

SAINT

PHILIP

THE APOSTLE



OCTOBER 11, 2026



***ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH***

1501 8TH AVENUE

BEAVER HILLS, PA. 15010

(724) 847-1111

WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG

**HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA, ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK
AND**

METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA

**HIS GRACE BISHOP THOMAS, AUXILIARY BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE
OF CHARLESTON, OAKLAND, AND MID-ATLANTIC**

REVEREND FR. CHRISTOPHER DAVIS

***Jesus said, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. (John 16:23)
When a new person is baptized or Chrismated we say to that person, "Welcome Home!" The Church is where each person voluntarily belongs as one who believes in and belongs to Christ .***

We take this opportunity to welcome those guests worshiping with us.

Anyone wishing to request prayers for Health and Well-being, or a Trisagion prayer, please contact Dan Volitich, Joann Rossman or leave message on 724-847-1111.

The Orthodox Church understands that the sacraments we experience are a fundamental part of the sacred life of a worshiping community that shares in "one body...one faith". (Eph. 4:5). Thus, we can only share Communion with those who are Orthodox and who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and Confession. If you are not Orthodox, or are not properly prepared, you are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing and then to take a piece of the blessed bread.

DIVINE LITURGY ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026

TONE 2 / EOTHINON 8

**SUNDAY OF HOLY FATHERS OF SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL
& FOURTH SUNDAY OF LUKE**

APOSTLE PHILIP, ONE OF THE SEVEN DEACONS; VENERABLE THEOPHANES THE BRANDED

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE TWO

When Thou didst submit thy self unto death, O thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with thy Godly power, and when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto thee:: O Christ thou Giver of life, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF THE HOLY FATHERS IN TONE EIGHT

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

O beloved Apostle of Christ God, Come quick and save a people with no recourse. He who let you rest your head on his breast, will not reject your pleas on our behalf. Beseech him then, O wise and holy theologian. Dispel from us the dark and omanous clouds of disbelief. Grant us all of his peace and great mercy.

ORDINARY KONTAKION IN TONE FOUR

O undisputed intercessor of Christians, the mediatrix who was unrejected by the Creator. Turn not away from the voice of our petitions, though we be sinners.. Come to us with aid in time, who cry unto thee in faith, for thou art good. Hasten to us with intercessions, O Theotokos, who dost ever intercede for those who honor thee.

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BCOCM

On November 19th, Thanksgiving dinner boxes consisting of a Turkey & all the fixings will be distributed to participating families of BCOCM. We are asking for help with the cost. Donations can be given to Dan, Joni, or Joann. Thank you!

THE EPISTLE

(For the Holy Fathers)

***Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.
For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done to us.***

The reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to St. Titus. (3:8-15)

Titus, my son, faithful is the saying, and concerning these things I desire you to affirm confidently, that those who have believed in God may be thoughtful of how to preside in honorable occupations. These things are good and profitable to men. But avoid foolish disputes, and genealogies, and contentions, and controversies about the Law; for they are unprofitable and vain. A man who is a heretic after the first and second admonition reject, knowing that such a one is subverted, and sins, being self-condemned. When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicós, give diligence to come to me to Nicopolis; for I have determined to winter there. Set forward Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently, that they may be lacking in nothing. And let our people also learn how to preside in honorable occupations, so as to help in cases of urgent need, that they should not be unfruitful. All who are with me salute you. Salute those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Fourth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (8:5-15)

The Lord spoke this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when His Disciples asked Him what this parable meant, Jesus said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As Jesus said this, He called out, "He who has ears to hear,

THE SYNAXARION

On October 11 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Apostle Philip, one of the Seven Deacons; and Venerable Theophanes the branded.

On this day, we commemorate the holy and blessed Fathers who came together for the second time in Nicaea, during the reign of the pious and Christ-loving Sovereigns Constantine and Irene, against those who impiously, ignorantly and foolishly asserted that the Church of God worshippeth idols, and rejected the august and holy icons.

Verses

***Thy champions, O Word, with words as their weapons,
Turn to flight the foes of the venerable icons.***

The Council met in 787 to refute the Iconoclast heresy, whose camp believed that all depictions of Christ, His Mother and the saints should be destroyed. The iconophiles believed that icons served to preserve the doctrinal teachings of the Church; and they considered icons to be man's dynamic way of expressing the divine through art and beauty. The council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry (Exodus 20:4-5), because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint, but passes to the prototype, or the person depicted. It also upheld the possibility of depicting Christ, Who became man and took flesh at His Incarnation. The Father, on the other hand, cannot be represented in His eternal nature, because "no man has seen God at any time" (John 1:18).

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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Prayer is the light of the soul, a deliberate, continuous state of conversing with and desiring God (not merely routine words), mediating between God and man."

(St. John Chrysostom)

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER SERVICES

*(NO VESPER OR MATINS SERVICES
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.)*

**OCT. 11TH SUNDAY — DIVINE LITURGY 10AM
FATHERS OF THE SEVENTH COUNCIL**

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**OCT. 17TH SATURDAY — COMMUNITY BREAKFAST
8:30-10:30AM**

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**OCT. 18TH SUNDAY — DIVINE LITURGY 10AM
LUKE THE EVANGELIST
COUNCIL MEETING 12:00 NOON**

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**OCT. 25TH SUNDAY—DIVINE LITURGY 10AM
MARCIAN & MARTYRIUS the Notaries**

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**NOV. 1ST SUNDAY — SERVICE TO BE ANNOUNCED
COSMAS & DAMIAN THE Holy Unmercenaries**

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IOCC EVENTS

- 1) OKTOBERFEST HAPPY HOUR: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22 6-9 pm
*BENEFIT INTERNATIONAL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHARITIES***
- 2) BOURBON TASTING: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2026 7:00 PM
TO BENEFIT IOCC**

REFER TO ADVERTISEMENT SHEETS on TABLE IN NARTHREX

PRAYERS ARE OFFERED FOR THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF:

Fr. Steven, Kh. Paraskeva, Carol, Debbie, Trish, Shannon, Justin, Roddy, Perry Sassic & family, Jan, Fr. Andrew, Frank, Charlene, Cindi, Harriet, Joann, Cindy, Ray, Marlene, Julianna, Elias, Carrie, Oliver, Pauline, Despina, Julius, Jonathan, Kristen, Luca, Sam, Michael, Esteven, Phephile, Kyriel, Justin, Levon, Aiden, Kayla, Joni, Kirsten, Jonathan K., Andrew, Yvonne, Rosemary, Patty, Jessica, Eric, Mikayla, Mira, Asher, Benjamin and Marlene.

**FOR THOU ARE THE RESSURECTION, THE LIFE, AND THE REPOSE OF
THY SERVANTS WHO HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP ESPECIALLY:**

Prayers are offered in memory of.....

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UPCOMING EVENTS

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN OF THE EAST PROGRAMS

AWE PLANS FOR FALL:

AWE BOOK CLUB will meet by **ZOOM** on **OCTOBER 25, 2026 @ 6:30pm EST**. The book to be discussed is titled "The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis. Deadline to register is by midnight, October 20, 2026.

FALL RETREAT— at Holy Protection Monastery, White Haven, PA on **NOVEMBER 7, 2026**. Speaker is V.Rev. Fr. Joseph Samaan, Topic is *They Did Not Flee: Uniqueness of the Women in the Life of the Church*.

SPRING LENTEN RETREAT — April 16-18, 2027, on weekend of St. Mary of Egypt, at Antiochian Village Conference Center, with guest speaker Kh. Melinda Johnson, CEO of Ancient Faith Ministries. Details to come.

(FLYERS ON TABLE IN NARTHREX FOR ALL ABOVE EVENTS)

WHO WAS THE APOSTLE PHILIP?

Philip the Apostle was one of the 12 main disciples of Jesus Christ. He's one of four people name Philip in the Bible, and he's often confused with Philip the Evangelist, who plays a minor role in Acts. (The other two Philips are both sons of King Herod the Great.)

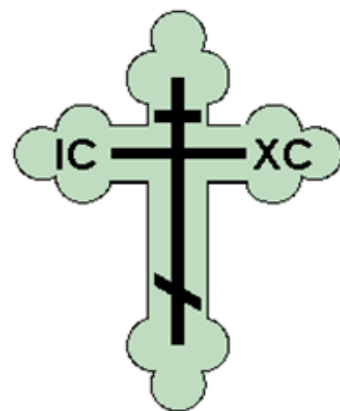
The Apostle Philip is only mentioned a handful of times in the New Testament — seven times in the gospels and once in Acts. (One tradition also claims he's mentioned in another verse, though not by name.) Four of those mentions are just lists of the apostles. Like Apostle Thomas, Philip's only significant mentions come in the Gospel of John (and they're still not that significant.)

Church tradition identifies Philip as the missionary to Greece, Syria, and Phrygia, but even early on, Philip the Apostle was frequently confused with Philip the Evangelist (also known as Philip the Deacon), which makes it hard to distinguish which details describe which Philip. Add to that the legendary accounts from the *Acts of Philip* and *Letter from Peter to Philip*, and it becomes difficult to separate fact from fiction, too.

Still, there are some things we can learn about Philip the Apostle from the Bible, and we can glean a few insights from the early church as well: (1) Philip was one of the people closest to Jesus. He spent 3 years living with him, witnessing his miracles, and hearing his teachings. He saw numerous demonstrations of Jesus' divinity: (2) In the Gospel of John, we learn that Philip comes from Bethsaida, a town by the Sea of Galilee: (3) Philip was one of the 12 apostles of Jesus Christ: (4) One record says he died of Natural causes, others say he may have been beheaded, or stoned to death or crucified upside down.

What is known is this: Philip was one of the twelve disciples, and held an important role in the early church, and he likely played a key part in spreading the Gospel somewhere in ancient Eurasia.

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**OFFICE HOURS
By Appointment**