

**Hieromartyr Alexander, Bishop of Adrianopolis, and the  
Martyrs Heraclius, Anna, Elizabeth, Theodota, and Glyceria  
(Oct 15)**

The third century was a time when Christianity experienced significant growth among those who worshipped idols. Many of these were killed simply because they believed in Christ and refused to worship idols.

Saint Alexander was the Bishop of Adrianopolis, who proclaimed the Gospel with great zeal to crowds of idolaters, and his preaching attracted many pagans to Christ. In spite of the persecution of Christians, Bishop Alexander fearlessly converted and baptized many pagans into the divine Faith. This so infuriated the ruler of that



place that he ordered the Saint's arrest and subjected him to torture in order to force him to offer sacrifice to the idols. Saint Alexander endured horrible tortures with exemplary patience because he refused to worship the lifeless idols fashioned by men, preferring to offer himself as a sacrifice to Christ, the true God Who said: "Whoever loses his life for my sake shall find it" (Matthew 16:25).

A soldier named Herakleios, after witnessing Bishop Alexander's fortitude, came to believe in Christ. He was tortured before being beheaded.

By the grace of God, Saint Alexander was healed of the wounds he sustained from being tortured. When this miracle was made known, four women, Theodótē, Glykería, Anna, and Elizabeth also confessed their faith in Christ before the archon, refuting the delusion of idolatry. Therefore, they were led to the place of execution, where they were put to death by the sword.

After the other martyrs were killed, Saint Alexander was beheaded with a sword, obtaining an unfading crown from Christ.

*Text & icon from <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2023/10/22/103031-hieromartyr-alexander-bishop-of-adrianopolis-and-the-martyrs-her>*



**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

**October 22, 2023**

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST**

**COMMEMORATIONS:**

AVERKIOS THE WONDERWORKER, EQUAL-TO-THE-  
APOSTLES AND BISHOP OF HIERAPOLIS  
THE SEVEN HOLY YOUTHS ("SEVEN SLEEPERS")  
MARTYRED IN EPHEBUS  
BISHOP EULALIOS

**Tone 3 - Eothion 9**

**Orthros Gospel: St. John 20:19-31**

**Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19**

**Liturgy Gospel: St. Luke 8:26-39**

**TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION - Tone 3 - Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad; for the Lord hath done a mighty act with his own arm. He hath trampled down death by death and become the First-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depth of hades, granting the world the Great Mercy!**

**APOLYTIKION OF ST. AVERKIOS - Tone 4 - Thy works of justice did reveal thee to thy community as a canon of faith, the likeness of humility and teacher of abstinence, O Father Bishop Averkios. Wherefore, by humility thou hast achieved exaltation, and by thy meekness wealth. Intercede, therefore, with Christ God to save our souls.**

**TODAY:** ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.

Divine LITURGY 10 a.m., w/ Chrismation of Evan R.

Trisagion for Larry Shaheen

Sunday School & Teens

Coffee Hour

Annual Parish Meeting 1 p.m.

1970 Clearview Road, Souderton, PA 18964

[www.st-philip.net](http://www.st-philip.net) (215) 721-4947

**Emails:** [office@st-philip.net](mailto:office@st-philip.net) [nbushelli@gmail.com](mailto:nbushelli@gmail.com) [frjamesthayer@gmail.com](mailto: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 (Oct 29):
COFFEE HOUR	Chebeleu & Fadel families	Bagel Sunday
PROSPHORA BREAD:	John Child	Kristi Moore
ALTAR CANDLES:	Shaheen In Memory of Laurence	Gohls — Justin b-day
USHERS:	Bill H. & Sdn John	Steve K. & Dan M.
CLEANING TEAM:	Serge, Alex, Sarah Kaminsky	Gambles & Teens
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	Kendra; Felicia	Sh Hannah; Tatiana; Christian/Zach W; Zach F

### Mark Your Calendar:

#### Current Education Opportunities:

Bible Study on Romans  
Thursdays after Slavic Tones  
Vespers

Catechumen & Inquirer Class  
5pm Saturdays before Vespers

Book Discussion on Gender Dysphoria  
5pm Saturdays before Vespers  
Sept 23 - Dec 9

Byzantine Notation Intro  
Saturdays, 5:00-6:20pm  
Sept 23 - Dec 16

#### Bp THOMAS Visit November 13-15

On Monday, Nov 13, we will have a catered banquet with Bp THOMAS for the 45th anniversary celebration of our parish. Donations toward building fund are welcome. Talk to Louise Shaheen for more details or to help.

#### St Philip Day November 14

Nativity Fast  
November 15 - December 24

### Pray For:

Living	Departed
Met. Onuphry and faithful of Ukraine	+Raymond
Faithful of Ethiopia	(October Parish Diptychs)
Pr. Andrew, family, & parishioners	+Steve
Kh. Joyce	+Marcella
Mary	+Mary
Child Timothy	+Dorothy
Xenia	+Katherine
George	+Milan
Ephrem	+Maria
Nicole	+Alex
Raymond	+Gus
Patrick	+Theodore
Doris	+Mary
John	+John
James	+Alfred-Anthony
Helen	+Else
Wadieh	+Ayele
Mary	+Laurence
Victoria	
Alexandra	
Steve	
Lasha	
Otari	
John	
Tatiana	
Jesse, Nathan, Hannah, Elizabeth, & all Missionaries	
Nathan & family, John, & all seminarians	
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>
	Evan
	Lucretia
	Ryan
	Alina
	Nicholas,
	Rachel, Luka,
	& Leo
	Michael
	Tiffany
	Caden
	Keith, Maggie,
	& Eli
	Andrew
	Daniel
	Kassandra
	Christian

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

## 40 Days of Growth in Stewardship has begun!

Theme: "He who sows sparingly will reap sparingly ..." (2 Cor 9:6)

~ ~ Please Submit Your 2024 Pledge! ~ ~

### This Week:

<b>Mon, Oct 23:</b>	Office open
<b>Tues, Oct 24:</b>	Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1 p.m.
<b>Wed, Oct 25:</b>	Office Open Compline & Patristic Reading 6:30 p.m.
<b>Thurs, Oct 26:</b>	Divine Liturgy (Girls choir) 8 a.m. Slavic Tone Vespers 6:30 p.m. Bible Study on Romans 7:15 p.m.
<b>Fri, Oct 27:</b>	Office open Icon Studio Paraklesis 6:30 p.m.
<b>Sat, Oct 28:</b>	Teen Event 4:30 p.m. Catechumen & Inquirer Class 5 p.m. Byzantine Notation Intro 5 p.m. Book Discussion on Gender Dysphoria 5:15pm <b>Great VESPERS 6:30 p.m.</b> Confessions 7:30 p.m.
<b>Sun, Oct 29:</b>	<b>ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.</b> <b>Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.</b> Sunday School & Teens Coffee Hour

### OCTOBER OUTREACH COLLECTION: Bath & Shower Products

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

**ATTENDANCE:** Vespers for Oct 14: 59    Divine Services Oct 15: NA  
**OFFERINGS 10/15:** Candles, \$199.50. Collections, \$346.76. Youth, \$1. Book Shelf Ministry, \$30. Building Fund, \$100. Icon Studio, \$400. Needy Fund, \$497.52. Pastoral Discretion, \$25. Stewardship, \$11,073.62. Total received: \$12,673.40.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!