

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: <https://www.holyassumptionphilly.org>



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

Sunday, March 3, 2024 | 39th Sunday After Pentecost

Tone 6 – Sunday of the Prodigal Son
Martyr Eutropiitus of Amasea, and with
him Martyrs Cleonicus and Basiliscus

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Subdeacon – Daniel (Ken) Kavalkovich Choir Director – Nina Patterson
Reader – Mark Klus Reader – David Pellack
Parish President - Matthew Andrews [Phone: 856.217.8075]

Weekly Schedule

Saturday: March 9 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM**

Sunday: March 10 – Sunday of the Last Judgement
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – **10:00am**
Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Readers Service

Sunday: March 10 – Meatfare Sunday and the Annual Roast Pork /
Roast Beef Sandwich Luncheon after Divine Liturgy in the
church basement

Tuesday: March 12 – Bible Study at **6:30PM** on the ZOOM media platform **ONLY!!!**

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.

Kontakion (Tone 3 – Lenten Triodion)

I have recklessly forgotten Thy glory, O Father; / and among sinners I have scattered the riches which Thou gavest me. / And now I cry to Thee as the Prodigal: / “I have sinned before Thee, O merciful Father; / receive me as a penitent, // and make me as one of Thy hired servants!”

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: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.

Alleluia (3x’s) (Tone 6)

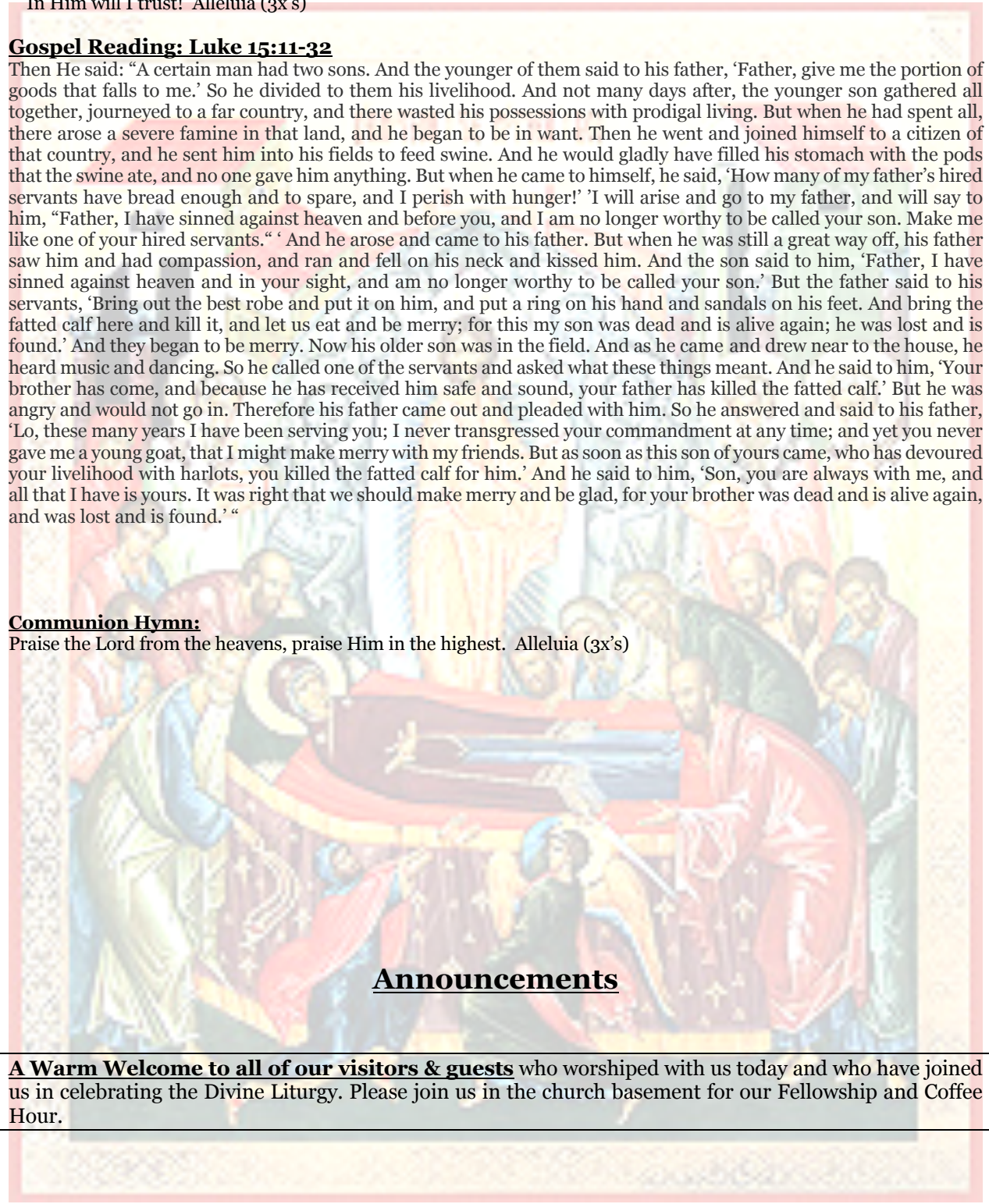
- v. He that dwelleth in the aid of the Most High shall abide under the protection of the God of heaven. Alleluia (3x's)
- v. He shall say to the Lord: Thou art my protector and my refuge, my God. In Him will I trust! Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: Luke 15:11-32

Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!' 'I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants." ' And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry. Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.' But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. So he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.' "

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

2024 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 was Saturday, 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. Final House Blessing date is Saturday, March 16!!

40 Days for Life Spring Vigil – February 14 to March 24

The campaign is a peaceful vigil. They are not a political organization or a protest group. They stand and pray as a peaceful physical presence and witness for the lives of the unborn, who cannot speak for themselves. Please visit their website: <https://www.40daysforlife.com> for a campaign location near your area.

The Herbert Family would like to thank everyone for their condolences, thoughts, prayers, sympathy cards, prayer cards, flowers, gifts, and donations on the passing our beloved Mary S. “Matesy” Herbert. We appreciate you al! Memory Eternal!

HVAC Project Donations in Memory of Mary S. “Matesy” Herbert

David & Erin Albrecht

Melanie Albrecht

Norman & Barbara Andrews

Pete & Bonnie Ault

Jon & Christine Bava

Gloria Bench

Marlene Blaskevitch

Joann Cox

Joe & Patricia Foley

Julia Forte

Mary Fuchs

George & Margaret Gehring

Emily Gerasimoff

Tom & Judy Hanney

Barbara Hess

Ron & Cherly Homa

Ken & Debbie Kavalkovich

Jane, Noel, & Ben Kelly

Wash & Helen King

George & Barbara Latsios

Rick & Daria LeRoy

Debbie Linkhorst

John & Justine McCann

Deacon Michael & Mat. Janine McCartney

Brett McKenna & Tanya Krawchok

Nina Patterson & Natalie Nedbal

Mildred O’Shura

Jack & Sue O’Shura

Elizabeth O’Shura

Sue, Tyler, Mimi, & Austin O’Shura

Marie Ovington

David Pellack

Mary Anne Ray

John & Christine Repp

Helen Sheers

Susan & Sonny Skomorucha

Marie Skripnek

Michael & Fran Slivka

John & Michele Spack

Michael & Fania Wanenchak

Robert Wanenchak

Peter Witiak

Natalie Bolinsky

Mark & Nancy Rowan

Joseph & Margaret Walker

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Emily Gerasimoff offered by Nina Patterson
Emily Gerasimoff, Herbert Family, offered by Nancy Brasko Rabik
Christopher Andrews on his birthday offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Family and Parishioners offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Christopher Andrews on his birthday, Gabriel, Emily, Catherine, Edward, offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
William, Stephanie, Patricia, Caroline, Christina, Matthew, Gabriel offered by M/M K Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Herbert and Spack Families offered by the Herbert Family
Joan Benny offered by the Reader David Pellack
Mary S. Herbert offered by Nina Patterson
Mary S. Herbert, William Brasko Sr. offered by Nancy Brasko Rabik
Mary S. Herbert, Anne, Vito, Albert, Helen offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Margaret, Tom, David offered by M/M K Kavalkovich

May Their Memories Be Eternal!

Vigil Cross Candles – 2/25/24

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Please remember in your prayers:

+ Newly Departed Handmaiden of God Mary S. Herbert who fell asleep in the Lord on Sunday morning, February 4, 2024. May Her Memory Be Eternal!
Vetchnaya Pamyat!

Emily Gerasimoff; Jane Kelly; Anne (Homa) Killoran; Justine McCann and her unborn child; Sheba Patton; 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 (February)

Week of Sun Feb 18 to Sat Feb 24

February Month to Date

Attendance:	39	35 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 5,028.00	\$21,642.00
Funds Out:	\$ 1,668.41	\$13,143.28
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 3,359.59	\$ 8,498.72

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

2024 Monthly/Quarterly Schedule

- 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.
- 4th 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 (Mar 3)</u>	<u>Next Week (Mar 10)</u>
3 rd Hour:	Reader David Pellack	John Spack
6 th Hour:	Reader Mark Klus	Reader David Pellack
Epistle:	Daniel S. Herbert	Matthew Andrews

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.

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 March 2024.

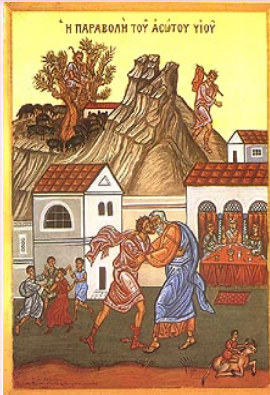
Sunday, March 10 – Meatfare Sunday and Annual Roast Pork / Roast Beef Sandwich Luncheon after Divine Liturgy in the church basement.

The planning of organizing this luncheon will begin on Sunday, February 18. We will need volunteers to assist in providing dishes along with setting up before and cleaning up after the luncheon. Please see a parish council member for more details on how you can assist in this event!

Sunday, March 17 - Forgiveness Sunday Vespers immediately following the Divine Liturgy. The parish traditionally serves this Vespers right after the Divine Liturgy. Please plan to stay and attend this beautiful service and asking forgiveness from your fellow parishioners and from God! It is during this service (during the reading “Vouchsafe, O Lord”) that the Great Lenten Fast Begins!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Father Mark and Matushka Jan would like to thank everyone for your kind thoughts, prayers, and most generous gift on the 40th Anniversary occasion of Father Mark’s priestly ordination!



Sunday of the Prodigal Son [March 3rd]

The Sunday after the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. This parable of God's forgiveness calls us to come to ourselves" as did the prodigal son, to see ourselves as being "in a far country" far from the Father's house and to make the journey of return to God. We are given every assurance by the Master that our heavenly Father will receive us with joy and gladness. We must only "arise and go," confessing our self-inflicted

and sinful separation from that "home" where we truly belong (Luke 15:11-24).

After the Polyeleion at Matins, we first hear the lenten hymn "By the Waters of Babylon." It will be sung for the next two Sundays before Lent begins, and it serves to reinforce the theme of exile in today's Gospel.

Starting tomorrow, the weekday readings summarize the events of Holy Week. On Monday we read Saint Mark's account of the Entry into Jerusalem. On Tuesday we read how Judas went to the chief priests and offered to betray the Lord. On the night before His death Christ tells His disciples that one of them will betray Him. He also predicts that they will desert Him, and that Peter will deny Him three times. On Wednesday the Gospel describes how Judas betrayed the Savior with a kiss. Thursday's Gospel tells how Jesus was questioned by Pilate. On Friday we read the narrative of Christ's crucifixion and death.

