

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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Sunday, September 23, 2018 | 17th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 8 – The Conception of the Honorable Glorious Prophet,
Forerunner and Baptist John
Ss Xanthippa & Polyxena, disciples of the apostles, who died in Spain

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Weekly Schedule

- Today: Special Parish Meeting after Divine Liturgy. This special meeting of the parish is being held for the specific purpose of only discussing one topic: The potential work to be performed on the lintels of the parish Hall windows.
- Friday: September 28 – The 2nd Annual Two Holies and a Saint Golf Tournament at Ron Jaworski's Ramblewood Country Club in Mount Laurel, New Jersey.
- Saturday: September 29 – Great Vespers at 5:00PM!
- Sunday: September 30 – Hieromartyr Gregory
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy
- Sunday: September 30 - 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 8)

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! / Thou didst accept the three day burial / to free us from our sufferings! // O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

Troparion (Tone 4 – Conception of John the Baptist)

Rejoice, O barren one, who formerly didst not bear a child, / for thou hast conceived the Lamp of the Sun, Who is to illumine the whole universe darkened by blindness!
Rejoice, O Zachariah, / and cry out with boldness: // “The Prophet of the Most High desires to be born!”

Kontakion (Tone 8)

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrected Adam. / Eve exults in Thy Resurrection, / and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

Kontakion (Tone 1 – Conception of John the Baptist)

Great Zachariah rejoices with his wife, the far-famed Elizabeth, / for she has fittingly conceived John the Forerunner, / whom an Angel announced in gladness; and whom we rightly honor // as an initiate of the grace of God.

Prokeimenon (Tone 8)

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord our God!
v. In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

Another Prokeimenon (Tone 7)

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord and shall hope in Him.

Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1

And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people.” Therefore Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you.” I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty.” Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 8)

- v. Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Luke 5:1-11

So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets. Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat. When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest!
The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings. Alleluia (3x's)

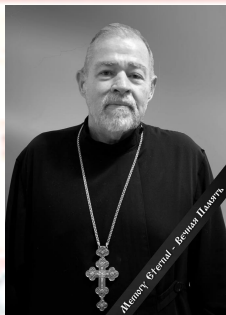
*[Note: Today's readings for the Conception of the Baptist John are as follows:
Epistle – Galatians 4:22-31 and Gospel – Luke 1:5-25]*

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

Memory Eternal – Archpriest Vincent Saverino



On Thursday, September 20, following a long serious illness, one of the senior-most clerics of the Patriarchal Parishes in the USA and pastor emeritus of St. Michael the Archangel Church in Philadelphia, PA, Archpriest Vincent Saverino reposed in the Lord.

Fr. Vincent's pastoral service began in 1970 - the year in which the Patriarchal Parishes were established. For more than 30 years, he was a faithful servant to the various Administrators of the Patriarchal Parishes in the USA serving as a permanent member of the Bishop's Council. From 1976 to 2017 he served as rector of St. Michael the Archangel Church in Philadelphia, PA.

Fr. Vincent, along with our former parish priest, Father John Udics, were instrumental in the organizing and growing of the Philadelphia Orthodoxy Clergy Brotherhood.

The Administrator of the Patriarchal Parishes in the USA, Bishop John of Naro-Fominsk expressed his condolences to the relatives and spiritual children of the newly-reposed Archpriest Vincent. Bishop John instructed the dean of the Atlantic States, Archpriest John Vass and the rector of St. Michael Church, Priest Gregory Winsky to lead the organization all necessary arrangements regarding the funeral and burial of the departed.

The funeral and burial of the newly-reposed Archpriest Vincent will be held on September 25 in Philadelphia, PA.

Schedule of Divine Services

St. Michael the Archangel Russian Orthodox Church
335 Fairmount Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19123

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

8:30 AM Greeting of the departed, visitation

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

11:30 AM Funeral Service for a Priest (immediately after Liturgy)

Burial around 1:00PM at Oakland Cemetery located at Adams Ave. & Ramona Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19124

Following the burial service, repast will be held in parish hall of St. Michael Church.

Information: Priest Gregory Winsky @ winsky42@gmail.com or phone 609.405.1920

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Sandra Hourahan, Dr Jane Kelly offered by Nina Patterson
Matesy Herbert, John Herbert, Joseph Herbert, Sandra Hourahan offered by M/M Herbert

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Aunt Julia Gavula offered by M/M Joseph Dorman
Julia Gavula offered by Joseph Rabik
Mother Julia Gavula offered by her son Walter Gavula

May Their Memories Be Eternal

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Please remember in your prayers:

Julia Gavula (***newly departed - Sep 5***) Grace Corba; Sandra Hourahan, Ronald Kavalkovich (on his continuous recovery); Dr. Jane Kelly; Margaret Pellack; Helen Wanenchak; Father John Bohush (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!
In addition, Father Vincent Saverino (***newly departed - Sep 20***)

Also all those who are struggling and seeking relief in addition to all those first responders assisting them as a result of the damaging affects of Hurricane Florence along North Carolina and South Carolina.

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SUNDAY PUNDAY.....

You can never lie to an x-ray technician because they can just see right through you.

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 (September)

	<u>Week of September 10 to September 16</u>	<u>September Month-to-Date</u>
Attendance:	31	34 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,518.00	\$ 5,079.76
Funds Out:	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 5,758.47
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 182.00)	(\$ 678.71)

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 - Special Parish Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church basement. According to Article IV, Section 2.B of the Parish By-Laws, notice of all Special Parish Meetings shall be announced in the Parish Bulletin and read by the Parish Rector from the Amvon at least one Sunday preceding the date of the meeting [which was done last Sunday]. This special meeting is being held for the specific purpose only of discussing one topic: *the potential work to be performed on the lintels of the parish Hall windows.*

Sunday, September 23 30 - Church Life Discussion class (The 4th 5th Sunday of the month) .
[Postponed to a week later due to Special Parish Meeting on Septmeber 23!]

There is still one final remaining class discussion on The Topic – Icons, Iconography, and Iconostas. It's history and the stories displayed on them. This class discussion was scheduled for June 23, but was cancelled on that Sunday.

St. Michael Russian Orthodox Church 42nd Annual Russian Festival

4th St & Fairmount Avenue – Philadelphia, PA October 5 to 7 2018.

The parish's popular and festive event will be held the first full weekend of October (this year from Friday, October 5 to Sunday, October 7). 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.

Saturday, October 13 from 9AM to 3PM –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 October 13 to help clean up the church hall yard and outside property. Rain Date is October 27!

*Saturday Sunday School is scheduled to begin on a **Saturday in October.***

Currently, a Saturday date has yet to be determined. Stay tune for date details

Cleaning Teams:

Today (Sep 23): Saint Agatha of Belo-Russia
(Nina Patterson, Natalie Patterson, Michael Spack).

Next Week (Sep 30): Saint Elizabeth the New Martyr (Sandra Hourahan (Sam), Matushka Jan, David Pellack).



Conception of the Honorable Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John [September 23rd]

The Conception of the Venerable Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John: The holy Prophet Malachi prophesied that before the Messiah's birth His Forerunner would appear, and would indicate His coming. The Jews therefore in awaiting the Messiah also awaited the appearance of His Forerunner.

In a city of the hills of Judea in the land of Palestine lived the righteous priest Saint Zachariah and his wife Saint Elizabeth, zealously observing the commandments of the Lord. The couple, however, had a misfortune: they remained childless in their old age, and they prayed unceasingly to God to grant them a child.

Once, when Saint Zachariah took his turn as priest at the Temple of Jerusalem, he went into the Sanctuary to offer incense. Going behind the veil of the Sanctuary, he beheld an angel of God standing at the right side of the altar of incense.

Saint Zachariah was astonished and halted in fear, but the angel said to him, "Fear not, Zachariah, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John." But Zachariah did not believe the words of the heavenly messenger, and then the angel said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stand in the presence of God; and I was sent to speak to you, and to bring you the good news. Behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things come to pass, because you did not believe my words...."

Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zachariah and they were astonished that he had not come out from the Sanctuary after so long a time. And when he did come out, he was supposed to pronounce a blessing upon the people, but could not do so because he had been struck speechless. When Zachariah explained by gestures that he was unable to speak, the people then understood that he had experienced a vision. The prophecy of the Archangel was fulfilled, and Righteous Elizabeth was delivered from her barrenness, and gave birth to John, the Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord.