

December 17, 2017

SUNDAY OF FOREFATHERS (ANCESTORS) OF CHRIST

The Three Holy Youths: Ananias, Azarias, & Mishael

The Holy Youths Ananias (“God is gracious”), Azarias (“whom God helps”), and Mishael (“Who is What God is?”) were companions of the Holy Prophet Daniel. They were chosen to serve in the king’s palace with Daniel (Daniel 1:6), and were all from the tribe of Judah. They gave Ananias the Chaldean name Shadrach (“royal”), Azarias the Chaldean name Abednego (“servant of Nego”), and Misael the Chaldean name Meshach (“guest”). They were thrown into a fiery furnace when they refused to worship the golden idol set up by King Nebuchadnezzar, but the angel of the Lord preserved them (Daniel 3:25).



The Seventh and Eighth Odes of the nine Biblical Odes at the back of the Psalter are taken from The Song of the Three Holy Youths (found in the Septuagint text of the Old Testament used by the Orthodox Church).

The Three Holy Youths and the Prophet Daniel are also commemorated on the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers and the Sunday of the Holy Fathers.

Text (adapted) and Image from <https://oca.org/saints/lives/2017/12/17>

“For there is a God in the heavens, whom we serve,
and He is able to save us from the burning fiery furnace;
and He will deliver us from your hands, O king.
But if not, let it be known, O king, that we will not serve your
gods, nor worship the golden image you set up.”

Daniel 3:17-18 (OSB)



ST. PHILIP ORTHODOX CHURCH

1970 Clearview Road
Souderton, PA 18964

www.st-philip.net (215) 721-4947

Emails: office@st-philip.net
nbushelli@gmail.com
frjamesthayer@gmail.com
frherman1@gmail.com
vacker@st-philip.net

V. Rev. Father Noah Bushelli, Pastor
215-954-9286 (text preferred)

Rev. Father James Thayer
215-692-0890

Rev. Father Herman R. Acker
215-527-8571

Office Hours:
Monday through Thursday 8:30 - 4:00
Friday 10:00 - 3:00

December 17, 2017

**SUNDAY OF FOREFATHERS
(ANCESTORS) OF CHRIST**

COMMEMORATIONS:

PROPHET DANIEL AND THE THREE HOLY YOUTHS
ANANIAS, AZARIAS AND MISHAEL

MARTYRS PATERMUTHIUS, COPRIUS AND
ALEXANDER THE SOLDIER OF EGYPT (361)

ST. STURM, ABBOT AND FOUNDER OF FULDA
MONASTERY (779)

NEW MARTYR NICETAS OF NYSSA (1300)

ST. DIONYSIUS OF ZAKYNTHOS, ARCHBISHOP OF
AEGINA (1622)

NEW HIEROMARTYR PAISIUS, ABBOT OF TURNOVO,
AND MARTYR ABBACUM THE DEACON AT
BELGRADE (1814)

Tone 3

Eothinon 6

Matins Gospel: St. Luke 24:36-53

Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11

Liturgy Gospel: St. Luke 14:16-24

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 3 - Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad; for the Lord hath done a mighty act with his own arm. He hath trampled down death by death and become the First-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depth of hades, granting the world the Great Mercy!

TODAY: Welcome to our Bp THOMAS & to Friends and Family!
Orthros, 8:45 am, & Hierarchical Liturgy, 10 am
Coffee Hour, Sunday School & Teens, 11:45 am
Christmas Program, 1 pm

SAINT PHILIP'S is a place of prayer and repentance and a “Pan-Orthodox” parish of the Antiochian Archdiocese, serving Orthodox Christians of all backgrounds in the English language. If you are a newcomer to our community, please sign our guest book, and stay with us for the Coffee Hour today. AND, WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU AGAIN!

PLEASE NOTE: Holy Communion is only for practicing Orthodox Christians who are following the commandments and have prepared themselves through fasting, prayer, and recent confession, and who are dressed modestly and arrived on time for the Liturgy. All are welcome to kiss the Cross and receive Blessed Bread at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

Everyday Evangelist

"As the Father has sent me, so I send you." (Jn 20:21)

Make time to sit and talk with your neighbors.

THE ALTAR CANDLES are lighted today by Athanasios, in memory of his mother (MEMORY ETERNAL!).

THE HOLY BREAD OFFERING today is provided by BethAnn Hyatt.

TODAY'S DONATION COFFEE HOUR is sponsored by the St Philip's chapter of the Order of St Ignatius of Antioch, to benefit IOCC. Please be generous! Your assistance in cleanup is appreciated.

THIS WEEK'S GREETERS: Greg & Jennifer Howanetz

THIS WEEK'S CLEANING TEAM: The Teens

THANK YOU to all who fulfill these ministries!

Be sure to check out all the last minute Christmas gift items and stocking stuffers in the Great Room.

HOUSE BLESSINGS - Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex!

YOUR FLOWER OFFERINGS support the beautification of our church during this holy season. Thank you!

Mark Your Calendar:

Circumcision & St. Basil - New Year's Services

Sunday, December 31 - Vespers & Artoklasia, 6 pm, Orthros, 7 pm

Talent Show, 8 pm, New Year's Prayers, 10 pm

Monday, January 1 - Divine Liturgy 10 am, New Year's Prayers 11:30 am

Theophany

Friday, January 5 - Royal Hours, 10 am

Vesperal Liturgy, 6 pm & Great Blessing of Water, 7:30 pm

Saturday, January 6 - Orthros 9 am, Liturgy 10 am

Great Blessing of Water, 11:30 am

Sunday, January 7 - Outdoor Blessing of Water @ Lenape Park, 1 pm

Men's Fellowship - "Becoming Men of Prayer"

Saturday, January 13 - 8-10 am

Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Thursday, February 1 - Vespers & Artoklasia, 7 pm

Friday, February 2 - Matins & Liturgy w/ Candle blessing, 9 am

The disciples were called Christians first in Antioch (Acts 11:26)

YOUR CHRISTMAS CARD OFFERINGS benefit Ministries, Monasteries, & Mission Situations.

This Week: – NATIVITY FAST CONTINUES –

Monday, Dec 18: 6th HOUR, 12 p.m.
Advent Paraklesis, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec 19: Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 11:00 a.m.
6th HOUR, 12 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec 20: St. IGNATIUS of Antioch
Divine LITURGY, 10 a.m.
Advent Paraklesis, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Dec 21: 6th HOUR, 12 p.m.

Friday, Dec 22: Royal Hours, 10 a.m.
Confessions, 4 p.m.
Advent Paraklesis, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec 23: VESPERS 6 p.m., Confessions, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Dec 24: NATIVITY OF CHRIST
MATINS 8:45 a.m., Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.
VESPERS & Artoklasia 6 pm, Festal Orthros 7 pm

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!

Monday, Dec 25: Festal LITURGY 9 a.m.; Vespers for Synaxis 6 pm

Tuesday, Dec 26: Synaxis of the Theotokos
MATINS 9 a.m., Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.

OUTREACH COLLECTION: Turkeys.

WISDOM FROM FATHER B.: Grow Up!

ATTENDANCE: At Vespers on Dec 9: 43 Divine Services on Dec 10: 164
OFFERINGS: Candles, \$185. Collections, \$287. Flowers, \$25. Youth, \$3. Book Shelf, \$50. IOCC, \$100. Needy Fund, \$70. Vestments, \$20. Stewardship, \$6,703.36. Total received: \$7,443.36.

GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS & GENEROSITY

FR NOAH & FR JAMES are available for hospital visits. If you or anyone you know is in the hospital or homebound and would like a visit, please call the church office.