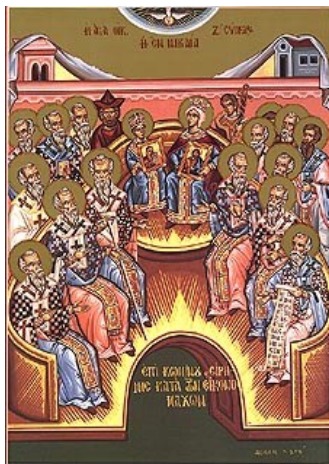


## Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council

Today the Holy Church commemorates the 350 God-bearing Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council, held in 787 under the holy Patriarch Tarasius during the reign of the pious Empress Irene and her son Constantine VI.



Gathered in Nicaea, these holy Fathers refuted the Iconoclast heresy and restored to the faithful the veneration of the holy icons. The Council decreed that the veneration of icons is not idolatry, for the honor shown to the image passes to the prototype, the person depicted, and not to the material itself. As the Council proclaimed, since the Son of God took on flesh and was seen by men, He can be depicted. But the invisible Father, whom “no one has seen at any time” (John 1:18), cannot be portrayed in His divine essence.

The Synaxarion tells us that through the icons “the faith is proclaimed in colors as well as in words,” and that those who reject the holy images “deny the very mystery of the Incarnation.” The Prologue of Ohrid likewise praises these Fathers for preserving the living memory of Christ and His saints, teaching that “he who kisses the icon of the Savior kisses the Savior Himself in spirit.”

St. John of Damascus, the chief defender of the holy icons, gave us the immortal words: “I do not worship matter, but I worship the Creator of matter who became matter for my sake... who worked out my salvation through matter. Never will I cease honoring the matter through which my salvation was accomplished.”

In Greek usage, the Holy Fathers of the Seventh Council are commemorated on the Sunday nearest October 11; in the Slavic practice, the date is adjusted according to the weekday.

May their prayers preserve in us the true confession of the Incarnation and the veneration of Christ in His holy icons.

Text & Icon adapted from oca.org



## 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

**October 12, 2025**

## SUNDAY OF HOLY FATHERS OF SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

### COMMEMORATIONS:

PROBUS, ANDRONICUS, & TARACHUS, MARTYRS OF TARSUS,  
SYMEON THE NEW THEOLOGIAN, COSMAS THE  
HYMNOGRAPHER, BISHOP OF MAIUMA, DOMNINA THE  
MARTYR, WILFRID OF YORK

**Tone 1 - Eothinon 7**

**Orthros Gospel: St. John 20:1-10**

**Epistle: Titus 3:8-15**

**Liturgy Gospel: St. Luke 8:5-15**

**TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION - Tone 1 -** While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding thy most pure Body, thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto thee, O Giver of life: Glory to thy resurrection, O Christ! Glory to thy kingdom! Glory to thy providence, O thou who alone art the Lover of mankind!

**APOLYTIKION OF THE HOLY FATHERS - Tone 8 -** Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

### TODAY:

- ◆ ORTHROS, 8:15 a.m.
- ◆ Ft. Washington Mission Chapel Liturgy, 9:00 a.m.
- ◆ DIVINE LITURGY, 9:30 a.m.
- ◆ Coffee Hour following Liturgy
- ◆ Eggers 50th Anniversary Blessing, 12:15 p.m.

1970 Clearview Road, Souderton, PA 18964

www.st-philip.net (215) 721-4947

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

Office Hours: Monday–Thursday 12:30pm - 5:00pm

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 (Oct. 19)
COFFEE HOUR:	Eggers Family	Catechumen & Inquirer's Class
PROSPHORA BREAD:	Gabriela P. & Macrina L.	John Child
ALTAR CANDLES:	Uman-Edwin's Name Day	Shaheen-Memory Eternal Larry
USHERS:	John N. & Mike T.	Dan M. & Radu C.
CLEANING TEAM:	Radu C., Mary T., Alex U.	Catechumen & Inquirer's Class
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	Kendra M., Matt S., Anthony V. John J.	Carolyn K., Eric M., Anders K., Liara P.

### Mark Your Calendar

**Parish Annual Meeting**  
*October 26 @ 1:00 p.m.*

**Feast of St. Raphael**  
*November 1*

**Bishop Thomas Visit**  
*November 10-17*

**The Feast of St. Philip is**  
**November 13:** Hierarchical Liturgy at 6:00 pm w/ the tonsure of Tim R. & Keith E. Followed by a Festal Potluck (last non-fasting meal before Advent)

**Nativity Fast Begins**  
*November 15*

**Advent Retreat**  
**Evangelism and Apologetics**  
w/ Fr Timothy Hojnicky  
*November 2*

#### Stewardship 2026

*"It is more blessed  
to give than to receive"*

Please pray about how you will grow in giving of your *time, talent & treasure*.

Please return your pledges (whether physical or online) **by St. Philip Day: November 14th.**

<https://tinyurl.com/stphilip2026>

### OCTOBER OUTREACH COLLECTION:

Bath & Shower Products

#### Pray For:

Living	Departed
Our Patriarch John and Faithful of Syria, and all the holy land	+Doris +Michael (October Parish)
Met. Onuphry and faithful of Ukraine	Diptychs) +Steve
Fathers of St Catherine Monastery on Mt Sinai	+Marcella
St Justin Academy	+Mary
Mission Chapel	+Dorothy +Milan
Tatiana	+Maria
Bethlehem and her family	+Alex +Gus
Ludmilla	+Theodore
Catherine	+Mary
Christine	+John
Maria	+Alfred
John	+Else
James	+Ayele
James	+Laurence
Ulrik	+Raymond
Steven	
Paraskevi	<u>Catechumens</u>
Anna	Ryan
Alexandra	Kassandra
Alexander	Jasper
Nectarios	Matthew
Charles	Mary
Jesse, Nathan, Hannah, Elizabeth, Mary, Michael, Xenia, & all Missionaries	Martin
Dn Nathan, Jacob, John, Irenaeus, Theophanes, Samuel, Darius & all seminarians and their families	Meghan-Photini John Steven
Those searching for houses, spouses, & jobs	Robert
Courting, Engaged, & Newly-Crowned Couples	Liara
Families struggling to conceive	Asher
Expectant and new mothers and their babies	Sarah
Those in mourning	Andrew
The people of our land, and for their repentance, healing & unity	Carolyn Martin & Gabriella James Anthony Slavek Nevada
	Josiah, Casie & Ray John Michael Daniel
	Christopher and Naila Adaelle

## This Week:

<b>Mon, Oct 13:</b>	Divine Liturgy, 6:30 a.m. Daily Vespers, 6:30 p.m.
<b>Tues, Oct 14:</b>	<b>NO LITURGY</b> Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1:00 p.m. Daily Vespers, 6:30 p.m.
<b>Wed, Oct 15:</b>	<b>NO LITURGY</b> Little Compline, 6:30 p.m. FOCUS Norristown, 7:00 p.m. Patristic Discussion, 7:15 p.m.
<b>Thurs, Oct 16:</b>	<b>NO LITURGY</b> Ask Abouna, 5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers, 6:30 p.m. Prayer Bible Study w/ Fr. Noah, 7:15 p.m. FOCUS: Aviator Park, 8:00 p.m.
<b>Fri, Oct 17:</b>	Divine Liturgy, 6:30 a.m. <b>Vigil for St. Luke:</b> -Holy Unction, 5:00 p.m. -Festal Vespers, 6:30 p.m. -Festal Orthros, 8:30 p.m. -Divine Liturgy, 10:30 p.m. -Breakfast, 12:00 a.m.
<b>Sat, Oct 18:</b>	Catechism Class, 4:30 p.m. Great Vespers, 6:00 p.m. Confessions, 7:00 p.m.
<b>Sun, Oct 19:</b>	Orthros & Confessions, 8:15 a.m. Ft. Washington Mission Chapel, 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, 9:30 a.m. Coffee Hour & Sunday School, 11:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, 12:30 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE:** Vespers (10/4): 91                      Divine Liturgy (10/5): 285  
Mission Chapel Attendance: 9/21: 58, 9/28: 54

**OFFERINGS (10/5):** Candles, \$302. Collections, \$1,530.51. Book Shelf Ministry, \$296. Mission Chapel, \$150. Pro-Life Ministry, \$2,500. Choir Fund, \$500. Stewardship, \$6,030.61. Pastoral Discretion: \$195.04. Building Fund: \$3,250. Total received: \$.14,754.26.

**THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**