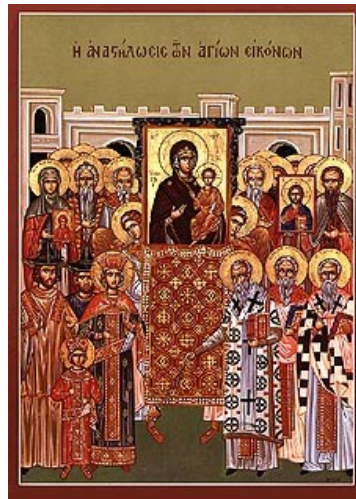


# Sunday of the Triumph of Orthodoxy

(The First Sunday in Great Lent)

The first Sunday of Great Lent is called the Sunday of Orthodoxy because it commemorates the restoration of the Holy Icons and the triumph of the Orthodox Faith over the heresy of iconoclasm. For more than a century the Church was troubled by those who rejected the veneration of icons, claiming that honoring them was idolatry. Yet the controversy was never merely about art. It was about the truth of the Incarnation. If the Son of God truly “became flesh and dwelt among us,” then He can be depicted. To deny the icon was, in effect, to weaken the confession that God had truly entered history in a visible, tangible way. Thus the defense of icons was a defense of the Gospel itself.



The first emperor to initiate persecution in this matter was Leo the Isaurian. The last was Theophilus. After his death, his wife, Saint Theodora, governed the empire and, together with Patriarch Methodios, restored the veneration of the Holy Icons in 843. On the first Sunday of the Fast, Saint Theodora and her son, Emperor Michael, publicly venerated the icons with clergy and faithful alike. She proclaimed clearly that we do not worship wood and paint as gods. Rather, we honor icons as images of their prototypes. The honor shown to the icon passes to the person depicted. Worship belongs to the Holy Trinity alone.

Since that time, the Church has commemorated this restoration each year. The Sunday of Orthodoxy is not simply a historical remembrance but a living proclamation that right worship flows from right belief. As Father Alexander Schmemmann explains, the liturgical year leads us on a journey toward Pascha and constantly calls us to rediscover the fullness of the faith. The Triodion likewise reminds us that Lent is a return to authentic worship, humility, and repentance, a purification of both doctrine and heart. Originally, this Sunday also commemorated the Prophets Moses, Aaron, and Samuel, a memory still echoed in the Alleluia verses, linking the triumph of the icons to the whole history of salvation.

Text (edited) & Icon from oca.org

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



## 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

March 1, 2026

## THE SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

(THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT)

### COMMEMORATIONS:

THE HOLY RIGHTEOUS MARTYR  
EUDOCIA THE SAMARITAN,  
ANDONINA THE NEW MARTYR,  
DAVID THE ARCHBISHOP



Tone 5 - Eothinon 5

Orthros Gospel: St. Luke 24:12-35

Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40

Liturgy Gospel: St. John 1:43-51

**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 THE FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT** - Tone 2 - Thy pure image do we venerate, O good One, asking forgiveness of our sins, O Christ our God; for by Thine own will Thou didst ascend the Cross in Thy body, to save Thy creatures from the bondage of the enemy. Wherefore, with thankfulness we cry aloud to thee: Thou hast verily filled all with joy, since Thou didst come, O our Savior, to save the world.

### TODAY:

- ✦ **ORTHROS & Confessions** - 8:15 a.m.
- ✦ **Divine LITURGY** - 9:30 a.m.
- ✦ **Coffee Hour & Sunday School** - 11:15 a.m.
- ✦ **Choir Rehearsal** - 12:35 p.m.

**Today at 4:00 p.m.**  
*Pan-Orthodox Vespers*  
St. Nicholas Greek  
Orthodox Cathedral  
1607 Union Blvd.  
Bethlehem PA, 18018

1970 Clearview Road, Souderton, PA 18964

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**Office Hours:** Monday & Tuesday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Fr Noah & Fr James are available for hospital visits. Please contact them directly or call the church office.

## Weekly Ministries & Stewards:

<p><b>This Week:</b></p> <p><b>COFFEE HOUR:</b> Catechumen &amp; Inquirer's Class</p> <p><b>PROSPHORA BREAD:</b> Kristi Moore &amp; Sissy Hill</p> <p><b>ALTAR CANDLES:</b> - - -</p> <p><b>USHERS:</b> John Nicholson &amp; Chris Howe</p> <p><b>CLEANING TEAM:</b> Todd &amp; Kristi M., Kim B.</p> <p><b>COFFEE HOUR TEAM:</b> Miriam K., Ryan M., Daniel C., Laura B.</p>	<p><b>Next Week (March 8):</b></p> <p>Preborn Donation Luncheon (OCL &amp; WoSM)</p> <p>Gabriela Plesa &amp; Macrina Layton</p> <p>Schneider—Mindi's Birthday</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>Justin G., Midena S., Slav S., Dylan H.</p> <p>Mike L., Dave &amp; Darby S., Steven M.</p>
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## Mark Your Calendar:

**Annunciation to the Theotokos**  
*March 25*

**St. Philip Lenten Retreat**  
*Saturday, March 14*  
"The Highway to Heaven is a Staircase: A Study of the Sermon on the Mount"

Register with the link or the QR Code: <https://tinyurl.com/udpuwet2>



**Great & Holy Pascha**  
*April 12*  
We live Pascha to Pascha!

### FOOD FOR HUNGRY PEOPLE BOXES

Please take one of the Food For Hungry People collection boxes (available in the Narthex) to your home and at Pascha bring them back filled to help our archdiocese food distribution program.

**MARCH OUTREACH**  
**COLLECTION:**  
**Baby Care Items**

### Pray For:

Living	Departed
<p>Our Patriarch John and Faithful of Syria, and all the holy land</p> <p>Met. Onuphry and faithful of Ukraine</p> <p>The leadership and community of St Emmelia Ministries, St Justin Academy, our Mission Chapel, Hades Embittered and those to whom they reach out.</p> <p>Wadih</p> <p>Matushka Cecilia</p> <p>Louise-Ruth</p> <p>Joanne</p> <p>Nancy-Anna</p> <p>Mark</p> <p>Elizabeth</p> <p>Sister Anka</p> <p>Dcn. Evgeney</p> <p>Hieromonk Silouan</p> <p>Aristides</p> <p>Catherine</p> <p>Christine</p> <p>Maria</p> <p>John</p> <p>James</p> <p>Steven</p> <p>Paraskevi</p> <p>Jesse, Nathan, Hannah, Elizabeth, &amp; all Missionaries</p> <p>Priest Nathan, Deacon Irenaeus, Theophanes, Jacob, John, Samuel, Darius &amp; all seminarians and their families</p> <p>Those searching for jobs, houses, spouses &amp; monasteries</p> <p>Courting, Engaged, &amp; Newly-Crowned Couples</p> <p>Families struggling to conceive</p> <p>Expectant and new mothers and their babies</p> <p>Those in mourning</p> <p>The people of our land, and for their repentance, healing &amp; unity</p>	<p>+Christine</p> <p>+Sze-Tatiana (March Parish Diptychs)</p> <p>+Najib</p> <p>+Lorraine</p> <p>+Julia</p> <p>+Helen</p> <p>+Dina</p> <p>+Robert</p> <p>+Adele</p> <p>+Mary</p> <p>+Haritos</p> <p><u>Catechumens</u></p> <p>Matthew H</p> <p>Martin (Ernie) R</p> <p>Sean, Meghan, and John T</p> <p>Robert S</p> <p>Carolyn D</p> <p>Martin (Morgan) &amp; Gabriella T</p> <p>Anthony V</p> <p>Slavek G</p> <p>Nevada L</p> <p>Josiah &amp; Casie,</p> <p>Ray &amp; Gwen L</p> <p>John C</p> <p>Daniel, Eleanor,</p> <p>Amos &amp; Marigold C</p> <p>Adaelle S</p> <p>Jeff &amp; Jasmin,</p> <p>Jaxon, Jonah,</p> <p>Jayce &amp; Jacob P</p> <p>Andrew &amp; Rebecca, Hannah,</p> <p>Miriam, Priscilla &amp; Phoebe V</p> <p>Daniel &amp; Jordan,</p> <p>Daniella, Meadow &amp; Mason M</p> <p>Hannah B</p> <p>Samuel &amp; Emilie,</p> <p>Ari &amp; Addison P</p> <p>James B</p> <p>Nicole P</p> <p>Dylan H</p> <p>Ryan M</p> <p>Mission Chapel:</p> <p>Christopher M &amp; Nailah O</p> <p>Sean &amp; Natalie,</p> <p>Rosalie &amp; Abel K</p> <p>Inactive:</p> <p>Jasper, Asher,</p> <p>Andrew, Michael,</p> <p>Kassandra</p>

## This Week:

<b>Mon, March 2:</b>	Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 a.m. Confessions, 5:30 p.m. Great Compline, 6:00 p.m.
<b>Tues, March 3:</b>	Presanctified Liturgy, 9:30 a.m. Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1:00 p.m.
<b>Wed, March 4:</b>	Presanctified Liturgy, 6:00 p.m. FOCUS: Norristown, 7:00 p.m. Fasting Potluck, 8:00 p.m.
<b>Thurs, March 5:</b>	Presanctified Liturgy, 9:30 a.m. Confessions, 5:30 p.m. Great Compline, 6:00 p.m. Bible Study w/ Fr. Noah, 7:00 p.m. FOCUS: Aviator Park, 8:00 p.m.
<b>Fri, March 6:</b>	Confessions, 9:00 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy, 9:30 a.m. Fasting Potluck, 11:00 a.m. Confessions, 5:30 p.m. Little Compline & Akathist Hymn, 6:00 p.m. Q&A w/ Fr. Noah, 7:00 p.m.
<b>Sat, March 7:</b>	Divine Liturgy & Trisagion, 8:00 a.m. Catechumen & Inquirers Class, 4:30 p.m. Confessions, 5:30 p.m. Great Vespers, 6:00 p.m. Confessions, 7:00 p.m.
<b>Sun, March 8:</b>	<b>St. Gregory Palamas (Lent 2)</b> Orthros & Confessions, 8:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy, 9:30 a.m. Coffee Hour & Sunday School, 11:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, 12:35 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE: VESPERS 2/21: 150      DIVINE LITURGY 2/22: 256**  
**Forgiveness Vespers: 105      Presanctified Liturgy: 112**  
**OFFERINGS 2/22:** Candles, \$400. Collections, \$425.11. Book Shelf Ministry, \$60. Endowment, \$25. Teen Fund, \$295. Building Fund, \$814.01. Mission Chapel, \$4,527. Women's Fund, \$661. Stewardship, \$14,738.11. Total received: \$21,945.23.

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