

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St. (corner of 28th St. & Snyder Ave.)
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<http://www.facebook.com/holyassumptionphilly>

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

Sunday, March 3, 2019

Tone 7 – Sunday of Meatfare

Sunday of the Last Judgement

Martyrs Eutropius of Amasea, Cleonicus and Basiliscus (ca 308)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Parish President - Matthew Andrews

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Weekly Schedule

Today: Holy Ghost Byzantine Church's Annual Spring Fling
Pasta Luncheon Fundraiser [2310 South 24th Street]

Tuesday: Bible Study at 6:30 PM in the church basement.
Continue reading the Book of 1 Samuel.

Saturday: March 9– Great Vespers at **4:00PM!** *Note Time Change!*

Sunday: March 10 – Sunday of Cheesefare
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: March 10 – Forgiveness Sunday Vespers immediately to be served after
Divine Liturgy!

Sunday: March 10 - Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church
Basement schoolroom.

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.

Kontakion (Tone 1 – Lenten Triodion)

When Thou, O God, shalt come to earth with glory, / all things shall tremble, / and the river of fire shall flow before Thy judgment seat; / the books shall be opened, and the hidden things disclosed; / then deliver me from the unquenchable fire, // and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, O Righteous Judge!

Prokeimenon (Tone 3)

Great is our Lord and abundant in power; / His understanding is beyond measure!
v. Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God!

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2

But food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse. But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols? And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble. Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? 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.

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)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:31-46

When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 'for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; 'I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? 'When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? 'Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: 'for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; 'I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

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

40 Days For Life – Philadelphia Campaign – Spring Season:

The 40 Days for Life Spring Campaign has arrived (Mar 6 to Sunday, April 14). This campaign of peaceful vigils will occur in ALL 50 states at the same time!

Information:

- * Contacts: Monique Ruberu or Pat Stanton at 469.231.9084
- * Email: roobearoo@hotmail.com
- * Website: <https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/philadelphia/>
- * Prayer vigil located at 12th & Locust St, Philadelphia – Planned Parenthood
- * Prayer vigil located at 777 Appletree Street, Philadelphia – Phila. Women Center
- * Vigils open Monday-Saturday from 8am-5pm.

The 40 Days For Life is not a political organization or a protest group. They stand and pray as a peaceful physical presence and witness for the lives of the unborn, who cannot speak for themselves.

Other peaceful vigils located in the surrounding areas include:

New Jersey – Cherry Hill Delaware - Dover
Pennsylvania – Northeast Philadelphia, Bryn Mawr, Norristown, and West Chester

2019 House Blessing - Only a couple weeks remain!!!

If you wish to have your home blessed, please speak with Father Mark for date availability to schedule a house blessing. The blessing of houses will begin after Theophany, which is Sunday, January 6. Items of importance when having your home blessed: 1) have a candle available to be burned during the house blessing, 2) a bowl of blessed holy water, 3) an icon (preferably the icon of Christ being baptized in the Jordan River), and 4) please make enough space for Father Mark to maneuver in the rooms you wish him to bless.

2019 Mission Service - Sunday, April 7, - At Our Parish

Our parish will be hosting a Mission Vespers Service on Sunday, April 7 (the 4th of Great Lent – St. John Climacus) beginning at 4:00PM. As a result of hosting this service during the Lenten Season, a church cleaning is scheduled the day before on Saturday, April 6 with a start time To Be Determined as we get closer to that date.

Lenten Retreat - Saturday, April 6, - Holy Cross in Medford, NJ

Topic: How to Be a Sinner – Finding Yourself in the Language of Repentance

Speaker: Dr Peter Bouteneff Time: 10AM to 3PM with Lunch Break

Please see Flyer posted on our bulletin boards in the church and church basement

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Mark Bilski offered by Nina Patterson
Kyra Skoog offered by Nina Patterson
Catherine, New Born Lucas offered by Debra Kavalkovich
Anastasia Kavalkovich on her safe travels offered by Debra Kavalkovich
Family offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Baby Lucas, Allison, Christopher Andrews offered by Barbara Andrews

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 2/24/19:

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Please remember in your prayers:

Grace Corba; Ronald Kavalkovich; Dr. Jane Kelly; Margaret Pellack; Helen Wanenchak; Father John Bohush (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces! In addition, please keep in your prayers the following: Lucas Christopher Andrews (**newly born – Feb 8**), Allison Andrews, Christopher Andrews, grandparents Barbara and Norman Andrews, and great grandparents Catherine and Albert Kavalkovich.

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Choir Rehearsal schedule for Lent and Pascha

Please keep in contact with Choir Director Nina Patterson as to the schedule for choir rehearsals over the next two months. She will inform you when and where rehearsals will take place.

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 (February)

	<u>Week of February 18 to February 24</u>	<u>February Month-to-Date</u>
Attendance:	59	48 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,529.00	\$ 10,022.00
Funds Out:	\$ 3,358.44	\$ 8,182.09
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 1,829.44)	\$ 1,839.91

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 – Holy Ghost’s Annual Spring Fling - Pasta Luncheon!
2310 South 24th Street * Philadelphia, PA! Doors open at 11AM & Lunch served at 12 noon.
Tickets (including admission and buffet) are \$15 for adults 13 and over and \$7 for children 12 and under. There will be a lunch and dessert buffet along with standard and premium raffle baskets. For more information on this event from one of our neighboring churches a few blocks away, please see the flyer posted on the bulletin board down in the church basement.

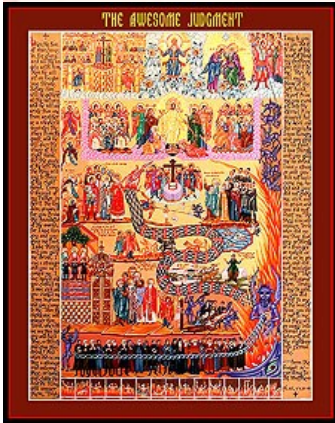
Bible Study – Tuesday, March 5 at 6:30pm in the church basement.
The Bible Study Group will gather together at this time and continue reading and discussing the section in the Bible – The Book of **1 Samuel**.

Sunday, March 10 - Forgiveness Sunday Vespers immediately following the Divine Liturgy.
The parish traditionally serves this vespers right after the Divine Liturgy. Please plan to stay and attend this beautiful service and asking forgiveness from your fellow parishioners and from God! It is during this service (during the reading “Vouchsafe, O Lord”) that the Great Lenten Fast Begins!

Sunday, March 10 – 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 water damage on north side of building; Hall status update; tenant situation at 2109 house; and the work performed on 2111

First Week of Great Lent – St Andrew of Crete Services
Monday, March 11 to Thursday March 14
The service for Saint Andrew of Crete will be held each night (weather permitting) **beginning at 6:00PM**. This is a change from previous years by moving up this service one-half hour earlier. Also, Daylight Savings will begin on Sunday, March 10. The full 1st week Lenten schedule will be printed in next week’s bulletin.

Cleaning Teams: Today (Mar 3): Saint Agatha of Belo-Russia
(Nina Patterson, Natalie Patterson, Michael Spack).
Next Week (Mar 10): St Elizabeth the New Martyr
(Matushka Jan Koczak, Sandra (and Sammi) Hourahan).



Sunday of Meatfare, Sunday of the Last Judgement [March 3rd]

Today's Gospel reading is Matthew 25:31-46, the parable of the Last Judgment. It reminds us that while trusting in Christ's love and mercy, we must not forget His righteous judgment when He comes again in glory. If our hearts remain hardened and unrepentant, we should not expect the Lord to overlook our transgressions simply because He is a good and

loving God. Although He does not desire the death of a sinner, He also expects us to turn from our wickedness and live (Ezek. 33:11). This same idea is expressed in the prayer read by the priest after the penitent has confessed his or her sins (Slavic practice).

The time for repentance and forgiveness is now, in the present life. At the Second Coming, Christ will appear as the righteous Judge, Who will render to every man according to his deeds" (Rom. 2:6). Then the time for entreating God's mercy and forgiveness will have passed.

As Father Alexander Schmemmann reminds us in his book GREAT LENT (Ch. 1:4), sin is the absence of love, it is separation and isolation. When Christ comes to judge the world, His criterion for judgment will be love. Christian love entails seeing Christ in other people, our family, our friends, and everyone else we may encounter in our lives. We shall be judged on whether we have loved, or not loved, our neighbor. We show Christian love when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit those who are sick or in prison. If we did such things for the least of Christ's brethren, then we also did them for Christ (Mt.25:40). If we did not do such things for the least of the brethren, neither did we do them for Christ (Mt.25:45).

Today is the last day for eating meat and meat products until Pascha, though eggs and dairy products are permitted every day during the coming week. This limited fasting prepares us gradually for the more intense fasting of Great Lent.