

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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Sunday, December 1, 2019 | 24th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 7 – Holy Prophet Nahum (7th c. B.C.)

Righteous Philaret the Merciful of Amnia in Asia Minor (792)

Martyr Ananias of Persia

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Deacon – Michael McCartney

Parish President - Matthew Andrews

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Weekly Schedule

- Today: Parish Council Meeting after Divine Liturgy.
Meeting to continue the discussion and preparation of the 5-year Strategic Planning for the parish.
- Thursday: Vespers Divine Liturgy for the Feast of Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker (December 6) will be at 6:00PM!
- Saturday: December 7 - Great Vespers at **4:00PM!**
- Sunday: December 8 – Venerable Patapius of Thebes
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy
- Sunday: December 8 – Parish Craft Fair and Basket Sale held in the Church basement during Fellowship Coffee Hour.
- Sunday: December 8 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the church basement Sunday school room.

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 7)

By Thy Cross Thou destroy death. / To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. / For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy. / And Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, / to proclaim that Thou are risen, // granting the world great mercy.

Troparion (Tone 2 – Prophet Nahum)

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

Kontakion (Tone 7)

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, / for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. / Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: / “The Savior has come to those in faith; // enter, thou faithful, into the Resurrection!”

Kontakion (Tone 4 – Prophet Nahum)

Illumined by the Spirit, thy heart was a vessel of illustrious prophecy, / seeing far-off things as though they were present. / Therefore, we venerate thee, glorious prophet Nahum.

Prokeimenon (Tone 7)

The Lord shall give strength to His people! / The Lord shall bless His people with peace!
v. Offer to the Lord, O ye sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 2:14-22

For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 7)

- v. It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. To declare Thy mercy in the morning and Thy truth by night Alleluia(3x's)

Gospel Reading: Luke 18:18-27 (from the 26th Sunday)

Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother.'" And he said, "All these things I have kept from my youth." So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich. And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." And those who heard it said, "Who then can be saved?" But He said, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God."

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

Advent Season Tutelage - 2019

We are once again providing an Advent tutelage for those who are unable to attend or view either the Bible Study or Church Life Discussion Classes during the Advent Season but wish to still remain closer to God as we prepare for the Holy Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This season we will provide information on the Life of another North American Saint - Saint Alexander Hotovitzky. So let's continue...

On February 26, 1906, Orthodox America celebrated the tenth anniversary of priestly service of Archpriest Alexander, one of its most remarkable pastors. Bishop Tikhon greeted the jubilarian with these words:

“As you remember your ordination as a priest of God at this anniversary, you are doubtless unwillingly contemplating how you have used your God-given talents, and asking yourself if the Grace of God was bestowed on you in vain and how far you have advanced on the path of moral perfection. As you judge yourself in this way, you are at the same time the judge and the accused. In order for a judgment to be fair, the testimony of onlookers, the witnesses, must be heard. Now they are speaking before you—listen to them. Thanks be to the Lord! We just heard their eloquent and heartfelt testimony praising you. For myself as your superior, I can testify that you have proven to be trustworthy, and have justified the expectations which were hoped for at your ordination.”

The sacrificial and dedicated pastoral service of the New Martyr Alexander in America was concluded on February 26, 1914, exactly eighteen years after his ordination to the priesthood. In his farewell address, Father Alexander said, “Farewell, American Orthodox Rus—my dear Mother, the Holy American Church. I, your ever-grateful son, bow fully to the ground before you. You gave birth to me spiritually, you nurtured me, from your depths you inspired me by your strength. Through the shining witness of your founders, through the enlightened apostolic teachings of your preachers, through the fervor of your faithful flock, you have given me the greatest possible joy—to be your son.”

From 1914 to 1917, Father Alexander served as a priest in Helsinki, Finland, where the majority of the population was Protestant. Although Finland was then part of the Russian Empire, the Orthodox clergy there had to exert great efforts to protect the Orthodox Karelians from the proselytic expansionism of the Finnish Lutherans. In Finland, the New Martyr Alexander was a loyal, active, and dedicated assistant to his archpastor—Sergius (Stragorodsky), the future Patriarch.

In August 1917, Archpriest Alexander was transferred to Moscow and assigned as assistant pastor of Christ the Savior Cathedral. Here he was again under the direct guidance of Saint Tikhon, with whom he had already been closely associated in America.

**** Saint Alexander Hotovitzky's Life to be continued in next week's bulletin. ****

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Albert Kavalkovich, Debbie Kavalkovich offered by Emily Gerasimoff
Albert Kavalkovich, Ronald Kavalkovich offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Debbie Kavalkovich offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Albert Kavalkovich, Ronald Kavalkovich offered by Barbara Andrews
Debbie Kavalkovich offered by Catherine Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Benjamin Macalush and Family offered by M/M Herbert
Herbert Family offered by M/M Herbert
Anthony offered by Nina Patterson
John (Mother Catherine's Father) offered by M/M Herbert
Anna Zuzulock (Wildwood, NJ 11/23) offered by Joseph Rabik

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 11/24/19:

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Please remember in your prayers:

Grace Corba; Ronald Kavalkovich (continuous recovery); Sheba Patton; Margaret Pellack; Father John Bohush (retired); Father Gregory Winsky (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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AMAZON SMILE CASHBACK PROGRAM!

As we now approach the holiday shopping season and with Cyber Monday tomorrow, if you order 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.

Since March of this year, the parish has received a total of \$90.69 from the Amazon Smile Cashback program. This means that parishioners, family, and friends of the parish made online Amazon purchases of over \$18,100 over the past nine months and selected our parish to receive cash back. Thank You for your support!

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 (November)

	Week of November 18 to November 24	November Month-to-Date
Attendance:	48	41 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 931.00	\$ 8,092.80
Funds Out:	\$ 3,164.96	\$ 7,487.53
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 2,233.96)	\$ 605.27

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 Liturgy.

Readers Schedule:

	Today (Dec 1)	Next Week (Dec 8)
3rd Hour :	Mark Klus	Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich
6th Hour:	Michael Wanenchak	Matthew Andrews
Epistle:	Simon Herbert	Kira Skoog

Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

Today (Dec 1): Saint Herman of Alaska
(Heather & Peter Parsells, Dr Gale Rutan & Joseph Francis).

Next Week (Dec 8): Saint John of Kronstadt
(Lena Helen, Paul Filanowski, Matthew Andrews, Martha Palubniak).

TODAY – Parish Council Meeting after Divine Liturgy.

This meeting will be a continuation of the council's discussion and preparation for a 5-year Strategic Plan for the parish.

Thursday, December 5 – Vespers Divine Liturgy for the Feast of St Nicholas (December 6th) at 6:00PM!

Next Sunday, December 8 – Parish Craft Fair and Basket Sale

We will be 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.

Deadline to drop off baskets is Saturday, December 7, 2019 by 4:00 pm.



Prophet Nahum [December 1st]

The Holy Prophet Nahum, whose name means “God consoles,” was from the village of Elkosh (Galilee). He lived during the seventh century B.C. The Prophet Nahum prophesies the ruin of the Assyrian city of Nineveh because of its iniquity, the destruction of the Israelite kingdom, and the blasphemy of King Sennacherib against God. The Assyrian king Ashurbanipal died in 632 B.C., and over the next two

decades, his empire began to crumble. Nineveh fell in 612 B.C.

Nahum differs from most of the prophets in as much as he does not issue any call to repentance, nor does he denounce Israel for infidelity to God.

Details of the prophet’s life are unknown. He died at the age of forty-five, and was buried in his native region. He is the seventh of the Twelve Minor Prophets

The Prophet Nahum and Saint Nahum of Ochrid (December 23) are invoked for people with mental disorders.

AHVOC Bulletin Editorial Note: Starting in January 2020, this page will include the Lives of the Saints that can be printed and easily read on this page. Over the past two weeks, the Lives of the Saints included so much information that the print font size was small to read and it was not possible to fully describe the whole story in the bulletin. If you wanted to continue reading, you needed access to the OCA website to read the remainder of their life story. It has come to our attention that some wish to read the whole life story of the saint at once, and that some do not have easy online access to the Internet. For the reasons mentioned above, the format will be changing as mentioned. As always, thank you for your understanding regarding this change and hope this change is satisfactory to all.

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.