

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>



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

Sunday, June 6, 2021 | Sixth Sunday of Pascha

Tone 5 – Blind Man

Ven. Bessarion (Vissarion) the Wonderworker of Egypt (4th-5th c.)

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

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

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: Spring General Parish Meeting immediately following
Divine Liturgy in the church basement.

Tuesday: June 8 - Bible Study at 6:30PM in the church basement
and on the ZOOM media platform.

Thursday: June 10 – Divine Liturgy at 10:00AM for the Feast of the
Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Saturday: June 12 – Great Vespers at 4:00PM

Sunday: June 13 – 7th Sunday of Pascha | Afterfeast of the Ascension

The Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

Reading of Hours – 9:30am

Divine Liturgy – 10:00am

Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

(POSTPONED UNTIL SUNDAY, JULY 18TH!!!!!!)

[See page 4 of this bulletin for details]

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 5)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, / co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, / born for our salvation from the Virgin; / for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, / to endure death, / and to raise the dead // by His glorious Resurrection.

Kontakion (Tone 4 - Pentecostarion)

I come to Thee, O Christ, blind from birth in my spiritual eyes, / and call to Thee in repentance: // Thou art the most radiant Light of those in darkness.

Kontakion (Tone 8 - Pascha)

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, / Thou didst destroy the power of death. / In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, / proclaiming, "Rejoice!" to the Myrrhbearing Women, // granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

Prokeimenon (Tone 8)

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord our God!
v. In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

Epistle Reading: Acts 16:16-34

Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out that very hour. But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to the authorities. And they brought them to the magistrates, and said, "These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city; and they teach customs which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or observe. Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded them to be beaten with rods. And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed. And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here." Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized. Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 8)

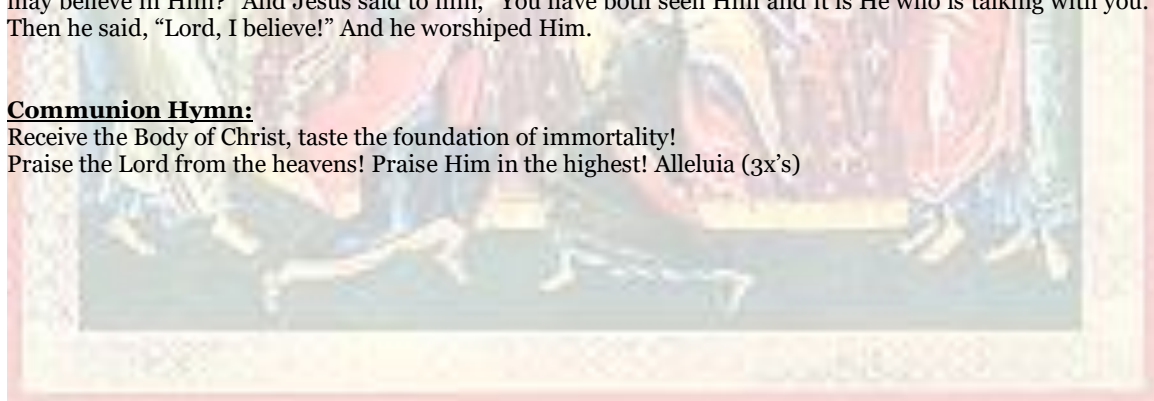
- v. Look upon me and have mercy on me! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Guide my steps according to Thy word! Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: John 9:1-38

Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing. Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, "Is not this he who sat and begged?" Some said, "This is he." Others said, "He is like him." He said, "I am he." Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" He answered and said, "A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and I received sight." Then they said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know." They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Therefore some of the Pharisees said, "This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. They said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight. And they asked them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself. His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed that He was Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, "Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner." He answered and said, "Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see." Then they said to him again, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" He answered them, "I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become His disciples?" Then they reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from." The man answered and said to them, "Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes! Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing." They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you." Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him.

Communion Hymn:

Receive the Body of Christ, taste the foundation of immortality!
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.

Fellowship Coffee Hour Scheduling Update!

As you are aware, with Covid restrictions being lifted over this past weekend (Friday, June 4) in the City of Philadelphia, this allows the parish to officially have Fellowship Coffee Hour after the Divine Liturgy. However, with the revised Covid restrictions being lifted a week earlier than scheduled, the parish has not fully finalized the groupings for those to host the Fellowship Coffee Hour. In addition, there are three parish events/services/luncheons and one Federal Holiday to contend with over the next five Sundays. Therefore, the parish will begin the Fellowship Coffee Hour with groups hosting the coffee hour beginning on Sunday, July 18!

The parish does not want to begin the group scheduling to host coffee hour one week and then delay the next group a few weeks later due to a parish function. We would like to start off with a clean slate, provide a continuing weekly schedule, and get into a proper rhythm as the parish resumes the Fellowship Coffee Hour.

THANK YOU!!!

A special **Thank You** goes out to those parishioners (you know who you are) who both spent time two weeks ago, in the heat, working on the air conditioning unit and preparing for its use during church services. Hopefully with their mechanical knowledge and skills, we will not incur any problems in the A/C unit this summer. May God Grant You All Many Healthy, Blessed Years...(and a comfortable summer!!)

D-Day Anniversary

Today is Sunday, June 6, and 77 years ago today, the Western Allies carried out landing and airborne operations in Normandy, France to begin Operation Overlord during World War II. D-Day (codename Operation Neptune) was the largest seaborne invasion in history. The Allies stormed a 50-mile stretch of the Normandy coast which was divided into five sectors: Utah, Omaha, Gold, June, and Storm. It began the liberation of German-occupied France to lay the foundations of Allied victory over Nazi Germany.

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:

All of our Veterans offered by David Pellack
Family and Parishioners offered by Nina Patterson

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Richard Coan offered by Emily Gerasimoff
Paul offered by Christine Essey
John Homa offered by Ron Homa

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 5/30/21:

One Large Vigil Cross – Memory of John Perzsel offered by
Deacon Michael and Matushka Janine McCartney

One Large Vigil Cross – Memory of Michael Spack Sr., Joseph Herbert,
John Herbert, Benjamin Macalush, George Barrett,
Jack O’Shura offered by the Herbert Family

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Please remember in your prayers:

Infant child Scarlett Andrews (born May 22) and her parents Christopher & Allison and big brother Lucas. May God Grant Scarlett & her family Many Blessed Years!

+ Robert Kennedy (anniversary of his assassination 6/6/68); Emma Burychka.(anniversary of her falling asleep 6/5/15); Allison (David) Andrews and her unborn child; Christina (Matthew) Andrews and her unborn child; Grace Corba; Protodeacon Joseph Edwards; The Gerty Family; Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich (recovery); 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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Sidewalk Repair Donations (Week of May 30)

Sidewalk Repair Block Donation – \$32 from the Candy Sale

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 this 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 (May)

<u>Week of Sun May 23 to Sat May 29</u>	<u>May Month to Date</u>
Attendance: 38	52 (average)
Funds In: \$ 1,530.65	\$15,242.04
Funds Out: (\$ 6.26) reimbursement	\$ 7,249.36
Net Surplus/(Deficit): \$ 1,536.91	\$ 7,992.68

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

- 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** – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.
- 5th Sunday of each quarter** – Quarterly Parish Council Meeting after Liturgy.

Readers Schedule:

	<u>Today (June 6)</u>	<u>Next Week (Jun 13)</u>
3 rd Hour :	William Filanowski	Michael Spack
6 th Hour:	Lena Helen	Mark Klus
Epistle:	David Albrecht	Matthew Andrews

Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

UPDATE (Updated Again) !

As many of you know by now, on Tuesday, May 11 the City of Philadelphia officials notified the public that the Covid restrictions in place since November 20, 2020 will be lifted within the city limits beginning on Friday, June 11.

[**Update:** On Friday, May 28, City of Philadelphia officials revised the lifting of Covid restrictions date to now begin a week earlier on Friday, June 4 (two days ago)]

This action by city officials will allow the parish to relax the number of parishioners attending services and will allow the parish to resume its regular coffee hour event held after Sunday Divine Liturgy.

Beginning Sunday, July 18 (not June 13 - see page four of this bulletin for details), the coffee hour will resume and the parish plans on having a new coffee hour schedule with new team parishioners in the rotation as per the action taken during the Fall General Parish Meeting held back on Sunday, November 1, 2020.

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

Sunday, June 20 - Pentecost

Sunday, June 20 – Father’s Day

Thursday, June 24 - Nativity of Saint John the Baptist (Service TBD)

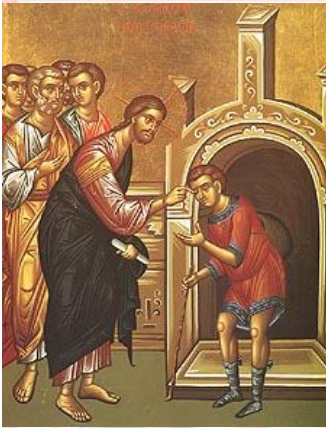
Sunday, June 27 - Parish Pentecost Dinner

Monday, June 28 – Saints Peter and Paul Fast (1 Day)

Tuesday, June 29 - Saints Peter & Paul Feast Day (Service TBD)

Sunday, July 4 – Independence Day

Sunday, July 11 – Breakfast Luncheon hosted by Kavalkovichs & Pellacks



Sunday of the Blind Man [June 6th]

After the Midfeast (John 7:14), the Lord Jesus Christ came to the Temple again and taught the people who came to Him (John 8:2). After leaving the Temple, He opened the eyes of a man “who was blind from his birth (John 9:1).

The miracle described in today’s Gospel (John 9:1-38) is even more remarkable than it might seem at first. St Basil and other Fathers tell us that this was not just a case of giving sight to a blind man born with eyes that did not function, but to someone who had no eyes at all! The second Exapostilarion for this Sunday says, “Along the way, our Savior found a man who lacked both sight and eyes...”.

The Gospel says, “Since the world began, it was not heard that any man opened the eyes of one who was born blind” (John 9:32). There are examples in the Old (Tobit 2:17) and New (Mark 8:22-26) Testaments of blind people receiving sight, but this is something completely unprecedented.

The Savior placed clay in the man’s empty sockets and told him to wash in the pool of Siloam. When he obeyed these instructions, the eyes of clay became living eyes!

In his MENAION, St Demetrius of Rostov calls the blind man St Celidonius (see his account of St Lazarus in the Synaxis of the Seventy Apostles on January 4).