ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

NOVEMBER 14, 2021



St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

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THE HOLY APOSTLE PHILIP GREGORY PALAMAS, ARCHBISHOP OF THESSALONICA; NEW-MARTYR CONSTANTINE OF HYDRA; JUSTINIAN THE EMPEROR AND HIS WIFE THEODORA

On November 14 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy, glorious, and all-laudable Apostle Philip, one of the foremost choir of the Twelve.

By his feet is Philip on a post suspended, repaying Thee for washing his feet, O Savior. On the fourteenth, O Philip, thou wast hanged upside down.

Philip was born in Bethsaida beside the Sea of Galilee, as were Peter and Andrew. Instructed in Holy Scripture from his youth, Philip immediately responded to the call of the Lord Jesus and followed Him (John 1:43). After the descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, Philip zealously preached the Gospel throughout many regions in Asia and Greece. Many miracles were manifested through Philip, especially the healing of the sick, by which many pagans believed in Christ. In the Phrygian town of Hierapolis, Philip found himself in common evangelical work with his sister Mariamna, John the Theologian, and the Apostle Bartholomew. The wicked pagans seized Philip and crucified him upside-down on a tree, and then crucified Bartholomew as well. At that, the earth opened up and swallowed the judge and many other pagans with him. In great fear, the people rushed to rescue the crucified apostles, but only Bartholomew was still alive; Philip had already breathed his last. This wonderful apostle suffered in the year 86 in the time of Emperor Dometian.

On this day, we also commemorate Gregory Palamas, archbishop of Thessalonica; Newmartyr Constantine of Hydra; Justinian the emperor and his wife Theodora. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FOUR

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE IN TONE THREE

O holy Apostle Philip, intercede with the merciful God, to grant our souls forgiveness of sins.

KONTAKION OF ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS IN TONE FOUR

The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, * the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, * the Savior's most pure temple, free of stain and undefiled, * into the House of the Lord * on this day is brought forward * and bringeth with herself the grace * of the Most Divine Spirit; * her do God's Angels hymn with songs of praise, * for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

THE EPISTLE

His voice has gone out into all the earth. The heavens declare the glory of God.

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (4:9-16)

Brethren, God has revealed us, the apostles, last of all, as those appointed to death; for we have become a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ; we are weak, but you are strong; you are glorified, but we are dishonored. Even to this present hour we both hunger and thirst; we are naked, and are buffeted, and are restless; and we labor, working with our own hands. While reviled, we bless; while persecuted, we endure; while blasphemed, we exhort; we have become the filth of the world and the off-scouring of all things, even until now. I do not write these things to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children; for though you have a myriad of tutors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for I begat you in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I beseech you, therefore, be imitators of me.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (10:25-37)

At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read?" And the lawyer answered. "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart. and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And Jesus said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live." But the lawyer, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" The lawyer said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

WISDOM

How the Creator and Provider of all has honored and adorned our nature! The saints shine with his light, they are hallowed by His grace, having conquered sin and washed away every sinful impurity of body and spirit; they are glorious with His glory, they are incorruptible through His incorruptibility. Glory to God, who has so honored, enlightened, and exalted our nature!

As in the earthly life there are poor and rich, so also in the spiritual life, in the spiritual order, there are poor and rich. As the poor ask charity of the rich, and cannot live without help from them, so also in the spiritual order the poor must have recourse to the rich. We are the spiritually poor, whilst the saints, and those who shine even in this present life by their faith and piety, are the spiritually rich. It is to them that we needy ones must have recourse. We must beg for their prayers that they may help us to become simple as children, that they may teach us spiritual wisdom, how to conquer sins, how to love God and our neighbour. May the saints of God pray for us, that we may become like unto them.

God's saints are near to the believing heart, and are ready in a moment to help those who call upon them with faith and love. For the most part we have to send, and sometimes we have to wait long, for earthly helpers, whilst we have neither to send, nor to wait long, for spiritual helpers: the faith of him who prays can place them close to his heart in a moment, and he will speedily receive, through faith, spiritual help.

At the end of your morning and evening prayers call upon the saints, so that seeing every virtue realised in them you may yourself imitate every virtue. Learn from the patriarchs childlike faith and obedience to the Lord, from the prophets and apostles zeal for the glory of God and the salvation of men, from the holy bishops zeal to preach the word of God, from the martyrs and confessors firmness before the infidel and godless, from the ascetics to crucify your own flesh and its lusts, and from the unmercenary ones not to love profit, and freely to help the needy.

Trust in the intercession of the Mother of God, and of the angels and saints, is a form of Christian hope. Their intercession for us is powerful, both by the grace of Christ, and as a consequence of their own virtues. It is not in vain that we pray to them: through their prayers we trust to obtain mercy, the forgiveness of sins, and salvation, as well as temporal blessings.

The Spiritual Counsels of Father John of Kronstadt, "The Saints of God"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALL PARISH MEETING: November 21 during coffee hour after Liturgy

December is Order of St. Ignatius Month (Dec. 20). Each year the Order picks a "project" and this year we have decided to raise money for new robes for altar boys. During coffee hour in December, we will be selling pastries, which make perfect Christmas gifts for neighbors and friends. Please stay tuned for more information about ways to get involved and consider becoming a member of the order yourself. In preparation, please watch this promotional video: <u>ORDER OF ST. IGNATIUS VIDEO</u>

Our Metropolitan Archbishop will be in the Pacific Northwest area from November 5th through the 14th. Saturday, 11/13, he will be visiting Christ the Savior in Spokane Valley, WA for Hierarchical Orthros & Divine Liturgy. Orthros is scheduled for 9am followed by the Divine Liturgy about 10am. All are invited. All area Antiochian clergy will be in attendance and will have a local clergy meeting immediately afterward. His Eminence is NOT scheduled to visit St. John the Baptist this year. Sunday, 11/14, Metropolitan JOSEPH will be at Holy Myrrhbearers in Bonners Ferry for Hierarchical Orthros and Divine Liturgy. *ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH WILL BE OPEN FOR SERVICES AS USUAL NEXT SUNDAY.*

Upcoming Women's Fellowship Gathering December 2nd, location TBA

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & EVENTS {Calendar}

Saturday, November 13: Orthros & Liturgy 9am at CTS with Sayidna (Clergy meeting); Great Vespers 6pm

Sunday, November 14: Orthros & Divine Liturgy 9am

Monday, November 15: Nativity Fast Begins

Wednesday, November 17: Vespers & Catechism 6pm

Friday, November 19: Spiritual Circle 9:30am

Saturday, November 20: Great Vespers 6pm

Sunday, November 21: Orthros & Divine Liturgy 9am; <u>ALL PARISH MEETING</u> after coffee hour

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	EPISTLE READER <u>{Sign Up</u> }	LUNCH TEAM
11/14	Paul Tate	Joy Corey's Team
11/21	David Gencarella	Lisa Gencarella's Team
11/28	Paul Tate	Ignatius Chapman's Team
12/5	David Gencarella	Sarah Plew's Team



PRAYERS FOR THE LIVING: John/Steven Wood, Mark & Muriel (Kaitlin), Nick, Lindsey and their baby, Eugenia, Mary and Craig, Loren, Theo, Caitlin and Ben, Kieran and fellow soldiers, Hay family, Family of Jean Weingand, Douglas, Weaver family, Khouria Joanna, Korbin (friend of Alyson Gross), James & Helen Odell, those suffering with the Covid-19 virus and those caring for the sick and suffering, victims of injustice and social unrest, Metropolitans Paul and John (hostages in Syria), the suffering Christians throughout the Middle East.

PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED: Andrew Mulford, Charalambos (Mary Welsh's father), Jean, Andrew, Wanda (Lavonne Ayoub's mother), Baby of Caitlin (Kh. Joanna's friend), Victims of abortion, Victims of the Covid-19 virus, Victims of injustice and social unrest, the departed Christians throughout the world who have died for the Faith.

CONFESSIONS: Please remember to contact Fr. Mark to schedule confessions, *even* if you intend to confess after the evening services. This ensures that your confession is well prepared, and that everyone can be heard in an orderly fashion. Father is available to meet at the Church Tuesday through Saturday.

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Troparion of St. John the Baptist

The memory of the just is celebrated with hymns of praise, but the Lord's testimony is enough for thee, O Forerunner. For thou wast shown to be more wonderful than the prophets since thou wast granted to baptize Him whom thou didst proclaim. Then having endured great suffering for the truth thou didst rejoice to bring even to those in hades the good tidings, that God who hast appeared in the flesh, takes away the sins of the world, and grants us great mercy.