

February 19, 2017
SUNDAY OF JUDGMENT (MEATFARE)

Martyr Philothea of Athens

The Monastic Martyr Philothea was born in Athens in 1522. Her parents, Syriga and Angelos Benizelos, were renowned not only for being eminent and rich, but also deeply devout. Often the kind-hearted Syriga had implored the Most Holy Theotokos for a child. Her fervent prayers were heard, and a daughter was born to the couple. They named her Revoula.

The parents raised their daughter in deep piety and right belief, and when she was twelve years old they gave her away in marriage. Her husband turned out to be an impious and crude man, who often beat and tormented his wife. Revoula patiently endured the abuse and she prayed to God, that He might bring her husband to his senses.

After three years Revoula's husband died, and she began to labor in fasting, vigil and prayer. The saint founded a women's monastery in the name of the Apostle Andrew the First-Called (November 30 and June 30). When the monastery was completed, the saint was the first to accept monastic tonsure, with the name Philothea.

During this time Greece was suffering under the Turkish Yoke, and many Athenians had been turned into slaves by their Turkish conquerors. Saint Philothea utilized all her means to free her fellow countrywomen, ransoming many from servitude. Once, four women ran away from their Turkish masters, who demanded that they renounce their Christianity, and took refuge in the monastery of Saint Philothea.

The Turks, having learned where the Greek women had gone, burst into the saint's cell, and beat her. They took her to the governor, who threw the holy ascetic into prison. In the morning, a mob of Turks had gathered, and they led her out of the prison. The governor said that if she did not renounce Christ, she would be hacked to pieces.

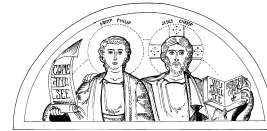
Just when Saint Philothea was ready to accept a martyr's crown, a crowd of Christians assembled by the grace of God. They pacified the judges and freed the holy ascetic. Returning to her monastery, Saint Philothea continued with her efforts of abstinence, prayer and vigil, for which she was granted the gift of wonderworking. In Patesia, an Athens suburb, she founded a new monastery, where she struggled in asceticism with the sisters.

During the Vigil for Saint Dionysius the Areopagite (October 3), the Turks seized Saint Philothea and tortured her. Finally, they threw her down on the ground half-dead. The sisters tearfully brought the holy martyr, flowing with blood, to Kalogreza, where she died on February 19, 1589. Shortly thereafter, the relics of the holy Monastic Martyr Philothea were brought to the Athens cathedral church.

Text & Image from <https://oca.org/saints/lives/2017/02/19/109056-martyr-philothea-the-monastic>



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



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Office Hours:
 Monday through Thursday 8:30 - 4:00

February 19, 2017
SUNDAY OF JUDGMENT
(MEATFARE)

COMMEMORATIONS:

APOSTLES ARCHIPPUS, PHILEMON AND APPIAS OF
 THE SEVENTY (1ST CENT.)

STs. EUGENE AND MACARIUS, PRESBYTERS,
 CONFESSORS AT ANTIOCH (363)

ST. MESROP THE TRANSLATOR OF ARMENIA (439)

ST. CONON, ABBOT IN PALESTINE (555)

ST. DOSITHEUS OF PALESTINE (6TH C.)

VENERABLE-MARTYR PHILOTHEA OF ATHENS (1589)

ST. THEODORE OF SANAXAR MONASTERY (1791)

NEW HIEROMARTYR NICETAS OF EPIRUS (1809)

MARTYRS MAXIMUS, THEODOTUS, HESYCHIUS, AND
 ASCLEPIODOTUS OF ADRIANOPOLIS (305-311)

Tone 2

Eothinon 2

Matins Gospel: St. Mark 16:1-8

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8 - 9:2

Liturgy Gospel: St. Matthew 25:31-46

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 2 - When Thou didst submit Thyself 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 Thou who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee!

TODAY: Sunday School & Teens after Liturgy.
Donation Luncheon benefits Antiochian Women's Project, **Strengthening the Ministries of our Church** - Please be generous!

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.

THE ALTAR CANDLES are lighted today by Dwight & Sandra Shaw, in thanksgiving for blessings received (28th wedding anniversary - MANY YEARS!).

TODAY'S DONATION LUNCHEON is sponsored by the Women of St Philip's, benefiting Antiochian Women's Project, Strengthening the Ministries of our Church. Please be generous!

THIS WEEK'S GREETERS: Jim & Doris Eggers

THIS WEEK'S CLEANING TEAM: Teens

THANK YOU to all who fulfill these ministries!

Everyday Evangelist

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

Become a creature of habit. Frequent the same coffee shop, gas station, restaurant, and so on, and build relationships with people there.

Mark Your Calendar:

Bp Thomas visit - March 3-5

Youth Choir

Rehearsals: *Saturdays* at 5 pm, March 4-18

Singing 2nd Akathist (Mar 10) and 4th Presanctified (Mar 22)

Creative Art Workshop (Film/Media) - *Saturday, Mar 11, 1-4 p.m.*

Missionary Visit

Jesse Brandow, home from Guatemala on furlough.

Saturday, March 18, following Vespers.

Services for Annunciation

Friday, March 24 - Vespers & Artoklasia 6 pm, Matins 7 pm

Saturday, March 25 - Liturgy 9 am, potluck (fish, wine, oil)

Lenten Retreat

Saturday, March 25

Dr Christopher Veniamin - St Silouan of Mt Athos

PASCHA - April 16, 2017

International Food Festival - Sept 15 & 16 - Mark your Calendar!

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 C. - Ken H. - Victor - Jim R.
Newly-departed Helen S. - Chris H. - Steve B.

This Week: Cheese Week

Monday, Feb 20: MORNING PRAYERS & Bible Study, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, Feb 21: Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 11 a.m.
6th HOUR, 12 noon

Wednesday, Feb 22: COMPLINE & Adult Study, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Feb 23: DIVINE LITURGY, 10 a.m.

Friday, Feb 24: PARAKLESIS, 10 a.m.
Men's Fellowship, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb 25: Creative Art Workshop (Fine Art) 1-3 p.m.
Intro to Orthodoxy 4:30 p.m.
VESPERS 6 p.m.
Bible Bowl Study 7 p.m.

Sunday, Feb 26: *Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare)*
MATINS 8:50 a.m., DIVINE LITURGY 10 a.m.
Sunday School, Teens, Coffee Hour
Ethnic Dance meeting in library.
FORGIVENESS VESPERS 1 p.m.

OUTREACH COLLECTION: Paper products

WISDOM FROM FATHER B: A Holy Task for you ...

ATTENDANCE: At Vespers on Feb 11: 27 Liturgy on Feb 12: 158 OFFERINGS: Candles, \$176. Collections, \$259. Youth, \$27. Bookshelf, \$57. Cemetery, \$1,759. Choir, \$150. Endowment, \$90. Pastoral Discr, \$621. Stewardship, \$9,820. Total received: \$12,949.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY