

**September 10, 2017**

**SUNDAY BEFORE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS**

**Right-Believing Pulcheria, Byzantine Empress**

The Holy Right-Believing Empress Pulcheria, daughter of the Byzantine emperor Arcadius (395-408), was coregent and adviser of her brother Theodosius the Younger (408-450). She received a broad and well-rounded education, and distinguished herself by her wisdom and piety, firmly adhering to Orthodox teaching.



Through the intrigues of enemies and of Eudokia, the wife of the emperor Theodosius the Younger, St Pulcheria was removed from power. She withdrew into seclusion, and lived a pious life. Without her beneficent influence, conditions in the capital deteriorated. She returned after a while, following the urgent request of her brother. Then the unrest provoked by emerging heresies was quelled.

After the death of Theodosius the Younger, Marcian (450-457) was chosen emperor. St Pulcheria again wanted to withdraw into her seclusion, but both the emperor and officials entreated her not to refuse the throne, but to marry the emperor Marcian. For the common good she consented to become Marcian's wife if she were allowed to preserve her virginity within the marriage. They were married, but lived in purity as brother and sister.

Through the efforts of St Pulcheria, the Third Ecumenical Council was held at Ephesus in 431 to address the heresy of Nestorius; and also the Fourth Ecumenical Council which was convened at Chalcedon in the year 451, to deal with the heresies of Dioscorus and Eutychius.

St Pulcheria built the church of the Mother of God at Blachernae at Constantinople, and also found the relics of the Forty Martyrs of Sebaste (March 9).

Throughout her life St Pulcheria defended the Orthodox Faith against various heresies. After giving away her wealth to the poor and to the Church, she died peacefully at the age of fifty-four in the year 453.

*Text & Image from <https://orthodoxwoman.wordpress.com/2012/09/10/st-pulcheria-empress-of-byzantine/>*

**Everyday Evangelist**

*"As the Father has sent me, so I send you."* (Jn 20:21)  
Teach English as a Second Language classes.

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



**ST. PHILIP  
ORTHODOX  
CHURCH**

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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

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**SUNDAY BEFORE  
ELEVATION OF THE CROSS**

COMMEMORATIONS:

MARTYR BARYPSABAS IN DALMATIA (2ND C.)  
MARTYRS MENODORA, METRODORA AND  
NYMPHODORA OF BITHYNIA (305)  
EMPRESS PULCHERIA (453)  
ST. FINIAN OF ULSTER, ABBOT (IRELAND, 579)  
ST. SALVIUS, BISHOP OF ALBI (GAUL, 584)  
ST. THEODAARD OF MAASTRICHT (NETH, 668)  
ST. PETER (826) AND PAUL (9TH C.), BISHOPS OF  
NICAIA  
ST. PAUL THE OBEDIENT OF THE KIEV CAVES  
(13TH C.)  
NEW HIEROMARTYR UAR BISHOP OF LIPETSK (1938)

**Tone 5**

Eothinon 3

**Matins Gospel:** St. Mark 16:9-20

**Epistle:** Galatians 6:11-18

**Liturgy Gospel:** John 3:13-17

**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.

**TODAY:** Memorial (Fuad Salfiti, 40 days)  
POTLUCK Coffee Hour - Hurricane Harvey relief collection.  
Sunday School resumes.  
Teens meet. Women of St Philip's meet.  
Choir Rehearsal, 12:30 p.m.

**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.

**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.

THE ALTAR CANDLES are lighted today to the glory of God.

**MANY THANKS** to all who participated in today's potluck Coffee Hour. **EVERYONE** is invited to stay for refreshments after the Divine Liturgy. Your assistance in cleanup is appreciated.

**COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS** are needed for next week and most of the rest of the year. Please take a turn.

**THIS WEEK'S GREETERS:** Teens

**THIS WEEK'S CLEANING TEAM:** Mary Kompass, Tadesse Abay

**THANK YOU** to all who fulfill these ministries!

**PLEASE CONTRIBUTE** in support of Hurricane Harvey relief! A basket will be placed during coffee hour to collect your donations to IOCC.



## Mark Your Calendar:

### CHANT WORKSHOPS

Every other Wednesday after Compline, Sept - Nov  
*Free-chanting, Prosomia, and Byzantine Notation*  
Sept 6 & 20, Oct 4 & 18, Nov 1 at 7:30 p.m.

### ADULT STUDIES

Every other Wednesday after Compline, Sept - Nov  
*What is a Parish? A Place of Repentance, Hospitality, Rejoicing, & Edification*  
Sept 27, Oct 11 & 25, Nov 8 at 7:30 p.m.

### Intro to Orthodoxy - Fall Series

*Saturdays at 4:30, Sept 23 - Nov 18 (exc. Nov 4)*

### Village at Home

*Saturday, November 11*  
Flyer and registration form on the bulletin board.

### Advent Retreat

*Saturday, December 9*

Drs. David & Mary Ford: *When the Foundations Are Shaken: Biblical & Patristic Wisdom for Living through Spiritual Upheaval*

Bp Thomas visit  
*December 15-17*

## This Week:

- Monday, Sep 11: 6th HOUR, 12 p.m.  
LITTLE COMPLINE & 9/11 Memorial Prayer, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, Sep 12: Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 11 a.m.  
6th HOUR, 12 p.m.
- Wednesday, Sep 13: 6th HOUR, 12 p.m.  
VESPERS & ARTOKLASIA 6 p.m., MATINS 7 p.m.  
for Elevation of the Cross
- Thursday, Sep 14: Elevation of the Cross - *STRICT FAST DAY*  
DIVINE LITURGY 10 a.m.; fasting potluck luncheon  
*Office Closed*
- Friday, Sep 15: INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL  
6th HOUR, 12 p.m.  
AKATHIST, 4 p.m.  
Church tours 1, 3, 5, 6 p.m.  
Concerts 2 & 7 p.m.
- Saturday, Sep 16: INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL  
VESPERS, 4 p.m.  
Church tours 1, 3, 5, 6 p.m.  
Concerts 2 & 7 p.m.
- Sunday, Sep 17: MATINS 8:45 a.m., LITURGY 10 a.m.  
Coffee Hour & Teens after Liturgy.  
Parish Council, 12:45 p.m.

OUTREACH COLLECTION: Cleaning Products

WISDOM FROM FATHER B.: I guess you didn't want a blessing.

**ATTENDANCE:** At Vespers on Sep 2: 32 Divine Services on Sep 3: 155  
**OFFERINGS:** Candles, \$393.52 Collections, \$814.09 Youth, \$27.  
BookShelf, \$28. Camp Schol, \$200. IOCC (Harvey), \$1,257.  
Stewardship, \$5,212.77 Total received: \$7,932.38

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

**FR NOAH, FR JAMES, & FR HERMAN** 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.