

## Righteous Noah December 15

The Sunday that falls between December 11-17 is known as the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers. These are the ancestors of Christ according to the flesh, who lived before the Law and under the Law, especially the Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, "In thy seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed" (Gen. 12:3, 22:18).



One of our Lord Jesus Christ's ancestors is the Righteous Noah. The Righteous Noah is mentioned in the Book of Genesis (chapters 5-9).

Seeing the wicked deeds of men, God decided to destroy man from the earth, and even cattle, reptiles, and birds. But Noah found favor with the Lord, Who spared him, his sons and their wives. Therefore, God commanded Noah to build an ark and take two pairs of every creature into it. Then it rained for forty days and nights, and men and animals perished in the flood. The water remained on the earth for 150 days, then God blessed Noah and his sons, telling them to increase and multiply (Genesis 9:7).

Through Noah's sons Shem, Ham and Japheth, the earth was repopulated, and God promised not to destroy the world by water again. Noah reposed at the age of 950 (Genesis 9:29). The ark is a figure of the Church, which is called the Ark of Salvation.

While speaking about the end of the world, the Savior told His disciples: "As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they did not know until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of man" (Matthew 24:37-39).

Text & icon excerpted from <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/12/15/610-righteous-noah>



## 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

## December 15, 2024

SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS  
(ANCESTORS) OF CHRIST

### COMMEMORATIONS:

11TH SUNDAY OF LUKE, ELEUTHERIOS THE  
HIEROMARTYR, BISHOP OF ILLYRICUM, AND  
HIS MOTHER ANTHIA, THE MARTYR  
SUSANNAH THE DEACONESS

**Tone 8** - Eothinon 3  
Orthros Gospel: St. Mark 16:9-20  
Epistle: 2 Timothy 1:8-18  
Liturgy Gospel: St. Luke 14:16-24

**TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION** - Tone 8 - From the heights Thou didst descend, O Compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion. Thou art our Life and our Resurrection, O Lord. Glory to Thee!

**APOLYTIKION OF THE FOREFATHERS** - Tone 2 - Thou hast justified by faith the ancient Forefathers, and through them Thou hast gone before and betrothed unto Thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory; for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and it was she who gave birth to Thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.

**TODAY:** **ORTHROS 8:15 a.m.**  
*Ft. Washington Mission Chapel, 9:00 a.m.*  
**Divine LITURGY 9:30 a.m.**  
Coffee Hour & Sunday School following Liturgy  
Choir Rehearsal 12:45 p.m.

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Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, 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. 22):
COFFEE HOUR:	Wadieh	Newly Illumined
PROSPHORA BREAD:	Gabriela P. & Rachel C.	John Child
ALTAR CANDLES:	<i>Sing Up on the Bulletin Board in the hallway and give God glory!</i>	
USHERS:	Dan M. & Chris H.	Steve K. & Bill H.
CLEANING TEAM:	Todd & Kristi M.	Justin & Kate G., Olena M., Midena S.
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	Mike L., Maggie E., Dave & Darby S., Steve M.	Kendra Moody

### Mark Your Calendar:

#### Christmas Services

**December 24:**

8:00 am: *Royal Hours*  
9:30 am: *Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil*  
9:30 pm: *Festal Orthros*  
11:00 pm: *Divine Liturgy*

**December 25:**

12:00 pm: *Great Vespers*

#### Circumcision/St. Basil/New Year

**December 31**

6:30 p.m. *Vespers & Artoklasia*  
7:30 p.m. *Talent Show*  
9:30 p.m. *New Year Prayers*

**January 1**

9:00 a.m. *Orthros*  
10:00 a.m. *Divine Liturgy*

#### Theophany

**January 5:**

**Theophany Fast**  
8:15 am *Orthros*  
9:30 am *Divine Liturgy*  
11:15 am: *Great Blessing of Water*  
6:00 pm: *Great Vespers*

**January 6:**

8:30 am: *Orthros*  
9:30 am: *Divine Liturgy*  
11:00 am: *Great Blessing of Water*

### DECEMBER OUTREACH COLLECTION:

Christmas Dinner Items

#### Pray For:

Living	Departed
Faithful of the Holy Land Met. Onuphry and faithful of Ukraine Faithful of Ethiopia & Eritrea	+Marius +Monk Michael (December Parish Diptychs) +Joseph +Richard +Mary +Demetrius +Katherine +Nicholas +Gabremariam
Pr. Andrew, family, & parishioners	+Assaad +Doris +Barbara +Andrew
Patrick Doris John James Steve Tatiana Elias Paraskevi Eustathia Ludmilla Elizabeth Peter Mary	<b>Catechumens</b> Lucretia Andrew Ryan Michael Michael Kassandra David, Darby, & Easton Rose Jasper Bryson Catherine Matthew Matthew Mary Carol Morgan Meghan John Julie Steven Bobby Timothy & Kristen and children Eliana, Adalyn, Benjamin, Joshua
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	

### Stewardship 2025

Your Tithe is beneficial to your soul and our parish. Please make your pledge with the cards in the narthex or online at [st-philip.net/stewardship](http://st-philip.net/stewardship) or with the QR code.



### This Week:

- Mon, Dec 16:** Divine Liturgy, 7:00 a.m.  
Parish Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- Tues, Dec 17:** Divine Liturgy, 7:00 a.m.  
Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1 p.m.
- Wed, Dec 18:** Divine Liturgy, 7:00 a.m.  
Holy Unction, 4:00 p.m.  
Confessions, 6:00 p.m.  
Vespers, 6:30 p.m.  
Galatians Bible Study w/ Fr. Noah, 7:15 p.m.
- Thurs, Dec 19:** Divine Liturgy, 9:30 a.m.  
Great Vespers, 4:00 p.m.
- Friday, Dec 20:** Festal Orthros, 7:00 a.m.  
Divine Liturgy, 8:15 a.m.  
Confessions, 6:00 p.m.  
Paraklesis, 6:30 p.m.
- Sat, Dec 21:** Baptismal Liturgy, 9:30 a.m.  
Christmas Pageant Rehearsal, 4:00 p.m.  
Great VESPERS, 6:00 p.m.  
Confessions, 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday, Dec 22:** ORTHROS, 8:00 a.m.  
*Ft. Washington Mission Chapel Liturgy, 9:00 a.m.*  
**BAPTISMAL LITURGY, 9:15 a.m.**  
Coffee Hour & Sunday School after Liturgy  
*Sunday School Christmas Pageant, 12:45 p.m.*

ATTENDANCE: Vespers 12/7: 68

Liturgy 12/8: 200

OFFERINGS 12/8: Candles, \$290.76 Collections, \$697.40. Book Shelf Ministry, \$240. Mission Chapel, \$803.98 Honorarium, \$3,000. Christmas Card Fund, \$25. Needy Fund, \$115. Flowers, \$10. Ukraine Outreach, \$1,275. Women's Fund, \$33.98 One Time Projects, \$400. Stewardship, \$7,505. Total received: \$14,281.21.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!