of the Schuylkill River at 2 Kelly Drive (Boat House Row).

Saturday: January 28 – Great Vespers at **5:00PM!**

Sunday: January 29 – Sunday of Zacchaeus  
Reading of Hours – 9:30am  
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am  
*Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy*

Sunday: January 29 – Church Life Discussion Class after Divine Liturgy.  
Topic: History of the Divine Liturgy. [Please note the change from the normal 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month due to the Annual Parish Meeting]

## 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 – Apostle Timothy)**

Having learned goodness and maintaining continence in all things, / thou wast arrayed with a  
good conscience as befits a priest. / From the chosen Vessel thou didst draw ineffable mysteries; /  
thou didst keep the faith and didst finish a course equal to His. // Bishop-martyr Timothy, entreat  
Christ God that our souls may be saved!

### **Troparion (Tone 4 – Martyr Anastasius)**

Thy holy martyr Anastasius, O Lord, / through his suffering has received an incorruptible crown  
from Thee, our God. / For having Thy strength, he laid low his adversaries, / and shattered the  
powerless boldness of demons. // Through his intercessions 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 – Apostle Timothy & Martyr Anastasius)**

Let us the faithful praise the Holy Apostle Timothy, / the companion of Paul in his travels; / and,  
together with, him let us honor the wise Anastasius, / who came as a star from Persia // for the  
healing of the passions of our souls and the diseases of our bodies.

### **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: 1 Timothy 1:15-17**

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save  
sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus  
Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for  
everlasting life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor  
and glory forever and ever. Amen. 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 18:35-43**

Then it happened, as He was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging. And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant. So they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. And he cried out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him, saying, "What do you want Me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, that I may receive my sight." Then Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

**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.)

### **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 has begun. 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.

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**Annual Pork and/or Roast Beef Sandwich Luncheon on Meatfare Sunday – Sunday, February 19 after Divine Liturgy!** Plans on organizing the luncheon will begin next week (Jan 29). Please see Catherine Kavalkovich if you wish to provide a dish for this annual pre-Lenten luncheon.

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**Our parish will again be hosting a Mission Vesper Service during Lent. An exact day is still to be determined (on a Sunday between March 12 and April 2).** This is just an early FYI for your Lenten plans. We will begin coordinating the schedule and Lenten meal menu sometime late next month once Lent has started. Once a decision has been made on which Sunday our parish will host the Mission Service, it will be announced in church and in the bulletin.

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The **53<sup>rd</sup> Diocesan Assembly** will be held this week (Thursday, January 26 and Friday, January, 27) at Christ the Saviour Orthodox Church in Harrisburg, PA. Father Mark will be attending the Assembly both days and the parish has scheduled one of our parishioners to attend the Friday sessions as our parish delegate. Any pertinent information or action taken during the Assembly will be reported by the parish representatives next Sunday after Divine Liturgy.

**Announcements** (cont.)

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

**Health for the Living:**

Dave Albrecht Sr. offered by the Albrecht Family

**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; 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 one 2017 calendar left for sale for \$6. We still have a family who ordered a calendar who needs 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 (January)

	<u>Week of Jan 9 to Jan 15</u>	<u>January Month-to-Date</u>
Attendance:	39	36 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,429.00	\$ 4,163.00
Funds Out:	\$ 1,547.00	\$ 7,023.83
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	<b>(\$ 118.00)</b>	<b>(\$ 2,860.83)</b>

*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. [5<sup>TH</sup> Sunday in January 2017]

**TODAY - Annual Parish Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the church basement.** The Annual Parish Meeting will be held today. Much will be discussed covering events over the past year and the upcoming 2017 calendar. Council and committee reports will be presented along with financial reports and 2017 budget. The status of the parish properties will be discussed along with the election of officers for 2017. Meeting should take about 90 minutes but should not exceed two hours!

### **TODAY - Great Blessing of the Waters along the Schuylkill River**

Join us as we celebrate the Holy Feast of Epiphany with the Great Blessing of Waters, followed by the Blessing of the Schuylkill River.

The Greater Philadelphia Brotherhood of Pan-Orthodox Christian Clergy to conduct the service at 2 Kelly Drive (Boat House Row), Philadelphia, PA. The event is being hosted by the Anglican Fellowship of Delaware Valley.

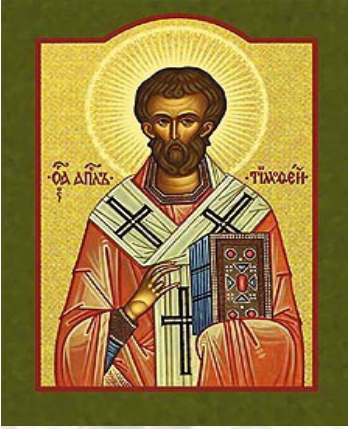
**Time: 3pm to 6pm**

Parking: (metered) Art Museum Over flow Parking Lot between the Water Works Restaurant and the Boat House. On Street Parking – South Side of Kelly Drive (same side as Boat House) and Sedgley Drive which is perpendicular to and north of Kelly Drive. Light Refreshments to Follow

For more information please see the flyers on the bulletin boards, speak with Father Mark Koczak or contact Vice-Chairman Protodeacon Gregory Moser at P: 215.794.8980 or email [pdcmgmoser@gmail.com](mailto:pdcmgmoser@gmail.com)

**Sunday, January 29 – Church Life Discussion Lecture 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 normally held on the **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday** of each month, but parish meeting is Today!

**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 in next weeks bulletin!



## **Apostle Timothy of the Seventy** [Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>]

The Holy Apostle Timothy was from the Lycaonian city of Lystra in Asia Minor. Saint Timothy was converted to Christ in the year 52 by the holy Apostle Paul (June 29). When the Apostles Paul and Barnabas first visited the cities of Lycaonia, Saint Paul healed one crippled from birth. Many of the inhabitants of Lystra then believed in Christ, and among them was the future Saint Timothy, his mother Eunice and grandmother Loida (Lois) (Acts 14:6-12;

2 Tim. 1:5)

The seed of faith, planted in Saint Timothy's soul by the Apostle Paul, brought forth abundant fruit. He became Saint Paul's disciple, and later his constant companion and co-worker in the preaching of the Gospel. The Apostle Paul loved Saint Timothy and in his Epistles called him his beloved son, remembering his devotion and fidelity with gratitude.

He wrote to Timothy: "You have followed my teaching, way of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, and patience" (2 Tim. 3:10-11). The Apostle Paul appointed Saint Timothy as Bishop of Ephesus, where the saint remained for fifteen years. Finally, when Saint Paul was in prison and awaiting martyrdom, he summoned his faithful friend, Saint Timothy, for a last farewell (2 Tim. 4:9).

Saint Timothy ended his life as a martyr. The pagans of Ephesus celebrated a festival in honor of their idols, and used to carry them through the city, accompanied by impious ceremonies and songs. Saint Timothy, zealous for the glory of God, attempted to halt the procession and reason with the spiritually blind idol-worshipping people, by preaching the true faith in Christ.

The pagans angrily fell upon the holy apostle, they beat him, dragged him along the ground, and finally, they stoned him. Saint Timothy's martyrdom occurred in the year 93.

In the fourth century the holy relics of Saint Timothy were transferred to Constantinople and placed in the church of the Holy Apostles near the tombs of Saint Andrew (November 30) and Saint Luke (October 18). The Church honors Saint Timothy as one of the Apostles of the Seventy.

In Russian practice, the back of a priest's cross is often inscribed with Saint Paul's words to Saint Timothy: "Be an example to the believers in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity" (1 Tim. 4:12).