

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

Sunday, August 25, 2024 | 9th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 8 – Return of the Relics of the Apostle Bartholomew
from Anastasiopolis to Lipari (6th c.)

Holy Apostle Titus of the Seventy, Bishop of Crete (1st c.)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Subdeacon – Daniel (Ken) Kavalkovich Choir Director – Nina Patterson
Reader – Mark Klus Reader – David Pellack
Parish President - Matthew Andrews [Phone: 856.217.8075]

Weekly Schedule

Today: The 40th Day Parastas for Emily Gerasimoff will be served immediately after Divine Liturgy.

Thursday: August 29 - Beheading of Saint John the Baptist
Strict Fast Day!

Saturday: August 31 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM**

Sunday: September 1 – **Church New Year** (Indiction)

Sunday: September 1 – St Simeon the Stylite (the Elder)
Reading of Hours – 8:30am
Divine Liturgy – **9:00am [Summer Hours]**
FINAL SUNDAY OF SUMMER HOURS THIS SEASON!
Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: September 8 – Nativity of the Most-Holy Lady Theotokos

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 3 – Holy Apostles Bartholomew and Titus)

Holy Apostles, Bartholomew and Titus, / entreat the merciful God, // to grant our souls forgiveness of transgressions!

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 4 – Holy Apostle Bartholomew)

Thou didst appear as a great sun to the world with miracles and rays of teaching. / Thou dost guide to the Light all who venerate thee, // O Apostle of the Lord, Bartholomew.

Kontakion (Tone 2 – Holy Apostle Titus)

Titus, worthy of all praise and preacher of Christ's mysteries, / thou wast Paul's companion, and with him taught us the doctrine of God. / Therefore we cry out to thee: // "Never cease to intercede for the sake of us all!"

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: 1 Corinthians 3:9-17

For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.

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: Matthew 14:22-34

Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there. But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary. Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God." When they had crossed over, they came to the land of Gennesaret.

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! Alleluia (3x's)



"LIFE IS FRAGILE...HANDLE WITH PRAYER"!

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


Vigil Cross Candles – 8/15/24

[The Dormition of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary]

Two Large Vigil Crosses – Memory of Paul and Irene Kavcsak, Grace and Arthur Patterson, Mary and Michael Spack, Michael and Julia Kavchok offered by Nina Patterson.

Cradles to Crayons – Philadelphia holds Backpack-A-Thon®!!

On Thursday, August 21, Cradles to Crayons – Philadelphia held their annual “Backpack-A-Thon®” event at Lincoln Financial Field with over 600 hundred volunteers who came together, had a blast, and made it all happen by packing brand-new backpacks equipped with new folders, notebooks, pencils, crayons, and other supplies to students and families.

The “Backpack-A-Thon®” was a Success!  Cradles to Crayons – Philadelphia packed around 35,000 backpacks which means they are on their way to helping 72,500 children head back to school this fall with all the supplies they need to succeed and enjoy learning.

“The lack of school essentials and affordable adequate, appropriate clothing (also known as the hidden crisis, Clothing Insecurity) is a barrier to academic success and impacts their ability to focus or even attend school. C2C is the only large scale non-profit organization dedicated to addressing Clothing Insecurity. This year, C2C will distribute one million packages of clothing, shoes, diapers, and essentials, to families and children across its network,” the organization announced in a press release.

“The costs of getting students ready for new school year are higher than ever: families with school-aged children spent an average of \$890.07 on back-to-school items in 2023, for a total spend of more than \$41 billion across the U.S. – both record highs,” the announcement continued. “C2C’s Ready for Learning initiative bridges the financial barrier for families who are already working hard to afford the rising cost of living.”

Cradles to Crayons – which was founded in 2002 and has since supplied nearly 6 million packages of essentials like clothing, shoes, diapers, and school supplies to children who don’t have access to these critical resources – believes “children deserve the clothing essentials they need to feel safe, warm, ready to learn, and valued.”

The Parish Charity Committee wishes to “Thank Everyone” who donated last month to the July Charity Collection which was earmarked towards Cradles to Crayons – Philadelphia. Your support in this endeavor makes a difference! God Bless!!

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Alexandra Walker and Jon Brach offered by the Reader David Pellack
Anastasia & her unborn child, Colin, Levi, Alex, Selena, Kenneth, Catherine,
Patricia, Barbara, Natalie & her unborn child offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Natalie Patterson-Nedbal & her unborn child offered by Nina Patterson

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Emily Gerasimoff, Marc Ferguson, Albert Kavalkovich,
Vito Maturo, Ronald Kavalkovich offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Anna Homa offered by Ron Homa
Emily Gerasimoff, offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Albert Kavalkovich offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Ronald Andrew Kavalkovich offered by Catherine Kavalkovich

May Their Memories Be Eternal!

Vigil Cross Candles – 8/18/24

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Please remember in your prayers:

+ Newly Departed Servant of God Peter Witiak who fell asleep in the Lord on Wednesday morning, August 21, 2024. May His Memory Be Eternal!
Vetchnaya Pamyat!

+ Newly Departed Handmaiden of God Emily Gerasimoff who fell asleep in the Lord on Friday morning, July 19, 2024. May Her Memory Be Eternal!
Vetchnaya Pamyat!

Christina Andrews and her unborn child; Natalie Patterson-Nedbal and her unborn child; Darren Bodnar; Jane Kelly; Anne (Homa) Killoran; Sheba Patton; Fania Wanenchak 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 (August)

<u>Week of Sun Aug 11 to Sat Aug 17</u>		<u>August Month to Date</u>
Attendance:	29	30 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 688.00	\$ 7,057.59
Funds Out:	\$ 351.98	\$ 4,015.33
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 336.02	\$ 3,042.26

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

2024 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 (Aug 18)</u>	<u>Next Week (Aug 25)</u>
3 rd Hour:	Reader Mark Klus	Reader David Pellack
6 th Hour:	Reader David Pellack	Reader David Pellack
Epistle:	Reader Mark Klus	Reader David Pellack and Daniel 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 September 2024.

Sunday, September 8 – Feast of the Nativity of our Most-Holy Theotokos!
Divine Liturgy at **10:00AM!**

Saturday, September 14 – Feast of the Elevation of the Precious Cross!
Service Schedule To Be Determined!

Friday, September 20 – The 7th 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 Philadelphia, PA; and SAINT Stephen Orthodox Cathedral in Philadelphia, PA). at Ron Jaworski’s Ramblewood Country Club in Mount Laurel, NJ. Golf Registration deadline is **Saturday, August 31**. Proceeds from the tournament will benefit special needs children in Uzhhorod, Ukrainian!



Return of the Relics of the Apostle Bartholomew from Anastasiopolis to Lipari [August 25th]

The Transfer of the Relics of the Apostle Bartholomew took place at the end of the sixth century. His apostolic activity and martyr's end are remembered by the Church on June 11. The Apostle Bartholomew suffered for Christ in Armenian Albanus (now Baku) in the year 71, where his holy relics were. Numerous miracles occurred from the relics of the holy Apostle, and many of the unbelieving were converted to Christ. Under the emperor Anastasius (491-518) the relics of the Apostle Bartholomew were transferred into the newly constructed city of Anastasiopolis (or Dura) and remained there until the end of the sixth century.

When the city of Anastasiopolis was captured by the Persian emperor Chozroes, Christians took up the chest with the relics of the Apostle Bartholomew and fled with it to the shores of the Black Sea. Having overtaken them, pagan priests threw the chest with the relics of the Apostle Bartholomew into the sea. Four other chests containing the relics of the holy Martyrs Papian, Lucian, Gregory and Acacius were also thrown into the sea.

By the power of God the chests did not sink into the depths of the sea, but miraculously floated upon the waves and reached Italy. The chest with the relics of the Apostle Bartholomew came to land at the island of Lipari, and the remaining chests continued their journey and came to land at various places in Italy. The chest with the relics of the Martyr Papian halted at Sicily, the Martyr Lucian at Messina, the Martyr Gregory at Calabria, and the Martyr Acacius at Askalon.

The arrival of the relics of the holy Apostle Bartholomew was revealed to Bishop Agathon of the island of Lipari, who went with clergy to the shores of the sea, took the chest from the waters and solemnly transferred it to church.

Myrrh flowed from the relics of the Apostle Bartholomew, healing people of various illnesses. The holy relics remained in the church of the island of Lipari until the middle of the ninth century when the island was captured by pagans. Christian merchants took up the holy relics of the Apostle Bartholomew and transferred them to the city of Beneventum, near Naples, where they were received with great veneration and placed in the main church of the city.

