

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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Sunday, July 22, 2018 | 8th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 7 – Holy Myrrhbearer and Equal-to-the-Apostles

Mary Magdalene (1st c.)

Hieromartyr Phocas, Bishop of Sinope (403-404)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Weekly Schedule

Thursday: July 26 – Repose of St Jacob Nesvetov,
Enlightener of the Peoples of Alaska

Saturday: July 28 – Great Vespers at 5:00PM!

Sunday: July 29 – Martyr Callinicus of Gangra in Asia Minor
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: July 29 - Dining out in Delaware at 2:00PM at the
Ironhill Brewery Restaurant in Wilmington, DE.

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 1 – Mary Magdalene)

By keeping His commandments and laws, holy Mary Magdalene, / thou didst follow Christ, Who for our sake was born of the Virgin, / and in celebrating thy most holy memory today, // we receive forgiveness of sins by thy prayers.

Troparion (Tone 4 – Hieromartyr Phocas)

By sharing in the ways of the Apostles, / thou didst become a successor to their throne. / Through the practice of virtue, thou didst find the way to divine contemplation, O inspired one of God; / by teaching the word of Truth without error, thou didst defend the Faith, even to the shedding of thy blood. // Hieromartyr Phocas, entreat Christ God to save 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 3 – Mary Magdalene)

Standing before the Cross of the Savior, / suffering with the Mother of the Lord, the most glorious Mary Magdalene / didst offer praise with tears. / She cried out: “What is this strange wonder? / He Who holds the whole creation in His hand chooses to suffer. // Glory to Thy power, O Lord!”

Kontakion (Tone 2 – Hieromartyr Phocas)

The Master established thee as a brilliant sun, / shining on all the faithful, glorious O hieromartyr Phocas. / He accepted thy life, faith, and contest as myrrh, // for He is rich in mercy.

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: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you. Now I say this, that each of you says, “I am of Paul,” or “I am of Apollos,” or “I am of Cephas,” or “I am of Christ.” Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, lest anyone should say that I had baptized in my own name. Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas. Besides, I do not know whether I baptized any other. For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect. For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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: Matthew 14:14-22

And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food." But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." And they said to Him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish." He said, "Bring them here to Me." Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes. So they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained. Now those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away.

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

Once again, we thank you to everyone who came out yesterday and also during the week to assist with the fixing up and repairs around the Church, Hall, and Houses. Your time & talent is appreciated! A significance improvement around the parish owned property is beginning to be noticed!

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.

UPDATE ON THE SALE AND MOVE OF THE DIOCESAN CENTER

As of the printing of this week's bulletin went to press yesterday, there was no update to report about the Zoning Commission hearing from Wednesday, July 18 in Bath, PA regarding the Diocese request to change the zoning for the new Diocesan Center that will make it possible for it to serve as a residence as well as diocesan office. Currently, the house, which has offices on the ground floor, is commercially zoned.

ATTENTION – ATTENTION – ATTENTION!!!

Currently, the parish has enough plastic forks, knives, and spoons in its inventory to last for the near future. At this time the parish is requesting not to donate any plastic utensils until further notice. Thank you all who have donated these supplies in the past so that we have utensils to use during our Fellowship Coffee Hour.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Brianna Herbert on her birthday offered by M/M Herbert
Joseph Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
Irene Torpey offered by the Nina Patterson

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Martha Katchur offered by M/M Herbert
Mary (Rabik) McKinney offered by their brother Joseph Rabik

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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SUNDAY PUNDAY.....

Now that the summer heat and humidity are here; Insect puns bug 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 – Youth Fund (*reactivated July 2018*)
- 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 (July)

	<u>Week of July 9 to July 15</u>	<u>July Month-to-date</u>
Attendance:	37	34 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,257.00	\$ 4,722.00
Funds Out:	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 5,576.32
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 243.00)	(\$ 854.32)

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.

19th All-American Council in St. Louis, MO - July 23 to 27, 2018

Father Mark will be attending as our parish's representative to the AAC, leaving this afternoon and returning on Friday, July 27. In case of an emergency and in need of a priest this week, please contact our Parish President, Matthew Andrews, whose phone number is located on the front of the bulletin. He will make contact with a clergyman to address the emergency in need.

Throughout the AAC, the OCA's communication team will provide regular press releases, updates, and galleries on the OCA web site and social media. Once again, Orthodox Web Solutions will offer daily coverage, while Ancient Faith Radio will podcast plenary sessions 1,2,4,6, and 7 live. [Plenary sessions 3 and 5 are breakout sessions and, as such, will not be aired.] The website is <https://19aac.oca.org>

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

The reservation deadline has now passed!!

Our group will have a private room on the second floor of the restaurant all to us.
The phone number for Ironhill Brewery in Delaware is 302-472-2739

August Schedule of Parish events:

Sunday, August 5 – Eve of Transfiguration of our Lord – Vespers – Time: After Divine Liturgy AND Coffee Hour

Monday, August 6 – Feast of Transfiguration of our Lord – Liturgy – Time: 10:00AM

Tuesday, August 14 – Eve of Dormition of Theotokos – Vespers – Time: TBD

Wednesday, August 15 – Feast of the Dormition – Divine Liturgy – Time: TBD

Saturday, August 25 – Youth Outing to the Zoo

Supplication to the Theotokos Vesper Service – Our parish will **NOT** be hosting one of these services on a Sunday afternoon in August. Father Mark will provide the schedule for this service within the next two weeks.

Cleaning Teams: Today (July 22): Saint Alex *Hotovitzky* (*Brett McKenna, Tanya Krawchuck, Pete Witiak*).
Next Week (July 29): Saint *Bridget of Ireland* (*Catherine and Albert Kavalkovich, Emily Gerasmoff, Sal Herbert*).



Myrrhbearer and Equal of the Apostles Mary Magdalene [July 15th]

The Holy Myrrh-Bearer Equal of the Apostles Mary Magdalene. On the banks of Lake Genesareth (Galilee), between the cities of Capharnum and Tiberias, was the small city of Magdala, the remains of which have survived to our day. Now only the small village of Mejhdel stands on the site.

A woman whose name has entered forever into the Gospel account was born and grew up in Magdala. The Gospel tells us nothing of Mary's younger years, but Tradition informs us that Mary of Magdala was young and pretty, and led a sinful life. It says in the Gospels that the Lord expelled seven devils from Mary (Luke. 8:2). From the moment of her healing Mary led a new life, and became a true disciple of the Savior.

The Gospel relates that Mary followed after the Lord, when He went with the Apostles through the cities and villages of Judea and Galilee preaching about the Kingdom of God. Together with the pious women Joanna, wife of Choza (steward of Herod), Susanna and others, she served Him from her own possessions (Luke 8:1-3) and undoubtedly shared with the Apostles the evangelic tasks in common with the other women. The Evangelist Luke, evidently, has her in view together with the other women, stating that at the moment of the Procession of Christ onto Golgotha, when after the Scourging He took on Himself the heavy Cross, collapsing under its weight, the women followed after Him weeping and wailing, but He consoled them. The Gospel relates that Mary Magdalene was present on Golgotha at the moment of the Lord's Crucifixion. While all the disciples of the Savior ran away, she remained fearlessly at the Cross together with the Mother of God and the Apostle John.

The Evangelists also list among those standing at the Cross the mother of the Apostle James, and Salome, and other women followers of the Lord from Galilee, but all mention Mary Magdalene first. Saint John, in addition to the Mother of God, names only her and Mary Cleopas. This indicates how much she stood out from all the women who gathered around the Lord.

She was faithful to Him not only in the days of His Glory, but also at the moment of His extreme humiliation and insult. As the Evangelist Matthew relates, she was present at the Burial of the Lord. Before her eyes Joseph and Nicodemus went out to the tomb with His lifeless Body. She watched as they covered over the entrance to the cave with a large stone, entombing the Source of Life.

Faithful to the Law in which she was raised, Mary together with the other women spent following day at rest, because it was the great day of the Sabbath, coinciding with the Feast of Passover. But all the rest of the peaceful day the women gathered spices to go to the Grave of the Lord at dawn on Sunday and anoint His Body according to the custom of the Jews.

It is necessary to mention that, having agreed to go on the first day of the week to the Tomb early in the morning, the holy women had no possibility of meeting with one another on Saturday. They went separately on Friday evening to their own homes. They went out only at dawn the following day to go to the Sepulchre, not all together, but each from her own house.

The Evangelist Matthew writes that the women came to the grave at dawn, or as the Evangelist Mark expresses, extremely early before the rising of the sun. The Evangelist John, elaborating upon these, says that Mary came to the grave so early that it was still dark. Obviously, she waited impatiently for the end of night, but it was not yet daybreak. She ran to the place where the Lord's Body lay.

[...the remaining life of Mary Magdalene can be read at www.oca.org ...]