

## Saint Maximus the Confessor (Jan 21)

... In the Greek Prologue, August 13 commemorates the Transfer of the Relics of Saint Maximus to Constantinople, but it could also be the date of the saint's death. It may be that his memory is celebrated on January 21 because August 13 is the Leavetaking of the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord.

Saint Maximus has left to the Church a great theological legacy. His exegetical works contain explanations of difficult passages of Holy Scripture, and include a Commentary on the Lord's Prayer and on Psalm 59, various "scholia" or "marginalia" (commentaries written in the margin of manuscripts), on treatises of the Hieromartyr Dionysius the Areopagite (October 3) and Saint Gregory the Theologian (January 25). Among the exegetical works of Saint Maximus are his explanation of divine services, entitled "Mystagogia" ("Introduction Concerning the Mystery").

The dogmatic works of Saint Maximus include the Exposition of his dispute with Pyrrhus, and several tracts and letters to various people. In them are contained explanations of the Orthodox teaching on the Divine Essence and the Persons of the Holy Trinity, on the Incarnation of the Word of God, and on "theosis" ("deification") of human nature.

"Nothing in theosis is the product of human nature," Saint Maximus writes in a letter to his friend Thalassius, "for nature cannot comprehend God. It is only the mercy of God that has the capacity to endow theosis unto the existing... In theosis man (the image of God) becomes likened to God, he rejoices in all the plenitude that does not belong to him by nature, because the grace of the Spirit triumphs within him, and because God acts in him" (Letter 22).

Saint Maximus also wrote anthropological works (i.e. concerning man). He deliberates on the nature of the soul and its conscious existence after death. Among his moral compositions, especially important is his "Chapters on Love." Saint Maximus the Confessor also wrote three hymns in the finest traditions of church hymnography, following the example of Saint Gregory the Theologian.

The theology of Saint Maximus the Confessor, based on the spiritual experience of the knowledge of the great Desert Fathers, and utilizing the skilled art of dialectics worked out by pre-Christian philosophy, was continued and developed in the works of Saint Simeon the New Theologian (March 12), and Saint Gregory Palamas (November 14).

*Text & icon from <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/01/21/100249-venerable-maximus-the-confessor>*



## 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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## January 21, 2024

### TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

#### COMMEMORATIONS:

MAXIMUS THE CONFESSOR  
MARTYRS NEOPHYTOS, AGNES, PATROCLUS, MAXIMUS  
THE GREEK AND EUGENE OF TREBIZOND  
NEOPHYTOS THE MARTYR OF NICAEA  
VENERABLE ZOSIMAS, BISHOP OF SYRACUSE IN SICILY

**Tone 8 - Eothion 11**

**Orthros Gospel: St. John 21:14-25**

**Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11**

**Liturgy Gospel: St. Luke 17:12-19**

**TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION - Tone 8 -** From the heights Thou didst descend, O Compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion. Thou art our Life and our Resurrection, O Lord. Glory to Thee!

**APOLYTIKION OF ST. MAXIMOS THE CONFESSOR - Tone 8 -** Thou hast shown thyself, O God-inspired Maximos, as a guide to the Orthodox Faith, a teacher of true worship and purity; O star of the universe and companion of the bishops, O wise one. Through thy light thou hast enlightened all, O harp of the spirit. Therefore, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

**TODAY:** ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.  
Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.  
Memorial for Rdr Nagib Khalifa – Memory Eternal!  
Sunday School  
Coffee Hour  
Choir Rehearsal

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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 (Jan 28):
COFFEE HOUR:	Khalifa Memorial Meal	Nedelcoviciu Memorial Meal
PROSPHORA BREAD:	Gabi & Catalin Tinjala	John Child
ALTAR CANDLES:	Schneider — Calvin's birthday	----
USHERS:	Bill H. & Steve K.	Steve K. & Dan M.
CLEANING TEAM:	Moodys; Natalia M.; Jocey J.	Catechumens & Karsten B.
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	Myriam; Conor M.; Daniel C.	Mariya; Laura S.; Eric M.

### Mark Your Calendar:

#### Presentation of the Lord

*Thursday, Feb 1*

6:30 pm Vespers & Artoklasia;  
Candle Blessing

*Friday, Feb 2*

9:00 am Orthros  
10:00 am Liturgy & Candle  
Blessing  
11:30 am Fish/Wine/Oil Potluck

#### Pascha 2024

May 5, 2024

We live from Pascha to Pascha!

*Save the Date!*

#### 2024 Parish Life Conference

June 27-30, 2024

**JANUARY OUTREACH  
COLLECTION:  
Oral Care Products**

### Pray For:

Living	Departed
Faithful of the Holy Land Met. Onuphry and faithful of Ukraine Faithful of Ethiopia Pr. Andrew, family, & parishioners Kh. Joyce Mary Child Timothy Xenia George Ephrem Nicole Patrick Doris John James Helen Wadieh Mary Victoria Steve Lasha Otari John Tatiana Anesia Linda Daria Pavlo Elena Xenia Derek Michael Linda Carmen  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	(January Parish Diptychs) +George +Pedrag +Mimi +Helen +Christopher +Nagib +Julia  <u>Catechumens</u> Lucretia Ryan Alina Nicholas, Rachel, Luka, & Leo Michael Caden Keith, Maggie, & Eli Andrew Daniel Kassandra Christian David, Darby, & Easton

## 40 Days of Growth in Stewardship:

**To date, we have 99 pledges totaling 98.7% of our goal!**

### This Week:

- Mon, Jan 22:** *Office open*  
Parish Council 7:30 p.m.
- Tues, Jan 23:** Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1 p.m.
- Wed, Jan 24:** *Office open*  
Little Compline & Patristic Reading 6:30 p.m.
- Thur, Jan 25:** Vespers (Slavic tones) 6:30 p.m.  
Bible Study: Romans 7:30 p.m.
- Fri, Jan 26:** *Office open*  
Holy Unction (fast in prep) 6:30 p.m.  
Fasting Refreshments 7:30 p.m.
- Sat, Jan 27:** Catechumen Class 5 p.m.  
Book Study: "Bad Religion" 5:15 p.m.  
**Great VESPERS 6:30 p.m.**  
Confessions 7:30 p.m.
- Sun, Jan 28:** *Liturgy at Fort Washington Mission 9am*  
**ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.**  
**Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.**  
One-Year Memorial for Gheorghe N.  
Coffee Hour & Sunday School  
Choir Rehearsal

**ATTENDANCE:** Vespers Jan 13: 68      Divine Services Jan 14: 217  
 Wed Vespers: 29      Thurs Liturgy: 20  
**OFFERINGS 1/14:** Candles, \$278. Collections, \$835.52. Book Shelf Ministry, \$311. Crafty Kids Fund, \$25. Hospitality Fund, \$140. Mission Chapel, \$70. Mortgage Reduction, \$150. Pastoral Discretion, \$35.02. One-Time Projects, \$150. Stewardship, \$7,571.03. Total received: \$9,565.57.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!