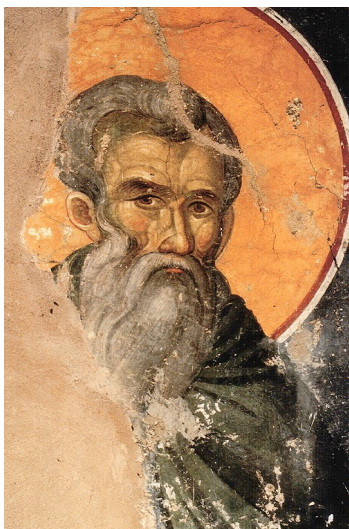


Venerable Theoctistus (Sept 3)

Saint Theoctistus of Palestine was a great ascetic who lived in the Judean wilderness in the Wadi Mukellik. At first, he was the companion of Saint Euthymius the Great (January 20) in the ascetic life. So great was their mutual affection and oneness of mind that they seemed to live as one soul in two bodies. They were persons of similar virtue and holiness, and they encouraged one another in their struggles. Each year after the Leave-taking of Theophany, they would go into the desert to struggle and pray in solitude, returning to their cells on Palm Sunday.



After five years together, Sts Euthymius and Theoctistus went into the desert for Great Lent, and in a wadi they discovered a large cave which later became a church. They decided to remain there, believing that they had been led there by God. They ate wild herbs to sustain themselves, and met with no other people for some time.

The Lord did not wish these great luminaries to remain hidden, however. He wanted their wisdom and holiness of life to become known in order to benefit others. One day, shepherds from Bethany found the ascetics and went back to their village and told others about them. After that, many people came to hear of them, and monks came from other monasteries to visit them. Some even stayed there in order to be instructed by them.

So many monks gathered around them that they were obliged to build a lavra over the cave church. Saint Euthymius made Theoctistus the igumen of the lavra, while he himself lived in seclusion in the cave. The wise Theoctistus accepted all who came to him, confessing them and treating the infirmities of their wounded souls with appropriate spiritual remedies.

When he had reached an advanced old age, Saint Theoctistus became very ill. Saint Euthymius (who was ninety years old himself) visited him and took care of him. When Saint Theoctistus went to the Lord in 467, Patriarch Anastasius of Jerusalem came and presided at his burial service.

Saint Theoctistus of Palestine should not be confused with Saint Theoctistus of Sicily (January 4).

Text & icon from <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2023/09/03/102478-venerable-theoctistus>



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

215-692-0890

September 3, 2023

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

COMMEMORATIONS:

ANTHIMUS, BISHOP OF NICOMEDEA
HOLY FATHER THEOCTISTUS AND HIS FELLOW
STRUGGLER

EUTHYMIUS THE GREAT
POLYDORUS THE MARTYR OF NEW EPHEBUS,
TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS OF ST. NECTARIUS THE
WONDERWORKER, BISHOP OF PENTOPOLIS,
CHARITON THE MARTYR
PHOEBE THE DEACONESS

Tone 4 - Eothion 2

Orthros Gospel: St. Mark 16:1-8

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 16:13-24

Liturgy Gospel: St. Matthew 21:33-42

TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION - 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!

KONTAKION OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS - Tone 4 - By thy holy nativity, O pure one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness; and Adam and Eve were delivered from the corruption of death; thy people do celebrate it, having been saved from the stain of iniquity, crying unto thee: The barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, who nourisheth our life.

TODAY: ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.
Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.
Trisagion (Hill relatives) 11:30 a.m.
Coffee Hour

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 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 (Sept 10):
COFFEE HOUR	Hill family / Bring Desserts	Bagel Sunday
PROSPHORA BREAD:	Kristi Moore	Gabriela P. + Rachel C.
ALTAR CANDLES:	Tinjala — B. Nina's birthday Joanne W.—In Memory of Peter Lazorack	Gamble—Sept 11 Memory Eternal!
USHERS:	Steve K. & Radu C.	Tom A. & Dan M.
CLEANING TEAM:	Gambles & Teens	Chris & Lucretia; Nick T. and Pam F.
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	Simon, Amelia, Christian, Daniel	Kendra; Felicia

Mark Your Calendar:

Elevation of the Cross September 14

*Please welcome back our former seminarian, **Karsten Boyer**, as our new pastoral assistant!*

In addition to shouldering the administrative oversight of our many ministries, Karsten will also shadow Father Noah in his diverse responsibilities, help with youth related duties, teach our new Thursday night Bible Study (on St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans), lead our Catechism classes for inquirers and catechumens, figure into the preaching rotation, and establish the Saint Andrei Rublev Icon Studio with formal weekly instruction and open studio oversight.

SEPTEMBER OUTREACH COLLECTION: Cleaning Supplies

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

Pray For:

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

FESTIVAL PREPARATIONS ARE CONTINUING!



Our 11th International Food Festival is just two weeks 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, Sept 4:** LABOR DAY — Office closed
Picnic at "Spring Hollow" at 12 noon
- Tues, Sept 5:** Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1 p.m.
- Wed, Sept 6:** Office open
Little Compline & Patristic reading group 6:30 p.m.
- Thurs, Sept 7:** Vespers & Artoklasia for the Nativity of the Theotokos 6:30 p.m.
- Fri, Sept 8:** NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS
Orthros 9am & Liturgy 10 a.m.
Fish/Wine/Oil Potluck to follow
Paraklesis 6:30 p.m.
- Sat, Sept 9:** Great VESPERS 6:30 p.m.
Confession 7:30 p.m.
- Sun, Sept 10:** *Liturgy at Fort Washington Mission 9am*
ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.
Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.
40-Day Memorial for John Ferguson
Coffee Hour & Sunday School
Choir rehearsal

ATTENDANCE: Vespers for Aug 26: 64 Divine Services Aug 27: 217
Lit. for Beheading: 61

OFFERINGS 8/27: Candles, \$209. Collections, \$425.77. Youth, \$1.
Book Shelf Ministry, \$30. Pastoral Discretion, \$10. Stewardship, \$3,035. Total received: \$3,710.77. Cemetery Account, \$2,000.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!