

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, June 24, 2018 | 4th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone – 3 Nativity of the Holy Glorious Prophet,
Forerunner and Baptist, John
Venerable Anthony, Abbot of Dymsk (Novgorod – 1224)

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

Parish President - Matthew Andrews

Phone: (856) 217.8075

Weekly Schedule

Today: ~~Church Life Discussion Class after Divine Liturgy.~~
~~Topic: Icons, Iconography, and Iconostas. Its history and the stories~~
~~displayed on them. **CANCELLED!**~~

Thursday: Vespers Divine Liturgy at 6:30PM for the
Feast Day of Saints Peter and Paul (June 29)

Saturday: June 30 – Great Vespers at 5:00PM!

Sunday: July 1 – Holy Cosmos and Damian, Martyrs at Rome
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

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 4 – Saint John the Baptist)

O Prophet and Forerunner of the coming of Christ, / although we cannot praise thee worthily, / we honor thee in love at thy nativity, / for by it thou hast ended thy father's silence and thy mother's barrenness, // proclaiming to the world the incarnation of the Son of God!

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 3 – Saint John the Baptist)

Today the formerly barren woman gives birth to Christ's Forerunner, / who is the fulfillment of every prophecy; / for in the Jordan, / when he laid his hand on the One foretold by the Prophets, // he was revealed as Prophet, Herald, and Forerunner of God the Word.

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!

Another Prokeimenon (Tone 7 – Saint John the Baptist)

The righteous one shall rejoice in the Lord and shall set his hope on Him.

Epistle Reading: Romans 6:18-23

And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness. For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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 of me, a house of refuge in order to save me.
Alleluia (3x's)

v. Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He hath visited and redeemed His people.
Alleluia (3x's) (TONE 1)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 8:5-13

Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it. When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour.

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest!
The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear of evil tidings. Alleluia (3x's)

*[Note: Today's readings for Saint John the Baptist are as follows:
Epistle – Romans 13:11-14:4 and Gospel – Luke 1:1-25, 57-68,76,80]*

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

From the discussions during Spring General Parish Meeting held on Sunday, June 3, beginning next month (July 2018), the special collection taken on the second Sunday of the month which was previously earmarked for the Icon Fund, will be changed and donations made will be earmarked for the reactivated Youth Fund.

Parishioner Volunteers Needed:

Over the past two years, the Church Property Committee has undertaken the task of overseeing needed restoration projects for Our Parish, Church Hall and the two Parish owned row houses. We are pleased that the Church Hall has been restored to the point where it has been rented and is now providing much needed revenue for our Parish and Church Hall. However, after further assessment of ongoing issues in the Church Hall, we know that many necessary repairs, e.g. brick pointing, lintel repair, cleanup in basement, etc... need to be resolved in the near future.

We are also in the process to make available one of the row houses rentable. To assist in offsetting the costs associated in hiring expensive contractors, both the Property Committee and Parish Council sincerely request the help of **every** parishioner who is able to provide some assistance in the few months ahead (most work will be done on Saturdays). Task range from maintenance repairs, painting, cleaning, etc...

A form asking for dates that parishioners may be available to help with some of the repairs need is being distributed to our parishioners. We hope that each parishioner would complete this form and place it in the folder outside the church office.

Participation is, of course, optional, however we hope all can help in some way.

We would like to thank all of those who have taken the time over the past few weeks to help out with the cleaning and preparation work on the 2111 House. As mentioned earlier this month, much of the debris and rugs on the first floor have been removed and discarded. The tedious work of removing the baseboard trim, nails and staples attached to the floor is ongoing.

The parish is in the process of obtaining a stove for the 2111 House. A new one is needed for the house since the current one is not working and also outdated. We would like to thank all of those who donated towards obtaining this stove for the house. May God Grant Those Who Donated The Stove Many Years!

Our Hall tenant (God's House By Any Means Necessary) is celebrating their one year anniversary with the community by hosting a cookout on Saturday, June 30, 2018 between 11:00AM to 4:00PM. Please see Flyer posted on bulletin board downstairs.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

John Bilski offered by Nina Patterson
Joseph Herbert, Thomas Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
Albert Kavalkovich, Ronald Andrew Kavalkovich, Kenneth Kavalkovich
offered by M/M Al Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

John Rabik Sr offered by his son Joseph Rabik
Macalush Family, Justin King offered by M/M Herbert
Paul Kavesak, Stephen Spack, Fred LeRoy offered by M/M LeRoy
Andrew Gerasimoff, Albert Kavalkovich offered by M/M Al Kavalkovich

May Their Memories Be Eternal

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Please remember in your prayers:

Grace Corba; Ronald Kavalkovich (on his continuous recovery); Margaret Pellack; Helen Wanenchak; Father Vincent Saverino (retired); Father John Bohush (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

Please also remember in your prayers our beloved sister in Christ, the infant child Ivanna Alexandra Parsells on the one year anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord (June 21). May Her Memory Be Eternal!

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SUNDAY PUNDAY.....

Learning how to collect trash wasn't that hard.
I just picked it up as I went along.

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

Announcements (cont.)

Coffee Hour / Cleaning and Epistle / Hours Reading Schedule.

We now have an established full rotating schedule for the Coffee Hour & Cleaning, and the Hours & Epistle Readings. The Reading schedule sheets will be posted quarterly on the bulletin board in the church basement. The Coffee Hour/Cleaning schedule is in a binder located on the display case.

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 (2016-18)
- 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 (June)

	<u>Week of June 11 to June 17</u>	<u>June Month-to-date</u>
Attendance:	41	39 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 2,705.00	\$ 6,138.00
Funds Out:	\$ 1,576.22	\$ 3,778.50
Net Surplus/ (Deficit) :	\$ 1,128.78	\$ 2,359.50

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

1st Sunday of each month – Monthly Panikhida immediately after Divine Liturgy.
2nd Tuesday of each month – Bible Study at 6:30pm in church basement.
2nd Sunday of each month – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy.
3rd Sunday of each month – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.
4th Sunday of each month – Church Life Discussion Class after Divine Liturgy.

~~**Sunday, June 24 – Church Life Discussion after the Divine Liturgy and Fellowship hour in the church. (The 4th Sunday of the month)**~~

~~The Topic – Icons, Iconography, and Iconostas. It's history and the stories displayed on them.
CANCELLED!!!~~

Thursday, June 28 – Vespers Divine Liturgy for the Feast Day of Saints Peter and Paul (June 29th) at 6:30PM!

Sunday, July 8 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church School Room! (2nd Sunday of each month)! All property committee members are asked to attend the meeting. Discussions will include any follow-ups from the previous meeting; Church status from the recent water damage on north side of building; Hall status update; tenant situation at 2109 house; the work performed on 2111 house; and any additional action(s) that need to be taken at this time.

Bible Study – Tuesday, July 10 at 6:30pm in the church basement.

The Bible Study Group will gather together at this time to finish reading The Book of **Deuteronomy** and then will begin the next book of readings and discussing the section in the Bible – The Book of **Joshua**. Joshua is a story of conquest and fulfillment for the people of God. After many, many years of slavery in Egypt and 40 years in the desert, the Israelites were finally allowed to enter the land promised to their fathers.

Sunday, July 29 at 2:00PM - Dining Out in Delaware - Ironhill Brewery Restaurant in Wilmington, DE (a social event for the parish)!

Please contact Matushka Jan in person, by phone (House #302.322.0943), or email (jakoczak@gmail.com) whether you will be attending so reservations can be made. The reservation deadline is **Tuesday, July 17!!!** The phone number for Ironhill Brewery in Delaware is 302-472-2739

Cleaning Teams: Today (June 24): Saint Agatha of Belo-Russia (Nina Patterson, Natalie Patterson, Michael Spack).

Next Week (July 1): Saint Elizabeth the New Martyr (Sandra Hourahan, Matushka Jan, David Pellack).



Nativity of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist, John [June 24th]

The Nativity of the Holy Forerunner and Baptist of the Lord, John: The Gospel (Luke. 1: 5) relates that the righteous parents of Saint John the Baptist, the Priest Zachariah and Elizabeth (September 5), lived in the ancient city of Hebron. They reached old age without having children, since Elizabeth was barren. Once, Saint Zachariah was serving in the Temple at Jerusalem and saw the Archangel Gabriel, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. He predicted that Saint Zachariah would father a son, who would

announce the Savior, the Messiah, awaited by the Old Testament Church. Zachariah was troubled, and fear fell upon him. He had doubts that in old age it was possible to have a son, and he asked for a sign. It was given to him, and it was also a chastisement for his unbelief. Zachariah was struck speechless until the time of the fulfillment of the archangel's words.

Saint Elizabeth came to be with child, and fearing derision at being pregnant so late in life, she kept it secret for five months. Then her relative, the Virgin Mary, came to share with her Her own joy. Elizabeth, "filled with the Holy Spirit," was the first to greet the Virgin Mary as the Mother of God. Saint John leaped in his mother's womb at the visit of the Most Holy Virgin Mary and the Son of God incarnate within Her.

Soon Saint Elizabeth gave birth to a son, and all the relatives and acquaintances rejoiced together with her. On the eighth day, in accordance with the Law of Moses, he was circumcised and was called John. Everyone was amazed, since no one in the family had this name. When they asked Saint Zachariah about this, he motioned for a tablet and wrote on it: "His name is John." Immediately his tongue was loosed, and Saint Zachariah glorified God. He also prophesied about the Coming into the world of the Messiah, and of his own son John, the Forerunner of the Lord (Luke. 1: 68-79).

After the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ and the worship of the shepherds and the Magi, wicked king Herod gave orders to kill all male infants. Hearing about this, Saint Elizabeth fled into the wilderness and hid in a cave. Saint Zachariah was at Jerusalem and was doing his priestly service in the Temple. Herod sent soldiers to him to find out the abode of the infant John and his mother. Zachariah answered that their whereabouts were unknown to him, and he was killed right there in the Temple. Righteous Elizabeth continued to live in the wilderness with her son and she died there. The child John, protected by an angel, dwelt in the wilderness until the time when he came preaching repentance, and was accounted worthy to baptize the Lord.