

## 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 23, 2023 | 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

Tone 6 – Martyrs Trophimus, Theophilus, & 13 others in Lycia (4<sup>th</sup> c.)

Hieromartyr Apollinaris, Bishop of Ravenna (ca 75)

Righteous Warrior Theodore Ushakov (1817)

### **V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector**

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Email: [mwkoczak@gmail.com](mailto:mwkoczak@gmail.com)

*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: Dormition of the Righteous Anna, Mother of the Most Holy Theotokos

Wednesday: July 26 - Repose of St. Yakov (Jacob) Netsvetov

Thursday: July 27 - Holy Greatmartyr and Healer Panteleimon

Thursday: July 27 – ~~Blessed Mother Olga Book Club at 6:30PM~~ on the ZOOM media platform  
**ONLY!!! PLEASE NOTE: POSTPONED TO A FUTURE DATE TO BE DETERMINED! FATHER MARK WILL BE AWAY!**

Saturday: July 29 – Great Vespers – **CANCELLED!!!**

Sunday: July 30 – Apostles Silas and Silvanus of the Seventy, and those with them.

A Readers Service will be held at **9:00am**

NO Divine Liturgy – Father Mark will be away on vacation

*Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow after Readers Service*

## Texts for the Liturgical Service

### **Troparion (Tone 6)**

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb; / the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, / seeking Thy most pure body. / Thou didst capture hell / not being tempted by it. / Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. // O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee.

### **Troparion (Tone 4 – Martyrs)**

Thy holy martyr Trophimus and his companions, O Lord, / Through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from Thee, our God. / For having Thy strength, they laid low their adversaries, / and shattered the powerless boldness of demons. // Through their intercessions, save our souls!

### **Kontakion (Tone 6)**

When Christ God the Giver of Life, / raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand, / He bestowed resurrection on the human race. // He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

### **Kontakion (Tone 8 – For Martyrs (general kontakion))**

Ye have appeared as bright lamps, O holy martyrs! / Illumine the whole creation with the brightness of your miracles. / Deliver it from infirmity and drive away the deep darkness, // always interceding before Christ God for us all.

### **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!

### **Epistle Reading: Romans 15:1-7**

We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification. For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me." For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 6)



v. He that dwelleth in the aid of the Most High shall abide under the protection of the God of heaven. Alleluia (3x's)  
v. He shall say to the Lord: Thou art my protector and my refuge, my God. In Him will I trust! Alleluia (3x's)

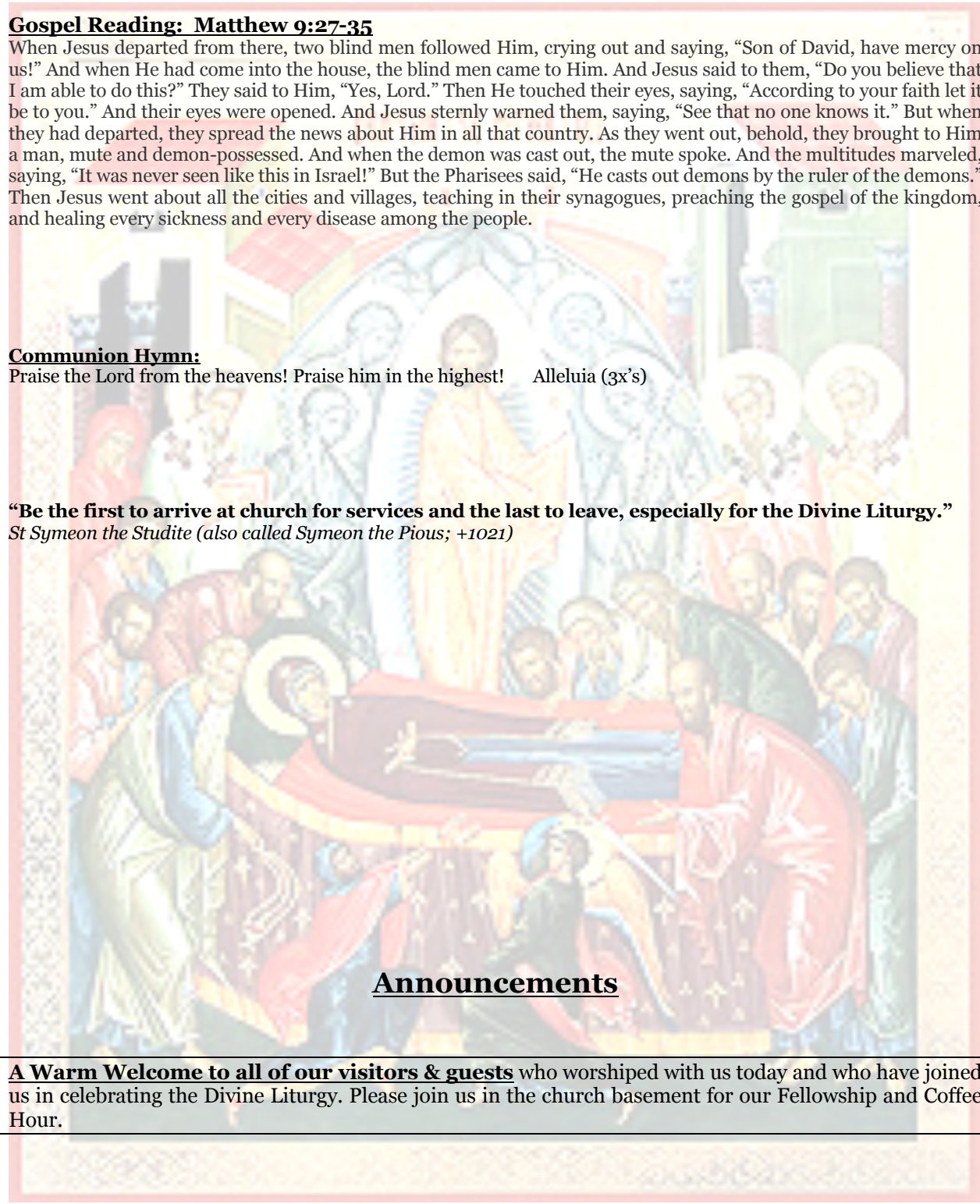
**Gospel Reading: Matthew 9:27-35**

When Jesus departed from there, two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying, “Son of David, have mercy on us!” And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” They said to Him, “Yes, Lord.” Then He touched their eyes, saying, “According to your faith let it be to you.” And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, saying, “See that no one knows it.” But when they had departed, they spread the news about Him in all that country. As they went out, behold, they brought to Him a man, mute and demon-possessed. And when the demon was cast out, the mute spoke. And the multitudes marveled, saying, “It was never seen like this in Israel!” But the Pharisees said, “He casts out demons by the ruler of the demons.” Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

**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

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

The parish will accept monetary donations to purchase school supplies to fulfill **12** backpacks for this upcoming school year. The parish **has already received donations of the backpacks themselves**. It is the school supplies that we are looking for donations. We are looking to raise **\$500** to purchase enough school supplies to fill the backpacks.

Last Date the parish will be accepting monetary donations to purchase school supply items for the backpacks is **Sunday, July, 30**. Please see Matushka Janine McCartney when making a donation to this program or for more information. Thank You!

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

Dining out in Delaware at Taco Grande in Wilmington, DE is a summer social event for our parish. We will be dining on Sunday, August 20 at 1:30pm. Please inform Matushka Jan if interested in attending so reservations can be made. Deadline for notifying Matushka Jan is **Tuesday, August 1!!!** You can contact Matushka Jan by phone (Home: 302-322-0943) or by email [jakoczak@gmail.com](mailto:jakoczak@gmail.com). Thank You!

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### *[...Life of Hieromartyr Apollinaris continued from page 8 of this bulletin...]*

In heavy fetters, he was placed on a ship bound for Illyrica and the Danube River. Two soldiers were responsible for escorting him to his place of exile. Three of the clergy voluntarily followed their bishop into exile. Along the way the vessel was wrecked and everyone drowned, except for Saint Apollinaris, his clergy and the two soldiers. The soldiers, listening to Saint Apollinaris, believed in the Lord and were baptized. Not finding any shelter, the travelers came to Moisia in Thrace, where Saint Apollinaris healed a certain illustrious inhabitant from leprosy. Both he and his companions were given shelter at the man’s home. In this land Saint Apollinaris preached tirelessly about Christ and he converted many of the pagans to Christianity, for which he was subjected to persecution by the unbelievers. They beat the saint mercilessly, then they sent him back to Italy aboard a ship.

After a three year absence, Saint Apollinaris returned to Ravenna and was joyfully received by his flock. The pagans, however, entered the church where the saint was serving the Divine Liturgy, scattered those at prayer, and dragged the saint before the idolatrous priests at the pagan temple of Apollo. The idol fell and shattered to pieces just as the saint was brought in. The pagan priests brought Saint Apollinaris to Taurus, the new governor of the district for trial. Apollinaris performed a new miracle, healing the son of the governor, who had been blind from birth. In gratitude for the healing of his son, Taurus tried to protect Saint Apollinaris from the angry crowd. He sent him to his own estate outside the city. Although Taurus’s wife and son were baptized, he feared the anger of the emperor, and did not receive Baptism. However, he was filled with gratitude and love toward his benefactor.

Saint Apollinaris lived for five years at Taurus’s estate and preached without hindrance. During this time pagan priests sent letters of denunciation to Emperor Vespasian requesting a sentence of death or exile for the Christian “sorcerer” Apollinaris. But the emperor told the pagan priests that the gods were sufficiently powerful to take revenge for themselves, if they felt insulted. All the wrath of the pagans fell upon Saint Apollinaris: they seized him and beat him fiercely as he was leaving the city for a nearby settlement. Christians found him barely alive and took him to the settlement, where he lived for seven days. During his final illness the saint did not cease to teach his flock. He predicted that after the persecutions ended, Christians would enter upon better times when they could openly and freely confess their faith. After bestowing his archpastoral blessing upon those present, the hieromartyr Apollinaris fell asleep in the Lord. Saint Apollinaris was Bishop of Ravenna for twenty-eight years, and he reposed in the year 75.



**Announcements** (cont.)

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

**Health for the Living:**

Family and Parishioners offered by David Pellack  
Family offered by Catherine Kavalkovich

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

**Memory for the Departed:**

**May Their Memories Be Eternal!**

**Vigil Cross Candles – 7/16/23**

**Scheduling**

We are scheduling to have the votive vigil cross candles lit for the major feast day services during the 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) = One Large cross is available
- \* Sunday, August 13 = One Large cross is available
- \* Dormition of the Holy Theotokos (Tuesday, August 15) = Both crosses are available

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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 (July)**

<u>Week of Sun Jul 9 to Sat Jul 15</u>	<u>July Month to date</u>
Attendance: 41	41 (average)
Funds In: \$ 3,038.00	\$ 5,130.00
Funds Out: (\$ 118.65) [reimbursements]	\$ 3,398.46
Net Surplus/(Deficit): \$ 3,156.65	\$ 1,731.54

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 23)</u>	<u>Next Week (July 30)</u>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Hour:	Matthew Andrews	John Spack
6 <sup>th</sup> Hour:	Daniel Herbert	Sbdcn Daniel Kavalkovich
Epistle:	Matthew Andrews	John Spack

### **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 & August 2023.**

**During the Month of July** – Annual School Backpack Program! The parish will begin accepting monetary donations for school supplies. Final Date for accepting donations will be on Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup>!

**Thursday, July 27** – ~~Blessed Mother Olga Book Club at 6:30PM on ZOOM media platform ONLY!~~ PLEASE NOTE: POSTPONED TO A FUTURE DATE TO BE DETERMINED! Father Mark will be away!

Father Mark will be away Next Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. A Readers Service will be served by Deacon Michael. There will be NO Vespers served on that Saturday evening, July 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **Sunday, August 20 at 1:30PM - Dining Out in Delaware – Taco Grande**

The Restaurant is located at the Wilmington Riverfront area in Wilmington, DE. This is a social event for the parish! Please check your email from Saturday, July 15 around 1:15PM for additional details and information. Please inform Matushka Jan if interested in attending so reservations can be made. Deadline for notifying Matushka Jan is **Tuesday, August 1!!!** You can contact Matushka Jan by phone (Home: 302-322-0943) or by email [jakoczak@gmail.com](mailto:jakoczak@gmail.com). Thank You!



### **Icon of the Mother of God “the Joy of All who sorrow” (with coins) in St Petersburg [July 23<sup>rd</sup>]**

The Icon of the Mother of God “Joy of All Who Sorrow” (With Coins) was glorified in the year 1888 in Petersburg, when during the time of a terrible thunderstorm lightning struck in a chapel. All was burned or singed, except for this icon of the Queen of Heaven. It was knocked to the floor, and the poor box broke open at the same time. Somehow, twelve small coins (half-kopeck pieces), became attached to the icon. A church was built in 1898 on the site of the chapel.

### **Hieromartyr Apollinaris, Bishop of Ravenna [July 23<sup>nd</sup>]**

Saint Apollinaris was a disciple of the Apostle Peter, whom he followed from Antioch to Rome sometime during the reign of the Roman emperor Claudius (41-54). Saint Peter appointed Apollinaris as Bishop of Ravenna. Arriving in Ravenna as a stranger, Saint Apollinaris asked shelter of a local inhabitant, the soldier Irenaeus, and during their conversation he revealed the purpose for which he had come.

Irenaeus had a blind son, whom Saint Apollinaris healed, after he had prayed to the Lord. The soldier Irenaeus and his family were the first people in Ravenna to believe in Christ. The saint stayed at the house of Irenaeus and preached about Christ to everyone who wished to hear his words. One of the miracles that Saint Apollinaris performed was the healing of Thekla, the incurably sick wife of the tribune. Through the prayers of the saint, she got up from her bed completely healthy. Not only did she believe in Christ, but so did her husband the tribune. In their house Saint Apollinaris set up a small church, where he celebrated the Divine Liturgy. Saint Apollinaris ordained two presbyters, Aderetus and Calocyus, and also two deacons for the newly-baptized people of Ravenna.

Saint Apollinaris labored with great zeal, preaching the Gospel at Ravenna for twelve years, and the number of Christians steadily increased. Pagan priests complained about the bishop to the governor Saturninus. The hierarch was brought to trial and subjected to grievous tortures. Thinking that he had died, the torturers took him out of the city to the seacoast and threw him into the water. The saint, however, was still alive. A certain pious Christian widow helped him and gave him shelter in her home. Saint Apollinaris stayed with her for six months, and secretly continued to preach about Christ. The saint's whereabouts became known when he restored the power of speech to an illustrious resident of the city named Boniface, whose wife had requested the saint to help her husband.

After this miracle many pagans were converted to Christ, and once again Saint Apollinaris was brought to trial and tortured. His bare feet were placed on red-hot coals. They expelled him from the city a second time, but the Lord again kept him alive. The saint did not cease preaching until he left the city. For a certain time Saint Apollinaris found himself elsewhere in Italy, where he continued to preach the Gospel as before. Returning to his flock in Ravenna, Saint Apollinaris went on trial yet again and was sentenced to banishment.

***[...continue on page 4 of this bulletin...]***