

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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Philadelphia, PA 19145 * Church Phone: (215) 468-3535
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Mailing Address: PO Box 20083 * Point Breeze Station | Philadelphia PA 19145-0383

Sunday, June 19, 2022 | 1st Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 8 – Synaxis of All Saints

Holy Apostle Jude, the brother of the Lord (ca. 80 A.D.)

Martyr Zosimas the soldier at Antioch in Pisidia (2nd 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

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!!!

Tomorrow thru Tuesday, June 28 – The Apostles' (Saints Peter and Paul) Fast is observed with the Feast Day of Saints Pete and Paul celebrated on Wednesday June 29th.

Thursday: June 23 – Vespers Liturgy at **5:30PM** for the Feast of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist (June 24)

Saturday: June 25 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM**

Sunday: June 26 – Sunday of All Saints America and Russia
Reading of Hours – 8:30am
Divine Liturgy – **9:00am [SUMMER HOURS!!!]**
Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

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 4 - Saints)

As with fine porphyry and royal purple, / Thy Church has been adorned with Thy martyrs' blood shed throughout all the world. / She cries to Thee, O Christ God: / "Send down Thy bounties on Thy people, // Grant peace to Thy habitation and great mercy to our souls!"

Kontakion (Tone 8 - Saints)

The universe offers Thee the God-bearing Martyrs, / as the first fruits of creation, O Lord and Creator. / By their prayers keep Thy Church, Thy habitation, in abiding peace // through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One!

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 (Saints) (Tone 4)

God is wondrous in His saints, the God of Israel.

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 11:33-12.2

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. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 4)

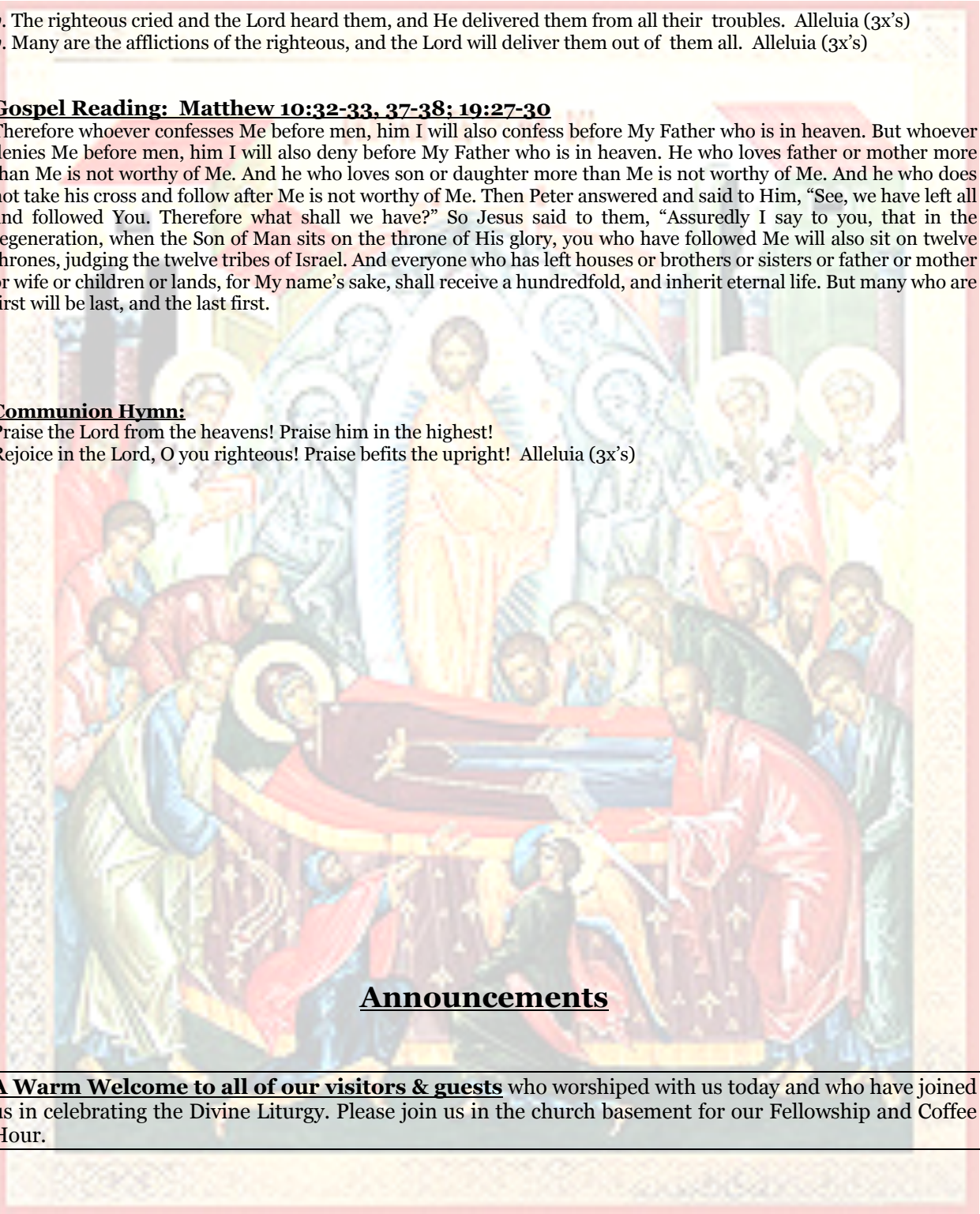
v. The righteous cried and the Lord heard them, and He delivered them from all their troubles. Alleluia (3x's)
v. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, and the Lord will deliver them out of them all. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30

Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. Then Peter answered and said to Him, "See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?" So Jesus said to them, "Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first.

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest!
Rejoice in the Lord, O you 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

Now that school has finished for summer vacation and we approach the Fourth of July, it is time for the next great American event...

“Getting ready to go Back to School” – Annual Backpack Program

With this in mind, the parish is looking to put together a number of backpacks for this upcoming school year (specific number to be announced shortly).

Here is a list of school supply items we would like to include in the backpacks for those who wish to donate to this annual parish project:

- * Pencils * Colored Pencils * Pencil Cases * Erasers * Folders
- * 3 Ring Binders (have them) * Rulers * Notebooks * Index Cards (3 1/2 x 5)

For more information, please see one of the Parish Council members or Matushka Janine McCartney. 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!

Vigil Cross Votive Candles: There is availability for the vigil cross votive candles to be lit for services on Sundays and Feast Days. Please see Simon Herbert for details of cross sizes and schedule cross lightings!

Please remember in your prayers all those individuals who tragically lost their lives in the senseless attack at the Tops grocery store in Buffalo, New York.

Please remember in your prayers the children and teachers, as well as those wounded in the tragic senseless shooting at the Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas.

Please remember in your prayers those 4 individuals who tragically lost their lives in the senseless attack on the campus at Saint Francis Hospital in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Please remember in your prayers those 2 individuals who tragically lost their lives in the senseless attack at the Cornerstone Baptist Church parking lot in Ames, Iowa.

Please remember in your prayers those individuals who tragically lost their live in the senseless attack on South Street in Philadelphia last Saturday evening.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Newborn Levi, Anastasia, Colin offered by MM K Kavalkovich and Family
Steven offered by MM K Kavalkovich and Family

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Paul Kavcsak offered by Nina Patterson
Sung offered by David Pellack
Andrew Gerasimoff offered by Gerasimoff Family

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 6/12/22

1 Large Vigil Cross – Memory of Christopher Snizcak offered by William Mitrocsak

1 Small Vigil Cross – Memory of Albert Kavalkovich offered by Barbara Andrews

1 Small Vigil Cross – Memory of Mr. Witiak offered by his son Peter Witiak

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Please remember in your prayers:

Levi Azariah Jones (newly born on May 16), his parents Anastasia and Colin Jones, his grandparents Ken and Debbie Kavalkovich, and great grandmother Catherine Kavalkovich. May God Grant Levi & family Many Blessed Years!!

Miriam Anastasia Parsells (newly born on June 6), her big brothers Luke and Teddy, and her parents Peter and Heather Parsells. May God Grant Miriam and her family Many Blessed Years!!

Ronald Kavalkovich; Jane Kelly; Anne (Homa) Killoran; Sheba Patton; Dr. Gale Rutan; Joseph Rabik; Peter Witiak; and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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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 back on Sunday, October 10, 2021, 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 began back on Sunday, October 17, 2021.

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

Cash Flow Activity (June)

<u>Week of Sun Jun 5 to Sat Jun 11</u>	<u>June Month to Date</u>
Attendance: 33	33 (average)
Funds In: \$ 2,264.00	\$ 2,264.00
Funds Out: (\$ 362.35) reimbursement	\$ 4,253.34
Net Surplus/(Deficit): \$ 2,626.35	(\$ 1,989.34)

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:

Today (Jun 19)
3rd Hour: John Spack
6th Hour: Michael Spack
Epistle: Daniel Herbert

Next Week (Jun 26)
Matthew Andrews
Daniel Herbert
Sbdcn Daniel Kavalkovich
and Matthew Andrews

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 June 2022.

Thursday, June 23 – Vesperal Liturgy at 5:30PM for the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

Tuesday, June 28 – Vesperal Liturgy at 5:30PM for the Glorious Leaders of Holy Apostles Peter and Paul



Synaxis of All Saints [June 19th]

The Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been saints at all times, and they have come from every corner of the earth. They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous, yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God's directive to "be holy, for I am holy" (Lev. 11:44, 1 Peter 1:16, etc.). Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

This feast may have originated at an early date, perhaps as a celebration of all martyrs, then it was broadened to include all men and women who had borne witness to Christ by their virtuous lives, even if they did not shed their blood for Him.

St Peter of Damascus, in his "Fourth Stage of Contemplation," mentions five categories of saints: Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, and Monastic Saints (PHILOKALIA [in English] Vol. 3, p.131). He is actually quoting from the OCTOECHOS, Tone 2 for Saturday Matins, kathisma after the first stichology.

St Nicodemus of the Holy Mountain (July 14) adds the Righteous to St Peter's five categories. The list of St Nicodemus is found in his book THE FOURTEEN EPISTLES OF ST PAUL (Venice, 1819, p. 384) in his discussion of I Corinthians 12:28.

The hymnology for the feast of All Saints also lists six categories: "Rejoice, assembly of the Apostles, Prophets of the Lord, loyal choirs of the Martyrs, divine Hierarchs, Monastic Fathers, and the Righteous...."

Some of the saints are described as Confessors, a category which does not appear in the above lists. Since they are similar in spirit to the martyrs, they are regarded as belonging to the category of Martyrs. They were not put to death as the Martyrs were, but they boldly confessed Christ and came close to being executed for their faith. St Maximus the Confessor (January 21) is such a saint.

The order of these six types of saints seems to be based on their importance to the Church. The Apostles are listed first, because they were the first to spread the Gospel throughout the world.

The Martyrs come next because of their example of courage in professing their faith before the enemies and persecutors of the Church, which encouraged other Christians to remain faithful to Christ even unto death.

Although they come first chronologically, the Prophets are listed after the Apostles and Martyrs. This is because the Old Testament Prophets saw only the shadows of things to come, whereas the Apostles and Martyrs experienced them firsthand. The New Testament also takes precedence over the Old Testament.

The holy Hierarchs comprise the fourth category. They are the leaders of their flocks, teaching them by their word and their example.

The Monastic Saints are those who withdrew from this world to live in monasteries, or in seclusion. They did not do this out of hatred for the world, but in order to devote themselves to unceasing prayer, and to do battle against the power of the demons. Although some people erroneously believe that monks & nuns are useless and unproductive, St John Climacus had a high regard for them: "Angels are a light for monks, and the monastic life is a light for all men" (LADDER, Step 26:31).