

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, March 8, 2020

Tone 5 – First Sunday of Great Lent | Sunday of Orthodoxy
Saint Theophylactus, Bishop of Nicomedia (ca 842-845)
Apostle Hermas of the Seventy (1st c.)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Deacon – Michael McCartney Choir Director – Nina Patterson
Subdeacon – Daniel (Ken) Kavalkovich Reader – Mark Klus
Parish President - Matthew Andrews [Phone: 856.217.8075]

Weekly Schedule

Today: Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church Basement schoolroom! [CANCELLED!]

Service Schedule for the Second Week of Great Lent is noted under Calendar of Events (page 7) of this bulletin!

Tuesday: Bible Study at 6:30PM in the church basement.

Saturday: March 14 – Memorial Saturday Divine Liturgy at 9:00AM!

Saturday: March 14 – Teaching HAVEN Women to Crochet
Class from 11:00AM to 2:00PM

Saturday: March 14 - Great Vespers at 4:00PM!

Sunday: March 15 – Second Sunday of Great Lent! St Gregory Palamas!
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 5)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, / co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; / for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, / and to raise the dead // by His glorious Resurrection.

Troparion (Tone 2 – Sunday of Orthodoxy)

We venerate Thy most pure image, O Good One; / and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God. / Of Thy good will Thou wast pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh / and deliver Thy creatures from bondage to the Enemy. / Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to Thee: / “Thou hast filled all with joy, O our Savior, // for Thou alone hast come to save the world.”

Kontakion (Tone 8 – Lenten Triodion)

No one could describe the Word of the Father; / but when He took flesh from thee, O Theotokos, He accepted to be described, / and restored the fallen image to its former state by uniting it to divine beauty // We confess and proclaim our salvation in words and images.

Prokeimenon (Tone 4 - Song of the Fathers)

Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our Fathers / and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever!
v. For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us!

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2

By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 4)

- v. Moses and Aaron were among His priest; Samuel also was among those who called on His Name. Alleluia (3x's)
- v. They called to the Lord and he answered them. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: John 1:43-51

The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote – Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Instead of "It is truly meet..." we sing the following

All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace: / the assembly of Angels and the race of men. / O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, / the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a Child: / our God before the ages. / He made thy body into a throne, / and thy womb He made more spacious than the heavens. / All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace. // Glory to thee!

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)

Prayer during the Service of The Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers

+ The Triumph of Orthodoxy +

This is the Faith of the Apostles, this is the Faith of the Fathers, this is the Faith of the Orthodox, this is the Faith which has established the whole Universe!

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

40 Days For Life – Philadelphia Campaign – Spring Season:

The 40 Days for Life Spring Campaign has begun (Feb 26 to Sun, April 5).
This campaign of peaceful vigils will occur in ALL 50 states at the same time!

The 40 Days For Life is not a political organization or a protest group. They stand and pray as a peaceful physical presence and witness for the lives of the unborn, who cannot speak for themselves.

Please visit their website: <https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/philadelphia/>
or contact Monique Ruberu or Pat Stanton at 469.231.9084.

For other peaceful vigils around the Tri-State area, please visit their website.

Choir Rehearsal schedule for Lent and Pascha

Please keep in contact with Choir Director Nina Patterson as to the schedule for choir rehearsals over the next two months. She will inform you when and where rehearsals will take place.

Attendance: First Week of Great Lent Services

Monday (3/2) – St Andrew of Crete = 15
Tuesday (3/3) – St Andrew of Crete = 17
Wednesday (3/4) – St Andrew of Crete = 18
Thursday (3/5) – St Andrew of Crete = 15
Friday (3/6) – Presanctified Liturgy = 25

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!

Clean-up Day at the Church

Yesterday's cleanup around the properties and houses was cancelled. The next scheduled cleanup will be on **Saturday, March 28** which will consist of inside Church cleaning as we get ready for Pascha and cleaning up around the outside of the church and surrounding properties. Sign up sheets are located in church basement.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Pete Witiak offered by Deacon Michael and Matushka Janine McCartney
Peace, Love, Joy to the World offered by Alex Soroka
Ron Kavalkovich offered by Pellack Family
Happiness to Nieces and Nephews offered by Joseph Rabik
Robert Wanenchak and Ronald Kavalkovich offered by Emily Gerasimoff
Ronald Kavalkovich Sr, Marc Ferguson Sr, Albert, Catherine, Marc Jr, Susan, Debbie, Kenny, Anastasia, Colin, Alexander, Selena, Steve, Sheba offered by MM K Kavalkovich and Family
Lucas Andrews (1st birthday) offered by Ronald and Lorraine Kavalkovich
Ronald Kavalkovich offered by Albert and Catherine Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Margaret and Stephen Perzsel offered by Deacon & Matushka McCartney
Mary (Slivka) Spack and Demitry Roadside offered by MM Herbert
Max and Betty Sapp offered by Pellack Family
Sheri Caber offered by Nina Patterson
Joseph offered by Albert and Catherine Kavalkovich

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 3/2/20:

One Small Votive Cross – Memory of Michael and Mary; Onufrios and Julianna; Michael and Maria; Child Helen; Child John; Child Theodore; Child Joyce Helen offered by John Spack.

Vigil Cross Candles – 3/8/20:

Two Small Votive Cross – Memory of Father John Homa offered by Ronald and Cheryl Homa.

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Please remember in your prayers:

Grace Corba; Danielle Brown and her unborn child; Kathy Gerty and her unborn child; Emily Gerasimoff (upcoming surgery); Protodeacon Joseph Edwards; Ronald Kavalkovich (continuous recovery); Sheba Patton; Margaret Pellack; Fania Wanenchak; Robert Wanenchak (recovery); Peter Witiak (illness); Father John Bohush (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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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 (February)

Week of Sun Feb 23 to Sat Feb 29	February Month (Unaudited)	
Attendance:	62	48 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 2,819.11	\$ 11,023.58
Funds Out:	\$ 2,457.76	\$ 11,187.32
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 361.35	(\$ 163.74)

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 *[On hiatus at this time]*
5th Sunday of each quarter – Quarterly Parish Council Meeting after Liturgy.

Readers Schedule:

	Today (Mar 8)	Next Week (Mar 15)
3rd Hour :	Matthew Andrews	Lena Helen
6th Hour:	Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich	John Spack
Epistle:	Kyra Skoog	Mark Klus & M Wanenchak

Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

Today (Mar 8): Saint Juvenaly *[Lenten Meal]*
(Jennifer Cantrell & Family, Ronald & Cherly Homa).

Next Week (Mar 15): Saint Innocent *[Lenten Meal]*
(Dave Albrecht, Melanie Albrecht).

Today - Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy! [CANCELLED!]

Today – Sunday of Orthodoxy Mission Service at 4PM
Sts Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church (UOC of the U.S.A)
1406 Philadelphia Pike - Wilmington, DE 19809
www.sspeterandpauluoc.org

2020 Lenten Service Schedule at our Parish (March 9 to March 15)

Tuesday, March 10 – Bible Study at 6:30PM
Wednesday, March 11 – Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts at 6PM
Friday, March 13 – Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts at 6PM
Saturday, March 14 – Memorial Saturday Divine Liturgy at 9AM
Saturday, March 14 – Great Vespers at 4PM
Sunday, March 15 – Divine Liturgy at 10AM (Hours Reading at 9:30AM)
Sunday, March 15 – **Saint Gregory of Palamas Mission Service at 4PM**
Saint Mark's Orthodox Church (OCA)
452 Durham Road – Wrightstown, PA 18940
www.stmarksoca.org

Saturday, March 14 – Teaching HAVEN Women to Crochet. Class from 11AM to 2PM

Sunday, March 29 – Quarterly Parish Council Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the church basement!



First Sunday of Great Lent: Sunday of Orthodoxy [March 8th]

Originally, the Prophets Moses, Aaron, and Samuel were commemorated on this Sunday. The Alleluia verses appointed for today's Liturgy reflect this older usage.

Today we commemorate the "Triumph of Orthodoxy," the restoration of the holy icons in the reign of the holy Empress Theodora (February 11).

First Saturday of Great Lent: The Miracle of the Boiled Wheat

Yesterday, we remember the miracle of Saint Theodore and the boiled wheat. Fifty years after the death of Saint Theodore, the emperor Julian the Apostate (361-363), wanting to commit an outrage upon the Christians during the first week of Great Lent, commanded the city-commander of Constantinople to sprinkle all the food provisions in the marketplaces with the blood offered to idols. Saint Theodore appeared in a dream to Archbishop Eudoxius, ordering him to inform all the Christians that no one should buy anything at the marketplaces, but rather to eat cooked wheat with honey (kolyva).

In memory of this occurrence, the Orthodox Church annually celebrates the holy Great Martyr Theodore the Recruit on the first Saturday of Great Lent. On Friday evening, at the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts following the prayer at the ambo, the Canon to the holy Great Martyr Theodore, composed by Saint John of Damascus, is sung. After this, kolyva is blessed and distributed to the faithful. The celebration of the Great Martyr Theodore on the first Saturday of Great Lent was set by the Patriarch Nectarius of Constantinople (381-397).

The Troparion to Saint Theodore is quite similar to the Troparion for the Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Youths (December 17, Sunday Before Nativity). The Kontakion to Saint Theodore, who suffered martyrdom by fire, reminds us that he also had faith as his breastplate (see I Thessalonians 5:8).

Saint Theodore the Recruit is also commemorated on February 17.

Holy Assumption Lenten Community Projects -February 29 to April 4, 2020

1. Lenten Clean Up Project of 2109 S. 28th St.

The main project of the church this Lenten season is this clean-up project. We are asking parishioners to make this a priority in their Lenten giving. The old tenant left the rental home with much to do. Emily is heading up the Lenten cleanup project. Volunteers are asked to sign up on sheets in church basement and come, ready to work, **by 10AM!**

February 28, 2020 - Emily has scheduled drain cleaning as requested by Property Committee for Friday, February 28 at 9 am. Emily will need help from one male parishioner on this day.

February 29, 2020-2109 So. 28th Street - Removal of carpeting in two upstairs bedrooms, living room, dining room, stairs! Disposal of old carpeting! Removing staples from wooden floors! Porch cleanup! Bathroom cleanup! Leaf removal from yard! (Bilko door repair also taking place)! Work may need to go into second Saturday.

March 7, 2020

Continue work, if necessary, at 2109 S. 28th Street. Or, projects at 2111 S. 28th Street.

Two-week break

March 28 and April 4 - Church cleaning, altar cleaning, candle holder polishing, etc. and outdoor clean-up! (Weather will determine which week to do either indoor/outdoor work.) Please give of your time this lent. Please see Emily with questions and to sign the sign-up sheet.

2. Food Donation for Haven Women Shelter

Boxes are set up downstairs for food donations for this Service Woman Shelter. Please consider donating food items for the Women's shelter. Any questions, see Matushka Janine.

3. Donations for Towels and Wash cloths for Haven Women Shelter

Please consider donating for the purchase of 12 towels and 12 sets of washcloths (2 per set). The cost of both items is \$203.28. We will be putting a special collection basket out during lent for this specific donation. It will be identified as donations for Haven Women Shelter Towels. Please consider donating so that we can provide these items that were requested by the Women. Any questions, please see Matushka Janine.

4. Teaching Haven Women to Crochet

On March 15 14, 2020, Matushka Janine will be teaching the Haven Women to crochet as requested. Anyone who knows how to crochet or want to learn how to crochet is welcome to sign up. Please see Matushka Janine. Class is from 10:00 11:00 am-2:00 pm.

5. Crocheting Afghans for Wissahickon Hospice

We continue to crochet afghans for Hospice. Anyone who is interested in making afghans for hospice, please contact Matushka Janine.