

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: <http://www.holyassumptionphilly.org>

Sunday, August 23, 2015 – 12th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 3 – Leavetaking of the Dormition. Martyr Lupus, slave of St.
Demetrius of Thessalonica (4th c.).

Rev. Matthew Cantrell, Rector [On Leave of Absence]

Fr. Archimandrite Christopher Grecu, Interim Rector

Parish President – Matthew Andrews

Phone: 856-217-8075

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 3)

Let the heavens rejoice! / Let the earth be glad! / For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. / He has trampled down death by death. / He has become the first born of the dead. / He has delivered us from the depths of hell, / and has granted to the world // great mercy.

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.

Kontakion (Tone 3)

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, / leading us from the gates of death. / On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; / with the Prophets and Patriarchs // they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

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 3)

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our King, sing praises!
v. Clap your hands, all ye people, shout to God with loud songs of joy!

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you – unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time. For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 3)

- v. In Thee, O Lord, have I placed my hope; let me not be put to shame.
Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Be Thou a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me.
Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 19:16-26

Now behold, one came and said to Him, “Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?” So He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.” He said to Him, “Which ones?” Jesus said, “You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ”The young man said to Him, “All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?” Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. Then Jesus said to His disciples, “Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God. When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?” But Jesus looked at them and said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

Instead of “It is truly meet ...,” we sing in Tone 1:

Refrain: 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.

Heirmos: 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 Hymns:

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)

Announcements

Contact information for anyone in need of a priest or if wanting to attend an OCA parish for Holy Day or Feast Day services held during the week will now be posted up on the bulletin boards!

The **Philadelphia Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood** will be sponsoring a conference seminar entitled *The Holy Mysteries and Family Life* on **Saturday, October 24** at St Michael the Archangel Russian Orthodox Church located at the corner of 4th St & Fairmount Avenue in Philadelphia.

Registration begins at 9:00am with the first session starting at 10:00am. There is no fee for the Conference but donations would be gratefully accepted. Please see the bulletin boards for the flyers for more information.

Welcome to all of our visitors & guest worshiping with us today. A warm welcome to all of our visitors and guest who have joined us today in celebrating the Divine Liturgy. Please join us in the church basement for our Fellowship and Coffee Hour.

No Vespers served during the summer. Vespers will not be served on Saturdays or during the weekday the day before a feast day during the summer months (June 1 to August 31).

Bible Study – September class is still To Be Determined. The Bible Study Group will meet to discuss when to schedule the September class.

Please ensure that your Mobile Phone is set to Silent (or at least set on vibrate) during the Divine Liturgy! Thank You!!!

Announcements (cont.)

Sign up sheets for Coffee Hour, Cleaning and Epistle & Hours Reading. Sign up sheets for the above items are posted on the bulletin board in the church basement. The sheets have been pretty bare over the past few weeks. Please be considerate and volunteer to assist with some of the parish responsibilities. Your time is very much appreciated!

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. Please be generous with your offering. Every little bit counts. The special collections are as follows:

- First Sunday of every month – Kitchen Fund Project
- Second Sunday of every month – Youth Fund
- Third Sunday of every month - Restoration/Maintenance Fund
- Fourth Sunday of every month – Charity Giving

Note: if there is a Fifth Sunday during a month, the special collection is earmarked for the Kitchen Fund Project, unless otherwise noted and stated by the Parish Council.

Cash Flow Activity (August)

	<u>Week of August 10 to 16</u>	<u>August Month-to-Date</u>
Attendance:	26	27 (average)
Funds In:	\$793.00	\$3,649.00
Funds Out:	\$522.59	\$4,002.09
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$270.41	(\$353.09)

Shop Rite Gift Cards: If you need to purchase Shop Rite Gift Cards, please see David Pellack 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.

[For today's additional scriptures, the readings for the Leavetaking of the Dormition for today are as follows: Epistle – Philippians 2:5-11 and Gospel - Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28]

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Jane Kelly, Christine and Jon Bava, Clair Remington, Benjamin Macalush, Nina Patterson, Daniel Herbert, Peggy Walker, and Simon Herbert offered by M/M Herbert.

Family and Parishioners offered by Nina Patterson

Emily Pellack offered by Pellack Family

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Emma Burychka, Ella Drozdak, Ann (Salitsky) Kelly, Albina Kosciolek, and Yolanda Kosciolek offered by M/M Herbert.

Stephen Spack offered by Nina Patterson

William and Anna Zuzulock offered by the Pellack Family

Patricia Gerasimoff offered by Barbara Andrews

May Their Memories Be Eternal

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Please remember in your prayers: Father Matthew Cantrell and the Cantrell Family; Helen Riley; Helen Wanenchak; Grace Corba; Robert Corba; Annamae Witiak; Julia Makara; Father Vincent Saverino; Father John Bohush and the parishioners of Saint Nicholas Eastern Orthodox Church in Philadelphia.

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Dioceses of Eastern Pennsylvania News and Annoucements:

The following changes and responsibilities have occurred within the Dioceses over the past two months.

The V. Rev John J Perich (St Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church, Gradyville, PA) has been released of his duties as Dean of the Philadelphia Deanery and the V. Rev. Victor Gorodenchuk (St Stephen Orthodox Catheral, Philadelphia, PA) has been appointed the new Dean of the Philadelphia Deanery effective June 16, 2015.

Effective July 1, 2015 the Rev Raymond Martin Browne (St Mark Orthodox Church, Wrightstown, PA – Philadelphia Deanery) has relinquish his duties as Treasurer of the Dioceses Diocesan Council and the Rev Ignatius Gauvain (St. Mary's Orthodox Church, Coaldale, PA – Frackville Deanery) has been appointed the new Treasurer of the Dioceses Diocesan Council.

Announcements (cont.)

Scheduling Confession: If you wish to receive confession during the summer, please speak with Father Christopher to discuss scheduling a time for confession on a Sunday well before the Divine Liturgy. Please understand the priest needs to prepare that morning the sacraments and prayers before Divine Liturgy. He may limit the number of people scheduled to hear confessions that Sunday morning.

The Finance Committee (FC) of the Dioceses of Eastern Pennsylvania presented their report to the Diocesan Council (DC) that met this past Tuesday (8/18) in Coaldale, PA. The report inspired much discussion within the DC and both the DC & his Eminence were very appreciative of all the work the FC has done so far.

Each of the recommendations the FC presented was discussed at length and voted upon independently. The results are as follows:

First, Transition from an Assessment Method according to Parish census to a Minimal Giving Level (ie. Proportional Giving) for each Parish to the Dioceses on a gradient scale level over a specific time period. This recommendation was approved by the DC and will be presented at the Diocesan Assembly for further action.

Second, Begin to establish a Diocesan Reserve within the Dioceses Finances. This recommendation was approved and the new treasurer will be making recommendations at the budgeting meeting as to how to accomplish this task.

Third, Establish a Revitalization Budget. This recommendation was disapproved! It was agreed upon that a budget has to be established, however, the DC felt that this recommendation was outside of the FC purview. The treasurer will be making some recommendations during the budgeting meeting.

Finally, Establish a method for possible closing of parishes. Tabled for the time being but to be discussed in more detail during a DC in the not too distant future.

Besides the four recommendations above, his Eminence requested the FC become a standing committee with other DC members recommending assignments or activities for the FC to perform.

Weekly Schedule and Calendar of Events

Saturday: August 29 – The Beheading of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John. **Strict Fast Day!**

Saturday: Great Vespers – **There will be no Vespers served during the summer (June 1 to August 31).**

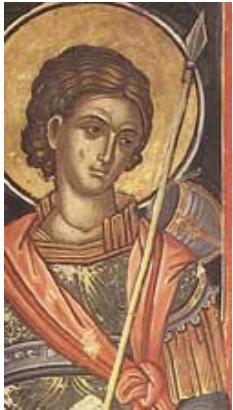
Sunday: August 30 – Saints Alexander, John and Paul, Patriarchs of Constantinople.
Reading of Hours – 9:40am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & Coffee Hour follow the Divine Liturgy

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September: Bible Study – **TBD** – Book of the Prophet Zechariah

Sept 1: Church New Year (Indiction)
Sept 8: The Nativity of the Most-Holy Theotokos
Sept 14: The Universal Exaltation (Elevation) of the Lifegiving Cross. **Strict Fast Day!**

October 24: The Holy Mysteries and Family Life Conference at St Michaels Church – 4th & Fairmount St - sponsored by The Philadelphia Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood. No Fee but donations welcomed.



Martyr Lupus the Slave of Saint Demetrios of Thessalonica

[August 23rd]

The Martyr Lupus lived at the end of the third century and beginning of the fourth century, and was a faithful servant of the holy Great Martyr Demetrios of Thessalonica (October 26).

Being present at the death of his master, he soaked his own clothing with his blood and took a ring from his hand. With this clothing, and with the ring and the name of the Great Martyr Demetrios, St Lupus worked many miracles at Thessalonica. He destroyed pagan idols, for which he was subjected to persecution by the pagans, but he was preserved unharmed by the power of God.

St Lupus voluntarily delivered himself into the hands of the torturers, and by order of the emperor Maximian Galerius, he was beheaded by the sword.