

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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

Sunday, June 30, 2019 | 2nd Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 1 – All Saints of America | All Saints of Russia
Synaxis of the Holy, Glorious and All-praised Twelve Apostles

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Weekly Schedule

Thursday: July 4 - Independence Day!! God Bless America!!!

Saturday: July 6 - Great Vespers at **4:00PM!**

Sunday: July 7 – Venerable Thomas of Mt. Maleon
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Tuesday: July 9 – Bible Study at 6:30pm in the church basement.
The class will continue reading the Books of Samuel.

Sunday: July 14 – Archbishop MARK Visitation!
He will be serving pontifical Divine Liturgy. His visit is in coordination with the ordination of the Reader Michael McCartney to the Holy Diaconate AND the ordination of the Reader Daniel Kenneth Kavalkovich to Sub Deacon. We hope you all can attend this service and celebrate this great occasion! AXIOS! AXIOS! AXIOS!

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 1)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, / while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: / “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom! // Glory to Thy dispensation, O thou who lovest of mankind!”

Troparion (Tone 8 - Saints)

As the bountiful harvest of Thy sowing of salvation, / the lands of North America offer to Thee, O Lord, all the saints who have shone in them. / By their prayers keep the Church and our land in abiding peace // through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One!

Kontakion (Tone 1)

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, / raising the world with Thyself. / Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. / Adam exults, O Master! / Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee: // “Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

Kontakion (Tone 3 - Saints)

Today the choir of Saints who were pleasing to God in the lands of North America / now stands before us in the Church and invisibly prays to God for us. / With them the Angels glorify Him, / and all the Saints of the Church of Christ keep festive with them; // and together they all pray for us to the Pre-eternal God.

Prokeimenon (Tone 1)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee.
v. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the upright!

Prokeimenon (Tone 7)

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

Epistle Reading: Romans 2:10-16

But glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God. For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law (for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them) in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 1)

- v. God gives vengeance to me, and subdues people under me! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. He magnifies the salvation of the King and deals mercifully with David,
His anointed, and his seed forever. Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, O ye righteous!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 4:18-23

And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." They immediately left their nets and followed Him. Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him. And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest!
Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright! Alleluia (3x's)

*[Note: Today's readings for the Saints are as follows:
Epistle – Hebrews 11:33-12:2 and Gospel – Matthew 4:25-5:12]*

“Be the first to arrive at church for services and the last to leave, especially for the Divine Liturgy.”

St Symeon the Studite (also called Symeon the Pious; +1021)

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

[...continued from last page...Synaxis of the Saints of North America...]

bishop on the continent, St Tikhon traveled extensively throughout North America in order to minister to his widely scattered and diverse flock. He realized that the local church here could not be a permanent extension of the Russian Church. Therefore, he focused his efforts on giving the American Church a diocesan and parish structure which would help it mature and grow.

St Tikhon returned to Russia in 1907, and was elected as Patriarch of Moscow ten years later. He died in 1925, and for many years his exact burial place remained unknown. St Tikhon's grave was discovered on February 22, 1992 in the smaller cathedral of Our Lady of the Don in the Don Monastery when a fire made renovation of the church necessary.

St Raphael of Brooklyn (February 27) was the first Orthodox bishop to be consecrated in North America. Archimandrite Raphael Hawaweeny was consecrated by Bishop Tikhon and Bishop Innocent (Pustynsky) at St Nicholas Cathedral in New York on March 13, 1904. As Bishop of Brooklyn, St Raphael was a trusted and capable assistant to St Tikhon in his archpastoral ministry. St Raphael reposed on February 27, 1915.

The first All American Council took place March 5-7, 1907 at Mayfield, PA, and the main topic was "How to expand the mission." Guidelines and directions for missionary activity, and statutes for the administrative structure of parishes were also set forth.

In addition to the saints listed above, we also honor those saints who are known only to God, and have not been recognized officially by the Church. As we contemplate the lives of these saints, let us remember that we are also called by God to a life of holiness.

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

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 offered by Nina Patterson
Thanksgiving for God’s Blessing offered by Barbara Andrews
Gabriel Lourido (High School graduation) offered by M/M Herbert
Brendan Herbert (High School graduation) offered by M/M Herbert
Anastasia Kavalkovich offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Matthew Andrews offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Kenneth Daniel Kavalkovich offered by Catherine Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Stanley Wazelek offered by M/M Herbert

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 6/23/19:

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Please remember in your prayers:

Grace Corba; Catherine Kavalkovich; Ronald Kavalkovich (on his continuous recovery); Father Mark Koczak (bad back); Matushka Jan Koczak (recovery after knee surgery); Sheba Patton; Margaret Pellack; Father John Bohush (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

Remember the 12 victims and the many injured in the senseless atrocity against humanity at the city public works department in the Virginia Beach Municipal Centre in Virginia Beach, VA on Friday, May 31.

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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 (June)

	<u>Week of June 17 to June 23</u>	<u>June Month-to-Date</u>
Attendance:	36	41 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 940.00	\$ 9,266.20
Funds Out:	\$ 182.79	\$ 3,676.34
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 757.21	\$ 5,589.86

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 - Parish Council (Quarterly) Meeting after Divine Liturgy in church basement Sunday school room!

Bible Study – Tuesday, July 9 at 6:30pm in the church basement.

The Bible Study Group will gather together at this time and will continue the readings and discussing the section in the Bible – The Books of **Samuel**.

Sunday, July 14 – Archbishop MARK Visitation

His Eminence, Archbishop MARK, Archbishop of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania will be visiting our parish and serving in a full pontifical Divine Liturgy.

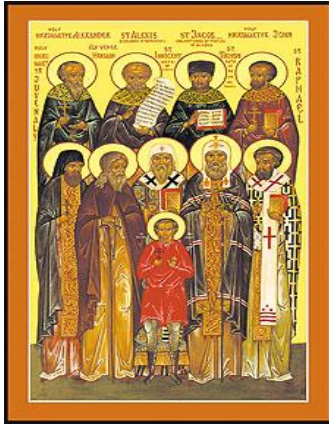
His visit is in coordination with the ordination of the Reader Michael McCartney to the Holy Diaconate AND the ordination of the Reader Daniel Kenneth Kavalkovich to SubDeacon. AXIOS! AXIOS! AXIOS!

Sunday, July 21 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church School Room! (2nd 3rd Sunday this month – Please Note Change in Date)! All property committee members are asked to attend this important meeting. Discussions will include the work to repair the roof and wall as a result of the action taken during the Spring General Parish Meeting.

Cleaning Teams:

Today (June 30): Saint Herman of Alaska
(Heather & Peter Parsells, Dr Gale Rutan & Joseph Francis).

Next Week (July 6): Saint John of Kronstadt
(Lena Helen, Paul Filanowski, Matthew Andres, Martha Palubniak).



Synaxis of the Saints of North America **[June 30th]**

On the second Sunday after Pentecost, each local Orthodox Church commemorates all the saints, known and unknown, who have shone forth in its territory. Accordingly, the Orthodox Church in America remembers the saints of North America on this day.

Saints of all times, and in every country are seen as the fulfillment of God's promise to redeem fallen humanity. Their example encourages us to "lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily besets us and to "run with patience the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1).

The saints of North America also teach us how we should live, and what we must expect to endure as Christians.

Although it is a relatively young church, the Orthodox Church in America has produced saints in nearly all of the six major categories of saints: Apostles (and Equals of the Apostles); Martyrs (and Confessors); Prophets; Hierarchs; Monastic Saints; and the Righteous. Prophets, of course, lived in Old Testament times and predicted the coming of Christ

The first Divine Liturgy in what is now American territory (northern latitude 58 degrees, 14 minutes, western longitude 141 degrees) was celebrated on July 20, 1741, the Feast of the Prophet Elias, aboard the ship Peter under the command of Vitus Bering. Hieromonk Hilarion Trusov and the priest Ignatius Kozirevsky served together on that occasion. Several years later, the Russian merchant Gregory I. Shelikov visited Valaam monastery, suggesting to the abbot that it would be desirable to send missionaries to Russian America.

On September 24, 1794, after a journey of 7,327 miles (the longest missionary journey in Orthodox history) and 293 days, a group of monks from Valaam arrived on Kodiak Island in Alaska. The mission was headed by Archimandrite Joasaph, and included Hieromonks Juvenal, Macarius, and Athanasius, the Hierodeacons Nectarius and Stephen, and the monks Herman and Joasaph. St Herman of Alaska (December 13, August 9), the last surviving member of the mission, fell asleep in the Lord in 1837.

Throughout the Church's history, the seeds of faith have always been watered by the blood of the martyrs. The Protomartyr Juvenal was killed near Lake Iliamna by natives in 1799, thus becoming the first Orthodox Christian to shed his blood for Christ in the New World. In 1816, St Peter the Aleut was put to death by Spanish missionaries in California when he refused to convert to Roman Catholicism.

Missionary efforts continued in the nineteenth century, with outreach to the native peoples of Alaska. Two of the most prominent laborers in Christ's Vineyard were St Innocent Veniaminov (March 31 and October 6) and St Jacob Netsvetov (July 26), who translated Orthodox services and books into the native languages. Father Jacob Netsvetev died in Sitka in 1864 after a life of devoted service to the Church. Father John Veniaminov, after his wife's death, received monastic tonsure with the name Innocent. He died in 1879 as the Metropolitan of Moscow.

As the nineteenth century was drawing to a close, an event of enormous significance for the North American Church took place. On March 25, 1891, Bishop Vladimir went to Minneapolis to receive St Alexis Toth (May 7) and 361 of his parishioners into the Orthodox Church. This was the beginning of the return of many Uniates to Orthodoxy.

St Tikhon (Belavin), the future Patriarch of Moscow (April 7, October 9), came to America as bishop of the diocese of the Aleutians and Alaska in September 1898. As the only Orthodox

[...continue on page 4...Synaxis of the Saints of North America...]