

## Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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### Sunday, June 17, 2018 | 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Tone – 2 Martyrs Manuel, Sabel, and Ismael, of Persia (362 AD)

All Saints of Britain and Ireland!

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

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### Weekly Schedule

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!!!

Today: Readers Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church Basement!

Saturday: June 23 – Great Vespers at 5:00PM!

Sunday: June 24 – Nativity of the Holy Glorious Prophet,  
Forerunner and Baptist, John

Reading of Hours – 9:30am

Divine Liturgy – 10:00am

Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: June 24 – Church Life Discussion Class after Divine Liturgy.

Topic: Icons, Iconography, and Iconostas. Its history and the stories displayed on them.

## **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 4 - Martyrs)**

Thy holy martyrs Manuel, Sabel, and Ismael, O Lord, / through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from Thee, our God. / For having Thy strength, they laid low their adversaries, / and shattered the powerless boldness of demons. // Through their intercessions, save our souls!

### **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 - Martyrs)**

Because of your perfect faith in Christ, all-blessed martyrs, / Ye drank the cup of His sufferings with generous hearts. / Ye renounced the idols of Persia, / and, yourselves three in number, proclaimed your belief in the Holy Trinity. // We ever beseech you to pray for us all.

### **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: Romans 5:1-10**

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

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 6:22-33**

The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

**Communion Hymn:**

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest! Alleluia (3x's)

**“Be the first to arrive at church for services and the last to leave, especially for the Divine Liturgy.”**

*St Symeon the Studite (also called Symeon the Pious; +1021)*

**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

From the discussions during Spring General Parish Meeting held on Sunday, June 3, beginning next month (July 2018), the special collection taken on the second Sunday of the month which was previously earmarked for the Icon Fund, will be changed and donations made will be earmarked for the reactivated Youth Fund.

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### **Parishioner Volunteers Needed:**

Over the past two years, the Church Property Committee has undertaken the task of overseeing needed restoration projects for Our Parish, Church Hall and the two Parish owned row houses. We are pleased that the Church Hall has been restored to the point where it has been rented and is now providing much needed revenue for our Parish and Church Hall. However, after further assessment of ongoing issues in the Church Hall, we know that many necessary repairs, e.g. brick pointing, lintel repair, cleanup in basement, etc... need to be resolved in the near future.

We are also in the process to make available one of the row houses rentable. To assist in offsetting the costs associated in hiring expensive contractors, both the Property Committee and Parish Council sincerely request the help of **every** parishioner who is able to provide some assistance in the few months ahead (most work will be done on Saturdays). Task range from maintenance repairs, painting, cleaning, etc...

A form asking for dates that parishioners may be available to help with some of the repairs need is being distributed to our parishioners. We hope that each parishioner would complete this form and place it in the folder outside the church office.

Participation is, of course, optional, however we hope all can help in some way.

### **Sunday, July 29 at 2:00PM - Dining Out in Delaware - Ironhill Brewery Restaurant in Wilmington, DE (a social event for the parish)!**

Please contact Matushka Jan in person, by phone (House #302.322.0943), or email (jakoczak@gmail.com) whether you will be attending so reservations can be made. The reservation deadline is **Tuesday, July 17!!!** The phone number for Ironhill Brewery in Delaware is 302-472-2739



**Announcements** (cont.)

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

**Health for the Living:**

Joseph Herbert offered by M/M Herbert  
Family and Parishioners offered by Nina Patterson  
Jack Drimak offered by Hourahan Family  
Ronald Kavalkovich offered by Emily Gerasimoff

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

**Memory for the Departed:**

Olga Macalush offered by M/M Herbert  
All Internal offered by Joseph Rabik  
Andrew Gerasimoff offered by Emily Gerasimoff

**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!

Please also remember in your prayers this week our beloved sister in Christ, the infant child Ivanna Alexandra Parsells on the one year anniversary of her falling asleep (June 21) in the Lord. May Her Memory Be Eternal!

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**SUNDAY PUNDAY.....**

I woke up this morning and forgot which side the sun rises from.  
Then it dawned on me.

**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 (June)**

|                        | <u>Week of June 4 to June 10</u> | <u>June Month-to-date</u> |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Attendance:            | 43                               | 39 (average)              |
| Funds In:              | \$ 2,208.00                      | \$ 3,433.00               |
| Funds Out:             | \$ 702.28                        | \$ 2,202.28               |
| Net Surplus/(Deficit): | \$ 1,505.72                      | \$ 1,230.72               |

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 Divine 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 Divine Liturgy.  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month** – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month** – Church Life Discussion Class after Divine Liturgy.

**TODAY - Readers Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the church basement.** A Readers Meeting is scheduled for TODAY after Divine Liturgy for those who read the Hours and the Epistle. Thank You!

**Sunday, June 24 - Church Life Discussion after the Divine Liturgy and Fellowship hour in the church. (The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month)**

The Topic – Icons, Iconography, and Iconostas. It's history and the stories displayed on them.

**Thursday, June 28 – Vespereal Divine Liturgy for the Feast Day of Saints Peter and Paul (June 29<sup>th</sup>) at 6:30PM!**

This service will be announced in church and reported in all of the parish social media outlets (i.e. website, Facebook, and in this bulletin).

**Sunday, July 8 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church School Room! (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month)!**

All property committee members are asked to attend the meeting. Discussions will include any follow-ups from the previous meeting; Church status from the recent water damage on north side of building; Hall status update; tenant situation at 2109 house; the work performed on 2111 house; and any additional action(s) that need to be taken at this time.

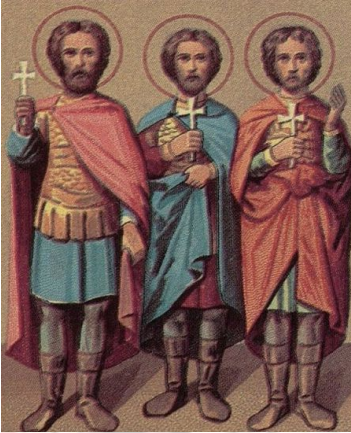
**Bible Study – Tuesday, July 10 at 6:30pm in the church basement.**

The Bible Study Group will gather together at this time and will begin the next book of readings and discussing the section in the Bible – The Book of **Joshua**.

Joshua is a story of conquest and fulfillment for the people of God. After many, many years of slavery in Egypt and 40 years in the desert, the Israelites were finally allowed to enter the land promised to their fathers.

**Cleaning Teams:** Today (June 17): Saint Innocent (David Albrecht, Melanie Albrecht, Robert Wanenchak).

Next Week (June 24): Saint Agatha of Belo-Russia (Nina Patterson, Natalie Patterson, Michael Spack).



## **Martyrs Manuel, Sabel, and Ismael, of Persia** [June 17<sup>th</sup>]

The Holy Martyrs Manuel, Sabel and Ismael, brothers by birth, were descended from an illustrious Persian family. Their father was a pagan, but their mother was a Christian, who baptized the children and raised them with firm faith in Christ the Savior.

When they reached adulthood, the brothers entered military service. Speaking on behalf of the Persian emperor Alamundar, they were his emissaries in concluding a peace treaty with the emperor Julian the

Apostate (361-363). Julian received them with due honor and showed them his favor. But when the brothers refused to take part in a pagan sacrifice, Julian became angry. He annulled the treaty and incarcerated the ambassadors of a foreign country like common criminals.

At the interrogation he told them that if they scorned the gods he worshipped, it would be impossible to reach any peace or accord between the two sides. The holy brothers answered that they were sent as emissaries of their emperor on matters of state, and not to argue about “gods.” Seeing their firmness of faith, the emperor ordered the brothers to be tortured.

They beat the holy martyrs, then nailed their hands and feet to trees. Later, they drove iron spikes into their heads, and wedged sharp splinters under their fingernails and toenails. During this time of torment the saints glorified God and prayed as if they did not feel the tortures.

Finally, the holy martyrs were beheaded. Julian ordered their bodies to be burned, and suddenly there was an earthquake. The ground opened up and the bodies of the holy martyrs disappeared into the abyss. After two days of fervent prayer by the Christians, the earth returned the bodies of the holy brothers, from which a sweet fragrance issued forth. Many pagans, witnessing the miracle, came to believe in Christ and were baptized.

Christians reverently buried the bodies of the holy martyrs Manuel, Sabel and Ismael in the year 362. Since that time the relics of the holy passion-bearers have been glorified with miracles.

When he heard about the murder of his emissaries, and that Julian was marching against him with a vast army, the Persian emperor Alamundar mustered his army and started off toward the border of his domain. The Persians vanquished the Greeks in a great battle, and Julian the Apostate was killed by the holy Great Martyr Mercurius (November 24).

Thirty years later the pious emperor Theodosius the Great (+ 397) built at Constantinople a church in honor of the holy martyrs, and Saint Germanus, Patriarch of Constantinople (May 12), then still a hieromonk, wrote a Canon in memory and in praise of the holy brothers.