

## 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, October 3, 2021 | 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 6 – Hieromartyr Dionysius the Areopagite, Bishop of Athens and with him Martyrs  
Rusticus the Presbyter and Eleutherius the Deacon (96)  
St. John the Chozebite, Bishop of Caesarea in Palestine

### 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

- Monday: Exactly 6 years ago tomorrow, Father Mark served for the first time as an Acting Rector at the parish. He was “on loan” to us from the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. *May God Grant You Many Blessed Years!!!*
- Wednesday: October 6 – Glorification of Saint Innocent
- Saturday: October 9 – Glorification of Saint Tikhon
- Saturday: October 9 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM**
- Sunday: October 10 – Holy Fathers of the 7<sup>th</sup> Ecumenical Council  
Reading of Hours – 9:30am  
Divine Liturgy – **10:00am**  
*Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy*
- Sunday: October 10 – Fall General Parish Meeting after Divine Liturgy and fellowship coffee hour in the church basement. Election of 2022-2023 officers will take place.

## Texts for the Liturgical Service

### **Troparion (Tone 6)**

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb; / the guards became as dead men. / Mary stood by Thy grave, / seeking Thy most pure body. / Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it. / Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. // O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee.

### **Troparion (Tone 4 – Saint Dionysius)**

Having learned goodness and maintaining continence in all things, / thou wast arrayed with a good conscience as befits a priest. / From the Chosen Vessel thou didst draw ineffable mysteries; / thou didst keep the Faith, and didst finish a course equal to his. // Hieromartyr Dionysius, entreat Christ God that our souls may be saved!

### **Kontakion (Tone 6)**

When Christ God the Giver of Life, / raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand, / He bestowed resurrection on the human race. // He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

### **Kontakion (Tone 8 – Saint Dionysius)**

As a disciple of the Apostle caught up to the third heaven, / thou didst spiritually enter the gate of heaven, O Dionysius. / Thou wast enriched with understanding of ineffable mysteries / and didst enlighten those who sat in the darkness of ignorance. // Therefore we cry to thee: “Rejoice, universal Father!”

### **Prokeimenon (Tone 6)**

O Lord, save thy people / and bless Thine inheritance!  
v. To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

### **Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:6-15**

For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed – always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you. And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I believed and therefore I spoke,” we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God. Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 6)



v. He that dwelleth in the aid of the Most High shall abide under the protection of the God of heaven. Alleluia (3x's)  
v. He shall say to the Lord: Thou art my protector and my refuge, my God. In Him will I trust! Alleluia (3x's)

**Gospel Reading: Luke 6:31-36**

And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise. But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

**Communion Hymn:**

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest! Alleluia (3x's)

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**2022 Saint Tikhon's Monastery Calendar - Taking orders now:**

The parish will once again be ordering 2022 calendars from Saint Tikhon's Monastery. As a result from a generous benefactor, a donation was made to the church to cover the cost of one calendar per household for parishioners of the church.

If you wish to order additional calendars besides the one that will be ordered for your household, there is a sign up sheet posted on the bulletin board downstairs to do so.

The cost of the 2022 St Tikhon's calendars is \$6 per calendar. The deadline for ordering these calendars will be: Sunday, November 7, 2021!

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**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

**The Fall Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 10, 2021 after Divine Liturgy in the church basement. This is Notice #3 of 3.**

According to Article IV, Section 2, Subsection A. of the Parish By-Laws, notice of all Annual and General Parish Meetings shall be announced in the Parish Bulletin and read by the Parish Rector from the amvon on three consecutive Sundays preceding the date of the Meeting. This meeting the parish will elect parish council members for the 2022-2023 term for the positions of President (currently Matthew Andrews), Secretary (currently Natalie Patterson), and Trustee (Even Year Term) (currently Peter Parsells). Please make every effort to be in attendance and support the parish!

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

This is the parish policy regarding wearing mask inside the church effective as of August 15, 2021:

**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.**

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

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

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**CARDS FOR OUR TROOPS! – CHRISTMAS CARD PROJECT**

The Christmas Card Project group will be finalizing putting Christmas cards together by the end of this month. They are looking to send out all the cards by early November in order for our troops to receive them in a timely manner over the Christmas season. If you wish to assist in finalizing this year's project, please speak with Matushka Janine or anyone on the Charity Committee. As always, Thank You for your help and generosity of your time!

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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:**

Christina, Gabriel, Matthew offered by Catherine Kavalkovich  
Family and Parishioners offered by Nina Patterson  
Family and Parishioners offered by Daria LeRoy

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

**Memory for the Departed:**

John & Julia Drimak offered by Sandra Hourahan  
William & Julia Brasko offered by Nancy Brasko Rabik  
William Brasko offered by Nancy Brasko Rabik  
Michael & Mary Spack offered by Nancy Brasko Rabik  
John & Julia Spack offered by Nancy Brasko Rabik  
John Libak, Sr offered by Nancy Brasko Rabik

**May Their Memories Be Eternal**

**Vigil Cross Candles – 9/26/21:**

One Small Vigil Cross – Health of Edward Gerasimoff  
offered by sister Emily Gerasimoff

One Small Vigil Cross – Memory of Helen Gerasimoff  
offered by daughter Emily Gerasimoff

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**Please remember in your prayers:**

Infant child Gabriel Matthew Andrews (born August 27) and his parents Matthew & Christina. May God Grant Gabriel Matthew & his family Many Blessed Years!

+ Newly Departed Handmaiden of God Mary Ann (Popelak) Brodie (Sep 16)

Grace Corba; Protodeacon Joseph Edwards; Edward Gerasimoff (recovery); The Gerty Family; Ronald Kavalkovich (continuous recovery); Jane Kelly (recovery); Anne (Homa) Killoran (surgery); Sheba Patton (recovery); Joseph Rabik; Dr. Gale Rutan; Peter Witiak; 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. 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 (September)**

Week of Sun Sep 19 to Sat Sep 26

September Month to Date

Attendance:	20	28 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,056.00	\$ 5,950.86
Funds Out:	\$ 2,544.10	\$ 8,973.98
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	<b>(\$ 1,488.10)</b>	<b>(\$ 3,023.12)</b>

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 (Oct 3)</u>	<u>Next Week (Oct 10)</u>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Hour :	David Pellack	John Spack
6 <sup>th</sup> Hour:	Michael Spack	Dr David Albrecht
Epistle:	Michael Wanenchak	Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich and David Pellack

### Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

Today (Oct 3): Saint Innocent  
(Mark Klus, Tish Klus, David Albrecht)

Next Week (Oct 10): Saint Agatha of Belo-Russia  
(John Spack, Michael Spack, Nina Patterson, Natalie Patterson)

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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 & events in September & October 2021.**

### During this month (October)

Christmas Card Project has started (Putting cards together)

**Sunday, October 10** – Fall General Parish Meeting to be held after Divine Liturgy! This meeting will include the election of parish officers for the following positions: President (Matthew Andrews), Secretary (Natalie Patterson), Trustee (Even Year Term) – (Peter Parsells). Please remember these are 2-year terms covering 2022-2023 calendar year.

**Advent Giving (October 17 to December 12):** We will be collecting food and cleaning supplies for Soap & Song Homeless group and Food Pantry

**Thanksgiving Turkey Donations (October 17 to November 7):** We will be collecting \$3.00 donations for turkeys and distribute donations to Mother Catherine

**Sunday, October 31** - Archbishop MARK visit to our parish for the Divine Liturgy!!!



## Hieromartyr Dionysius the Areopagite, Bishop of Athens [October 3<sup>rd</sup>]

Saint Dionysius lived originally in the city of Athens. He was raised there and received a classical Greek education. He then went to Egypt, where he studied astronomy at the city of Heliopolis. It was in Heliopolis, along with his friend Apollophonos where he witnessed the solar eclipse that occurred at the moment of the death of the Lord Jesus Christ by Crucifixion. "Either the Creator of all the world now suffers, or this visible world is coming to an end," Dionysius said. Upon his return to Athens from Egypt, he was chosen to be a member of the Areopagus Council (Athenian high court).

When the holy Apostle Paul preached at the place on the Hill of Ares (Acts 17:16-34), Dionysius accepted his salvific proclamation and became a Christian. For three years Saint Dionysius remained a companion of the holy Apostle Paul in preaching the Word of God. Later on, the Apostle Paul selected him as bishop of the city of Athens. And in the year 57 Saint Dionysius was present at the repose of the Most Holy Theotokos.

During the lifetime of the Mother of God, Saint Dionysius had journeyed from Athens to Jerusalem to meet Her. He wrote to his teacher the Apostle Paul: "I witness by God, that besides the very God Himself, there is nothing else filled with such divine power and grace. No one can fully comprehend what I saw. I confess before God: when I was with John, who shone among the Apostles like the sun in the sky, when I was brought before the countenance of the Most Holy Virgin, I experienced an inexpressible sensation. Before me gleamed a sort of divine radiance which transfixed my spirit. I perceived the fragrance of indescribable aromas and was filled with such delight that my very body became faint, and my spirit could hardly endure these signs and marks of eternal majesty and heavenly power. The grace from her overwhelmed my heart and shook my very spirit. If I did not have in mind your instruction, I should have mistaken Her for the very God. It is impossible to stand before greater blessedness than this which I beheld."

After the death of the Apostle Paul, Saint Dionysius wanted to continue with his work, and therefore went off preaching in the West, accompanied by the Presbyter Rusticus and Deacon Eleutherius. They converted many to Christ at Rome, and then in Germany, and then in Spain. In Gaul, during a persecution against Christians by the pagan authorities, all three confessors were arrested and thrown into prison. By night Saint Dionysius celebrated the Divine Liturgy with angels of the Lord. In the morning the martyrs were beheaded. According to an old tradition, Saint Dionysius took up his head, proceeded with it to the church and fell down dead there. A pious woman named Catulla buried the relics of the saint.

The writings of Saint Dionysius the Areopagite hold great significance for the Orthodox Church. Four books of his have survived to the present day:

*On the Celestial Hierarchy*

*On the Ecclesiastical Hierarchy*

*On the Names of God*

*On Mystical Theology*

*In addition, there are ten letters to various people.*

The book *On the Celestial Hierarchies* was written actually in one of the countries of Western Europe, where Saint Dionysius was preaching. In it he speaks of the Christian teaching about the angelic world. The angelic (or Celestial-Heavenly) hierarchy comprises the nine angelic Ranks:

Seraphim	Cherubim	Thrones	Dominions	Powers
Authorities	Principalities	Archangels	Angels	

The account of the Synaxis of the Bodiless Powers of Heaven is located under November 8.

[ *The remaining life of Hieromartyr Dionysius can be read at:*  
<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2021/10/03/102843-hieromartyr-dionysius-the-areopagite-bishop-of-athens> ]