

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, November 1, 2020 | 21st Sunday After Pentecost
Tone 4 – Holy Wonderworkers & Unmercenaries Cosmas & Damian.
Hieromartyrs John the Bishop and Jacob (James) the Presbyter.
Martyrs Cyrenia and Juliana in Cilicia (4th c.).

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

615 West 11th Street | New Castle, DE 19720-6020
Phone: Home: 302.322.0943 | Mobile: 302.547.4952
Email: 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: Final Day to order “extra” 2021 Calendars!
- Today: Fall General Parish Meeting after Divine Liturgy and fellowship coffee hour in the church basement. The election of 2021-22 officers will take place at this meeting, along with discussions about the parish owned properties.
- Tuesday: November 3 – Election Day (Make sure you Vote!!!)
- Saturday: November 7 - Great Vespers at **4:00PM!**
- Sunday: November 8 – Synaxis of the Archangel Michael
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy
- Tuesday: November 10 - Bible Study at **6:30PM** in the church basement.
Social Distancing guidelines will be followed!

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 4)

When the women disciples of the Lord / learned from the angel the joyous message of thy Resurrection, / they cast away the ancestral curse / and elatedly told the apostles: / “Death is overthrown! / Christ God is risen, // granting the world great mercy!”

Troparion (Tone 8 – Saints Cosmas & Damian)

O holy Unmercenaries and Wonderworkers, / O Cosmas and Damian, heal our infirmities. // Freely ye have received; freely ye give unto us.

Kontakion (Tone 4)

My Savior and Redeemer / as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. / He has shattered the gates of hell, / and as Master, // He has risen on the third day!

Kontakion (Tone 2 – Saints Cosmas & Damian)

Having received the grace of healing, / ye grant healing to those in need. / Glorious wonder-workers and healers, Cosmas and Damian, / visit us and put down the insolence of our enemies, // and bring healing to the world through your miracles!

Prokeimenon (Tone 4)

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works / in wisdom hast Thou made them all!
v. Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, Thou art very great!

Epistle Reading: Galatians 2:16-20

Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 4)

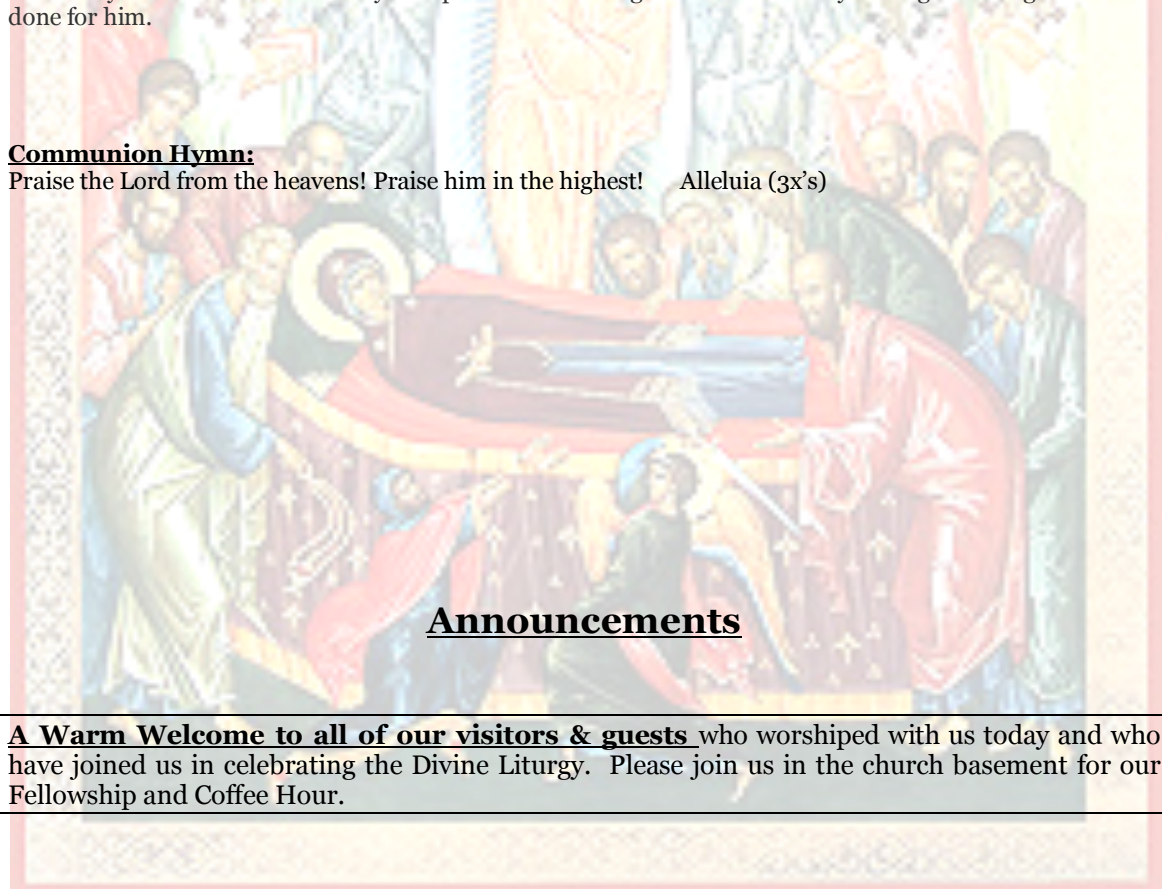
v. Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth! Alleluia (3x's)
v. For Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest iniquity. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Luke 8:26-39

Then they sailed to the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee. And when He stepped out on the land, there met Him a certain man from the city who had demons for a long time. And he wore no clothes, nor did he live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before Him, and with a loud voice said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You, do not torment me!" For He had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For it had often seized him, and he was kept under guard, bound with chains and shackles; and he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the wilderness. Jesus asked him, saying, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," because many demons had entered him. And they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the abyss. Now a herd of many swine was feeding there on the mountain. So they begged Him that He would permit them to enter them. And He permitted them. Then the demons went out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the lake and drowned. When those who fed them saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. Then they went out to see what had happened, and came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. They also who had seen it told them by what means he who had been demon-possessed was healed. Then the whole multitude of the surrounding region of the Gadarenes asked Him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. And He got into the boat and returned. Now the man from whom the demons had departed begged Him that he might be with Him. But Jesus sent him away, saying, Return to your own house, and tell what great things God has done for you. And he went his way and proclaimed throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.

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

2021 Saint Tikhon's Monastery Calendar – FINAL Day of Taking orders:

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 "extras" 2021 St Tikhon's calendars is \$6 per calendar.
The deadline for ordering these calendars is **TODAY!**

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 = \$520 Thank you for your support!

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!

Sidewalk Repair Donations (Week of October 25):

Small Block – Joseph Rabik

Small Block – John Spack

Sidewalk Repair Donation – Deacon Michael & Matushka Janine McCartney

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

David Albrecht Sr offered by Nina Patterson
Anthony Coan, Dorthy Makara, Matthew Andrews, David Andrews, and Alexander Kavalkovich
offered by Catherine Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

John Herbert offered by M/M Herbert

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 10/25/20:

One Large Votive Crosses – Memory of Richard Coan & Albert Kavalkovich offered by Anna Coan.

Health of Anthony Coan Dorothy Makara, Barbara Andrews
Ronald Andrew Kavalkovich, Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich
offered by Anna Coan

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Please remember in your prayers:

+ His Beatitude, Metropolitan Theodosius who fell asleep in the Lord on Monday, October 19.
May His Memory Be Eternal! Vetchnaya Pamyat!

His Eminence Archbishop David of Sitka and Alaska, who has been diagnosis with renal cancer.
Archbishop David served as a priest in our diocese in Old Forge, Pottstown, and Bethlehem; and
also served as Dean of the Philadelphia Deanery.

The newly baptized Theodore Charles Parsells (October 17) and his parents Peter & Heather and
big brother Luke. May God Grant Theodore, the Parsells Family, and Godparents Matthew
Andrews and Tanya Krawchuk Many Blessed Years!

Grace Corba; Protodeacon Joseph Edwards; The Gerty Family; Ronald Kavalkovich (continuous
recovery); Jane Kelly (recovery); Sheba Patton (recovery); Luke Emmanuel Parsells (Birthday
Today); Darcy Stafford 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 (October)

Week of Sun Oct 18 to Sat Oct 24

October Month-to-Date

Attendance:	40	40 (average)
<i>(COVID19 Pandemic Limitations on gathering of groups of no more than 50 people)</i>		
Funds In:	\$ 9,647.00	\$13,115.01
Funds Out:	\$ 0.00	\$11,585.34
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 9,647.00	\$ 1,529.67

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:

	<u>Today (Nov 1)</u>	<u>Next Week (Nov 8)</u>
3 rd Hour :	Lena Helen	Matthew Andrews
6 th Hour:	David Pellack	David Albrecht
Epistle:	John Spack	Subdeacon D. Kavalkovich and David Pellack

Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

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

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

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

Today – Final Day to order “Extra” 2021 Calendars

Today, November 1 – Fall General Parish Meeting to be held after Divine Liturgy! This meeting will include the election of parish officers for the following positions: Vice-President (Lena Helen), Treasurer (Ken Kavalkovich), Trustee (Odd Year Term) – (Martha Palubniak). Please remember these are 2-year terms covering 2021-2022 calendar years.

Tuesday, November 3 – Election Day! If voting by mail, ensure your ballot is signed and mail with postmark by this date!

Tuesday, November 10 – Bible Study at 6:30PM in Church Basement and on the ZOOM Media platform.

Saturday, November 14 – Parish Silent Auction and Baking Project

Sunday, November 15 – Property Committee Meeting after Liturgy

Sunday, November 15 – Deacon’s Turkey for the Food Pantry Project
(Frozen Turkey Donations to be accepted on this day)



Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenary Physicians Cosmas & Damian [November 1st]

The Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenary Physicians Cosmas and Damian and their mother St Theodota were natives of Asia Minor (some sources say Mesopotamia). Their pagan father died while they were still quite small children. Their mother raised them in Christian piety. Through her own example, and by reading holy books to them, St Theodota preserved her children in purity of life according to the command of the Lord, and Cosmas and Damian grew up into righteous and virtuous men.

Trained and skilled as physicians, they received from the Holy Spirit the gift of healing people's illnesses of body and soul by the power of prayer. They even treated animals. With fervent love for both God and neighbor, they never took payment for their services. They strictly observed the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Freely have you received, freely give." (Mt. 10:8). The fame of Sts Cosmas and Damian spread

throughout all the surrounding region, and people called them unmercenary physicians.

Once, the saints were summoned to a grievously ill woman named Palladia, whom all the doctors had refused to treat because of her seemingly hopeless condition. Through faith and through the fervent prayer of the holy brothers, the Lord healed the deadly disease and Palladia got up from her bed perfectly healthy and giving praise to God. In gratitude for being healed and wishing to give them a small gift, Palladia went quietly to Damian. She presented him with three eggs and said, "Take this small gift in the Name of the Holy Life-Creating Trinity, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit." Hearing the Name of the Holy Trinity, the unmercenary one did not dare to refuse.

When St Cosmas learned what had happened, became very sad, for he thought that his brother had broken their strict vow. On his deathbed he gave instructions that his brother should not be buried beside him. St Damian also died shortly afterward, and everyone wondered where St Damian's grave should be. But through the will of God a miracle occurred. A camel, which the saints had treated for its wildness, spoke with a human voice saying that they should have no doubts about whether to place Damian beside Cosmas, because Damian did not accept the eggs from the woman as payment, but out of respect for the Name of God. The venerable relics of the holy brothers were buried together at Thereman (Mesopotamia).

Many miracles were worked after the death of the holy unmercenary physicians. There lived at Thereman, near the church of Cosmas and Damian, a certain man by the name of Malchus. One day he went on a journey, leaving his wife all alone for what would be a long time. He prayerfully entrusted her to the heavenly protection of the holy brothers. But the Enemy of the race of mankind took on the appearance of one of Malchus' friends, and planned to kill the woman. A certain time went by, and this man went to her at home and said that Malchus had sent him to bring her to him. The woman believed him and went along. He led her to a solitary place intending to kill her. The woman, seeing that disaster threatened her, called upon God with deep faith.

Two fierce men then appeared, and the devil let go of the woman and fled, falling off a cliff. The two men led the woman home. At her own home, bowing to them deeply she asked, "My rescuers, to whom I shall be grateful to the end of my days, what are your names?"

They replied, "We are the servants of Christ, Cosmas and Damian," and became invisible. The woman with trembling and with joy told everyone about what had happened to her. Glorifying God, she went up to the icon of the holy brothers and tearfully offered prayers of thanksgiving for her deliverance. And from that time the holy brothers were venerated as protectors of the holiness and inviolability of Christian marriage, and as givers of harmony to conjugal life. From ancient times, their veneration spread also to Russia.

The Unmercenary Saints Cosmas and Damian of Asia Minor should not be confused with the Unmercenary Saints Cosmas and Damian of Rome (July 1), or the Unmercenary Saints Cosmas and Damian of Arabia (October 17).