

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, August 22, 2021 | 9th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 8 – Afterfeast of the Dormition

Martyr Agathonicus of Nicomedia and his companions:
Marytrs Zoticus, Theoprepus, Acindynus, Severian, Zeno, and others with them

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

Saturday: August 28 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM**

Sunday: August 29 – Beheading of Saint John the Baptist
[Strict Fast Day!!!]
Reading of Hours – 8:30am
Divine Liturgy – **9:00am [Summer Hours!!!]**
Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 8)

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! / Thou didst accept the three day burial / to free us from our sufferings! // O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to thee!

Troparion (Tone 1 – Dormition)

In giving birth thou didst preserve thy virginity. / In falling asleep thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos. / Thou wast translated to life, O Mother of Life, // and by thy prayers thou dost deliver our souls from death.

Troparion (Tone 4 – Saint Agathonicus)

Thy holy martyr Agathonicus and his companions, 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 intercession, save our souls!

Kontakion (Tone 8)

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrected Adam. / Eve exults in Thy Resurrection, / and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

Kontakion (Tone 1 – Saint Agathonicus)

Having received the good calling, O divinely wise one, / thou didst abandon the cult of evil men, not fearing their tortures, O glorious Agathonicus. / Therefore, thou hast inherited good things // and worthily received the incorruptible crown with thy fellow martyrs.

Kontakion (Tone 2 – Dormition)

Neither the tomb, nor death, could hold the Theotokos, / who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions. / For being the Mother of Life, / she was translated to life // by the One Who dwelt in her virginal womb.

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.

Prokeimenon (Tone 3 – Dormition)

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:9-17

For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 8)

- v. Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!
Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him
with songs of praise! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Arise, O Lord, into Thy resting place, Thou and the ark of Thy holiness!
Alleluia (3x's) [TONE 8]

Gospel Reading: Matthew 14:22-34

Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there. But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary. Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God." When they had crossed over, they came to the land of Gennesaret.

Instead of "It is truly meet ...," we sing Irmos of Ode 9:

Refrian: The Angels, as they looked upon the Dormition of the Virgin, were struck with wonder, seeing how the Virgin went up from earth to heaven.

Heirmos: The limits of nature are overcome in thee, O Pure Virgin: for birthgiving remains virginal, and life is united to death; a virgin after childbearing and alive after death, thou dost ever save thine inheritance, O Theotokos.

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest!
I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord! 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

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!!

COVID Protocol – City of Philadelphia – MASK Policy for Indoors Facilities

The below information was sent to parishioners via email from Father Mark on Friday evening, August 13:

Beloved in Christ,

Many of you know about the recent changes in covid prevention by the city. I have read the city website and communicated with our dean, Fr. Victor and our Archbishop. The parish council and I have also discussed the following plan of action.

Our parish and Fr. Victor's parish are the only two regular Diocesan parishes in Philadelphia. The rest are in the suburbs or different jurisdictions. We have a need to modify our plan for our safety against the covid virus. As a worshipping community we have done well during this pandemic.

Here is our plan for starting this Sunday 15 August:

1. Request that parishioners wear masks from the entrance to the church to the pews and whenever walking around the church. This includes waiting in line for communion and the cross veneration. At the pews masks are optional.

By following the above listed plan and remembering to be safe, I believe we can continue to be well and take care of each other.

Our plan follows the same restrictions for small businesses in the city of Philadelphia

My God bless you and keep you and your families during this time. We pray for all of you at our Divine Liturgies.

Your servant in Christ,

Fr. Mark

Archpriest Mark Koczak
Rector
Assumption of the Holy Virgin Mary Orthodox Church
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Jane Holefelder offered by Nina Patterson
Family and Parishioners offered by Nina Patterson
Family and Nina Patterson's Birthday offered by sister Daria LeRoy
Frank Boyle offered by David Pellack
Anne Killoran offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Emily Pellack offered by David Pellack

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Mr. & Mrs. John Pellack offered by David Pellack
John Wanenchak offered by brother Robert Wanenchak

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Vigil Cross Candles – 8/15/21:

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Please remember in your prayers:

Christina (Matthew) Andrews and her unborn child; Grace Corba; Protodeacon Joseph Edwards; Edward Gerasimoff (surgery); The Gerty Family; Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich (recovery); Ronald Kavalkovich (continuous recovery); Jane Kelly (recovery); Anne (Homa) Killoran (surgery); Sheba Patton (surgery & recovery); Father John Bohush (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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Sidewalk Repair Donations (Week of August 15)

Sidewalk Repair Block Donation – \$5 from the Candy Sale

Memory of John Wanenchak – James and Sharon Orr

Memory of John Wanenchak: (Small Block) – Emily Gerasimoff

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. By the action taken at the Spring General Parish Meeting held on Sunday, June 13, the parish body approved that all future special collections be earmarked towards the repairing/fixing/replacing of the roofs of both houses that the parish owns (this collection will begin on Sunday, June 20).

The funds collected from your donations will assist in underwriting the cost to repair/fix/replace the roofs of both houses.

Please take note; the above-approved action did **NOT** affect the current financial balances of the other Funds the parish collected for as of June 13, 2021 (i.e. Kitchen, Youth, Restoration, & Charity).

Please be generous with your offering. Every little bit counts. Thank You!

Cash Flow Activity (August)

<u>Week of Sun Aug 8 to Sat Aug 14</u>		<u>August Month to Date</u>
Attendance:	22	28 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 875.00	\$ 2,557.87
Funds Out:	(\$ 81.88)	\$ 2,964.31
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 956.88	(\$ 406.44)

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 (Aug 22)</u>	<u>Next Week (Aug 29)</u>
3 rd Hour :	Dr. David Albrecht	Matthew Andrews
6 th Hour:	John Spack	Anthony Colona
Epistle:	Michael Spack	Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich and David Pellack

Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

Today (Aug 22): Saint Agatha of Belo-Russia
(John Spack, Michael Spack, Nina Patterson, Natalie Patterson)

Next Week (Aug 29): Saint Elizabeth the New Martyr [Lenten Meal – Strict Fast Day]
(Catherine Kavalkovich, Emily Gerasimoff, Sandra Hourahan, Melanie Albrecht)

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 August and September 2021.

From Now until at least the end of September
Christmas Card Project has started (Putting cards together)

Sunday, August 29 – Beheading of Saint John the Baptist
Divine Liturgy begins at 9:00AM. It is a Strict Fast Day!!!

Either Tuesday, September 7 or Wednesday, September 8
Services for the Feast of the Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos
***** The Date and Time are still to be determined *****

Either Monday, September 13 or Tuesday, September 14
Services for the Exaltation of the Precious Cross [Strict Fast Day]
***** The Date and Time are still to be determined *****

Tuesday, September 14 – Bible Study at 6:30pm in the church basement and on the ZOOM media platform



Martyr Agathonicus of Nicomedia, and those with him, who suffered under Maximian [August 22nd]

The Martyrs Agathonicus, Zoticus, Theoprepus, Acindynus, Severian, Zeno and others accepted death for Christ during the reign of the emperor Maximian (284-305).

The Martyr Agathonicus was descended from the illustrious lineage of the Hypasians, and he lived at Nicomedia. Well versed in Holy Scripture, he converted many pagans to Christ, including the most eminent member of the Senate

(its “princeps” or leader). Comitatus Eutolmius was sent to the Pontine (lower Black Sea) region, where he crucified the followers of the Christian Zoticus, who had refused to offer sacrifice to idols. He took Zoticus with him.

In Nicomedia, Eutolmius arrested the Martyr Agathonicus (together with the princeps), and also Theoprepus, Acindynus and Severian. After tortures, Eutolmius ordered that the martyrs be taken to Thrace for trial by the emperor.

But along the way, in the vicinity of Potama, the Martyrs Zoticus, Theoprepus and Acindynus were unable to proceed further behind the chariot of the governor because of wounds received during torture. Therefore, they were put to death. The Martyr Severian was put to death at Chalcedon, and the Martyr Agathonicus together with others was beheaded with the sword by order of the emperor, in Selymbria.

The relics of the Martyr Agathonicus were in a church named for him at Constantinople, and were seen in the year 1200 by the Russian pilgrim Anthony. And in the fourteenth century Philotheus, the archbishop of Selymbria, devoted an encomium to the Martyr Agathonicus.

