

## Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St. (corner of 28<sup>th</sup> St. & Snyder Ave.)  
Philadelphia, PA 19145 \* Church Phone: (215) 468-3535  
Website: <http://www.holyassumptionphilly.org>



Mailing Address: PO Box 20083 \* Point Breeze Station | Philadelphia PA 19145-0383

**Sunday, February 14, 2021 | 36<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

Tone 3 – Sunday of Zacchaeus

Venerable Auxentius of Bithynia | Venerable Maron, Hermit, of Syria  
Repose of St. Cyril, Equal-to-Apostles and Teacher of the Slavs (869)

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

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*Deacon – Michael McCartney*

*Choir Director – Nina Patterson*

*Subdeacon – Daniel (Ken) Kavalkovich*

*Reader – Mark Klus*

*Parish President - Matthew Andrews [Phone: 856.217.8075]*

### **Weekly Schedule**

Today: Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the church basement schoolroom.

Saturday: February 20 – Saturday Divine Liturgy at **10:00AM!**

Saturday: February 20 - Great Vespers at **4:00PM!**

Sunday: February 21 – Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee  
[ Beginning of the Lenten Triodion ]

Reading of Hours – 9:30am

Divine Liturgy – 10:00am

*Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy*

(CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!!!)

## **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 1 – Venerable Auxentius)**

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body, / thou wast a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father Auxentius. / Thou didst receive heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer, / healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to thee by faith. / Glory to Him Who gave thee strength! / Glory to Him Who granted thee a ^crown! // Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

### **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 2 – Venerable Auxentius)**

Thou didst delight in abstinence, / restraining the desires of the flesh. / Divinely wise and holy Father Auxentius, / thou wast revealed to be shining with faith, // blossoming like a plant in the midst of Paradise.

### **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!

### **Epistle Reading: 1 Timothy 4:9-15**

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance. For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. These things command and teach. Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.  
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)

**Gospel Reading: Luke 19:1-10**

Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house." So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner." Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.

**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

As a result of the new Covid restrictions set by City of Philadelphia officials, the following changes will occur at the parish until at least the end of February 2021:

- \* NO coffee hour after services;
- \* NO Sunday school in church basement (ZOOM classes to be held instead); and
- \* Father will serve a Saturday Divine Liturgy for those who wish to attend Liturgy in a smaller gathering. Now, if the Saturday Divine Liturgy attendance reaches levels near the maximum restriction amount, the parish may...repeat may, split the parishioners into two grouping with one group attending on Saturday and the other attending on Sunday.

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### **CARDS FOR OUR TROOPS! SAVE YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS!**

Please save your Christmas cards this year. Matushka Janine and the Charity Committee are collecting Christmas cards to send to the troops for next year. They will use the front cover and paste it on a new card, write an appropriate verse on the inside of the card, and address the card to our soldiers. Please consider donating your cards you received this year. Please see Matushka Janine as to where to drop off your Christmas cards at a designated area in the church basement, or whether she will collect them directly. As always, thank you for your generosity!

This year we collected and sent out just under **600** cards for our troops!

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### **2021 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 Wednesday, 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.

**Please Note:** House blessing schedule will also be based upon the current State and Local Civil Authority's travel and social gathering restrictions due to the Covid virus!

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### **AMAZON SMILE!**

When ordering online on Amazon.com, please make sure to click on Amazon Smile and select our church - Assumption of the Holy Virgin Russian Orthodox Church - to have a small percentage of your purchases (0.5%) to be contributed to our church. For more information on the Amazon purchase process, please speak with any member of the parish council. Thank You!

**Announcements** (cont.)

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

**Health for the Living:**

Fania Wanenchak offered by Robert Wanenchak

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

**Memory for the Departed:**

Emelie Albrecht offered by Melanie Albrecht  
Mary Spack offered by Melanie Albrecht  
Reader Leonty Macalush offered by M/M Herbert  
Helen Herbert offered by M/M Herbert  
Edwin "Buddy" Ovington offered by M/M Herbert  
Emelie Albrecht offered by M/M Herbert  
Paul Searles offered by David Pellack

**May Their Memories Be Eternal**

**Vigil Cross Candles – 2/7/21:**

One Large Votive Crosses – Memory of John & Julia Jugan  
offered by the Pellack and Walker Families

One Large Votive Crosses – Health of Catherine, Kenny, Dorothy, Fania and  
Jim offered by Emily Gerasimoff

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**Please remember in your prayers:**

Infant child Basil David Stafford (born January 27) and his parents Jerome & Darcy and big brothers Elias & Moses. May God Grant Basil and the Stafford Family Many Healthy and Blessed Years!

+ Archimandrite Athanasy Mastalski (5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his falling asleep);  
+ Protopresbyter Daniel Hubiak (Feb 5); + Mitred Archpriest Daniel Ressetar (Jan 20); Christina Andrews on her Chrismation into the church last Saturday; Grace Corba; Protodeacon Joseph Edwards; The Gerty Family; Catherine Kavalkovich (recovery); Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich (treatment); Ronald Kavalkovich (continuous recovery); Jane Kelly (recovery); Sheba Patton (recovery); Father John Bohush (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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## Announcements (cont.)

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

**\*\*\*\*\*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
- 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/February)**

Week of Sun Jan 31 to Sat Feb 6

January Month (Uuaudited)

Attendance:	24	24 (average)
<i>(COVID19 Pandemic Limitations on gathering of groups of no more than 50 people)</i>		
Funds In:	\$ 688.83	\$14,912.86
Funds Out:	(\$ 765.03) reimbursement	\$ 5,685.25
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 1,453.86	\$ 9,227.61

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 either David Pellack or Ken Kavalkovich 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** – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each quarter** – Quarterly Parish Council Meeting after Liturgy.

### Readers Schedule:

	<u>Today (Feb 14)</u>	<u>Next Week (Feb 21)</u>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Hour :	John Spack	Michael Spack
6 <sup>th</sup> Hour:	Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich	David Albrecht
Epistle:	Lena Helen	Reader Mark Klus

### Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

As a result of new Covid restrictions set by City of Philadelphia officials on Monday, November 16 which went into effect on Friday, November 20, the formal coffee hour event held after Sunday Divine Liturgy has been suspended until further notice.

Once city officials ease restrictions relating to Covid, coffee hour will then resume.

When the coffee hour resumes (currently not until at least February 2021), a new coffee schedule with new team parishioners will be in the rotation as per the action taken during the Fall General Parish Meeting held back on Sunday, November 1.

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Please continue to check our parish website, social media pages, and your emails regularly for updated information on the parish regarding parish services in February 2021.

Saturdays in FEBRUARY 2021 – Divine Liturgy @ 10:00AM

Today – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy

Sunday, February 21 – Publican & Pharisee ----- Fast Free Week!

Sunday, February 28 – Prodigal Son



## **Sunday of Zacchaeus**

[February 14<sup>th</sup>]

The paschal season of the Church is preceded by the season of Great Lent, which is also preceded by its own liturgical preparation. The first sign of the approach of Great Lent comes five Sundays before its beginning. On this Sunday the Gospel reading is about Zacchaeus the tax-collector. It tells how Christ brought salvation to the sinful man, and how his life was changed simply because he “sought to see who Jesus was” (Luke 19:3). The desire and effort to see Jesus begins

the entire movement through Lent towards Pascha. It is the first movement of salvation.

Our lenten journey begins with a recognition of our own sinfulness, just as Zacchaeus recognized his. He promised to make restitution by giving half of his wealth to the poor, and by paying to those he had falsely accused four times as much as they had lost. In this, he went beyond the requirements of the Law (Ex. 22:3-12).

The example of Zacchaeus teaches us that we should turn away from our sins, and atone for them. The real proof of our sorrow and repentance is not just a verbal apology, but when we correct ourselves and try to make amends for the consequences of our evil actions.

We are also assured of God’s mercy and compassion by Christ’s words to Zacchaeus, “Today salvation is come to this house” (Luke 19:9). After the Great Doxology at Sunday Matins (when the Tone of the week is Tone 1, 3, 5, 7) we sing the Dismissal Hymn of the Resurrection “Today salvation has come to the world,” which echoes the Lord’s words to Zacchaeus.

Zacchaeus was short, so he climbed a tree in order to see the Lord. All of us have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23). We are also short in our spiritual stature, therefore we must climb the ladder of the virtues. In other words, we must prepare for spiritual effort and growth.

St Zacchaeus is also commemorated on April 20.