

Prophet Samuel (Aug 20)

The Prophet Samuel was the fifteenth and last of the Judges of Israel, living more than 1146 years before the Birth of Christ. He was descended from the Tribe of Levi, and was the son of Elkanah from Ramathaim-Zophim of Mount Ephraim. He was born, having been besought from the Lord through the prayers of his mother Hannah (therefore he received the name Samuel, which means “besought from God”). Even before birth, he was dedicated to God. Her song, “My heart exults in the Lord,” is the third Old Testament ode of the Canon (1 Kgd 2:1-10).



When the boy reached the age of three, his mother went with him to Shiloh and in accord with her vow dedicated him to the worship of God. She gave him into the care of the High Priest Eli, who at this time was a judge over Israel. The prophet grew in the fear of God, and at twelve years of age he had a revelation that God would punish the house of the High Priest Eli, because he did not restrain the impiety of his sons.

The prophecy was fulfilled when the Philistines, having slain in battle 30,000 Israelites (among them Hophni and Phinees, the sons of Eli the High Priest), gained victory and captured the Ark of the Covenant. Hearing this, the High Priest Eli fell backwards from his seat at the gate, and breaking his back, he died. The wife of Phinees, upon hearing what had happened in this very hour, gave birth to a son (Ichabod) and died with the words: “The glory has departed from Israel, for the Ark of God is taken away” (1 Kgd 4:22).

Upon the death of Eli, Samuel became the judge of the nation of Israel. The Ark of God was returned by the Philistines on their own initiative. After returning to God, the Israelites returned to all the cities that the Philistines had taken. In his old age, the Prophet Samuel made his sons Joel and Abiah judges over Israel, but they did not follow the integrity and righteous judgment of their father, since they were motivated by greed.

Then the elders of Israel, wanting the nation of God to be “like other nations” (1 Kgd 8:20), demanded of the Prophet Samuel that they have a king. The Prophet Samuel anointed Saul as king, but saw in this a downfall of the people, whom God Himself had governed until this time, announcing His will through “judges,” His chosen saints. Resigning the position of judge, the Prophet Samuel asked the people if they consented to his continued governance, but no one stepped forward for him.

After denouncing the first king, Saul, for his disobedience to God, the Prophet Samuel anointed David as king. He had offered David asylum, saving him from the pursuit of King Saul. The Prophet Samuel died in extreme old age. His life is recorded in the Bible (1 Kgd; Sirach 46:13-20).

In the year 406 A.D. the relics of the Prophet Samuel were transferred from Judea to Constantinople.

Text & icon from <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2023/08/20/102349-prophet-samuel>



ST. PHILIP ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the
Antiochian Archdiocese

His Eminence Metropolitan SABA



His Grace Bishop THOMAS



Father Noah Bushelli, Pastor

215-954-9286



Father James Thayer

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August 20, 2023

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

COMMEMORATIONS:

AFTERFEAST OF THE DORMITION OF OUR MOST HOLY
LADY THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER VIRGIN MARY

SAMUEL THE PROPHET

HOLY MARTYR LUKE OF BOULEUTOS

STEPHEN, FIRST KING OF HUNGARY

HIEROTHEOS, BISHOP OF HUNGARY

OSWIN THE MARTYR, KING OF DEIRA

MARTYR PHOEINI OF BLACHERNAE

MARTYRS HELIODOROS AND DOSAI OF PERSIA

Tone 2 - Eothinon 11

Orthros Gospel: St. John 21:1-14

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 9:2-12

Liturgy Gospel: St. Matthew 18:23-35

TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION - Tone 2 - When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Thou who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee!

APOLYTIKION OF THE DORMITION - Tone 1 - In thy birth-giving, O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling-asleep thou hast not forsaken the world; for thou wast translated into life, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore, by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

TODAY: ORTHROS 8:30 a.m.
Baptismal LITURGY 9:45 a.m. (Hewitt – Many Years!)
Coffee Hour
Parish Council 12:30 p.m.

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Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:30am - 3:30pm

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 (August 27):
COFFEE HOUR	A-Ca - Soup & Sandwiches	Ch-Ge - Pizza Tom/Spin Pie
PROSPHORA BREAD:	Gabi & Catalin Tinjala	John Child
ALTAR CANDLES:	----	----
USHERS:	Todd M. & Steve K.	Rdr Nick & Sdn John
CLEANING TEAM:	Gohls; Olena M.; Midena S.	Serge, Alex & Sarah K.
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	Chris H; Mariya S; Laura S; Eric M	Calvin S.; Dale; Ginny/John C.

Mark Your Calendar:

Beheading of John the Baptist
August 29

Ecclesiastical New Year
September 1

Nativity of the Theotokos
September 8

Elevation of the Cross
September 14

International Food Festival
September 15-16

Festival Packets and Flyers, and Sign-up sheets, are in the Narthex! Help spread the word, get sponsors, & sign up to help!



**AUGUST OUTREACH
COLLECTION:**
Paper Products

CHALLENGE FOR 2023:
**"You are the Salt
of the Earth"**

Pray For:

Living	Departed
N.I. Timothy	+Olga
Met. Onuphry and faithful of Ukraine	+Michael +John
Pr. Andrew, family, & parishioners	(August Parish Diptychs)
Kh. Joyce	+Mary
Mary	+Augustine
Timothy	+Iwan
Xenia	+Victor
George	+Fr. Michael
Ephrem	+Myron
Nicole	+Fr. Boniface
Raymond	
Patrick	
Doris	
John	
John	
James	
James	
Helen	
Wadieh	
Mary	
Mary	
Mary	
Sophia	
Victoria	
Alexandra	
Steve	
Xenia	
Jesse, Nathan, Hannah, Elizabeth, & all Missionaries	
New & Expectant Mothers & their children	
For the people of our land, and their repentance, healing & unity	
The 12 Baskets Full team asks for prayers for our homeless Philly friends – George, Bill, Jim, Jalil, Mark, Joel, Eric	
	<u>Catechumens</u>
	Lucretia
	Ryan
	Alina & Elsa
	Kate
	Nicholas,
	Rachel, Luka,
	& Leo
	Michael
	Evan
	Tiffany
	Caden
	Keith, Maggie,
	& Eli
	Andrew
	Daniel
	Kassandra
	Michael

FESTIVAL PREPARATIONS ARE CONTINUING!



Our 11th International Food Festival is just under a month away—Sept 15-16. All parishioners, your help is needed! Sign-up sheets to volunteer are in the Narthex. Also, take a Festival flyer in the Narthex, invite family & friends, help spread the word. Let's work together to make this the best Food Festival yet!

This Week:

- Mon, August 21:** Office open
- Tues, August 22:** Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1 p.m.
- Wed, August 23:** Office open
Little Compline & Patristic reading group 6:30 p.m.
- Thurs, August 24:** ----
- Fri, August 25:** Office open
Paraklesis 6:30 p.m.
- Sat, August 26:** Great VESPERS 6:30 p.m.
Confession 7:30 p.m.
- Sun, August 27:** ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.
Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.
Coffee Hour
Choir rehearsal

ATTENDANCE: Vespers for Aug 12: NA Divine Services Aug 13: 205
Vespers Dormition: 84 Dormition Liturgy: 124

OFFERINGS 8/13: Candles, \$361. Collections, \$740.32. Youth, \$1. Book Shelf Ministry, \$37. Mission Chapel, \$145. Mortgage Reduction, \$125. Needy Fund, \$250. Women's Fund, \$10. Stewardship, \$1,464. Total received: \$3,133.32. Cemetery Account, \$100.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

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