

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, September 5, 2021 | 11th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 2 – Holy Prophet Zachariah and Righteous Elizabeth,
parents of Saint John the Baptist.
Martyr Tathull, and his sister, Bebala (98-138)

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

Tuesday: September 7 – Vespers Divine Liturgy at **6:00PM** for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Most-Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary.

Saturday: September 11 – 20th Anniversary of the terrorist attacks on American soil.
REMEMBER 9-11 – NEVER FORGET!!!

Saturday: September 11 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM**

Sunday: September 12 – Hieromartyr Autonomus, Bishop of Italy
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – **10:00am**
Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Monday: September 13 - Vespers Divine Liturgy at **6:00PM** for the Universal Exaltation of the Precious & Life-Giving Cross (September 14 - **STRICT FAST DAY!**)

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 2)

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, / Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. / And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, / all the powers of heaven cried out: // “O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

Troparion (Tone 4 – Prophet Zachariah)

Robed in the vestments of the priesthood, / according to the Law of God thou didst offer whole-burnt offerings in a sacred manner, wise Zachariah. / Thou didst become a luminary and a seer of the mysteries, / bearing within thyself the signs of grace, all-wise one. / Slain by the sword in the temple of God, O prophet of Christ, / intercede together with the Forerrunner // that our souls may be saved!

Kontakion (Tone 2)

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior, / seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb! / The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee, // and the world, my Savior, praises Thee forever.

Kontakion (Tone 3 – Prophet Zachariah)

Today the prophet Zachariah, priest of the Most High / and parent of the Forerrunner, / has prepared a banquet to his memory to nourish the faithful, / mixing the drink of righteousness. // Therefore we praise him as a divine initiate of the grace of God.

Prokeimenon (Tone 2)

The Lord is my strength and my song; / He has become my salvation.
v. The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:2-12

If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. My defense to those who examine me is this: Do we have no right to eat and drink? Do we have no right to take along a believing wife, as do also the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working? Who ever goes to war at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat of its fruit? Or who tends a flock and does not drink of the milk of the flock? Do I say these things as a mere man? Or does not the law say the same also? For it is written in the law of Moses, “You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain.” Is it oxen God is concerned about? Or does He say it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written, that he who plows should plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope should be partaker of his hope. If we have sown spiritual things for you, is it a great thing if we reap your material things? If others are partakers of this right over you, are we not even more? Nevertheless we have not used this right, but endure all things lest we hinder the gospel of Christ. Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 2)

- v. May the Lord hear thee in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect thee! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call to Thee! Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:23-35

Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!' So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. 'Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?' And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.

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

COVID Protocol – City of Philadelphia – MASK Policy for Indoors Facilities

This is the parish policy regarding wearing mask inside the church effective as of August 15, 2021:

Request that parishioners wear masks from the entrance to the church to the pews and whenever walking around the church. This includes waiting in line for communion and the cross veneration. At the pews masks are optional.

Our plan follows the same restrictions for small businesses in the City of Philadelphia

May God bless you and keep you and your families safe and well during this time. We pray for all of you at our Divine Liturgies.

CARDS FOR OUR TROOPS! – CHRISTMAS CARD PROJECT

It is now September and the Christmas Card Project group will be finalizing putting Christmas cards together by the end of this month. They are looking to send out all the cards before mid-October in order for our troops to receive them in a timely manner over the Christmas season. If you wish to assist in finalizing this year's project, please speak with Matushka Janine or anyone on the Charity Committee. As always, Thank You for your help and generosity of your time!

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!

This past Wednesday, our region was inundated with the remnants of Hurricane Ida. The storms that came across our region dropped heavy rains, high winds, and a few tornados that touched down in a few areas in Pennsylvania and two areas in New Jersey. Much damaged was caused by this torrential storm with many areas flooded, property destroyed, and unfortunately, a few lives lost. Please remember those in your prayers and be thankful if you and your loved ones survived unharmed.

+ Mitred Archpriest Sergie Glagolev (September 1)
May the Mitred Archpriest Sergie Glagolev's Memory Be Eternal!

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Brianna Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
Lynn Brubaker offered by David Pellack
Jane Kelly offered by Nina Patterson
Frank Boyle offered by David Pellack
Infant Gabriel, Matthew, Christina, Anastasia, Colin, Alexander, Selena, Kenneth, Barbara, Ronald, Catherine, Patricia, Elton, Scarlett, Susan, John, Family and Friends offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Infant Gabriel, Christina, Matthew offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Anne (Homa) Killoran and Ron Homa offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Patricia and Angelo (safe travels) offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Matthew Kean (safe deployment) offered by M/M K Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Kevin Acevedo offered by Ashley-Kristine Essey

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 8/29/21:

One Small Vigil Cross – Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Michael Pellack offered by Pellack & Walker Families

One Small Vigil Cross – Memory of Mr. & Mrs. John Pellack offered by Pellack & Walker Families

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Please remember in your prayers:

Infant child Gabriel Matthew Andrews (born August 27) and his parents Matthew & Christina. May God Grant Gabriel Matthew & his family Many Blessed Years!

Grace Corba; Protodeacon Joseph Edwards; Edward Gerasimoff (recovery); The Gerty Family; Ronald Kavalkovich (continuous recovery); Jane Kelly (recovery); Anne (Homa) Killoran (surgery); Sheba Patton (recovery); 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. By the action taken at the Spring General Parish Meeting held on Sunday, June 13, the parish body approved that all future special collections be earmarked towards the repairing/fixing/replacing of the roofs of both houses that the parish owns (this collection will begin on Sunday, June 20).

The funds collected from your donations will assist in underwriting the cost to repair/fix/replace the roofs of both houses.

Please take note; the above-approved action did **NOT** affect the current financial balances of the other Funds the parish collected for as of June 13, 2021 (i.e. Kitchen, Youth, Restoration, & Charity).

Please be generous with your offering. Every little bit counts. Thank You!

Cash Flow Activity (August)

<u>Week of Sun Aug 22 to Sat Aug 28</u>	<u>August Month to Date</u>
Attendance: 22	29 (average)
Funds In: \$ 2,490.05	\$ 7,892.04
Funds Out: (\$ 350.61) <i>payment adjustment</i>	\$ 4,113.70
Net Surplus/(Deficit): \$ 2,840.66	\$ 3,778.34

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 (Sep 5)</u>	<u>Next Week (Sep 12)</u>
3 rd Hour :	Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich	Anthony Colona
6 th Hour:	Michael Spack	Matthew Andrews
Epistle:	Dr. David Albrecht	Reader Mark Klus and Michael Wanenchak

Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

Today (Sep 5): No Team Scheduled (Labor Day Weekend)
[Please Note: Coffee will be made & available...just no food]

Next Week (Sep 12): Saint Raphael of Brooklyn
(Brett McKenna, Tanya Krawchuk, Darcy Stafford, Jerome Stafford)

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

From Now until at least the end of September
Christmas Card Project has started (Putting cards together)

Monday, September 13 – Vespers Divine Liturgy at 6:00PM for the Exaltation of the Precious Cross [Strict Fast Day on September 14]

Tuesday, September 14 – Bible Study at 6:30pm in the church basement and on the ZOOM media platform



Holy Prophet Zachariah and Righteous Elizabeth, parents of Saint John the Baptist [September 5th]

The Holy Prophet Zachariah and the Righteous Elizabeth were the parents of the holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John. They were descended from the lineage of Aaron: Saint Zachariah, son of Barach, was a priest in the Jerusalem Temple, and Saint Elizabeth was the sister of Saint Anna, the mother of the Most Holy Theotokos. The righteous spouses, “walking in all the commandments of the Lord” (Luke 1:6), suffered barrenness, which in those times was considered a punishment from God.

Once, during his turn of priestly service in the Temple, Saint Zachariah was told by an angel that his aged wife would bear him a son, who “will be great in the sight of the Lord” (Luke 1:15) and “will go before Him in the spirit and power of Elias” (Luke 1:17).

Zachariah doubted that this prediction would come true, and for his weakness of faith he was punished by becoming mute. When Elizabeth gave birth to a son, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit she announced that his name was John, although no one in their family had this name.

They asked Zachariah and he also wrote the name John down on a tablet. Immediately the gift of speech returned to him, and inspired by the Holy Spirit, he began to prophesy about his son as the Forerunner of the Lord.

When King Herod heard from the Magi about the birth of the Messiah, he decided to kill all the infants up to two years old at Bethlehem and the surrounding area, hoping that the new-born Messiah would be among them.

Herod knew about John’s unusual birth and he wanted to kill him, fearing that he was the foretold King of the Jews. But Elizabeth hid herself and the infant in the hills. The murderers searched everywhere for John. Elizabeth, when she saw her pursuers, began to implore God for their safety, and immediately the hill opened up and concealed her and the infant from their pursuers.

In these tragic days Saint Zachariah was taking his turn at the services in the Temple. Soldiers sent by Herod tried in vain to learn from him the whereabouts of his son. Then, by command of Herod, they murdered this holy prophet, having stabbed him between the temple and the altar (MT 23: 35). Elizabeth died forty days after her husband, and Saint John, preserved by the Lord, dwelt in the wilderness until the day of his appearance to the nation of Israel.