

## Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St. (corner of 28<sup>th</sup> St. & Snyder Ave.)  
Philadelphia, PA 19145 \* Church Phone: (215) 468-3535

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



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

**Sunday, August 20, 2017 | 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

Tone 2 – Afterfeast of the Dormition.

Prophet Samuel (11<sup>th</sup> c. B.C.)

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

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Parish President - Peter Parsells

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### Weekly Schedule

Today: Supplication to the Mother of God service – 4:00PM  
Saint Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church  
506 Stahr Road \* Elkins Park, PA 19027  
Phone: 215.782.8448 Website: [www.stnicholasphilly.com](http://www.stnicholasphilly.com)

Saturday: August 26 – Great Vespers at 5:00PM!

Sunday: August 27 – Afterfeast of the Dormition  
Reading of Hours – 9:30am  
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am  
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: August 27 – Dining out in Delaware at 2:00PM at the  
Ironhill Brewery Restaurant in Wilmington, DE.  
Reservations deadline was last Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>!

## **Texts for the Liturgical Service**

### **Troparion (Tone 2)**

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, / Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. / And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, / all the powers of heaven cried out: // “O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

### **Troparion (Tone 1 – Dormition)**

In giving birth thou didst preserve thy virginity. / In falling asleep thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos. / Thou wast translated to life, O Mother of Life, // and by thy prayers thou dost deliver our souls from death.

### **Kontakion (Tone 2)**

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior, / seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb! / The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee, // and the world, my Savior, praises Thee forever.

### **Kontakion (Tone 2 – Dormition)**

Neither the tomb, nor death, could hold the Theotokos, / who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions. / For being the Mother of Life, / she was translated to life // by the One Who dwelt in her virginal womb.

### **Prokeimenon (Tone 2)**

The Lord is my strength and my song / He has become my salvation.  
v. The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.

### **Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:2-12**

If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. My defense to those who examine me is this: Do we have no right to eat and drink? Do we have no right to take along a believing wife, as do also the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working? Who ever goes to war at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat of its fruit? Or who tends a flock and does not drink of the milk of the flock? Do I say these things as a mere man? Or does not the law say the same also? For it is written in the law of Moses, “You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain.” Is it oxen God is concerned about? Or does He say it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written, that he who plows should plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope should be partaker of his hope. If we have sown spiritual things for you, is it a great thing if we reap your material things? If others are partakers of this right over you, are we not even more? Nevertheless we have not used this right, but endure all things lest we hinder the gospel of Christ.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 2)



- v. May the Lord hear thee in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect thee! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call to Thee! Alleluia (3x's)

### **Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:23-35**

Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!' So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?' And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.

### **Instead of "It is truly meet ...," we sing Irmos of Ode 9:**

***Refrian:*** The Angels, as they looked upon the Dormition of the Virgin, were struck with wonder, seeing how the Virgin went up from earth to heaven.

***Heirmos:*** The limits of nature are overcome in thee, O Pure Virgin: for birthgiving remains virginal, and life is united to death; a virgin after childbearing and alive after death, thou dost ever save thine inheritance, O Theotokos.

### **Communion Hymn:**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest!  
I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord!  
Alleluia (3x's)

## **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

We would like to welcome today to our parish Father Emmanuel Pratsinakis, retired and formally the spiritual leader of St. Thomas Greek Orthodox Church in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. Father Emmanuel is no stranger to our parish. He has been here many times serving during special services such as Lenten Mission Services. Please introduce yourself and give Father Emmanuel a warm South Philly welcome.

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On Monday August 7, 2017 at 3:19pm, Natasha Gerty, weighing in at a healthy 7 pounds, arrived in this world to her parents Michael and Kathy (Wanenchak) Gerty. Both mother and daughter are doing well. Natasha is the granddaughter of Michael and Fania Wanenchak and the great-granddaughter of Helen Wanenchak. May God Grant Natasha, her parents, grandparents, and great grandmother many blessed and healthy years!

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From the book: *A Guide To Church Etiquette...In The Orthodox Church*

### Church Etiquette

The Holy Orthodox Church is perhaps one of the last social institutions where dignity, protocol, respect, and reverence are maintained. This is primarily because when we come to the church and its services we are entering the Kingdom of God on earth. His habitation, and we choose to honor this sacred place by our attentiveness to what is proper and ordered. We have the opportunity to reflect the image of Christ within us by our actions. "You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation" (1 Peter 2:9). This guide is meant for personal reflection, not as a means of judging others. Keep in mind that there are different traditions even among the Orthodox faithful. We come to church to pray and worship God above all else, and that should be our only focus.

### Entering the Church

The Orthodox Divine Liturgy begins when the priest intones, "Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit." We need to arrive early enough to receive this blessing. Arriving later and walking around while the Liturgy is going on causes a distraction for others who are praying. If an occasional problem occurs and you have to come in late, enter the church reverently and quietly. The times in which you must stay in the back of the church, or the narthex, before entering include: when the Little or Great Entrance is taking place, when the priest is censuring the icons and congregation or giving the homily, and when the Epistle or Gospel is being read. If you are unsure when is the best time to enter the church, ask one of the greeters for guidance. We come to the church on time, as if to a great banquet, and with reverence, because we are partaking of the very Body and Blood of Christ, our Savior. Coming to Orthros or Matins before the Divine Liturgy will ensure that you will be settled in plenty of time to pray without distraction.



**Announcements** (cont.)

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

**Health for the Living:**

Emeilie Albrecht offered by M/M Herbert

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

**Memory for the Departed:**

Olga Macalush offered by M/M Herbert

**May Their Memories Be Eternal**

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**Please remember in your prayers:**

Emelie Albrecht; Cantrell Family; Grace Corba; Robert Corba; Infant child Natasha Gerty; 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
- \* Robert Wanenchak
- \* M/M Al Kavalkovich
- \* Pellack Family
- \* Barbara Andrews
- \* Jennifer Cantrell & Family
- \* Daria Parsells
- \* Ruth Federoff
- \* M/M Hourahan & Family

We had a beautiful turnout of 39 parishioners and friends attend the Vespereal Divine Liturgy Service for the Dormition of the Theotokos on Monday evening, August 14. Furthermore, a special “Thank You” to everyone who brought food; help set up; cook the food; and stayed afterwards to clean up. It was very lovely evening including the indoor procession and the dinner in the church basement. Sprasnikom!!

**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 (August)

	<u>Week of Aug 7 to Aug 13</u>	<u>August Month-to-date</u>
Attendance:	29	34 (average)
<i>Vespers Liturgy (8/14)</i>	<i>39 (a nice turnout for the feast day service)</i>	
Funds In:	\$ 696.00	\$ 3,242.00
Funds Out:	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,382.40
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 696.00	(\$ 140.40)

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** – NO Church Life Discussion Class in August!

**The Supplication to the Mother of God services during August 2017**  
**sponsored by the Philadelphia Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood.**  
**All services begin at 4:00PM!**

Today – Saint Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church  
506 Stahr Road \* Elkins Park, PA 19027  
Phone: 215.782.8448  
Website: www.stnicholasphilly.com

Sunday, August 27, 2017 – St Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church  
1406 Philadelphia Pike \* Wilmington, DE 19809  
Phone: 302.798.4455  
Website: www.sspeterandpauluoc.org

[Please note that there will be Matins and a procession this day since this is the eve of the Dormition Feast Day at St Peter and Paul since they follow the Julian Calendar]

**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 was **LAST Tuesday, August 15!!!**  
The phone number for Ironhill Brewery is 302-472-2739

**UPDATE!!!! – There will be NO Church Life Discussion classes during the summer (July and August). The Discussion will resume on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in September (the 24<sup>th</sup>).** The Topic – To Be Determined!!!!

Father Mark will announce the next topic in a couple weeks!  
Thank you for your topic suggestions last month!



## **Prophet Samuel** [Aug 20<sup>th</sup>]

The Prophet Samuel was the fifteenth and last of the Judges of Israel, living more than 1146 years before the Birth of Christ. He was descended from the Tribe of Levi, and was the son of Elkanah from Ramathaim-Zophim of Mount Ephraim. He was born, having been besought from the Lord through the prayers of his mother Hannah (therefore he received the name Samuel, which means “besought from God”). Even before birth, he was dedicated to God. Her song, “My heart exults in the Lord,” is the Third Ode of the Old Testament (1 Sam/1 Kings 2:1-10).

When the boy reached the age of three, his mother went with him to Shiloh and in accord with her vow dedicated him to the worship of God. She gave him into the care of the High Priest Eli, who at this time was a judge over Israel. The prophet grew in the fear of God, and at twelve years of age he had a revelation that God would punish the house of the High Priest Eli, because he did not restrain the impiety of his sons. Eli’s whole family was wiped out in a single day.

The prophecy was fulfilled when the Philistines, having slain in battle 30,000 Israelites (among them were also the sons of the High Priest, Hophni and Phinees), gaining victory and capturing the Ark of the Covenant. Hearing this, the High Priest Eli fell backwards from his seat at the gate, and breaking his back, he died. The wife of Phinees, upon hearing what had happened in this very hour, gave birth to a son (Ichabod) and died with the words: “The glory has departed from Israel, for the Ark of God is taken away” (1 Sam/1 Kgs 4: 22).

Upon the death of Eli, Samuel became the judge of the nation of Israel. The Ark of God was returned by the Philistines on their own initiative. After returning to God, the Israelites returned to all the cities that the Philistines had taken. In his old age, the Prophet Samuel made his sons Joel and Abiah judges over Israel, but they did not follow the integrity and righteous judgment of their father, since they were motivated by greed.

Then the elders of Israel, wanting the nation of God to be “like other nations” (1 Sam/1 Kgs 8: 20), demanded of the Prophet Samuel that they have a king. The Prophet Samuel anointed Saul as king, but saw in this a downfall of the people, whom God Himself had governed until this time, announcing His will through His chosen saints. Resigning the position of judge, the Prophet Samuel asked the people if they consented to his continued governance, but no one stepped forward for him.

After denouncing the first king, Saul, for his disobedience to God, the Prophet Samuel anointed David as king. He had offered David asylum, saving him from the pursuit of King Saul. The Prophet Samuel died in extreme old age. His life is recorded in the Bible (1 Sam/1 Kgs; Sirach 46:13-20).

In the year 406 A.D. the relics of the Prophet Samuel were transferred from Judea to Constantinople.