

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, December 2, 2018 | 27th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 2 – Prophet Habákkuk (6th c. B.C.)

Venerable Afanásil (Anthanasius), Recluse of the Kiev Caves (13th c.)

Martyr Nyrope of Chios (ca 251)

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: Choir Rehearsal after Fellowship Hour. Please speak with Nina Patterson regarding choir rehearsals for the rest of the month in preparation for the Nativity services!

Wednesday: December 5 - Vespersal Divine Liturgy at 6:30pm for the Feast Day of Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker (Dec. 6)

Saturday: December 8 – Clean-up Day **Inside** the Church beginning around 10:00am! If all goes well, we may be able to begin decorating the Church for Christmas. See Bulletin for details!

Saturday: December 8 – Great Vespers at **5:00PM!**

Sunday: December 9 – Conception by Righteous Anna of the Most-Holy Theotokos
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 2)

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, / Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. / And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, / all the powers of heaven cried out: // “O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

Troparion (Tone 2 – Prophet Habakkuk)

We celebrate the memory / of thy Prophet Habakkuk, O Lord; / through him we beseech Thee: // “Save our souls!”

Kontakion (Tone 2)

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior, / seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb! / The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee, // and the world, my Savior, praises Thee forever.

Kontakion (Tone 8 – Prophet Habakkuk)

Divinely eloquent Habakkuk, thou didst announce to the world the coming forth of God from the south; from the Virgin. / Standing on the divine watch, thou didst receive a report from the radiant Angel: / “Thou didst proclaim the Resurrection of Christ to the world!” / Therefore in gladness we cry out to thee: // “Rejoice, splendid adornment of the Prophets!”

Prokeimenon (Tone 2)

The Lord is my strength and my song / He has become my salvation.
v. The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 6:10-17

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 2)

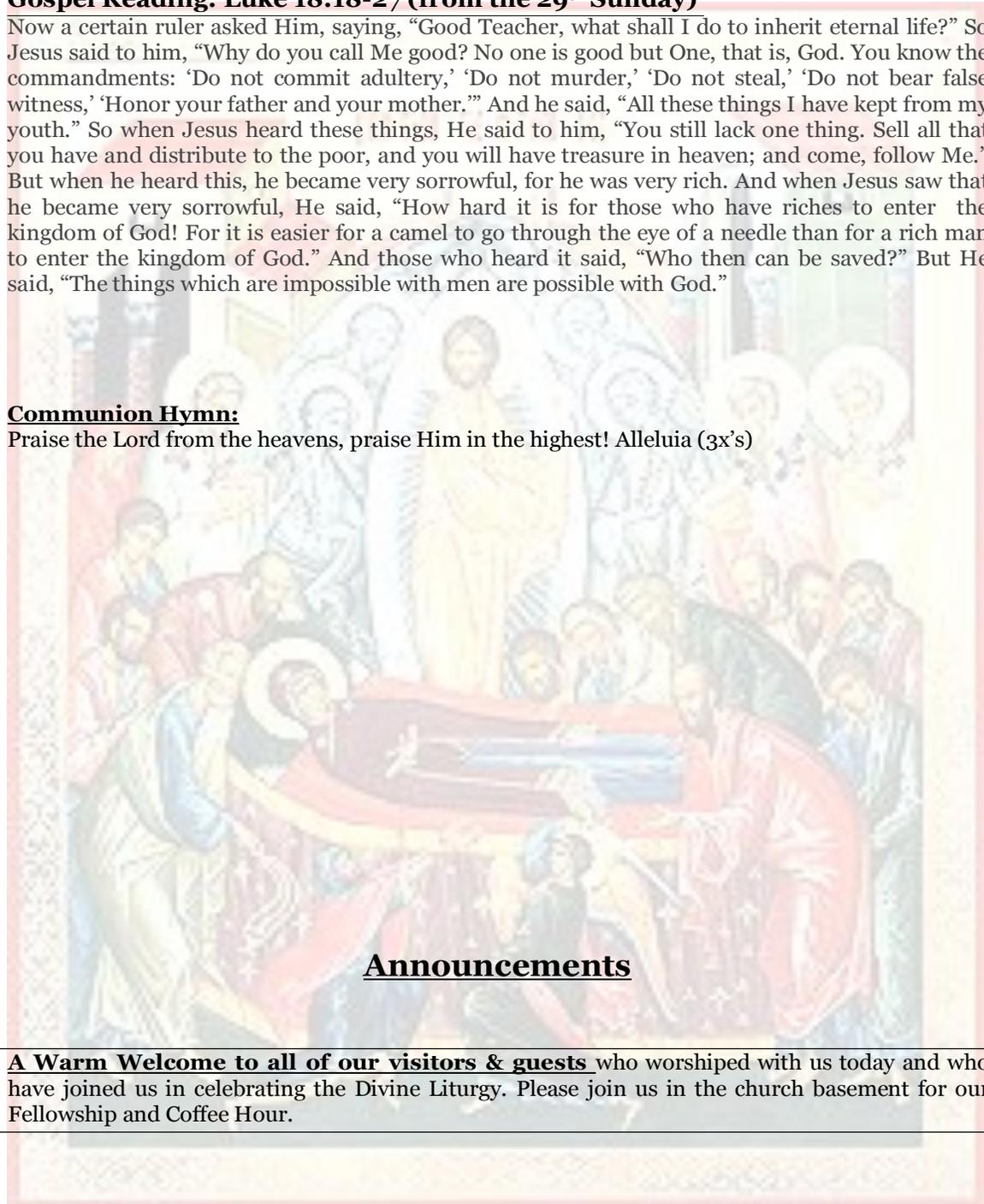
- v. May the Lord hear thee in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect thee! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call to Thee! Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Luke 18:18-27 (from the 29th Sunday)

Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother.'" And he said, "All these things I have kept from my youth." So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich. And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For 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." And those who heard it said, "Who then can be saved?" But He said, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God."

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

PARISH ADVENT VETERANS PROJECT!

We have raised over \$800 towards purchasing necessities (sheets, toiletry kits, and homemade hats) for the Veterans Homeless Project. Thank you for your support. Please continue to consider supporting this project. 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. **Deadline for accepting final donations will be TODAY - Sunday, December 2, 2018!**

Father Mark will then present the gifts to the Veterans next 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!

Advent Season Tutelage - 2018

We are once again providing an Advent tutelage for those who are unable to attend or view either the Bible Study or Church Life Discussion Classes during the Advent Season but wish to still remain closer to God as we prepare for the Holy Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

This season we will provide information on the Life of another North American Saint. Last year we provided information on the life of Saint Alexis Toth. This year we will offer information on the life of Saint Juvenal of Alaska. So let's begin...

Saint Juvenal, the Protomartyr of America, was born in 1761 in Nerchinsk, Siberia. His secular name was John Feodorovich Hovorukhin, and he was trained as a mining engineer. In a letter to Abbot Nazarius of Valaam (December 13, 1819), Saint Herman says that Saint Juvenal "had been an assistant at our monastery and was a former officer."

After his wife died in 1791, John entered a monastery at Saint Petersburg (Saint Herman's Letter of December 13, 1819) and was tonsured with the name Juvenal. Three years later, he went to Alaska as a missionary.

Saint Juvenal's Life to be continued in next week's bulletin.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Family and Parishioners offered by Nina Patterson
Ron Steven Homa on his 65th birthday offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Joseph Herbert, Mildred O'Shura, John Herbert offered by M/M Herbert

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Helen Dzugan and Frank Dzugan offered by Joseph Rabik
Anna & Michael Bondira offered by Hourahan Family
Maria & Dimitri Drimak offered by Hourahan Family

May Their Memories Be Eternal

#####

Please remember in your prayers:

Grace Corba; Ronald Kavalkovich (on his continuous recovery); Dr. Jane Kelly; 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 keep in your prayers those that were affected by the 7.0 earthquake (and any aftershocks and tremors) that hit just north of Anchorage, Alaska on Friday morning (Nov 30).

#####

Thought of the Day:

God is connected to all social media platforms on the world wide web, however, he will only reply to knee mails!

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 (November)

	<u>Week of November 19 to November 25</u>	<u>November Month-to-Date</u>
Attendance:	42	35 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,968.00	\$ 5,594.00
Funds Out:	(\$ 109.47) <i>reimbursement</i>	\$ 5,941.38
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 2,077.47	(\$ 347.38)

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.

Wednesday, December 5 – Vesperal Divine Liturgy for the Feast of Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker (December 6th) at 6:30PM!

Saturday, December 8 - Indoor Church Cleaning schedule for 10:00AM. Bring your rags, buckets, feather dusters, and cleaning supplies to assist with the cleaning of the church. Dusting, vacuuming, polishing...you name the item or area...most likely it needs to be cleaned!

Sunday, December 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 water damage on north side of building; Hall status update and Lintel work performed; tenant situation at 2109 house; and the work performed on 2111 house.

Bible Study – Tuesday, December 11 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 **Judges**. The class may start reading the next section in the Bible – The Book of **Ruth**.

**To Be Determined (Saturday, December 15 and/or Sunday, December 16)
Parish Christmas Decorating and Trimming of the Christmas Tree.**

Time: Saturday – TBD and/or Sunday - After Divine Liturgy.

Please see either Debbie Kavalkovich or Matthew Andrews today regarding the detail schedule of decorating the church and Christmas tree.

Christmas Eve Services (Great Complines and Matins (modified)) – Monday, December 24th – Time: Yet To Be Determined.

Once the time has been finalized, it will be announced both in church and printed in the bulletin.

Cleaning Teams: Today (Dec 2): Saint Juvenaly
(Jennifer Cantrell and Family, Ron and Cheryl Homa).
Next Week (Dec 9): Saint Innocent
(David Albrecht and Melanie Albrecht).



Prophet Habakkuk [December 2nd]

The Holy Prophet Habakkuk, the eighth of the Twelve Minor Prophets, was descended from the Tribe of Simeon, and he prophesied around 650 B.C.

The Prophet Habakkuk foresaw the destruction of the Jerusalem Temple, the Babylonian Captivity and the later return of the captives to their native land. During the war with the Babylonians the prophet withdrew to Arabia, where the following miracle

occurred. When he was bringing dinner to the reapers, he met an angel of the Lord, and instantly by the strength of his spirit he was transported to Babylon, where at the time the Prophet Daniel was languishing in prison. The food intended for the reapers assuaged the hunger of the exhausted Prophet Daniel (Dan. 14:33-37).

After the end of the war with the Babylonians, the Prophet Habakkuk returned to his homeland and died at a great old age. His relics were found at the time of Emperor Theodosius the Younger (408-450), together with the relics of the Prophet Micah (August 14).

The Fourth Ode of the Psalter (“O Lord, I have heard thy report, and was afraid...”) is based on Habakkuk 3:2-19.

Venerable Athanasius the Recluse of the Kiev Caves [December 2nd]

Saint Athanasius, Recluse of the Far Caves of Kiev is mentioned in the Fourth Ode of the general Canon of the Monastic Fathers of the Far Caves. The “Sayings and Lives of the Saints Who Repose in the Cave of Saint Theodosius” says that Saint Athanasius had no need of candles in the cave, since a heavenly light shone for him. He grants healing to all who approach him with faith.

The memory of Saint Athanasius is celebrated also on August 28 and on the second Sunday of Great Lent.