

MAY 9, 2021
PROPHET ISAIAH

The Holy Prophet Isaiah lived 700 years before the birth of Christ, and was of royal lineage. Isaiah's father Amos raised his son in the fear of God and in the law of the Lord. Having attained the age of maturity, the Prophet Isaiah entered into marriage with a pious prophetess (Is 8:3) and had a son Shear-Jashub (Is 8:18).

Saint Isaiah was called to prophetic service during the reign of Oziah [Uzziah], king of Judea, and he prophesied for 60 years during the reign of kings Joatham, Achaz [Ahaz], Hezekiah and Manasseh. The start of his service was marked by the vision of the Lord God, sitting in a majestic heavenly temple upon a high throne, encircled by six-winged Seraphim. After having his lips purified by a coal from the altar, the Lord sent him to the Jews to exhort them to turn from the ways of impiety and idol worship, and to offer repentance. To those that repent and turn to the true God, the Lord promised mercy and forgiveness, but punishment and the judgment of God are appointed for the unrepentant. God indicates that "from the destruction of the nation a holy remnant will remain, from which will emerge a new tribe."

Isaiah left behind him a book of prophecy in which he denounces the Jews for their unfaithfulness to the God of their Fathers. He predicted the captivity of the Jews and their return from captivity during the time of the emperor Cyrus, the destruction and renewal of Jerusalem and of the Temple. Together with this he predicts the historical fate also of the other nations bordering the Jews. But what is most important of all for us, the Prophet Isaiah with particular clarity and detail prophesies about the coming of the Messiah, Christ the Savior. The prophet names the Messiah as God and Man, teacher of all the nations, founder of the Kingdom of peace and love.

The prophet foretells the birth of the Messiah from a Virgin, and with particular clarity he describes the Suffering of the Messiah for the sins of the world. He foresees His Resurrection and the universal spreading of His Church. By his clear foretelling of Christ the Savior, the Prophet Isaiah deserves to be called an Old Testament Evangelist. To him belong the words, "He beareth our sins and is smitten for us.... He was wounded for our sins and tortured for our transgressions. The chastisement of our world was upon Him, and by His wounds we were healed...." (Is 53:4-5; cf. 7:14, 11:1, 9:6, 53:4, 60:13, etc.).

The holy Prophet Isaiah had also a gift of wonderworking. And so, when during the time of a siege of Jerusalem by enemies the besieged had become exhausted with thirst, he by his prayer drew out from beneath Mount Sion a spring of water, which was called Siloam, i.e. "sent from God." It was to this spring afterwards that the Savior sent the man blind from birth to wash, and He restored his sight. By the prayer of the Prophet Isaiah, the Lord prolonged the life of Hezekiah for 15 years.

The Prophet Isaiah died a martyr's death. By order of the Jewish king Manasseh he was sawn through by a wood-saw. The prophet was buried not far from the Pool of Siloam. The relics of the holy Prophet Isaiah were afterwards transferred by the emperor Theodosius the Younger to Constantinople and installed in the church of Saint Laurence at Blachernae. At the present time part of the head of the Prophet Isaiah is preserved at Athos in the Hilandar monastery.



**ST. PHILIP
ORTHODOX
CHURCH**

A Parish of the
Antiochian Archdiocese

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH



His Grace Bishop THOMAS



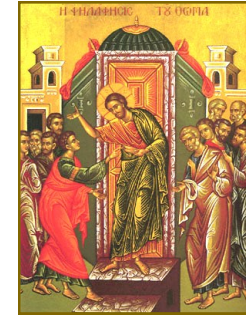
Father Noah Bushelli, Pastor
215-954-9286



Father James Thayer
215-692-0890

May 9, 2021
SUNDAY OF THOMAS

CHRIST IS RISEN!



Orthros Gospel: St. Matt 28:16-20
Eothion 1

Epistle: Acts 5:12-20
Gospel: St. John 20:19-31

**CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, TRAMPLING DOWN DEATH
BY DEATH, AND UPON THOSE IN THE TOMBS BESTOWING LIFE.**

TROPARION OF ST. THOMAS - TONE 7 - While the Tomb was sealed, thou didst shine forth from it, O Light! While the doors were closed, thou didst come in to thy disciples, O Christ God, Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of thy mercy!

TODAY: Orthros 8:45 am; Divine Liturgy 10 am
Coffee Hour, Sunday School & Catechism 11:45 am
Procession to Cemetery for Blessing of Graves,
1 pm (WEATHER PERMITTING)

*Happy Mother's Day to all the Mothers, Grandmothers, and
Godmothers of St. Philip's!*

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Office Hours: Monday through Friday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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 (May 16):

PROSPHORA BREAD: Carolyn Kaminsky

Gabi & Catalin Tinjala

ALTAR CANDLES: ----

USHERS: Steve K. & Ken G.

Dan M. & Tom A.

ALTAR BOYS: "Archangel Gabriel"

"Archangel Michael"

CLEANING TEAM: Serge, Alex, Sarah K.

Nathan & Rebecca; Teens

COFFEE HOUR TEAM: Felicia S; Abraham; Miriam Moodys; Dale Y.; Jonathan Z.

* **MANY THANKS** to all who made offerings for flowers and decoration; who provided palms and willows, olive oil, wine, rose water, and incense for the Holy Days, and red eggs for Pascha; and who gave their voices for singing and their time for cleaning.

* **THOMAS SUNDAY CEMETERY OFFERINGS** this year will be used to fund one or more "mercy graves" to be offered to bereaved families when appropriate. Please be generous.

* **IT IS TIME TO RETURN OUR FOOD FOR HUNGRY PEOPLE OFFERINGS.** Thank you for remembering the needs of others.

Mark Your Calendar:

All-Church Cleaning Day

Saturday, May 15, 8 am

Men's Fellowship

Saturday, May 15, 8 pm

Blood Drive

Tuesday, May 25—2 pm-7pm

Mid-Pentecost

Wednesday, May 26—Liturgy 10 am

Ascension

Thursday, June 10

Pentecost

Sunday, Jun 20

Apostles' Fast & Sts. Peter & Paul

June 28-29

Vacation Church School

August 9-13

Pray For:

Living	Departed
Preb. Anna	+Yazew
Alexandra	+Valentina
Despina, Charles,	+Andrea
Athanasios	+Stavros
Maria	
HM Sylvester	(May Parish
Fr. Sergius	Diptychs)
Doris	+Paul
John	+Bahia
James	+Kh. Jane
Lasha B	+LuAnn
Otari B	+Lida
Daniel H	+Donna
Peter	
Anesia	
George, Victoria, & family	
Pulcheria, Kenneth,	
Veronica	
Gabriela	
Anna	
	<u>Catechumens</u>
	Matthew,
	Michael,
	Shaun,
	Tina,
	Sara,
	Barry,
	Ryan,
	Laura,
	Taylor,
	Tim & Luke
Dn. Thomas, Elizabeth,	
Jesse, Bill, Elaine	
& all Missionaries	
New & Expectant Mothers	
& their children	
For the people of our land	
and their repentance,	
healing & unity	
All who are suffering,	
serving and rebuilding	
from the pandemic	

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

DURING THE PASCHAL SEASON:

- ✦ We say or sing the Resurrection Troparion every day with our devotions.
- ✦ We continue to share the good news with the greeting, "Christ is risen!"
- ✦ We read the Book of Acts and the Gospel of John in our family Bibles.
- ✦ There is a relaxed fast on Wednesdays and Fridays. (Communion fast continues as usual.)
- ✦ In honor of the Resurrection, there is no kneeling, in Church or at home, until the Pentecost Kneeling Prayers.

This Week:

Monday, May 10: Church Open

Tuesday, May 11: Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 11 a.m.

Wednesday, May 12: Church Open
Little Compline 6:30 p.m. & Patristic Reading 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 13: Church Open

Friday, May 14: Paraklesis 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 15: All-Church Cleaning Day, 8 a.m.- 3 p.m.
Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.
VESPERS 6:30 p.m., Confession 7:30 p.m.
Men's Fellowship 8 p.m.

Sunday, May 16: **HOLY MYRRHBEARERS**
ORTHROS 8:45 a.m., LITURGY 10 a.m.
Sunday School, Catechism, & Coffee Hour
Parish Council 12:45 p.m.

OUTREACH COLLECTION:

Skin Care Products

CHALLENGE FOR 2021:

"Your Body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit"

OFFERINGS: Candles, \$1,094. Collections, \$372.61. Youth, \$1. Flowers, \$35. Building Fund, \$350. Classical School Fund, \$5,463. Pastoral Discretion, \$50. Food for Hungry, \$100. Olive Oil, \$50. Stewardship, \$3,631.90. Total received: \$11,157.51.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!