

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: <https://www.holyassumptionphilly.org>



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

Sunday, February 20, 2022 | 35th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 2 – Sunday of the Prodigal Son
Saint Leo, Bishop of Catania in Sicily (ca. 780)
Hieromartyr Sadoc (Sadoth). Bishop of Persia (342-344)

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: Chrismation of Tim Palhamus at 9:30am

38 years ago on Feb 25, Father Mark was ordained to the priesthood.
May God Grant You, Father Mark, Many Happy, Healthy Years!!!

Saturday: February 26 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM**

Sunday: February 27 – Sunday of Last Judgment, Meatfare Sunday
Repose of Saint Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – **10:00am**
Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: February 27 - Annual Roast Beef and Pork Luncheon after Divine Liturgy
in the Church Basement (Meatfare Sunday)

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!”

Kontakion (Tone 3 – Lenten Triodion)

I have recklessly forgotten Thy glory, O Father; / and among sinners I have scattered the riches which Thou gavest me. / And now I cry to Thee as the Prodigal: / “I have sinned before Thee, O merciful Father; / receive me as a penitent, // and make me as one of Thy hired servants!”

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 6:12-20

All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.

Alleluia (3x’s) (Tone 2)

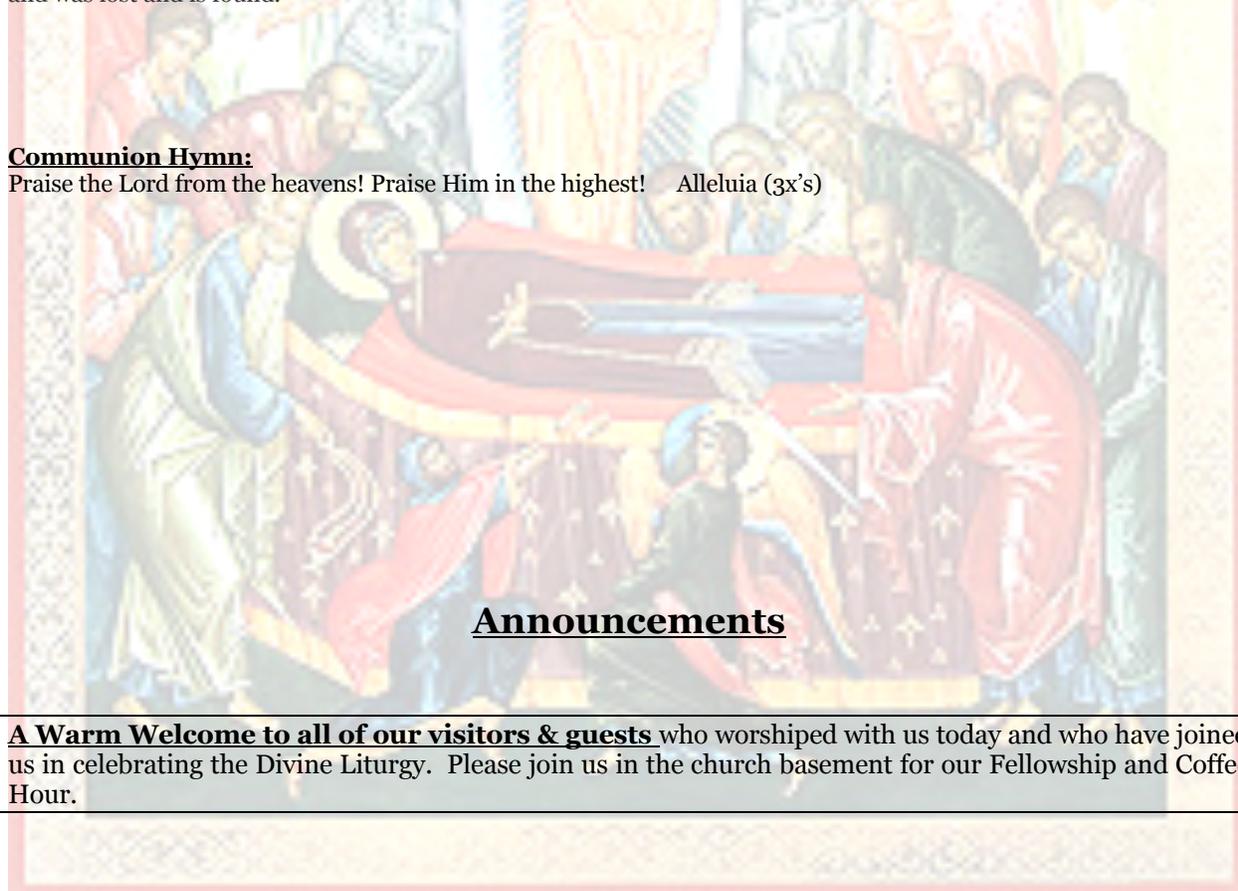
- v. May the Lord hear thee in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect thee! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call to Thee! Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Luke 15:11-32

Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!' 'I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants." ' And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry. Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.' But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. So he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.' "

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

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 next 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:

Richard LeRoy offered by Nina Patterson
Heim Family offered by David Pellack
Anastasia and her unborn child, Alexander, Selena, Colin, Elton, Gabriel, Scarlett, Lucas, offered by M/M K Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Reader Leonty Macalush offered by M/M Herbert
Helen Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
Marc Ferguson Jr (Newly Departed) offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Warren offered by M/M K Kavalkovich

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 2/13/22:

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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 February 13)

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 (February)

Week of Sun Feb 6 to Sat Feb 12

February Month to Date

Attendance:	33	33 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,835.00	\$ 1,835.87
Funds Out:	\$ 2,078.69	\$ 6,080.19
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 243.69)	(\$ 4,244.32)

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 20)</u>	<u>Next Week (Feb 27)</u>
3 rd Hour:	Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich	Anthony Colona
6 th Hour:	Michael Wanenchak	David Albrecht
Epistle:	David Pellack	Reader Mark Klus and Daniel 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.

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.

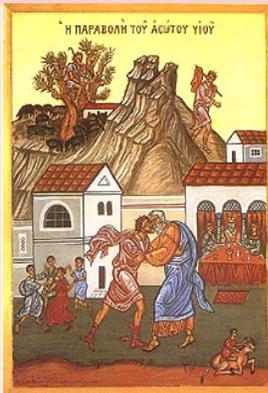
The planning of organizing this luncheon has begun. We will need volunteers to assist in providing dishes along with setting up before and cleaning up after the luncheon. Please see a parish council member for more details on how you can assist in this event! **There is also a sign-up sheet in the church basement on the bulletin board above the food utensil table**

Sunday, March 6 – Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare Sunday)

Monday, March 7 – Beginning of Great Lenten Fast

Sunday, March 13 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, March 15 – Bible Study at 6:30PM in the church basement and on the ZOOM Media platform. Social distancing will be adhered to.
[PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN DATE TO THIRD TUESDAY DUE TO LENT SERVICES 1ST WEEK]



Sunday of the Prodigal Son [February 20th]

The Sunday after the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. This parable of God's forgiveness calls us to come to ourselves" as did the prodigal son, to see ourselves as being "in a far country" far from the Father's house, and to make the journey of return to God. We are given every assurance by the Master that our heavenly Father will receive us with joy and gladness. We must only "arise and go," confessing our self-inflicted

and sinful separation from that "home" where we truly belong (Luke 15:11-24).

After the Polyeleion at Matins, we first hear the lenten hymn "By the Waters of Babylon." It will be sung for the next two Sundays before Lent begins, and it serves to reinforce the theme of exile in today's Gospel.

Starting tomorrow, the weekday readings summarize the events of Holy Week. On Monday we read Saint Mark's account of the Entry into Jerusalem. On Tuesday we read how Judas went to the chief priests and offered to betray the Lord. On the night before His death Christ tells His disciples that one of them will betray Him. He also predicts that they will desert Him, and that Peter will deny Him three times. On Wednesday the Gospel describes how Judas betrayed the Savior with a kiss. Thursday's Gospel tells how Jesus was questioned by Pilate. On Friday we read the narrative of Christ's crucifixion and death.

