

## Martyr Polyeuktos of Melitēné in Armenia (Jan 9)

Saint Polyeuktos was the first to be martyred for Christ in the Armenian city of Melitēné. He was a soldier during the reign of Emperor Decius (249-251), and he later suffered martyrdom in the reign of Valerian (253-259). He was a friend of Néarkhos (Νέαρχος) a fellow-soldier and a firm Christian. Polyeuktos, however, although he led a virtuous life, he remained a pagan.

When the persecution against Christians began, Néarkhos said to Polyeuktos, "Friend, soon we shall be separated, for they will take me to torture, and you, alas, will renounce your friendship with me." Polyeuktos told him that he had seen Christ in a dream. The Savior took his soiled military cloak from him and dressed him in a radiant garment. "Now," he said, "I am prepared to serve the Lord Jesus Christ."

Enflamed with zeal, Saint Polyeuktos went to the city square, and tore up the edict of Decius which required everyone to worship the idols. A few moments later, he met a procession carrying twelve idols through the streets of the city. Dashing the idols to the ground, he trampled them underfoot.

His father-in-law, the magistrate Felix, who was responsible for enforcing the imperial edict, was horrified at what Saint Polyeuktos had done and advised him to obey the imperial edict. Polyeuktos told him that we must obey God rather than men. Felix declared that Polyeuktos must die for this. "Go then, bid farewell to your wife and children," he said. Paulina wept and urged her husband to renounce Christ. Felix also wept, but Saint Polyeuktos remained steadfast in his resolve to suffer for Christ.

Bowing his head beneath the executioner's sword, he was baptized in his own blood. In the reign of Saint Constantine the Great, when the Church of Christ had triumphed throughout the Roman Empire, a church was built at Melitēné in honor of Saint Polyeuktos. Many miracles were worked through his intercession. In that same church, the parents of Saint Euthymios the Great (January 20) prayed fervently for a son. The birth of this great luminary of Orthodoxy occurred in the year 376, through the prayers of the Holy Martyr Polyeuktos.

Saint Polyeuktos was also venerated by Saint Akakios, the Bishop of Melitēné (March 31), who participated in the Third Ecumenical Council, and was a great proponent of Orthodoxy. In the East, as well as in the West, the Holy Martyr Polyeuktos is venerated as the patron Saint of vows and treaties.

(Taken from <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2022/01/09/100134-martyr-polyeuktos-of-melitn-in-armenia>)



## 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

## January 9, 2022

### SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY

#### COMMEMORATIONS:

POLYEUCTUS THE MARTYR OF MELITENE IN ARMENIA  
EUSTRATIUS THE WONDERWORKER  
PETER, BISHOP OF SEBASTE, BROTHER OF BASIL THE  
GREAT AND GREGORY OF NYSSA  
AFTERFEAST OF THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD AND  
SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST  
PHILIP, METROPOLITAN OF MOSCOW

**Tone 4 - Eothinon 7**

**Orthros Gospel: St. John 20:1-10**

**Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13**

**Liturgy Gospel: St. Matthew 4:12-17**

**RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 4** - Having learned the joyful message of the resurrection from the angel, the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation, and proudly broke the news to the disciples saying, Death hath been spoiled. Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!

**APOLYTIKION OF THE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST - Tone 1** - When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, worship of the Trinity wast made manifest; for the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the likeness of a dove confirmed the truth of His word. O Christ our God, Who hast appeared and enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

**TODAY:** *Liturgy at Ft. Washington Mission Chapel 9 a.m.*  
ORTHROS & Confessions 8:45 a.m.  
Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.  
Sunday School & Coffee Hour  
Women of St. Mariamne  
Outdoor Blessing of Water 1 p.m. Lenape Park

**CHRIST IS BAPTIZED! IN THE JORDAN!**

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:

	<b>This Week:</b>	<b>Next Week (Jan 16):</b>
<b>PROSPHORA BREAD:</b>	Gabi & Catalin Tinjala	Sdn Justin G.
<b>ALTAR CANDLES:</b>	----	----
<b>USHERS:</b>	Dan M. & Tom A.	Steve K. & Rdr. Nick Muz
<b>ALTAR BOYS:</b>	“Archangel Michael”	“Archangel Gabriel”
<b>CLEANING TEAM:</b>	The Gohls	Sdn Jordan & Natalie; Chris H.
<b>COFFEE HOUR TEAM:</b>	Chris H; Maria S; Amelia T.	Calvin; Ada; Ephrem

### Mark Your Calendar:

**Men’s Breakfast Fellowship**  
Saturday, January 15, 8 am

**Meeting of the Lord**  
Tuesday, February 1  
Vesperal & Artoklasia 6:30 pm

**Wednesday, February 2**  
Orthros 9 am  
Liturgy & Candle blessing 10 a.m.  
Potluck (Fish/Wine/Oil)

**JANUARY OUTREACH  
COLLECTION:  
ORAL CARE PRODUCTS**

**CHALLENGE FOR 2021:**  
“You are the Light of the World”

### Pray For:

Living	Departed
Newly-Illumined	+Fred Andrew
Shaun	+Hieromonk
Filomena	Panteleimon
Nicole	+Pr. Thomas
Sze-Tatiana	+Barbara
Joanne	+ArchP Stavros
Patrick	
Doris	(January Parish
John	Diptychs)
John	+George
James	+Pedrag
Lasha B	+Mimi
Otari B	+Helen
Mark	+Christopher
Nancy-Anna	+Nagib
Helen	+Julia
Wadieh	
Anna	
Anesia	
A.P. Serge	
Mat. Lubov	<u>Catechumens</u>
Mary	Christian,
Mary	Laura,
Priest Thomas, Elizabeth,	Taylor,
Jesse, Bill, Elaine	Tim & Luke,
& all Missionaries	Kate,
	Tyson,
New & Expectant Mothers	Joseph & Alana,
& their children	Ryan,
	Michael, Tina
For the people of our	
land and their	
repentance, healing &	
unity	

**OFFERINGS 1/2:** Candles, \$304. Collections, \$810.58. Youth, \$1. Book Shelf Ministry, \$66. Mortgage Reduction, \$250. Stewardship, \$1,817.52. Total received: \$3,249.10.

We now have 83 pledges totaling \$284,673 or 89.6% of our 2022 goal. God willing, we are looking for another 20+ pledges to come in.

**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 Prospora baking team, please ask for Fr Noah’s blessing and then contact Gabi or Catalin Tinjala.

### **What to bring:**

If you have an 9 inch round pan you can bring your pan. Flour, yeast and Prospora 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:

- Mon, Jan 10:** Office open
- Tues, Jan 11:** 6th Hour Prayers 12 noon  
Matushka Olga Sewing Club 1 p.m.
- Wed, Jan 12:** Little Compline & Patristic Discussion 6:30 p.m.
- Thurs, Jan 13:** Office open
- Friday, Jan 14:** Divine Liturgy (St. Nina) 10 a.m.  
Paraklesis 6:30 p.m.
- Sat, Jan 15:** Men’s Fellowship 8 a.m.  
Altar Boy Meeting 5:30 p.m.  
Vespers 6:30 p.m. & Confessions 7:30 p.m.
- Sun, Jan 16:** **ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.**  
**Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.**  
Sunday School, Catechism, Coffee Hour  
Parish Council

**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 let us know if there is any way we can serve you. **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 receive a blessing, anointing, and Blessed Bread at the end of the Liturgy.