

**September 23, 2018**

**CONCEPTION OF THE FORERUNNER AND BAPTIST JOHN**

**St. Polyxene the Disciple of the Apostles, who died in Spain**

The Monastic Women Xanthippe and Polyxene were sisters by birth and they lived in Spain in the time of the holy Apostles. They were among the first to hear the divine teaching of Christ the Savior from the holy Apostle Paul, when he preached in their land.

Saint Xanthippe and her husband Probus accepted Christianity, but Saint Polyxene was still a pagan when a certain man became entranced with her extraordinary beauty and forcibly carried her off to Greece on a ship. The Lord preserved her unharmed. On the voyage, the saint heard the preaching of the holy Apostle Peter and believed in Christ.

When she arrived in Greece, Saint Polyxene turned to the Christians for protection and defense and they hid her in the city of Patra in Achaia, where she formally accepted Christianity and was baptized by the holy Apostle Andrew the First-Called himself.

She became a witness to his miracles, and how he patiently and humbly endured his sufferings and death. She stood at the cross upon which they crucified the holy Apostle Andrew. After his martyrlic death, Saint Polyxene returned to Spain, where she and her older sister Xanthippe converted many pagans to Christ. Saint Polyxene toiled for about forty years preaching the Gospel in Spain. Saint Xanthippe shared in her sister's work and preached in the populous city of Toledo.

Saint Polyxene reposed in about the year 109, having preserved her virginity to the end of her earthly life.

Text and Image from <https://oca.org/saints/lives/2018/09/23/102705-st-polyxene-the-disciple-of-the-apostles-who-died-in-spain>



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



**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

**September 23, 2018**

**CONCEPTION OF THE  
FORERUNNER AND BAPTIST JOHN**

**COMMEMORATIONS:**

MARTYR RAIDOS OF EGYPT

NEW-MARTYRS NICHOLAS THE GROCER AND JOHN OF  
BRACHORION

VENERABLE XANTHIPPA AND POLYXENA OF SPAIN

**Tone 8 - Eothinon 6**

**Matins Gospel: St. Luke 24:36-53**

**Epistle: Galatians 4:22-27**

**Liturgy Gospel: St. Luke 5:1-11**

**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 CONCEPTION OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST - Tone 4 -** Rejoice, O thou barren one who hadst not borne until now; \* for lo, in all truth thou hast conceived the lamp of the Sun, and he shall send forth his light \* over all the earth, which is afflicted with blindness. \* Dance, O Zachariah, and cry out with great boldness: \* The one to be born is the blest Prophet of God Most High.

**TODAY:** Orthros 8:30 am; Churching (Thekla & Baby Theo 9:45); Divine Liturgy, 10 am  
Coffee Hour, SS, & Teens, 11:45 am

*Welcome, Fr. Witalis!*

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 Thursday 8:30 - 4:00; 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 (Sept 30):
PROSPHORA BREAD:	Justin/MaryLynne	Justin G./MaryLynne B.
EPISTLE READER:	Terry Kaminsky	Rdr Justin Gohl
ALTAR CANDLES:	Celia-Marie Khouri	---
GREETERS:	Steve & Carolyn Kaminsky	Todd & Kristi Moore
CLEANING TEAM:	Olena, Carol, & Tadessa	Sdn John & Maxine
COFFEE HOUR:	(Festival leftovers)	Joanne, Sze, Olga

Everyone is invited to stay for refreshments after the Divine Liturgy. Your assistance in cleanup is appreciated.

### Church Etiquette — Handling Holy Bread

After taking Holy Communion and at the end of the liturgy, it is traditional to eat a piece of holy bread or *antidoron* - the bread that was left over after Holy Communion was prepared. While *antidoron* is not Holy Communion, it is blessed bread and as such, should be eaten carefully so that crumbs don't fall on the floor to then be stepped on. After taking Communion or kissing the cross at the end of the Divine Liturgy, take one piece of *antidoron* and when you return to your seat or get to a place where you can stop for a moment, eat the bread trying not to drop crumbs. Parents, monitor your children as they take the *antidoron* and teach them to eat it respectfully. In some traditions it is customary and encouraged to give a piece to someone else—a visitor, a catechumen, a friend—which can be a wonderful way to show love & hospitality.

## Mark Your Calendar:

### Compline & Patristic Reading

*Wednesday evenings (6 pm)*

### Intro to Orthodoxy Class

*Begins on Saturday, Sept 29 at 4:30 pm*

### IOCC Presentation w/ Tony Pantazopoulos

*September 30 after Liturgy*

### Village at Home

*October 6, 10 am–6 pm*

### Advent Retreat

*December 8*

with Drs. David & Mary Ford

### Bp THOMAS Visit

*December 22-25*

### Pray For:

Living	Departed
Bp Alexander	Helen (B)
Baby Simeon	Yorgo
Child Gregory	
Paul (M)	
James E	
Mat. Linda	
Hortense	
Mary K.	
R Maxime	
Lasha B	
Otari B	
Daniel H	<u>St. Nina's List</u>
Elizabeth D	Catechumens
Stephanie	Tatiana (Sze),
M. Emiliani	Rebecca, Evan,
Mebrat	Tina
Aristidis	New & Expectant
John	Mothers & chil-
Kristen	dren
Laurence	Couples preparing
Tadessa	for marriage
Eyala	
Magda	
Thomas, Elizabeth & all	Michael
Missionaries	Richard
Suffering Christians in	
Syria, Ukraine, Ethiopia,	
Egypt & unstable lands	

## Everyday Evangelist

*"As the Father has sent me, so I send you." (Jn 20:21)*  
*"Through love serve one another." (Gal 5:13)*

### This Week:

Fr Noah visiting father in Calif.—Sept 24-28  
 Fr. James still on pilgrimage to Russia until Oct 2  
 Fr. Daniel Meyer on call: 909.286.0814

Monday, Sept 24: SIXTH HOUR, 12 noon

Tuesday, Sept 25: Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 11 a.m.  
 SIXTH HOUR, 12 noon

Wed, Sept 26: SIXTH HOUR, 12 noon  
 Little Compline & Patristic Reading, 6 pm

Thurs, Sept 27: SIXTH HOUR, 12 noon

Friday, Sept 28: SIXTH HOUR, 12 noon

Sat, Sept 29: VESPERS 6 pm; Pre-baptismal prayers (Baby Theo); Confession 7:15 pm

Sunday, Sept 30: ORTHROS 8:30 a.m., Baptismal LITURGY 9:45 am  
 IOCC Presentation w/ Tony Pantazopoulos 11:30 am  
 Coffee Hour, SS, & Teens 11:45 am  
 Choir Rehearsal 12:30 pm

Due to the Food Festival this weekend, donations for the *St. Philip Clothes Closet* are **not being accepted until further notice**. Thank you for your generous donations to date!

OUTREACH COLLECTION: Cleaning Supplies.

SPIRITUAL WARFARE: "I am not my thoughts."

**ATTENDANCE:** At Vespers on Sept 15: 33 Divine Services on Sept 16: 173  
**OFFERINGS:** Candles, \$471. Collections, \$435. Youth, \$7. Book Shelf, \$24. Needy Fund, \$250. Stewardship, \$7,170.50. Total received: \$8,357.50.

GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS & GENEROSITY!