

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

Sunday, May 4, 2025 | Third Sunday of Pascha

Tone 2 – Holy Myrrhbearing Women
Martyr Pelagia of Tarsus in Asia Minor (ca. 290)
CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

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

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: May Monthly Panikhida immediately after Divine Liturgy

Wednesday: Repose of Saint Alexis Toth

Thursday: Apostle and Evangelist John the Theologian

Saturday: Apostle Simon the Zealot

Saturday: May 10 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM**

Sunday: May 11 – 4th Sunday of Pascha | Paralytic
Equal of the Apostles - Saint Cyril and Saint Methodius
Reading of Hours – 9:00am
Divine Liturgy – **9:30am**
Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

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 2 – Pentecostarion)

The noble Joseph, / when he had taken down Thy most pure Body from the Tree, / wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices, / and placed it in a new tomb. / But Thou didst arise on the third day, O Lord, // granting the world great mercy.

Troparion (Tone 2 – Pentecostarion)

The Angel came to the myrrhbearing women at the tomb and said: / “Myrrh is fitting for the dead; / but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption! / So proclaim: “The Lord is risen, // granting the world great mercy.”

Kontakion (Tone 2 - Pentecostarion)

Thou didst command the Myrrhbearers to rejoice, O Christ God. / By Thy Resurrection, Thou didst stop the lamentation of Eve, the first mother. / Thou didst command them to preach to Thine Apostles: // “The Savior is risen from the tomb!”

Kontakion (Tone 8 - Pascha)

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, / Thou didst destroy the power of death. / In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, / proclaiming, “Rejoice!” to the Myrrhbearing Women, // granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

Prokeimenon (Tone 6)

O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance!
v. To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

Epistle Reading: Acts 6:1-7

Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, “It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word. And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them. Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 8)

- v. O Lord, Thou hast been gracious to Thy land; Thou hast turned back the captivity of Jacob. Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Mercy and truth have met together, righteousness and peace have kissed each other. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Mark 15:43-16:8

Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent council member, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, coming and taking courage, went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate marveled that He was already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him if He had been dead for some time. So when he found out from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph. Then he bought fine linen, took Him down, and wrapped Him in the linen. And he laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock, and rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James observed where He was laid. Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away – for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples – and Peter – that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you. So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Instead of "It is truly meet..." we sing the following

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace: / "Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: Rejoice, / Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb! / With Himself He has raised all the dead." / Rejoice, O ye people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem! / The glory of the Lord has shone on you. / Exult now, / and be glad, O Zion! / Be radiant, / O pure Theotokos, / in the Resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymn:

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality!
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

Charity Committee - Parish Great Lenten Charity Project (UPDATED)

The Charity Committee's Charity Project for this Great Lenten season is still continuing to accept donated clothing, new cotton socks, TRAVEL-size toiletries, towels, wash cloths, laundry detergents pods, and other cleaning items to Project Home. Please drop them off in the appropriate labeled boxes in the church basement.

Also, for more items you can donate, please refer to the flyers posted in the basement.

In Addition...A New Charity that the Reader David is heading is the Peyton Heart Project. Their mission is to raise global awareness about suicide, bullying, and to help end the stigma surrounding mental health issues. Please contact Reader David for more information and how you can assist in this endeavor. Or please visit their website at <https://www.thepeytonheartproject.org>

ANOTHER BLAST FROM THE PAST, THIS TIME **1992 Attendance during Great Lent and Holy Week at the Parish**

Friday, April 17 – Akathist Service = 27
Saturday, April 18 – Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy = 29
Saturday, April 18 – Great Vespers = 34
Sunday, April 19 – Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy = 120
Monday, April 20 – Matins and Hours = 9
Monday, April 20 - Presanctified Liturgy = 24
Tuesday, April 21 – Matins and Hours = 10
Tuesday, April 21 - Presanctified Liturgy = 21
Wednesday, April 22 - Presanctified Gifts Liturgy = 15
Wednesday, April 22 – Molieben for the Sick (Holy Unction) = 29
Thursday, April 23 – Holy Thursday Vesperal Divine Liturgy = 11
Thursday, April 23 – Holy Friday Matins with the 12 Passion Gospels = 47
Friday, April 24 – Holy Friday Vespers (Burial Service) = 35
Friday, April 24 – Holy Saturday Matins and Procession = 85
Saturday, April 25 – Holy Saturday Divine Liturgy with Old Testament Readings = 15
Saturday, April 25 – Nocturns, Procession, and PASCHA Matins = 34
Sunday, April 26 – PASCHA Liturgy = 225
Sunday, April 26 – PASCHA Vespers = 32
Monday, April 27 – Bright Monday Liturgy and Procession = 50
Tuesday, April 30 – Bright Thursday Liturgy = 18

As was reported at that time, “These attendance figures lead us to some conclusions and some questions – A number of people did attend services held the first week of Lent and in Holy Week, so there must be a need for these services to be held. If attendance at midnight service on Pascha was only 34 people, and attendance at Liturgy on Pascha was 225 people, isn't this a clear indication, at least mathematically, of what needs to be done concerning Paschal services next year? And, why has attendance at Vespers on Pascha dropped so much over the last few years?”

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Sandra Hourahan offered by Nancy Brasko Rabik
Lila Rabik offered by Nancy Brasko Rabik
William Nedbal offered by Nina Patterson
Peggy Pellack-Walker offered by the Reader David Pellack

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

May Their Memories Be Eternal!

Vigil Cross Candles – 4/27/25

Two Small Votive Crosses – Memory of John & Julia Drimak
offered by Jack Drimak & Family

#####

Please remember in your prayers:

Darcy Stafford and her unborn child; Catherine Kavalkovich; Jane Kelly; Anne (Homa) Killoran; Martha Palubniak; Sheba Patton; Fania Wanenchak 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 (April)

<u>Week of Sun Apr 20 to Sat Apr 26</u>	<u>April Month to Date</u>
Attendance: 80	54 (average)
Funds In: \$ 3,844.00	\$ 7,752.00
Funds Out: \$ 1,419.02	\$16,588.91
Net Surplus/(Deficit): \$ 2,424.98	(\$ 8,836.91)

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 will help support the parish's Charity projects at no additional expense to the purchaser.

Calendar of Events

2025 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 (May 4)</u>	<u>Next Week (May 11)</u>
3 rd Hour:	To Be Determined	To Be Determined
6 th Hour:	To Be Determined	To Be Determined
Epistle:	To Be Determined	To Be Determined

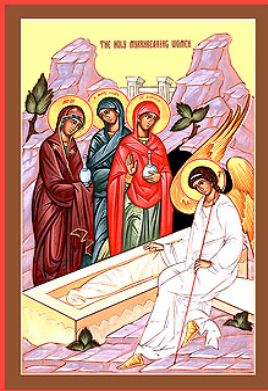
Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

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 May 2025

Saturday, May 24 to Monday, May 26 – Memorial Day Pilgrimage at Saint Tikhon's Monastery in South Canaan, PA

Thursday, May 29 – ASCENSION of our Lord Jesus Christ!
The service schedule for this feast day will be determined in a few weeks!



Sunday of the Holy Myrrhbearing Women with the Noble Joseph [May 4th]

The Myrrh-bearing women are those women who followed the Lord, along with His Mother. They remained with her during the time of the saving Passion, and anointed the Lord's body with myrrh. Joseph and Nikódēmos asked for and received the Lord's body from Pilate. They took it down from the Cross, wrapped it in linen cloths and spices, then they laid it in linen cloths and spices, then they laid it in a tomb, and then they placed a great stone over the entrance of the tomb.

According to the Evangelist Matthew (27:57-61) Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joses (Mark 15:40) were there sitting opposite the sepulchre, and they saw where He had been laid. This other Mary was the Mother of God. Not only were these present, but also many other women, as Saint Luke says (24:10).

Today the Church honors Saints Mary Magdalene (July 22), Mary the wife of Cleopas (May 23), Joanna (June 27), Salome, mother of the sons of Zebedee (August 3), Martha and Mary, sisters of Lazarus (June 4), and the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, who was the stepmother of her husband Joseph's sons James (October 23) and Joses (October 30). Today we also remember Saint Joseph of Arimathea (July 31), who was a secret disciple (John 19:38), and Saint Nikódēmos, who was a disciple by night (John 3:3; 19:38).

The holy right-believing Queen Tamara of Georgia is honored twice during the year: on May 1, the day of her repose, and also on the Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women.

On this day the Church also remembers All Saints of Thessalonica, Saint Seraphim Bishop of Phanar (December 4, 1610), the New Martyr Elias Ardunis (January 31, 1686), and the New Martyr Demetrios of the Peloponnesos (April 13, 1803).

