

ASSUMPTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH
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Sunday, April 29, 2018 | Fourth Sunday of Pascha

Tone 3 – Paralytic

The Nine Martyrs at Cyzicus (3rd c.)

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Weekly Schedule

Today: Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy.
[Rescheduled from last week.]

Monday: Holy Apostle James (Jacob), [brother of St John the Theologian]

Wednesday: Midfeast of Pentecost!

Saturday: May 5 – Great Vespers at 5:00PM!

Sunday: May 6 – 5th Sunday of Pascha! Samaritan Woman
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: May 6 - Blessing of Graves at Mount Moriah Cemetery at 1PM!
(For those that stay at the cemetery after the grave blessing, a common picnic will be held near the Spack family gravesite) (Weather Permitting!!!)

[FYI-Broad Street Run is also on this Sunday. Plan accordingly!]

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.

Kontakion (Tone 3 - Pentecostarion)

By Thy divine intercession, O Lord, / as Thou raised up the Paralytic of old, / so raise up my soul, paralyzed by sins and thoughtless acts; / so that being saved I may sing to Thee: / "Glory to Thy power, O compassionate Christ!"

Kontakion (Tone 8 - Pascha)

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, / Thou didst destroy the power of death. / In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, / proclaiming, "Rejoice!" to the Myrrhbearing Women, // granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

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: Acts 9:32-42

Now it came to pass, as Peter went through all parts of the country, that he also came down to the saints who dwelt in Lydda. There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden eight years and was paralyzed. And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Arise and make your bed." Then he arose immediately. So all who dwelt at Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord. At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated Dorcas. This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did. But it happened in those days that she became sick and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. And since Lydda was near Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him, imploring him not to delay in coming to them. Then Peter arose and went with them. When he had come, they brought him to the upper room. And all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them. But Peter put them all out, and knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. Then he gave her his hand and lifted her up; and when he had called the saints and widows, he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed on the Lord. Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 5)

- v. I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation. Alleluia (3x's)
- v. For Thou hast said: Mercy will be established forever; Thy truth will be prepared in the heavens. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: John 5:1-15

After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath. The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed." He answered them, "He who made me well said to me, 'Take up your bed and walk.'" Then they asked him, "Who is the Man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk'?" But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a multitude being in that place. Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you." The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing the following

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace: / "Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: Rejoice, / Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb! / With Himself He has raised all the dead." / Rejoice, O ye people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem! / The glory of the Lord has shone on you. / Exult now, / and be glad, O Zion! / Be radiant, / O pure Theotokos, / in the Resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymn:

Receive the Body of Christ, taste the foundation of immortality!
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

We would like to welcome back 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 in the past serving during special services such as the Lenten Mission Services held this year in our parish, the Holy Week service of Bridegrooms Matins Tuesday evening, the Divine Liturgy of the Nativity of our Lord last Christmas, and he substituted last summer on August 20 while Father Mark was away. If you haven't already, please introduce yourself and give Father Emmanuel a warm South Philly welcome.

Father Mark and Matushka Jan are still away visiting the Republic of Georgia until tomorrow **April 30**. Both of them are doing well and enjoying themselves with spiritual family, friends and the holy sites during this Pascha season!

Father Victor Gorodenchuk, Dean of the Philadelphia Deanery and Rector of St. Stephen Cathedral is available for emergencies during the time Father Mark is away.

Annual Pentecost (Pascha) Dinner – Sunday, May 27 after Vespers in the church basement.

The parish will once again hold its annual Pentecost Dinner with Pascha food on Pentecost Sunday which is May 27 this year.

Beginning Today (April 29), if you wish to bring or donate Pascha food, beverages, or kitchen supplies, please see Catherine Kavalkovich to discuss what items the parish will need for our dinner. The dinner will be a free will offering and any monetary donations towards the dinner are always appreciated! Thank You!

Please be mindful that when you discard a styrofoam cup, a plastic bottle, or an aluminum can which still has liquid in it, the liquid eventually ends up at the bottom of the trash or recycling bag. When these bags are taken outside for pick up, the liquid leaks from the bag onto the carpets in the church basement. Please, before throwing out any of these containers, empty the liquid out first in the bathroom sinks. Thank you for your understanding!

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Joseph Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
Brendan Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
Family and Parishioners offered by Nina Patterson
Barbara Andrews on her birthday offered by Catherine & Al Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Michael Rabik offered by his brother Joseph Rabik
Helen Orstorsky offered by M/M Herbert
Julia and John Drimak offered by the Hourahan Family

May Their Memories Be Eternal

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Please remember in your prayers:

Grace Corba; Ronald Kavalkovich (on his continuous recovery); Margaret Pellack; Helen Wanenchak; Father Vincent Saverino (retired); Father John Bohush (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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The 114th Annual Memorial Day Pilgrimage to St. Tikhon's Monastery is scheduled for May 25 through May 28, 2018 (Pentecost Weekend). Once again, Pilgrims will be especially graced by the presence of the Myrrhstreaming Hawaiian Iveron Icon of the Mother of God and by the participation and presence of numerous hierarchs, clergy, faithful, and friends from the Orthodox Church in America and other Orthodox jurisdictions from America and beyond.

Pilgrimage information and schedule for the weekend events are posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule area.

Please ensure that your Mobile Phone is set to Silent (or at least set on vibrate) during the Divine Liturgy! Thank You!!!

Announcements (cont.)

Coffee Hour / Cleaning and Epistle / Hours Reading Schedule.

We now have an established full rotating schedule for the Coffee Hour & Cleaning, and the Hours & Epistle Readings. The Reading schedule sheets will be posted quarterly on the bulletin board in the church basement. The Coffee Hour/Cleaning schedule is in a binder located on the display case.

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 (2016-18)
- 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 (April)

	<u>Week of Apr 16 to Apr 22</u>	<u>April Month-to-date</u>
Attendance:	26	56 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,896.37	\$ 9,681.37
Funds Out:	\$ 1,304.83	\$ 6,047.52
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 591.54	\$ 3,633.85

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 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church School Room! [Rescheduled from last week]!

All property committee members are asked to attend the meeting. Discussions will include any follow-up from the previous meeting, and any additional action(s) that need to be taken.

UPDATE!!! – There will be NO Church Life Discussion class TODAY

Father Mark will still be away over in the Republic of Georgia. The class will resume next month and is tentatively scheduled for **Sunday, May 20** after Divine Liturgy and our Fellowship Hour. NOTE the change in date due to Pentecost on May 27!

Sunday, May 6 – Blessing of Graves [Rescheduled from Saint Thomas Sunday due to Inclement Weather]

If the weather cooperates with us, we will have our annual Blessing of the Graves at Mount Moriah Cemetery around 1pm. For those that stay at the cemetery after the grave blessing, a common picnic will be held near the Spack (Onufer & Julia) family gravesite. Please bring your favorite foods, beverages, and lawn chairs. Please dress appropriately for that day's weather (jackets, windbreakers, hats, sunscreen, etc...).

[FYI...The Broad Street Run is also on this same Sunday. Plan accordingly!]

Bible Study – Tuesday, May 8 at 6:30pm in the church basement. The Bible Study Group will gather together at this time and will continue the readings and discussing the Book of Deuteronomy.

Cleaning Teams: Today (Apr 29): Saint Alexander Hotovitzky (Brett McKenna, Tanya Krawchuck, and Pete Witiak) .
Next Week (May 6): Saint Raphael of Brooklyn (Mark Klus, Tish Berchtold, Barbara Andrews, and Sheeba Patton).



Sunday of the Paralytic [April 29th]

On this day the Church remembers the man who lay by the Sheep's Pool in Jerusalem for thirty-eight years, waiting for someone to put him into the pool. The first one to enter the pool after an angel troubled the water would be healed of his infirmities, but someone always entered the pool before him.

Seeing the man, the Lord felt compassion for him and healed him.

The Kontakion for this Fourth Sunday of Pascha asks Christ to raise up our souls, *“paralyzed by sins and thoughtless acts.”*

