

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, July 30, 2017 | 8th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 7 – Apostles Silas and Silvanus of the Seventy, and those with them: Crescens, Epenetus, and Andronicus (1st c.).
Martyr John the soldier at Constantinople.

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

615 West 11th Street | New Castle, DE 19720-6020
Phone: Home: 302-322-0943 | Mobile: 302-547-4952
Email: mwkoczak@gmail.com or mkoczak05@aol.com

Parish President - Peter Parsells

Phone: (908) 872.5657

Weekly Schedule

Tuesday: August 1 – ***Beginning of the Dormition Fast***

Tuesday: August 1 – Procession of the Honorable Wood of the Life-giving Cross of the Lord. (*First of the three “Feast of the Savior” in August*)

Saturday: August 5 - Great Vespers (with Litya) at 5:00PM!
[\[Please bring fruit \(vegetables\) to be blessed after Vespers\]](#)

Sunday: August 6 – The Holy Transfiguration of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ
(*Second of three “Feast of the Savior” in August*)

[\[Please bring fruit \(vegetables\) to be blessed on this day\]](#)

Reading of Hours – 9:30am

Divine Liturgy – 10:00am

Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 7)

By Thy Cross Thou destroy death. / To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. / For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst chang weeping into joy. / And Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, / to proclaim that Thou are risen, // granting the world great mercy.

Troparion (Tone 3 – Menaion)

Holy Apostles Silas and Silvanus, / entreat the merciful God // to grant our souls forgiveness of transgressions.

Kontakion (Tone 7)

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, / for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. / Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: / “The Savior has come to those in faith; // enter, thou faithful, into the Resurrection!”

Kontakion (Tone 4 – Menaion)

Ye were revealed to be branches of the vine of Christ, O wise ones, / bearing clusters of virtues that pour out on us the wine of salvation. / Receiving it, we are filled with gladness, / and we celebrate your most honored memory, apostles of the Lord, Silas and Silvanus. // Therefore, intercede that great mercy and remission of sins may be granted to us.

Prokeimenon (Tone 7)

The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!
v. Offer to the Lord, O ye sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you. Now I say this, that each of you says, “I am of Paul,” or “I am of Apollos,” or “I am of Cephas,” or “I am of Christ.” Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, lest anyone should say that I had baptized in my own name. Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas. Besides, I do not know whether I baptized any other. For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect. For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 7)

- v. It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. To declare Thy mercy in the morning and Thy truth by night Alleluia(3x's)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 14:14-22

And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food." But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." And they said to Him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish." He said, "Bring them here to Me." Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes. So they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained. Now those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away.

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

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!

(the below article is a segment that appeared in the 2016 Greek Affair Festival booklet that was sponsored by Saint Luke Greek Orthodox Church in Broomall, PA)

Iconography: a little HEAVEN on EARTH

When one enters the interior of the Orthodox Church, it is like stepping into a whole new world of color and light. The art and design of the Church not only create a distinctive atmosphere of worship, but also they reflect and embody many of the fundamental insights of Orthodoxy.

Since there is no hesitation in using the gifts of creation, the interior of an Orthodox Church is frequently very beautiful. Designed to create an atmosphere which is special, the building is filled with a feeling of joy and an appreciation of God's bounty. Orthodoxy recognizes that beauty is an important dimension of human life. Through iconography and church appointments, the beauty of creation becomes a very important means of praising God. The divine gifts of the material world are shaped and fashioned by human hands into an expression of beauty which glorifies the Creator.

The interior church is most importantly, both a background and the setting for Orthodox worship. The art and architecture are designed to contribute to the total experience of worship, which involves one's intellect, feelings and senses. The Eucharist and the other sacramental mysteries take place in God's midst, and they bear witness to His presence and actions. Therefore, in the Orthodox tradition there is a very strong feeling that the church is the House of God and the place where His glory dwells. For this reason, all Orthodox churches are blessed, consecrated and set aside as sacred space.

The Church is generally constructed in the form of a cross and is divided into three areas: the narthex, the nave and the sanctuary. The narthex is the entrance area. Centuries ago this area was the place where catechumens (unbaptized learners) and penitents remained during parts of the services. Today, the beginning of the baptismal service begins in the narthex and proceeds into the nave. This procession symbolically represents a gradual movement into the Kingdom of God. In many orthodox parishes, the narthex is the area where the faithful make an offering, receive a candle, light it before an icon, and offer a personal prayer before joining the congregation. The nave is the large center area of the church. Here the faithful gather to worship. On the right-hand side of the nave is the bishop's throne from which he presides as a living icon of Christ among his people. Even in the bishop's absence, the throne reminds all that the parish is not an isolated entity but is part of a diocese which the bishop heads. On the left-hand side of the nave is the pulpit from which the Gospel is proclaimed and the sermon preached. The sanctuary is the most sacred part of the Church and the area reserved for the clergy and their assistants. The sanctuary contains the Holy Altar and is separated from the nave by the Iconostasis. This division serves to remind us that God's reign is not complete and that we often find ourselves "separated" from God through sin. However, during the Divine Liturgy, when we have access to the Holy Gifts, we are reminded that, through Christ, heaven and earth are united and that through Him we have access to the Father. On the right-hand side of the iconostasis are always the icons of Christ and St John the Baptist. On the left-hand side are always the icons of the Theotokos (Mother of our Lord) and the patron saint or event to which the Church is dedicated; in this case, Saint Luke.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Emelie Albrecht and Alex Lourido Jr offered by M/M Herbert
Lynn Brubakor, Catherine and Al Kavalkovich offered by Pellack Family
Albert Kavalkovich and Ronald Kavalkovich offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Ronald Kavalkovich, Marc Ferguson, Steve Goldfarb, Catherine, Albert, Angelo, Kathleen, Allison,
Alexander, Anastasia, Salina, Colin, Patricia, Sharon, Kenneth, Richard, John, Veronica, Edward,
Stephanie offered by M/M Kenneth Kavalkovich and Family

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Olga Macalush and Maxim Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
Andrew and Susan Mohnach offered by Pellack Family
Peter and Helen Zuzulock offered by Pellack Family

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
- * Matthew Andrews
- * Nina Patterson
- * Barbara Andrews
- * Jennifer Cantrell & Family
- * Daria Parsells

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 (July)

	<u>Week of July 17 to July 23</u>	<u>July Month-to-date</u>
Attendance:	34	35 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 2,028.00	\$ 5,763.67
Funds Out:	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,907.68
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 2,028.00	(\$ 144.01)

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 – NO Church Life Discussion Class in July or August!

UPDATE!!!! – **There will be NO Church Life Discussion classes during the summer (July and August). The Discussion will resume on the 4th Sunday in September (the 24th).**

The Topic – To Be Determined!!!!

We are now taking suggestions on a topic to be discussed once the class resumes in September. Please drop off your topic suggestion in the box located on the center table in the church basement. Topic deadline is **TODAY (July 30th)!** Thanks You!

Bible Study – Tuesday, August 8 at 6:30pm in the church basement.

The Bible Study Group will gather together at this time and continue reading and discussing the next section of the bible which is the Book of Numbers.

St Tikhon Monastery Summer Events:

Patronal Feast Day of St Tikhon of Zadonsk on Sunday, August 13 @ 9am.

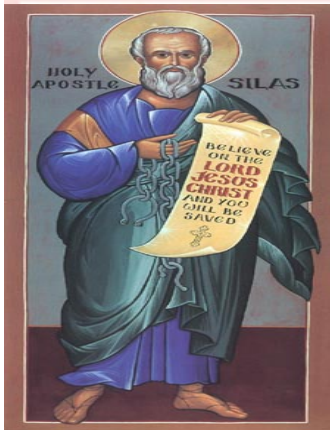
Join the Monastery Brotherhood celebrating the Divine Liturgy and a festive meal.

Monday, August 14 at 6:30PM – Vespereal Divine Liturgy for The Dormition (Falling Asleep) of our Most-Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary! This Feast Day is also the Name's Day of our parish.

Three items are planned for this evening:

- 1) a procession with the plaschanitza image of the Falling Asleep of the Theotokos,
- 2) blessing of flowers and fragrance plants (i.e. fresh herbs, mint, basil, etc...)
- 3) a pot-luck dinner is planned outside in the church Hall yard after services (weather permitting). There is a sign up sheet in the church basement on the bulletin board to record what you will be bringing for the outdoor pot-luck dinner. The Dormition Fast will be broken after the Vespereal Liturgy that evening!

Sunday, August 27 at 2:00PM - Dining Out in Delaware - Ironhill Brewery Restaurant in Wilmington, DE (a social event for the parish)! Please contact Matushka Jan by phone (House #302.322.0943) or email (jakoczak@gmail.com) whether you will be attending so reservations can be made. The reservation deadline is **Tuesday, August 15!!!**



Apostle Silas of the Seventy [July 30th]

The Holy Apostles of the Seventy Silas, Silvanus, Crescens, Epenetus and Andronicus were disciples of the Savior.

Saint Silas was a respected figure in the original Church at Jerusalem, one of the “chief men among the brethren” (Acts 15:22). The Council of the Apostles was convened at Jerusalem in the year 51 to deal with the question of whether Gentile Christian converts should be required to observe the Mosaic Law. The Apostles sent a message with Paul and Barnabas to the Christians of Antioch, giving

the decision of the Council that Christians of Gentile origin did not have to observe the prescriptions of the Mosaic Law. Nonetheless, they were told that they must refrain from partaking of foods offered to idols, from things strangled and from blood, to refrain from fornication (Acts 15:20-29). Together with Saints Paul and Barnabas, the Council of the Apostles sent Saints Silas and Jude to explain the message in greater detail, since they both were filled with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Saint Jude was later sent back to Jerusalem, but Saint Silas remained at Antioch and zealously assisted Saint Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, on his missionary journeys preaching the Gospel. They visited Syria, Cilicia, Macedonia.

In the city of Philippi they were accused of inciting unrest among the people, and for this they were arrested, beaten with rods, and then thrown into prison. At midnight, when the saints were at prayer, suddenly there was a strong earthquake, their chains fell off from them and the doors of the prison opened. The prison guard, supposing that the prisoners had fled, wanted to kill himself, but was stopped by the Apostle Paul. Then, he fell down trembling at the feet of the saints, and with faith accepted their preaching about Christ. He then led them out of the prison and took them to his own home, where he washed their wounds, and was baptized together with all his household.

From Philippi Saints Paul and Silas proceeded on to the cities of Amphipolis, Apollonia and Thessalonica. In each city they made new converts to Christ and built up the Church.

At Corinth the holy Apostle Silas was consecrated as bishop, and worked many miracles and signs, and there he finished his life.