

Hieromartyr Theopemptus, Bishop of Nicomedia, and Martyr Theonas

January 5

The Holy Martyrs Theopemptus and Theonas suffered in Nicomedia in the year 303. Saint Theopemptus was bishop in Nicomedia in the time of Diocletian. Speaking out against idolatry, he defended the faith in Christ. Because of this, he became one of the first victims of the Diocletian persecution.

The saint refused to obey the emperor's order to worship an idol of Apollo. Saint Theopemptus was thrown into a red-hot furnace, but by the power of God he remained alive. The emperor came to the furnace by night with a detachment of soldiers, and there he saw the saint alive and praying to God. Ascribing the miracle to magic, Diocletian thought to exhaust Saint Theopemptus by depriving him of food and drink for twenty-two days, but the martyr was preserved by the will of God.

The emperor brought the famous sorcerer Theonas to overcome Bishop Theopemptus' supposed magical power. Theonas prepared a poison for Saint Theopemptus, put it into a little cake, and offered it to him to eat. The poison did no harm at all to Saint Theopemptus. Then Theonas tried an even stronger poison on the martyr. Seeing that Saint Theopemptus remained unharmed, he came to believe in Christ. They threw him into prison together with the holy bishop, who taught and baptized him, giving him the name Synesios (which means "full of understanding").

At dawn Diocletian summoned Saint Theopemptus, and again tried to turn him to pagan impiety. Seeing that the bishop remained firm in his faith, he subjected him to many grievous tortures, after which the saint was beheaded. The holy martyr Theonas refused to offer sacrifice to idols, so he was buried alive in a deep ditch. This occurred at Nicomedia in the year 303.

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ST. PHILIP ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the
Antiochian Archdiocese

His Eminence Metropolitan SABA



His Grace Bishop THOMAS



Father Noah Bushelli, Pastor

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January 5, 2025

PARAMON (EVE) & SUNDAY
BEFORE THEOPHANY OF
CHRIST

COMMEMORATIONS:

THE HOLY MARTYRS THEOPEMPTUS AND
THEONAS, RIGHTEOUS SYNCLETIKE OF
ALEXANDRIA, GREGORY OF AKRITA,
APOLLINARIA OF EGYPT

FASTING DAY

Tone 3 - Eothinon 6
Orthros Gospel: St. Luke 24:36-53
Epistle: 2 Timothy 4:5-8
Liturgy Gospel: St. Mark 1:1-8

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!

APOLYTIKION FOR THE PARAMON (EVE) OF THEOPHANY -
Tone 4 - River Jordan was turned back by Elisseus' mantle once, when the fiery man of zeal Elias had been taken up; then were its waters divided hither and thither. The running streams became dry passage unto him, truly as a sign and type of Baptism, whereby we pass to the other side of the shifting stream of this fleeting life. Christ hath appeared in the Jordan River, to sanctify the waters.

TODAY:

ORTHROS 8:15 a.m.

Ft. Washington Mission Chapel 9:00 a.m.

Divine LITURGY 9:30 a.m.

Great Blessing of Water 11:15 a.m.

Sunday School & Coffee Hour following Liturgy

Great Vespers 6:00 p.m.

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Office Hours: Monday - 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 12):
COFFEE HOUR:	Bagels	?
PROSPHORA BREAD:	Kristi Moore	Gabriela & Rachel C.
ALTAR CANDLES:	<i>Please sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway.</i>	
USHERS:	Nick M. & Tom A.	John N. & Chris H.
CLEANING TEAM:	Teens	Nick T., Gabi T., Dave & Darby
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	Miriam K., Conor M., Daniel C., Laura S.	

Mark Your Calendar:

Meeting of Our Lord
February 2

Great Lent Begins
March 3

Annunciation of the Theotokos
March 25

Pascha
April 20
We live from Pascha to Pascha!

Stewardship 2025
Pledge cards can be found in the Narthex. Please fill out a card and drop in tithes box. Online pledges can be made at st-philip.net/stewardship



JANUARY OUTREACH COLLECTION:
Oral Care Products

Pray For:

Living	Departed
Our Patriarch John and Faithful of the Holy Land and Syria Met. Onuphry and faithful of Ukraine	+Eustathia +Brian-Costantine
Nl. Anna-Grace, Julie Olga, Livia Anne, Michael, David-Michael, Darby-Photini, Easton-Philip, Sergei Sophia Doris John James Steve Tatiana Elias Paraskevi Ludmilla Elizabeth Peter Mary John Anna Sophia	(January Parish Diptychs) +George +Predrag +Mimi +Helen +Christopher +Nagib +Julia +Nicole
Jesse, Nathan, Hannah, Elizabeth, Mary, & all Missionaries	<u>Catechumens</u> Lucretia Andrew Ryan Michael Kassandra Rose Jasper Bryson Catherine Matthew Matthew Mary Carol Morgan Meghan John Steven Bobby Timothy & Kristen and children Eliana, Adalyn, Benjamin, Joshua Liara Asher Sarah
Nathan, John, & all seminarians	
Those searching for spouses Engaged Couples	
Families trying to conceive Expectant mothers New mothers and their babies	
The people of our land, and for their repentance, healing & unity	

This Week (Office open everyday):

Mon, Jan 6: Holy Theophany
Orthros, 8:30 a.m.
Baptismal Liturgy-Mitchell Family, 9:30 a.m.
Great Blessing of Water, 11:00 a.m.
Sermon on the Mount Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.

Tues, Jan 7: Divine Liturgy, 7:00 a.m.
Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1 p.m.

Wed, Jan 8: Confessions, 6:00 p.m.
Little Compline, 6:30 p.m.

Thurs, Jan 9: Twelve Baskets Full Serving Night, 6:30 p.m.
Vespers, 6:30 p.m.
Revelation Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.

Fri, Jan 10: Confessions - 6:00 p.m.
Paraklesis - 6:30 p.m.

Sat, Jan 11: Catechumen Class, 4:30 p.m.
Great VESPERS, 6:00 p.m.
Confessions, 7:30 p.m.

Sun, Jan 12: ORTHROS & Confession, 8:15 a.m.
Ft. Washington Mission Chapel Liturgy, 9:00 a.m.
DIVINE LITURGY, 9:30 a.m.
Memorial (Nagib Khalifa), 11:15 a.m.
Coffee Hour & Sunday School, 11:30 a.m.
Outdoor Blessing of Water, 1:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Vespers 12/28: 89

Liturgy 12/29: N/A
St. Basil/Circumcision: 62

OFFERINGS 12/29: Candles, \$478.60. Collections, \$718.67. Book Shelf Ministry, \$320. Flowers: \$105. Needy Fund, \$30. Classical School (SJA): \$200. Stewardship, \$10,982.63 Total received: \$13,016.71

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!