

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>



<http://www.facebook.com/holyassumptionphilly>

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

Sunday, August 14, 2016 | 8th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 7 – Forefeast of the Dormition.

Prophet Micah (8th c. B.C.)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Acting Rector

615 West 11th Street | New Castle, DE 19720-6020
Phone: Home: 302-322-0943 | Mobile: 302-547-4952
Email: mwkoczak@gmail.com or mkoczak05@aol.com

Parish President – Matthew Andrews

Phone: 856-217-8075

Weekly Schedule

- Today: Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the church schoolroom.
- Today: Immediately after coffee hour & property committee meeting, Vespers with Litya for The Dormition Feast Day (Name's Day of the Parish!) along with a Procession around the Church with the Shroud of the Theotokos. Blessing of Flowers after Vespers.
- Today: Philadelphia Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood Service of Supplication to the Theotokos (Akathist) - **4:00PM**
St Peter & Paul Albanian Orthodox Church – Phone: 215.676.3311
9300 Old Bustleton Ave - Philadelphia, PA 19115
- Monday: August 15 – The Dormition (Falling Asleep) of Our Most-Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary (Parish Name's Day)
Divine Liturgy – **9:00AM!** Blessing of Flowers after Liturgy.
- Saturday: August 20 - Great Vespers at **5:00PM!**
- Sunday: August 21 – Afterfeast of the Dormition
Reading of Hours – 9:30am Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 7)

By Thy Cross Thou destroyed death. / To the thief Thou opened Paradise. / For the Myrrhbearers Thou changed weeping into joy. / And Thou commanded Thy disciples, O Christ God, / to proclaim that Thou are risen, // granting the world great mercy.

Troparion (Tone 4 – Forefeast of the Dormition)

Dance with joy, O peoples! / Clap your hands with gladness! / Gather today with fervor and jubilation; / sing with exultation! / The Mother of God is about to rise in glory, / ascending from earth to heaven. // We ceaselessly praise her in song as truly Theotokos.

Kontakion (Tone 7)

The dominion of death can no longer hold mankind 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 4 – Forefeast of the Dormition)

Today the universe dances with joy at thy glorious memorial, / and cries out to thee, O Mother of God: / “Rejoice, O Virgin, pride of Christians!”

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: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe’s household, that there are contentions among you. Now I say this, that each of you says, “I am of Paul,” or “I am of Apollos,” or “I am of Cephas,” or “I am of Christ.” Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, lest anyone should say that I had baptized in my own name. Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas. Besides, I do not know whether I baptized any other. For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect. For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 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: Matthew 14:14-22

And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food." But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." And they said to Him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish." He said, "Bring them here to Me." Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes. So they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained. Now those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away.

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest! Alleluia (3x's)

Forefeast of the Dormition of the Mother of God

The Troparion of the Forefeast invites us to gather on this day in *gladness*, for the Theotokos is about to depart from earth to heaven.

Announcements

A Warm Welcome to all of our visitors & guest 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.

What's in a Name?

by Matushka Valerie Zahirsky

When the great boxing champion Muhammad Ali died recently, events in his life were reviewed in the media. One of those events was Ali's public embrace of Islam and his rejection of his birth name, Cassius Marcellus Clay, which he denounced as a "slave name."

One has to wonder whether Ali really understood what he was rejecting and denouncing. The original Cassius Marcellus Clay was a white Christian, and also such a prominent abolitionist that he endured being shot in the chest, attempted assassination, and mob violence at the hands of those who wanted to preserve slavery. President Lincoln appointed him to the post of Minister to the Court of Saint Petersburg in Russia, and one of his proudest moments in that country was witnessing Tsar Alexander II's edict emancipating the serfs.

Ali's grandfather, Herman Heaton Clay, the African-American descendant of slaves, named his son in tribute to Cassius Marcellus Clay. The son passed the name down to his own son, who gave it up in favor of a name honoring the prophet Muhammad.

Our Orthodox Christian faith pays a lot of attention to names. Babies are traditionally given the names of saints, either those on whose feast days they were born or those whose names are part of the family's history. Someone who enters the faith later in life often takes on the name of a saint. No matter how or why the name is given, it's a way of encouraging the person who carries it to emulate the saint's holy qualities.

The names of saints can also encourage us when we remember that even the greatest of them had failings to overcome, as we do. The peace-loving hero of children, Saint Nicholas, was once temporarily stripped of his episcopal office for striking the heretic Arius.

Saints may challenge us to rise to difficult occasions in the same extraordinary ways they did. What creativity and bravery Mother Maria Skobtsova showed during World War II in devising the plan of rescuing children from confinement by getting them out in garbage cans, not to mention remarkable powers of persuasion in convincing the garbage collectors to help her.

It's a wonderful thing to have the saints always with us as examples, as sources of comfort and guidance. But even those who are not named after saints can look to the people whose names they bear as examples and guides. It's unfortunate that Muhammad Ali refused to see Cassius Marcellus Clay in that way. Though no model citizen, Clay as an example of courageous insistence on the equality of all people stands up better than most.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Ronald Andrew Kavalkovich & Sharon Orr offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Margaret Pellack offered by David Pellack
Jennifer Bilaski offered by Nina Patterson
Ronald Kavalkovich & Sharon Orr offered by M/M Al Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Mary McKinney (newly departed) offered by Pellack Family
Andrew Gerasimoff offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Andrew Gerasimoff offered by M/M Al Kavalkovich

May Their Memories Be Eternal

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Please remember in your prayers: Cantrell Family; Grace Corba; Robert Corba; Dolores Helms (Fr. Mark's Mother); Ronald Kavalkovich (on his recovery from surgery); Julia Makara; Helen Riley; Helen Wanenchak; Annamae Witiak; Father Vincent Saverino; Father John Bohush and the parishioners of Saint Nicholas Eastern Orthodox Church in Philadelphia; and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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Sharon Orr would like to thank all of her family members and parishioners who have sent her get-well wishes and have prayed for her recovery during her recent illness. May God grant you all of you many happy, healthy years!

2016 PARISH CALENDAR:

A computer printout version of the 2016 church calendar for the months of July and August are located on the back pew in the church. We will continue to generate the remaining months for 2016.

Also, for those who have access to the Internet, the calendar for July and August are posted in color on the parish website for your convenience under the "Service Schedule" tab section. Thank you!

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. 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 – Icon Fund (2016)
- 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 1 to August 7</u>	<u>July Month (Unaudited)</u>
Attendance:	48	32 (average)
<i>Transfiguration (Sat 8/6)</i>	18	
Funds In:	\$ 1,161.00	\$ 5,933.14
Funds Out:	\$ 3,461.29	\$ 6,106.09
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 2,300.29)	(\$ 172.95)

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 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.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, August 14 - Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church School Room! All property committee members are asked to attend the meeting. Reports and discussions on the status of the Church Hall will be on the agenda and any recommendations regarding any action to be taken on the properties will be addressed.

Sunday, August 14 – Vespers (with Litva) to be served immediately after the Coffee Hour and the Property Committee Meeting!

For the Forefeast of the Dormition (Falling Asleep) of our Most-Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary, the parish will have a procession around the church with the Shroud of the Theotokos. After Vespers, Father Mark will bless Flowers (and fragrance plants (i.e. mint, basil, etc...)). Please bring your floral arrangements (and fragrance plants) this day to be blessed.

Monday, August 15 – The Dormition (“Falling Asleep”) of our Most-Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary - Divine Liturgy will be served at 9:00AM!!

On this day after Divine Liturgy, Father Mark will bless Flowers (and fragrance plants (i.e. mint, basil, etc...)). Please bring your floral arrangements (and fragrance plants) this day to be blessed. This Feast day is also the Name's Day of our parish!

Women's Retreat to be held at St Tikhon Monastery on Sat Aug 20, 2016:

Topic: Spirituality **Speaker:** Archimandrite Sergius, Abbot of St Tikhon's Monastery

Time: 9:30am to 2:30am **Cost:** \$10 per person which includes Lunch

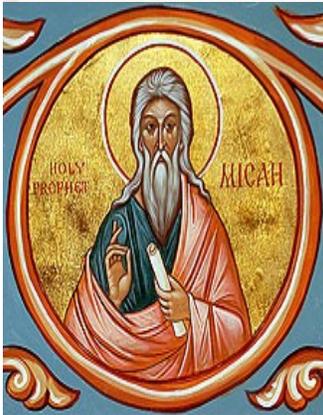
Registration must be received by August 15!

For more information, please contact Maria Proch, Department of Curriculum and Education at Phone #570.587.3097 or Phone #570.466.6554 or email her at smile9561@jumocom. Information and Flyer are posted on our parish bulletin boards!

Philadelphia Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood – Supplication to the Mother of God (Akathist) – All Services at 4:00PM. Remaining August Schedule:

Sunday, August 21 – Saint Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church
506 Stahr Road – Elkins Park, PA 19027
Phone: 215.782.8448
www.stnicholasphilly.com

Sunday, August 28 – Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church
1406 Philadelphia Pike - Wilmington, DE 19809
Phone: 302.798.4455
www.sspeterandpauluoc.org



The Prophet Micah

[Aug 14th]

The Prophet Micah, the sixth of the Twelve Minor Prophets, was descended from the Tribe of Judah and was a native of the city of Moresheth, to the south of Jerusalem. His prophetic service began

around the year 778 before Christ and continued for almost 50 years under the kings of Judah: Jotham, Ahaz, and Righteous Hezekiah (721-691 B.C., August 28).

He was a contemporary of the Prophet Isaiah. His denunciations and predictions were in regard to the separate kingdoms of Judah and Israel. He foresaw the misfortunes threatening the kingdom of Israel before its destruction, and the sufferings of Judah during the incursions under the Assyrian emperor Sennacherib.

To him belongs a prophecy about the birth of the Savior of the world: “And thou, Bethlehem, house of Ephratha, art too few in number to be reckoned with the thousands of Judah; yet out of thee shall come forth to Me, one who is to be a ruler in Israel, and His goings forth were from the beginning, even from eternity” (Mic. 5: 2). From the words of the Prophet Jeremiah (Jer. 26: 18-19), the Jews evidently were afraid to kill the Prophet Micah. His relics were discovered in the fourth century after the Birth of Christ at Baraphsatia, through a revelation to the Bishop of Eleutheropolis, Zeuinos.