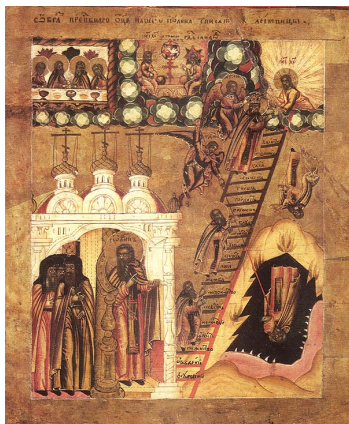


## 4th Sunday of Great Lent: St John Climacus

(April 14)

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is dedicated to Saint John Klimakos, the author of *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*. In this book the Igoumen of Saint Katherine's Monastery on Mount Sinai bears witness to the great effort which is required for entry into God's Kingdom (Matthew 10:12). The spiritual struggle of the Christian life is difficult since it is "not against flesh and blood, but against ... the rulers of the present darkness ... the hosts of wickedness in heavenly places ..." (Ephesians 6:12). Saint John encourages the faithful in their efforts for, as the Lord has said, only "he who endures to the end will be saved" (Matthew 24:13).



Saint John was born around the year 525, the son of devout and wealthy parents. He received a very good education, but at the age of sixteen, he forsook the world and went to Mount Sinai, subjecting himself to the spiritual guidance of Elder Martyrios. When he was nineteen years of age, his Elder reposed. Then Saint John entered the arena of hesychasm, visiting the monastic communities of Skētē and Tabénnisē in Egypt. For another forty years, he lived in a cell at Thora in the Sinai Desert, which was a two hour (5 mile) walk from the Monastery of Saint Katherine.

Aflame with indescribable longing for God, he ate everything that was permitted by the monastic Rule, but only in very small quantities, and not unto satiety. By so doing, he overcame the vice of pride; and by eating just a little food, he humbled the stomach, which always wants more. He raised his body from death and paralysis by the remembrance of death, and he overcame the tyranny of anger with the sword of obedience.

Who can describe the fountain of his tears, which is now to be seen in very few individuals? He slept only as much as was necessary to prevent his mind from being distracted. Before going to sleep he prayed a great deal, and he also wrote books. This was how he subdued despondency. His entire life was spent in unceasing prayer, and incomparable love for God.

After writing *The Ladder* at the request of Igoumen John of Raithu Monastery, and leading a God-pleasing life, Saint John fell asleep in the Lord when he was about seventy-five years old (ca. 603). He is also commemorated on March 30.

Text & icon <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/04/14/16-4th-sunday-of-great-lent-st-john-climacus-of-the-ladder>



### 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 14, 2024

ST. JOHN CLIMACUS

#### COMMEMORATIONS:

ARISTARCHUS, PUDENS, TROPHIMUS THE APOSTLES OF  
THE 70  
THOMAS THE MARTYR OF ALEXANDRIA  
ARDALION THE ACTOR AND MARTYR  
DEMETRIOS THE NEW-MARTYR OF ARCADIA

**Tone 4 - Eothion 1**

**Orthros Gospel: St. Matthew 28:16-20**

**Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20**

**Liturgy Gospel: St. Mark 9:17-31**

**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 OF ST. JOHN CLIMACUS - Tone 8 -** The barren wilderness thou didst make fertile with the streams of thy tears; and by thy deep sighing thou hast given fruit through thy struggles a hundredfold. Accordingly, thou hast become a star for the universe, sparkling with miracles. Therefore, O righteous Father John Climacus, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

**TODAY:** *Liturgy at Fort Washington Mission 9am*  
ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.  
Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.  
Sunday School & Coffee Hour

1970 Clearview Road, Souderton, PA 18964

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

**Emails:** office@st-philip.net nbushelli@gmail.com 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:

	<b>This Week:</b>	<b>Next Week (Apr 21):</b>
COFFEE HOUR:	Zemelak Family	The Mary's of St. Philip
PROSPHORA BREAD:	Gabriela P; Gabi & Catalin T	Rachel C.; Gabi & Catalin T
ALTAR CANDLES:	----	Shaheen — Memory Eternal, Larry
USHERS:	Todd M. & Chris H.	Sdn John & Bill H.
CLEANING TEAM:	Gohls; Olena; Midena	Serge, Alex, & Sarah Kaminsky
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	Sh Hannah; Tatians; Christian; Zach W; Zach F	Myriam; Conor; Daniel

### Mark Your Calendar:

#### Lenten Triodion:

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

#### 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	+Niemeh
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

### 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

**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 15:** *Office open*  
Great Compline 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, Apr 16:** Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1 p.m.  
Great Compline & Great Canon 6:30 p.m.
- Wed, Apr 17:** *Office open*  
Presanctified Liturgy 6:30 p.m.
- Thur, Apr 18:** Lenten Vespers 6:30 p.m.  
Bible Study: Romans 7:30 p.m.
- Fri, Apr 19:** *Office open*  
Presanctified Liturgy 10 a.m.  
Compline & Akathist 6:30 p.m.
- Sat, Apr 20:** Catechumen Class 5 p.m.  
**Great VESPERS 6:30 p.m.**  
Confessions 7:30 p.m.
- Sun, Apr 21:** **Sunday of St Mary of Egypt**  
**ORTHROS 8:45 a.m.**  
**Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.**  
Coffee Hour & Sunday School

**ATTENDANCE:** Vespers 4/6: NA                      Liturgy 4/7: 255  
Wed PreSanctified: 101                      Fri PreSanctified: 41

**OFFERINGS 4/7:** Candles, \$501. Collections, \$648.42. Book Shelf Ministry, \$49. Camping Fund, \$127. Choir Fund, \$430. Needy Fund, \$220. Pastoral Discretion, \$97.52. Teen Fund, \$180. Stewardship, \$6,981.81. Total received: \$9,234.75.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!