

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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Sunday, August 27, 2017 | 12th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 3 – Venerable Poemen (Pimen) the Great (ca. 450).
Hieromartyr Kuksha and Venerable Pimen, of the Kiev Caves
Saint Hosius the Confessor, Bishop of Cordova (359).

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**
Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church
1406 Philadelphia Pike * Wilmington, DE 19809
Phone: 302.798.4455 Website: www.sspeterandpauluoc.org
- Today: Dining out in Delaware at 2:00PM at the
Ironhill Brewery Restaurant in Wilmington, DE.
- Tuesday: August 29 - Beheading of Saint John the Baptist. **Strict Fast Day!**
- Friday: September 1 – Church New Year (Indiction)
- Saturday: September 2 – Great Vespers at **5:00PM!**
- Sunday: September 3 – Hieromartyr Anthimus
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 3)

Let the heavens rejoice! / Let the earth be glad! / For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. / He has trampled down death by death. / He has become the first born of the dead. / He has delivered us from the depths of hell, / and has granted to the world // great mercy.

Troparion (Tone 8 – Venerable Pimen)

By a flood of tears thou made the desert fertile, / and thy longing for God brought forth fruits in abundance. / By the radiance of miracles thou illuminated the whole universe! // Our Father Pimen, pray to Christ God to save our souls!

Kontakion (Tone 3)

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, / leading us from the gates of death. / On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; / with the Prophets and Patriarchs // they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

Kontakion (Tone 4 – Venerable Pimen)

The memorial of thy illustrious struggles / delights the souls of the devout today, // Pimen, our venerable father, wise in God.

Prokeimenon (Tone 3)

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our King, sing praises!
v. Clap your hands, all ye people! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you – unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time. For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 3)

v. In Thee, O Lord, have I placed my hope; let me not be put to shame.

Alleluia (3x's)

v. Be Thou a God of protection of me, a house of refuge in order to save me.

Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 19:16-26

Now behold, one came and said to Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?" So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments." He said to Him, "Which ones?" Jesus said, "'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" "The young man said to Him, "All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. Then Jesus said to His disciples, "Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God. When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

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 & 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

[...continue the life story of Venerable Pimen the Great from last page...]

Once, after Saint Pimen and his disciples arrived at the monastery of Scetis, he learned that the Elder living there was annoyed at his arrival and was also jealous of him, because monks were leaving the Elder to see Abba Pimen.

In order to console the hermit, the saint went to him with his brethren, taking food with them as a present. The Elder refused to receive them, however. Then Saint Pimen said, "We shall not depart from here until we are permitted to see the holy Elder." He remained standing at the door of the cell in the heat. Seeing Saint Pimen's humility and patience, the Elder received him graciously and said, "Not only is what I have heard about you true, but I see that your works are a hundred times greater."

He possessed such great humility that he often sighed and said, "I shall be cast down to that place where Satan was cast down!"

Once, a monk from another country came to the saint to receive his guidance. He began to speak about sublime matters difficult to grasp. The saint turned away from him and was silent. They explained to the bewildered monk that the saint did not like to speak of lofty matters. Then the monk began to ask him about the struggle with passions of soul. The saint turned to him with a joyful face, "Now you have spoken well, and I will answer." For a long while he provided instruction on how one ought to struggle with the passions and conquer them.

Saint Pimen died at age 110, about the year 450. Soon after his death, he was acknowledged as a saint pleasing to God. He was called "the Great" as a sign of his great humility, uprightness, ascetic struggles, and self-denying service to God.

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

Standing versus Sitting in Church

It is the custom of the Orthodox Christians to stand throughout the services of the Church, whenever the prayers are being offered. It is appropriate to sit down during the sermon or announcements. If, due to your health condition, you have to sit down during the service, please try to make an effort to stand at least during these times: when the Liturgy begins and the priest gives the blessing; during the Little and Great Entrances; when there is censuring of the icons and congregation; during the Gospel reading; at the Anaphora; for Holy Communion; and at the final Blessing.

Lighting of Candles

It is a pious Orthodox tradition to light candles for personal petitions and intercessions when entering the church. Most parishes have designated candle stands or holders for these candles. It is not proper to light candles at certain times during the service – generally the same times when you should not enter the church such as during the Little and Great Entrances, when the priest is censuring the icons and congregation or giving the homily, or during the reading of the Epistle or Gospel. The candles should be allowed to burn all the way down without being extinguished early, since the burning candle symbolizes our prayers rising to heaven and the light of Christ in our midst. Please do not allow young children to light candles alone, for safety reasons. It is customary to make a donation for each candle.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Ronald Kavalkovich and Emeilie Albrecht offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Kathy Renzetti offered by Joseph Rabik
Family and parishioners offered by Nina Patterson
Family members offered by Pete Witiak
Parishioners offered by Pellack 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:

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

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 14 to Aug 20</u>	<u>August Month-to-date</u>
Attendance:	30	33 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,374.00	\$ 4,616.00
Funds Out:	\$ 2,186.51	\$ 5,568.91
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 812.51)	(\$ 952.91)

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 August!

TODAY at 2:00PM - Dining Out in Delaware - Ironhill Brewery Restaurant in Wilmington, DE (a social event for the parish)!

The phone number for Ironhill Brewery is 302-472-2739

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 – Saints 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 Sts Peter and Paul since they follow the Julian Calendar]

September Services Schedule for: The Nativity of Our Most-Holy Lady the Theotokos (Sept 8) and The Elevation of the Precious Cross (Sep 14) will be announced by Father Mark no later than Sunday, Sept 3.

Sunday, Sept 10 – 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, September 12 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.

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!!!!

Father Mark will announce the next topic in a couple weeks!

Thank you for your topic suggestions last month!



Venerable Pimen the Great [Aug 27th]

Saint Pimen the Great was born about the year 340 in Egypt. He went to one of the Egyptian monasteries with his two brothers, Anoub and Paisius, and all three received monastic tonsure. The brothers were such strict ascetics that when their mother came to the monastery to see her children, they did not come out to her from their cells. The mother stood there for a long time and wept. Then Saint Pimen said to her through the closed door of the cell, "Do you wish to see us now, or in the future life?" Saint Pimen promised that if she would endure the sorrow of not seeing her children in this life, then surely she would see them in the next. The mother was humbled and returned home.

Fame of Saint Pimen's deeds and virtues spread throughout the land. Once, the governor of the district wanted to see him. Saint Pimen, shunning fame, thought to himself, "If dignitaries start coming to me and show me respect, then many other people will also start coming to me and disturb my quiet, and I shall be deprived of the grace of humility, which I have acquired only with the help of God." So he refused to see the governor, asking him not to come.

For many of the monks, Saint Pimen was a spiritual guide and instructor. They wrote down his answers to serve for the edification of others besides themselves. A certain monk asked, "If I see my brother sinning, should I conceal his fault?" The Elder answered, "If we reproach the sins of brothers, then God will reproach our sins. If you see a brother sinning, do not believe your eyes. Know that your own sin is like a beam of wood, but the sin of your brother is like a splinter (Mt. 7:3-5), and then you will not enter into distress or temptation."

Another monk said to the saint, "I have sinned grievously and I want to spend three years at repentance. Is that enough time?" The Elder replied, "That is a long time." The monk continued to ask how long the saint wished him to repent. Perhaps only a year? Saint Pimen said, "That is a long time." The other brethren asked, "Should he repent for forty days?" The Elder answered, "I think that if a man repents from the depths of his heart and has a firm intention not to return to the sin, then God will accept three days of repentance."

When asked how to get rid of persistent evil thoughts, the saint replied, "This is like a man who has fire on his left side, and a vessel full of water on his right side. If he starts burning from the fire, he takes water from the vessel and extinguishes the fire. The fire represents the evil thoughts placed in the heart of man by the Enemy of our salvation, which can enkindle sinful desires within man like a spark in a hut. The water is the force of prayer which impels a man toward God."

Saint Pimen was strict in his fasting and sometimes would not partake of food for a week or more. He advised others to eat every day, but without eating their fill. Abba Pimen heard of a certain monk who went for a week without eating, but had lost his temper. The saint lamented that the monk was able to fast for an entire week, but was unable to abstain from anger for even a single day.

To the question of whether it is better to speak or be silent, the Elder said, "Whoever speaks on account of God, does well, and whoever is silent on account of God, that one also does well."

He also said, "If man seems to be silent, but his heart condemns others, then he is always speaking. There may be a man who talks all day long, but he is actually silent, because he says nothing unprofitable."

The saint said, "It is useful to observe three things: to fear God, to pray often, and to do good for one's neighbor." "Wickedness never eradicates wickedness. If someone does evil to you, do good to them, and your goodness will conquer their wickedness."

[...continue the life story of Venerable Pimen the Great on page 4...]