# Sunday of the Holy Forefathers (Dec 12)

The Sunday that falls between December 11-17 is known as the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers. These are the ancestors of Christ according to the flesh, who lived before the Law and under the Law, especially the Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, "In thy seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed" (Gen. 12:3, 22:18).

The Prophet Nathan was an advisor to King David and King Solomon. He is mentioned in the Prayer of Absolution in the Mystery of Confession: "It was God Who pardoned David through the Prophet Nathan when he had confessed his sin...." David had committed adultery with Uriah's wife Bathsheba, and had him killed. Then he took Bathsheba as his wife. David confessed his sin to Nathan (2 Samuel 12:13) and received pardon.





Rebecca was the wife of the Old Testament Patriarch Isaac, and the mother of Jacob and Esau. She is mentioned in Genesis 22:23; Chapters 24-28; and Chapter 49:31. Saint Paul also mentions her (Romans 9:10).

#### (Taken from

https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2021/12/12/80-sunday-of-the-forefathers https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2021/12/12/608-prophet-nathan https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2021/12/12/611-righteous-rebecca)



# 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

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Father James Thayer 215-692-0890

# December 12, 2021

SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS (ANCESTORS) OF CHRIST

#### **COMMEMORATIONS:**

SPYRIDON THE WONDERWORKER OF TRYMITHOUS

HOLY NEW MARTYR PETER THE ALEUT JOHN (OR JOACHIM), BISHOP OF ZICHNI HIEROMARTYR ALEXANDER, ARCHBISHOP OF JERUSALEM

Tone 8 - Eothinon 3
Orthros Gospel: St. Mark 16:9-20
Epistle: Ephesians 5:8-19
Liturgy Gospel: St. Luke 14:16-24

**RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 8 -** From the heights Thou didst descend, O Compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion. Thou art our Life and our Resurrection, O Lord. Glory to Thee!

**APOLYTIKION OF THE HOLY FOREFATHERS - Tone 2 -** Thou hast justified by faith the ancient Forefathers, and through them Thou hast gone before and betrothed unto Thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory; for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and it was she who gave birth to Thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.

## TODAY:

ORTHROS & Confessions 8:45 a.m.

Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.

Sunday School, Catechism & Coffee Hour

Choir Appreciation Sunday — Thanks to Kh. Elizabeth & all our singers!

40 Days of Growth in Stewardship
\*\*PLEASE RETURN YOUR PLEDGE CARDS\*\*

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 (Dec 19):

PROSPHORA BREAD: Gabi & Catalin Tinjala Sdn. Justin **ALTAR CANDLES:** The Gohls Ken Hedrick

Kate's birthday — Many Years!

In Memory of mother, Lena

(Passing 53 years ago) Dan M. & Tom A. Sdn John & Sdn Nick Muz

**USHERS: ALTAR BOYS:** "Archangel Michael" "Archangel Gabriel" **CLEANING TEAM:** The Gohls & Olena M. Serge, Alex, Sarah K. COFFEE HOUR TEAM: Felicia; Miriam; Abraham Kendra; Zach W.; Dale

# Mark Your Calendar:

#### Feast of the Nativity of Christ

Friday, December 24 Royal Hours, 7:45 am Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil, 9 am Festal Orthros, 9:30 pm Divine Liturgy, 11 pm

> Saturday, December 25 Vespers for the Synaxis of the Theotokos, 12 pm

Sunday, December 26 Orthros 8:45 am: Liturgy 10 am

## Circumcision & St. Basil

Friday, December 31 Vespers & Artoklasia, 6:30 pm **Pre-Baptism Prayers** Saturday, January 1 Orthros 9 am Baptismal Liturgy (Mathe) 10 am New Years Prayers 11:30 am

#### **Pray For:** Living Departed Nicole +Hieromonk Sze Tatiana Panteleimon Joanne +Pr. Thomas Mona-Rebecca (December Parish Patrick Doris Diptychs) +Joseph John +Richard **James** +Mary Lasha B +Demetrios (Jim) Otari B +Katherine Mark +Nicholas Nancy-Anna +Gabremariam Victoria +Assaad Gloria +Doris Helen +Michael Wadieh Jack Priest Thomas, Elizabeth, Catechumens Jesse, Bill, Elaine Shaun. & all Missionaries Laura, Taylor, New & Expectant Mothers Tim & Luke. & their children Kate. Tyson, For the people of our Joseph & Alana, land and their Ryan, repentance, healing &

unity

Michael, Tina

OFFERINGS 12/5: Candles, \$280.60. Collections, \$655.01. Flowers, Youth, \$1. Beautification, \$100. Bookshelf Ministry, \$69. \$160. Building Fund, \$1.895. Camping, \$10. Classical School Fund, \$2.450. Needy Fund, \$2,000. Pastoral Discretion, \$500. Women's Fund, \$68. Stewardship, \$7,400. Total received: \$15,588.61.

We now have 69 pledges toward our 2022 budget totaling \$246,529 or 77.6% of the budget.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

### **PROSPHORA BAKING CLASS** — Mark your calendar!

When: January 29 between 3:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Where: Great room and kitchen.

**Who:** Anyone interested in joining the Prosphora baking team, please ask

for Fr Noah's blessing and then contact Gabi or Catalin Tiniala.

#### What to bring:

If you have an 9 inch round pan you can bring your pan. Flour, yeast and Prosphora stamp will be provided. We will also have the pans with the stamp on the bottom.

The class will cover both types of baking:

1. pan with stamp on the bottom

2. pan without stamp on the bottom (where we are using the wooden stamp)

# This Week:

#### NATIVITY FAST CONTINUES — Nov 15—Dec 24

Mon, Dec 13: Church open

Tues, Dec 14: 6th Hour Prayers 12 noon

Matushka Olga Sewing Club 1 p.m.

Wed, Dec 15: Little Compline 6:30 p.m.

Patristic Reading Group 7 p.m.

Thurs, Dec 16: Church open

Friday, Dec 17: Advent Paraklesis 6:30 p.m.

Sat, Dec 18: Practice for SS Christmas Program, 4:30 p.m.

Great Vespers 6:30 p.m.

Fasting Potluck w/ Bp THOMAS 7:30 p.m.

Sun. Dec 19: ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.

Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.

Sunday School, Catechism, Coffee Hour

SS Christmas Program 12:30 p.m. Parish Council 7 p.m. on Zoom

## DECEMBER OUTREACH COLLECTION: TURKEYS & HAMS

## **CHALLENGE FOR 2021:**

"Your Body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit"