

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
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, July 30, 2023 | 8th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 7 – Apostles Silas & Silvanus of the Seventy, & those with them.

Hieromartyr Polychronius, Bishop of Babylon & martyrs with them.

Hieromartyr Valentine, Bishop of Interamna in Italy

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: A Readers Service will be held along with the offering of Holy Communion.

Today: Final Day for accepting monetary donations for school supplies for the parish's Annual School Backpack Program

Tuesday: August 1 – **Dormition Fast Begins!**

Saturday: August 5 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM**

[\[Please bring fresh fruit & vegetables to be blessed after Vesper\]](#)

Sunday: August 6 – Holy Transfiguration of Our Lord – Feast Day!

Reading of Hours – 8:30am

Divine Liturgy – **9:00am [SUMMER HOURS!]**

Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Readers Service

[\[Please bring fresh fruit & vegetables to be blessed on this day\]](#)

Tuesday: August 8 – Bible Study at 6:30PM on ZOOM platform!

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 7)

By Thy Cross Thou destroy death. / To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. / For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst chang weeping into joy. / And Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, / to proclaim that Thou are risen, // granting the world great mercy.

Troparion (Tone 3 – Apostles)

Holy Apostles Silas and Silvanus, / entreat the merciful God // to grant our souls forgiveness of transgressions.

Kontakion (Tone 7)

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, / for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. / Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: / “The Savior has come to those in faith; // enter, thou faithful, into the Resurrection!”

Kontakion (Tone 4 – Apostles)

Ye were revealed to be branches of the vine of Christ, O wise ones, / bearing clusters of virtues that pour out on us the wine of salvation. / Receiving it, we are filled with gladness, / and we celebrate your most honored memory, apostles of the Lord, Silas and Silvanus. // Therefore, intercede that great mercy and remission of sins may be granted to us.

Prokeimenon (Tone 7)

The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!
v. Offer to the Lord, O ye sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you. Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, lest anyone should say that I had baptized in my own name. Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas. Besides, I do not know whether I baptized any other. For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect. For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 7)

- v. It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. To declare Thy mercy in the morning and Thy truth by night Alleluia(3x's)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 14:14-22

And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food." But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." And they said to Him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish." He said, "Bring them here to Me." Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes. So they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained. Now those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away.

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.

TODAY is the last Day the parish will be accepting monetary donations to purchase school supply items for the backpacks. Please see Matushka Janine McCartney when donating to this program or for more information. Thank You!

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. Thank You!

It’s “Lights Out” for the incandescent bulbs that we have known, changed and singed our hands on!

While everyone was yelling about gas stoves a few months back, the incandescent light bulb went by the wayside. As of Tuesday, August 1, 2023, the U.S. Energy Department (DOE) will fully enforce new efficiency regulations that the old bulbs can no longer meet, effectively prohibiting their retail sale. In its place, people can purchase more efficient alternatives such as LED bulbs, which cost more upfront but may save consumers money in the long run (unless electrical utility companies continue to raise their rates!!!).

After over twenty years of Washington’s political and culture war over the efficiency regulations of light bulbs, the DOE completed their bulb efficiency requirements last April and will now begin full enforcement of the rules beginning this Tuesday (August 1).

The incandescent bulb, a Thomas Edison invention which everyone has used for well over a good 100 years, infamously lost most of its energy in the form of heat, thereby, making them hot to the touch when lit. The one nice thing about these bulbs was that it allowed them to be used as the heating element during the first few decades of that famous children’s play station...The Easy-Bake Oven!

One question still pondering is whether the packaging of bulbs sold after August 1 will note the measurements in both lumens and watts, or just change over to lumens, thereby, eliminating the watts measurement altogether, something people have known for their whole lives. A lumen is the measure of brightness for a light bulb, while watts measure the power consumed. A typical 60-watt incandescent bulb produces about 800 lumens according to the DOE, translating into about 13 lumens per watt.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Brianna Herbert on her 20th birthday offered by M/M Herbert
Family and Parishioners offered by David Pellack
Godchildren offered by David Pellack
Family and Parishioners offered by Nina Patterson

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) = One Small and One Large is 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 16 to Sat Jul 22</u>	<u>July Month to date</u>
Attendance: 19	32 (average)
<i>143.54</i>	
Funds In: \$ 1,462.00	\$ 6,592.00
Funds Out: \$ 6,445.04	\$ 9,843.50
Net Surplus/(Deficit): (\$ 4,983.04)	(\$ 3,251.50)

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 (July 30)</u>	<u>Next Week (Aug 6)</u>
3 rd Hour:	John Spack	Michael Spack
6 th Hour:	Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich	Reader Mark Klus
Epistle:	John Spack	Michael 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.

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.

TODAY! – Final Day for accepting monetary donations for school supplies for the parish's Annual School Backpack Program!

Tuesday, August 8 – Bible Study at **6:30PM** on the ZOOM media platform **ONLY!**

Monday, August 14 – Eve of the Dormition of the Holy Theotokos - Vespers at **6:00PM!**

Tuesday, August 15 – Feast of the Dormition of the Holy Theotokos - Divine Liturgy at **10:00AM!**

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. Thank You!

Thursday, August 24 – Blessed Mother Olga Book Club at **6:30PM** on the ZOOM media platform **ONLY!**



Apostle Silas of the Seventy [July 30th]

The Holy Apostle of the Seventy Silas was a disciple of the Savior.

Saint Silas was a respected figure in the original Church at Jerusalem, one of the “chief men among the brethren” (Acts 15:22). The Council of the Apostles was convened at Jerusalem in the year 51 to deal with the question of whether Gentile Christian converts should be required to observe the Mosaic Law. The Apostles sent a message with Paul and Barnabas to the Christians of Antioch, giving the decision of the Council that Christians of Gentile origin did not have to observe the prescriptions of the Mosaic Law. Nonetheless, they were told that they must refrain from partaking of foods offered to idols, from things strangled,

and from blood, to refrain from fornication (Acts 15:20-29). Together with Saints Paul and Barnabas, the Council of the Apostles sent Saints Silas and Jude to explain the message in greater detail, since they both were filled with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Saint Jude was later sent back to Jerusalem, but Saint Silas remained at Antioch and zealously assisted Saint Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, on his missionary journeys preaching the Gospel. They visited Syria, Cilicia, and Macedonia.

In the city of Philippi they were accused of inciting unrest among the people, and for this they were arrested, beaten with rods, and then thrown into prison. At midnight, when the saints were at prayer, suddenly there was a strong earthquake, their chains fell off from them and the doors of the prison opened. The prison guard, supposing that the prisoners had fled, wanted to kill himself, but was stopped by the Apostle Paul. Then, he fell down trembling at the feet of the saints, and with faith accepted their preaching about Christ. He then led them out of the prison and took them to his own home, where he washed their wounds, and was baptized together with all his household.

From Philippi Saints Paul and Silas proceeded on to the cities of Amphipolis, Apollonia and Thessalonica. In each city they made new converts to Christ and built up the Church.

At Corinth the holy Apostle Silas was consecrated as bishop, and worked many miracles and signs, and there he finished his life.

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The Holy Apostle Silvanus preached the Word of God together with the chief Apostles Peter and Paul. In his First Epistle, the holy Apostle Peter makes mention of him: “By Silvanus, a faithful brother to you, as I suppose, I have written briefly...” (1 Peter 5:12). Saint Silvanus was made bishop at Thessalonica and died there a martyr, having undergone many sorrows and misfortunes for the Lord’s sake.

The Holy Apostle Crescens is mentioned by the holy Apostle Paul (2 Tim. 4:10), saying that Crescens had gone preaching to Galatia. He was made bishop there and preached.

The Holy Apostle of the Seventy Epenetus was a disciple of the Savior. The Holy Apostle Epenetus was made bishop at Carthage. In his Epistle to the Romans, the holy Apostle Paul writes: “Greet my dear Epenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia unto Christ” (Rom. 16:5).

The Holy Apostle of the Seventy Andronicus was a disciple of the Savior. The Apostle Andronicus is mentioned by Saint Paul: “Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, ... who are of note among the Apostles, who also were in Christ, before me” (Rom. 16:7). The holy Apostle Andronicus was bishop in Pannonia (modern-day Hungary). Saints Andronicus and Junia are also commemorated on May 17.