

Nun-Martyr Eugenia of Rome (Dec 24)

The Holy Martyr Eugenia, was a Roman by birth. She lived at Alexandria, where her father Philip was sent by the emperor Commodus (180-192) to be Prefect of Egypt. Eugenia received a fine upbringing and was noted for her beauty and good disposition. Many illustrious youths sought her hand, but she did not wish to marry anyone, for she was determined to preserve her virginity.



Providentially, she became acquainted with the Epistles of the Apostle Paul. She yearned with all her soul to become a Christian, but kept this a secret from her parents. At that time, Christians were banished from Alexandria by the command of the emperor. Wishing to learn more about Christian teachings, she asked permission to visit one of the family estates outside the city, supposedly to enjoy the countryside. She left in the company of her two servants Protus and Hyacinthus, dressed in men's clothes. She and her companions were baptized at a certain monastery by Bishop Elias (July 14), who learned about her in a vision. He blessed her to pursue asceticism at the monastery disguised as the monk Eugene.

By her ascetic labors, Saint Eugenia acquired the gift of healing. Once, a rich young woman named Melanthia turned to her for help. Seeing "Eugene," this woman burned with an impure passion, and when she was spurned, she falsely accused the saint of attempted rape. Saint Eugenia came to trial before the Prefect of Egypt (her father), and she was forced to reveal her secret. Her parents and brothers rejoiced to find the one for whom they had long grieved.

After a while they all accepted holy Baptism. But Philip, after being denounced by pagans, was dismissed from his post. The Alexandrian Christians chose him as their bishop. The new Prefect, fearing the wrath of the people, did not dare to execute Philip openly, but sent assassins to kill him. They inflicted wounds upon Saint Philip while he was praying, from which he died three days later.

Saint Claudia went to Rome with her sons, daughter, and her servants. There Saint Eugenia continued with monastic life, and brought many young women to Christ. Claudia built a wanderers' hostel and aided the poor. After several peaceful years, the emperor Galienus (260-268) intensified the persecution against Christians, and many of them found refuge with Saints Claudia and Eugenia. ...

Continue reading at <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2023/12/24/103631-nun-martyr-eugenia-of-rome>



ST. PHILIP ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the
Antiochian Archdiocese

His Eminence Metropolitan SABA



His Grace Bishop THOMAS



Father Noah Bushelli, Pastor

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December 24, 2023

SUNDAY BEFORE THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

COMMEMORATIONS:

EUGENIA THE RIGHTEOUS NUN-MARTYR OF ROME
AND THOSE WITH HER

Tone 4 - Eothion 7

Orthros Gospel: St. John 20:1-10

Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40

Liturgy Gospel: St. Matthew 1:1-25

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!

APOLYTIKION FOR THE PARAMON OF THE NATIVITY - Tone 4 - As the fruit of David's seed, Mary was registered of old * with the Elder Joseph in the little town of Bethlehem, * when she conceived with a seedless and pure conception. * Behold, the time was come that she should bear her Child, * but no place was found within the inn for them; * yet the cave proved a delightful palace * for the pure Lady and Queen of all. * For Christ is born now to raise the image that had fallen aforesaid.

TODAY: ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.

Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.

Coffee Hour

Nativity Vigil – Vespers 8pm, Orthros 9:30pm, Liturgy 11pm

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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 (Dec 31):
COFFEE HOUR:	Bagel Sunday	Bagel Sunday
PROSPHORA BREAD:	John Child	Sdn Justin
ALTAR CANDLES:	Ken Hedrick – Mother’s 55th anniv.	Chebeleu – Sophia’s 21st b-day
USHERS:	Steve K. & Bill H.	Todd M. & Radu C.
CLEANING TEAM:	Karsten B; Tyson H; Teens	Hertzlers; Nick T.; Zach F.
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	Chris; Mariya; Laura; Eric	Calvin; Dale; Ginny/John

Mark Your Calendar:

Theophany

Friday, Jan 5

Royal Hours 10 a.m.

Vesperal Liturgy 6:30pm

Great Blessing of Water 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan 6

Orthros 8:45am

Divine Liturgy 10am

Great Blessing of Water

Presentation of the Lord

Friday, Feb 2

Pascha 2024

May 5, 2024

We live from Pascha to Paschal!

Save the Date!

2024 Parish Life Conference

June 27-30, 2024

DECEMBER OUTREACH COLLECTION:

Turkeys & Hams

CHALLENGE FOR 2023:

“You are the Salt of the Earth”

Pray For:

Living	Departed
N.I. Simona Petra	+George
Faithful of the Holy Land	+Paul
Met. Onuphry and faithful of Ukraine	(December Parish Diptychs)
Faithful of Ethiopia	+Joseph
Pr. Andrew, family, & parishioners	+Richard
Kh. Joyce	+Mary
Mary	+Demetrius
Child Timothy	(Jim)
Xenia	+Katherine
George	+Nicholas
Ephrem	+Gabremariam
Nicole	+Assaad
Patrick	+Doris
Doris	+(Michael)
John	+Barbara
James	+Fred Andrew
Helen	
Wadieh	
Mary	
Victoria	
Steve	
Lasha	
Otari	
John	
Tatiana	
Anesia	
Linda	
Daria	
Pavlo	
Elena	
Xenia	
Derek	
Michael	
Linda	

Catechumens

Lucretia
Ryan
Alina
Nicholas,
Rachel, Luka,
& Leo
Michael
Caden
Keith, Maggie,
& Eli
Andrew
Daniel
Kassandra
Christian

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

40 Days of Growth in Stewardship has concluded!

“He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly ...” (2 Cor 9:6)

To date, we have 78 pledges totaling 79.6% of our goal.

~ ~ **Please Submit Your 2024 Pledge!** ~ ~

This Week:

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!

- Mon, Dec 25:** Office closed
Vespers 12 p.m.
- Tues, Dec 26:** Synaxis of the Theotokos
Orthros 9 a.m. & Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.
Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1 p.m.
- Wed, Dec 27:** Office closed
Nativity Vespers 6:30 p.m.
- Thur, Dec 28:** ----
- Fri, Dec 29:** Office closed
Akathist 6:30 p.m. **** at the Moody’s ****
73 S. Dietz Mill Rd, Telford, PA
- Sat, Dec 30:** Great VESPERS 6:30 p.m.
Confessions 7:30 p.m.
- Sun, Dec 31:** ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.
Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.
Coffee Hour
Vespers & Artoklasia 6:30 p.m.
Talent Show 7:30 p.m.
New Years Prayers 9:30 p.m.
- Mon, Jan 1:** CIRCUMCISION & ST. BASIL
Orthros 8:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.

ATTENDANCE: Vespers for Dec 16: 81 Divine Services Dec 17: 228
OFFERINGS 12/17: Candles, \$373. Collections, \$671.87. Flowers, \$35. Youth, \$1. Book Shelf Ministry, \$40. Building Fund, \$250. Christmas Card Fund, \$540. Classical School Fund, \$1,000. Food for Hungry, \$50. Mission Chapel, \$100. Needy Fund, \$200. Ukraine Outreach, \$1,531. Stewardship, \$12,450. Total received: \$17,241.87.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!