

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St. (corner of 28th St. & Snyder Ave.)
Philadelphia, PA 19145 * Church Phone: (215) 468-3535
Website: <http://www.holyassumptionphilly.org>



<http://www.facebook.com/holyassumptionphilly>

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

Sunday, April 7, 2019

Tone 4 – Fourth Sunday of Great Lent | Saint John Climacus
+Repose of Saint Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow
and Enlightener of North America (*transferred to April 8*)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

615 West 11th Street | New Castle, DE 19720-6020
Phone: Home: 302-322-0943 | Mobile: 302-547-4952
Email: mwkoczak@gmail.com

Parish President - Matthew Andrews

Phone: (856) 217.8075

Weekly Schedule

Today: Mission Service at 4:00PM here at our parish!

Service Schedule for the Fifth Week of Great Lent is noted under Calendar of Events (page 7) of this bulletin!

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

Saturday: April 13 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM!** *Note Time Change!*

Sunday: April 14 – Fifth Sunday of Great Lent! St Mary of Egypt!
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: April 14 – Mission Service at 4:00PM
Saint George's [Mother of God] Georgian Orthodox Church
412 Philmont Avenue – Feasterville-Trevose, PA 19053

Sunday: April 14 – Property Committee meeting after Liturgy!!!

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 4)

When the women disciples of the Lord / learned from the angel the joyous message of thy Resurrection, / they cast away the ancestral curse / and elatedly told the apostles: / “Death is overthrown! / Christ God is risen, // granting the world great mercy!”

Troparion (Tone 1 – Saint John Climacus)

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body, / thou wast a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father John. / Thou didst receive heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer, / healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to thee by faith. / Glory to Him Who gave thee strength! / Glory to Him Who granted you a crown! // Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

Kontakion (Tone 4)

My Savior and Redeemer / as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. / He has shattered the gates of hell, / and as Master, // He has risen on the third day!

Kontakion (Tone 4 – St John Climacus)

The Lord truly set thee on the heights of abstinence, / to be a guiding star, showing the way to the universe, // O our father and teacher John.

Prokeimenon (Tone 4)

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works / in wisdom hast Thou made them all!
v. Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, Thou art very great!

Another Prokeimenon (Tone 7 – St John Climacus)

Let the Saints be exalted in glory / let them sing for joy on their couches.

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 6:13-20

For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, “Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.” And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 4)

- v. Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth!
Alleluia (3x's)
- v. For Thou lovest righteousness and dost hate iniquity. Alleluia (3x's)
- v. They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our
God. Alleluia (3x's) [TONE 4]

Gospel Reading: Mark 9:17-31

Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not. He answered him and said, "O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me." Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us. Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!" Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" So He said to them, "This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting." Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know it. For He taught His disciples and said to them, "The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day."

Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing the following

All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace: / the assembly of Angels and the race of men. / O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, / the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a Child: / our God before the ages. / He made thy body into a throne, / and thy womb He made more spacious than the heavens. / All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace. // Glory to thee!

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)

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 is in its final week (ending 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

Parish Day of Giving at Nanna's Attic – Saturday, April 13, 2019

Volunteer from 10:00AM to 2:00PM this upcoming Saturday. Please see Dr. Janine McCartney for more details on this service project. Nanna's Attic is located next to the Dollar Tree at the Lawrence Park Shopping Center * 1991 Spoul Road * Broomall, PA 19008. Thank you in advance for volunteering some of your time on a busy Saturday!

Domestic Abuse Project – Deadline donation is TODAY, April 7, 2019

As part of its Lenten charity appeal, the parish will be accepting charity donations to obtain gift baskets for the Domestic Abuse Project. The baskets will consist of laundry basket, laundry pods, dishwashing detergent, sponges, Clorox wipes, dustpan, kitchen towels, paper plates, reusable plastic cups, reusable silverware (4 pc.), toilet paper, tissues, and one new pillow. For more information, please see Dr. Janine McCartney for more details on this project! Thank you!

Attendance: Fourth Week of Great Lent Services

Sunday (3/31) – Mission Service, Upper Darby, PA = 4 parishioners attended
Wednesday (4/3) – Presanctified Liturgy = 16
Friday (4/5) – Presanctified Liturgy = 13
Saturday (4/6) – Great Vespers = 8

The Parish is now accepting either actual donations of wool or monetary donations to purchase wool to knit blankets and hats. Please see Dr. Janine McCartney for more details on this project!

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Marie Fortner offered by Nancy Brasko Rabik
Irene Torpey, Greg Lindsay offered by Nina Patterson

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Julia and William Brasko offered by Nancy Brasko Rabik
Helen Wanenchak, Joseph Herbert offered by Nancy Brasko Rabik
Mary (Slivka) Spack, Joseph Herbert offered by MM Herbert
Anna Rabik offered by her son Joseph Rabik
Paul Kavcsak offered by Daria LeRoy
Michael and Anna Bondira offered by Hourahan Family
Dimitri and Mary Drimak offered by Hourahan Family

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – Today 4/7/19:

Decorated Candles – Altar Table – Today 4/7/19:

Health of Catherine and Albert Kavalkovich offered by the Andrews Family

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Please remember in your prayers:

+ Newly Departed handmaiden of God Helen Wanenchak (March 2)
Grace Corba; Catherine Kavalkovich; Ronald Kavalkovich; Margaret Pellack; Father John Bohush
(retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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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 three weeks. She will inform you when and where rehearsals will take place.

MONDAY, APRIL 8 – THE HISTORY CHANNEL – JESUS: HIS LIFE
8:00PM TO 10:00PM. PARTS 5 & 6. THIS SERIES IS A 4-WEEK TELEVISION EVENT AIRING EVERY MONDAY UNTIL APRIL 15.

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 (March)

	<u>Week of March 25 to March 31</u>	<u>March Month-to-Date</u>
Attendance:	42	39 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 2,300.01	\$ 11,647.01
Funds Out:	(\$ 109.47) <i>reimbursements</i>	\$ 7,861.92
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 2,409.48	\$ 3,785.09

*The parish received last week proceeds from the insurance claim filed with Church Mutual regarding the water damage to the roof and north wall for a total amount of \$123,805.06. This amount is **not** reflected in the totals above for March.*

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 – Mission Service at 4:00pm is at our parish!

Sunday, April 14 – Mission Service at 4:00pm.

Saint George's [*Mother of God*] Georgian Orthodox Church
412 Philmont Avenue (State Road 2040)

Feasterville-Trevoze, PA 19053 Phone #267.777.0971

Website: n/a

(The entrance way to the Church is located between the church's white and blue lawn banner and the Frank T. Loram Inc. Plumbing & Heating white and blue company sign. The church is located behind Loram's building)

Fifth Week of Great Lent Service Schedule – April 8th to 14th

Tuesday, April 9 – Bible Study in church basement beginning at 6:30PM

Wednesday, April 10 – The Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts beginning at 6:00PM

Thursday, April 11 – The Reading of the Life of Saint Mary of Egypt beginning at 6:00PM

Friday, April 12 – Akathist beginning at 6:00PM

Saturday, April 13 – Great Vespers beginning at 4:00PM

Sunday, April 14 – Divine Liturgy (St Mary of Egypt) beginning at 10:00AM

Sunday, April 14 – Mission Vespers Service at 4:00PM

Any changes in the schedule or time will be announced in our parish media outlets (church bulletin, the parish website and parish FaceBook page).

Bible Study – Tuesday, April 9 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 Books of **Samuel**.

April 14 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church School Room! (2nd Sunday of each month)!

All property committee members are asked to attend this important meeting. Main topic of discussion will be the proceeds received from the insurance claim filed with Church Mutual for the water damage to the roof and north wall.

Cleaning Teams: Today (Apr 7): Saint Raphael of Brooklyn
(Mark Klus, Tish Berchtold, Barbara Andrews, Sheeba Patton).

Next Week (Apr 14): Saint Herman of Alaska
(Heather & Peter Parsells, Dr Gale Rutan & Joseph Francis).



Fourth Sunday of Great Lent: Saint John Climacus (of the Ladder) [April 7th]

Saint John Climacus (or Saint John of the Ladder) was a monk of Mt. Sinai who lived and wrote in the seventh century. He is venerated in the Orthodox Church on the fourth Sunday of Great Lent because of his spiritual struggles and his authorship of the *Ladder of Divine Ascent*, a book that describes the spiritual struggle to climb closer to God through acquiring ascetic virtues.

There are among 30 steps on the ladder that correspond to the 30 years of Christ's life, with the entire volume divided into three main sections: 1) general virtues; 2) instructions on overcoming vices and building up the corresponding virtues; and 3) higher virtues that lead to the goals at which ascetic life aims, including prayer, stillness, dispassion, and finally love (agape).

The Ladder was originally written at the request of the abbot of a neighboring monastery, but now its use is widespread in the Church and even in the broader Christian community. Orthodox Christians are called upon to read this book during Lent, and monasteries in particular often read the entire text in the refectory during the Lenten season.

This book calls all to purification through a series of cleansing steps, including denial of self and caring for others. We are invited to examine ourselves in order to learn our faults and purify. Caring for others is a way of cleansing through decreasing our focus on the self. Ultimately, if one is able to follow Saint John's steps, the final goal – the love of others – is accomplished. Saint John's message is one of repentance, of changing around one's life. Saint John wrote, "Do not be surprised that you fall everyday; do not give up, but stand your ground courageously. And assuredly, the angel who guards you will honor your patience. He who really keeps account of his actions considers as lost every day in which he does not mourn, whatever good he may have done in it."

[Source: Gayle E. Woloschak, PhD from *Weekly Spiritual Reflections for Great Lent – Journey to Pascha* booklet by the IOCC (2016)]



Matushka Beverly Ann "Anya" Goidich
January 5, 1941 – February 26, 2019

Matushka Beverly Ann "Anya" Goidich, 78, of Philadelphia, PA, formerly of Rahway, NJ, fell asleep in the Lord in the Watermark at Logan Square in Philadelphia, PA on Tuesday, February 26, 2019.

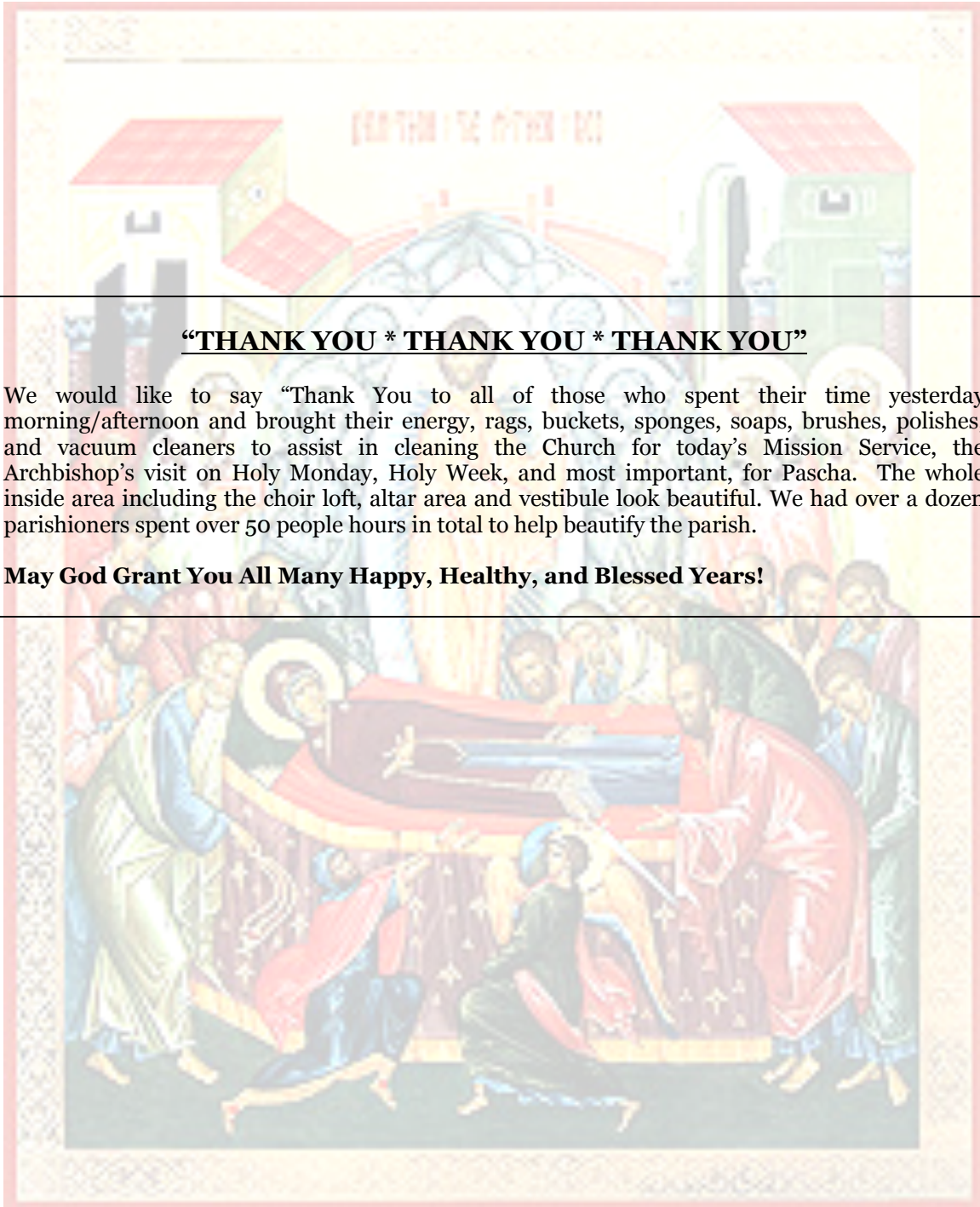
Born in Newark, NJ on January 5, 1941, she came to Rahway in 1956 before relocating with her former husband, Priest Andrew Goidich, to Kenosha, WI, where they served Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church. In 1967, they were reassigned to the Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church, Philadelphia, where they served for many years, until 1979.

She was employed by Drexel University School of Medicine as the Executive Assistant to the Chairman of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery for 25 years before her retirement in 2016.

Survivors include her son Christopher P. Goidich [Katie], Rock Spring, WY and her sister Paula Brainard. She was also loved by five grandchildren: Jeffrey, Alyssa, Andrew, Braxton and Sophia.

Funeral services were celebrated by Priest Theodore Gregory at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Rahway, NJ on Saturday, March 2, 2019 with interment in Hazelwood Cemetery, Colonia, NJ.

May Matushka Anya's memory be eternal!



“THANK YOU * THANK YOU * THANK YOU”

We would like to say “Thank You to all of those who spent their time yesterday morning/afternoon and brought their energy, rags, buckets, sponges, soaps, brushes, polishes, and vacuum cleaners to assist in cleaning the Church for today’s Mission Service, the Archbishop’s visit on Holy Monday, Holy Week, and most important, for Pascha. The whole inside area including the choir loft, altar area and vestibule look beautiful. We had over a dozen parishioners spent over 50 people hours in total to help beautify the parish.

May God Grant You All Many Happy, Healthy, and Blessed Years!