

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
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Mailing Address: PO Box 20083 * Point Breeze Station | Philadelphia PA 19145-0383

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

Sunday, November 26, 2023 | 25th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 8 – Venerable Alypius the Stylite of Adrianopolis (7th c.)

Dedication of the Church of the Greatmartyr George at Kiev (1051-54)

Repose of St. Innokenty (Innocent), First Bishop of Irkutsk (1731)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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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

Thursday: November 30 – Holy Apostle Andrew the First Called

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

Saturday: December 2 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM**

Sunday: December 3 – Prophet Zephaniah (Sophonias)

Reading of Hours – 9:30am

Divine Liturgy – **10:00am**

Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Readers Service

Sunday: December 3 – Saint Nicholas Fair after Divine Liturgy

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 8)

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! / Thou didst accept the three day burial / to free us from our sufferings! // O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to thee!

Troparion (Tone 1 – Venerable Alypius)

Thou wast a pillar of patient endurance, / having imitated the forefathers, O Venerable One: / Job in suffering and Joseph in temptations. / Thou didst live like the Bodiless Ones while yet in the flesh, Alypius, our Father. // Beseech Christ God that our souls may be saved!

Kontakion (Tone 8)

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrected Adam. / Eve exults in Thy Resurrection, // and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

Kontakion (Tone 8 – Venerable Alypius)

The Church glorified and praises thee today, O Alypius, / as a perfect example of virtue and the boast of ascetics. // Through thy prayers, grant remission of sins to all who venerate thy life and thy struggles!

Prokeimenon (Tone 8)

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord our God!
v. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 4:1-6

I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 8)

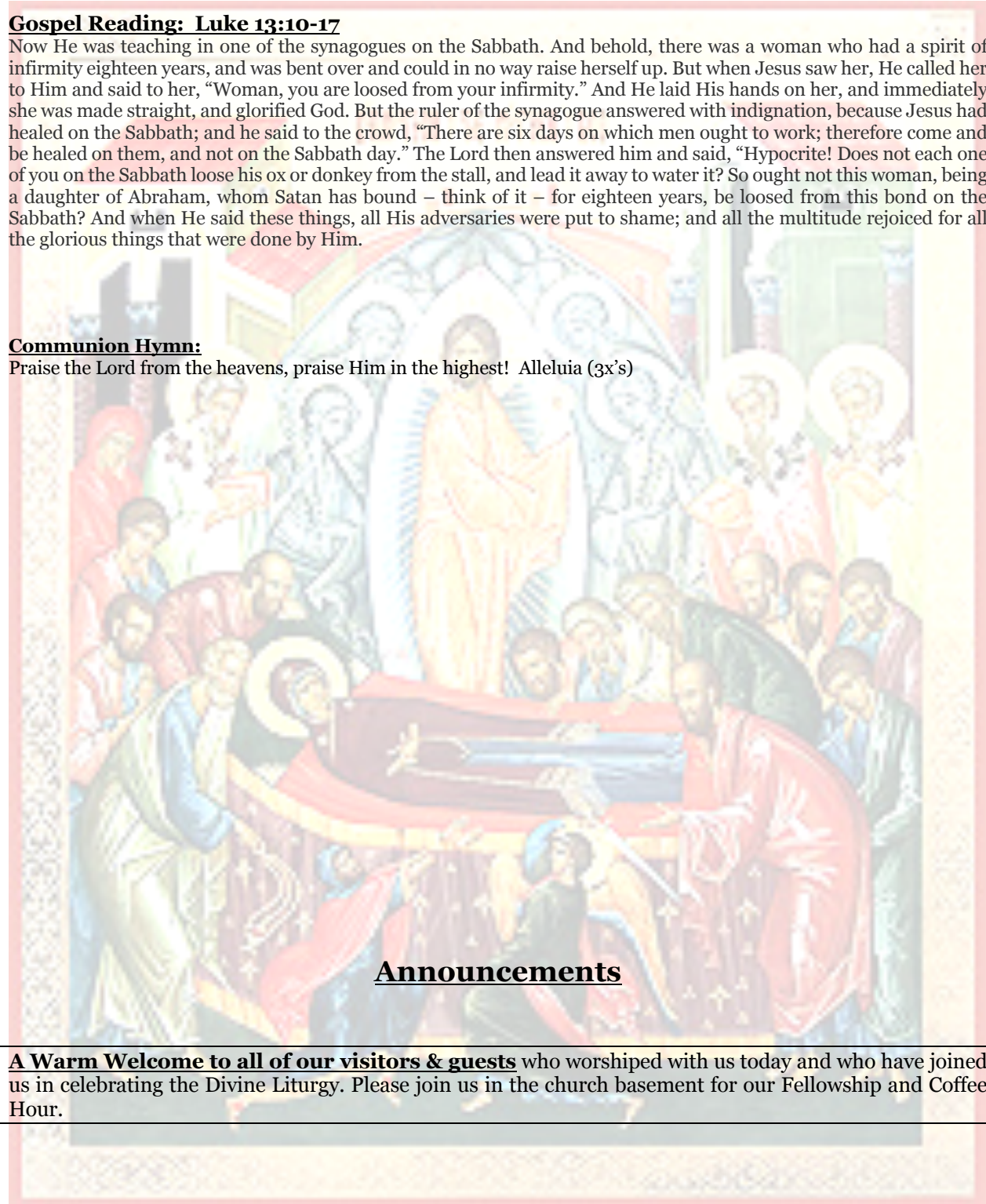
v. Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior! Alleluia (3x's)
v. Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him
with songs of praise! Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Luke 13:10-17

Now He was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise herself up. But when Jesus saw her, He called her to Him and said to her, "Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God. But the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath; and he said to the crowd, "There are six days on which men ought to work; therefore come and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath day." The Lord then answered him and said, "Hypocrite! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or donkey from the stall, and lead it away to water it? So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound – think of it – for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath? And when He said these things, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by Him.

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

Parish Christmas Card 2023

This year's Parish Christmas card will be distributed on Christmas Day. Please pick up a form at the parish when you attend Vespers or Divine Liturgy over the next week. Or check your email from Monday, November 20th around 12:20PM for a .pdf copy of the form. Please submit your form to Reader David Pellack or Matushka Janine by **Sunday, December 3, 2023**. Thank You!

Donation for a one line notation on the card (66 characters (13 words) is \$10.00
Donation for a two line notation on the card (132 characters (26 words) is \$20.00

Parish Christmas Fundraisers 2023

The Parish will have for sale chocolate bars, poppy seed rolls, and nut rolls.

Donation towards purchasing Chocolate bars is \$7.00 each
Donation towards purchasing Poppy Seed Rolls is \$20.00 each
Donation towards purchasing Nut Rolls is \$20.00 each

Chocolate Bars can be picked up from Matushka Janine between December 3 to December 24, 2023. Both Poppy Seed and Nut Rolls will be delivered on Sunday, December 24, 2023 at the Parish.

Please pick up a Christmas Fundraisers 2023 form at the parish when you attend Vespers or Divine Liturgy over the next week. Or check your email from Monday, November 20th around 12:20PM for a .pdf copy of the form. Please submit your form to Reader David Pellack or Matushka Janine by **Sunday, December 10, 2023**. Thank You!

Children's Saint Nicholas Icon coloring Contest

This year, the children of the Parish and their friends are invited to submit a colored icon of Saint Nicholas in a coloring contest by December 10, 2023. All entries will be accepted for children submitting a colored icon that are aged 1-18. Mother Catherine has graciously agreed to be the Judge or at least one of the Judges. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place per age group. Please submit the finished colored icons to Matushka Janine McCartney by the deadline date which is **Sunday, December 10, 2023!**

Please see your email from Monday, November 20 around 1:30PM for a .pdf copy of the Saint Nicholas icon or obtain a copy at the parish when you attend Vespers or Divine Liturgy over the next week. Thank You!

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Ken Walker offered by David Pellack
Emily Gerasimoff offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Norman Andrews, Family offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Emily, Norman, Christopher, Debra offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Levi, Patricia, Catherine offered by M/M K Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Julia Jugan offered by David Pellack
William and Anna Zuzulock offered by David Pellack
Vito, Marc Sr. and Marc Jr. offered by Patricia Ferguson
David Albrecht Sr. offered by Nina Patterson
Christopher John Homa offered by Ron Homa

May Their Memories Be Eternal!

Vigil Cross Candles – 11/19/23

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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 12 to Sat Nov 18</u>	<u>November Month to Date</u>
Attendance: 36	38 (average)
Funds In: \$ 2,319.00	\$ 3,501.00
Funds Out: \$ 1,641.67	\$ 4,822.85
Net Surplus/(Deficit): \$ 677.33	(\$ 1,321.85)

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:

Today (Nov 26)
3rd Hour: Simon Herbert
6th Hour: Michael Spack
Epistle: Simon Herbert

Next Week (Dec 3)
Michael Wanenchak
John Spack
Michael Wanenchak

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 between 11:30AM to 2:00PM! Donations of new and never used items will be accepted up until TODAY! Parish Fair begins next Sunday.

Thursday, January 25 and Friday, January 26, 2024 – The 60th Annual Diocesan Assembly will be held at Christ the Savior Orthodox Church in Harrisburg, PA. If you are interested in attending as a Lay Delegate to represent the parish or attend just as an Assembly observer, please speak with Father Mark or Parish President Matthew Andrews.



Venerable Alypius the Stylite of Adrianopolis [November 26th]

Saint Alypius the Stylite was born in the city of Adrianopolis in Paphlagonia. His mother, a Christian, was widowed early, and she sent her son to be educated by Bishop Theodore. She distributed her substance to the poor, then began to live an ascetic life near the church as a deaconess.

Saint Alypius, from his early years, wanted to devote his life to God and yearned for the solitary life, although Bishop Theodore would not give him permission to do so. Once, when Saint Alypius was accompanying his bishop to Constantinople, the holy Martyr Euphemia (September 16) appeared to him in a vision, summoning Saint Alypius to return to Adrianopolis and found a church in her name.

With contributions offered by believers in Adrianopolis, Saint Alypius did build a church in the name of the holy Martyr Euphemia, on the site of a dilapidated pagan temple infested by legions of devils. Beside the church, under the open sky, the saint erected a pillar over a pagan tomb. For fifty-three years Saint Alypius struggled upon the pillar, praying to God and teaching those who came to him.

The demons which infested the pagan cemetery fell upon the ascetic by night and pelted him with stones. Saint Alypius, wanted nothing to stand in the way of the attacks of the spirits of darkness, then even took down the boards that served him as a roof, protecting him from the rain and wind. In the face of the saint's conquering steadfastness, the demons fled the place forever, which had been sanctified by his deed of voluntary martyrdom.

Fourteen years before his death, Saint Alypius was no longer able to stand. He was compelled to lie on his side because of the weakness of his legs, and endured grievous sufferings with humble gratitude. Around the saint's pillar two monasteries sprang up: a men's monastery on the one side, and a women's monastery on the other. Saint Alypius introduced strict monastic rules for both monasteries and he directed both monasteries until his death. Saint Alypius reposed in the year 640, at age 118. The body of the venerable stylite was buried in the church he founded in honor of the holy Martyr Euphemia. The relics of the saint of God healed many of those who came in faith.

