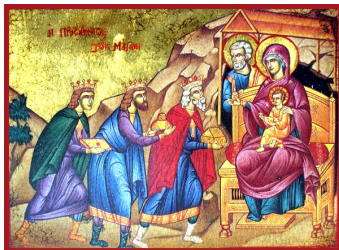


The Nativity of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ

(Dec 25)

Adoration of the Magi

The Nativity of Christ was revealed to the Magi by a wondrous star. St John Chrysostom and St Theophylactus, commenting on St Matthew's Gospel, say that this was no ordinary star. Rather, it was "a divine and angelic power that appeared in the form of a star." St Demetrius of Rostov says it was a "manifestation of divine energy" (Narrative of the Adoration of the Magi). Entering the house where the Infant lay, the Magi "fell down, and worshipped Him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented Him gifts: gold, and frankincense, and myrrh" (Mt. 2:11).



The names of the three Magi - Melchior, Gaspar, and Balthasar - do not appear in the Gospels. The tradition that there were three visitors from the east is very ancient, but their names are only mentioned in the Middle Ages.

Bones reputed to be the relics of the three kings have been in the cathedral at Cologne, Germany since 1164.

Shepherds who worshiped the Lord



In the stillness of midnight (Wisdom of Solomon 18:14-15), the proclamation of the birth of the Savior of the world was heard by three shepherds watching their flocks by night.

An angel of the Lord (St Cyprian says this was Gabriel) came before them and said: "Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, Who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10-11). The humble shepherds were the first to offer worship to Him Who condescended to assume the form of a humble servant for the salvation of mankind.

Text & magi icon from <http://oca.org/FSlives.asp>

Shepherd icon from http://www.broadsideparishes.org.uk/bspicons/antiphoner/nativity_shepherds.htm



ST. PHILIP ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the
Antiochian Archdiocese

*Metropolitan ANTONIOS,
Patriarchal Vicar*



His Grace Bishop THOMAS



Father Noah Bushelli, Pastor

215-954-9286



Father James Thayer

215-692-0890

December 25, 2022

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

COMMEMORATIONS:

THE ADORATION OF THE MAGI: MELCHIOR,
CASPAR, AND BALTHASAR

COMMEMORATION OF THE SHEPHERDS IN
BETHLEHEM WHO WERE WATCHING THEIR
FLOCKS AND CAME TO SEE THE LORD

Orthros Gospel: St. Matthew 1:18-25

Epistle: Galatians 4:4-7

Liturgy Gospel: St. Matthew 2:1-12

NATIVITY TROPARION - Tone 4 - Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, hath given rise to the light of knowledge in the world; for they who did worship the stars did learn from them to worship Thee, O Sun of justice, and to know that Thou didst come from the east of the highest. Glory to Thee, O Lord!

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!

TODAY: (Festal ORTHROS 10:30pm)
Divine LITURGY 12 Midnight

Vespers for the Synaxis of the Theotokos 12pm

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, Wednesday, Friday 9:00am - 3:00pm

Fr Noah & Fr James are available for hospital visits. Please contact them directly or call the church office.

Weekly Ministries & Stewards:

	This Week:	Next Week (Jan 1):
PROSPHORA BREAD:	John Child	Kristi Moore
ALTAR CANDLES:	Bushellis — Anna Maria B-day	Gohls — Evan's B-day
USHERS:	Todd M. & Rdr Nick	Todd M. & Rdr. Nick
ALTAR BOYS:	“Archangel Michael”	“Archangel Gabriel”
CLEANING TEAM:	Todd & Kendra; Natalia M	Todd & Kristi M.; Kim B.
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	----	Sh Hannah; Tatiana; Gabe

Mark Your Calendar:

Feast of Circumcision & St. Basil —

New Years

Saturday, Dec 31

Vespers & Artoklasia 6:30 p.m.
Potluck, Talent Show & Games 7:45 p.m.

Sunday, Jan 1

Divine Liturgy & New Years Prayers

Theophany

Thursday, Jan 5

Royal Hours 10 a.m.
Vesperal Liturgy 6 p.m.

Friday, Jan 6

Orthros 9am & Divine Liturgy 10am
Great Blessing of Waters

Meeting of the Lord

Wednesday, Feb 1

Vespers & Artoklasia 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb 2

Orthros 9 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.

HOME BLESSINGS:

Reach out to Fr. Noah or Fr. James directly to schedule.

Great Lent begins Feb 27

Pascha 2023

April 16

We live from Pascha to Pascha!

Pray For:

Living	Departed
Met. Onuphry and faithful of Ukraine	(December Parish Diptychs)
Kh. Joyce	+Joseph
Linda	+Richard
Tadessa	+Mary
Nicole	+Demetrios (Jim)
Raymond	+Katherine
Patrick	+Nicholas
Doris	+Gabremariam
John	+Assaad
John	+Doris
James	+(Michael)
James	+Barbara
Lasha B	+Fred Andrew
Otari B	
Tatiana	
Helen	
Wadieh	
Anesia	
Mary	
Mary	
Priest Thomas, Bill, Jesse, Nathan, Hannah, Elizabeth, & all Missionaries	<u>Catechumens</u>
New & Expectant Mothers & their children	Christian
For the people of our land, and their repentance, healing & unity	Christina
The 12 Baskets Full team asks for prayers for our homeless Philly friends — George, Bill, Jim, Jalil, Mark, Joel, Eric	Peter, Sarah, Alina, William, & Elsa
	Kate
	Joseph & Alana
	Ryan
	Zachary, Brandy, Nora, Gavinn, Lorelei, & Otto
	Taylor & Bethany
	Joanne
	Denis
	Nicholas, Rachel, Luka, Leo
	David, Helen, Elianna
	Michael
	Evan
	Lucretia

DECEMBER OUTREACH COLLECTION:

Turkeys & Hams

CHALLENGE FOR 2022:

“You are the Light of the World”

Christ is born!

Christ is come from heaven!

Christ is on earth!

Christos Yenate!

Al Maseeh Wolida!

Christos Razdajetsja!

Hristos sa Nascute!

Kriste Ishva!

Glorify him!

Receive him!

Be ye lifted up!

Doxasate!

Fa Majeedu

Slavite Jeho!

Adeverat sa nascut!

Gikharoden!

This Week:

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

(**There is no Wednesday/Friday fast between Nativity and the Theophany fast [Jan 5].)

- Mon, Dec 26:** Synaxis of the Theotokos
Orthros 9 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.
- Tues, Dec 27:** 6th Hour Prayers 12 noon
Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1 p.m.
- Wed, Dec 28:** Nativity Akathist 6:30 p.m.
- Thurs, Dec 29:** ----
- Friday, Dec 30:** Nativity Akathist 6:30 p.m.
- Sat, Dec 31:** Men's Fellowship Breakfast 8 a.m.
VESPERS & Artoklasia 6:30 p.m.
Potluck, Talent Show & Games 7:45 p.m.
- Sunday, Jan 1:** Feast of the Circumcision & St. Basil
ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.
Divine LITURGY & New Year's Prayers 10 a.m.
Coffee Hour

ATTENDANCE: Vespers Dec 17: 61 Divine services on Dec 18: 241
St. Ignatius Liturgy: 27

OFFERINGS 12/18: *To be reported next week.*

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!