Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America and of the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania •

2101 South 28th St • Philadelphia, PA 19145 (corner of 28th & Snyder Ave)
Mailing Address: PO Box 20083 • Point Breeze Station • Philadelphia, PA 19145-0383
Church Phone: 215-468-3535 • Website: https://www.holyassumptionphilly.org/

Rector V. Rev. Mark W. Koczak
Cellphone: 302-547-4952 / Home: 302-322-0943 / Email mwkoczak@gmail.com
Church Office & Rectory: 615 West 11th St. • New Castle, DE 19720-6020

September 13, 2026
15th Sunday after Pentecost
• Tone 6 •

+ Forefeast of the Exaltation of the Cross +

Commemoration of the Finding of the Cross. SUNDAY BEFORE THE EXALTATION + Commemoration of the Finding of the Church of the Resurrection (Holy Sepulcher) at Jerusalem (335) + Hieromartyr Cornelius the Centurion (1st c.) + Martyrs Chronides, Leontius & Serapion, of Alexandria (237) + Martyrs Seleucus in Scythia, & Stratonicus (3rd c.) + Martyrs Macrobius & Gordian at Tomi in Romania.

READINGS:

Epistles:	Gal. 6:11-18 (Sunday Before)	2 Cor. 4:6-15 (Resurrection)	Heb. 3:1-4 (Finding)
Gospels:	John 3:13-17 (Sunday Before)	Matt. 22:35-46 (Resurrection)	Matt. 16:13-18 (Finding)

Parish President: Brett McKenna — Deacon: Jerome Stafford — Sub-deacon: Daniel (Kenneth) Kavalkovich
Choir Director: Nina Patterson — Reader: Mark Klus — Reader: David Pellack

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Monday **September 14: 9:30 am – Divine Liturgy** THE UNIVERSAL EXALTATION (ELEVATION) OF THE PRECIOUS LIFE-GIVING CROSS ***[Strict Fast Day!!!]***
Epistle: 1 Cor. 1:18-24 Gospel: John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35

Monday September 14: Repose of St. John Chrysostom (407)

Saturday September 19: 4:00 pm – Great Vespers

Sunday September 20: 9:00 am – Reading of the Hours
9:30 am – Divine Liturgy - Afterfeast of the Exaltation of the Cross

FUTURE DATES:

November 15 – December 24: Nativity Fast

CANDLES AND PRAYERS FOR THE LIVING AND DEPARTED

Health for the Living:

Health of *Neil Hourahan*, offered by Sandra Hourahan
Health of *William Walker,* offered by David Pellack

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

In Memory of *John and Anna Homa,* offered by Ron Homa

May God Grant Them Memory Eternal!

Crosses Available to Light:
1 Small Cross $25 / 1 Large Cross $50
EX: for Memory, Health, Birthdays, Anniversaries

Welcome to all our visitors & guests! Please join us after Liturgy for coffee hour in the basement.
Please continue to check our parish website, social media pages, and your emails regularly for updated information.
Please ensure that your cellphone is set to Silent or on Vibrate during Liturgy. Thank you.

Orthodox Church in America–https://www.oca.org
Orthodox Church in America: Lives of the Saints –https://www.oca.org/saints/lives
Orthodox Church in America: Scripture Readings –https://www.oca.org/readings
Orthodox Church in America: Text for Liturgical Services –https://www.oca.org/liturgics/service-texts
Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania –https://doepa.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS / EVENTS

Childless Christians Group Event is Thursday, September 17, 10 a.m.
PA National Quilt Extravaganza *(at Greater Phila. Expo Ctr, 100 Station Ave, Oaks, PA). Meet at the entrance.*

Parish Council Meeting Sunday, September 27 After Liturgy

Fall General Parish Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 4!
Please mark your calendars for our next General Parish Meeting in the Fall which will be on Sunday, October 4th after Divine Liturgy. This meeting the parish will elect parish council members for the offices of Parish President, Parish Secretary, and Parish Trustee.

Recycling Project at the Parish Reminder:
The following are acceptable recycling items and should be placed in the **Blue** container next to the Black trash can:
- Paper and Cardboard (ensure cardboard boxes are flattened)
- EMPTY Plastic Bottles/Containers/Jugs (#1-2) where the neck is smaller than the base.
- EMPTY Glass Bottles/Jars - EMPTY Cartons - EMPTY Metal Cans (Please no food remnants left in these containers)

Please Do Not Recycle the Following:
• Paper Plates, Bowls • Plastic utensils, Cups • Plastic wrap, Plastic bags • **Paper Towels, Napkins, Facial Tissues** • Any kind of **Styrofoam** • **Sugar Packets** • Pizza boxes (because of food grease left in the box) • Bubble Wrap

Support PROJECT HOME Hub of Hope's Summer/Fall Outreach
As temperatures are still high and demand increases for the services Project HOME's Hub of Hope provides, there is an *URGENT NEED FOR* • Men's clothing (SM-XL) •*NEW* men's and women's underwear (All sizes) • *NEW* ankle socks • Men's sneakers (All sizes) • Cooling rags / *Please drop off donations into labeled box in the church basement.*

Peyton Heart Project
The Peyton Heart Project mission is to raise global awareness about suicide, bullying, and to help end the stigma surrounding mental health issues. We're doing this through our campaign of distributing small, knitted and crocheted hearts with inspirational messages in locations where we hope they'll be easily found. ***Please take several hearts to distribute and spread a positive message. The hearts are located in the basket on the ambo.***

Shop Rite Gift Cards Support St. Mary Magdalene Monastery (Mother Catherine)
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 will help support the parish's Charity projects at no additional expense to the purchaser.

Special weekly collections taken after Gospel or Sermon
1st Collection during the Liturgy is for special causes: the first three Sundays of the month are 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 collection schedule began back on Sunday, October 17, 2021. Please be generous with your offering. Every little bit counts.
2nd Collection during the Liturgy is for the Parish. *Thank You!*

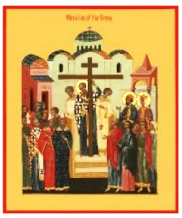
Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams
If you have volunteered to host coffee hour, please check which Team you are on and when your Team is hosting coffee hour on the calendar printout that is in the white/clear 3-ring binder located on the display case outside the office room.

2026 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.
5th Sunday of each quarter –Quarterly Parish Council Meeting after Liturgy.

Attendance: Sunday, Sept. 6: 39 Sept. MTD: 39

Cash Flow Activity: Thank you all for your continuous financial support in maintaining your parish!

	Mon., Aug. 31 to Sept. 6	Aug. Month (Unaudited)
Funds In:	Not Available	$10,289.25
Funds Out:	$ 1,718.61	$ 7,096.41
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	($ 1,718.61)	$ 3,193.44



THE FEAST OF THE UNIVERSAL EXALTATION OF THE PRECIOUS AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS

This is celebrated each year on September 14. The Feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine.
The Cross is placed on a tray surrounded by branches of basil and is taken in solemn procession through the church. The priest raises and lowers the cross, a commemoration of its finding and exaltation. At the end of the service, the people venerate the cross and receive the basil from the priest. Basil was the fragrant flower growing in the place where the Cross was found.