

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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

Sunday, August 12, 2018 | 11th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 2 – Afterfeast of the Transfiguration

Martyr Anicetus and Photius (Photinus) of Nicomedia (305-306)

Hieromartyr Alexander, Bishop of Comana (3rd c.)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Weekly Schedule

Today: Property Committee Meeting after Liturgy.

Monday: Saint Tikhon, Bishop of Voronezh (1783)

Tuesday: August 14 – Great Vespers with Litya at **6:30PM**
for Dormition of Our Most-Holy Lady Theotokos!
[\[Please bring flowers to be blessed on this day\]](#)

Wednesday: August 15 – Divine Liturgy at **10:00AM** for Dormition of
Our Most-Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary!
[\[Please bring flowers to be blessed on this day\]](#)

Saturday: August 18 – Great Vespers at **5:00PM!**

Sunday: August 19 – Afterfeast of the Dormition
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

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 7 – Transfiguration)

Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, O Christ God, / revealing Thy glory to Thy Disciples as far as they could bear it. / Let Thine everlasting Light also shine upon us sinners, / through the prayers of the Theotokos! // O Giver of Light, glory to Thee!

Troparion (Tone 4 – Martyrs)

Thy holy martyrs Anicetus and Photius, 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!

Troparion (Tone 8 – St Maximus)

Champion of Orthodoxy, teacher of purity and of true worship, / enlightener of the universe and the adornment of the hierarchs: / all-wise Father Maximus, thy teachings have gleamed with light upon all things. // Intercede before Christ God to 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 7 – Transfiguration)

On the mountain Thou wast transfigured, O Christ God, / and Thy Disciples beheld Thy glory as far as they could see it; / so that when they should behold Thee crucified, / they would understand that Thy suffering was voluntary, / and would proclaim to the world // that Thou art truly the Radiance of the Father.

Kontakion (Tone 2 – St Maximus)

Maximus, divinely inspired champion of the Church, / sure and illumined exponent of Orthodoxy, / harp and trumpet of godliness, / divine and holy adornment of monks; // never cease to intercede 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.

Prokeimenon (Tone 4)

O Lord how manifold are Thy works / In wisdom hast Thou made them all!

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:2-12

If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. My defense to those who examine me is this: Do we have no right to eat and drink? Do we have no right to take along a believing wife, as do also the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working? Who ever goes to war at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat of its fruit? Or who tends a flock and does not drink of the milk of the flock? Do I say these things as a mere man? Or does not the law say the same also? For it is written in the law of Moses, “You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain.” Is it oxen God is concerned about? Or does He say it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written, that he who plows should plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope should be partaker of his hope. If we have sown spiritual things for you, is it a great thing if we reap your material things? If others are partakers of this right over you, are we not even more? Nevertheless we have not used this right, but endure all things lest we hinder the gospel of Christ. 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)
- v. The heavens are Thine; the earth also is Thine! Alleluia (3x's) (TONE 8)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:23-35

Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!' So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?' And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.

Instead of "It is truly meet ...," we sing:

Magnify, O my soul, the Lord Who was transfigured on Mount Tabor! / Thy childbearing was without corruption; / God came forth from thy body clothed in flesh, / and appeared on earth and dwelt among men. // Therefore we all magnify thee, O Theotokos.

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest!
 O Lord, we shall walk in the light of Thy countenance, and will exult in Thy Name forever! 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

The Supplication to the Mother of God services during August 2018, sponsored by Philadelphia Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood, is as follows beginning at 4:00PM:

Today – Descent of the Holy Spirit Romanian Orthodox Church
1323 Ashbourne Road * Elkins Park, PA 19027
Phone: 215.635.1441 Website: www.dhs-ro.org

Sunday, August 19 – St Vladimir’s Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral
6740 North 5th Street * Philadelphia, PA 19126
Phone: 215.424.9295 Website: www.stvladimirshila.org

Sunday, August 26 - St Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church
506 Stahr Road * Elkins Park, PA 19027
Phone: 215.782.8448 Website: n/a

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.

Thank you to all who have been coming to the church on Saturdays and to those who have been coming during the week (for some, almost everyday) to clean up and fix items needing repair around the church, the parish property, and the parish homes. Your tireless efforts have not gone unnoticed. We know the work is time consuming and sometimes slow, but you all have been doing an excellent job. May God continue to give you guidance and strength as we continue with our parish projects!

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Thomas, Kimberly, Brendan and Brianna Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
Joseph Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
Gillespie Family offered by Joseph Rabik
Ronald Kavalkovich offered by M/M Al Kavalkovich
David Pellack offered by M/M Al Kavalkovich

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:

Grace Corba; Sandra Hourahan, 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.....

Taller people sleep longer in bed.

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/August)

	<u>Week of July 30 to August 5</u>	<u>July Month (Unaudited)</u>
Attendance:	33	32 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 2,129.00	\$ 7,862.00
Funds Out:	\$ 3,881.62	\$ 5,322.62
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 1,752.62)	\$ 2,539.38

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.

Sunday, August 12 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church School Room! (2nd 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.

Tuesday, August 14 – Vespers (with Litya) to be served at 6:30PM for the Forefeast of the Dormition (Falling Asleep) of our Most-Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary! After Vespers, Father Mark will bless Flowers (and fragrance plants (i.e. mint, basil, etc...)). Please bring your floral arrangements (and fragrance plants) this day to be blessed.

Wednesday, August 15 – The Dormition (“Falling Asleep”) of our Most-Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary - Divine Liturgy will be served at 10:00AM!!
On this day after Divine Liturgy, Father Mark will bless Flowers (and fragrance plants (i.e. mint, basil, etc...)). Please bring your floral arrangements (and fragrance plants) this day to be blessed. This Feast day is also the Name’s Day of our parish!

Bible Study – Tuesday, August 21 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.

Saturday, August 25, 2018 – Trip to the Philadelphia Zoo (A Parish Church School activity for our children/teens)
Youth and chaperons to meet at the church by 10am for a light morning snack. Then Fr. Mark to talk on “God’s Creatures and the Salvation Story.” Then caravanning to the Zoo around 11:15am. Lunch around 1:30 at the Zoo. Leave back for the church around 3:30pm. Then Vespers at 5pm. Information and details posted on our parish bulletin board. **Deadline for RSVP by TODAY (Sunday, August 12)!!!**

Cleaning Teams: Today (Aug 12): *Saint John of Kronstadt (Lena Helen, Paul Filanowski, William Filanowski, Matt Andrews).*
Next Week (Aug 19): *Saint Herman of Alaska (Peter & Heather Parsells, Gale Rutan and Joseph Francis).*



Martyrs Anicetus and Photius Of Nicomedia [August 12th]

The Martyrs Anicetus and Photius (his nephew) were natives of Nicomedia. Anicetus, a military official, denounced the emperor Diocletian (284-305) for setting up in the city square an implement of execution for frightening Christians. The enraged emperor ordered Saint Anicetus to be tortured, and later condemned him to be devoured by wild beasts. But the lions they set loose became gentle and fawned at his feet.

Suddenly there was a strong earthquake, resulting in the collapse of the pagan temple of Hercules, and many pagans perished beneath the demolished city walls. The executioner took up a sword to cut off the saint's head, but he fell down insensible. They tried to break Saint Anicetus on the wheel and burn him with fire, but the wheel stopped and the fire went out. They threw the martyr into a furnace with boiling tin, but the tin became cold. Thus the Lord preserved His servant for the edification of many.

The martyr's nephew, Saint Photius, saluted the sufferer and turned to the emperor, saying, "O idol-worshipper, your gods are nothing!" The sword, held over the new confessor, struck the executioner instead. Then the martyrs were thrown into prison.

After three days Diocletian urged them, "Worship our gods, and I shall give you glory and riches." The martyrs answered, "May you perish with your honor and riches!" Then they tied them by the legs to wild horses. Though the saints were dragged along the ground, they remained unharmed. They did not suffer in the heated bath house, which fell apart. Finally, Diocletian ordered a great furnace to be fired up, and many Christians, inspired by the deeds of Saints Anicetus and Photius, went in themselves saying, "We are Christians!" They all died with a prayer on their lips. The bodies of Saints Anicetus and Photius were not harmed by the fire, and even their hair remained whole. Seeing this, many of the pagans came to believe in Christ. This occurred in the year 305.

Saints Anicetus and Photius are mentioned in the prayers for the Blessing of Oil and the Lesser Blessing of Water (BOOK OF NEEDS, 1987, p. 230).