

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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

Sunday, October 8, 2017 | 18th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 1 – The Venerable Pelagia the Penitent (457).

Holy Venerable Dosifei (Dositheus, Distaff), Abbot of Verkneostrov.

Venerable Tryphon, Abbot of Viatka. Venerable Thais of Egypt.

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Weekly Schedule

- Today: St Michael's Orthodox Church 41st Annual Russian Festival
4th St. & Fairmount Ave. – Philadelphia, PA
- Today: St. Thomas Greek Orthodox Church Festival – Cherry Hill, NJ
- Today: Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the church school room
- Monday: October 9 – Glorification of St Tikhon, Patriarch of
Moscow and All Russia, Enlightener of North America
- Tuesday: October 10 – Bible Study at 6:30PM in the church
basement. Continue reading the Book of Numbers.
- Saturday: October 14 – Great Vespers at 5:00PM!
- Sunday: October 15 – Commemoration of the Holy Fathers
of the 7th Ecumenical Council.
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 1)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, / while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: / “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom! // Glory to Thy dispensation, O thou who lovest of mankind!”

Troparion (Tone 8 – Venerable Pelagia)

The image of God was truly preserved in thee, O Mother, / for thou didst take up the Cross and follow Christ. / By so doing thou didst teach us to disregard the flesh for it passes away / but to care instead for the soul, since it is immortal. // Therefore thy spirit, venerable Pelagía, rejoices with the angels.

Kontakion (Tone 1)

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, / raising the world with Thyself. / Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. / Adam exults, O Master! / Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee: // “Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

Kontakion (Tone 2 – Venerable Pelagia)

Thou didst wear out thy body through fasting, vigils, and prayer, / beseeching the Creator to forgive thy deeds completely. / Thou didst achieve this, O holy Mother Pelagia, // thereby showing up the way to repentance.

Prokeimenon (Tone 1)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee!
v. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the upright!

Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. As it is written: “He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever.” Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God. Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 1)

- v. God gives vengeance to me, and subdues people under me! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. He magnifies the salvation of the King and deals mercifully with David, His anointed, and his seed forever. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Luke 7:11-16

Now it happened, the day after, that He went into a city called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a large crowd. And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother. Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen up among us"; and, "God has visited His people."

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! Alleluia (3x's)

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2018 Saint Tikhon's Monastery Calendar - Taking orders now:

The parish will once again be ordering 2018 calendars from Saint Tikhon's Monastery. There is a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board downstairs next to the other three sign up sheets (i.e. cleaning, coffee hour, reading schedule). The cost of the 2018 St Tikhon's calendars is \$6 per calendar. The deadline for ordering these calendars will be: Sunday, October 29, 2017!

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The 2017 Fall Lecture Tour sponsored by the Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern PA will be in our deanery area on Monday, October 23 at 7pm at St Stephen Orthodox Cathedral. This year's speaker will be Father Patrick Henry Reardon who will discuss *Atonement: An Orthodox Theology of Redemption – How does God save us?*
Please see the bulletin boards in parish for more information on this event!

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 40 Days for Life Fall Campaign has begun (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*

Church Clothing

Whenever we are preparing to come to church, we should remember that we will be entering the House of God. This requires that we dress modestly and with reverence. Generally this will mean that we want to wear our best clothing. At any age it is not appropriate to wear shorts, pants that are too casual, short skirts, tight-fitting or transparent garments, garments with low necklines, or strapless tops. Some Orthodox traditions require women to wear dresses or skirts with covered shoulders and backs. Although men are not required to wear a suit and tie, they will want to make an effort to dress as if they were going to an important event. Clothing with logos or printed material, as well as having exposed tattoos, distracts others from praying. Some women have the pious tradition of covering their heads. Men and boys must remove their hats when entering the church. What could be a more important meeting than that with God Himself? The purpose in choosing our clothing wisely is that we model what is important to us by how we dress.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Matesy Herbert, Emelie Albrecht, Joseph Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
Daria LeRoy offered by Nina Patterson
Emelie Albrecht and Daria LeRoy offered by Melanie Albrecht
Family and Friends offered by M/M Rick LeRoy

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; Paul Filanowski (recovering);
Ronald Kavalkovich (on his continuous recovery); Matushka Jan (recovery after eye surgery)
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!

**May God Grant Many Years to Father Mark on the celebration of his two- year anniversary
(October 4) serving our parish as our priest!**

Remember the 58 victims and 100’s more injured in the senseless atrocity against humanity at the
Route 91 Harvest Music Festival in the Las Vegas, Nevada tragedy this past Sunday.

Continue to pray for all those who are still 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; Hurricane Irma along the Caribbean Islands, Florida, South
Carolina, and Georgia; Hurrican Jose; and Hurrican Maria along Puerto Rico.

Keep in your prayers also the victims, injured, and those assisting in relief efforts as a result of the
earthquake that rocked Central Mexico.

Also, pray for those in the Gulf Coast as Tropical Storm Nate increases in strength over the
weekend.

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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/October)

	<u>Week of Sep 25 to Oct 1</u>	<u>September (Unaudited)</u>
Attendance:	42	38 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,336.09	\$ 8,339.09
Funds Out:	\$ 3,206.70	\$ 7,370.45
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 1,870.61)	\$ 968.64

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 - St. Michael Russian Orthodox Church 41st Annual Russian Festival - 4th St & Fairmount Avenue – Philadelphia, PA.

The parish's popular and festive event will be held this weekend (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 ones enjoyment.

100th Anniversary parish celebrations to occur on Sunday, October 15 for the following two parishes:

Saint Nicholas Eastern Orthodox Church of Philadelphia, PA (7th and Brown Street).
Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church in Coatesville, PA
May God Grant Both Parishes and its Parishioners Many Blessed Years!!!

10th Anniversary Area Visitation Schedule of the Wonderworking and Myrrh-streaming “Hawaiian” Iveron Icon of the Theotokos:

October 23, 2017 – St Dimitri Greek Orthodox Church * 229 Powell Lane * Upper Darby, PA 19082 * P:610.352.7212. Paraklesis to the Mother of God at 6:00pm
October 24, 2017 – St Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church * 506 Stahr Road * Elkins Park, PA 19027 * P:215.782.8448. Moleben with Akathist at 6:00pm

Fall General Parish Meeting - Sunday, October 22, 2017 after Divine Liturgy in the church basement. This is Notice #2 of 3. According to Article 10, Section 1, of the Parish By-Laws, notice of all Parish Meetings shall be announced in the Parish Bulletin and read by the Parish Rector from the amvon on three consecutive Sundays preceding the date of the meeting. The General Parish Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 22. Discussions will include events since the last Parish Meeting; activities over the next few months; the status of the Property Committee; and any other business that needs to be discussed. Meeting should take about an hour but should not exceed past 90 minutes.

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!



Venerable Pelagia the Penitent [Oct 8th]

Saint Pelagia the Penitent was converted to Christianity by Saint Nonnus, Bishop of Edessa (Saturday of Cheesefare Week). Before her acceptance of Christianity through Baptism, Pelagia was head of a dance troupe in Palestinian Antioch, living a life of frivolity and prostitution.

One day Pelagia, elegantly dressed, was making her way past a church where Saint Nonnus was preaching a sermon. Believers turned their faces away from the sinner, but the bishop glanced after her. Struck by the outer beauty of Pelagia and having foreseen the spiritual greatness within her, the saint prayed in his cell for a long time to the Lord for the sinner. He told his fellow bishops that the prostitute put them all to shame. He explained that she took great care to adorn her body in order to appear beautiful in the eyes of men. "We... take no thought for the adornment of our wretched souls," he said.

On the following day, when Saint Nonnus was teaching in the church about the dread Last Judgment and its consequences, Pelagia came. The teaching made a tremendous impression upon her. With the fear of God and weeping tears of repentance, she asked the saint for Baptism. Seeing her sincere and full repentance, Bishop Nonnus baptized her.

By night the devil appeared to Pelagia, urging her to return to her former life. The saint prayed, signed herself with the Sign of the Cross, and the devil vanished.

Three days after her baptism, Saint Pelagia gathered up her valuables and took them to Bishop Nonnus. The bishop ordered that they be distributed among the poor saying, "Let this be wisely dispersed, so that these riches gained by sin may become a wealth of righteousness." After this Saint Pelagia journeyed to Jerusalem to the Mount of Olives. She lived there in a cell, disguised as the monk Pelagius, living in ascetic seclusion, and attaining great spiritual gifts. When she died, she was buried in her cell.