

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St. (corner of 28th St. & Snyder Ave.)
Philadelphia, PA 19145 * Church Phone: (215) 468-3535
Website: <http://www.holyassumptionphilly.org>



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

Sunday, January 26, 2020 | 32nd Sunday After Pentecost
Tone 7 – Synaxis of the Holy New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia
Venerable Xenophon, his wife, Mary and their two sons, Arcadius
and John, of Canstantinople (5th – 6th c.)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Deacon – Michael McCartney

Parish President - Matthew Andrews

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Weekly Schedule

Today: Annual Parish Meeting after Divine Liturgy!

Today: **Blessing of the Water at 3:00PM**
Camden County Boathouse at Cooper River
7050 North Park Drive – Pennsauken, NJ 08109

Thursday: January 30 - Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs:
Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, John Chrysostom

Saturday: February 1 - Great Vespers at 4:00PM!

Sunday: February 2 – Meeting of our Lord in the Temple
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: February 2 – Soup N’ Bowl V Challenge after
Divine Liturgy in the church basement

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 4 – New Martyrs of Russia)

Today the Church of Russia forms a chorus in joy, / praising her new martyrs and confessors; / hierarchs and priests, royal passion-bearers, right-believing princes and princesses, / venerable men and women, and all Orthodox Christians. / Having laid down their life for faith in Christ during the days of godless persecution, / they preserved the truth by the shedding of blood. // By their protection, O long-suffering Lord, preserve our land in Orthodoxy till the end of the age.

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 3 – New Martyrs of Russia)

Today the new martyrs of Rus’ stand in white robes before the Lamb of God, / and with the angels they sing to God the hymn of victory: / “Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and praise, and honor, / and power, and strength be to our God // unto the ages of ages. Amen.”

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!

Another Prokeimenon (Tone 7 – New Martyrs of Russia)

God is our refuge and strength, our help in afflictions that severely befall us.

Epistle Reading: 1 Timothy 1:15-17

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

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)
- v. The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them and delivered them out of all their troubles. Alleluia (3x's) [TONE 4]

Gospel Reading: Matthew 15:21-28

Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed." But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us." But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, help me!" But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest!
Rejoice in the Lord. O ye righteous! Praise befits the upright! Alleluia (3x's)

*[Note: The readings for the New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia is as follows:
Epistle – Romans 8:28-39 and Gospel - Luke 21:8-19]*

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

2020 House Blessing

If you wish to have your home blessed, please speak with Father Mark for date availability to schedule a house blessing. The blessing of houses will begin after Theophany, which is Monday, January 6. Items of importance when having your home blessed: 1) have a candle available to be burned during the house blessing, 2) a bowl of blessed holy water, 3) an icon (preferably the icon of Christ being baptized in the Jordan River), and 4) please make enough space for Father Mark to maneuver in the rooms you wish him to bless.

Cards for Our Troops! Save your Christmas Cards!

Please save your Christmas cards this year. Matushka Janine is collecting Christmas cards to send to the troops for next year. We will use the front cover and paste it on a new card, write an appropriate verse on the inside of the card, and address the card to our soldiers. Please consider donating your cards you received this year. Please see Matushka Janine as to where to drop off your Christmas cards at a designated area in the church basement, or whether she will collect them directly. As always, thank you for your generosity!

TODAY - Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26, 2020 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. The Spiritual Advisor's report, the Treasurer's report, the voting on the 2020 budget, along with any other business that needs to be discussed. The election of the 2020 parish council officers took place during the Fall Parish meeting back in October 2019.

Busy Sunday next weekend - February 2:

**Meeting of the Lord in Temple and Zacchaeus Sunday
Soup N' Bowl V along with some other event called the SuperBowl.
Don't forget, no matter how busy the day is, remember to attend Liturgy!**

Sunday, February 9 - Publican and Pharisee. Property Committee Meets

Tuesday, February 11 – Bible Study at 6:30pm in church basement.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Family and Friends offered by Peggy Walker
Peace, Love, Joy around the World offered by Alex Soroka
Frank B offered by Pellack Family
David Andrews, Alexander Kavalkovich offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Ronald Andrew Kavalkovich, Albert Kavalkovich offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Family and Parishioners offered by Nina Patterson

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Joseph Herbert, Michael Spack Sr, Sarah Amato offered by M/M Herbert
Barbara McClone offered by the Pellack Family
Anna Rabik offered by son Joseph Rabik

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 1/19/20:

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Please remember in your prayers:

Grace Corba; Kathy Gerty and her unborn child; Protodeacon Joseph Edwards; Ronald Kavalkovich (continuous recovery); Sheba Patton; Margaret Pellack; Fania Wanenchak; Father John Bohush (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

Also, please remember the 176 Ukrainian, Canadian, and Persian passengers who tragically perished in the senseless attack on Ukrainian International Airline Flight 752.

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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
- 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 (January)

<u>Week of Sun Jan 12 to Sat Jan 18</u>	<u>January Month-to-Date</u>
Attendance: 48	44 (average)
Funds In: \$ 3,147.00	\$ 5,196.83
Funds Out: \$ 5,411.75	\$ 8,201.11
Net Surplus/(Deficit): (\$ 2,264.75)	(\$ 3,004.28)

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 (Jan 26)	Next Week (Feb 2)
3 rd Hour :	Simon Herbert	Dr. David Albrecht
6 th Hour:	Lena Helen	Michael Wanenchak
Epistle:	Mark Klus & John Spack (2)	Subdeacon Daniel & David Pellack

Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

Today (Jan 26): Saint Alexander Hotovitzky
(Brett McKenna, Tanya Krawchuk, Pete Witiak).

Next Week (Feb 2): Saint Bridget of Ireland ← **Soup N' Bowl SUNDAY**
(Catherine & Albert Kavalkovich, Simon Herbert)

Soup N' Bowl V Challenge – Sunday February 2, 2020 after Divine Liturgy (including Stews & Chili)!

- * We are looking for participants (between 4 to 8 people) to prepare their best soup, stew, or chili and faceoff against each other (no fasting restrictions on that Sunday). Any soup, stew, or chili can be prepared. Any type of crackers or bread can be included as a compliment to the dish.
- * Participants should make enough soup, stew, or chili for the parishioners and guests (average between 32-36 people).
- * Parishioners & guests will indulge in each one of the soups, stews, and chili (at least try 1/2 bowl or cup of each soup) and then cast a ballot for which one they enjoy the most.
- * The results (“Score”) will be announced by the Commissioner: Fr. Koczak.
- * The winner gets to enjoy for the year that their soup, stew or chili was the best and select a charity of their choosing from the coffee hour proceeds from this event.
- * Donation of “free-will” offering will be accepted for this coffee hour event.
- * Any other ideas or suggestions, please inform a parish council member.

Annual Pork and/or Roast Beef Sandwich Luncheon on Meatfare Sunday February 23, 2020 after Divine Liturgy.

Plans on organizing the luncheon will begin after the Annual Parish Meeting, We will need volunteers to assist in providing dishes along with setting up before and cleaning up after the luncheon. Please see a parish council member for more details on how you can assist in this event!



New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia [January 26th]

On the Sunday closest to January 25, the Church commemorates the Synaxis of the Holy New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia, remembering all those Orthodox Christians who suffered for Christ at the hands of the godless Soviets during the years of persecution. These include the royal Passion Bearers Tsar Nicholas II and his family, and the Grand Duchess Elizabeth. Countless thousands of martyrs, both clergy and laity also suffered, some of whose names are known, as well as millions of simple believers whose names

have been lost to history.

It is estimated that the number of the New Martyrs of Russia, who were glorified by the Russian Orthodox Church at the Jubilee Council of 2000, far exceeds that of all the martyrs who died for Christ during the first three centuries of Christianity. The Russian Church lost millions of its sons and daughters, not only at the hands of external enemies, but also those of their own country. Among those who were murdered and tortured in the years of persecution were countless Orthodox: laity, monks, priests, and bishops, whose only “crime” was their unshakable faith in God.

In the long history of the world, never have so many new heavenly intercessors been glorified by the Church in such a way (more than one thousand New Martyrs were numbered among the saints). Among those who suffered for their faith were some who labored in America before the Russian Revolution: St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia (April 7); St. Alexander Hotovitzky (Dec. 4); St. John Kochurov (Oct. 31).

The Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia glorified the New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia in 1981, for those who suffered during the Soviet period (1917 to 1991) for their faith. Immediately following the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Russian Church under the leadership of Patriarch Alexei II began glorifying some of the New Martyr's, beginning with the Grand Duchess Elizabeth, Metropolitan Vladimir of Kiev, and Metropolitan Benjamin of Petrograd in 1992. In 2000, the All-Russian Council glorified Tsar Nicholas II and his family, as well as many other New Martyrs. More names continue to be added to list of New Martyrs, after the Synodal Canonization Commission completes its investigation of each case. The Russian Church celebrates the feast of the New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia on the Sunday nearest January 25th (o.s.) / February 7th (n.s.) -- the date Metropolitan Vladimir of Kiev's martyrdom (the first Hieromartyr of the Bolshevik Yoke). – *from OrthodoxWiki*