

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, November 19, 2023 | 24th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 7 – Prophet Obadiah (Abdias) (9th c. B.C.)

Martyr Barlaam of Caesarea in Cappadocia (ca. 304)

Martyr Heliodorus in Pamphylia (ca. 273)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

615 West 11th Street | New Castle, DE 19720-6020

Phone: Home: 302.322.0943 | Mobile: 302.547.4952

Email: mwkoczak@gmail.com

Deacon – Michael McCartney

Choir Director – Nina Patterson

Subdeacon – Daniel (Ken) Kavalkovich

Reader – Mark Klus

Reader – David Pellack

Parish President - Matthew Andrews [Phone: 856.217.8075]

Weekly Schedule

Tuesday: November 21 - Divine Liturgy for The Entry of the Most-Holy Theotokos into the Temple beginning at **10:00AM!**

Thursday: November 23 - Thanksgiving! Remember to Give Thanks for the Blessings You Have In Your Life.

Saturday: November 25 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM**

Sunday: November 26 – Venerable Alypius the Stylite

Reading of Hours – 9:30am

Divine Liturgy – **10:00am**

Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Readers Service

Thursday: November 30 – Blessed Mother Olga Book Club at **6:30PM** on the ZOOM media platform **ONLY!!!** [**Please Note:** Rescheduled from Thursday, November 23 since that day is Thanksgiving!]

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 change 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 4 – Martyr Barlaam)

Armed with youthful fervor, / Thou didst endure martyrdom in old age and glorified Christ. / Thou didst offer Him thy right hand as a whole burnt offering / and thy holy soul as a blameless sacrifice. // Intercede that all that be granted forgiveness, Great-martyr Barlaam!

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 3 – Martyr Barlaam)

Though weak with old age thou didst vanquish the Evil One / in thy mighty contest, O Barlaam. / Thou didst endure the rack like one without a body, / and steadfastly endured the burning of thy hand. / Therefore, God the Word has crowned thee with a crown of glory.

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: Ephesians 2:14-22

For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 7)

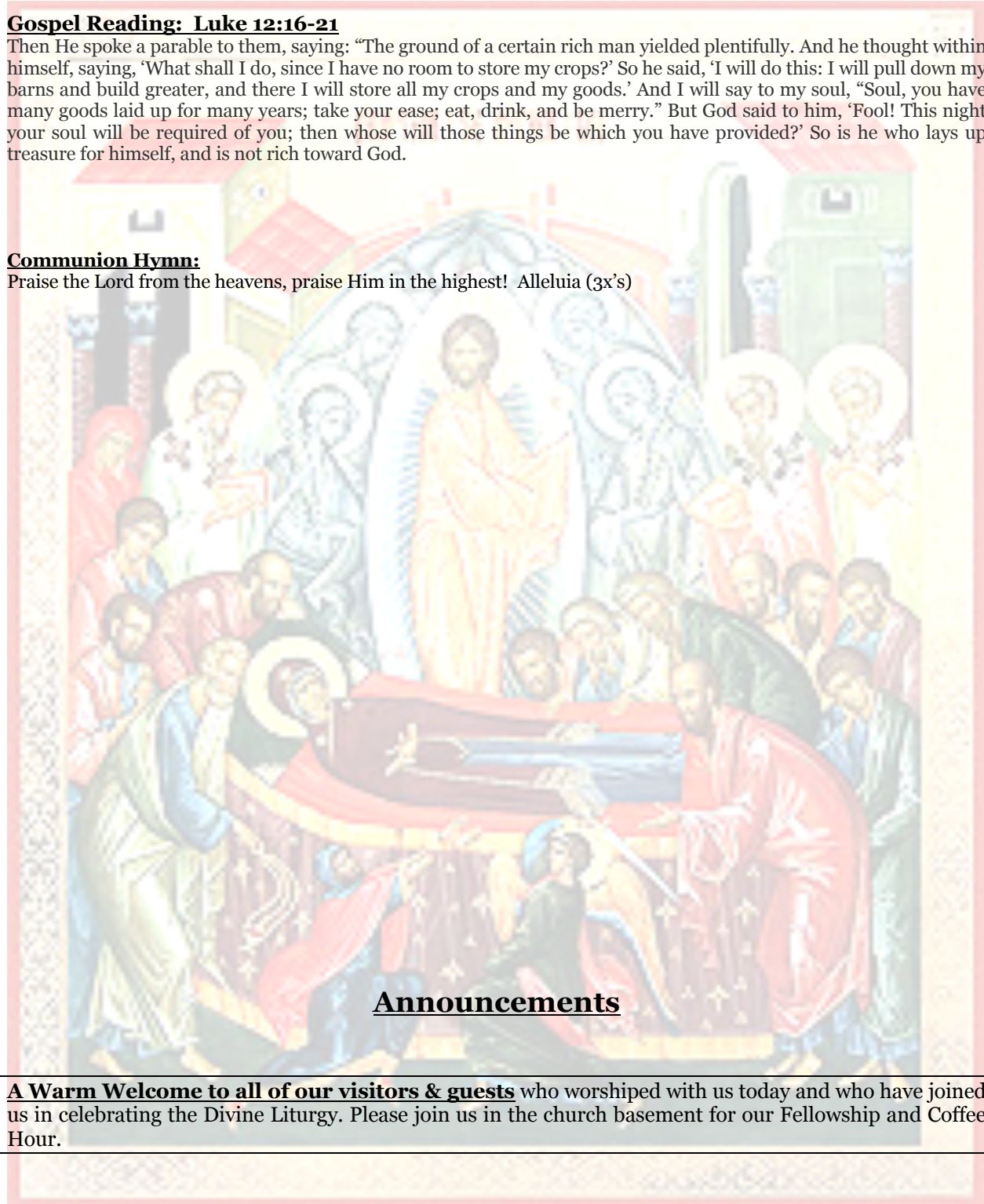
- v. It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. To declare Thy mercy in the morning and Thy truth by night Alleluia(3x's)

Gospel Reading: Luke 12:16-21

Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods.' And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.'" But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! 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

2023 Fall General Parish Meeting (Summation):

On Sunday, November 12, 2023, the parish held its Fall General Parish Meeting. Along with holding the election of parish council officers for the 2024-2025 calendar years, the only major item during the meeting consisted of a discussion on the challenges in obtaining the correct parish information on all official platforms and documents so there is consistency and uniformity in any future endeavors with the parish.

Minutes for this meeting will be made available and posted on the bulletin board once they have been compiled by the secretary and reviewed by the parish council.

With that said, here are your 2024 Parish Council Officers:

2024 Parish Officers

Parish Spiritual Leader: Father Mark Kozak

Parish President: Matthew Andrews (2024-2025) [3rd consecutive term on council]

Parish Vice President: Brett McKenna (2023-2024) [2nd consecutive term on council]

Parish Secretary: Natalie Patterson (2024-2025) [3rd consecutive term on council]

Parish Treasurer: Kenneth Kavalkovich (2023-2024) [3rd consecutive term on council]

Parish Trustee (Even Year): Tanya Krawchuk (2024-2025) [2nd consecutive term council]

Parish Trustee (Odd Year): Reader Mark Klus (2023-2024)

Parish Immediate Past President: Peter Parsells

Next year at the Fall General Parish Meeting, the positions of Parish Vice-President, Parish Treasurer, and Parish Trustee (Odd-Year) will be the only positions available to elect parish council officers for a two-year term.

Many Years, Your Beatitude!

This past Monday, November 13 – with deep love, respect and heartfelt thanksgiving – we mark the 11th Anniversary of the election of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon at the 17th All-American Council of the Orthodox Church in America, which was held at Holy Trinity Church, Parma, OH on November 13, 2012.

On behalf of the Holy Synod of Bishops and the clergy, monastics and faithful of the Orthodox Church in America, we assure Metropolitan Tikhon of our ongoing love and prayers today and in the many years to come. May our Lord continue to grant him peace, prosperity, safety, honor, health and length of days “rightly dividing” the word of God’s truth as he marks this milestone in his life and in the life of the Church!

Axios! Axios! Axios! Eis polla eti despota!
May God grant you many, many years, Your Beatitude!

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Family and Parishioners offered by Nina Patterson
Family and Parishioners offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Cherly Homa, Jackie Homa offered by Ronald Homa
Deacon Michael & Matushka Janine offered by Catherine Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Alexander & Christine Mackiewicz offered by David Pellack
Emelie Albrecht offered by Melanie Albrecht

May Their Memories Be Eternal!

Vigil Cross Candles – 11/12/23

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Please remember in your prayers:

Remember all the victims and the 1,000's more injured in the senseless atrocity against humanity in both Ukraine and Israel. May we pray for an end to the killings in these regions and that peace may prevail.

Norman Andrews; Emily Gerasimoff; Jane Kelly; Anne (Homa) Killoran; Sheba Patton; 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 (November)

<u>Week of Sun Nov 5 to Sat Nov 11</u>	<u>November Month to Date</u>
Attendance: 39	39 (average)
Funds In: \$ 1,182.00	\$ 1,182.00
Funds Out: \$ 1,167.67	\$ 3,181.18
Net Surplus/(Deficit): \$ 14.33	\$ 1,999.18

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

- 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.
- 4th 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:

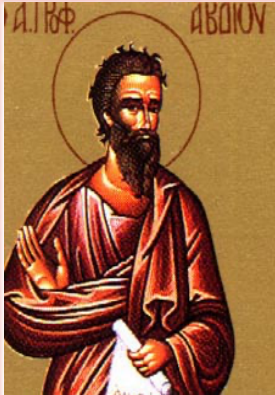
	<u>Today (Nov 19)</u>	<u>Next Week (Nov 26)</u>
3 rd Hour:	Daniel S Herbert	Simon Herbert
6 th Hour:	Dr. David Albrecht	Michael Spack
Epistle:	Daniel s Herbert	Simon Herbert

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 November & December 2023.

Sundays in December – Annual Saint Nicholas Parish Fair will be held!
Donations of new and never used items will be collected between now and Sunday, November 26!



Prophet Obadiah (Abdia) [November 19th]

The Holy Prophet Obadiah [or Abdia] is the fourth of the Twelve Minor Prophets, and he lived during the ninth century B.C. He was from the village of Betharam, near Sicheim, and he served as steward of the impious Israelite King Ahab. In those days the whole of Israel had turned away from the true God and had begun to offer sacrifice to Baal, but Obadiah faithfully served the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in secret.

When Ahab's wife, the impious and dissolute Jezebel, hunted down all the prophets of the Lord (because of her quarrel with the Prophet Elias), Obadiah gave them shelter and food (3/1 Kgs 18:3 ff). Ahab's successor King Okhoziah [Ahaziah] sent three detachments of soldiers to arrest the holy Prophet Elias (July 20). One of these detachments was headed by Saint Obadiah. Through the prayer of Saint Elias, two of the detachments were consumed by heavenly fire, but Saint Obadiah and his detachment were spared by the Lord 4/2 Kgs 1).

From that moment Saint Obadiah resigned from military service and became a follower of the Prophet Elias. Afterwards, he himself received the gift of prophecy. The God-inspired work of Saint Obadiah is the fourth of the Books of the Twelve Minor Prophets in the Bible, and contains predictions about the New Testament Church. The holy Prophet Obadiah was buried in Samaria.

In iconography, the Prophet Obadiah is depicted as a grey-haired old man with a rounded beard. His scroll reads: "In that day, saith the Lord, I shall destroy the wise men out of Idumea." (Obadiah 8).

