

## Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St. (corner of 28<sup>th</sup> 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, September 27, 2020 | 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

Tone 7 – Martyr Callistratus and his company (49 Martyrs – ca. 304)  
Apostles Mark, Aristarchus, and Zenas of the Seventy (1<sup>st</sup> c.)  
Martyr Epicharis of Rome (3<sup>rd</sup> c.)

### **V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector**

615 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street | New Castle, DE 19720-6020  
Phone: Home: 302.322.0943 | Mobile: 302.547.4952  
Email: [mwkoczak@gmail.com](mailto:mwkoczak@gmail.com)

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: Sunday Church School after communion.

Today: Special Parish Meeting after Divine Liturgy. Only ONE topic on the agenda will be discussed: Repairs to the concrete sidewalk on the Snyder Avenue side of the church.

Thursday: October 1 – The Protection (Pokrov) of Our Most-Holy Lady Theotokos and the Ever-Virgin Mary

Saturday: October 3 - Great Vespers at **4:00PM!**

Sunday: October 4 – Hieromartyr Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens  
Reading of Hours – 9:30am  
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am  
Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

## 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 3 – Martyr Callistratus)**

In contest thou wast strengthened by the Holy Spirit, O Martyr Callistratus, / and wast glorious in casting down the Enemy. / Thou didst offer a noble army of athletes / as sweet-smelling incense to Christ. // With them pray for us who praise thee with hymns!

### **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 – Martyr Callistratus)**

Like stars ye hast shone upon the world, / shedding the light of your contests and miracles upon all who cry to you: // Rejoice, Martyr Callistratus and fellow company of martyrs!

### **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: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10**

We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says: In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you.” Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed. But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings; by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

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 5:1-11**

So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets. Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat. When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

**Communion Hymn:**

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest! Alleluia (3x's)

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**2021 Saint Tikhon's Monastery Calendar - Taking orders now:**

The parish will once again be ordering 2021 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 2021 St Tikhon's calendars is \$6 per calendar. The deadline for ordering these calendars will be: Sunday, November 1, 2020!

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**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**

**A Special Parish Meeting will be held on TODAY (Sunday, September 27, 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. Furthermore, Article IV, Section 4 states The Special Parish Meeting shall be called only for a specific purpose(s), and the said purpose(s) must be stated in the required notice to the Parish members regarding the Special Parish Meeting. The agenda of any Special Parish Meeting shall be limited to the purpose(s) stated in the notice pertaining to same.

**Purpose of The Special Parish Meeting - ONE Topic Only on the Agenda: *The discussion and decision on repairs to the concrete sidewalk on the Snyder Avenue side of the church building!***

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### **Heating, Ventilation and Cooling Units Project!**

The parish is beginning a campaign to raise \$40,000 to replace the old HVAC units. We will be offering the following as a fundraiser:

- 1) the commissioning of crocheted afghans and crocheted baby items;
- 2) accepting monetary donations;
- 3) the offering and scheduling of silent auctions; and
- 4) the offering of icons and rare hard to find icons for sale.

Proceeds will go to the HVAC project. All items will be preorders. If you are interested in purchasing commissioned afghans, baby items, or rare icons, please contact Matushka Janine for a full catalogue of items.

Fundraising Received to Date = \$125                      Thank you for your support!

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### **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!

**Announcements** (cont.)

**Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed**

**Health for the Living:**

Barbara Andrews offered by Nina Patterson

**May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!**

**Memory for the Departed:**

John Herbert (newly departed) offered by his brother M/M S Herbert

**May Their Memories Be Eternal**

**Vigil Cross Candles – 9/20/20:**

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**Please remember in your prayers:**

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Theodosius (Retired – Metropolitan of All-America and Canada) as his health has been drastically declining.

The newly baptized Owen Brown (August 29) and his parents Micah & Danielle and siblings Lydia, Everet & Thaddeus. May God Grant Owen and the Brown Family Many Blessed Years!

The infant child Theodore Charles Parsells (born August 23) and his parents Peter & Heather and big brother Luke. May God Grant Theodore and the Parsells Family Many Blessed Years!

Jerome and Darcy Stafford who were chrismated last month (Thursday, August 6 – Feast of the Transfiguration) and for their children Ilija and Moses who were also baptized and chrismated last month (Saturday, August 15 – Feast of the Dormition). May God Grant the Stafford Family Many Blessed Years!

Grace Corba; Protodeacon Joseph Edwards; The Gerty Family; Ronald Kavalkovich (continuous recovery); Jane Kelly (recovery); Sheba Patton (recovery); Darcy Stafford and her unborn child; Father John Bohush (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces! Father Vincent Saverion (2 year anniversary of his passing away); Robert Helms (2 year anniversary of his passing away)

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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 (September)**

Week of Sun Sep 13 to Sat Sep 19

September Month-to-Date

Attendance:	44	42 (average)
<i>(COVID19 Pandemic Limitations on gathering of groups of no more than 50 people)</i>		
Funds In:	\$ 3,908.08	\$ 6,924.73
Funds Out:	\$ 3,245.19	\$ 5,458.30
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 662.89	\$ 1,466.43

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

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month** – Monthly Panikhida immediately after Divine Liturgy.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month** – Bible Study at 6:30pm in church basement.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month** – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy.  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month** – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month** – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each quarter** – Quarterly Parish Council Meeting after Liturgy.

### **Readers Schedule:**

	Today (Sep 27)	Next Week (Oct 4)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Hour :	Lena Helen	Matthew Andrews
6 <sup>th</sup> Hour:	David Pellack	Lena Helen
Epistle:	Michael Wanenchak	David Albrecht

### **Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:**

Today (Sep 27): Saint Elizabeth - New Martyr  
(Emily Gerasimoff & Sandra Hourahan).

Next Week (Oct 4): Saint John Kochurov  
(Daria and Rick LeRoy, Michael Wanenchak).

**(NOTE: The parish has now resumed the Fellowship Coffee Hour in its normal fashion and is continuing with the Team cycle).**

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

**TODAY – Special Parish Meeting to be held after Divine Liturgy! Only ONE topic on the agenda will be discussed: Repairs to the concrete sidewalk on the Snyder Avenue side of the parish.**

**TODAY - Sunday Church School class will be held after communion.**

### **Saturday, October 24 from 10AM to 3PM– FALL Clean-Up Day Outside of the Parish Properties!**

With the beauty of Autumn comes the falling of the leaves, so the Parish Council and Property Committee are asking everyone available to join them on Saturday, October 24 to help clean up outside the parish properties. Bring your energy, face mask, work gloves, rakes, trash bags, pruners, clippers, loppers, hedge trimmers, weed wackers, etc... Your assistance will be very much appreciated.

*Rain Date: Saturday, October 31 from 10AM to 3PM*



## **Martyr Callistratus and 49 companions** [September 27<sup>th</sup>]

Saint Callistratus was a native of Carthage. An ancestor of Saint Callistratus, Neochorus, had served under the emperor Tiberius in Palestine, under the command of Pontius Pilate, the procurator of Judea, and was a witness to the suffering on the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, His voluntary death and glorious Resurrection.

The saint's father was a Christian, and he raised his son in faith and piety. Also like his father, Saint Callistratus became a soldier and excelled among his pagan military comrades by his good conduct and gentle

disposition.

At night when everyone slept, he usually stayed up at prayer. Once, a soldier sleeping nearby heard Saint Callistratus invoking the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and he reported this to the military commander, who in turn summoned Callistratus, interrogated him and wanted to make him offer sacrifice to idols. The saint resolutely refused to do this, so the military commander ordered that the saint be beaten. Then, covered with wounds, the saint was dragged over sharp stones. The beating and the torments did not sway the firm will and brave endurance of the sufferer.

The saint was sewn up in a leather sack and drowned in the sea. By God's mercy, however, the sack struck a sharp rock and was torn open. Saint Callistratus came to dry land unharmed, carried by dolphins. Viewing such a miracle, forty-nine soldiers came to believe in Christ. Then the military commander threw Saint Callistratus and the believing soldiers into prison. Before this, all of them were subjected to innumerable floggings.

In jail Saint Callistratus continued to preach the Word of God to the soldiers and he bolstered their spirits for martyrdom. Summoned again before the military commander, the sufferers firmly confessed their faith in Christ, after which they were bound hand and foot and thrown into the depths of a great lake behind a dam. But there their bonds broke, and with bright faces the holy martyrs stood in the water, rejoicing in their Baptism, which coincided with the act of martyrdom.

Beautiful bright crowns appeared over their heads, and all heard a voice: "Be brave, Callistratus, with your company, and come rest in the eternal habitations." At the same time, the earth shuddered and an idol standing nearby fell down and smashed. Seeing this, another 135 soldiers also believed in the Lord Jesus Christ. The military commander, fearing a mutiny in the army, did not put them on trial, but again imprisoned Saint Callistratus with his 49 companions, where they fervently prayed and gave thanks to the Creator for giving them power to endure such sufferings.

At night the martyrs were cut to pieces with swords by order of the military commander. Their holy relics were buried by the 135 soldiers who remained alive. Later, a church was built on the spot of their sufferings, as Saint Callistratus had foretold.