

Martyrs Rufinus the Deacon, Aquilina, and 200 soldiers with them at Sinope

(April 7)

After the Emperors Diocletian and Maximian abdicated in 305, Maximinus Daia was elevated to the rank of Caesar and was given the eastern provinces and Egypt to govern. He continued Diocletian's severe persecution of Christians, and in 306 he issued an edict requiring every man, woman, and child to offer sacrifice to the pagan "gods." Even babies were forced to eat the flesh of sacrificial victims, whose blood was sprinkled on every item sold in the markets.

When Maximinus became Emperor in 310, Rufinus, a deacon of the Church at Sinope (Σινώπη) on the Black Sea, was converting many people to Christianity. For this reason, he was arrested and imprisoned.

A noble Christian woman named Aquilina was also arrested and put in jail because she visited Rufinus and took care of him. Both Saints were brought before a judge, who ordered that they be subjected to horrible torments after they had confessed their faith in Christ. Finally, Saint Rufinus was beheaded, and Saint Aquilina received the crown of martyrdom by fire. Her hands were tied behind her back while her stomach was burned, thereby causing her death.

After witnessing the suffering and the miracles of Saints Rufinus and Aquilina, 200 soldiers were converted to Christ, by the grace of God. The infuriated ruler ordered that every one of them be put to death. They were bound and led to the place of execution, where all the martyrs were beheaded and received their incorruptible crowns of glory from the Lord.

Text & icon <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/04/07/101019-martyrs-rufinus-the-deacon-aquilina-and-200-soldiers-with-them-a>



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

April 7, 2024

VENERATION OF THE PRECIOUS
AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS

COMMEMORATIONS:

CALLIOPUS AND AKYLINA THE MARTYRS
GEORGE, BISHOP OF MYTILENE
GERASIMOS THE GOD-BEARER OF BYZANTIUM
RIGHTEOUS FATHER SAVVAS THE NEW OF KALYMNOS
TIKHON, PATRIARCH OF MOSCOW AND ENLIGHTENER
OF NORTH AMERICA

Tone 3 - Eothion 11

Orthros Gospel: St. John 21:14-25

Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6

Liturgy Gospel: St. Mark 8:34-9:1

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!

KONTAKION FOR SUNDAYS IN GREAT LENT - Tone 8 - To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror; but as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free: from all forms of danger free me and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom.

TODAY: ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.
Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.
Sunday School & Coffee Hour
Life of Christ Choir Concert 1:30 p.m.

Welcome, Fr. James & Kh. Linda Ellison!

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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 (Apr 14):
COFFEE HOUR:	Catechumen Class	Zemelak Family
PROSPHORA BREAD:	Kristi Moore	Gabriela P; Gabi & Catalin T
ALTAR CANDLES:	Gamble family – Natalie's bday	----
USHERS:	Steve K. & Radu C.	Todd M. & Chris H.
CLEANING TEAM:	Moores; Kim B; Frank & Monica	Gohls; Olena; Midena
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	Kendra M.	Sh Hannah; Tatians; Christian; Zach W; Zach F

Mark Your Calendar:

Lenten Triodion:

Apr 14 – *Sunday of St. John Climacus*
 Apr 21 – *Sunday of St Mary of Egypt*
 Apr 28 – *Palm Sunday*

Pascha 2024

May 5, 2024

We live from Pascha to Pascha!

Save the Date!

2024 Parish Life Conference

June 27-30, 2024

Giving Opportunities at St. Philip

✦ The **NEEDY FUND** is depleted.
 Please consider making a special offering to replenish it!

Thank you and may God bless your generosity!

APRIL OUTREACH COLLECTION:

Cleaning Supplies

Pray For:

Living	Departed
Faithful of the Holy Land	Newly Departed
Met. Onuphry and faithful of Ukraine	Shota
Faithful of Ethiopia & Eritrea	Marina
Pr. Andrew, family, & parishioners	Tesfeja
Kh. Joyce	Edward
George	(April Parish Diptychs)
Maria	+Vasilios
Patrick	+Frederick
Doris	+Mary
John	+Vaseleka
James	+Carl
Victoria	+Nieme
Steve	+Mary
Lasha	+Haydieh
Otari	+Justin
Tatiana	+Calin
Linda	+Stavros
Zerfenesh	
John	
Angeliki	
Chelsea-Nina	
Zotikos	
Salome	
Michael	
Xenia	

Catechumens

Jesse, Nathan, Hannah, Elizabeth, Mary, & all Missionaries	Nicholas, Luka, & Leo
Nathan & family, John, & all seminarians	Keith, Maggie, & Eli
New & Expectant Mothers & their children	Andrew
For the people of our land, and their repentance, healing & unity	Caden
The 12 Baskets Full team asks for prayers for our homeless Philly friends – George, Bill, Jim, Jalil, Mark, Joel, Eric	Lucretia
	Ryan
	Michael
	Daniel
	Kassandra
	Christian
	David, Darby, & Easton
	Rose
	Jasper
	Bryson

YOUR FLOWER OFFERINGS support the beautification of our church during this holy season. Flower offering envelopes are available on the literature table in the Narthex. Thank you!

This Week:

Great Lent continues!

- Mon, Apr 8:** *Office open*
 Great Compline 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, Apr 9:** Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1 p.m.
- Wed, Apr 10:** *Office open*
 Presanctified Liturgy (Youth Choir) 6:30 p.m.
- Thur, Apr 11:** Lenten Vespers 6:30 p.m.
 Bible Study: Romans 7:30 p.m.
- Fri, Apr 12:** *Office open*
 Presanctified Liturgy 10 a.m.
 Compline & Akathist 6:30 p.m.
 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.
- Sat, Apr 13:** Catechumen Class 5:30 p.m.
Great VESPERS 6:30 p.m.
 Confessions 7:30 p.m.
- Sun, Apr 14:** **ST. JOHN CLIMACUS**
Liturgy at Fort Washington Mission 9am
ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.
Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.
 Coffee Hour & Sunday School

ATTENDANCE: Vespers 3/30: 69

Liturgy 3/31: 226

Wed PreSanctified: 97

Fri PreSanctified: 51

OFFERINGS 3/31: Candles, \$613. Collections, \$767.24. Book Shelf Ministry, \$37. Building Fund, \$50. Camping Fund, \$1,000. Classical School Fund, \$1,200. Honorarium Fund, \$3,000. Needy Fund, \$2,150. Teen Fund, \$2,120. One-Time Projects, \$100. Stewardship, \$7,525. Total received: \$18,562.24. Cemetery Account, \$2,100.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!