

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, May 2, 2021 | HOLY PASCHA
The Resurrection of Our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ
(Beginning of the Pentecostarion)
CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

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 (Bright Week!)
(NO FASTING THIS WEEK!!!!)

Today: Resume collecting donations by baskets
Today: **NO** Pascha Vespers after the Blessing of Easter Baskets

No Services to be held at the parish during Bright Week!

Saturday: May 8 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM**
Sunday: May 9 – AntiPascha. 2nd Sunday of Pascha
St. Thomas Sunday.

Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy
(CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!!!)

Sunday: May 16 - Blessing of Graves at Mount Moriah Cemetery
(For those that stay at the cemetery after the grave blessing, a Paschal picnic will be held near the Spack family gravesite)
(Weather Permitting!!!)

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion

Christ is risen from the dead, / trampling down death by death, / and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

Hypakoe (Tone 8)

Before the dawn Mary and the women / came and found the stone rolled away from the tomb. / They heard the angelic voice: “Why do ye seek among the dead as a Man / the One Who is everlasting Light? / Behold the clothes in the grave; go and proclaim to the world: / “The Lord is risen; He has slain death, // as He is the Son of God, saving the race of man.”

Kontakion (Tone 8)

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, / Thou didst destroy the power of death. / In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, / proclaiming, “Rejoice!” to the Myrrhbearing Women, // granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

(In Place of the Trisagion, we sing:)

As many as have been baptized into Christ, / have put on Christ.
Alleluia. (3x's)

Prokeimenon (Tone 8)

This is the day which the Lord has made! / Let us rejoice and be glad in it!
v. O give thanks to the Lord for He is good; for His mercy endures forever!

Epistle Reading: Acts 1:1-8

The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” He said, “you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now. Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 4)

v. Thou didst arise and have mercy on Zion. Alleluia (3x's)
v. The Lord looked down from heaven and saw all the sons of men. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: John 1:1-17

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.'" And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

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

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace: / "Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: Rejoice, / Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb! / With Himself He has raised all the dead." / Rejoice, O ye people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem! / The glory of the Lord has shone on you. / Exult now, / and be glad, O Zion! / Be radiant, / O pure Theotokos, / in the Resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymn:

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality! 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

Vigil Cross Candles – Palm Sunday to Pascha

Palm Sunday (April 25)

One Large Votive Cross – Health of Entire Gerasimoff, Kavalkovich, Coan, & Andrews Families offered by Edward Gerasimoff, Catherine Kavalkovich, Anna Coan, & Barbara Andrews

One Large Votive Cross – Memory of Entire Gerasimoff, Kavalkovich, Coan, & Andrews Families offered by Edward Gerasimoff, Catherine Kavalkovich, Anna Coan, & Barbara Andrews

Bridegroom Matins (April 26)

One Large Votive Cross – Memory of Anna McCartney & Mary O'brazik offered by Deacon Michael & Matushka Janine McCartney

One Large Votive Cross – Memory of Margaret & Stephen Perzsel offered by Deacon Michael & Matushka Janine McCartney

Bridegroom Matins (April 27)

One Large Votive Cross – Memory of Anna McCartney & Mary O'brazik offered by Deacon Michael & Matushka Janine McCartney

One Large Votive Cross – Memory of Margaret & Stephen Perzsel offered by Deacon Michael & Matushka Janine McCartney

Holy Thursday Morning (April 29)

Two Large Votive Crosses – Memory of Anna McCartney, Mary O'brazik, & Margaret & Stephen Perzsel offered by Deacon Michael & Matushka Janine McCartney

Holy Thursday Evening (April 29)

One Large Votive Cross – Memory of Margaret Pellack on the anniversary of her falling asleep offered by The Pellack & Walker Families

One Large Votive Cross – Memory of Anna McCartney & Mary O'brazik offered by Deacon Michael & Matushka Janine McCartney

Holy Friday (April 30)

One Small Votive Cross – Memory of Paul & Irene, Arthur & Grace, Stephen & Mary, and Michael & Julia offered by Nina Patterson

One Small Votive Cross – Memory of Entire Spack, Slivka, & Kozlowski Families offered by John Spack

One Large Votive Cross – Memory of Margaret & Stephen Perzsel offered by Deacon Michael & Matushka Janine McCartney

Pascha (May 2)

One Large Votive Cross – Memory of the Pellack & Zuzulock Families offered by The Pellack & Walker Families

One Large Votive Cross – Memory of the Herbert, Macalush, O'Shura, & Ovington Families offered by The Herbert Families

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Peggy Pellack-Walker offered by David Pellack
Family and Friends offered by Nina Patterson
Brendan Herbert offered by grandparents M/M Herbert
Sandra Hourahan (goddaughter) offered by M/M Herbert
Health of Family & Friends offered by John Pellack & Family
Health of Lena, William, and Paul offered by their Family
Subdeacon Daniel (Ken), the Clergy, Anastasia, Colin, Alexander, Selena, Patricia, Catherine, Marc Jr., Trisha, Kathleen, Family & Friends offered by M/M K Kavalkovich and Family

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Sarah (Robert) Wanenchak's grandfather offered by Robert Wanenchak
Maxim Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
David O'Shura offered by M/M Herbert

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 4/25/21:

(See previous page for Vigil Cross Candle donations from this past week!)

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Please remember in your prayers:

+ Mitred Archpriest Basil Summer (Mar 26); Allison (Christopher) Andrews and her unborn child; Allison (David) Andrews and her unborn child; Christina (Matthew) Andrews and her unborn child; Grace Corba; Protodeacon Joseph Edwards; The Gerty Family; Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich (recovery); Ronald Kavalkovich (continuous recovery); Jane Kelly (recovery); Sheba Patton (recovery); Father John Bohush (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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Sidewalk Repair Donations (Week of April 25):

Sidewalk Repair Block Donation – \$41 from the Candy Sale

In Memory of Michael and Mary Popelak: Sidewalk Repair Block Donation
– SMSgt Andrew and Tracy DeVito

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 this month – Pascha (Easter) Offering**
- 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 (April)

Week of Sun Apr 18 to Sat Apr 24

April Month to Date

Attendance:	42	39 (average)
<i>(COVID19 Pandemic Limitations on gathering of groups of no more than 50 people)</i>		
Funds In:	\$ 2,470.00	\$ 6,897.84
Funds Out:	\$ 345.72	\$ 5,613.51
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 2,124.28	\$ 1,284.33

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 (May 2) - Pascha</u>	<u>Next Week (May 9)</u>
3 rd Hour :	Hours not read on Pascha	Lena Helen
6 th Hour:	Hours not read on Pascha	Matthew Andrews
Epistle:	Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich	Michael Spack

Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

As a result of new Covid restrictions set by City of Philadelphia officials on Monday, November 16 which went into effect on Friday, November 20, the formal coffee hour event held after Sunday Divine Liturgy has been suspended until further notice.

Once city officials ease restrictions relating to Covid, coffee hour will then resume.

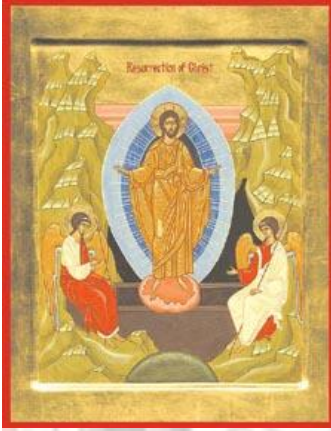
When the coffee hour resumes (currently not until at least June 2021), a new coffee schedule with new team parishioners will be in the rotation as per the action taken during the Fall General Parish Meeting held back on Sunday, November 1.

Please continue to check our parish website, social media pages, and your emails regularly for updated information on the parish regarding parish services in May 2021.

- Tuesday, May 11 – Bible Study in the church basement & on Zoom at 6:30PM
- Sunday, May 16 - Blessing of the Graves at Mount Moriah Cemetery
(Weather Permitting) – Note the Change in the Date

Attendance during Holy Week

- Monday (4/26) Bridegroom Matins Service = 25
- Tuesday (4/27) Bridegroom Matins Service = 16
- Thursday (4/29) - Vespertal Divine Liturgy = 20
- Thursday (4/29) – Friday Matins with 12 Passion Gospels = 24
- Friday (4/30) – Vespers, Matins with Lamentations (Procession) = 38
- Saturday (5/1) – Vespers with Divine Liturgy with all 15 OT Readings = **33 (WOW!)**



The Resurrection of Our Lord (HOLY PASCHA (Easter))

[May 2nd]

Enjoy ye all the feast of faith; receive ye all the riches of loving-kindness.
(Sermon of St John Chrysostom, read at Paschal Matins)

The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the center of the Christian faith. St Paul says that if Christ is not raised from the dead, then our preaching and faith are in vain (I Cor. 15:14). Indeed, without the resurrection there would be no Christian preaching or faith.

The disciples of Christ would have remained the broken and hopeless band which the Gospel of John describes as being in hiding behind locked doors for fear of the Jews. They went nowhere and preached nothing until they met the risen Christ, the doors being shut (John 20: 19). Then they touched the wounds of the nails and the spear; they ate and drank with Him. The resurrection became the basis of everything they said and did (Acts 2-4): “. . . for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have” (Luke 24:39).

The resurrection reveals Jesus of Nazareth as not only the expected Messiah of Israel, but as the King and Lord of a new Jerusalem: a new heaven and a new earth.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. . . the holy city, new Jerusalem. And I heard a great voice from the throne saying “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people. . . He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away (Rev. 21:1-4).

In His death and resurrection, Christ defeats the last enemy, death, and thereby fulfills the mandate of His Father to subject all things under His feet (I Cor. 15:24-26).

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing (Rev. 5: 12).

THE FEAST OF FEASTS

The Christian faith is celebrated in the liturgy of the Church. True celebration is always a living participation. It is not a mere attendance at services. It is communion in the power of the event being celebrated. It is God’s free gift of joy given to spiritual men as a reward for their self-denial. It is the fulfillment of spiritual and physical effort and preparation. The resurrection of Christ, being the center of the Christian faith, is the basis of the Church’s liturgical life and the true model for all celebration. This is the chosen and holy day, first of sabbaths, king and lord of days, the feast of feasts, holy day of holy days. On this day we bless Christ forevermore (Irmos 8, Paschal Canon). **CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!**