

## Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St. (corner of 28<sup>th</sup> 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, July 21, 2019 | 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 4 – Prophet Ezekiel (6<sup>th</sup> c. B.C.)  
Venerable Simeon of Emessa, Fool-for-Christ,  
and his fellow ascetic, Venerable John (ca. 590)

#### V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

615 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street | New Castle, DE 19720-6020  
Phone: Home: 302-322-0943 | Mobile: 302-547-4952  
Email: [mwkoczak@gmail.com](mailto:mwkoczak@gmail.com)

Parish President - Matthew Andrews

Phone: (856) 217.8075

### Weekly Schedule

Today: An emergency JOINT Property Committee AND Parish Council Meeting will be held TODAY after Divine Liturgy in the church basement Sunday school room. Discussions include bids for roof and cupula work and insurance policy status. It is imperative members attend this meeting.

Monday: July 22 – Holy Myrrbearer Mary Magdalene

Thursday: July 25 – Dormition of the Righteous Anna

Friday: July 26 – Repose of St Yakov (Jacob Netsvetov)

Saturday: July 27 – Holy Greatmartyr and Healer Panteleimon

Saturday: July 27 - Great Vespers at **4:00PM!**

Sunday: July 28 – Holy Apostles of the Seventy  
Reading of Hours – 9:30am  
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am  
*Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine 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 4 – Saints Simeon and John)**

O God of our Fathers, / always act with kindness towards us; / take not Thy mercy from us, / but guide our lives in peace // through the prayers of Venerable Simeon and John!

### **Troparion (Tone 2 – Prophet Ezekiel)**

We celebrate the memory / of Thy Prophet Ezekiel, O Lord; / through him, we beseech Thee: // save our souls!

### **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 2 – Saints Simeon and John)**

Let us praise the venerable Simeon / as an equal to the angels, / for he walked in the flesh upon the earth as a bodiless angel / shining forth to all as an example of the virtues; / and with him let us honor his companion, / the ever memorable and God-bearing father John, // for they ceaselessly pray to the Lord for us with faith and love!

### **Kontakion (Tone 4 – Prophet Ezekiel)**

Thou hast been revealed as a Prophet of God, wondrous Ezekiel, / proclaiming to all the incarnation of the Lord, the Lamb and Creator, // the Son of God, Who has ever revealed Himself.

### **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!

### **Epistle Reading: Romans 10:1-10**

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. For Moses writes about the righteousness which is of the law, "The man who does those things shall live by them." But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down from above) or, " 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

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: Matthew 8:28-9:1**

When He had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, there met Him two demon-possessed men, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce, so that no one could pass that way. And suddenly they cried out, saying, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?" Now a good way off from them there was a herd of many swine feeding. So the demons begged Him, saying, "If You cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of swine." And He said to them, "Go." So when they had come out, they went into the herd of swine. And suddenly the whole herd of swine ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and perished in the water. Then those who kept them fled; and they went away into the city and told everything, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. And behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus. And when they saw Him, they begged Him to depart from their region. So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city.

**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

**\*\*\*THANK YOU! THANK YOU!\*\*\***

Deacon Michael and his wife Matuska Janine, and Sub-deacon Daniel Kenneth Kavalkovich and his family would like to thank all of you who attended the ordination service last Sunday. They would also like to Thank You for your prayers, thoughts, well wishes, cards, and gifts on their special occasion. All of you will be in their prayers as we journey through our next chapter of this parish life.

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

\*\*\*\*\*

Now that the Fourth of July has passed, it time for the next great American event...

**“Getting ready to go Back to School”**

With this in mind, the parish is looking to put together ten backpacks this year. The parish is looking for donations of back packs and school supplies. A list of items will be made available shortly for those who wish to donate to this annual project. For more information, please see one of the Parish Council members. Thank You!

\*\*\*\*\*

**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!

\*\*\*\*\*

New padlocks have been installed around the church. Please see Emily Gerasimoff to exchange your old key (or set of keys) for a new key to the new padlocks. Thank You!

**Announcements** (cont.)

**Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed**

**Health for the Living:**

Albert Kavalkovich offered by Nina Patterson  
Alexander Kavalkovich (taking RN test) offered by Debbie Kavalkovich  
Mary Popelak, Mary Ann Brodie offered by the DeVito Family  
Deacon Michael McCartney and Sub-Deacon Daniel Kenneth Kavalkovich offered by Catherine Kavalkovich  
Deacon Michael McCartney and Sub-Deacon Daniel Kenneth Kavalkovich offered by Nina Patterson  
Brubakor Family offered by the Pellack Family  
Albert, Catherine, Barbara, Ronald, Alexander, Anastasia, Sharon, Patricia, Colin, Matthew, Christina, Allison, David, Lucas, Luke, Kenneth, Michael, Christopher, Allison offered by the Ken Kavalkovich Family

**May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!**

**Memory for the Departed:**

Maxim Herbert, Mary Herbert and Joseph Herbert offered by M/M Herbert  
Stanley Walzelek offered by M/M Herbert  
Anna, Mary, and Irene offered by brother Joseph Rabik  
Margaret and Stephen Perzsil offered by Matushka Janine McCartney  
Susan and Andrew Mohnach offered by Pellack Family

**May Their Memories Be Eternal**

**Vigil Cross Candles – 7/21/19:**

#####

**Please remember in your prayers:**

Grace Corba; Ronald Kavalkovich (on his continuous recovery); Matushka Jan Kozak (knee rehabilitaion); Sheba Patton; Margaret Pellack; Father John Bohush (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

#####

**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 (July)

	<u>Week of July 8 to July 14</u>	<u>July Month-to-Date</u>
Attendance:	87	67 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 2,659.00	\$ 5,193.31
Funds Out:	\$ 600.00	\$ 4,231.08
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 2,059.00	\$ 962.23

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

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month** – Monthly Panikhida immediately after Divine Liturgy.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month** – Bible Study at 6:30pm in church basement.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month** – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy.  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month** – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month** – Church Life Discussion Class after Divine Liturgy.

**TODAY – Emergency JOINT Property Committee AND Parish Council Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church School Room!** ALL property committee AND parish council members are asked to attend this imperative meeting. Discussions will focus on 1) bid for roof, cupolas and cost to repair both; and 2) insurance policy status!

**Monday, August 5 – Vespersal Divine Liturgy for the Feast Day of the Transfiguration of our Lord at 6:00PM!**

Father Mark will bless Fruit (and vegetables) after the service.

**Bible Study – Tuesday, August 13 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**.

**Dormition of the Most Holy Lady Theotokos Services - TBD**

Father Mark will announce within the next two weeks the service schedule for this blessed Holy Day and Name's Day of the parish.

**Saturday, August 24 – 3:00PM – Back Pack Assembly**

On this date the parish is looking for volunteers to put together all of the school supplies and package them in the back packs. No need to sign up. Just show up earlier for Vespers that Saturday and assist in organizing the school backpacks.

**A Saturday in September (Date TBD) – Joint Picnic with Gods House**

Our parish along with Gods House's congregation will be having a joint picnic on one of the Saturdays in September. The parish is currently looking for volunteers to help coordinate this event. For additional information regarding the picnic, please see a member of the Parish Council. Thank You!

**Cleaning Teams:**      Today (July 21): Saint Juvenaly  
(Jennifer Cantrell & Family, Ronald & Cherly Homa).  
                                 Next Week (July 28): Saint Innocent  
(Dave Albrecht, Melanie Albrecht).



## **Prophet Ezekiel** **[July 21<sup>st</sup>]**

The Holy Prophet Ezekiel lived in the sixth century before the birth of Christ. He was born in the city of Sarir, and descended from the tribe of Levi; he was a priest and the son of the priest Buzi. Ezekiel was led off to Babylon when he was twenty-five years old together with King Jechoniah II and many other Jews during the second invasion of Jerusalem by the Babylonian king Nebuchadnessar.

The Prophet Ezekiel lived in captivity by the River Chebar. When he was thirty years old, he had a vision of the future of the Hebrew nation and of all mankind. The prophet beheld a shining cloud, with fire flashing continually, and in the midst of the fire, gleaming bronze. He also saw four

living creatures in the shape of men, but with four faces (Ez. 1:6). Each had the face of a man in front, the face of a lion on the right, the face of an ox on the left, and the face of an eagle at the back (Ez. 1:10). There was a wheel on the earth beside each creature, and the rim of each wheel was full of eyes.

Over the heads of the creatures there seemed to be a firmament, shining like crystal. Above the firmament was the likeness of a throne, like glittering sapphire in appearance. Above this throne was the likeness of a human form, and around Him was a rainbow (Ez. 1:4-28).

According to the explanation of the Fathers of the Church, the human likeness upon the sapphire throne prefigures the Incarnation of the Son of God from the Most Holy Virgin Mary, who is the living Throne of God. The four creatures are symbols of the four Evangelists: a man (St Matthew), a lion (St Mark), an ox (St Luke), and an eagle (St John); the wheel with the many eyes is meant to suggest the sharing of light with all the nations of the earth. During this vision the holy prophet fell down upon the ground out of fear, but the voice of God commanded him to get up. He was told that the Lord was sending him to preach to the nation of Israel. This was the beginning of Ezekiel's prophetic service.

The Prophet Ezekiel announces to the people of Israel, held captive in Baylon, the tribulations it would face for not remaining faithful to God. The prophet also proclaimed a better time for his fellow- countrymen, and he predicted their return from Babylon, and the restoration of the Jerusalem Temple.

There are two significant elements in the vision of the prophet: the vision of the temple of the Lord, full of glory (Ez. 44:1-10); and the bones in the valley, to which the Spirit of God gave new life (Ez. 37:1-14). The vision of the temple was a mysterious prefiguring of the race of man freed from the working of the Enemy and the building up of the Church of Christ through the redemptive act of the Son of God, incarnate of the Most Holy Theotokos. Ezekiel's description of the shut gate of the sanctuary, through which the Lord God would enter (Ez. 44: 2), is a prophecy of the Virgin giving birth to Christ, yet remaining a virgin. The vision of the dry bones prefigured the universal resurrection of the dead, and the new eternal life bestowed by the Lord Jesus Christ.

The holy Prophet Ezekiel received from the Lord the gift of wonderworking. He, like the Prophet Moses, divided the waters of the river Chebar, and the Hebrews crossed to the opposite shore, escaping the pursuing Chaldeans. During a time of famine the prophet asked God for an increase of food for the hungry.

Ezekiel was condemned to execution because he denounced a certain Hebrew prince for idolatry. Bound to wild horses, he was torn to pieces. Pious Hebrews gathered up the torn body of the prophet and buried it upon Maur Field, in the tomb of Sim and Arthaxad, forefathers of Abraham, not far from Baghdad. The prophecy of Ezekiel is found in the book named for him, and is included in the Old Testament.