

## 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, August 20, 2023 | 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

Tone 2 – Afterfeast of the Dormition

Prophet Samuel (11<sup>th</sup> c. B.C.)

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

615 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street | New Castle, DE 19720-6020

Phone: Home: 302.322.0943 | Mobile: 302.547.4952

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**

Today: Dining Out in Delaware – Taco Grande – **1:30PM**  
The restaurant is located at the Wilmington Riverfront area  
in Wilmington, DE. This is our annual social event for the parish.

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

Saturday: August 26 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM**

Sunday: August 27 – Venerable Poemen (Pimen) the Great  
Reading of Hours – 8:30am  
Divine Liturgy – **9:00am [SUMMER HOURS!]**  
*Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Readers Service*

## 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 1 – Dormition)**

In giving birth thou didst preserve thy virginity. / In falling asleep thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos. / Thou wast translated to life, O Mother of Life, // and by thy prayers thou dost deliver our souls from death.

### **Troparion (Tone 2 – Prophet Samuel)**

We celebrate the memory / of Thy prophet Samuel, O Lord; / through him we beseech Thee: // “Save our souls!”

### **Kontakion (Tone 2)**

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior, / seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb! / The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee, // and the world, my Savior, praises Thee forever.

### **Kontakion (Tone 8 – Prophet Samuel)**

Thou wast a precious gift given to God before thy conception. / Thou didst serve Him like an angel from thine infancy, O blessed one. / Thou wast granted the charism to announce beforehand future things. // Therefore, we cry to thee: “Rejoice, Samuel, Prophet of God and great high priest.”

### **Kontakion (Tone 2 – Dormition)**

Neither the tomb, nor death, could hold the Theotokos, / who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions. / For being the Mother of Life, / she was translated to life // by the One Who dwelt in her virginal womb.

### **Prokeimenon (Tone 2)**

The Lord is my strength and my song / He has become my salvation.  
v. The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.

### **Prokeimenon (Tone 3 – Dormition)**

My soul doth magnify the Lord, / and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

### **Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:2-12**

If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. My defense to those who examine me is this: Do we have no right to eat and drink? Do we have no right to take along a believing wife, as do also the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working? Who ever goes to war at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat of its fruit? Or who tends a flock and does not drink of the milk of the flock? Do I say these things as a mere man? Or does not the law say the same also? For it is written in the law of Moses, “You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain.” Is it oxen God is concerned about? Or does He say it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written, that he who plows should plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope should be partaker of his hope. If we have sown spiritual things for you, is it a great thing if we reap your material things? If others are partakers of this right over you, are we not even more? Nevertheless we have not used this right, but endure all things lest we hinder the gospel of Christ. Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 2)

- v. May the Lord hear thee in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect thee! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call to Thee! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Arise, O Lord, into Thy rest, Thou and the Ark of Thy sanctification! Alleluia (3x's) (TONE 2)

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:23-35**

Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!' So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?' And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.

**Instead of "It is truly meet ...," we sing:**

The Angels, as they looked upon the Dormition of the Virgin, were struck with wonder, seeing how the Virgin went up from earth to heaven. The limits of nature are overcome in thee, O Pure Virgin: for birthgiving remains virginal, and life is united to death; a virgin after childbearing and alive after death, thou dost ever save thine inheritance, O Theotokos.

**Communion Hymn:**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest!  
I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord! 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

### His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon Offers Condolences for the Repose of His Eminence Metropolitan Daniel of Tokyo and all Japan

On August 13, 2023 His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon sent a letter of condolence to His Eminence Archbishop Seraphim of the Holy Autonomous Orthodox Church in Japan on the occasion of the repose of His Eminence Metropolitan Daniel of Tokyo and All Japan. In his letter, His Beatitude assured His Eminence of his prayers and mentioned the long-standing ties of friendship between our Churches

The text of the letter reads as follows:

Your Eminence, dear brother and concelebrant in the Lord's Mysteries,

Christ is in our midst!

Please accept my condolences on the recent falling asleep in the Lord of His Eminence Metropolitan Daniel of Tokyo and All Japan. On behalf of the clergy and faithful of the Orthodox Church in America, we extend our sympathy to the grieving clergy and faithful of the Holy Autonomous Orthodox Church in Japan, and we assure you of our prayers both for His Eminence's repose and for the grieving flock he leaves behind. The historic connection between our Churches has left indelible bonds of love and fellowship in our hearts, and the children of the Orthodox Church in America cannot but mourn with you who mourn (Sir. 7:34, Rom. 12:15).

For more than twenty years, His Eminence served the Lord as the primate of Japan—Nippon, "the place whence the sun rises." May the true Sun of righteousness, the never-setting Light of the age to come, rise eternally over His Eminence, raising him up with that rising, rewarding His Eminence's many years of labor in the heat of the day with eternal refreshment and everlasting participation in the tranquil brightness of the Holy Trinity.

永遠の記憶! May His Eminence's memory be eternal!

Yours in Christ,

+Tikhon  
Archbishop of Washington  
Metropolitan of All America and Canada

\*\*\*\*\*

Please keep in your prayers those who lost everything in the devastation fires on the island of Maui in Hawaii, especially those in the historic area of Lahaina.

To those who were concerned about the orthodox churches in Hawaii, rest assure that the two OCA orthodox missions (St Juvenaly in Honalo and Holy Ascension in Honomu) are on the Island of Hawai'I, not Maui. Fires not affecting those areas yet.

**Announcements** (cont.)

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

**Health for the Living:**

Nina Patterson (on her birthday) offered by Melanie Albrecht  
Amelia Mawger offered by the Hourahan Family  
Family and Parishioners offered by Catherine Kavalkovich

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

**Memory for the Departed:**

Stephen Spack offered by Nina Patterson

**May Their Memories Be Eternal!**

**Vigil Cross Candles – 8/13/23**

Two Small Vigil Crosses – Memory of John and Margaret Pellack  
offered by David Pellack

#####

**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!

#####

## 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 (August)**

<u>Week of Sun Aug 6 to Sat Aug 12</u>		<u>August Month to date</u>
Attendance:	35	35 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 4,243.00	\$ 4,243.00
Funds Out:	\$ 1,149.48	\$ 3,828.82
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 3,093.52	\$ 414.18

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

## 2023 Monthly/Quarterly Schedule

- 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.
- 4<sup>th</sup> 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 (Aug 20)</u>	<u>Next Week (Aug 27)</u>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Hour:	Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich	Simon Herbert
6 <sup>th</sup> Hour:	John Spack	Michael Spack
Epistle:	Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich	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 August & September 2023.

Tuesday, September 12 – Bible Study at 6:30PM on ZOOM media platform ONLY!

Thursday, September 28 – Blessed Mother Olga Book Club at 6:30PM on the ZOOM media platform ONLY!

Friday, September 22 – The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament of the “Two Holies and a Saint” (sponsored by Orthodox Church of the HOLY Cross in Medford, NJ; Assumption of the HOLY Virgin Orthodox Church in Philiadelphia, PA; and SAINT Stephen Orthodox Cathedral in Philadelphia, PA). at Ron Jaworski’s Ramblewood Country Club in Mount Laurel, NJ. Golf Registration deadline is **Thursday, August 31**. Proceeds from the tournament will benefit special needs children in Uzhhorod, Ukrainian!

**\*\* Sunday November 4 – Visitation of Archbishop MARK to our parish! \*\***



## Prophet Samuel [August 20<sup>th</sup>]

The Prophet Samuel was the fifteenth and last of the Judges of Israel, living more than 1146 years before the Birth of Christ. He was descended from the Tribe of Levi, and was the son of Elkanah from Ramathaim-Zophim of Mount Ephraim. He was born, having been besought from the Lord through the prayers of his mother Hannah (therefore he received the name Samuel, which means “besought from God”). Even before birth, he was dedicated to God. Her song, “My heart exults in the Lord,” is the Third Ode of the Old Testament (1 Sam/1 Kings 2:1-10).

When the boy reached the age of three, his mother went with him to Shiloh and in accord with her vow dedicated him to the worship of God. She gave him into the care of the High Priest Eli, who at this time was a judge over Israel. The prophet grew in the fear of God, and at twelve years of age he had a revelation that God would punish the house of the High Priest Eli, because he did not restrain the impiety of his sons. Eli’s whole family was wiped out in a single day.

The prophecy was fulfilled when the Philistines, having slain in battle 30,000 Israelites (among them were also the sons of the High Priest, Hophni and Phinees), gaining victory and capturing the Ark of the Covenant. Hearing this, the High Priest Eli fell backwards from his seat at the gate, and breaking his back, he died. The wife of Phinees, upon hearing what had happened in this very hour, gave birth to a son (Ichabod) and died with the words: “The glory has departed from Israel, for the Ark of God is taken away” (1 Sam/1 Kgs 4: 22).

Upon the death of Eli, Samuel became the judge of the nation of Israel. The Ark of God was returned by the Philistines on their own initiative. After returning to God, the Israelites returned to all the cities that the Philistines had taken. In his old age, the Prophet Samuel made his sons Joel and Abiah judges over Israel, but they did not follow the integrity and righteous judgment of their father, since they were motivated by greed.

Then the elders of Israel, wanting the nation of God to be “like other nations” (1 Sam/1 Kgs 8: 20), demanded of the Prophet Samuel that they have a king. The Prophet Samuel anointed Saul as king, but saw in this a downfall of the people, whom God Himself had governed until this time, announcing His will through His chosen saints. Resigning the position of judge, the Prophet Samuel asked the people if they consented to his continued governance, but no one stepped forward for him.

After denouncing the first king, Saul, for his disobedience to God, the Prophet Samuel anointed David as king. He had offered David asylum, saving him from the pursuit of King Saul. The Prophet Samuel died in extreme old age. His life is recorded in the Bible (1 Sam/1 Kgs; Sirach 46:13-20). In the year 406 A.D. the relics of the Prophet Samuel were transferred from Judea to Constantinople.

