

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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Mailing Address: PO Box 20083 * Point Breeze Station | Philadelphia PA 19145-0383

Sunday, December 19, 2021 | 26th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 1 – Sunday of the Holy Fathers
Sunday Before the Nativity of Jesus Christ
Martyr Boniface at Tarsus in Cilicia

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

Today: Final Day of the Saint Nicholas Fair after Divine Liturgy until 2:00PM

Friday: December 24 – Eve of the Nativity of Christ! Great Complines
and Matins (Condensed Version) at **3:00PM.**

Saturday: December 25 – The Nativity According to the Flesh of
Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (Christmas)!
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am

From Christmas Day until January 4, inclusive, there is a general dispensation from all fasting!

Saturday: December 25 – Great Vespers at ~~4:00PM~~ **CANCELLED**

Sunday: December 26 – Sunday after the Nativity
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – **10:00am**
Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 1)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, / while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: / “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom! // Glory to Thy dispensation, O thou who lovest of mankind!”

Troparion (Tone 2 – Holy Fathers)

Great are the accomplishments of faith, / for the three Holy Youths rejoice in the fountain of flames as though in the waters of rest; / and the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. // So by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls!

Kontakion (Tone 6 – Holy Fathers)

You did not worship the graven image, / O thrice-blessed ones, / but armed with the immaterial Essence of God, / you were glorified in a trial by fire. / From the midst of unbearable flames you called on God, crying: / “Hasten, O compassionate One! / Speedily come to our aid, // for Thou art merciful and able to do as Thou dost will!”

Prokeimenon (Tone 4 – Holy Fathers)

Blessed are Thou, O Lord God of our Fathers, / and praised and glorified is Thy name forever!
v. For Thou are just in all that Thou has done for us!

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 11:9-10, 17-23, 32-40 (Sunday Before)

By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, “In Isaac your seed shall be called,” concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff. By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel, and gave instructions concerning his bones. By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king’s command. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. Alleluia (3x’s) (Tone 4)

- v. We have heard with our ears, O God, for our fathers have told us. Alleluia (3x's)
- v. For Thou hast saved us from them that oppose us, and hast put to shame them that hate us. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 1:1-25 (Sunday Before)

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins. So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, "God with us." Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!
Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the upright! 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

As we head into the Nativity season at the end of this week coming up, please keep in your prayers all of those who lost their lives, those who are homeless, and those whose lives have forever changed after the devastation of tornados that slammed down into the Midwest region of the United States, and especially in the states of Tennessee and Kentucky, this past week. As you have either read or heard, many perished in Kentucky who worked in a candle factory in Mayfield, KY, and in Illinois, six people were killed when a Amazon fulfillment facility collapsed.

TODAY is the FINAL DAY - Parish's Saint Nicholas Fair

The parish will have the Saint Nicholas Fair to support the parish HVAC Project. We are collecting new items and unused items (PLEASE, nothing used!) for sale at the fair. We are also accepting crafts, and baked goods for sale. Please see Matushka Janine if you would like to help to donate. Matushka Janine has a sign-up sheet for baked goods. We had a great time last year and raised a little over \$3,200 for the HVAC project. Please consider joining us!

This year, there will be handmade, natural soaps for sale until **December 19**. The types of soaps include: honey orange, goats milk unscented, shea butter, francenscence, lavender oatmeal, and men's chappareal soap. Soap cost is \$3 to \$4 per bar. Orders are accepted. No supply chain issues with soap orders! These make great Christmas presents. See Matushka Janine for samples and to purchase.

FINAL DAY is TODAY - 2021 Parish Christmas Card

In celebration of the Feast of the Nativity, a parish Christmas card has been designed. For a \$5 donation, parishioners can have their names listed and/or a message (up to 35 characters per \$5 donation). Cards will be distributed after Liturgy on December 25th. Cards will also be mailed to shut ins and those parishioners who attend services virtually. Please see David Pellack for more details! 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!

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Family and Parishioners offered by Nina Patterson
Anastasia and her unborn child, Patricia offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Patricia, Catherine, Anna, Edward, David offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Family and Friends offered by M/M K Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Angelo, Lisa, Laura, Vito, Helen, Albert, Anne offered by M/M K Kavalkovich

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 12/12/21:

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Please remember in your prayers:

- + Newly Departed Handmaiden of God Grace Corba (Dec 14)
- + Newly Departed Handmaiden of God Lisa Colona (Nov 23)

Anthony Colona; Protodeacon Joseph Edwards; Edward Gerasimoff (recovery); The Gerty Family; Anastasia Jones and her unborn child; Ronald Kavalkovich (continuous recovery); Jane Kelly (recovery); Anne (Homa) Killoran (surgery); Sheba Patton (recovery); Joseph Rabik; Dr. Gale Rutan; Peter Witiak; Father John Bohush (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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Sidewalk Repair Donations (Week of December 12)

Sidewalk Repair Block Donation – \$0 from the Candy Sale

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 Fall General Parish Meeting held on Sunday, October 10, the parish body approved that the special collection for the first three Sundays of the month be earmarked towards the repairing/fixing/replacing of the roofs of both houses that the parish owns (now known as the Row House Fund).

The fourth Sunday (and fifth, when it occurs) the special collection will be earmarked towards Charity.

This new collection schedule will begin on Sunday, October 17.

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

Cash Flow Activity (December)

Week of Sun Dec 5 to Sat Dec 11

December Month to Date

Attendance:	43	43 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 3,523.00	\$ 4,632.70
Funds Out:	(\$ 80.88) reimbursement	\$ 2,457.26
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 3,603.88	\$ 2,175.44

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 (Dec 19)</u>	<u>Next Week (Dec 26)</u>
3 rd Hour :	Matthew Andrews	Michael Spack
6 th Hour:	Anthony Colona	Simon Herbert
Epistle:	Michael Wanenchak	Reader Mark Klus and John Spack

Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

Today (Dec 19): Saint Raphael of Brooklyn
(Brett McKenna, Tanya Krawchuk, Darcy Stafford, Jerome Stafford)

Next Week (Dec 26): No Team Scheduled (Christmas Weekend)
[Please Note: Coffee will be made & available...just no food]

PLEASE NOTE: Beginning in 2022, the Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams will no longer be listed in the bulletin. With Teams changing the week they're scheduled to host coffee hour, and in some cases, Teams not even available when scheduled, it's not the responsibility of this Bulletin to monitor the schedule changes or even schedule hosting Teams. If you have volunteered to host coffee hour, please check which team you are on and when your Team is hosting coffee hour in the red 3 ring binder which is located on the display case outside of the office room.

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 December 2021.

(TODAY - FINAL DAY) Advent Giving: We will be collecting food and cleaning supplies for Soap & Song Homeless group and Food Pantry

TODAY – Final Day of the Saint Nicholas Fair!

TODAY – Emergency parish meeting to discuss just ONE TOPIC...the proposal to repair and replace the House Roofs. The meeting will begin around 11:45AM and should around 12:15PM

Friday, December 24 – Eve of the Nativity Compline and Matin service to begin at 3:00pm.



Sunday Before the Nativity [December 19th]

Adam and Eve (the first-created), the righteous Abel, son of Adam, the righteous Seth, son of Adam, the righteous Enos, son of Seth, the righteous Kenan, son of Enos, the righteous Mehaliel (Maleleim), son of Kenan, the righteous Jared, son of Mehaliel, the righteous Enoch, son of Jared, the righteous Methuselah, son of Enoch, the righteous Lamech, son of Methuselah, the righteous Noah, son of Lamech, the righteous Shem, son of Noah, the righteous Japheth, son of Noah, the righteous Arphachshad, son of Shem, the righteous Canaan, son of Arphachshad (in some versions of the OT, Canaan is called the son of Ham), the

righteous Shelah, son of Canaan (some versions of the OT call Shelah the son of Arphachshad), the righteous Eber (from whom the Hebrews take their name), son of Shelah, the righteous Peleg, son of Eber, the righteous Ragab (Reu), son of Peleg, the righteous Serug, son of Ragab, the righteous Nahor, son of Serug, the righteous Terah, son of Serug.

The holy Patriarchs: the righteous Patriarch Abraham, son of Terah, the righteous Patriarch Isaac, son of Abraham, the righteous Patriarch Jacob, son of Isaac, the righteous Patriarch Reuben, son of Jacob and Leah, the righteous Patriarch Simeon, son of Jacob and Leah, the righteous Patriarch Levi, son of Jacob and Leah, the righteous Patriarch Judah (Christ was of this tribe), the righteous Patriarch Zebulun, son of Jacob and Leah, the righteous Patriarch Issachar, son of Jacob and Leah, the righteous Patriarch Dan, son of Jacob and Bilhah (Rachel's maid), the righteous Patriarch Gad, son of Jacob and Zilpah (Leah's maid), the righteous Patriarch Asher, son of Jacob and Zilpah, the righteous Patriarch Naphthali, son of Jacob and Bilhah, the righteous Patriarch Joseph, son of Jacob and Rachel, the righteous Patriarch Benjamin, son of Jacob and Rachel.

The righteous Pharez and Zerah, twin sons of Judah, the righteous Hezron, son of Pharez, the righteous Aram, son of Hezron, the righteous Aminadab, son of Aram, the righteous Nahshon, son of Aminadab, the righteous Salmon, son of Nahshon, the righteous Boaz, son of Salmon, the righteous Obed, son of Boaz and Ruth, the righteous Jesse, son of Obed.

The holy Prophet-King David, son of Jesse, King Solomon, son of David, King Rehoboam, son of Solomon, King Abijah, son of Rehoboam, King Asa, son of Abijah, King Jehosaphat, son of Asa, King Joram (Jehoram, an evil king), son of Jehosaphat, King Ochoziah (Ahaziah), son of Joram, King Jotham, son of Uzziah (Oziah), King Ahaz (a faithless king), son of Jotham, King Hezekiah, son of Ahaz, King Manesseh, son of Hezekiah, King Amos (Ammon), son of Manesseh, King Josiah, son of Amos, King Jechoniah, son of Josiah.

Shealtiel, son of Jechoniah, Zerubbabel (who led captives back to Jerusalem, and laid the foundations of the new Temple), son of Shealtiel, Abiud, son of Zerubbabel, Eliachem, son of Abiud, Azor, son of Eliachem, Zadok, son of Azor, Achim, son of Zadok, Eliud, son of Achim, Eleazar, son of Eliud, Matthan, son of Eleazar, Jacob, son of Matthan, St Joseph the Betrothed, son of Jacob.

The righteous Melchizedek, King of Salem, the righteous Job, the holy Prophet Moses, the priests Hur and Aaron, Joshua, son of Nun.

The holy prophet Samuel, the holy prophet Nathan, the holy prophet Daniel, the three holy youths Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.