

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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Sunday, November 11, 2018 | 24th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 7 – Martyrs Menas of Egypt (304), Victor at Damascus (2nd c.),
and Vincent of Spain (204). Martyr Stephanida of Spain (2nd c.).
Venerable Theodore the Confessor, Abbot of the Studion (826).

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Weekly Schedule

Today: Veterans Day! 100th Anniversary of World War I ending!

Today: Fall General Parish Meeting after Divine Liturgy and fellowship coffee hour in the church basement. The election of 2019 officers will take place at this meeting.

Today: Parish Fall Festivals (*see page 7 for locations & times*):

Thursday: Beginning of the Nativity (St Phillip's) Fast

ADVENT FAST BEGINS!

Saturday: November 17 – Great Vespers at 5:00PM!

Sunday: November 18 – Martyr Plato (Platon) of Ancyra
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: November 18 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the church school room. [*Rescheduled from 11/11*]

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 7)

By Thy Cross Thou destroy death. / To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. / For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst chang weeping into joy. / And Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, / to proclaim that Thou are risen, // granting the world great mercy.

Troparion (Tone 4 – Martyrs)

Thy holy martyrs Menas, Victor, Vincent, and Stephanida, 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!

Troparion (Tone 8 – Venerable Theodore)

Champion of Orthodoxy, teacher of purity and of true worship, / enlightener of the universe and adornment of hierarchs: / all-wise Father Theodore, thy teachings have gleamed with light upon all things. // Intercede before Christ God to save our souls!

Kontakion (Tone 7)

The dominion of death can no longer hold men 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 8 – Martyrs)

Today the Church honors those who fought the good fight and died for their faith: / the victorious Menas, the noble Victor, and the ascetic Vincent. / The Church glorifies their divine struggle and cries out with love: / “Glory to Thee, O Christ, Lover of mankind!”

Kontakion (Tone 2 – Venerable Theodore)

Thine ascetic life, equal to an Angel's, / made thee radiant through thy athlete's contest; / blessed by God, O Theodore, though didst become a companion of the Angels, / with whom thou dost unceasingly intercede for us all.

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: Ephesians 2:14-22

For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. 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: Luke 10:25-37

And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?" So he answered and said, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,' and 'your neighbor as yourself.'" And He said to him, "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live." But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Then Jesus answered and said: "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.' So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves? And he said, "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

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

Today – World War I ended 100 years ago – November 11, 1918

Veterans Day is an official United States federal public holiday (not a national holiday), observed annually on November 11, that honors military veterans; that is, persons who served in the United States Armed Forces. It coincides with other holidays, including Armistice Day and Remembrance Day, celebrated in other countries that mark the anniversary of the end of World War I; major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. The United States previously observed Armistice Day. The U.S. holiday was renamed Veterans Day on June 1, 1954.

Veterans Day is not to be confused with Memorial Day, a U.S. federal public holiday in May; as Veterans Day celebrates the service of all U.S. military veterans, while Memorial Day honors those who died while in military service. It is also not to be confused with Armed Forces Day, a minor U.S. remembrance that also occurs in May, which specifically honors those currently serving in the U.S. military.

In 1971, in accordance with the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, Veterans Day was moved to the fourth Monday of October. Then in 1978, it was moved back to its original celebration on November 11.

While the holiday is commonly printed as Veteran's Day or Veterans' Day in calendars and advertisements (spellings that are grammatically acceptable), the United States Department of Veterans Affairs website states that the attributive (no apostrophe) rather than the possessive case is the official spelling "because it is not a day that 'belongs' to veterans, it is a day for honoring all veterans."

Eternal Father, strong to save. Whose arm hath bound the restless wave.
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep. Its own appointed limits keep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee. For those in peril on the sea!

Yesterday, we wished a Happy 243rd Birthday to the United States Marine Corp, which was established on November 10, 1775



GOD BLESS OUR VETERANS!!!



Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Irene Torpey offered by Nina Patterson
Joseph Herbert, Mildred O'Shura, John Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
Mary Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
Kimberly Herbert on her birthday offered by M/M Herbert
Tom & Kim Herbert on their wedding anniversary offered by M/M Herbert
Sheryl Pincus offered by the Hourahan Family

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

John and Julia Drimak offered by the Hourahan Family

May Their Memories Be Eternal

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Please remember in your prayers:

Grace Corba; Ronald Kavalkovich (on his continuous recovery); Dr. Jane Kelly; Matushka Jan (recovery after surgery); Luke Emmanuel Parsells (**newly born – Nov 1**) Heather Parsells; Peter Parsells; David Pellack; Margaret Pellack; Helen Wanenchak; Father John Bohush (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

Also all those who are struggling and seeking relief in addition to all those first responders assisting them as a result of the damaging affects of the following:

- 1) The massive wildfires in California and the senseless atrocity at the Boderline Bar and Grill also in California where 12 people died, and
- 2) The Atrocity at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, PA where 11 people died and six other injured, including four responding officers.

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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 (October/November)

Week of October 29 to November 4 October Month (Unaudited)

Attendance:	36	36 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,757.01	\$ 8,588.01
Funds Out:	\$ 3,271.44	\$ 5,610.65
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 1,514.43)	\$ 2,977.36

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.

TODAY – PARISH FALL FOOD FESTIVAL

St Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church (from 12:00PM to 4:00PM)
1855 Middletown Road (Route 352) – Glen Mills, PA 19342

Bible Study – Tuesday, November 13 at 6:30pm in the church basement.

The Bible Study Group will gather together at this time and finish up reading and discussing the section in the Bible – The Book of **Joshua**.

Sunday, **November 11** – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church School Room! (2nd Sunday of each month)!

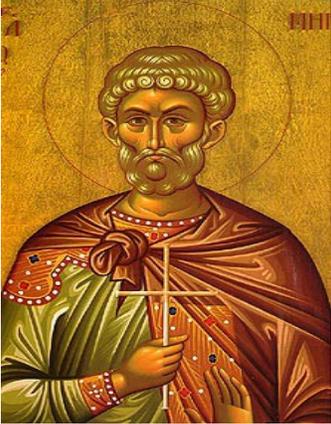
All property committee members are asked to attend the meeting. Discussions will include any follow-ups from the previous meeting; Church status from the recent water damage on north side of building; Hall status update; tenant situation at 2109 house; and the work performed on 2111 house. (Rescheduled from last Sunday, November 11)

PARISH ADVENT VETERANS PROJECT

This Advent season, our parish is purchasing necessities for the Veterans Group. We will be purchasing sheets, toiletry kits, and are making hats for the homeless shelter.

We are kindly asking for a \$10 donation towards a set of sheets and a \$20 donation for a men's toiletry kit. If you would like to contribute to these items, please make a check payable to the church for your selection of sheets or toiletry kit. Please give the check to Dr. Janine McCartney and she will record your preference. Father Mark will present the gifts to the Veterans on Sunday, December 9, 2018. Thank you once again for your generous contributions. The Veterans do appreciate your kindness, as once homeless and voiceless, they have food, some clothing and shelter, which is so easy to take for granted especially at this time of the season!

Cleaning Teams: Today (Nov 11): Saint John of Kronstadt
(Lena Helen, Paul Filanowski, William, Matthew Andrews).
Next Week (Nov 18): Saint Alexis of Wilkes-Barre
(John Spack, Julia Agbo).



Martyr Menas of Egypt **[November 11th]**

The Holy Great Martyr Menas of Egypt, an Egyptian by birth, was a military officer and served in the Kotyaeion region of Phrygia under the centurion Firmilian during the reign of the emperors Diocletian (284-305) and Maximian (305-311). When the emperors began the fiercest persecution against Christians in history, the saint refused to serve these persecutors. He removed his soldier's belt (a sign of military rank) and withdrew to a mountain, where he lived an ascetic life of fasting and prayer.

Once he happened to arrive in the city during a pagan festival. At the climax of the games the saint's accusing voice rang out, preaching faith in Christ, the Savior of the world. At his trial before the prefect Pyrrhus, the saint bravely confessed his faith, saying that he had come to denounce the impious. The prefect was angered, and had Menas arrested.

Pyrrhus offered to restore the saint's former rank if he would offer sacrifice to the pagan gods. When he refused, he was put to cruel tortures, then he was beheaded. This occurred in the year 304. Christians gathered up the martyr's relics by night and hid them until the end of the persecution. Later, they were brought to Egypt and placed in a church dedicated to Saint Menas southwest of Alexandria.

The saint received grace from God to work miracles, and to help those in need. Saint Menas is noted for healing various illnesses, delivering people from possession by demons, and as a protector, especially during times of war. We also ask his help in finding lost objects.

Martyr Victor at Damascus [November 11th]

The Holy Martyr Victor at Damascus was a soldier during the reign of the emperor Marcus Aurelius the Philosopher (161-180). When the emperor began a persecution against Christians, Victor refused to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods. Such obligatory sacrifices were a test of a soldier's loyalty to the gods, the emperor and the state. The saint was given over to torture, but he came through all the torments unharmed. By the power of prayer he was victorious over a sorcerer, who from that point gave up give sorcery and became a Christian.

Through Saint Victor's prayers, blind soldiers suddenly received their sight. Witnessing the miracle worked by the Lord through Saint Victor, Stephanida, the young Christian wife of one of the torturers, openly glorified Christ, for which she was condemned to a cruel death. She was tied to two palm trees bent to the ground, which when released, sprung back and tore her apart. She was fifteen years old.

The torturer ordered that the holy Martyr Victor be beheaded. Hearing the commander's order, Saint Vincent told his executioners that they would all die in twelve days, and that the commander would be captured by the enemy in twenty-four days. As he foretold, so it came to pass.

The martyrs suffered in the second century at Damascus, where their venerable relics were buried.