

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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

Sunday, July 9, 2017 | 5th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 4 – Hieromartyr Pancratius, Bishop of Taormina in Sicily

Hieromartyr Cyril, Bishop of Gortyna in Crete (3rd – 4th c.)

Martyrs Patemuthius, Coprius, and Alexander the Soldier, in Egypt

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Parish President - Peter Parsells

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Weekly Schedule

Today: Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy

Tuesday: July 11 – Bible Study at 6:30pm in the Church Basement!
Continue reading the Book of Leviticus.

Saturday: July 15 – Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Vladimir
Enlightener of the Russian Land

Saturday: July 15 - Great Vespers at 5:00PM!

Sunday: July 16 – Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

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 4 – Hieromartyr Pancratius)

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 Pancratius, entreat Christ God to save our souls!

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 – Hieromartyr Pancratius)

O Pancratius, thou wast revealed as a brilliant star for the people of Taormina. / Thou wast also shown to be a sufferer for Christ. // Since now thou standest before Him, O blessed one, pray for those who honor thee.

Prokeimenon (Tone 4)

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works / in wisdom hast Thou made them all!
v. Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, Thou art very great!

Epistle Reading: Romans 10:1-10

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. For Moses writes about the righteousness which is of the law, "The man who does those things shall live by them." But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down from above) or, " 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 4)

- v. Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. For Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest iniquity. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 8:28-9:1

When He had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, there met Him two demon-possessed men, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce, so that no one could pass that way. And suddenly they cried out, saying, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?" Now a good way off from them there was a herd of many swine feeding. So the demons begged Him, saying, "If You cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of swine." And He said to them, "Go." So when they had come out, they went into the herd of swine. And suddenly the whole herd of swine ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and perished in the water. Then those who kept them fled; and they went away into the city and told everything, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. And behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus. And when they saw Him, they begged Him to depart from their region. So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city.

Communion Hymn:

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

“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 & guests 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 Church Life Discussion class has completed its topic discussion of the History of the Divine Liturgy. Now we are asking from those participants and parishioners what area of the Church Life they would like to discuss next. Please see Father Mark and provide him with your suggestion(s) as to the next Church Life Discussion topic. There is a suggestion box down in the church basement on the center table. Please drop off your suggestions in the box. Thank You!

Dining out in Delaware at the Iron Hill Brewery in Wilmington, DE is a summer social event for our parish. We will be dining on Sunday, August 27 at 2:00pm. Please inform Matushka Jan if interested in attending so reservations can be made. Deadline for notifying Matushka Jan is **Tuesday, August 15!!!** You can contact Matushka Jan by phone (Home: 302-322-0943) or by email jakoczak@gmail.com. Thank You!

Downsizing our Diocesan Center for our Transition

Dear to God,

Christ is in our midst! Hopefully, the Monastery and the Diocese will formally divide the former St Tikhon's Orphanage Property in the next few weeks, approximately 7 acres, adjacent to St. Tikhon's Monastery property, and we will receive title to 1.93 acres of the land on which our Diocesan Center is located. The other land and buildings will be merged with the monastery and become their property. As initiated by Metropolitan Tikhon, when he was your Diocesan Bishop and discussed and approved at our Diocesan Assembly in January, our Diocesan Council will begin marketing the property to allow us to move our Diocesan Center closer to our parishes. Part of preparing the Diocesan Center for listing and marketing is to make it as presentable as possible. In doing so, we need to remove excess furnishings and simultaneously downsize for the transition to a new Diocesan Center which will likely be smaller.

Though, we intend to keep and use as much as we can, there may be some things we are simply unable to keep. If there is anything your parish or parishioners have donated that you would want back (if we choose to donate or liquidate it) please call the Diocesan Center to inquire about your specific item(s) no later than July 10th. Be as specific as possible and we will create a list of items not to be liquidated.

We ask your prayers as we seek to finalize the dissolution of the Orphanage Property (which has been closed for nearly 50 years) and begin the process of marketing the current Diocesan Center and search for an affordable and appropriate property to use as a Diocesan Center. Be assured, the Orphanage Board composed of His Beatitude; myself; Archimandrite Sergius, Abbott of St Tikhon's monastery; Fr John Jillions, Chancellor of the OCA; Fr. Stephen Voytovich, Dean of the seminary; David Yeosock, Judge Ray Lanier, OCA legal counsel; attorney Greg Nescott, Fr Daniel Donlick and Fr John Perich have worked this solution out together. In the process Judge Ray Lanier represented the OCA; attorney John Krisa represented the Orphanage Board; attorney John Petorak represented the Monastery and Brett Woodburn represented the Diocese. The dissolution of the Orphanage Property between the two entities was submitted by all parties to the state of Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office and has received the approval of the Assistant Attorney General, Mary Kinney.

Your unworthy father in Christ,
+ Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia and the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

Source: From *The Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania (OCA) website*.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Emelie Albrecht offered by Melanie Albrecht
Ronald Kavalkovich offered by Barbara Andrews

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Paul and Mary Koran offered by Pellack Family
All Veterans offered by Pellack Family
Protodeacon Gregory Hatrak offered by Barbara Andrews
Infant child Ivanna Alexandra Parsells offered by Barbara Andrews

May Their Memories Be Eternal

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Please remember in your prayers:

Infant child Ivanna Alexandra Parsells (*newly departed*); Emelie Albrecht; 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!

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Building Fund – In Memory of the infant child Ivanna Alexandra Parsells:

- * M/M Ken Kavalkovich * Barbara Andrews
- * Matthew Andrews

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/July)

	<u>Week of June 27 to July 2</u>	<u>June Month (Unaudited)</u>
Attendance:	31	39 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,928.08	\$ 7,408.86
Funds Out:	\$ 3,958.82	\$ 4,174.56
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 2,030.74)	\$ 3,234.30

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

Today – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church School Room! (2nd Sunday of each month)! All property committee members are asked to attend the meeting. Discussions will include any follow-ups from the previous meeting, Hall status rental update, prioritize additional work that needs to be done over at the Hall now that the tenants have officially moved into the Hall, and any additional action(s) that need to be taken.

Bible Study – Tuesday, July 11 at 6:30pm in the church basement. The Bible Study Group will gather together at this time and will continue reading and discussing the Book of Leviticus.

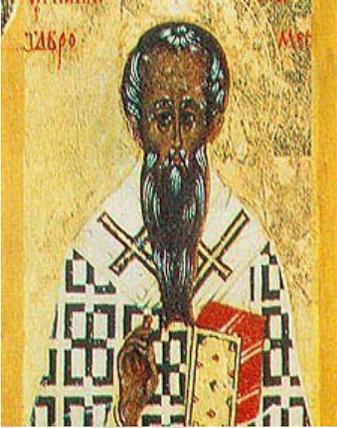
Sunday, July 23 - Church Life Discussion after the Divine Liturgy and Fellowship hour in the church. The Topic – To Be Determined!!!!
Please note the Church Life Discussion on the History of the Divine Liturgy is held on the **4th Sunday** of each month.

The exhibit of “Blood & Soul – The Russian Revolution of 1917” continues until September 1, 2017 at Villanova University’s Falvey Memorial Library (First Floor).

Father John Perich, priest of St Herman’s of Alaska Orthodox Church in Gradyville, PA is one of the co-curators of this exhibit commemorating the 100th Anniversaries of the 1917 Russian Revolution and the Enthronement of St. Patriarch Tikhon of Moscow. Please contact the Villanova University Library for more information regarding the days and times scheduled for tours and/or visits of the exhibit.

St Tikhon Monastery Summer Events: St Anna’s Day Sunday July 23 at 2pm with Akathist and anointing in honor of the Miraculous Icon of St Anna that resides at the Monastery. Patronal Feast Day of St Tikhon of Zadonsk on Sun Aug 13 @ 9am Join the Monastery Brotherhood celebrating the Divine Liturgy & a festive meal.

Sunday, August 27 at 2:00PM - Dining Out in Delaware - Ironhill Brewery Restaurant in Wilmington, DE (a social event for the parish)! As noted above, a date and time has been finalized. Please contact Matushka Jan whether you will be attending so reservations can be made. The reservation deadline is Tuesday, August 15!!!



Hieromartyr Pancratius the Bishop of Taormina in Sicily [July 9th]

The Hieromartyr Pancratius, Bishop of Taormina, was born when our Lord Jesus Christ yet lived upon the earth.

The parents of Pancratius were natives of Antioch. Hearing the good news of Jesus Christ, Pancratius' father took his young son with him and went to Jerusalem in order to see the great Teacher for himself. The miracles astonished him, and when he heard the

divine teaching, he then believed in Christ as the Son of God. He became close with the disciples of the Lord, especially with the holy Apostle Peter. It was during this period that young Pancratius got to know the holy Apostle Peter.

After the Ascension of the Savior, one of the Apostles came to Antioch and baptized the parents of Pancratius together with all their household. When the parents of Pancratius died, he left behind his inherited possessions and went to Pontus and began to live in a cave, spending his days in prayer and deep spiritual contemplation. The holy Apostle Peter, while passing through those parts, visited Pancratius at Pontus. He took him along to Antioch, and then to Sicily, where the holy Apostle Paul then was. There the holy Apostles Peter and Paul made Saint Pancratius Bishop of Taormina in Sicily.

Saint Pancratius toiled zealously for the Christian enlightenment of the people. In a single month he built a church where he celebrated divine services. The number of believers quickly grew, and soon almost all the people of Taormina and the surrounding cities accepted the Christian Faith.

Saint Pancratius governed his flock peacefully for many years. However, pagans plotted against the saint, and seizing an appropriate moment, they fell upon him and stoned him. Thus, Saint Pancratius ended his life as a martyr.

The saint's relics are in the church named for him in Rome. He is also commemorated on February 9.

