

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church
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Philadelphia, PA 19145 * Church Phone: (215) 468-3535
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<http://www.facebook.com/holyassumptionphilly>

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

Sunday, May 26, 2019 | Fifth Sunday of Pascha

Tone 4 – Samaritan Woman

Apostles Carpus and Alphaeus of the Seventy (1 c.)

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Weekly Schedule

Today: Church Life Discussion Class is **Cancelled** Today!

Saturday: June 1 - Great Vespers at **4:00PM!**

Sunday: June 2 - 6th Sunday of Pascha | Blind Man

Reading of Hours – 9:30am

Divine Liturgy – 10:00am

Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: June 2 – Spring General Parish Meeting immediately following Divine Liturgy in the church basement. Much to be discussed especially in regards to the status of the Church from last year's water damage!

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 8 - Midfeast)

In the middle of the feast, O Savior, / fill my thirsting soul with the waters of piety, / as Thou didst cry to all: “If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!” // O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to Thee!

Kontakion (Tone 8 - Pentecostarion)

The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith; / she saw Thee, the Water of wisdom and drank abundantly. // She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified!

Kontakion (Tone 4 - Midfeast)

Christ God, the Creator and Master of all, / cried to all in the midst of the feast of the Law: / “Come and draw the water of immortality!” / We fall before Thee and faithfully cry: // Grant us Thy mercies, for Thou art the Fountain of our life!

Prokeimenon (Tone 3)

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our King, sing praises!
v. Clap thy hands, all ye people, shout to God with loud songs of joy!

Epistle Reading: Acts 11:19-26, 29-30

Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord. Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea. This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 4)

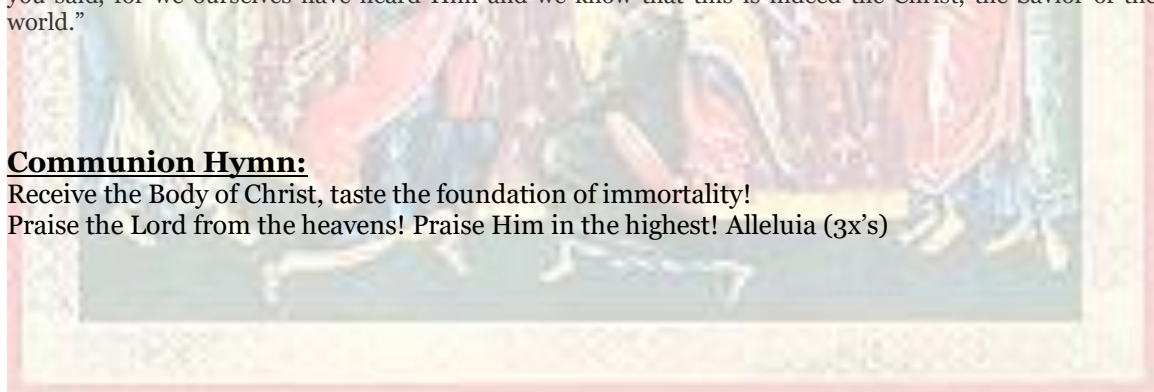
- v. Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. For Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest iniquity. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: John 4:5-42

So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock? Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life. The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband,' for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly. The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship. Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth. The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He." And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why are You talking with her?" The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ? Then they went out of the city and came to Him. In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." Therefore the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors. And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His own word. Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."

Communion Hymn:

Receive the Body of Christ, taste the foundation of immortality!
 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.

Father Mark Status as of last night:

Arriving home after Great Vespers last night, Fr. Mark was having excruciating back pain. He was taken to the ER at the Wilmington, DE Veterans Administration Medical Center. Last reported he underwent test to identify the source of the pain. He was given meds to take to ease the pain and scheduled to see his doctor.

SPRING OUTDOOR CLEANUP – Saturday, June 22 – 10AM – 2PM

As spring begins to wind down and the hot, hazy, humid days of summer begin to move in, the parish would like to have volunteers to perform an outdoor clean up, focusing on cleaning up the backyard area over at the 2111 home, the yard area behind the garage, and the area behind the Church Hall. These three areas have tremendous growth of grass and weeds during the summer. Performing a routine maintenance of these grounds in the spring will assist in a more manageable Fall cleanup later at the end of the year. [Rain Date: Saturday, June 29 after Divine Liturgy (Saints Peter & Paul Feast Day)]

Parish Restoration Project:

Please visit the parish website and click on the Restoration Project section to read a brief note on the additional work needed to restore the parish. If you are interested in volunteering some of your time, at your convenience, and providing the talents God has given you, please contact anyone on the Parish Council or the Property Committee to schedule a date, time and task. Thank You!

AMAZON SMILE!

When ordering online on Amazon.com, please make sure to click on Amazon Smile and select our church - Assumption of the Holy Virgin Russian Orthodox Church - to have a small percentage of your purchases (0.5%) to be contributed to our church. For more information on the Amazon purchase process, please speak with any member of the parish council. Thank You!

Wool Donations:

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:

Family, Irene Torpey (on her birthday) offered by Nina Patterson
Matthew Andrews, Ronald Kavalkovich offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Matushka Jan offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Kupek Family offered by Pellack Family

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Anna Herbert, Helen Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
Kristina Sidoriak offered by M/M Herbert
Rabik Siblings offered by brother Joseph Rabik

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 5/19/19:

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Please remember in your prayers:

Lucas Andrews (**Baptized – May 11**); Christopher and Allison Andrews; Grace Corba; Catherine Kavalkovich; Ronald Kavalkovich (on his continuous recovery); Father Mark Koczak; Matushka Jan Koczak (recovery after knee surgery); Margaret Pellack; Father John Bohush (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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Cookbook Sale:

The parish cookout, *At Our Table*, is for sale in the church basement and also on Amazon.com website. Please speak with Dr. Janine McCartney for more information on the parish cookbooks.

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 (May)

	<u>Week of May 13 to May 19</u>	<u>May Month-to-Date</u>
Attendance:	33	34 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,402.00	\$ 5,870.00
Funds Out:	\$ 1,214.10	\$ 4,751.07
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 187.90	\$ 1,118.93

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, May 26 – Church Life Discussion class after Divine Liturgy and Fellowship Hour. (The 4th Sunday this month) [CANCELLED TODAY!!!!]

The Topic – Don't Be Tone Deaf! Understanding the Arrangements and Beauty of the Eight tones during all Liturgical Services.

The Spring Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 2, 2019 after Divine Liturgy in the church basement. This is Notice #3 of 3.

According to Article IV, Section 2, Subsection A. of the Parish By-Laws, notice of all Annual and General Parish Meetings shall be announced in the Parish Bulletin and read by the Parish Rector from the amvon on three consecutive Sundays preceding the date of the Meeting. In addition to its regular scheduled business to discuss church matters, the parish will hear from representatives from the Property Committee who will present proposals on the necessary work that needs to be performed on the roof and walls where the water damage has occurred. As evidence as to what occurred during Holy Week, this is an important meeting where the parishioners will decide op how and where funds from the insurance proceeds and the parish's building funds are to be dispersed.

Ascension Service – Date and Time To Be Determined!

Either Wednesday night, June 5 or Thursday morning, June 6!

Father Mark will inform the parish when the Ascension service will be held no later than next Sunday, June 2.

Saturday, June 15 – Blessing of the Graves at Mount Moriah – 12 Noon!

[Rescheduled from Saint Thomas Sunday due to Inclement Weather]

If the weather cooperates with us, we'll have our annual Blessing of the Graves on this day. Please dress appropriately for that day's weather conditions.

Saturday, June 22 – Spring Outdoor Clean-UP – 10AM to 2PM

[The main areas of focus will be cleaning up the backyard area over at the 2111 home, the yard area behind the garage, and the area behind the Church Hall.

[Rain Date: Saturday, June 29 after Divine Liturgy (Saints Peter & Paul Feast Day)]

Cleaning Teams: Today (May 26): Saint Elizabeth - New Martyr
(Emily Gerasimoff, Sandra Hourahan, Samantha Hourahan).

Next Week (June 2): Saint John Kochurov
(Daria and Rick LeRoy, Michael Wanenchak).

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman [May 26th]



The Holy Martyr Photina (Svetlana) the Samaritan Woman, her sons Victor (named Photinus) and Joses; and her sisters Anatola, Phota, Photis, Paraskeva, Kyriake; Nero's daughter Domnina; and the Martyr Sebastian: The holy Martyr Photina was the Samaritan Woman, with whom the Savior conversed at Jacob's Well (John. 4:5-42).

During the time of the emperor Nero (54-68), who displayed excessive cruelty against Christians, St Photina lived in Carthage with her younger son Joses and fearlessly preached the Gospel there. Her eldest son Victor fought

bravely in the Roman army against barbarians, and was appointed military commander in the city of Attalia (Asia Minor). Later, Nero called him to Italy to arrest and punish Christians.

Sebastian, an official in Italy, said to St Victor, "I know that you, your mother and your brother, are followers of Christ. As a friend I advise you to submit to the will of the emperor. If you inform on any Christians, you will receive their wealth. I shall write to your mother and brother, asking them not to preach Christ in public. Let them practice their faith in secret."

St Victor replied, "I want to be a preacher of Christianity like my mother and brother." Sebastian said, "O Victor, we all know what woes await you, your mother and brother." Then Sebastian suddenly felt a sharp pain in his eyes. He was dumbfounded, and his face was somber.

For three days he lay there blind, without uttering a word. On the fourth day he declared, "The God of the Christians is the only true God." St Victor asked why Sebastian had suddenly changed his mind. Sebastian replied, "Because Christ is calling me." Soon he was baptized, and immediately regained his sight. St Sebastian's servants, after witnessing the miracle, were also baptized.

Reports of this reached Nero, and he commanded that the Christians be brought to him at Rome. Then the Lord Himself appeared to the confessors and said, "Fear not, for I am with you. Nero, and all who serve him, will be vanquished." The Lord said to St Victor, "From this day forward, your name will be Photinus, because through you, many will be enlightened and will believe in Me." The Lord then told the Christians to strengthen and encourage St Sebastian to persevere until the end.

All these things, and even future events, were revealed to St Photina. She left Carthage in the company of several Christians and joined the confessors in Rome.

At Rome the emperor ordered the saints to be brought before him and he asked them whether they truly believed in Christ. All the confessors refused to renounce the Savior. Then the emperor gave orders to smash the martyrs' finger joints. During the torments, the confessors felt no pain, and their hands remained unharmed.

Nero ordered that Sts Sebastian, Photinus and Joses be blinded and locked up in prison, and St Photina and her five sisters Anatola, Phota, Photis, Paraskeva and Kyriake were sent to the imperial court under the supervision of Nero's daughter Domnina. St Photina converted both Domnina and all her servants to Christ. She also converted a sorcerer, who had brought her poisoned food to kill her.

[Due to length of article, the above is just an excerpt of the life of the Samaritan Woman]