

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, December 5, 2021 | 24th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 7 – Venerable Sabbas the Sanctified (532)
Martyr Athanasius the Fuller of Salona in Dalmatia
Venerable Kaion (Cyriion) and his son, Venerable Zachariah, of Egypt

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: Saint Nicholas Fair after Divine Liturgy until 2:00PM

Monday: December 6 – Festal Divine Liturgy at **10:00AM** for
Saint Nicholas, the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia

Wednesday: December 8 – Venerable Patapius of Thebes

Thursday: December 9 - Conception by Righteous Anna
of the Holy Theotokos

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

Sunday: December 12 – Sunday of the Holy Forefathers
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – **10:00am**
Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: December 12 - Saint Nicholas Fair continues after Divine Liturgy until 2:00PM

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 chang 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 8 – Venerable Sabbas)

By a flood of tears thou didst make the desert fertile, / and thy longing for God brought forth fruits in abundance. / By the radiance of miracles thou didst illumine the whole universe. // Our Father Sabbas, pray to Christ God to save our souls!

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 8 – Venerable Sabbas)

From thy youth thou didst offer thyself to God as a blameless sacrifice, / having been dedicated to Him before thy birth, O blessed Sabbas. / Thou wast an adornment of the righteous and a praiseworthy citizen of the desert. // Therefore, we cry to thee: “Rejoice, O ever-glorious Father!”

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!

Another Prokeimenon (Tone 7 – Venerable Sabbas)

Precious in the sight of the Lord / is the death of His saints.

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 2:14-22

For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

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)
- v. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments. [TONE 6] Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Luke 17:12-19

Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. And they lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" So when He saw them, He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan. So Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner? And He said to him, "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well."

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest!
The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings. Alleluia (3x's)

*[Note: The readings for the Venerable Sabbas are as follows:
Epistle – Galatians 5:22-6:2 and Gospel – Matthew 11:27-30]*

Eve of the Nativity of Christ Services (Great Complines and Matins (modified)) – Friday, December 24th – Time: TBD!

Once a definite time is finalized, it will be announced in church, printed in the bulletin, and noted on our social media platforms (website, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram). Thank you all for your patience with this scheduling.

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

Sundays, December 5, 12, & 19, 2021 - 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 from **Oct 31 to Dec 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.

POLICY AT THE PARSIH

As of June 13, 2021, the following are acceptable recycling items and should be placed in the **Blue** container next to the Black trash can:

- Paper and Cardboard (ensure cardboard boxes are flatten)
- Empty Plastic Bottles/Containers/Jugs (#1-2) where the neck is smaller than the base.
- Empty Glass Bottles/Jars - Empty Cartons - Empty Metal Cans

DO NOT RECYCLE THE FOLLOWING:

Aerosol Cans	Aluminum foil	Broken Glass
Bubble Wrap	Clam shell containers	Dishes
Frozen food boxes	Flower pots	Hangers (Metal or Plastic)
Hardback books	Ice cream containers	Light Bulbs
Mirrors	Paint cans (full & empty)	Paper plates/cups/towels
Pizza boxes	Plastics (#3-7)	Plastic utensils/cups
Plastic Candle Cups	Plastic bags	Pots & pans
Rigid plastic	Shredded paper	Styrofoam (All Types)
Sugar Packets	Tissue paper	Vases (Glass or Plastic)
Waxed paper	Wrapping paper	Yogurt/Food cups

All plastic and metal lids/caps - They are to be tossed into the trashcan!

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 Friends offered by Nina Patterson
Anastasia and her unborn child offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Family and Friends offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Ronald S Homa (on his birthday) offered by Catherine Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Lisa Colona offered by Father Mark & Matushka Jan Koczak
Lisa Colona offered by David Pellack
Florence Telichan offered by David Pellack
Lisa Colona and Angelo Amorso offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Lisa Colona offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Barbara Munson offered by M/M Herbert & Family

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 11/28/21:

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Please remember in your prayers:

+ Newly Departed Handmaiden of God Lisa Colona (Nov 23)

His Eminence Archbishop David (Mahaffey) on the one-year anniversary of his falling asleep; Anthony Colona; Grace Corba; 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 November 28)

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idewalk Repair Block Donation – \$15 from the Candy Sale

Memory of daughter Christy Lanahan – Anne (Homa) Killoran

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 (November)

<u>Week of Sun Nov 21 to Sat Nov 27</u>	<u>November Month to Date</u>
Attendance: 43	44 (average)
Funds In: \$ 1,704.77	\$ 7,823.77
Funds Out: \$ 0.00	\$ 4,957.51
Net Surplus/(Deficit): \$ 1,704.77	\$ 2,866.26

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 5)</u>	<u>Next Week (Dec 12)</u>
3 rd Hour :	David Pellack	John Spack
6 th Hour:	Michael Spack	Dr David Albrecht
Epistle:	Sbdn Daniel Kavalkovich and Anthony Colona	Dr David Albrecht

Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

Today (Dec 5): Saint Elizabeth the New Martyr
(Catherine Kavalkovich, Sandra Hourahan, Melanie Albrecht)

Next Week (Dec 12): Saint Herman of Alaska
(Matthew Andrews, Christina Andrews, Barbara Andrews)

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.

Advent Giving (Up until next Sunday, December 12): We will be collecting food and cleaning supplies for Soap & Song Homeless group and Food Pantry

TODAY (and Sundays December 12 and 19) - Saint Nicholas Fair!

Monday, December 13 – Repose of Saint Herman of Alaska

Tuesday, December 14 – Bible Study at 6:30pm in church basement and via Zoom media platform.

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!



Venerable Savva the Sanctified [December 5th]

Saint Savva the Sanctified was born in the fifth century at Cappadocia of pious Christian parents, John and Sophia, and his father was a military commander. Journeying to Alexandria on military matters, John and Sophia left their five-year-old son Savva in the care of an uncle. When the boy was eight years old, he entered the nearby Monastery of Saint Flavian. The gifted child quickly learned to read and became an expert on the Holy Scriptures. His parents urged Saint Savva to return to the world and enter into marriage, but all in vain.

When he was seventeen years old, he was tonsured as a monk, and attained such perfection in fasting and prayer that God found him worthy of the gift of working miracles. After spending ten years at the Monastery of Saint Flavian, he went to Jerusalem, and from there to the Monastery of Saint Euthymios the Great (January 20). Saint Euthymios, however, sent the young man to Abba Theoktistos, the head of a nearby monastery with a strict cenobitic Rule. Saint Savva lived in obedience at this monastery until the age of thirty.

After the death of Elder Theoktistos, his successor blessed Savva to seclude himself in a cave. But on Saturdays, he left his hermitage and came to the Monastery, where he took part in the Divine Services and ate with the brethren. After a certain time, Saint Savva received permission not to leave his hermitage at all, and he struggled in the cave for five years.

Saint Euthymios directed the young monk's life, and seeing his spiritual maturity, he began to take him to the Rouba wilderness with him. They left on January 14 and remained there until Palm Sunday. Saint Euthymios called Saint Savva a Child-Elder and encouraged him to grow in the monastic virtues.

When Saint Euthymios fell asleep in the Lord (+ 473), Saint Savva withdrew from the Lavra and moved to a cave near the monastery of Saint Gerasimos of Jordan (March 4). After several years, disciples began to gather around Saint Savva. As the number of monks increased, a Lavra sprang up. Guided by a pillar of fire which appeared before him as he was walking, Saint Savva found a spacious cave in the form of a church.

The holy Elder founded several more monasteries. Many miracles took place through his prayers: at the Lavra, a spring of water welled up, during a time of drought there was abundant rain, and the sick and those possessed by demons were also healed. Saint Savva composed the first monastic Rule of Church Services, the "Jerusalem Typikon," followed by all the Palestinian monasteries. The Saint surrendered his soul to God in the year 532.

Saint Savva is depicted holding a scroll which reads: "He who loves God disdains corruptible things and prefers the knowledge of Him."