

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

Sunday, April 30, 2023 | Third Sunday of Pascha

Tone 2 – Holy Myrrhbearing Women

Holy Apostle James (Jacob), the brother of St John the Theologian

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

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: The Broad Street Run! Watch traffic driving!

Today: Readers Meeting to be held after Fellowship Coffee Hour. If you are interested in reading during church services, please discuss with Deacon Michael and attend this informative meeting, which should last 30 to 45 minutes.

Saturday: May 6 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM**

Sunday: May 7 – 4th Sunday of Pascha | Paralytic

Reading of Hours – 9:30am

Divine Liturgy – **10:00am**

Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Tuesday: May 9 – Bible Study at 6:30PM on the ZOOM media platform ONLY!

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!”

Troparion (Tone 2 - Pentecostarion)

The noble Joseph, / when he had taken down Thy most pure Body from the Tree, / wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices, / and placed it in a new tomb. / But Thou didst arise on the third day, O Lord, // granting the world great mercy.

Troparion (Tone 8 - Saint James)

Thou wast called to be a disciple and warrior of Christ, one of the exalted choir of Apostles. / With thy brother John, thou didst abandon all to follow the Master, O James; / thou wast filled with the Holy Spirit and didst proclaim Him to all. / Thou didst bow thy head to the sword, the first of the twelve to shed thy blood! // We celebrate thy memory, O blessed one!

Kontakion (Tone 2 – Saint James)

O James, when thou didst hear the voice of the Word calling thee, / thou didst abandon thy father's love and ran to Christ, together with thy brother John. / With him thou wast accounted worthy // to behold the divine Transfiguration of Christ.

Kontakion (Tone 2 - Pentecostarion)

Thou didst command the Myrrhbearers to rejoice, O Christ God. / By Thy Resurrection, Thou didst stop the lamentation of Eve, the first mother. / Thou didst command them to preach to Thine Apostles: // “The Savior is risen from the tomb!”

Prokeimenon (Tone 6)

O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance!
v. To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

Another Prokeimenon (Tone 8)

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, / and their words to the ends of the universe.

Epistle Reading: Acts 6:1-7

Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, “It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word. And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them. Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 8)

- v. O Lord, Thou hast been gracious to Thy land; Thou hast turned back the captivity of Jacob. Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Mercy and truth have met together, righteousness and peace have kissed each other. Alleluia (3x's)
- v. The heavens will praise thy wonders, O Lord; and Thy truth in the congregation of the saints.
Alleluia (3x's) [TONE 1]

Gospel Reading: Mark 15:43-16:8

Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent council member, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, coming and taking courage, went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate marveled that He was already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him if He had been dead for some time. So when he found out from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph. Then he bought fine linen, took Him down, and wrapped Him in the linen. And he laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock, and rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James observed where He was laid. Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away – for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples – and Peter – that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you. So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace: / "Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: Rejoice, / Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb! / With Himself He has raised all the dead." / Rejoice, O ye people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem! / The glory of the Lord has shone on you. / Exult now, / and be glad, O Zion! / Be radiant, / O pure Theotokos, / in the Resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!
Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe. 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

First Aid / CPR Course offering at the parish – Saturday, June 17, 2023

It has been some time since we held a First Aid/CPR course, and in the interest of helping our families and neighbors in need, the ECSI First Aid/CPR course will be offered at no charge for parishioners with the exception of the cost of the student manual of \$16.50 which includes shipping. The course will be held from **8:00 am-4:00 pm** on 6/17/2023 and taught by Matushka Janine McCartney. If you are interested, please contact Matushka Janine by no later than May 17, 2023. It will take some time to have the books ordered and sent. A class of at least 5 is needed to hold the class. Payment for the student manual will be expected prior to 5/17/2023.

Votive Vigil Cross Candles Scheduling

We are scheduling to have the votive vigil cross candles lit for the major feast day services and federal designated government holidays during the spring/summer season. There will be 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 are available:

- * Mother's Day (Sunday, May 14) = Both crosses are available
- * Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ (Thursday, May 25) = Both crosses are available
- * Memorial Day (Sunday, May 28) = Both crosses are available
- * Pentecost (Sunday, June 4) = Both crosses are available
- * Father's Day (Sunday, June 18) = Both crosses are available
- * Independence Day (Sunday, July 2 Liturgy) = Both crosses are available
- * Transfiguration of our Lord (Sunday, August 6) = Both crosses are available
- * Dormition of the Holy Theotokos (Tuesday, August 15) = Both crosses are available

Saint Basil, Bishop of Zakholsk in Montenegro, Serbia (April 29)

Saint Basil, Bishop of Zakholsk, was born of pious parents in the sixteenth century in the Popov district of Herzegovina. At the age of maturity he left his parental home and settled in the Trebinsk monastery in honor of the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos, and became a monk.

For his virtuous life the saint was elevated to be Bishop of Zakholm and Skenderia. He occupied the bishop's cathedra in the second half of the sixteenth century, a successor to Bishop Paul and predecessor of Bishop Nikódēmos. Saint Basil was a good pastor of the flock of Christ, and the Lord strengthened his discourse with various miracles. For the sanctifying of soul with the wisdom of holy ascetic fathers, the saint journeyed to Athos. Saint Basil died peacefully and was buried in the city of Ostrog in Chernogoria on the border with Herzegovina.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Gregory Walker offered by David Pellack
Barbara Andrews on her birthday offered by mom Catherine Kavalkovich
Family and Parishioners offered by Nina Patterson
Thomas Herbert on his name's day offered by his parent's M/M Herbert

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Michael and Anna Bondira offered by Sandra Hourahan and Family
Dimetri and Maria Drimak offered by Sandra Hourahan and Family
John and Julia Drimak offered by Sandra Hourahan and Family

May Their Memories Be Eternal!

Vigil Cross Candles – 4/23/23

Two Small Vigil Crosses – Memory of the Popelak Family
offered by the DeVito Family

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Please remember in your prayers:

Christopher Andrews; Elton Andrews; Catherine Kavalkovich; Jane Kelly; Anne (Homa) Killoran; Justine & John McCann; Nina Patterson; Sheba Patton; Dr. Gale Rutan; Joseph Rabik; Peter Witiak; and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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*[Note: The readings for the Holy Apostle James are as follows:
Epistle – Acts 12:1-11 and Gospel – Luke 5:1-11]*

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 (April)

<u>Week of Sun Apr 16 to Sat Apr 22</u>	<u>April Month to Date</u>
Attendance: 92	57 (average)
Funds In: \$ 5,077.00	\$11,227.00
Funds Out: \$ 73.37	\$12,902.94
Net Surplus/(Deficit): \$ 5,003.63	(\$ 1,675.94)

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 on ZOOM media platform.
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.
Last Thursday of each month – Book Club at 6:30pm on ZOOM media platform.
5th Sunday of each quarter – Quarterly Parish Council Meeting after Liturgy.

Readers Schedule:

	<u>Today (Apr 30)</u>	<u>Next Week (May 7)</u>
3 rd Hour:	David Albrecht	Simon Herbert
6 th Hour:	Sbden Daniel Kavalkovich	Reader Mark Klus
Epistle:	Sbden Daniel Kavalkovich and David Albrecht	Reader Mark Klus and 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 on the calendar printout which is located in the white/clear 3-ring binder 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 April/May 2023.

Today – READERS Meeting following the Fellowship Coffee Hour somewhere within the church. If you are interested in reading during the church services, please discuss with Deacon Michael and attend this meeting, even if you wish not to be committed to a fixed scheduled reading

Sunday, May 7 – Monthly Panikhida for month of May immediately after Divine Liturgy. Have your list of names for those deceased in May.

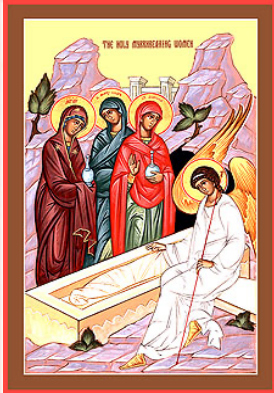
Tuesday, May 9 – Bible Study at 6:30PM on the ZOOM media platform ONLY!

Wednesday, May 17 – Deadline to register for First Aid/CPR course on 6/17

Thursday, May 25 – Blessed Mother Olga Book Club at 6:30PM on ZOOM media platform ONLY!

Thursday, May 25 – ASCENSION of our Lord Jesus Christ!
The service schedule for this feast day will be determined in a few weeks!

Sunday, May 28 – Summer Hours begin with Sunday Divine Liturgy starting at 9:00AM!



Sunday of the Holy Myrrhbearing Women with the Noble Joseph [April 30th]

The Myrrh-bearing women are those women who followed the Lord, along with His Mother. They remained with her during the time of the saving Passion, and anointed the Lord's body with myrrh. Joseph and Nikódēmos asked for and received the Lord's body from Pilate. They took it down from the Cross, wrapped it in linen cloths and spices, then they laid it in a tomb, and then they placed a great stone over the entrance of the tomb.

According to the Evangelist Matthew (27:57-61) Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joses (Mark 15:40) were there sitting opposite the sepulchre, and they saw where He had been laid. This other Mary was the Mother of God. Not only were these present, but also many other women, as Saint Luke says (24:10).

Today the Church honors Saints Mary Magdalene (July 22), Mary the wife of Cleopas (May 23), Joanna (June 27), Salome, mother of the sons of Zebedee (August 3), Martha and Mary, sisters of Lazarus (June 4), and the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, who was the stepmother of her husband Joseph's sons James (October 23) and Joses (October 30). Today we also remember Saint Joseph of Arimathea (July 31), who was a secret disciple (John 19:38), and Saint Nikódēmos, who was a disciple by night (John 3:3; 19:38).

The holy right-believing Queen Tamara of Georgia is honored twice during the year: on May 1, the day of her repose, and also on the Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women.

On this day the Church also remembers All Saints of Thessalonica, Saint Seraphim Bishop of Phanar (December 4, 1610), the New Martyr Elias Ardunis (January 31, 1686), and the New Martyr Demetrios of the Peloponnesos (April 13, 1803).

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Holy Apostle James, the brother of Saint John the Theologian (April 30th)

The Holy Apostle James, the son of Zebedee, was the brother of Saint John the Theologian, and one of the Twelve Apostles. He and his brother, Saint John, were called to be Apostles by our Lord Jesus Christ, Who called them the "Sons of Thunder" (Mark 3:17). It was this James, with John and Peter, who witnessed the Raising of the Daughter of Jairus, the Lord's Transfiguration on Mount Tabor, and His agony in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Saint James, after the Descent of the Holy Spirit, preached in Spain and in other lands, and then he returned to Jerusalem. He openly and boldly preached Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world, and he denounced the Pharisees and the Scribes with the words of Holy Scripture, reproaching them for their malice of heart and unbelief.

The Jews could not prevail against Saint James, and so they hired the sorcerer Hermogenes to dispute with the apostle and refute his arguments that Christ was the promised Messiah Who had come into the world. The sorcerer sent to the apostle his pupil Philip, who was converted to belief in Christ. Then Hermogenes himself became persuaded of the power of God, he burned his books of magic, accepted holy Baptism, and became a true follower of Christ.

Saint James was the first of the Apostles to die as a Martyr.