

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

### Sunday, July 2, 2023 | 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 3 – The Placing of the Honorable Robe of the Most-holy Theotokos at Blachernae (5<sup>th</sup> c.);  
Repose of St John (Maximovitch), Bishop of Shanghai and San Francisco (1966 – June 19<sup>th</sup> O.S.)

#### 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

Tuesday: July 4 – Independence Day!! God Bless America!!!

Saturday: July 8 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM**

Sunday: July 9 – Hieromartyr Pancratius, Bishop of Taormina in Sicily (1<sup>st</sup> c.)  
Reading of Hours – 8:30am  
Divine Liturgy – **9:00am [SUMMER HOURS!]**  
*Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy*

Tuesday: July 11 - Bible Study at 6:30PM on ZOOM media platform

## Texts for the Liturgical Service

### **Troparion (Tone 3)**

Let the heavens rejoice! / Let the earth be glad! / For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. / He has trampled down death by death. / He has become the first born of the dead. / He has delivered us from the depths of hell, / and has granted to the world // great mercy.

### **Troparion (Tone 8 – Theotokos)**

O Ever-Virgin Theotokos, protectress of mankind, / thou hast given thy people a powerful legacy: / the robe and sash of thy most honored body, which remained incorrupt throughout thy seedless childbearing; / for through thee time and nature are renewed! // Therefore we implore thee: “Grant peace to thy people and to our souls great mercy!”

### **Kontakion (Tone 3)**

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, / leading us from the gates of death. / On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; / with the Prophets and Patriarchs // they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

### **Kontakion (Tone 4 – Theotokos)**

O Pure One, full of the grace of God, / thou hast given thy sacred robe as a garment of incorruption to all the faithful, / with it thou didst cover thy holy body, / O divine protection of all mankind. / We celebrate its enshrinement in Blachernae with love and we cry aloud with awe: // “Rejoice, O Virgin, boast of Christians.”

### **Prokeimenon (Tone 3)**

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our King, sing praises!  
v. Clap your hands, all ye people! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

### **Epistle Reading: Romans 6:18-23**

And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness. For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 3)

v. In Thee, O Lord, have I placed my hope; let me not be put to shame. Alleluia (3x's)  
v. Be Thou a God of protection of me, a house of refuge in order to save me. Alleluia (3x's)

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 8:5-13**

Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it. When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour.

**Communion Hymn:**

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

**"Be the first to arrive at church for services and the last to leave, especially for the Divine Liturgy."**  
*St Symeon the Studite (also called Symeon the Pious; +1021)*

**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 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:

- \* Transfiguration of our Lord (Sunday, August 6) = Both crosses are available
- \* Sunday, August 13 = One cross is available
- \* Dormition of the Holy Theotokos (Tuesday, August 15) = Both crosses are available

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### **[...continued from last page – Saint John [Maximovitch]...]**

In 1951, Archbishop John was assigned to the Archdiocese of Western Europe with his cathedra in Paris. During his time there, he also served as archpastor of the Orthodox Church of France, whose restored Gallican liturgy he studied and then celebrated. He was the principal consecrator of the Orthodox Church of France's first modern bishop, Jean-Nectaire (Kovalevsky) of Saint-Denis, and ordained to the priesthood the man who would become its second bishop, Germain (Bertrand-Hardy) of Saint-Denis.

In 1962, Archbishop John was assigned to the Diocese of San Francisco, succeeding his long time friend Archbishop Tikhon. Archbishop John's days in San Francisco were to prove sorrowful as he attempted to heal the great disunity in his community. He was able to bring peace such that the new cathedral, dedicated to the Joy of all Who Sorrow Icon of the Mother of God, was completed.

Deeply revering Saint John of Kronstadt, Archbishop John played an active role in preparation of his canonization.

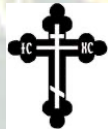
He reposed during a visit to Seattle on July 2, 1966, while accompanying a tour of the Kursk-Root Icon of the Mother of God. He was laid to rest in a crypt chapel under the main altar of the new cathedral.

**CREDIT:** [www.monasteryofstjohn.org/?p=about\\_st\\_john](http://www.monasteryofstjohn.org/?p=about_st_john)

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### **Delaware Dining Out – Summer 2023 – Taco Grande in Wilmington, DE**

The parish will resume its parish summer outing with its dining out in Delaware on a Sunday afternoon sometime this summer. If interested in attending and enjoying an afternoon at the Taco Grande with fellow parishioners, please contact Matushka Jan Koczak, who is organizing this outing event for the parish. Thank You!



**GOD BLESS AMERICA!!!**



**Announcements** (cont.)

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

**Health for the Living:**

Cheryl Homa offered by Nina Patterson  
Jane Holefelder offered by Nina Patterson  
John and Mary Pellack on their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary offered by David Pellack  
Manny offered by David Pellack  
Joanne Gilpin offered by David Pellack

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

**Memory for the Departed:**

Parents John and Margaret Pellack offered by David Pellack

**May Their Memories Be Eternal!**

**Vigil Cross Candles – 6/25/23**

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**Please remember in your prayers:**

Jane Kelly; Anne (Homa) Killoran; Sheba Patton; 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 18 to Sat Jun 24</u>	<u>June Month to Date</u>
Attendance: 30	34 (average)
Funds In: \$ 1,571.00	\$ 5,773.24
Funds Out: \$ 300.91	\$ 5,193.40
Net Surplus/(Deficit): \$ 1,270.09	\$ 579.84

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 (July 2)</u>	<u>Next Week (July 9)</u>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Hour:	Daniel Herbert	N/A
6 <sup>th</sup> Hour:	Reader Mark Klus	N/A
Epistle:	Daniel Herbert	N/A

### **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 July 2023.**

**Tuesday, July 4** – Independence Day! God Bless America!!

**Sunday, July 9** – Annual School Backpack Program Begins! The parish will begin accepting school supply donations on this date.

**Tuesday, July 11** – Bible Study at 6:30PM on ZOOM media platform **ONLY!**

**Thursday, July 27** – Blessed Mother Olga Book Club at **6:30PM** on ZOOM media platform **ONLY!**

**Dining Out in Delaware – Summer 2023** – Taco Grande, Wilmington, DE

Exact Date is Still Yet To Be Determined. Check your emails & the bulletin for further updates and information.

Father Mark will be away on Sunday, July 16 and on Sunday, July 30. A Readers Service will be served by Deacon Michael on both Sundays.



## **Our Father among the Saints John [Maximovitch], Archbishop of Shanghai & San Fran [July 2<sup>nd</sup>]**

Our Father among the Saints John (Maximovitch), Archbishop of Shanghai and San Francisco (1896-1966), was a diocesan bishop of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia (ROCOR) who served widely from China to France to the United States.

Saint John departed this life on June 19 (O.S.) / July 2 (N.S.), 1966, and was officially glorified by the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad on July 2, 1994. His glorification was later recognized for universal veneration by the Patriarchate of Moscow on July 2, 2008.

### **Life:**

The future Saint John was born on June 4, 1896, in the village of Adamovka in Kharkiv province to pious aristocrats, Boris and Glafira Maximovitch. He was given the baptismal name of Michael, after the Holy Archangel Michael. In his youth, Michael was sickly and had a poor appetite, but he displayed an intense religious interest. He was educated at the Poltava Military School (1907-14); Kharkiv Imperial University, from which he received a law degree (in 1918); and the University of Belgrade (where he completed his theological education in 1925).

He and his family fled their country as the Bolshevik revolutionaries descended on the country, emigrating to Yugoslavia. There, he enrolled in the Department of Theology of the University of Belgrade. He was tonsured a monk in 1926 by Metropolitan Anthony (Khrapovitsky) of Kharkov (later the first primate of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia). Metropolitan Anthony later in 1926 ordained him hierodeacon. Bishop Gabriel of Chelyabinsk ordained him hieromonk on November 21, 1926. Subsequent to his ordination he began an active life of teaching in a Serbian high school and serving, at the request of local Greeks and Macedonians, in the Greek language. With the growth of his popularity, the bishops of the Russian Church Aboard resolved to elevate him to the episcopate.

Hieromonk John was consecrated bishop on May 28, 1934, with Metropolitan Anthony serving as principal consecrator, after which he was assigned to the Diocese of Shanghai. Twelve years later he was named Archbishop of China. Upon his arrival in Shanghai, Bishop John began working to restore unity among the various Orthodox nationalities. In time, he worked to build a large cathedral church that was dedicated to Surety of Sinners Icon to the Mother of God, with a bell tower and large parish house. Additionally, he inspired many activities: building of churches, hospitals, and orphanages among the Orthodox and Russians of Shanghai. He was intensely active, constantly praying and serving the daily cycle of services, while also visiting the sick with the Holy Gifts. He often would walk barefooted even in the coldest days. Yet to avoid the appearance of secular glory, he would pretend to act the fool.

With the end of World War II and the coming to power of the communists in China, Bishop John led the exodus of his community from Shanghai in 1949. Initially, he helped some 5,000 refugees to a camp on the island of Tubabao in the Philippines, while he travelled successfully to Washington, D.C., to lobby to amend the law to allow these refugees to enter the United States. It was while on this trip that Bishop John took time to establish a parish in Washington dedicated to Saint John the Forerunner.

***[...continue reading the life of Saint John [Maximovitch] on page 4...]***