

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, July 19, 2020 | 6th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 5 – Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils.
Venerable Macrina, sister of St Basil the Great (380).
First uncovering of the Relics of Venerable Seraphim of Sarov (1903).

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

Pennsylvania has moved to the **GREEN PHASE** for our county. However, the City of Philadelphia is still in a “Modified Restricted Green Phase”. What this means for the parish is that it can host up to 50 parishioners for the liturgical services and those parishioners who wish to attend services may choose to. Please remember the parish’s six feet social distancing guidelines, wear a mask, and respect each other’s surroundings and boundaries.

Saturday: July 25 - Great Vespers at **4:00PM!**

Sunday: July 26 – Repose of St. Yakov (Jacob) Netsvetov
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 8 – Holy Fathers)

Thou art most glorious, O Christ our God! / Thou hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth. / Through them Thou hast guided us to the true Faith. // O greatly compassionate One, glory to Thee!

Kontakion (Tone 5)

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior, / shattering its gates as Almighty, / resurrecting the dead as Creator, / and destroying the sting of death. / Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man, // and we cry to Thee: “O Lord, save us!”

Kontakion (Tone 8 – Holy Fathers)

The Apostles’ preaching and the Fathers’ doctrines have established one Faith for the Church. / Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from heavenly theology, // it defines and glorifies the great mystery of piety.

Prokeimenon (Tone 5)

Thou, O Lord, shall protect us / and preserve us from this generation forever!
v. Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly.

Prokeimenon (Tone 4 – Songs of the Fathers)

Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever!

Epistle Reading: Romans 12:6-14

Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 5)

- v. I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation. Alleluia (3x's)
- v. For Thou hast said: Mercy will be established forever; Thy truth will be prepared in the heavens. Alleluia (3x's)
- v. The Lord, the God of gods, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. Alleluia (3x's) [TONE 1]

Gospel Reading: Matthew 9:1-8

So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city. Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you." And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man blasphemes!" But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins – then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." And he arose and departed to his house. Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.

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)

*[Note: Today's readings for the Holy Fathers are as follows:
Epistle – Hebrews 13:7-16 and Gospel – John 17:1-13*

“Be the first to arrive at church for services and the last to leave, especially for the Divine Liturgy.”

St Symeon the Studite (also called Symeon the Pious; +1021)

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

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

“Getting ready to go Back to School” - Backpack Program (let’s hope so)

With this in mind, the parish is looking to put together ten backpacks this year. The parish **has already received donations of the ten backpacks themselves**. It is the school supplies that we are looking for donations.

Here is a list of school supply items we would like to include in the backpacks for those who wish to donate to this annual parish project:

- * Pencils * Colored Pencils * Pencil Cases * Erasers * Folders
- * Binders * Rulers * Notebooks * Index Cards (3 1/2 x 5)

For more information, please see one of the Parish Council members or Matushka Janine McCartney. Thank You!

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!

The Annual Dining Out in Delaware has been cancelled for this year due to the Covid19 restrictions on bars and restaurants along with the social distancing guidelines. Hopefully we can all gather together next year and celebrate is annual social outing event for the parish!

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Jane Holefelder offered by Nina Patterson

Catherine Kavalkovich & Entire Kavalkovich Family offered by David Pellack

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Albert Kavalkovich offered by Nina Patterson

Maria Sherbak offered by David Pellack

Margaret Pellack offered by Joan Benny

Albert Kavalkovich offered by Catherine Kavalkovich

Mary Popelak offered by SMSGT Andrew & Tracy Devito

Albert Kavalkovich offered by Patricia Ferguson

Vito Maturo, Anne Ashmore offered by Patricia Ferguson

Albert Kavalkovich offered by M/M Ken Kavalkovich

Albert Kavalkovich offered by M/M Jones

Albert Kavalkovich offered by Alexander Kavalkovich & Selena Majeed

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 7/11/20:

Two Large Votive Crosses – Memory of Albert Kavalkovich offered by the Herbert Family.

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Please remember in your prayers:

+ Newly Departed servant of God Albert Kavalkovich
(Tuesday, July 7). May His Memory Be Eternal

+ Newly Departed handmaiden of God Mary Popelak
(Monday, July 6). May Her Memory Be Eternal

The Brown Family; Grace Corba; Emily Gerasimoff (rehab after surgery); Protodeacon Joseph Edwards; The Gerty Family; Sandra Hourahan (recovery from surgery); Ronald Kavalkovich (continuous recovery); Jane Kelly (recovery); Sheba Patton (recovery); Heather Parsells and her unborn child; 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 (July)

<u>Week of Sun Jul 5 to Sat Jul 11</u>	<u>July Month to Date</u>
Attendance: 36 <i>(COVID19 Pandemic Limitations on gathering of groups of no more than 50 people)</i>	36 (average)
Funds In: \$ 1,965.00	\$ 1,965.84
Funds Out: \$ 8,070.00	\$ 9,570.00
Net Surplus/(Deficit): (\$ 6,105.00)	(\$ 7,604.16)

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** – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.
- 5th Sunday of each quarter** – Quarterly Parish Council Meeting after Liturgy.

Readers Schedule:

	Today (Jul 19)	Next Week (Jul 26)
3rd Hour :	Lena Helen	David Pellack
6th Hour:	John Spack	Michael Spack
Epistle:	Mark Klus & David Pellack	Subdeacon Daniel & David Albrecht

Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

Today (Jul 19): Saint John Kochurov
(Daria and Rick LeRoy, Michael Wanenchak).

Next Week (Jul 26): Saint Alexander Hotovitzky
(Brett McKenna, Tanya Krawchuk, Pete Witiak).

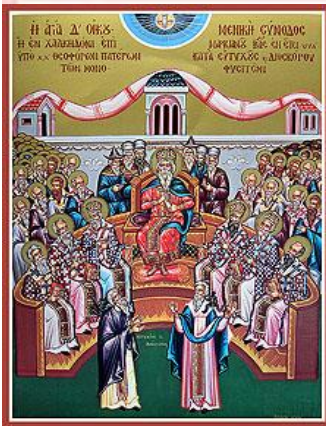
(NOTE: The parish has now resumed the Fellowship Coffee Hour in its normal fashion and is continuing with the Team cycle where we let off back on Sunday, March 22).

Service Schedule at our Parish (Month of July)

Please continue to check our parish website, social media pages, and your emails regularly for updated information on the parish regarding parish services in July.

Commemorations Dates during rest of July. No services to be held at the parish, (except for the normal Saturday Great Vespers and Sunday Divine Liturgy):

- Monday, July 20 – Holy Prophet Elijah
- Tuesday, July 21 – Holy Prophet Ezekiel
- Wednesday, July 22 – Holy Myrrhbearer and Equal-to-the-Apostles Mary Magdelene
- Saturday, July 25 – Dormition of Righteous Anna, Mother of the Theotokos
- Sunday, July 26 – Saint Jacob Netsvetov of Alaska
- Monday, July 27 – Greatmartyr and Healer Panteleimon



Fathers of the First Six Councils [July 19th]

The Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils.

In the Ninth Article of the Nicea-Constantinople Symbol of Faith proclaimed by the holy Fathers of the First and Second Ecumenical Councils, we confess our faith in “One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.” By virtue of the catholic nature of the Church, an Ecumenical Council is the Church’s supreme authority, and possesses the competence to resolve major questions of church life. An Ecumenical Council is comprised of archpastors and pastors of the Church, and representatives of all the local Churches, from every land of the “oikumene” (i.e. from all the

whole inhabited world). The Orthodox Church acknowledges Seven Holy Ecumenical Councils:

The First Ecumenical Council (Nicea I) (May 29, and also on seventh Sunday after Pascha) was convened in the year 325 against the heresy of Arius, in the city of Nicea in Bithynia under Saint Constantine the Great, Equal of the Apostles.

The Second Ecumenical Council (Constantinople I) (May 22) was convened in the year 381 against the heresy of Macedonias, by the emperor Theodosius the Great.

The Third Ecumenical Council (Ephesus) (September 9) was convened in the year 431 against the heresy of Nestorius, in the city of Ephesus by the emperor Theodosius the Younger.

The Fourth Ecumenical Council (Chalcedon) (July 16) was convened in the year 451, against the Monophysite heresy, in the city of Chalcedon under the emperor Marcian.

The Fifth Ecumenical Council (Constantinople II) (July 25) “Concerning the Three Chapters,” was convened in the year 553, under the emperor Justinian the Great.

The Sixth Ecumenical Council (Constantinople III) (January 23) met during the years 680-681, to fight the Monothelite heresy, under the emperor Constantine Pogonatos.

The fact that the Seventh Ecumenical Council (Nicea II) is not commemorated today testifies to the antiquity of today’s celebration. The Seventh Council, commemorated on the Sunday nearest to October 11, was convened at Nicea in the year 787 against the Iconoclast heresy, under the emperor Constantine and his mother Irene.

The Church venerates the Holy Fathers of the Ecumenical Councils because Christ has established them as “lights upon the earth,” guiding us to the true Faith. “Adorned with the robe of truth,” the doctrine of the Fathers, based upon the preaching of the Apostles, has established one faith for the Church. The Ecumenical Councils, are the highest authority in the Church. Such Councils, guided by the grace of the Holy Spirit, and accepted by the Church, are infallible.

Re-Opening Plan: Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church (May 19, 2020)
Timing of the opening:

We are under church, city, state, and federal requirements with **NO DATE** or **TIME** to open our church. We await, especially, our local authorities.

Required regular cleaning of the church nave and altar:

Follow CDC guidelines, cleaning after every service. There should be no veneration of icons, crosses, the chalice, or the priest's hand. We can use a blend of our coffee hour crews and others for cleaning. This is not a one or two-person job. The altar will be cleaned after all services by the priest, the deacon, the sacristan, and altar servers. The nave, the narthex, and the choir loft will also be cleaned after each service.

List of regular and guest participants in services:

This could be difficult but Father Mark is generating a list with all parish members, their function, and their status (age, med. condition, and such). Due to privacy, this **WILL NOT** be published for the parish. He believes that the vast majority of our parishioners will fit into the first tier, permitted to go to all services. There is a small minority that will be in the second tier right now due to age mostly.

**As Rector, he is going to recommend to the Archbishop that the age requirement be waived because it is arbitrary in our parish life. We have no parishioners in nursing homes, the hospital, symptoms of the virus, so we can be more flexible. However, coming to church is voluntary. Some folks may desire to wait for various reasons. They will not be judged for caution.*

Other Liturgical and Sacramental events:

The priest may now visit none virus parishioners at home.

We will be restarting weekly Saturday Vespers on Saturday, May 23, 2020. This is **NOT OPEN** to anyone. Father Mark will email or call the parishioners that can attend. If you **DO NOT** receive an email or call, you **ARE NOT** permitted to attend.

Baptisms, Full Marriages, Chrismation's, and Funerals in the church are still **Prohibited!**

Streaming services and Education:

Streaming services will continue indefinitely. We have an IT group that is working on new equipment. The monthly bible study will be zoomed, along with virtual coffee hour. Our Adult Education classes are now weekly. They are available on our Facebook and our website. The church school has had one zooming class so far and planning another very soon.

Other Mandatory items from the Archbishop:

Masks are required for everyone excluding altar servers and choir.

The social distance must be maintained and will be marked at 6 feet.

It is possible because of the size of our building to have about 30 folks in the nave and then add choir members and altar servers. This will be about 50 spaces. Families may sit together.

The choir will need to go back to the front of the nave. (**Father Mark is trying to talk to the Archbishop about this requirement. If it changes, we will let you know.*)

The canonical method of receiving communion will remain the same.

Practical matters:

We have usually every Liturgy two folks that stand in the narthex. They will become our door wardens and regulate masks and temperatures.

We have 200 masks and will disturb those who don't have any. If you do have one, please make sure you bring it with you to church.

We have purchased a thermometer and our door wardens will be taking everyone's temperature when they arrive. As per the CDC, a person is considered to have a fever when he or she has a measured temperature of 100.4° F (38° C) or greater.

If your temperature is above the 100.4° F (38° C) or greater, you will be asked to **NOT** attend for the safety of others.

Coffee Hour **WILL NOT** resume until further notice. . **[RESUMED ON SUNDAY, JULY 5]!**

In addition, the following will also be applied during church services:

* Community candles will be on the candle stands and lit prior to liturgy to reduce movement of parishioners within the church. Please leave any candle donations in the basket near the candle desk. Also, please identify the donation is for candles and if you choose, record who you are praying for by writing the names on the candle

* No collection/donation baskets will be passed and used. Please leave your offering in the basket near the candle desk in the vestibule.