

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St. (corner of 28th St. & Snyder Ave.)
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Mailing Address: PO Box 20083 * Point Breeze Station | Philadelphia PA 19145-0383

Sunday, February 13, 2022 | 34th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 1 – Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee
Venerable Martinian of Caesarea in Palestine (5th c.)
Saints Zoë and Photini (Svetlana, Fatima) – (5th c.)

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

Throughout the following week there is a general dispensation
from all fasting! (February 12, 2022 to February 22, 2022)

Today: Beginning of the Lenten Triodion

Today: Soup 'N Bowl VI Challenge immediately following Divine Liturgy in the church basement. Be prepared to indulge in some of the best warm and tasty soups/stews/chilis!

Saturday: February 19 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM**

Sunday: February 20 – Chrismation of Tim Palhamus at **9:30AM**

Sunday: February 20 – Sunday of the Prodigal Son
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!”

Kontakion (Tone 4 – Lenten Triodion)

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee! / Let us learn humility from the Publican’s tears! / Let us cry to our Savior: “Have mercy on us, // O only merciful One!”

Prokeimenon (Tone 1)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee.
v. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the upright!

Epistle Reading: 2 Timothy 3:10-15

But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra – what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. Alleluia (3x’s) (Tone 1)

- v. God gives vengeance to me, and subdues people under me! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. He magnifies the salvation of the King and deals mercifully with David,
His anointed, and his seed forever. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Luke 18:10-14

Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men – extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! Alleluia (3x's)

Synopsis of Annual Parish Meeting held on Sunday, February 6, 2022

Last Sunday the Annual Parish Meeting was held after Divine Liturgy. Father Mark presented his report to the parish along with discussing information from the 58th Diocesan Assembly, which was held a few days earlier. Father Mark, along with Deacon Michael who also attended the Assembly, presented a synopsis of the meeting: the parish was congratulated with our charitable giving and projects considering the size of our parish; the Diocese will be underwriting the cost of the registration fees for all the parishes in the diocese for the 20th All-American Council in July of this year in Baltimore, MD; and finally, Father Mark was nominated to serve on the Diocesan Council.

The remaining parish council members presented their reports with President Matt Andrews thanking all parishioners for their hard work through another challenging year again with Covid issues. The financial report was presented disclosing another surplus year...Thank You All who have donated and contributed to the parish!!!

New business included discussions on the HVAC unit over at the Hall, the next steps to take regarding the houses now that the roofs have been repaired, and the cleaning of the chandelier during Lent. Also, an amended 2022 budget was passed which included the cost of the remaining work to be performed on the cupolas and surrounding church roof.

Minutes from the annual meeting will be posted once they become available!

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

Chandelier Cleaning – Saturday, March 26, 2022 – 9:00AM!

We are asking for parishioners to assist with the cleaning and polishing of the chandelier. The chandelier has been cleaned only three times over the past 50 years with the last time occurring around 20 years ago (in preparation for the parish's 90th Anniversary). We need as many of our parishioners to assist with this project in order to perform the task effectively, efficiently, and within a timely matter on that date...essentially, the more hands we have, the quicker the job will be performed. Also, this cleaning will occur during Lent, where we as Orthodox Christian should be giving of our time and talents to worthy causes such as caring for our Lord's house.

A sign up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board above the food utensil table in the church basement so we know how many parishioners to expect and plan accordingly. We will also require some to provide plastic dishwashing pans, terrycloth towels, containers of glass cleaner, bottles of brass cleaner, and polishing rags. Hope you can join us and see you on Saturday, March 26 beginning at 9:00AM!

In case of Inclement weather on that Saturday, the cleaning date will then be rescheduled on Saturday, April 9!

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! BRING IN YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS!

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!!

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Anastasia and her unborn child, Alexander, Barbara, Gabriel, Elton, Scarlett, Lucas, Family and Friends offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Alexandra Hourahan, Kevin Hourahan offered by Hourahan Family
Justin Driamk offered by Hourahan Family
Family and Friends offered by Ron Homa
Jason & Brooke LeRoy and their parents offered by Hourahan Family

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Len Heim offered by David Pellack
Emelie Albrecht offered by M/M Herbert
Helen Herbert offered by M/M Herbert

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 2/6/22:

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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!

The 150th Anniversary of the birth of Saint Alexander Hotovitzky (Feb 11)

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 February 6)

Sidewalk Repair Block Donation – \$11 from the Candy Sale
Sidewalk Repair Block Donation – Peter Witiak

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/February)

<u>Week of Sun Jan 30 to Sat Feb 5</u>	<u>January Month (Unaudited)</u>	
Attendance:	15	33 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 906.87	\$21,018.53
Funds Out:	\$ 3,931.50	\$11,376.59
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 3,024.63)	\$ 9,641.94

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 13)</u>	<u>Next Week (Feb 20)</u>
3 rd Hour:	David Pellack	Sbdcn Daniel Kavalkovich
6 th Hour:	John Spack	Michael Wanenchak
Epistle:	Simon Herbert	David Pellack

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.

TODAY IS SOUP 'N BOWL SUNDAY EVENT!!!

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 - Soup 'N Bowl VI Challenge will be held in the church basement after Divine Liturgy. We have two electric burners to be used to keep Soup warm and the remaining dishes we will use the Sterno heating trays to keep the dishes hot!

Sunday, February 20 – The Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Saturday, February 26 - The Blessed Mother Olga of Alaska Book Club will meet on Saturday afternoons “BEFORE” Vespers from **2:30PM to 3:15PM**.

They will be discussing a new book: *Great Lent – Journey to Pascha* by Father Alexander Schmemmann.

Annual Pork and/or Roast Beef Sandwich Luncheon on Meatfare Sunday February 27, 2022 after Divine Liturgy.

The planning of organizing this luncheon has begun. We will need volunteers to assist in providing dishes along with setting up before and cleaning up after the luncheon. Please see a parish council member for more details on how you can assist in this event!

Sunday, March 13 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy



Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee [February 13th]

The Sunday after the Sunday of Zacchaeus is devoted to the Publican and the Pharisee. At Vespers the night before, the TRIODION (the liturgical book used in the services of Great Lent) begins.

Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee who scrupulously observed the requirements of religion: he prayed, fasted, and contributed money to the Temple. These are very good things, and should be imitated by anyone who loves God. We who may not fulfill these requirements as well as the Pharisee did should not feel entitled to criticize him for being faithful. His sin was in looking down on the Publican and feeling justified because of his external religious observances.

The second man was a Publican, a tax-collector who was despised by the people. He, however, displayed humility, and this humility justified him before God (Luke 18:14).

The lesson to be learned is that we possess neither the Pharisee's religious piety, nor the Publican's repentance, through which we can be saved. We are called to see ourselves as we really are in the light of Christ's teaching, asking Him to be merciful to us, deliver us from sin, and to lead us on the path of salvation.