

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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

Sunday, December 11, 2022 | 26th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 1 – Sunday of the Forefathers
Venerable Daniel the Stylite of Constantinople (489-90)
Martyrs Mirax, Acepisus and Aithaias, of Egypt (7th c.)

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: Archbishop MARK visitation to our parish!
- Today: Saint Nicholas Fair after Divine Liturgy until 2:00PM
- Tuesday: December 13 – Repose of Saint Herman of Alaska
- Tuesday: December 13 – Bible Study at **6:30PM** on the ZOOM media platform **ONLY!!!**
- Saturday: December 17 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM!**
- Sunday: December 18 – Sunday Before the Nativity of Jesus Christ!
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – **10:00am**
Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy
- Sunday: December 18 – Final Day of the Saint Nicholas Fair after Divine Liturgy until 2:00PM

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 1)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, / while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: / “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom! // Glory to Thy dispensation, O thou who lovest of mankind!”

Troparion (Tone 2 – Forefathers)

Through faith Thou didst justify the Forefathers, / betrothing through them the Church of the gentiles. / These saints exult in glory, / for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit: / she who bore Thee without seed. // So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!

Kontakion (Tone 6 – Forefathers)

You did not worship the graven image, / O thrice-blessed ones, / but armed with the immaterial Essence of God, / you were glorified in a trial by fire. / From the midst of unbearable flames you called on God, crying: / “Hasten, O compassionate One! / Speedily come to our aid, // for Thou art merciful and able to do as Thou dost will!”

Prokeimenon (Tone 4 – Songs of the Forefathers)

Blessed are Thou, O Lord God of our Fathers, / and praised and glorified is Thy name forever!
v. For Thou are just in all that Thou has done for us!

Epistle Reading: Colossians 3:4-11

When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 4)

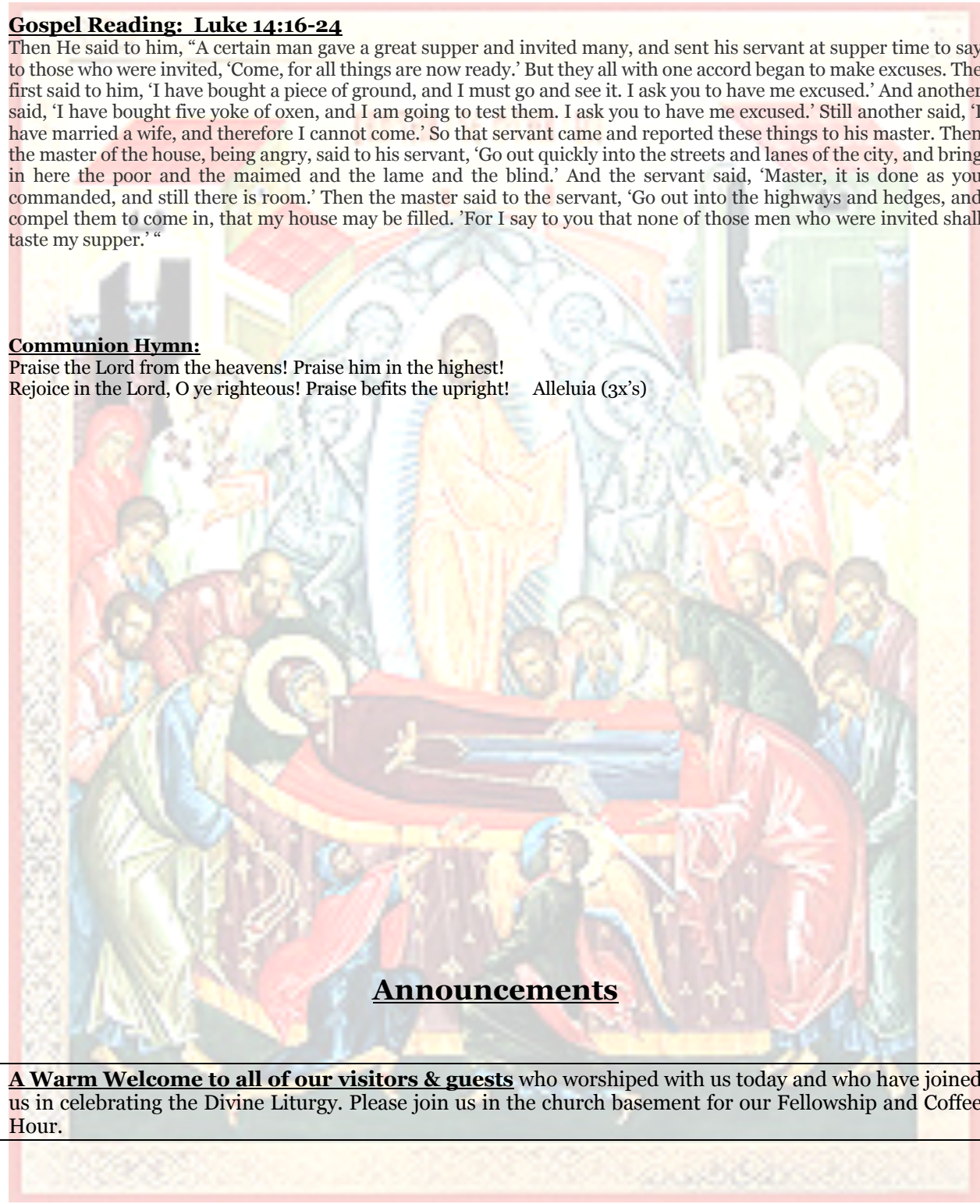
- v. Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who called on His Name. Alleluia (3x's)
- v. They called to the Lord and He answered them. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Luke 14:16-24

Then He said to him, "A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, 'Come, for all things are now ready.' But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.' Still another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.' And the servant said, 'Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.' Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.' For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.' "

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest!
Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the upright! 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

Thank You - Poinsettias & Christmas Flowers Donations!

Thank you all for your Christmas flowers/poinsettias contributions this season. Through your generous donations, the parish has met its financial obligation for the quantity and quality of flowers/poinsettias to be purchased this year. Debbie Kavalkovich and her staff are very appreciative of your financial giving to help beautify the parish during the Nativity season. Thank You!!

Saint Nicholas Fair – Sundays’ December 11 and 18, 2022

The parish’s Saint Nicholas Fair is to support the parish HVAC Project. We are also accepting crafts, and baked goods for sale. Please see Matushka Janine if you would like to help to donate. Matushka Janine has a sign-up sheet for baked goods.

Again this year, there will be handmade, natural soaps for sale until **December 18**. The types of soaps include: honey, cranberry, lavender, citrus and frankincense. Soap cost is \$4 for small and \$6 for large per bar. The molded extra large soaps are \$9. Orders are accepted. No supply chain issues with soap orders! These make great Christmas presents. See Matushka Janine for samples and to purchase.

Thank You - Ronald Andrew Kavalkovich (HVAC Project) Donations

The Kavalkovich, Andrews, and Gerasimoff families wish to thank everyone who donated towards the parish’s HVAC Project in memory of their beloved family member Ronald Andrew Kavalkovich. May God Grant you all Many Blessed Years!

In addition, the Kavalkovich and Ferguson families wish to thank everyone who donated towards the parish’s HVAC Project in memory of Marc Ferguson Sr.

In Memory of David Albrecht Sr. – HVAC Project Donations

Nina Patterson

Vigil Cross Candle Reservations for Advent and Nativity Servies

The following vigil cross candles have been reserved for the following dates:

Today, December 11 – 1 large Vigil Cross reserved
Sunday, December 25 – Both Large Vigil Crosses have been reserved!!

Open dates for Vigil Cross candles available to be lit:

Sunday, December 18 – Both Vigil Crosses are Available
Saturday, December 24 – Both Vigil Crosses are Available
Sunday, January 1 – Both Vigil Crosses are Available

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Gary Simoes offered by Nina Patterson
Melanie Albrecht, Dr. David, Erin, Zara, and Nolan Albrecht offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Patricia, Catherine, Anastasia, Family and Friends offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Bridget and her unborn baby offered by M/M K Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

David Albrecht Sr offered by Nina Patterson
Ronald Andrew Kavalkovich, Albert Kavalkovich offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Marc Ferguson Sr, Marc Ferguson Jr offered by M/M K Kavalkovich

May Their Memories Be Eternal!

Vigil Cross Candles – 12/4/22

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Please remember in your prayers:

Elton Andrews; Jane Kelly; Anne (Homa) Killoran; Sheba Patton; Dr. Gale Rutan; Joseph Rabik; Peter Witiak; 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 Fall General Parish Meeting held back on Sunday, October 10, 2021, the parish body approved that the special collection for the first three Sundays of the month be earmarked towards the repairing/fixing/replacing of the roofs of both houses that the parish owns (now known as the Row House Fund).

The fourth Sunday (and fifth, when it occurs) the special collection will be earmarked towards Charity.

This new collection schedule began back on Sunday, October 17, 2021.

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

Cash Flow Activity (November/December)

Week of Sun Nov 27 to Sat Dec 3

November Month (Unadutied)

Attendance:	42	35 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,488.93	\$ 6,885.81
Funds Out:	\$ 2,450.00	\$ 6,020.28
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 961.07)	\$ 865.53

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 on ZOOM media platform.
- 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.
- Last Thursday of each month** – Book Club at 6:30pm on ZOOM media platform.
- 5th Sunday of each quarter** – Quarterly Parish Council Meeting after Liturgy.

Readers Schedule:

	<u>Today (Dec 11)</u>	<u>Next Week (Dec 18)</u>
3 rd Hour:	David Pellack	Dr. David Albrecht
6 th Hour:	Matthew Andrews	Reader Mark Klus
Epistle:	David Pellack	Dr. David Albrecht

Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

If you have volunteered to host coffee hour, please check which Team you are on and when your Team is hosting coffee hour on the calendar printout which is located in the white/clear 3-ring binder located on the display case outside of the office room.

NOTE: The following Sundays are coffee hour bye-weeks where there is no team scheduled. There will be coffee available, just no food or meal:

Sunday, December 25 (Christmas Day)
Sunday, January 1 (New Year's Day)

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 December 2022.

December 11, 2022 – Parish Visitation of The Most Reverend MARK, Archbishop of Philadelphia and the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania.

December 18, 2022: Saint Nicholas Fair at the parish between 11:30AM to 2:00PM. Please see Flyers on bulletin boards for more details. Thank You!

December 22, 2022 - Saint Olga Book Club at 6:30pm on the ZOOM media platform. (Please check your email Inbox (or Spam folder) from Monday, November 21 around 8:30PM for more details & viewing information)

Saturday, December 24 – Eve of the Nativity Compline & Matin service to be determined later today



Venerable Daniel the Stylite of Constantinople [December 11th]

Saint Daniel the Stylite was born in the village of Bethara, near the city of Samosata in Mesopotamia. His mother Martha was childless for a long while and in her prayers she vowed that if she had a child, she would dedicate him to the Lord. Her prayers were heard, and Martha soon gave birth to a son, who was without a name until he was five years of age.

The boy's parents desired that since he was born through the good-will of God, he should also receive his name from God. They took their son to a monastery located nearby and approached the igumen. The igumen gave orders to take down one of the service books,

and unrolled it at random. He found the Prophet Daniel (December 17) mentioned in it. Thus did the boy receive his name. The parents asked that he might remain at the monastery, but the igumen would not accept him, since he was still only a small boy. At twelve years of age, saying nothing to anyone, the child left home for the monastery.

His parents were happy when they learned where their son was, and they went to the monastery. Seeing that he was still going about in his worldly clothes, they besought that the igumen should clothe him in the angelic garb. That Sunday the igumen fulfilled their request, but permitted them often to visit their son. The brethren of the monastery were astonished at the saint's ascetical efforts.

Once, Saint Simeon the Stylite (September 1) visited the monastery. He foretold to the young monk that he too would undertake the feat of pillar-dwelling. Saint Daniel continued with his ascetic life in seclusion. When the place of a new exploit was revealed to him in a vision, he withdrew into the Thracian wilderness together with two disciples. They set up a pillar, upon which Saint Daniel dwelt for 33 years. People thronged to the pillar, the unfortunate and those who were sick, and all received help and healing from Saint Daniel. Byzantine emperors also sought the prayers of the holy ascetic. The most notable of the saint's predictions was about a great fire in Constantinople. Saint Daniel possessed also the gift of gracious words. He guided many onto the path of correcting their lives. The monk reposed in his eightieth year.

Sunday of the Forefathers [December 11th]

The Sunday that falls between December 11-17 is known as the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers. These are the ancestors of Christ according to the flesh, who lived before the Law and under the Law, especially the Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, "In thy seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed" (Gen. 12:3, 22:18).

