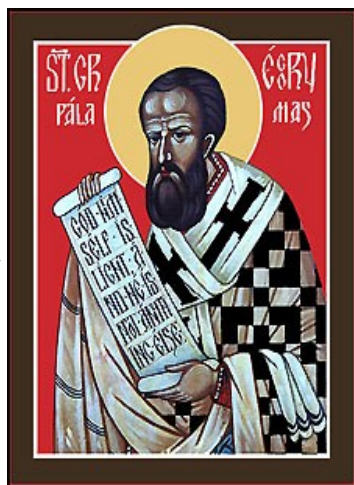


The Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas

(The Second Sunday of Great Lent)

This Sunday was originally dedicated to Saint Polycarp of Smyrna (February 23). After his glorification in 1368, a second commemoration of Saint Gregory Palamas (November 14) was appointed for the Second Sunday of Great Lent, becoming a second "Triumph of Orthodoxy."

Saint Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessalonica, was born in Constantinople in 1296. His father served as a dignitary at the court of Emperor Andronicus II Palaiologos, but died while Gregory was still young. The emperor himself helped oversee the boy's upbringing and education. Gregory excelled in the full course of medieval higher learning, yet instead of entering government service he withdrew to Mount Athos around 1316 and became a novice at the Vatopedi Monastery under the Elder Saint Nikodemus. There he was tonsured a monk and began the life of ascetic struggle.



After the death of his elder, Gregory spent years under the guidance of the Elder Nikephoros and later moved to the Lavra of Saint Athanasius. Eventually he settled at the skete of Glossia, where he devoted himself to the tradition of unceasing prayer practiced by the desert fathers such as Evagrius Ponticus and Saint Macarius of Egypt. This tradition of stillness and inner prayer, later taught by Saint Symeon the New Theologian, came to be known as hesychasm, from the Greek word hesychia, meaning silence or inner peace.

Because of Turkish threats in 1326, Gregory and the brethren left Athos for Thessalonica, where he was ordained to the priesthood. He combined pastoral ministry with a life of prayer, spending weekdays in solitude and emerging on weekends to celebrate the Divine Liturgy and preach.

In the 1330s Gregory became the chief defender of hesychasm against the teachings of Barlaam of Calabria, who claimed the light of Christ's Transfiguration was created. Gregory responded with his Triads in Defense of the Holy Hesychasts. The Council of Constantinople in 1341 affirmed his teaching that although God's essence is unknowable, He truly reveals Himself through His uncreated energies. Saint Gregory reposed in the Lord on November 14, 1359, and was canonized in 1368.

Text & 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 8, 2026

THE SUNDAY OF ST. GREGORY PALAMAS

(THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT)

COMMEMORATIONS:

THEOPHYLACT THE CONFESSOR, BISHOP OF
NICOMEDIA, HERMAS THE APOSTLE OF THE
70, DOMETIOS THE RIGHTEOUS, PAUL THE
CONFESSOR, FELIX OF BURGUNDY,
ENLIGHTENER OF EAST ANGLIA

Tone 6 - Eothinon 6

Orthros Gospel: St. Luke 24:36-53

Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3

Liturgy Gospel: St. Mark 2:1-12

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 6 - When Mary stood at thy grave, looking for thy sacred Body, angelic powers shone above thy revered tomb, and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led'st hades captive and wast not tempted thereby; thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world. O thou who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to thee!

APOLYTIKION FOR ST. GREGORY PALAMAS - Tone 8 - O Star of Orthodoxy, support of the Church and its teacher, O comeliness of ascetics, and incontestable champion of those who speak in theology, Gregory the wonder-worker, the pride of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, implore thou constantly for the salvation of our souls.

TODAY:

Orthros, 8:15 a.m.

Divine LITURGY, 9:30 a.m.

Coffee Hour & Sunday School, 11:15 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal, 12:35 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 through Thursday 12:30 pm - 5:00pm

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

Weekly Ministries & Stewards:

<p>This Week: COFFEE HOUR: Preborn Donation Luncheon PROSPHORA BREAD: Gabriela Please & Macrina Layton ALTAR CANDLES: Schneider & Rice (Mindi & David's First Birthday) USHERS: TBD CLEANING TEAM: Justin G., Midena S., Slav S. Daniel C. COFFEE HOUR TEAM: Mike L., Dave & Darby S., Steven M. BULLETIN DISTRIBUTOR: Emilie Park</p>	<p>Next Week (March 15) The Walsh Family & Co. Heather Taggart & John Child --- TBD Serge, Alex & Sarah Kaminsky Calvin S., Mary T. Gabriel M. Matthew Hockley</p>
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Mark Your Calendar:

Annunciation to the Theotokos
March 24: Vespers & Artoklasia,
 6:00 pm
March 25: Orthros, 8:15 am;
Divine Liturgy 9:30 am; Potluck
(Fish/Wine/Oil), 11:00 am

Palm Sunday
 April 5

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.

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 & in bulletins. Thank you!

MARCH OUTREACH
COLLECTION:
 Baby Care Products

Pray For:

Living	Departed
Our Patriarch John and Faithful of Syria, and all the holy land Met. Onuphy and faithful of Ukraine The leadership and community of St Emmelia Ministries, St Justin Academy, our Mission Chapel, Hades Embittered and those to whom they reach out. Newly Illumined Steven, Mary, Juliana, Sarah Dcn. Evgeney Amy Photini Jonathan Presb. Anna Athena Sze-Tatiana Hieromonk Silouan Aristides Catherine Christine Maria John James James Steven Sophia Elias Paraskevi Jesse, Nathan, Hannah, Elizabeth, & all Missionaries Priest Nathan, Dn Irenaeus, Theophanes, Jacob, John, Samuel, Darius & all seminarians and their families Those searching for jobs, houses, spouses & monasteries Courting, Engaged, & Newly-Crowned Couples Families struggling to conceive Expectant and new mothers and their babies The people of our land, and for their repentance, healing & unity	+Fr. Daniel (January Parish Diptychs) +George +Predrag +Mimi +Helen +Christopher +Nagib +Julia +Nicole <u>Catechumens</u> Ryan M Kassandra H Matthew H Martin (Ernie) R Sean, Meghan, and John T Robert S Carolyn D Martin (Morgan) & Gabriella T Anthony V Slavek G Nevada L Josiah & Casie, Ray & Gwen L John C Daniel, Eleanor, Amos & Marigold C Adaele S Jeff & Jasmine, Jaxon, Jonah, Jayce & Jacob P Andrew & Rebecca, Hannah, Miriam, Priscilla & Phoebe V Daniel & Jordan, Daniella, Meadow & Mason M Hannah B Samuel & Emilie, Ari & Addison P James B Mission Chapel: Christopher & Nailah M Sean & Natalie, Rosalie & Abel K Inactive: Jasper, Asher, Andrew, Michael

This Week:

Mon, March 9:	Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 a.m. Confessions, 5:30 p.m. Great Compline, 6:00 p.m.
Tues, March 10:	Presanctified Liturgy, 9:30 a.m. Matushaka Olga Sewing Club, 1:00 p.m.
Wed, March 11:	Confessions, 5:30 p.m. Presanctified Liturgy, 6:00 p.m. FOCUS: Norristown, 7:00 p.m. Fasting Potluck, 8:00 p.m.
Thurs, March 12:	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.
Fri, March 13:	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.
Sat, March 14:	Divine Liturgy & Trisagion, 8:00 a.m. <i>Men's Breakfast & Women's Tea w/ Retreat Speakers, 9:30 a.m.</i> Lenten Retreat, 11:00 a.m. Confessions, 5:30 p.m. Great Vespers, 6:00 p.m. Confessions, 7:00 p.m.
Sun, March 15:	Sunday of the Holy Cross (Lent 3) 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 2/28: 95 Divine Liturgy 3/1: 262
 Wednesday Presanctified Liturgy: 99
OFFERINGS 3/1: Candles, \$377. Collections, \$1,493.52. Book Shelf Ministry, \$324. Building Fund, \$7,228.58. Missions, \$1,000. Pastoral Discretion, \$293.05. Teen Fund, \$195.53. Needy Fund, \$122.02. Cemetery Fund, \$48.51. Stewardship, \$3,054.45. Total received: \$14,136.66.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!