

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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

Sunday, February 6, 2022 | 33rd Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 8 – Afterfeast of the Meeting of the Lord into the Temple
Sunday of Zacchaeus
Saint Bucolus, Bishop of Smyrna

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: Annual Parish Meeting after Divine Liturgy!
[Rescheduled from last Sunday due to snow & weather]
- Tuesday: Bible Study at 6:30PM in the church basement and on the ZOOM media platform.
Social Distancing will be followed.
- Saturday: February 12 – Blessed Mother Olga book club to meet before Vespers at 2:30PM
and will continue discussing the book *Winter Pascha* by Father Thomas Hopko.
- Saturday: February 12 – Great Vespers at 4:00PM
- Sunday: February 13 – Sunday of Publican and the Pharisee
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy
- Sunday: February 13 – Soup “N Bowl VI is tentatively scheduled

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 8)

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! / Thou didst accept the three day burial / to free us from our sufferings! // O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to thee!

Troparion (Tone 1 – Meeting of the Lord)

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! / From thee shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, / enlightening those who sat in darkness. / Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder, / thou didst accept in thine arms the ^Redeemer of our souls, // Who grants us the Resurrection!

Troparion (Tone 4 – Saint Bucolus)

Thou didst shine with the rays of virtue / received from him who leaned on the Master's breast. / Resplendent, God-inspired hierarchy, / thou didst lead thy flock to the pastures of truth. // Entreat Christ our God for those who honor thee, Father Bucolus!

Kontakion (Tone 8)

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrected Adam. / Eve exults in Thy Resurrection, / and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

Kontakion (Tone 1 – Meeting of the Lord)

By Thy Nativity Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb / and didst bless Simeon's hands, ^O Christ God. / Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. / Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, // O only Lover of Man!

Prokeimenon (Tone 8)

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord our God!
v. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.

Another Prokeimenon (Tone 3 – Song to Theotokos)

My soul doth magnify the Lord / and. My spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior

Epistle Reading: 1 Timothy 4:9-15

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance. For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. These things command and teach. Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 8)

- v. Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!
Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him
with songs of praise! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word, for
mine eyes have seen Thy salvation! Alleluia (3x's) [TONE 8]

Gospel Reading: Luke 19:1-10

Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house." So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner." Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.

[Instead of "It is truly meet.." we sing the Hymn to the Theotokos]

O Virgin Theotokos, hope of all Christians, / protect, preserve, and save those who hope in thee!

In the shadow and letter of the Law, / let us the faithful discern a figure: / every male [child] that opens the womb / is holy to God. / Therefore we magnify the firstborn Word of the Father Who has no beginning, // the Son firstborn of a Mother who had not known man.

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!
I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. 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

The Next Book for the Blessed Mother Olga of Alaska Book Club

Beginning on Saturday, February 26 at 2:30pm in the church basement, the Blessed Mother Olga Book Club will be discussing a new book: *Great Lent - Journey to Pascha* by Father Alexander Schmemmann.

Those interested in joining the book club and participating in reading & discussing this book need only to attend on Sat, Feb 26 at 2:30pm. Please purchase a copy of this book on your own before meeting. There are used copies of the book on Amazon anywhere between \$4 to \$9. St. Tikhon's Bookstore sells it for \$16, see link here: <https://stmprss.com/collections/seasonal/products/great-lent-journey-to-pascha>

CARDS FOR OUR TROOPS! SAVE YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS!

Please save your Christmas cards this year. Matushka Janine and the Charity Committee are collecting Christmas cards to send to the troops for next year. They will use the front cover and paste it on a new card, write an appropriate verse on the inside of the card, and address the card to our soldiers. Please consider donating your cards you received this year. Please see Matushka Janine as to where to drop off your Christmas cards at a designated area in the church basement, or whether she will collect them directly. As always, thank you for your generosity! This year we collected and sent out just under **600** cards for our troops!

2022 House Blessing

If you wish to have your home blessed, please speak with Father Mark for date availability to schedule a house blessing. The blessing of houses will begin after Theophany, which is Thursday, January 6. Items of importance when having your home blessed: 1) have a candle available to be burned during the house blessing, 2) a bowl of blessed holy water, 3) an icon (preferably the icon of Christ being baptized in the Jordan River), and 4) please make enough space for Father Mark to maneuver in the rooms you wish him to bless.

Please Note: House blessing schedule will also be based upon the current State and Local Civil Authority's travel and social gathering restrictions due to the increase in Covid Omicron & Delta variants!

Final House Blessing Date is Monday, February 28!!

Check your emails from January 3 and January 4 regarding the new Mask policy for our parish during services: Basically the only change is, "All parishioners will wear Mask in church for the entire service, except when receiving communion!" until further notice.

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:

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Grace Corba offered by Nina Patterson
Archpriest John Bohush offered by M/M Herbert
Michael Spack, Joseph Herbert offered by M/M Herbert

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 1/30/22:

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Please remember in your prayers:

+ The Archpriest John D. Bohush who fell asleep in the Lord on Friday, January 21. May His Memory Be Eternal! Vetchnaya Pamyat!

The newly baptized Elton David Andrews (January 22) and his parents David & Allison and his godparents. May God Grant Elton and the Andrews Family Many Blessed Years!

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; and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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Sidewalk Repair Donations (Week of January 30)

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 (January)

<u>Week of Sun Jan 23 to Sat Jan 29</u>		<u>January Month to Date</u>
Attendance:	59	38 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 4,013.00	\$20,112.53
Funds Out:	(\$ 436.23) <i>reimbursements</i>	\$11,446.59
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 4,449.23	\$ 8,665.94

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 (Feb 6)</u>	<u>Next Week (Feb 13)</u>
3 rd Hour:	Reader Mark Klus	David Pellack
6 th Hour:	Michael Spack	John Spack
Epistle:	Dr. David Albrecht	Simon Herbert

Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning 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 white/clear 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 February/March 2022.

Today - Annual Parish Meeting to be held after Divine Liturgy.
[Rescheduled from last Sunday due to inclement weather]

At Today's Annual Parish Meeting, we will decide whether Soup 'N Bowl VI Challenge will be held on Sunday, February 13, 2022. This will depend on the further outbreak of the Covid variant in our region and any restrictions from our local and state government authorities. If the event is held, we will try to limit the number of food entrants around 4 dishes and we will use the Sterno heating trays to keep the dishes hot!

The Blessed Mother Olga of Alaska Book Club will now be meeting on Saturday afternoons "BEFORE" Vespers to continue discussing the book *Winter Pascha* by Father Thomas Hopko. The next book club meeting will take place on Saturdays February 12th from 2:30PM to 3:15PM.

Sunday, February 13 – Publican & Pharisee ----- Fast Free Week!

Sunday, March 13 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy



Sunday of Zacchaeus [February 6th]

The paschal season of the Church is preceded by the season of Great Lent, which is also preceded by its own liturgical preparation. The first sign of the approach of Great Lent comes five Sundays before its beginning. On this Sunday the Gospel reading is about Zacchaeus the tax-collector. It tells how Christ brought salvation to the sinful man, and how his life was changed simply because he “sought to see who Jesus was” (Luke 19:3). The desire and effort to see Jesus begins the entire movement through Lent towards Pascha. It is the first movement of salvation.

Our lenten journey begins with a recognition of our own sinfulness, just as Zacchaeus recognized his. He promised to make restitution by giving half of his wealth to the poor, and by paying to those he had falsely accused four times as much as they had lost. In this, he went beyond the requirements of the Law (Ex. 22:3-12).

The example of Zacchaeus teaches us that we should turn away from our sins, and atone for them. The real proof of our sorrow and repentance is not just a verbal apology, but when we correct ourselves and try to make amends for the consequences of our evil actions.

We are also assured of God’s mercy and compassion by Christ’s words to Zacchaeus, “Today salvation is come to this house” (Luke 19:9). After the Great Doxology at Sunday Matins (when the Tone of the week is Tone 1, 3, 5, 7) we sing the Dismissal Hymn of the Resurrection “Today salvation has come to the world,” which echoes the Lord’s words to Zacchaeus.

Zacchaeus was short, so he climbed a tree in order to see the Lord. All of us have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23). We are also short in our spiritual stature, therefore we must climb the ladder of the virtues. In other words, we must prepare for spiritual effort and growth.

St Zacchaeus is also commemorated on April 20.

