

## Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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**Sunday, June 18, 2017 | 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**  
Tone 1 – Sunday of All Saints of America | All Saints of Russia  
Martyr Leontius, and with him Martyrs Hypatius and Theodulus,  
at Tripoli in Syria (70-79 A.D.)

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

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*Parish President - Peter Parsells*

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## Weekly Schedule

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!!!**

Saturday: June 24 – Feast of the Nativity of the Holy Glorious Prophet,  
Forerunner and Baptist, John

Saturday: June 24 - Great Vespers at 5:00PM!

Sunday: June 25 – Virgin Martyr Febronia of Nisibis  
Sunday of All Saints of Britain and Ireland!  
Reading of Hours – 9:30am  
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am  
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: June 25 - Church Life Discussion Class after Divine Liturgy.  
Topic: History of the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: June 25 – Hall Yard Maintenance Work to be performed after the Church  
Life Discussion Class. Volunteers are needed to help for a few hours!

## Texts for the Liturgical Service

### **Troparion (Tone 1)**

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, / while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: / “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom! // Glory to Thy dispensation, O thou who lovest of mankind!”

### **Troparion (Tone 8 - Saints)**

As the bountiful harvest of Thy sowing of salvation, / the lands of North America offer to Thee, O Lord, all the saints who have shone in them. / By their prayers keep the Church and our land in abiding peace // through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One!

### **Kontakion (Tone 1)**

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, / raising the world with Thyself. / Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. / Adam exults, O Master! / Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee: // “Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

### **Kontakion (Tone 3 - Saints)**

Today the choir of Saints who were pleasing to God in the lands of North America / now stands before us in the Church and invisibly prays to God for us. / With them the Angels glorify Him, / and all the Saints of the Church of Christ keep festival with them; // and together they all pray for us to the Pre-eternal God.

### **Prokeimenon (Tone 1)**

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: Romans 2:10-16**

But glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God. For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law (for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them) in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 1)

- v. God gives vengeance to me, and subdues people under me! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. He magnifies the salvation of the King and deals mercifully with David,  
His anointed, and his seed forever. Alleluia (3x's)

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 4:18-23**

And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." They immediately left their nets and followed Him. Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him. And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.

**Communion Hymn:**

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest!  
Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright! Alleluia (3x's)

*[Note: Today's readings for the Saints are as follows:  
Epistle – Hebrews 11:33-12:2 and Gospel – Matthew 4:25-5:12]*

**“Be the first to arrive at church for services and the last to leave, especially for the Divine Liturgy.”**

*St Symeon the Studite (also called Symeon the Pious; +1021)*

**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**

The parish is asking if there is anyone who knows someone who has an extra “working” refrigerator that they are looking to dispose of that our church can use. Currently, our refrigerator is operational, but the freezer unit for some odd reason keeps turning itself on and off. This causes water to leak inside the refrigerator thereby causing a major puddle of water to accumulate on the bottom glass shelf and at the bottom of the refrigerator. It’s now gotten to the point where the water needs to be wiped up on a weekly basis. If you know of anyone, please inform a member of the parish council. Thank You!

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As of May 10, 2017, the parish now has an account on the You Tube website with videos from our monthly Church Life Class Discussions. Currently there are seven vidoes uploaded on the site. To view these videos, just go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and type in search area for Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church and look for the picture of our parish Icon of Christ from our Facebook page.

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### **[...continued from last page...Synaxis of the Saints of North America...]**

St Tikhon traveled extensively throughout North America in order to minister to his widely scattered and diverse flock. He realized that the local church here could not be a permanent extension of the Russian Church. Therefore, he focused his efforts on giving the American Church a diocesan and parish structure which would help it mature and grow.

St Tikhon returned to Russia in 1907, and was elected as Patriarch of Moscow ten years later. He died in 1925, and for many years his exact burial place remained unknown. St Tikhon’s grave was discovered on February 22, 1992 in the smaller cathedral of Our Lady of the Don in the Don Monastery when a fire made renovation of the church necessary.

St Raphael of Brooklyn (February 27) was the first Orthodox bishop to be consecrated in North America. Archimandrite Raphael Hawaweeny was consecrated by Bishop Tikhon and Bishop Innocent (Pustynsky) at St Nicholas Cathedral in New York on March 13, 1904. As Bishop of Brooklyn, St Raphael was a trusted and capable assistant to St Tikhon in his archpastoral ministry. St Raphael reposed on February 27, 1915.

The first All American Council took place March 5-7, 1907 at Mayfield, PA, and the main topic was “How to expand the mission.” Guidelines and directions for missionary activity, and statutes for the administrative structure of parishes were also set forth.

In addition to the saints listed above, we also honor those saints who are known only to God, and have not been recognized officially by the Church. As we contemplate the lives of these saints, let us remember that we are also called by God to a life of holiness.

**Announcements** (cont.)

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

**Health for the Living:**

Family and Parishioners offered by Nina Patterson  
Ronald and Lorraine Kavalkovich offered by Catherine Kavalkovich  
Ronald Kavalkovich offered by Emily Gerasimoff

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

**Memory for the Departed:**

Paul Kavcsak offered by Daria LeRoy  
Andrew Gerasimoff offered by Catherine Kavalkovich  
Andrew Gerasimoff offered by Emily Gerasimoff

**May Their Memories Be Eternal**

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**Please remember in your prayers:** Helen Riley (*newly departed*); Cantrell Family; Grace Corba; Robert Corba; Ronald Kavalkovich (on his continuous recovery); Margaret Pellack; 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!

Please remember in your prayers Emelie Albrecht who was admitted back into the hospital earlier last week after a minor stroke. She is doing fine and continuing with her therapy. Please pray for her speedy recovery.

Please also remember in your prayers the newly baptized and chrismated infant child Ivanna Parsells, and her parents Heather and Peter. Complications occurred during childbirth last week and her condition remains critical. Please pray for her and her parents during this very hard time for the family.

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Building Fund – In Memory of Helen Riley  
\* M/M Ken Kavalkovich                      \* M/M Noel Kelly

**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 (2016-17)
- 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 (June)**

	<u>Week of June 5 to June 11</u>	<u>June Month-to-Date</u>
Attendance:	27	34 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 848.75	\$ 3,247.75
Funds Out:	\$ 159.09	\$ 2,402.92
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 689.66	\$ 844.83

*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** – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month** – Church Life Discussion Class after Liturgy.

**Sunday, June 25 - 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 Discussion on the History of the Divine Liturgy is held on the **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday** of each month.

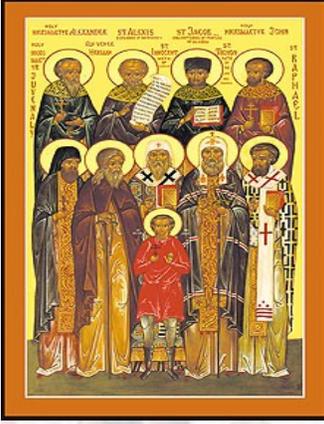
**Sunday, June 25 – Hall Yard Maintenance (after the Church Life Discussion Class) – to begin around 1pm.**

We need a few volunteers from the parish to assist in removing the debris from the lawn (near the front gate) and also inspecting and patching any noticeable breaches in the exterior of the building where squirrels may be entering. With the right number of people helping, this project should not last no more than two hours!

**Wednesday, June 28 – Vespers Divine Liturgy for the Feast Day of Saints Peter and Paul (June 29<sup>th</sup>) at 6:30PM!**

On the eve of the Feast Day of The Holy Glorious and All Praised Leaders of the Apostles, Saints Peter and Paul, Vespers Divine Liturgy will be served that evening starting at 6:30PM. This service is being scheduled to accommodate those parishioners who are unable to attend Divine Liturgy in the morning during the weekdays due to their work schedule.

**Any activity or events planned during July and August will be noted in this section of the bulletin starting next Sunday (June 25).**



## Synaxis of the Saints of North America [June 18<sup>th</sup>]

On the second Sunday after Pentecost, each local Orthodox Church commemorates all the saints, known and unknown, who have shone forth in its territory. Accordingly, the Orthodox Church in America remembers the saints of North America on this day.

Saints of all times, and in every country are seen as the fulfillment of God's promise to redeem fallen humanity. Their example encourages us to "lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily besets us and to "run with patience the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1).

The saints of North America also teach us how we should live, and what we must expect to endure as Christians.

Although it is a relatively young church, the Orthodox Church in America has produced saints in nearly all of the six major categories of saints: Apostles (and Equals of the Apostles); Martyrs (and Confessors); Prophets; Hierarchs; Monastic Saints; and the Righteous. Prophets, of course, lived in Old Testament times and predicted the coming of Christ

The first Divine Liturgy in what is now American territory (northern latitude 58 degrees, 14 minutes, western longitude 141 degrees) was celebrated on July 20, 1741, the Feast of the Prophet Elias, aboard the ship Peter under the command of Vitus Bering. Hieromonk Hilarion Trusov and the priest Ignatius Kozirevsky served together on that occasion. Several years later, the Russian merchant Gregory I. Shelikov visited Valaam monastery, suggesting to the abbot that it would be desirable to send missionaries to Russian America.

On September 24, 1794, after a journey of 7,327 miles (the longest missionary journey in Orthodox history) and 293 days, a group of monks from Valaam arrived on Kodiak Island in Alaska. The mission was headed by Archimandrite Joasaph, and included Hieromonks Juvenal, Macarius, and Athanasius, the Hierodeacons Nectarius and Stephen, and the monks Herman and Joasaph. St Herman of Alaska (December 13, August 9), the last surviving member of the mission, fell asleep in the Lord in 1837.

Throughout the Church's history, the seeds of faith have always been watered by the blood of the martyrs. The Protomartyr Juvenal was killed near Lake Iliamna by natives in 1799, thus becoming the first Orthodox Christian to shed his blood for Christ in the New World. In 1816, St Peter the Aleut was put to death by Spanish missionaries in California when he refused to convert to Roman Catholicism.

Missionary efforts continued in the nineteenth century, with outreach to the native peoples of Alaska. Two of the most prominent laborers in Christ's Vineyard were St Innocent Veniaminov (March 31 and October 6) and St Jacob Netsvetov (July 26), who translated Orthodox services and books into the native languages. Father Jacob Netsvetev died in Sitka in 1864 after a life of devoted service to the Church. Father John Veniaminov, after his wife's death, received monastic tonsure with the name Innocent. He died in 1879 as the Metropolitan of Moscow.

As the nineteenth century was drawing to a close, an event of enormous significance for the North American Church took place. On March 25, 1891, Bishop Vladimir went to Minneapolis to receive St Alexis Toth (May 7) and 361 of his parishioners into the Orthodox Church. This was the beginning of the return of many Uniates to Orthodoxy.

St Tikhon (Belavin), the future Patriarch of Moscow (April 7, October 9), came to America as bishop of the diocese of the Aleutians and Alaska in September 1898. As the only Orthodox bishop on the continent,