

## Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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### Sunday, January 27, 2019 | 35<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 2 – Translation of the Relics of St John Chrysostom,  
Archbishop of Constantinople (438)  
Synaxis of the Holy New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia

#### V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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### Weekly Schedule

Today: Annual Parish Meeting after Divine Liturgy.

Today: Great Blessing of Water begins at **3:00PM** along Boathouse Row on the Schuylkill River.  
*[Rescheduled from January 20 due to inclement weather]*

Saturday: February 2 – Divine Liturgy for The Meeting of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the Temple at **10:00AM**

Saturday: February 2 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM!** *[Note Time Change]*

Sunday: February 3 – Afterfeast of the Meeting of the Lord in Temple  
Reading of Hours – 9:30am  
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am  
*Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy*

Sunday: February 3 - Soup N' Bowl IV Challenge immediately following Divine Liturgy in the Church Basement. Be prepared to indulge in some of the best warm and tasty soups/stews/chilis!

## 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 8 – St John Chrysostom)**

Grace shining forth from thy lips like a beacon has enlightened the universe. / It has shown to the world the riches of poverty; / it has revealed to us the heights of humility. / Teaching us by thy words, O Father John Chrysostom, // Intercede before the Word, Christ our God, to 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 1 – St John Chrysostom)**

Most glorious John Chrysostom, / the Church of Constantinople greatly rejoiced, receiving the gift of thy holy relics; / keeping them as a treasure of great price. / Through thine intercession, // they bring the grace of healing to those who praise thee in hymns.

### **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.

### **Another Prokeimenon (Tone 1)**

My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be understanding

### **Epistle Reading: Colossians 3:12-16**

When Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

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)
- v. The mouth of the righteous shall proclaim wisdom, and his tongue shall speak of judgement. Alleluia (3x's) [TONE 2]

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:14-30**

For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.' His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.' His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.' But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

**Communion Hymn:**

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

*[Note: Today's readings for Saint John Chrysostom are as follows:  
 Epistle – Hebrews 7:26-8:2 and Gospel – John 10:9-16]*

**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

### **2019 House Blessing**

If you wish to have your home blessed, please speak with Father Mark for date availability to schedule a house blessing. The blessing of houses will begin after Theophany, which is Sunday, January 6. Items of importance when having your home blessed: 1) have a candle available to be burned during the house blessing, 2) a bowl of blessed holy water, 3) an icon (preferably the icon of Christ being baptized in the Jordan River), and 4) please make enough space for Father Mark to maneuver in the rooms you wish him to bless.

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### **Soup N' Bowl IV Challenge - Sunday, February 3, 2019 after Divine Liturgy (including Stews & Chili)!**

- \* We are looking for participants (between 4 to 8 people) to prepare their best soup, stew, or chili and faceoff against each other (no fasting restrictions on that Sunday).  
Any soup, stew, or chili can be prepared. Any type of crackers or bread can be included as a compliment to the dish.
- \* Participants should make enough soup, stew, or chili for the parishioners and guests (average between 30-35 people).
- \* Parishioners & guests will indulge in each one of the soups, stews, and chili (at least try 1/2 bowl or cup of each soup) and then cast a ballot for which one they enjoyed the most.
- \* The results ("Score") will be announced by the Commissioner: Fr. Koczak
- \* The winner gets to enjoy for the year that their soup, stew or chili was the best and select a charity of their choosing from the coffee hour proceeds from this event.
- \* Donation of "free-will" offering will be accepted for this coffee hour event.
- \* Any other ideas or suggestions, please inform a parish council member.

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### **2019 January & February Calendar Dates:**

January 27 – Annual Parish Meeting after Liturgy  
January 27 – Great Blessing of the Water on the Schuylkill River  
February 2 – Meeting of our Lord in the Temple – Divine Liturgy at 10AM  
February 3 – Soup N' Bowl IV after Divine Liturgy  
February 10 – Zacchaeus Sunday  
February 10 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy  
February 12 – Bible Study at 6:30pm in church basement

**Announcements** (cont.)

**Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed**

**Health for the Living:**

Alexander Kavalkovich, David Andrews offered by Catherine Kavalkovich  
Catherine Kavalkovich on her retirement offered by Albert Kavalkovich  
Catherine Kavalkovich offered by Emily Gerasimoff  
Catherine Kavalkovich on her retirement; Alexander, David, and Anthony on their birthdays;  
Sharon, Catherine, Patricia, Albert, Barbara, Marc, Alexander, Anastasia, Uncle Pete offered by  
MM K Kavalkovich

**May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!**

**Memory for the Departed:**

Joseph Herbert, Pop-Pop Fred offered by MM K Kavalkovich

**May Their Memories Be Eternal**

**Vigil Cross Candles – 1/20/19:**

Health of Irene Torpey and Gregory Lindsay offered by Nina Patterson  
Memory of Joseph Herbert offered by MM S Herbert

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**Please remember in your prayers:**

Grace Corba; Ronald Kavalkovich (on his continuous recovery); Dr. Jane Kelly; Luke Emmanuel  
Parsells (**Baptized – Dec 29**) Heather Parsells; Peter Parsells; David Pellack; Margaret Pellack;  
Helen Wanenchak; Father John Bohush (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed  
Forces!

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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 (January)**

	<u>Week of January 14 to January 20</u>	<u>January Month-to-date</u>
Attendance:	35	34 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 2,082.00	\$ 8,050.00
Funds Out:	\$ 1,832.79	\$ 8,055.84
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 249.21	(\$ 5.84)

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

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

### **TODAY (Weather Permitting) Great Blessing of the Waters – 3PM!**

The Pan-Orthodox Christian Brotherhood of Greater Philadelphia announces a joint Orthodox Christian Celebration of Epiphany on January 27, 2019 at 3pm along the Schuylkill River at the Fairmont Boat House, located at 2 Boathouse Row and Kelly Drive, Philadelphia, PA. This traditional service known as “The Greater Blessing of the Waters” will commemorate the Baptism of Jesus Christ in the River Jordan by St. John the Baptist. For more information please speak with Father Mark Koczak about this event. [PLEASE NOTE RESCHEDULED FROM JANUARY 20TH!]

**TODAY - Annual Parish Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the church basement.** The Spiritual Advisor will give his report and update on the 55<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Assembly. The Parish Council will give their report(s) as also will the committees of the parish. The voting on the 2019 budget along with any other business that needs to be discussed. Note: The election of the 2019 parish council officers took place during the Fall Parish meeting back in November 2018. The meeting should last at least 90 minutes, but no more than 2 hours.

**Saturday, February 2 – The Meeting of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ into the Temple - Divine Liturgy will be served at 10:00AM!!**

**Soup N’ Bowl IV Challenge – Sunday February 3, 2019 after Divine Liturgy (including Stews & Chili)!** We are looking for participants to prepare their best soup, stew, or chili and faceoff against each other once again. The parishioners & guest will indulge in each dish & cast a ballot for which one they enjoy the most. Additional details to follow!

**Sunday, February 10, 2019 – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church School Room! (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month)!**

All property committee members are asked to attend the meeting.

**Bible Study – Tuesday, February 12 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 **Ruth**.

**Cleaning Teams:** Today (Jan 27): Saint Herman of Alaska  
(Peter & Heather Parsells, Gale Rutan, Joseph Francis).

**Soup ‘N Bowl SUNDAY**→Next Week (Feb 3): Saint John of Kronstadt  
(Lean Helen, Paul Filanowski, Matt Andrews, Martha Palubniak).



## **St John Chrysostom the Archbishop of Constantinople** [January 27<sup>th</sup>]

Saint John Chrysostom This great ecumenical teacher and hierarch died in the city of Comana in the year 407 on his way to a place of exile. He had been condemned by the intrigues of the empress Eudoxia because of his daring denunciation of the vices ruling over Constantinople. The transfer of his venerable relics was made in the year 438, thirty years after the death of the saint during the reign of Eudoxia's son emperor Theodosius II (408-450).

Saint John Chrysostom had the warm love and deep respect of the people, and grief over his untimely death lived on in the hearts of Christians. Saint John's disciple, Saint Proclus, Patriarch of Constantinople (434-447), during services in the Church of Hagia Sophia, preached a sermon praising Saint John. He said, "O John, your life was filled with sorrow, but your death was glorious. Your grave is blessed and reward is great, by the grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ O graced one, having conquered the bounds of time and place! Love has conquered space, unforgetting memory has annihilated the limits, and place does not hinder the miracles of the saint."

Those who were present in church, deeply touched by the words of Saint Proclus, did not allow him even to finish his sermon. With one accord they began to entreat the Patriarch to intercede with the emperor, so that the relics of Saint John might be brought back to Constantinople.

The emperor, overwhelmed by Saint Proclus, gave his consent and gave the order to transfer the relics of Saint John. But those he sent were unable to lift the holy relics until the emperor realized that he had sent men to take the saint's relics from Comana with an edict, instead of with a prayer. He wrote a letter to Saint John, humbly asking him to forgive his audacity, and to return to Constantinople. After the message was read at the grave of Saint John, they easily took up the relics, carried them onto a ship and arrived at Constantinople.

The coffin with the relics was placed in the Church of Holy Peace (Hagia Eirene). When Patriarch Proclus opened the coffin, the body of Saint John was found to be incorrupt. The emperor approached the coffin with tears, asking forgiveness for his mother, who had banished Saint John. All day and night people did not leave the coffin.

In the morning the coffin was brought to the Church of the Holy Apostles. The people cried out, "Father, take up your throne." Then Patriarch Proclus and the clergy standing by the relics saw Saint John open his mouth and say, "Peace be to all." Many of the sick were healed at his tomb.

The celebration of the transfer of the relics of Saint John Chrysostom was established in the ninth century.