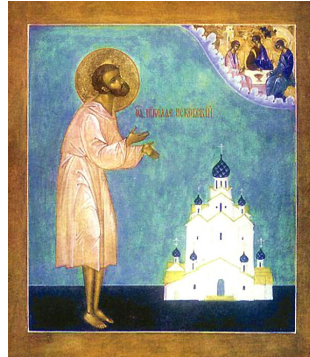


Blessed Nicholas (Salos) of Pskov the Fool-For-Christ (February 28)

Blessed Nicholas of Pskov lived the life of a holy fool for more than three decades. Long before his death he acquired the grace of the Holy Spirit and was granted the gifts of wonderworking and of prophecy. The Pskov people of his time called him Mikula [Mikola, Nikola] the Fool. Even during his lifetime they revered him as a saint, even calling him Mikula the saintly.



In February 1570, after a devastating campaign against Novgorod, Tsar Ivan the Terrible moved against Pskov, suspecting the inhabitants of treason. On the first Saturday of Great Lent, the whole city prayed to be delivered from the Tsar's wrath. Hearing the peal of the bell for Matins in Pskov, the Tsar's heart was softened when he read the inscription on the fifteenth century wonderworking Liubyatov Tenderness Icon of the Mother of God (March 19) in the Monastery of Saint Nicholas (the Tsar's army was at Lubyatov). "Be tender of heart," he said to his soldiers. "Blunt your swords upon the stones, and let there be an end to killing."

All the inhabitants of Pskov came out upon the streets, and each family knelt at the gate of their house, bearing bread and salt to the meet the Tsar. On one of the streets Blessed Nicholas ran toward the Tsar astride a stick as though riding a horse, and cried out: "Ivanushko, Ivanushko, eat our bread and salt, and not Christian blood." The Tsar gave orders to capture the holy fool, but he disappeared.

Though he had forbidden his men to kill, Ivan still intended to sack the city. The Tsar attended a Molieben at the Trinity cathedral, and he venerated the relics of holy Prince Vsevolod-Gabriel (February 11), and expressed his wish to receive the blessing of the holy fool Nicholas. The saint instructed the Tsar "by many terrible sayings," to stop the killing and not to plunder the holy churches of God. But Ivan did not heed him and gave orders to remove the bell from the Trinity cathedral. Then, as the saint prophesied, the Tsar's finest horse fell dead.

The blessed one invited the Tsar to visit his cell under the bell tower. When the Tsar arrived at the cell of the saint, he said, "Hush, come in and have a drink of water from us, there is no reason you should shun it." Then the holy fool offered the Tsar a piece of raw meat. "I am a Christian and do not eat meat during Lent", said Ivan to him. "But you drink human blood," the saint replied.

Frightened by the fulfillment of the saint's prophecy and denounced for his wicked deeds, Ivan the Terrible ordered a stop to the looting and fled from the city. The Oprichniki, witnessing this, wrote: "The mighty tyrant ... departed beaten and shamed, driven off as though by an enemy. Thus did a worthless beggar terrify and drive off the Tsar with his multitude of a thousand soldiers."

Blessed Nicholas died on February 28, 1576 and was buried in the Trinity cathedral of the city he had saved. Such honors were granted only to the Pskov princes, and later on, to bishops. The local veneration of the saint began five years after his death.

(Adapted from <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2021/02/28/100616-blessed-nicholas-salos-of-pskov-the-fool-for-christ>)



ST. PHILIP ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the
Antiochian Archdiocese

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH



His Grace Bishop THOMAS



Father Noah Bushelli, Pastor

215-954-9286



Father James Thayer

215-692-0890

February 28, 2021

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

COMMEMORATIONS:

RIGHTEOUS JOHN CASSIAN THE CONFESSOR
VENERABLE BASIL THE CONFESSOR, COMPANION OF
PROKOPIOS OF DECAPOLIS
KYRANNA THE NEW MARTYR OF THESSALONIKI
JONAH THE RIGHTEOUS MARTYR OF LERIOS
HIEROMARTYR PROTERIOS, ARCHBISHOP OF
ALEXANDRIA
RIGHTEOUS KYRA AND MARANA OF BEROEA IN SYRIA
APOSTLES NYMPHAS AND EUVOULOS

Tone 5 - Eothion 5

Orthros Gospel: St. Luke 24:12-35

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Liturgy Gospel: St. Luke 15:11-32

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 5 - Let us believers praise and worship the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation; for he took pleasure in ascending the cross in the flesh, to suffer death, and to raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

KONTAKION FOR THE PRODIGAL SON - Tone 3 - Foolishly I sprang away * from Thy great fatherly glory, * and dispersed in wicked deeds * the riches that Thou didst give me. * With the Prodigal I therefore * cry unto Thee now: * I have sinned against Thee, O compassionate Father. * But receive me in repentance; * make me as one of * Thy hired servants, O Lord.

TODAY: ORTHROS & Confession 8:45 a.m.
Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.
Virtual Sunday School & Catechism

1970 Clearview Road, Souderton, PA 18964

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

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

Office Hours: Monday through Friday 10:00 - 3:00

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.

Weekly Ministries & Stewards:

	This Week:	Next Week (Mar 7):
PROSPHORA BREAD:	MaryLynne Black	Kristi Moore
USHERS:	Sdn. John N. & Colin M.	Steve K. & Bill H.
ALTAR CANDLES:	----	----
ALTAR BOYS:	“Archangel Gabriel”	“Archangel Michael”
CLEANING TEAM:	Todd & Kristi Moore	The Gohls & Olena M.
COFFEE TO-GO TEAM:	Chris H.; Amelia	

Mark Your Calendar:

Special Liturgies

✦ Mar 9th for 40 Martyrs of Sebaste

Lenten Triodion

Sunday of Judgment (Meatfare) - Mar 7

Forgiveness Sunday

March 14 - Forgiveness Vespers 11:45 am

Beginning of Lent

March 15, 2021

Bible Study on Sacrifice

Saturdays, 5 pm
Mar 20-Apr 17

Feast of the Annunciation

Wednesday, March 24

Vespers & Artoklasia 6:30 p.m.
Orthros 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 25

Liturgy 10 am
(fish, wine, oil permitted)

We live Pascha to Pascha!
May 2, 2021

OFFERINGS: Candles, \$342.25. Collections, \$173.50. Youth, \$1. Book Shelf Ministry, \$13. Building Fund, \$1,000. Classical School Fund, \$700. Mortgage Reduction, \$250. Teen Fund, \$100. Stewardship, \$7,984.42. Total received: \$2,589.

**GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR
FAITHFULNESS & GENEROSITY!**

Pray For:

Living	Departed
Newly Illumined	+George
Penelope	+Katharine
Dn. Luke & Family	+Luke
George, Victoria, & family	+Christopher
AP Boris	
HM Sylvester	+Thomas
Fr. Sergius	Joseph
AP Serge	+Frank
Doris & John	+Kristina
Apr. Gregory & Family	+John
James	+Steve
Lasha B	+John
Otari B	+Hertanse
Daniel H	
John	
Peter	
Anesia	
Svetlana & Family	
Pulcheria	
Natalia	
Anna	
Dn. Thomas, Elizabeth, Elaine & all Missionaries	
New & Expectant Mothers & their children	

Catechumens

Matthew,
Michael,
Shaun,
Tina,
Asena,
Sara,
Barry,
Ryan

For the people of our land and their repentance, healing & unity

All who are suffering, serving and rebuilding from the pandemic

This Week:

Office Open – 10am-3pm, Mon-Fri

Masks encouraged for all services.

Monday, Mar 1: Office open

Tuesday, Mar 2: Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 11 a.m.

**Wed, Mar 3: Little Compline 6:30 p.m.
Live Not By Lies Reading Group
7:15 p.m.**

Thurs, Mar 4: Liturgy for St. Gerasimos 10 a.m.

**Friday, Mar 5: Office open
Paraklesis 6:30 p.m.**

**Sat, Mar 6: Divine Liturgy (Mask Required) 10 a.m.
Memorial—Soul Saturday 11:30 a.m.
Vespers 6:30 p.m.
Confession 7:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, Mar 7: SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT
(Meatfare)
ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.
Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.**

OUTREACH COLLECTION:
Paper Products

CHALLENGE FOR 2021:

“Your Body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit”

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 let us know if there is any way we can serve you. **AND, WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU AGAIN!**

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