

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St. (corner of 28th St. & Snyder Ave.)
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Mailing Address: PO Box 20083 * Point Breeze Station | Philadelphia PA 19145-0383

Sunday, August 26, 2018 | 13th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 4 – Martyrs Adrian and Natalia and 33 companions (4th c.)

Venerable Adrian, Abbot of Ondrusov (Valaam – 1550)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Weekly Schedule

Wednesday: August 29 – The Beheading of the Holy Glorious Prophet,
Forerunner and Baptist, John ***(A Strict Fast Day!)***

Saturday: September 1 – Church New Year (Indiction)

Saturday: September 1 – Great Vespers at **5:00PM!**

Sunday: September 2 – Martyr Mamas of Caesarea in Cappadocia

Reading of Hours – 9:30am

Divine Liturgy – 10:00am

Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 4)

When the women disciples of the Lord / learned from the angel the joyous message of thy Resurrection, / they cast away the ancestral curse / and elatedly told the apostles: / “Death is overthrown! / Christ God is risen, // granting the world great mercy!”

Troparion (Tone 4 - Martyrs)

Thy holy martyrs Adrian and Natalia, O Lord, / through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from Thee, our God. / For having Thy strength, they laid low their adversaries, / and shattered the powerless boldness of demons. // Through their intercessions, save our souls!

Kontakion (Tone 4)

My Savior and Redeemer / as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. / He has shattered the gates of hell, / and as Master, // He has risen on the third day!

Kontakion (Tone 4 - Martyrs)

Martyr of Christ, Adrian, / thou didst keep the words of thy godly and devoted wife Natalia in thy heart. // With her thou didst accept every kind of suffering and obtained the crown of victory!

Prokeimenon (Tone 4)

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works / in wisdom hast Thou made them all!
v. Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, Thou art very great!

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 16:13-24

Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. Let all that you do be done with love. I urge you, brethren – you know the household of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to the ministry of the saints – that you also submit to such, and to everyone who works and labors with us. I am glad about the coming of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus, for what was lacking on your part they supplied. For they refreshed my spirit and yours. Therefore acknowledge such men. The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Priscilla greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that is in their house. All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. The salutation with my own hand – Paul’s. If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. O Lord, come! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Alleluia (3x’s) (Tone 4)

- v. Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. For Thou lovest righteousness and dost hate iniquity. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:33-42

Hear another parable: There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country. Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants to the vinedressers, that they might receive its fruit. And the vinedressers took his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first, and they did likewise to them. Then last of all he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.' So they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers? They said to Him, "He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD's doing, And it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

Communion Hymn:

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

The final Supplication to the Mother of God service during August 2018 will be held today at 4:00PM at the following parish:

St Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church
506 Stahr Road * Elkins Park, PA 19027
Phone: 215.782.8448 Website: n/a

This service is sponsored by the Philadelphia Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood

UPDATE: CLOSING OF THE DIOCESAN CENTER PROPERTY

AUGUST 16 - Dear Rev. Frs., Rev. Dns., Matushki and faithful,

Christ is in our midst! Today we were blessed to close on the property in Bath, PA, which will serve as our new Diocesan Headquarters. The property is located at 325 N. Walnut St., Bath, PA 18014. The property is conveniently located seven miles from St. Nicholas in Bethlehem and close to HWYS, 33, 78, 80, 76 and 476. We are excited to begin this new chapter in the life of the Diocese of Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania and grateful for the work of the V. Rev. Fr. Raymond Brown, our Chancellor, the Diocesan Council, especially Sandra Tosca, who provided assistance with Penn Dot and her expertise as an engineer, attorneys John Coles, Jr and Lawrence Fox, who obtained a Zoning Variance and the tremendous patience of contractor John McGarrity of St Nicholas in Bethlehem who looked at various properties and provided costs associated with potential properties. John Coles, Jr., will also begin the work of pursuing tax exemption for the property.

Over the next weeks work will begin to prepare the house and office space to accommodate our needs. As the house has been vacant for a significant period of time we would certainly appreciate any assistance with getting the landscaping under control. Much of the Diocesan Center in S. Canaan is packed and we are grateful to Matushka Emelia Burns for her help with that.

There will be much to juggle between overseeing the preparation of our new facility and making sure everything is properly packed and ready for the move. Please keep us in your God-pleasing prayers as we make this step to a more central location within the Diocese. We will definitely miss the tremendous gifts of Matushka Sandra Kopestonsky as Administrative Assistant and her selfless labors on behalf of the Church and the Diocese.

We will keep you posted on the actual move date so that correspondence will remain uninterrupted. Glory to God for All Things!

Your unworthy father in Christ,
+MARK
Archbishop of Philadelphia and the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Sandra Hourahan offered by Nina Patterson
Family and Friends offered by Daria LeRoy
Katherine, Sue, Anastasia, Alexander, Kenneth, Colin, Selena, Patricia, Albert, Catherine,
William, Marc, Allison, Heather, John, New Born Jackson, Laura, Sharon, James, Matt, David,
Christopher, Sandra, Jane, Bridget offered by M/M K Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Stephen Spack offered by Nina Patterson

May Their Memories Be Eternal

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Please remember in your prayers:

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

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SUNDAY PUNDAY.....

If you need help building an ark, I Noah guy.

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 – Youth Fund (*reactivated July 2018*)
- 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 13 to August 19</u>	<u>August Month-to-Date</u>
Attendance:	39	38 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,856.00	\$ 5,980.44
Funds Out:	\$ 2,682.16	\$ 8,041.64
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 826.16)	(\$ 2,061.20)

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.

Friday, September 7 – Vespers (with Litya) to be served at 6:30PM for the Forefeast of the Nativity of Our Most-Holy Lady the Theotokos

Saturday, September 8 – The Nativity of Our Most-Holy Lady the Theotokos - Divine Liturgy will be served at 10:00AM!!

Sunday, September 9 – 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.

Bible Study – Tuesday, September 11 at 6:30pm in the church basement.

The Bible Study Group will gather together at this time and continue reading 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.

Thursday, September 13 – Vespereal Divine Liturgy for the Feast Day of The Elevation of the Precious Cross (September 14th) at 6:30PM!

September Dates for your Calendar.

September 23 – Church Life Discussion Class Resumes!!!
(There is still one final remaining class discussion on Iconography to be held!)

September (a Saturday afternoon) – Saturday Sunday School [Saturday Date TBD]

Cleaning Teams: Today (Aug 26): Saint Alexis of Wilkes-Barre
(John Spack and Julia Fagbo).
Next Week (Sep 2): Blessed Olga
(Debbie Kavalkovich and Martha Palubniak).



Martyrs Adrian and Natalia of Nicomedia [August 26th]

The Martyrs Adrian and Natalia were married in their youth for one year prior to their martyrdom, and lived in Nicomedia during the time of the emperor Maximian (305-311). The emperor promised a reward to whomever would inform on Christians to bring them to trial. Then the denunciations began, and twenty-three Christians were captured in a cave near Nicomedia.

They were tortured, urged to worship idols, and then brought before the Praetor, in order to record their names and responses. Adrian, the head of the praetorium,

watched as these people suffered with such courage for their faith. Seeing how firmly and fearlessly they confessed Christ, asked: "What rewards do you expect from your God for your suffering?" The martyrs replied: "Such rewards as we are not able to describe, nor can your mind comprehend." Saint Adrian told the scribes, "Write my name down also, for I am a Christian and I die gladly for Christ God."

The scribes reported this to the emperor, who summoned Saint Adrian and asked: "Really, have you gone mad, that you want to die? Come, cross out your name from the lists and offer sacrifice to the gods, asking their forgiveness."

Saint Adrian answered: "I have not lost my mind, but rather have I found it." Maximian then ordered Adrian to be thrown into prison. His wife, Saint Natalia, knowing that her husband was to suffer for Christ, rejoiced, since she herself was secretly a Christian.

She hastened to the prison and encouraged her husband saying: "You are blessed, my lord, because you have believed in Christ. You have obtained a great treasure. Do not regret anything earthly, neither beauty, nor youth (Adrian was then 28 years of age), nor riches. Everything worldly is dust and ashes. Only faith and good deeds are pleasing to God."

On the pledge of the other martyrs, they released Saint Adrian from prison to tell his wife about the day of his execution. At first Saint Natalia thought that he had renounced Christ and thus had been set free, and she did not want to let him into the house. The saint persuaded his wife that he had not fled from martyrdom, but rather had come to give her the news of the day of his execution.

They tortured Saint Adrian cruelly. The emperor advised the saint to have pity on himself and call on the gods, but the martyr answered: "Let your gods say what blessings they promise me, and then I shall worship them, but if they cannot do this, then why should I worship them?" Saint Natalia did not cease to encourage her husband. She asked him also to pray to God for her, that they would not force her into marriage with a pagan after his death.

The executioner ordered the hands and the legs of the saints to be broken on the anvil. Saint Natalia, fearing that her husband would hesitate on seeing the sufferings of the other martyrs, asked the executioner to begin with him, and permit her to put his hands and legs on the anvil herself.

A short time after his passing away, Saint Adrian appeared to Saint Natalia in a dream while she was away hiding in Byzantium. He told her that she would soon be at rest in the Lord. The martyr, worn out by her former sufferings, in fact soon fell asleep in the Lord.