


# DOEPA – PARISH ANNUAL REPORT

## for the 2024 Diocesan Assembly

Parish name and Address	Photo
Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church 2101 South 28 <sup>th</sup> Street (Corner of 28 <sup>th</sup> Street & Snyder Avenue) Philadelphia, PA 19145                      Website: <a href="http://www.holyassumptionphilly.org">www.holyassumptionphilly.org</a>	
Clergy	
V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector                                             Deacon Michael McCartney Subdeacon Daniel (Ken) Kavalkovich                                             Reader Mark Klus                                             Reader David Pellack	
Committees/Societies	
Church Council – 7 members (plus the priest) meets between 6 to 10 times a year Choir – 8 members (We also have a separate group of 6 parishioners who sing at Vespers & on weekday services) Charity Committee – oversees/organizes at least 4 charity projects per year Property Committee – meets monthly (or when necessary) Sunshine Committee – sends celebration wishes (ie. birthdays, anniversaries, name’s days...) meets when necessary Blessed Olga of Alaska Book Club – Reading & discussing two books this past year: <div style="text-align: center;"><i>The Orthodox Way</i> by Bishop Kalistos Ware and <i>Spiritual Struggle</i> by Saint Paisios</div> Bible Study Group – meets monthly via in person and thru ZOOM media platform Finance Committee – meets when necessary                      Readers Group – 12 parishioners rotate reading the Hours & Epistle	
Since January 2023	
Highlights of Top Three Activities	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Archbishop MARK visit to our parish in November 2023. He tonsured a new reader (David Pellack). A luncheon was held with Archbishop MARK in attendance for our parish’s 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary.</li> <li>2. Offered a First Aid/CPR Course in June 2023 with 8 parishioners in attendance. Purchased AED &amp; First Aid Kits.</li> <li>3. Dining Out in Delaware at Taco Grande in August 2023</li> <li>4. Held a successful Saint Nicholas Fair in December 2023.</li> </ol>	
Outreach Directed to Growth, Adult Education and Charitable Activities ( <i>Fundraisers are not Outreach</i> )	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Collection of around 300 to 400 pounds of food, over four dozen personal products, and monetary donations for the Nuns of the Monastery of Saint Mary Magdalene.</li> <li>* Diaper and Applesauce food drive for a needy family.</li> <li>* Collected over \$500 to assemble 12 school backpacks &amp; supplies for the parish local school supply drive.</li> <li>* Raised a collection of over \$750 for the Ukrainian Orphanage Project.</li> <li>* Assemble &amp; mail out just over <b>3,200</b> Christmas cards to our Military Troops and 19 to our parishioner shut ins.</li> <li>* Hold monthly Bible Study Classes                      * Hold monthly Book Club (read/discussed two books this year)</li> </ul>	
Major Challenges Faced	
<p>As difficult it is to still believe, Covid continues to be somewhat of a hurdle for some parishioners who have not returned for services and unfortunately do not plan to return for services in church until they feel the pandemic is completely over. (Luckily, almost all of those do stream our Divine Liturgy online on Sundays)</p> <p>Continuing to figure out how to replace active parishioners that we lost over the past year, along with encouraging current parishioners to be more involved in the parish life so that the 5% do not have to continue to do 95% of the work</p>	

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**Upcoming Special Events/ Anniversaries – January 2024 to December 2024**

Coat and Blanket Drive || Annual Soup N’ Bowl (and Chili) Challenge. || Annual Pork and Roast Beef Luncheon on Meatfare Sunday || Plan to have a parishioner(s) attend a 40 Days for Life Vigil during the Lenten season || Picnic at the Cemetery after Blessing of the Graves || Parish Pentecost Luncheon || Back to School Backpack School Supply Drive || Assembling Christmas Cards for our Troops || Throughout the year conduct Food and Supply Drives for the Pantry of our very own Mother Catherine and the nuns at the Monastery of Saint Mary Magdalene || Saint Nicholas Festival

**As of October 1, 2023**

<b>Active Members Count</b>	50 (however, one parishioner fell asleep in the Lord on October 5, 2023)
<b>Children (under 18)</b>	15 (We have 9 children under the age of 7 years old)

**January 1 thru December1, 2023**

<b>Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Attendance</b>	37
<b>Average Sunday Divine Liturgy Communicants</b>	25
<b>Average Saturday Vigil Attendance</b>	12
<b>Number of Catechumens</b>	1

**January 1, thru December 1, 2023**

<b>Baptisms</b>	1
<b>Funerals</b>	1
<b>Marriages</b>	0 (however, a 25 <sup>th</sup> anniversary marriage blessing was performed May 2023)
<b>Receptions into Orthodoxy</b>	0

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<b>Church School/Number Enrolled</b>	4 (But we have 9 children under the age of 7 years old)
<b>Adult Education/Number Enrolled</b>	Bible Study = 15 (14 parishioners and 1 guest of a parishioner) Book Club = 8 (all parishioners)