

## Saint Tarasius, Archbishop of Constantinople (Feb 25)

Saint Tarasius, Patriarch of Constantinople was of illustrious lineage. He was born and raised in Constantinople, where he received a fine education. He was rapidly promoted at the court of the emperor Constantine VI Porphyrogenitos (780-797) and Constantine's mother, the holy Empress Irene (August 7), and the saint attained the rank of senator.

During these times the Church was agitated by the turmoil of the Iconoclast disturbances. The holy Patriarch Paul (August 30) although he had formerly supported Iconoclasm, later repented and resigned his office. He withdrew to a monastery, where he took the schema. When the holy Empress Irene and her son the emperor came to him, Saint Paul told them that the most worthy successor to him would be Saint Tarasius (who at this time was still a layman).

Tarasius refused for a long time, not considering himself worthy of such high office, but he then gave in to the common accord on the condition, that an Ecumenical Council be convened to address the Iconoclast heresy.

Proceeding through all the clerical ranks in a short while, Saint Tarasius was elevated to the patriarchal throne in the year 784. In the year 787 the Seventh Ecumenical Council was convened in the city of Nicea, with Patriarch Tarasius presiding, and 367 bishops attending. The veneration of holy icons was confirmed at the council. Those bishops who repented of their iconoclasm, were again received by the Church.

Saint Tarasius wisely governed the Church for twenty-two years. He led a strict ascetic life. He spent all his money on God-pleasing ends, feeding and giving comfort to the aged, to the impoverished, to widows and orphans, and on Holy Pascha he set out a meal for them, and he served them himself.

The holy Patriarch fearlessly denounced the emperor Constantine Porphyrogenitos when he slandered his spouse, the empress Maria, the granddaughter of Saint Philaretos the Merciful (December 1), so that he could send Maria to a monastery, thus freeing him to marry his own kinswoman. Saint Tarasius resolutely refused to dissolve the marriage of the emperor, for which the saint fell into disgrace. Soon, however, Constantine was deposed by his own mother, the Empress Irene.

Saint Tarasius died in the year 806. Before his death, devils examined his life from the time of his youth, and they tried to get the saint to admit to sins that he had not committed. "I am innocent of that of which you accuse me," replied the saint, "and you falsely slander me. You have no power over me at all."

Mourned by the Church, the saint was buried in a monastery he built on the Bosphorus. Many miracles took place at his tomb.

Text & icon from <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/02/25/100605-saint-tarasius-archbishop-of-constantinople>



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



## 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

## February 25, 2024

### SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN & PHARISEE

#### COMMEMORATIONS:

TARASIIUS, PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPE  
REGINOS, BISHOP OF SKOPELOS  
HOLY MARTYR ALEXANDER OF THRACE  
MARKELLOS, BISHOP OF APAMEA

**Tone 5 - Eothinon 5**

**Orthros Gospel: St. Luke 24:12-35**

**Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15**

**Liturgy Gospel: St. Luke 18:10-14**

**TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION - Tone 5 -** Let us believers praise and worship the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation; for he took pleasure in ascending the cross in the flesh, to suffer death, and to raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

**KONTAKION FOR THE PUBLICAN & PHARISEE - Tone 3 -** Let us flee the Pharisee's \* conceited vaunting; \* let us learn the Publican's \* humility, and cry with groans \* unto the Savior: Thou Who alone \* art swiftly reconciled, be gracious unto us.

**TODAY:** *Liturgy at Fort Washington Mission 9am*

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

**Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.**

**Sunday School**

**Donation Luncheon Coffee Hour —  
for Camp Scholarship Fund**

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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 (Mar 3):
COFFEE HOUR:	Camp Scholarship Donation	Kyriakos – Memorial for Nicole
PROSPHORA BREAD:	John Child	Gabi & Catalin Tinjala
ALTAR CANDLES:	----	----
USHERS:	Dan M. & Radu C.	Todd M. & Bill H.
CLEANING TEAM:	Teens; Tyson H; Karsten B	Hertzers; Nick T; Zach F.
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	Kendra; Felicia; Mike L; Maggie; Caden	Sh Hannah; Sze Man; Christian; Zach W; Zach F

### Mark Your Calendar:

#### Lenten Triodion:

Mar 3 – *Prodigal Son*

Mar 10 – *Judgment Sunday (Meatfare)*

*Meatfare Donation Luncheon for  
Widowed Clergy-Wives Endowment Fund*  
Sponsored by Women of St. Mariamne

Mar 17 – *Forgiveness Sunday  
(Cheesefare)*

Feast of Annunciation  
*Monday, Mar 25*

Lenten Retreat @ St. Philip  
*April 5-6*

Pascha 2024  
*May 5*

We live from Pascha to Pascha!

*Save the Date!*  
2024 Parish Life Conference  
*June 27-30, 2024*

**FEBRUARY OUTREACH  
COLLECTION:**  
**Paper Products**

#### Pray For:

Living	Departed
Met. Sergei Abbess Dimitria & Sisters Faithful of the Holy Land Met. Onuphry and faithful of Ukraine Faithful of Ethiopia & Eritrea Pr. Andrew, family, & parishioners Kh. Joyce Mary Child Timothy Xenia George Ephrem Maria Patrick Doris John James Helen Wadieh Mary Victoria Steve Lasha Otari John Tatiana Anesia Linda Daria Pavlo Elena Xenia Derek Michael Leah Stefan David Yianni Jesse, Nathan, Hannah, Elizabeth, Mary, & 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	Nicole Christina Constantine Nugzari AP Moses Pr. Ivan  (February Parish Diptychs) +Frank +Kristina +John +Steve +John +Hertanse +Thomas +Wendy Susanna  <u>Catechumens</u> Lucretia Ryan Alina Nicholas, Rachel, Luka, & Leo Michael Caden Keith, Maggie, & Eli Andrew Daniel Kassandra Christian David, Darby, & Easton

### Giving Opportunities at St. Philip

- + The **NEEDY FUND** is depleted. Please consider making a special offering to replenish it!
- + Our supply of (**classic**) **OLIVE OIL** is running very low. Donations are greatly appreciated! Place under icon of St. Thekla.

Thank you and may God bless your generosity!

### This Week:

**Mon, Feb 26:** *Office open*

Parish Council 7:30 p.m.

**Tues, Feb 27:** Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1 p.m.

**Wed, Feb 28:** *Office open*

Little Compline & Patristic Reading 6:30 p.m.

**Thur, Feb 29:** Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.

Vespers (Slavic Tones) 6:30 p.m.

Bible Study: Romans 7:30 p.m.

**Fri, Mar 1:** *Office open*

Paraklesis 6:30 p.m.

**Sat, Mar 2:** Men's Fellowship Breakfast 8 a.m.

Baptism (Kurtz) 10:30 a.m.

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, Mar 3:** **ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.**

**Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.**

40-Day Trisagion – Nicole Kyriakos

Coffee Hour & Sunday School

Women of St. Mariamne

**ATTENDANCE:** Vespers 2/17: 48      Liturgy 2/18: 215  
**OFFERINGS 2/18:** Candles, \$327. Collections, \$1,018. Book Shelf  
 Ministry, \$30. Classical School Fund, \$100. Food for Hungry, \$25.  
 Hospitality Fund, \$94. Mortgage Fund, \$150. Needy Fund, \$1,275.  
 Stewardship, \$13,082. Total received: \$16,101.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!