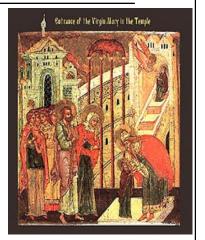
Afterfeast of the Entry of the Most Holy Mother of God into the Temple (November 24)

According to Holy Tradition, the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple took place in the following manner. The parents of the Virgin Mary, Saints Joachim and Anna, praying for an end to their childlessness, vowed that if a child were born to them, they would dedicate it to the service of God.

When the Most Holy Virgin reached the age of three, the holy parents decided to fulfill their vow. They gathered together their relatives and acquaintances, and dressed the All-Pure Virgin in Her finest clothes. Singing sacred songs and with



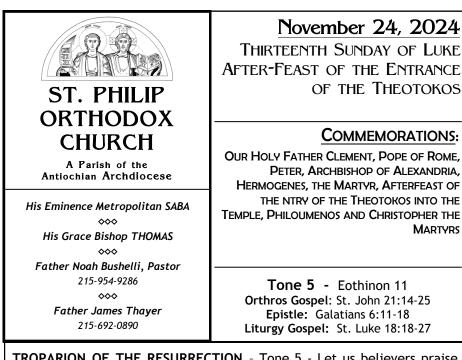
lighted candles in their hands, virgins escorted Her to the Temple (Ps. 44/45:14-15). There the High Priest and several priests met the handmaiden of God. In the Temple, fifteen high steps led to the sanctuary, which only the priests and High Priest could enter. The child Mary, so it seemed, could not make it up this stairway. But just as they placed Her on the first step, strengthened by the power of God, She quickly went up the remaining steps and ascended to the highest one. Then the High Priest, through inspiration from above, led the Most Holy Virgin into the Holy of Holies, where only the High Priest entered once a year to offer a purifying sacrifice of blood. Therefore, all those present in the Temple were astonished at this most unusual occurrence.

After entrusting their child to the Heavenly Father, Joachim and Anna returned home. The All-Holy Virgin remained in the quarters for virgins near the Temple. According to the testimony of Holy Scripture, and also the historian Josephus Flavius, there were many living quarters around the Temple, in which those who were dedicated to the service of God dwelt.

The earthly life of the Most Holy Theotokos from Her infancy until She was taken up to Heaven is shrouded in deep mystery. Her life at the Jerusalem Temple was also a secret. "If anyone were to ask me," said Saint Jerome, "how the Most Holy Virgin spent the time of Her youth, I would answer that that is known to God Himself and the Archangel Gabriel, Her constant guardian."

Text & icon https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/11/23/103374-afterfeast-of-the-entry-of-the-most-holy-mother-of-god-into-the

The disciples were called Christians first in Antioch (Acts 11:26)



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.

APOLYTIKION OF ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS - Tone 4 - Today the Virgin is the foreshadowing of the pleasure of God, and the beginning of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. Thou hast appeared in the Temple of God openly and hast gone before, preaching Christ to all. Let us shout with one thrilling voice, saying, Rejoice, O thou who art the fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation.

TODAY:

- + ORTHROS 8:15 a.m.
- + Ft. Washington Mission Chapel Liturgy 9:00 a.m.
- + Divine LITURGY 9:30 a.m.
- + Coffee Hour & Sunday School following Liturgy

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 through 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 (Dec 1):
COFFEE HOUR:	Bagels	Bagels
PROSPHORA BREAD:	John Child & Rachel Chebeleu	Kristi Moore
ALTAR CANDLES:	Rice Family—David's Birthday	Sign up on the bulletin board
USHERS:	Todd Moody & Bill Henry	Nick M. & Steve K.
CLEANING TEAM:	Natalia M., Radu C., Mary T.	Catechumens
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	Sh. Hannah, Eric M., Christian B Zach W., Zach F.	 Miriam K., Conor M., Daniel C., Laura S.

Mark Your Calendar:

<u>St. Nicholas Vespers</u> December 5, 6:30 p.m. Youth Activity, 7:30 p.m.

Sourdough Prosphora <u>Workshop</u> December 6 @ 3:00 p.m. Natalia from N.J. (originally form Greece) will teach us the way Nuns taught her to make sourdough Prosphora. Please get a blessing from Fr. Noah if interested

> Feast of St. Nicholas December 6

Nativity Services December 24 8:00 a.m. Royal Hours 9:30 a.m. Vesperal Liturgy 9:30 p.m. Festal Orthros 11:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy December 25 12:00 p.m. Great Vespers

<u>NOV/DEC OUTREACH</u> <u>COLLECTION</u>: Thanksgiving & Christmas Dinner Items

Pray For:		
Living	Departed	
Faithful of the Holy Land Met. Onuphry and faithful of Ukraine Faithful of Ethiopia & Eritrea Pr. Andrew, family, & parishioners Michael Patrick Doris John James Steve	+Archpriest Michael +Marius (November Parish Diptychs) +Joseph +Peter +Ellen +Evelyn +Ksenia +William +Elizabeth	
Andrew Tatiana Elias Paraskevi Eustathia Xenia Ludmilla Jonathan Elizabeth Jesse, Nathan, Hannah, Elizabeth, Mary, & all Missionaries Nathan, John, & all seminarians Engaged Couples Families trying to conceive Expectant mothers The people of our land, and for their repentance, healing & unity	Catechumens Lucretia Andrew Ryan Michael Michael Kassandra David, Darby, & Easton Rose Jasper Bryson Catherine Matthew Mary Carol Morgan Meghan John Julie Steven Bobby Timothy & Kristen and children Eliana, Adalyn, Benjamin, Joshua	

<u>This Week:</u>		
Mon, Nov 25:	Divine Liturgy, 7:00 a.m. Sermon on the Mount Bible Study, 6:30 p.m. Parish Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m.	
Tues, Nov 26:	Divine Liturgy, 9:30 a.m. Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1 p.m.	
Wed, Nov 27:	Divine Liturgy, 7:00 a.m. Akathist of Thanksgiving, 6:30 p.m.	
Thurs, Nov 28:	<u>Happy Thanksgiving!</u> Divine Liturgy, 9:30 a.m. <i>Church office is closed</i>	
Fri, Nov 30:	Divine Liturgy, 9:30 a.m. Confessions, 6:00 p.m. Paraklesis, 6:30 p.m. Church office is closed	
Sat, Dec 1:	Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m. Catechumen Class, 4:30 p.m. Parenting Class, 4:30 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal, 4:45 p.m. Great VESPERS, 6:00 p.m. Confessions, 7:00 p.m.	
Sun, Dec 2:	ORTHROS & Confession, 8:15 a.m. Ft. Washington Mission Chapel Liturgy, 9:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY, 9:30 a.m. Coffee Hour & Sunday School, 11:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, 12:45 p.m.	
ATTENDANCE: Vespers		
\$150. Needy Fund, \$50	ndles, \$409. Collections, \$543.49. Book Shelf Ministry D. Hospitality, \$97. Mission Chapel, \$45. Total received: \$17,464.49.	
THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!		