

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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Sunday, November 3, 2019 | 20th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 3 – Martyrs Akepsimas the Bishop, Joseph the Presbyter,
and Aethalas the Deacon, of Persia (4th c.)

Dedication of the Church of the Greatmartyr George in Lydda (4th c.)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Weekly Schedule

Today: Daylight Savings Time Ends.

Today: St. Nicholas Pierogi Festival – 12PM to 5PM

Tuesday: Election Day - Get Out and Vote! (The local elections are just as important, maybe even more, as the national elctions).

Thursday: Vespers Liturgy for the Synaxis of the Archangel Michael will be at 6:00PM!

Saturday: November 9 - Great Vespers at **4:00PM!**

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

Sunday: November 10 – Property Committee Meeting in the church basement.

Tuesday: November 12 - Bible Study at 6:30pm in the church basement.

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 3)

Let the heavens rejoice! / Let the earth be glad! / For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. / He has trampled down death by death. / He has become the first born of the dead. / He has delivered us from the depths of hell, / and has granted to the world // great mercy.

Troparion (Tone 3 – Martyrs)

Ye were pillars of the Church, O servants of godliness, / and ye humbled the proud worshippers of fire. / Much afflicted hierarch Aképsimas, Joseph the presbyter and Aethalas the deacon, / pray to †Christ our God // to grant us His great mercy!

Troparion (Tone 4 – Saint George)

O liberator of captives, defender of the poor, / physician of the sick, and champion of kings, / trophy-bearer, great martyr George, / intercede with Christ God // that our souls may be saved!

Kontakion (Tone 3)

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, / leading us from the gates of death. / On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; / with the Prophets and Patriarchs // they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

Kontakion (Tone 2 – Martyrs)

Thou didst celebrate the mysteries blamelessly, O wise one, / and became thyself an acceptable sacrifice, O divinely blessed one. / Thou didst gloriously drank of the cup of Christ, Holy Akepsimas. // Together with thy fellow sufferers thou art praying unceasingly to Christ God for us all.

Kontakion (Tone 8 – Saint George)

As we the faithful flee to thee for refuge and seek thy protection and speedy help, / We entreat thee, O Champion of Christ, that we who sing thy praises may be delivered from the snares of the enemy / and from every peril and adversary, // that we may cry: “Rejoice, O martyr George!”

Prokeimenon (Tone 3)

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

Epistle Reading: Galatians 1:11-19

But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother. Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 3)

- v. In Thee, O Lord, have I placed my hope; let me not be put to shame.
Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Be Thou a God of protection of me, a house of refuge in order to save me.
Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Luke 8:41-56

And behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue. And he fell down at Jesus' feet and begged Him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter about twelve years of age, and she was dying. But as He went, the multitudes thronged Him. Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any, came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped. And Jesus said, "Who touched Me?" When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, "Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'" But Jesus said, "Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me." Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately. And He said to her, "Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace." While He was still speaking, someone came from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, "Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Teacher." But when Jesus heard it, He answered him, saying, "Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well." When He came into the house, He permitted no one to go in except Peter, James, and John, and the father and mother of the girl. Now all wept and mourned for her; but He said, "Do not weep; she is not dead, but sleeping." And they ridiculed Him, knowing that she was dead. But He put them all outside, took her by the hand and called, saying, "Little girl, arise." Then her spirit returned, and she arose immediately. And He commanded that she be given something to eat. And her parents were astonished, but He charged them to tell no one what had happened.

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

2019 Fall General Parish Meeting (Summation):

On Sunday, October 20, 2019, the parish held its Fall General Parish Meeting. Along with holding the election of parish council officers for the 2020-2021 calendar years, the meeting consisted of a presentation by the parish property committee, led by Sandra Hourahan, on the proposed offers to purchase our parish property (basically, the hall and houses, **NOT** the Church!!!) and the pros and cons of selling property.

After the presentation, each parishioner in attendance was given the opportunity to express their feelings and concerns. Valid points were made for either side of the issue, with no interruptions or arguments by those in attendance. Based on the parishioners who offered their positions on the property matter, the sentiment appeared to be evenly divided on whether to sell or not sell parish property.

From the meeting, the parish council decided to meet in November and begin preparing a 5-year Strategic Plan for the parish - including plans if parish property is sold or not sold.

Minutes for this meeting will be made available and posted on the bulletin board once they have been compiled by the secretary and reviewed by the parish council.

With that said, here are your 2020 Parish Council Officers:

- Parish Spiritual Leader: Father Mark Kozak
- Parish President: Matthew Andrews (2020-2021)
- Parish Vice President: Lena Helen (2019-2020)
- Parish Secretary: Natalie Patterson (2020-2021)
- Parish Treasurer: Kenneth Kavalkovich (2019-2020)
- Parish Trustee (Even Year): Peter Parsells (2020-2021)
- Parish Trustee (Odd Year): Martha Palubniak (2019-2020)
- Parish Immediate Past President: Peter Parsells

Next year at the Fall General Parish Meeting, the positions of Parish Vice-President, Parish Treasurer, and Parish Trustee (Odd Year) will be the only positions available to elect parish council officers for a two-year term.

Parish Community Work Projects

In the October 13 bulletin, and posted on the parish bulletin boards, there is an informational flyer on some of the projects the parish is undertaking. Besides the donations of yarn and old eyeglasses, along with our parish cookbook sales, there are also opportunities for our Advent projects such as craft fair and basket sale, along with donations towards St Herman's of Alaska Seminary, St Tikhon's Seminary, and the Veterans Center in Philadelphia.

For more information and donation giving on our Parish Community Work Projects, please read the information flyers or see Matushka Janine McCartyney for details. Thank you in advance for your support to these projects.

Update: As of last Sunday, the parish received donations of just under \$700 for the St Isaac of Syria Men's Monastery. Thank you for your support to this cause!

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Natalie and John (on their engagement) offered by mom Nina Patterson
Helen Yarabinee offered by Hourahan Family
Kevin Fox offered by Hourahan Family

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Mary Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
Reader Leonty Macalush offered by M/M Herbert
Joseph Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
Anna and Michael Bondira offered by Hourahan Family

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 10/27/19:

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Please remember in your prayers:

Grace Corba; Ronald Kavalkovich (continuous recovery); Sheba Patton; Margaret Pellack; Luke Emmanuel Parsells (on his First Birthday 11/1); Father John Bohush (retired); Father Gregory Winsky (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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2020 Saint Tikhon's Monastery Calendar - Taking orders now:

The parish will once again be ordering 2020 calendars from Saint Tikhon's Monastery. As a result from a generous benefactor, a donation was made to the church to cover the cost of one calendar per household for parishioners of the church.

If you wish to order additional calendars besides the one that will be ordered for your household, there is a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board downstairs to do so. The cost of the 2020 St Tikhon's calendars is \$6 per calendar.

TODAY is the Final Day for ordering extra calendars for your household!

Announcements (cont.)

Please ensure that your Mobile Phone is set to Silent (or at least set on vibrate) during the Divine Liturgy! Thank You!!!

*******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 (October)

Week of October 21 to October 27		October Month to Date
Attendance:	42	41 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 962.00	\$ 7,046.50
Funds Out:	\$ 215.00	\$ 8,092.18
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 747.00	(\$ 1,045.68)

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 either David Pellack or Ken Kavalkovich 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.
- 5th Sunday of each quarter** – Quarterly Parish Council Meeting after Divine Liturgy.

Readers Schedule:

	Today (Nov 3)	Next Week (Nov 10)
3rd Hour:	Matthew Andrews	Michael Wanenchak
6th Hour:	Simon Herbert	John Spack
Epistle:	Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich,	Michael Spack

Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

Today (Nov 3): Saint John Kochurov
(Daria and Rick LeRoy, Michael Wanenchak)

Next Week (Nov 10): Saint Alexander Hotovitzky
(Brett McKenna, Tanya Krawchuk, Pete Witiak).

Today, November 3 – PARISH FALL FESTIVAL

St Nicholas Eastern Orthodox Church – Pierogi Festival - 12:00PM to 5:00PM
817 North 7th Street (Corner of Brown Street) - Philadelphia, PA
Ethnic Food | Baked Goods | Vendors | Live Music | Beer Garden | Free Parking

Friday, November 8 to Sunday, November 10 – PARISH FALL FESTIVAL

St Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church – Annual Food Festival
1855 Middletown Road (Rt 352) – Glen Mills, PA 19342
Friday, November 8 and Saturday, November 9 - 12:00PM to 8:00PM
Sunday, November 10 – 12:00PM to 4:00PM

Please see Flyers for this festival on the church bulletin boards!

Thursday, November 7 – Vespers Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Synaxis of the Archangel Michael (November 8th) at 6:00PM!



Hieromartyrs Akepsimas, Bishop in Persia, Presbyter Joseph, and Deacon Aithalas [November 3rd]

Martyrs Akepsimas the Bishop, Joseph the Presbyter and Aithalas the Deacon of Persia were leaders of the Christian Church in the Persian city of Naesson. His flock devotedly loved their hierarch for his ascetic life and tireless pastoral work.

The emperor Sapor ordered his men to seek out and kill Christian clergy. Saint Akepsimas also was arrested, even though he was already an eighty-year-old man. They took him to the city of Arbela, where he came before the judge Ardarkh, a pagan priest of the sun god. The holy Elder refused to offer sacrifice to the Persian gods. For this he was fiercely beaten and thrown into prison, where on the following day the seventy-year-old priest Joseph and the deacon Aithalas were severely beaten and thrown into jail with him. For three years the saints were held in confinement, and suffered from hunger and thirst.

Emperor Sapor came to the temple of the god of fire, located not far from Arbela, and wanted to take a look at the three holy martyrs. Exhausted and covered with festering wounds, the saints were brought before the emperor. When he asked them to worship the pagan gods they firmly refused, confessing their faith in Christ instead.

The holy bishop was beheaded, but the presbyter and deacon were taken into the city to be stoned.

The execution of the presbyter Joseph was prolonged for several hours. A guard was placed near the place of execution, so that Christians would not take the body of the holy martyr. On the fourth night a strong windstorm raged near the city, lightning killed the guard, the wind tossed stones about, and the body of Saint Joseph disappeared.

Deacon Aithalas was taken to the village of Patrias, where he was stoned. Christians secretly buried his body. A tree grew on the saint's grave, and its fruit brought healings.

Community Work of Holy Assumption

Immediate Need:

We are collecting Walmart Gift cards and for the purchase of Walmart Gift cards for St. Isaac of Syria Men's Monastery. They have sustained flood damage and rely on income from making icons. They are in need of day-to-day living items also. There is a Walmart store within 30 miles of the monastery, where they shop. Your donations of ever \$5 or \$10 could mean quite a lot! We will be collecting donations and Gift cards from October 13-20. Please see Matushka Janine with questions or donations.

Yarn Donations - We are accepting any yarn donations to continue our knitting and crocheting efforts. We have made at least 50 afghans this year for hospice patients, and 42 hats for the Veterans. Please consider donating any unused yarn that you have at home. We are also accepting monetary donations to cover the cost of the wool for the Advent Veterans Place project. Please see Matushka Janine with questions or donations

Cookbook Sale - Our Parish cookbook, *At our Table* is for sale. Proceeds will benefit the community projects for the parish. Please consider purchasing the cookbook as a Christmas present for someone. Cost of the cookbook is \$20/book. Please see Matushka Janine with questions or donations

Craft Fair and Basket Sale - On December 8, 2019 our parish is having a craft fair. We are selling hats and scarf sets and afghans and possibly other handmade items. Baskets will contain baskets of cheer, baskets of bath items and baskets of specialty foods. Proceeds will benefit the advent projects this year so we can purchase additional gift cards for St. Herman's of Alaska Seminary. If you are interested in donating a basket, please see Matushka Janine. Drop off of baskets is Saturday, December 7, 2019 by 4:00pm.

Old Eyeglasses for the Lions Club - We are collecting old prescription eyeglasses for the Lions Club. The donation box is located downstairs in our donation area and is labeled. Please consider donating any unused glasses with prescription lenses that you are no longer using. Please see Matushka Janine with questions.

Advent Opportunities:

St. Herman's of Alaska Seminary - We are collecting Walmart Gift cards for St. Herman's of Alaska Seminary in Kodiak and would like to send gift cards in the denomination of \$25 per gift card. We will be collecting gift cards and donations from October 27-December 1, 2019. Please see Matushka Janine if you are interested in donating.

St. Tikhon's Seminary - Starting November 7, 2019, We will be collecting items on a giving tree this year for 6 seminarian families. We will set up a giving tree and parishioners will be encouraged to take a request off the tree and fulfill the need such as the purchase of clothes, toys for the Seminarian family members. The deadline for collection of the gifts is December 1, 2019. The gifts will be distributed on St. Nicholas Day in person to the seminarian families. We will have a location set aside for donations.

Veterans Place - We have made 42 hats, received donations of 42 pairs of socks and gloves. We are collecting toiletry items to make gift bags for the Veterans. Bars of soap, shaving cream and disposable razors are appreciated. We will need 42 sets of toiletry items so please see Matushka Janine before you donate so we can minimize duplication. We will be providing the gifts to the Veterans in the first week of December 2019.