

The Holy Transfiguration of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ (August 6)
(The Second "Feast of the Savior" in August)

From St. Gregory Palamas's Discourse on the Transfiguration:

"What does it mean to say: He was transfigured?" asks the Golden-Mouthed Theologian (Chrysostom). He answers this by saying: "It revealed something of His Divinity to them, as much and insofar as they were able to apprehend it, and it showed the indwelling of God within Him." ...

That same Inscrutable Light shone and was mysteriously manifest to the Apostles and the foremost of the Prophets at that moment, when (the Lord) was praying. This shows that what brought forth this blessed sight was prayer, and that the radiance occurred and was manifest by uniting the mind with God, and that it is granted to all who, with constant exercise in efforts of virtue and prayer, strive with their mind towards God. True beauty, essentially, can be contemplated only with a purified mind. To gaze upon its luminance assumes a sort of participation in it, as though some bright ray etches itself upon the face.

Even the face of Moses was illumined by his association with God. Do you not know that Moses was transfigured when he went up the mountain, and there beheld the Glory of God? But he (Moses) did not effect this, but rather he underwent a transfiguration. However, our Lord Jesus Christ possessed that Light Himself. In this regard, actually, He did not need prayer for His flesh to radiate with the Divine Light; it was but to show from whence that Light descends upon the saints of God, and how to contemplate it. For it is written that even the saints "will shine forth like the sun" (Mt.13:43), which is to say, entirely permeated by Divine Light as they gaze upon Christ, divinely and inexpressibly shining forth His Radiance, issuing from His Divine Nature. On Mount Tabor it was manifest also in His Flesh, by reason of the Hypostatic Union (i.e., the union of the two perfect natures, divine and human, within the divine Person [Hypostasis] of Christ, the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity). The Fourth Ecumenical Council at Chalcedon defined this Hypostatic union of Christ's two natures, divine and human, as "without mingling, without change, without division, without separation."

We believe that at the Transfiguration He manifested not some other sort of light, but only that which was concealed beneath His fleshly exterior. This Light was the Light of the Divine Nature, and as such, it was Uncreated and Divine. So also, in the teachings of the Fathers, Jesus Christ was transfigured on the Mount, not taking upon Himself something new nor being changed into something new, nor something which formerly He did not possess. Rather, it was to show His disciples that which He already was, opening their eyes and bringing them from blindness to sight. For do you not see that eyes that can perceive natural things would be blind to this Light?

Thus, this Light is not a light of the senses, and those contemplating it do not simply see with sensual eyes, but rather they are changed by the power of the Divine Spirit. They were transformed, and only in this way did they see the transformation taking place amidst the very assumption of our perishability, with the deification through union with the Word of God in place of this.

(Adapted from <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2020/08/06/102215-the-holy-transfiguration-of-our-lord-god-and-savior-jesus-christ>)



**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

August 2, 2020

**EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST**

COMMEMORATIONS:

TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS OF STEPHEN THE
PROTOMARTYR
VENERABLE PHOTEINI THE WONDERWORKER OF
CARPASIA IN CYPRUS
BLESSED BASIL THE FOOL-FOR-CHRIST,
WONDERWORKER OF MOSCOW
HOLY GLORIOUS NEW MARTYR THEODORE OF
DARDANELLES
PHOCAS THE MARTYR
PLEGMUND, ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY

Tone 7 - Eothion 8

Orthros Gospel: St. John 20:11-18

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

Liturgy Gospel: St. Matthew 14:14-22

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 7 - Thou didst shatter death by thy Cross, thou didst open Paradise to the thief; thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment bearing women into joy, and didst bid thine Apostles proclaim a warning that thou hast risen, O Christ, granting to the world the great mercy!

APOLYTIKION OF ST. STEPHEN THE ARCHDEACON - Tone 4 - The crown of the Kingdom hath adorned the brow of thy head * because of the contests that thou hast endured for Christ God, thou first of the martyred Saints; * for when thou hadst censured the Jews' madness, thou sawest * Christ thy Savior standing at the right hand of the Father. * O Stephen, ever pray Him for us, that He would save our souls.

TODAY: ORTHROS & Confession 8:45 a.m.
Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.

Paraklesis 6:30 p.m.

Postponing Fellowship due to tightened restrictions. Masks are encouraged.

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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 (Aug 9):
PROSPHORA BREAD:	Kristi Moore	Carolyn Kaminsky
USHERS:	Colin M. & Rdr. Nick Morelli	Rdr. Jordan & Dan M.
ALTAR CANDLES:	----	----
ALTAR BOYS:	“Archangel Gabriel”	“Archangel Michael”
CLEANING TEAM:	The Hyatt Family	Serge, Alex & Sarah Kaminsky

Mark Your Calendar:

Saturday Liturgies in August
Masks required

Young Saints Club

Fridays, 10am-12:30pm
Starting July 10

Dormition Fast - August 1-14

Daily Paraklesis
Holy Unction, Aug 12, 4 pm

Feast of the Dormition

Friday, August 14
Vespers & Artoklasia, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, August 15
Orthros 9 am, Baptismal Liturgy 10 am
Blessing of Herbs & Flowers

Beheading of the Forerunner Strict Fast

Saturday, August 29

Ecclesiastical New Year

Tuesday, September 1

Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

Tuesday, September 8

Elevation of the Cross

Monday, September 14

Pray For:

Living	Departed
Newly-Illumined Evan	+Lida
John & Evelyn Marie	+Mat. Linda (D)
Hirut	+Robert Joseph
Kaitlyn & Child in womb	+Timothy (B)
Denise (A)	+Tatiana
Helen (P-N)	+Michael
Doris & John	+Nielus
Fr. Gregory & Family	+Kathy Anne
Larissa & Family	+Irene (D)
Kh. Beverly & Family (W)	+Emily (H)
Marina & Family	+John
Sophrony & Family	
Rachel	<u>Catechumens</u>
James	Matthew,
Lasha B	Michael, Ryan,
Otari B	Shaun, Tina
Daniel H	
John	
Zerfenesh	
Maximos	Thomas,
Luke	Elizabeth,
Apostoli	Elaine & all
Peter	Missionaries
Peter	
Joel & Emily Tiegreen	New &
	Expectant
	Mothers &
	children

All who are suffering,
serving and rebuilding
from the pandemic

For the repentance,
healing & unity of our
country

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, have prepared themselves through fasting, prayer, and recent confession, who are dressed modestly, and have arrived on time for the Liturgy. All are welcome to kiss the Cross and receive Blessed Bread at the end of the Liturgy.

SPECIAL APPEAL

Please consider making a special offering **Classic Olive Oil** to be left under the icon of St. Thekla. Thank you and may God bless your generosity!

This Week:

DORMITION FAST CONTINUES ...

Paraklesis (or Vespers) daily, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Aug 3:	6th Hour, 12 noon
Tuesday, Aug 4:	6th Hour, 12 noon
Wednesday, Aug 5:	6th Hour, 12 noon Vespers & Artoklasia for Transfiguration
Thursday, Aug 6:	FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION Orthros 9 a.m., Liturgy 10 a.m. Blessing of Fruit & Garden produce
Friday, Aug 7:	6th Hour, 12 noon
Saturday, Aug 8:	Baptismal Liturgy (Burke) (Mask Required), 10 a.m. VESPERS 6:30 p.m.
Sunday, Aug 9:	ORTHROS 8:45 a.m. Baptismal LITURGY (Chavchadze), 10 a.m. Paraklesis, 6:30 p.m.



Ministry Highlights

“As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.” (1 Peter 4:10)

UPDATING THE Photo Directory

to encourage unity, fellowship, and ministry at St. Philip

Please submit your updated family photo, address, emails, and telephone numbers to: **stphilipphotos20@gmail.com.**

You may also submit a printed photo for the directory. We will have a section for Stewards, and another for Friends. Have questions? Contact Dale Yeager (daleyeager@live.com), Colin Miller (Colinmil@comcast.net) or Dn. David Hyatt (apostlephilip@gmail.com).

OFFERINGS: Candles, \$172. Collections, \$234. Youth, \$1. Building Fund, \$150. Needy Fund, \$200. Camera Project, \$1,100. Stewardship, \$5,016.50. Total received: \$6,873.50.

GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS & GENEROSITY!