

December 18, 2016

SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST
(THE GENEALOGY)

Saint Modestus, Archbishop of Jerusalem

Saint Modestus, Archbishop of Jerusalem, was born into a Christian family in Cappadocian Sebasteia (Asia Minor). From his youth he felt a strong attraction towards strict monastic life. Saint Modestus accepted monastic tonsure. Afterwards, he became head of the monastery of Saint Theodosius the Great in Palestine. At this time (the year 614), military forces of the Persian ruler Chosroes fell upon Syria and Palestine, killing ninety thousand Christians and destroying Christian churches. Patriarch Zacharias of Jerusalem and a multitude of Christians were taken into captivity, along with the Cross of the Lord. Saint Modestus was entrusted to govern the Jerusalem Church temporarily as locum tenens of the patriarchal cathedra.



With the help of Patriarch John the Merciful of Alexandria (November 12), Saint Modestus set about restoring devastated Christian shrines, among which was the Sepulchre of the Lord. He reverently buried the murdered monks from the monastery of Saint Sava the Sanctified.

After fourteen years, Patriarch Zacharias returned from captivity with the Cross of the Lord, and after his death Saint Modestus became Patriarch of Jerusalem. Saint Modestus died at age 97 in the year 634.

Text & icon from <https://oca.org/saints/lives/2016/12/18/103579-st-modestus-the-archbishop-of-jerusalem>

HOME BLESSING SCHEDULES

available in the Narthex. Or email or call
Fr Noah, Fr James, or Fr Herman.

OUTREACH COLLECTION:

Turkeys & Hams

WISDOM FROM FATHER B:

You must have a reason to say that.

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



**ST. PHILIP
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Rev. Father Herman R. Acker
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NEW! Office Hours:
Monday through Thursday 8:30 - 4:00

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 1 - While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding thy most pure Body, thou didst arise on the third day, O Saviour, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto thee, O Giver of life: Glory to thy resurrection, O Christ! Glory to thy kingdom! Glory to thy providence, O thou who alone art the Lover of mankind!

TODAY: Coffee Hour, Sunday School, & Teens
Sunday School Christmas Program approx. 12:30

SAINT PHILIP'S is 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 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.

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COMMEMORATIONS:

MARTYRS SEBASTIAN AND ZOE OF ROME, AND
THOSE WITH THEM (287)

ST. GATIANUS, FIRST BISHOP OF TOURS (3RD C.)

MARTYR EUBOTIUS AT CYZICUS (318)

ST. MODESTUS I, ARCHBP OF JERUSALEM (4TH C.)

ST. WINNIBALD, ABBOT AND MISSIONARY OF
ENGLAND AND HEIDENHEIM (GERMANY, 761)

ST. MICHAEL THE CONFESSOR (CONSTANTINOPLE,
845)

ST. DANIEL THE HESYCHAST OF VORONEJ
(ROMANIA, 17TH C.)

Tone 1

Eothinon 4

Matins Gospel: St. Luke 24:1-12

Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40

Liturgy Gospel: Matthew 1:1-25

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

TODAY'S DONATION COFFEE HOUR is sponsored by the St Philip's chapter of the Order of St Ignatius of Antioch, to benefit IOCC's Syrian Relief Fund. Please be generous!

THIS WEEK'S GREETERS: The Howanetz family.

THIS WEEK'S CLEANING TEAM: Chris Stavrou & Natalia Mamardashvili

THANK YOU to all who fulfill these ministries!

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

YOUR DONATION WITH A CHRISTMAS CARD TO THE ST PHILIP'S FAMILY supports missions, ministries, and monasteries. May God bless your generosity!

MANY THANKS TO HUFF & LAKJER FUNERAL HOME for once again sponsoring our liturgical icon calendars. If you haven't gotten one yet, pick one up from the round literature table in the great room.

Mark Your Calendar:

Circumcision of Christ and Feast of St Basil

Saturday December 31 - 6 pm Vespers & Artoklasia
followed by potluck refreshments and New Year's Eve Talent Show
Sunday, January 1 - 9 am Matins, 10 am Divine Liturgy

Services for Theophany

Thursday, January 5 - *Strict Fast Day*
Royal Hours 10 a.m.
Vesperal Divine Liturgy & Great Blessing of Water 6 p.m.
Friday, January 6
Matins 9 a.m., Liturgy 10 a.m. & Great Blessing of Water
Sunday, January 8
Outdoor Blessing of Water, 1 p.m. at Lake Lenape Park

NEW TO THE WEEKLY ROUTINE

Mondays 10 am - Morning Prayers & Bible Study
Tuesdays Noon - 6th Hour
Wednesdays 7 pm - Compline & Adult Study
Thursdays 10 am - Divine Liturgy
Fridays 10 am or 7pm - Paraklesis

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

PLEASE PARK ONLY IN DESIGNATED PARKING SPACES; OTHER AREAS MUST REMAIN FREE FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLE ACCESS.

AMPLE PARKING is always available for Church Services in lots just across Clearview Rd, thanks to our good neighbors at Solar Atmospheres. Thank you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Naomi
Ken
Chris

This Week:

- Monday, Dec 19: DIVINE LITURGY 10 a.m.
ADVENT COMPLINE 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, Dec 20: DIVINE LITURGY 10 a.m.
Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 11 a.m.
COMPLINE & Confessions, 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, Dec 21: DIVINE LITURGY 10 a.m.
ADVENT PARAKLESIS 7 p.m.
- Thursday, Dec 22: DIVINE LITURGY 10 a.m.
COMPLINE & Confessions 7 p.m.
- Friday, Dec 23: ROYAL HOURS 9 a.m., DIVINE LITURGY 10 a.m.
Confessions 4-7 p.m.
ADVENT PARAKLESIS 7 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec 24: DIVINE LITURGY 9 a.m.
GREAT VESPERS w/Artoklasia AND FESTAL
ORTHROS 6 p.m.
- Sunday, Dec 25: DIVINE LITURGY 9 a.m.
VESPERS for Synaxis 6 p.m.
- Monday, Dec 26: *Synaxis of the Theotokos*
MATINS 9 a.m., DIVINE LITURGY 10 a.m.

Everyday Evangelist

"As the Father has sent me, so I send you." (Jn 20:21)
Ask questions, then listen - really listen.

ATTENDANCE: At Vespers on Sat Dec 10: 41 Divine Services on Sun, Dec 11: 176
OFFERINGS: Candles, \$432. Collections, \$563.68 Flowers, \$45. Youth, \$1.
BookShelf, \$89. Camp Schol, \$119.20 Christmas Cards, \$105. Needy, \$690.
Stewardship, \$7,963. Total received: \$10,007.88
THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY