

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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

Sunday, September 24, 2017 | 16th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 7 – Holy New Martyrs of Alaska:

Hieromonk Juvenaly (ca. 1796) and Peter the Aleut (1815).

Holy Protomartyr and Equal-to-the-Apostles Thecia (1st c.).

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Weekly Schedule

Today: Church Life Discussion Class after Divine Liturgy.

The Topic: Icons, Iconography, and Iconostas.

Its history and the stories displayed on them.

Tuesday: Repose of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian

Saturday: September 30 – Great Vespers at 5:00PM!

Sunday: October 1 – The Protection of Our Most Holy Lady

The Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary.

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 4 – New Martyrs of Alaska)

Today Alaska rejoices and America celebrates, / for the New World has been sanctified by martyrdom. / Kodiak echoes with songs of thanksgiving, / Iliamna and Kenai observe the festival of faith. / The apostle and martyr Juvenaly is glorified, / and Peter the Aleut is exalted by his voluntary sacrifice. / In their devotion and love for the Lord / they willingly endured persecution and death for the truth. // Now in the kingdom of heaven they intercede for our souls.

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 – New Martyrs of Alaska)

Today Valaam joins Alaska in celebrating this joyous feast, / as her spiritual son Juvenaly embraces the New-Martyr Peter with love. / Together they suffered for the Lord in America / and united the Old World with the New by their voluntary sacrifice. // Now forever they stand before the King of glory and intercede for our souls.

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: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says: In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you.” Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed. But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings; by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

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: Luke 5:1-11

So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets. Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat. When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

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 New Martyrs of Alaska are as follows:
Epistle – Romans 8:28-39 and Gospel – Luke 21:12-19]*

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

40 Days For Life – Philadelphia Campaign – Fall Season:

The next 40 Days for Life begins this week (from September 27 to November 5). This will be the largest campaign ever with peaceful vigils occurring in ALL 50 states at the same time! Meanwhile the killing still continues at Planned Parenthood. Thank you so much in advance for signing up for this list and being willing to continue standing up for those that can't speak for themselves.

Information:

- * Contacts: Monique Ruberu or Pat Stanton at 469.231.9084
- * Email: roobearoo@hotmail.com
- * Website: <https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/philadelphia/>

- * Prayer vigil located at 12th & Locust St, Philadelphia – Planned Parenthood
- * Vigils open Monday-Saturday from 8am-5pm.
- * Try to have at least one person there to cover the hour.
- * There are more abortions performed there than at any other Planned Parenthood in Pennsylvania!

The 40 Days For Life is not a political organization or a protest group. They stand and pray as a peaceful physical presence and witness for the lives of the unborn, who cannot speak for themselves.

Other peaceful vigils located in the surrounding areas include:
New Jersey - Absecon (Atlantic City area) and Cherry Hill
Pennsylvania – Northeast Philadelphia, Norristown, Warminster, and West Chester
Delaware – Wilmington and Dover

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

Greeting the Priest and Bishop

In our modern culture, we greet one another with a handshake. The exception to this is when we greet a priest or a bishop. We do not shake a bishop's or priest's hand; we ask for a blessing and kiss his hand with reverence, since with this hand he touches the Holy Body of Christ and distributes it to us. The proper way to do this is to approach the hierarch or priest with right hand over left, palms facing up, and then bow while saying, "Master, bless" to the hierarch, or "Father, bless" to the priest. If either places his hand in yours while blessing you, this is an appropriate time to kiss his hand.

Venerating Icons

The Orthodox Church teaches that it is proper to venerate, no worship, icons. The acceptable way to do this is to kiss either the hands or feet of the saint depicted in the icon, or the scroll, the Gospel book, or the hand cross a saint is holding. Please do not wear lipstick when kissing the icons since the residue will ruin them.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Daria LeRoy offered by Nina Patterson
Emelie Albrecht offered by Melanie Albrecht
Paul, Lena, and William offered by Pellack Family
Emelie Albrecht and Family offered by the Pellack Family
Frank offered by the Pellack Family

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

John Pellack offered by the Pellack Family

May Their Memories Be Eternal

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Please remember in your prayers:

Emelie Albrecht; Cantrell Family; Grace Corba; Robert Corba; Paul Filanowski (recovering);
Infant child Natasha Gerty; Katherine 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!

Also all those who are struggling and seeking relief in addition to all those first responders
assisting them as a result of the damaging affects of Hurricane Harvey along the Texas and
Louisiana Gulf Coast and Hurricane Irma along the Caribbean Islands, Florida, South Carolina,
and Georgia.

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**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 (September)

| | <u>Week of Sep 11 to Sep 17</u> | <u>September Month-To-Date</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Attendance: | 42 | 39 (average) |
| Funds In: | \$ 2,923.00 | \$ 7,075.00 |
| Funds Out: | \$ 1,448.08 | \$ 6,432.25 |
| 6432.25 | | |
| Net Surplus/(Deficit): | \$ 1,474.92 | \$ 642.75 |

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 Divine Liturgy.
2nd Tuesday of each month – Bible Study at 6:30pm in church basement.
2nd Sunday of each month – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy.
3rd Sunday of each month – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.
4th Sunday of each month – Church Life Discussion Class after Divine Liturgy.

Today - Church Life Discussion class after Divine Liturgy and Fellowship Hour. (The 4th Sunday of the month)
The Topic – Icons, Iconography, and Iconostas. It's history and the stories displayed on them.

St. Michael Russian Orthodox Church 41st Annual Russian Festival
4th St & Fairmount Avenue – Philadelphia, PA October 6 to 8 2017.

The parish's popular and festive event will be held the first full weekend of October (this year from Friday, October 6 to Sunday, October 8). The weekend will feature a range of Russian food delights for lunch through dinner, live accordion music, the Sunday School's Russian Dancers, and specialty shops from Russian made artifacts, books of interest, handmade decorations, drawing opportunities, and a variety of collectibles and treasures for one's enjoyment.

St. Nicholas Eastern Orthodox Church of Philadelphia, PA is celebrating its 100th Anniversary on – Sunday, October 15 2017.

The parish will be celebrating with a Divine Liturgy at 10am and then afterwards a Gala Luncheon in their Church Hall. Tickets (\$50) are available and a RSVP to the Gala Committee is required ASAP.

Flyers are posted on the bulletin boards down in the basement for more information.

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church of Coatesville, PA is celebrating its 100th Anniversary on – Sunday, October 15 2017.

The parish will be celebrating with a Divine Liturgy conducted by Archbishop Mark at 9:30am (light refreshments following Liturgy in Church Hall). Then afterwards a Celebratory Banquet at the Coatesville Country Club beginning at 3:30pm. Tickets are \$50 for adults and \$20 for children under 12 (Children's dinner). Cash bar.

Flyers are posted on the bulletin boards down in the basement for more information.

Saturday, November 4 from 9AM to 1PM – Harvest Fest Luncheon and Fall Outside Church and Hall Clean Up.

With the beauty of Autumn comes the falling of the leaves, so the Property Committee is asking everyone to join them on November 4 to help clean up the church hall yard and outside property. In addition, Father Mark will bless the newly planted pussy willow tree in the yard. Afterwards, we will enjoy a lunch filled with Fall themed goodies! Yummmmm!



Martyr Peter the Aleut [Sep 24th]

Saint Peter the Aleut is mentioned in the Life of Saint Herman of Alaska (December 13). Simeon Yanovsky (who ended his life as the schemamonk Sergius in the Saint Tikhon of Kaluga Monastery), has left the following account:

“On another occasion I was relating to him how the Spanish in California had imprisoned fourteen Aleuts, and how the Jesuits (actually Franciscans) were forcing all of them to accept the Catholic Faith. But the Aleuts would not agree under any circumstances, saying, ‘We are Christians.’ The Jesuits argued, ‘That’s not true, you are heretics and schismatics. If you do not agree to accept our faith then we will torture all of you to death.’ Then the Aleuts were placed in prisons two to a cell. That evening, the Jesuits came to the prison with lanterns and lighted candles. Again they tried to persuade two Aleuts in the cell to accept the Catholic Faith. ‘We are Christians,’ the Aleuts replied, ‘and we will not change our Faith.’ Then the Jesuits began to torture them, at first the one while his companion was a witness. They cut off one of the joints of his feet, and then the other joint. Then they cut the first joint on the fingers of his hands, and then the other joint. Then they cut off his feet, and his hands. The blood flowed, but the martyr endured all and firmly repeated one thing: ‘I am a Christian.’ He died in such suffering, due to a loss of blood. The Jesuit also promised to torture his comrade to death the next day

But that night an order was received from Monterey stating that the imprisoned Aleuts were to be released immediately, and sent there under escort. Therefore, in the morning all were sent to Monterey with the exception of the dead Aleut. This was related to me by a witness, the same Aleut who had escaped torture, and who was the friend of the martyred Aleut. I reported this incident to the authorities in Saint Petersburg. When I finished my story, Father Herman asked, ‘What was the name of the martyred Aleut?’ I answered, ‘Peter. I do not remember his family name.’ The Elder stood reverently before an icon, made the Sign of the Cross and said, “Holy New Martyr Peter, pray to God for us!”

We know very little about Saint Peter, except that he was from Kodiak, and was arrested and put to death by the Spaniards in California because he refused to convert to Catholicism. The circumstances of his martyrdom recall the torture of Saint James the Persian (November 27).

Both in his sufferings and in his steadfast confession of the Faith, Saint Peter is the equal of the martyrs of old, and also of the New Martyrs who have shone forth in more recent times. Now he rejoices with them in the heavenly Kingdom, glorifying God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, throughout all ages.