

## Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St. (corner of 28<sup>th</sup> 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

*\* Serving the Orthodox Community in South Philadelphia for 110 years! \**

### **Sunday, March 26, 2023**

Tone 8 – Fourth Sunday of Great Lent | Saint John Climacus  
Leavetaking of the Annunciation  
Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel

### **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: Mission Service at 4:00PM at Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church located at 8210 West Chester Pike in Upper Darby, PA 19082 Phone: 610.853.1171  
Website: <https://www.saintgeorgeupperdarby.org>

The fifth week Lenten schedule at the parish is on page 7 of Bulletin

Thursday: March 30 – Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete at **6:00PM**

Saturday: April 1 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM!**

Sunday: April 2 – Fifth Sunday of Great Lent | St Mary of Egypt  
Reading of Hours – 9:30am  
Divine Liturgy – **10:00am**  
*Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy*

Sunday: April 2 – Mission Service at 4:00PM at Saint Michaels Orthodox Church in Wilmington, DE

## 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 – Annunciation)**

Today is the beginning of our salvation, / the revelation of the eternal mystery! / The Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin / as Gabriel announces the coming of race. / Together with him let us cry to the Theotokos: / “Rejoice, O Full of Grace, // the Lord is with thee!”

### **Troparion (Tone 4 – Archangel)**

Gabriel, commander of the heavenly hosts, / we who are unworthy beseech thee, / by thy prayers encompass us beneath the wings of thine immaterial glory, / and faithfully preserve us who fall down and cry to thee: // “Deliver us from all harm, for thou art the commander of the powers on high!”

### **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 8 – Archangel)**

Supreme commander Gabriel, thou art the glorious intercessor and servant / before the all-radiant, worthy, all-powerful, infinite and awesome Trinity. / Ever pray now that we may be delivered from all tribulations and torments, // so that we may cry out to thee: “Rejoice, protection of thy servants!”

### **Kontakion (Tone 8 – Annunciation)**

O victorious leader of triumphant hosts! / We, thy servants delivered from evil / sing our grateful thanks to thee, O Theotokos. / As thou dost possess invincible might set us free from every calamity / so that we may sing: “Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!”

### **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 4 – Annunciation)**

From day to day / proclaim the salvation of our God!

### **Epistle Reading: Hebrews 6:13-20**

For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, “Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.” And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

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. He descends like rain upon the fleece, like raindrops that water the earth.  
Alleluia (3x's) [TONE 1]

**Gospel Reading: Mark 9:17-31**

Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not. He answered him and said, "O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me." Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us. Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!" Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" So He said to them, "This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting." Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know it. For He taught His disciples and said to them, "The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day."

**Instead of "It is truly meet..." we sing the following**

O earth, announce good tidings of great joy: O heavens, praise the glory of God!

Since she is a living Ark of God  
let no profane hand touch the Theotokos.  
But let the lips of believers unceasingly sing to her,  
praising her in joy with the angel's song:  
"Rejoice, O Lady, full of grace, the Lord is with thee!"

**Communion Hymn:**

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest!  
The Lord has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His Habitation. 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

## Votive Vigil Cross Candles Scheduling

We are scheduling to have the votive vigil cross candles lit for services during the Lenten season. There is a sign-up sheet located at the candle desk in the Vestibule.

Either 1 Large or 2 Small candles per each votive vigil cross candles can be reserved  
As of this morning, the following dates and cross sizes have been reserved...

- \* Saint Mary of Egypt (Sunday, April 2) = BOTH Large Crosses are reserved!
- \* Palm Sunday (Sunday, April 9) = 1 Large Cross is reserved
- \* Holy Saturday (Saturday, April 15) = 1 Large Cross is reserved
- \* PASCHA (Sunday, April 16) = BOTH Large Crosses are reserved!

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## Update on your 2022 Ukrainian Project Donations

This was the beneficiary of our Charity collections for the Ukrainian Project last year.  
Just seeing the children and the update makes it all worthwhile. Thank You All!!!

Glory to God!

Dear Fr. Victor and Matuska Margarite,

I'm happy to share with you recent pictures from the institute for the children with mental disabilities from Uzhhorod (the center's name is Road of Life). Recently, the IOCC Regional Director for Ukraine Crisis Response visited the Center and sent me these pictures. They were retouched to protect the children's identity. The Center serves in total 277 children with mental disabilities.

Currently, 30 children from the families displaced by the conflict are getting treatment at this Center. Due to IOCC's project, 20 new displaced families will be hosted here.

Thank you for your contribution to this project! Have a Blessed Lent!  
In Christ, Corina

**Corina Mararu** | *Outreach Coordinator*

International Orthodox Christian Charities | 110 West Road, Suite 360 | Baltimore, MD



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## Attendance during Lenten Services (4<sup>th</sup> Week of Lent)

Wednesday, March 22 – Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts = 15	(Unknown Last Year)
Friday, March 24 – Vespers - Annunciation = 10	(No Service Last Year)
Saturday, March 25 – Divine Liturgy – Annunciation = 12	(15 Last Year)
Saturday, March 18 – Great Vespers = 11	(Unknown Last Year)



**Announcements** (cont.)

**Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed**

**Health for the Living:**

Timothy on his birthday offered by David Pellack  
Mary Herbert and Justine McCann offered by M/M Herbet  
Timothy Polhamus offered by Catherine Kavalkovich  
Family and Parishioners offered by Nina Patterson  
Patricia, Catherine, Anastasia, Colin, Levi, Alexander, Selena, Barbara, Family and Friends  
offered by MM K Kavalkovich

**May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!**

**Memory for the Departed:**

Albert, Ronald, Marc Sr., Marc Jr., Vito, Anne, Helen, Andrew, William, John, Joseph  
offered by MM K Kavalkovich

**May Their Memories Be Eternal!**

**Flowers for the Cross on the Tetrapod – 3/19/23**

The Red and White Flowers decorating the cross on the Tetrapod for the Veneration of the Cross last Sunday were donated by Mr. and Mrs. Simon and Mary Herbert in Memory of the Herbert and Spack Families

**Vigil Cross Candles – 3/19/23**

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**Please remember in your prayers:**

Justine & John McCann; Elton Andrews; Catherine 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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[**Note:** Today's readings for the Annunciation of the Theotokos are as follows:  
Epistle – Hebrews 2:11-18 and Gospel – Luke 1:24-38]

[**Note:** Today's readings for Saint John Climacus are not read today because of the  
Leavetaking of the Annunciation and the Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel]

## 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 (March)**

<u>Week of Sun Mar 12 to Sat Mar 18</u>	<u>March Month to Date</u>
Attendance: 42	47 (average)
Funds In: \$ 5,065.32	\$10,970.40
Funds Out: \$ 551.20	\$11,164.37
Net Surplus/(Deficit): \$ 4,514.12	(\$ 193.97)

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

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month** – Monthly Panikhida immediately after Divine Liturgy.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month** – Bible Study at 6:30pm on ZOOM media platform.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month** – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month** – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month** – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.
- Last Thursday of each month** – Book Club at 6:30pm on ZOOM media platform.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each quarter** – Quarterly Parish Council Meeting after Liturgy.

### Readers Schedule:

	<u>Today (Mar 26)</u>	<u>Next Week (Apr 2)</u>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Hour:	David Pellack	To Be Determined
6 <sup>th</sup> Hour:	Dr. David Albrecht	To Be Determined
Epistle:	Reader Mark Klus and David Pellack	To Be Determined

### 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 on the calendar printout which is located in the white/clear 3-ring binder located on the display case outside of the office room.

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**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 March/April 2023.**

### **Fifth Week of Lent - Lenten Services here at the Parish!**

- Wednesday, March 29 – Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts at 6:00PM
- Thursday, March 30 – Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete at 6:00PM
- Friday, March 31 – Akathist to the Blessed Olga of Alaska at 6:00PM
- Saturday, April 1 – Great Vespers at 4:00PM

### **Sunday, April 2 – Vesper Mission Service – 4:00PM**

Saint Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church \* 2300 West Huntington Drive  
Wilmington, DE 19808-6900 \* Phone: 302.998.1747

### **Sixth Week of Lent - Lenten Services here at the Parish!**

- Wednesday, April 5 – Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts at 6:00PM
- Friday, April 7 – Vespers of Lazarus Saturday at 6:00PM
- Saturday, April 8 – Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy at 10:00AM
- Saturday, April 8 – Great Vespers at 4:00PM (Blessing of Pussywillows and Palms)

### **Sunday, April 9 – Bridegroom Matins Service – 4:00PM**

Saint Stephen's Orthodox Cathedral \* 8598 Verree Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19111 \* Phone: 215.342.0866



**Fourth Sunday of Great Lent:  
Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel**  
[March 26<sup>th</sup>]

The Archangel Gabriel was chosen by the Lord to announce to the Virgin Mary about the Incarnation of the Son of God from Her, to the great rejoicing of all mankind. Therefore, on the day after the Feast of the Annunciation, the day on which the All-Pure Virgin is glorified, we give thanks to the Lord and we venerate His messenger Gabriel, who contributed to the mystery of our salvation.

Gabriel, the holy Archistrategos (Leader of the Heavenly Hosts), is a faithful servant of the Almighty God. He announced the future Incarnation of the Son of God to those of the Old Testament; he inspired the Prophet Moses to write the Pentateuch (first five books of the Old Testament), he announced the coming tribulations of the Chosen People to the Prophet Daniel (Dan. 8:16, 9:21-24); he appeared to Saint Anna (July 25) with the news that she would give birth to the Virgin Mary.

The holy Archangel Gabriel remained with the Holy Virgin Mary when She was a child in the Temple of Jerusalem, and watched over Her throughout Her earthly life. He appeared to the Priest Zachariah, foretelling the birth of the Forerunner of the Lord, Saint John the Baptist.

The Lord sent him to Saint Joseph the Betrothed in a dream, to reveal to him the mystery of the Incarnation of the Son of God from the All-Pure Virgin Mary, and warned him of the wicked intentions of Herod, ordering him to flee into Egypt with the divine Infant and His Mother.

When the Lord prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane before His Passion, the Archangel Gabriel, whose very name signifies “Man of God” (Luke. 22:43), was sent from Heaven to strengthen Him. The Myrrh-Bearing Women heard from the Archangel the joyous news of Christ’s Resurrection (Mt.28:1-7, Mark 16:1-8).

Mindful of the manifold appearances of the holy Archangel Gabriel and of his zealous fulfilling of God’s will, and confessing his intercession for Christians before the Lord, the Orthodox Church calls upon its children to pray to the great Archangel with faith and love.

The Synaxis of the Holy Archangel Gabriel is also celebrated on July 13. All the angels are commemorated on November 8.

