

**April 1, 2018
PALM SUNDAY:**

THE GLORIOUS AND BRILLIANT FEAST OF THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY OF OUR LORD AND GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST INTO JERUSALEM.

St. John Shavteli of Salosi, Bishop of Gaenati, Georgia

The great Georgian hymnographer, philosopher, and orator Saint John of Shavta labored in the 12th and 13th centuries, during the reign of the holy queen Tamar. Few details of his life have been preserved, but we know that he received his education at Gelati Academy, where he studied theology, ancient and Arabic history, philosophy, and literature. He was later tonsured a monk and labored at Vardzia Monastery.

When the Georgian army under the command of Queen Tamar's husband, Davit Soslan, entered into battle (The Battle of Basiani (ca. 1203)) with the sultan Rukn al-Din, Queen Tamar journeyed to Odzrkhe Monastery to pray for help. Catholicos Tevdore of Kartli and many hierarchs and monastics accompanied her there. Among them, Saint John of Shavta stood out as a wise theologian and philosopher and a brilliant hymnographer.

During the Liturgy at Odzrkhe Monastery a miracle occurred: endowed by God with the gift of prophecy, Saint Eulogius the Fool for-Christ fell to his knees, lifted his hands to the heavens and cried out: "Glory to God! Almighty Christ!...Do not fear the Persians, but rather depart in peace, for the mercy of God has descended upon the house of Tamar!"

Eulogius's words were clearly a divine revelation. Saint John of Shavta turned to Queen Tamar, rejoicing, "Your Highness! The Almighty has made known to us our victory in the war from the lips of a fool-for-Christ!" Eulogius confided his secret to Saint John: disguised as a fool, he had been concealing his God-given gift. But now it seemed that the gift would become apparent to all, so Eulogius quickly disappeared out of sight to escape the people's attention.

Saint John of Shavta composed his "Hymns to the Theotokos of Vardzia" in thanksgiving for Georgia's victory in the Battle of Basiani. He is also recognized as the composer of "Abdul-Messiah," (Abdul-Messiah: servant of Christ) a famous ode to the holy queen Tamar.

Our Holy Father John of Shavta lived to an advanced age and was canonized soon after his repose.

Text and Image from <https://oca.org/saints/lives/2018/04/01/103832-st-john-shavteli-of-salosi-bishop-of-gaenati-georgia>



**ST. PHILIP
ORTHODOX
CHURCH**

A Parish of the
Antiochian Archdiocese

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH



His Grace Bishop THOMAS



Father Noah Bushelli, Pastor
215-954-9286 (text preferred)



Father James Thayer
215-692-0890

April 1, 2018

PALM SUNDAY:

THE GLORIOUS AND
BRILLIANT FEAST OF THE
TRIUMPHAL ENTRY OF OUR
LORD AND GOD AND
SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST INTO
JERUSALEM

Old Testament Readings:

Gen 49:1-2, 15-17; Zeph 3:14-19;
Zech 9:9-15

Matins Gospel:

St. Matthew 21:1-11, 15-17

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9

Liturgy Gospel: St. John 12:1-18

APOLYTIKION OF LAZARUS SATURDAY - Tone 1 - O Christ God, when Thou didst raise Lazarus from the dead, before Thy Passion, Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection. Wherefore, we, like children, carry the insignia of triumph and victory, and cry to Thee, O Vanquisher of death: Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord.

APOLYTIKION OF PALM SUNDAY - Tone 4 - O Christ God, when we were buried with Thee in Baptism, we became deserving of Thy Resurrection to immortal life. Wherefore, we praise Thee, crying: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

TODAY: Orthros, 8:45 am & Divine Liturgy, 10 am
Coffee Hour, Sunday School & Teens, 11:45 am
Women of St. Philip's, 12 pm
Confession, 6 pm

◆◆◆◆ **BRIDEGROOM MATINS, 7 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 8:30 - 4:00; Friday 10:00 - 3:00

Fr Noah & Fr James are available for hospital visits. If you or anyone you know is in the hospital or homebound and would like a visit, please call the church office.

**PLEASE PARK ONLY IN DESIGNATED PARKING SPACES; OTHER AREAS
MUST REMAIN FREE FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLE ACCESS.**

AMPLE PARKING is always available for Church Services in lots just across Clearview Rd, thanks to our good neighbors at Solar Atmospheres. Thank you.

Weekly Ministries & Stewards:

	This Week:	Next Week (Apr 8):
PROSPHORA BREAD:	Kristi M.	Tadesse
EPISTLE READER:	Brian Fitzgerald	Jack Morrash
ALTAR CANDLES:	Bushellis	Howanetz Family
GREETERS:	Steve & Carolyn K.	---
CLEANING TEAM:	Chris & Natalia	Kim, Todd & Kristi
COFFEE HOUR:	Shaheen/Horoshak/Cardell/Habib	---

Everyone is invited to stay for refreshments after the Divine Liturgy. Your assistance in cleanup is appreciated.

COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS NEEDED! Many upcoming weeks do not have sponsors - can you take a turn?

YOUR FLOWER OFFERINGS support the beautification of our church during this holy season. Thank you!

Mark Your Calendar:



Ascension
Thursday, May 17

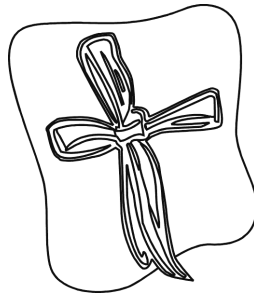
Pentecost
Sunday, May 27

Blood Drive
Wednesday, May 30, 2-7pm

Apostles Fast
June 4-29

Parish Life Conference
June 27 - July 1

International Food Festival
September 21-22



TIMELY REMINDER -- All services are OPEN to non-Orthodox visitors and friends! However, the regulations of the Orthodox Church restrict HOLY COMMUNION, HOLY UNCTION, as well as the other Sacraments (Holy Mysteries) to Orthodox Christians who are sacramentally active and/or qualified. Married Orthodox people are qualified only if their marriage has been blessed in the Orthodox Church.

To be prepared for Holy Communion, an Orthodox Christian must be fasting from all food and drink (including water), and have received Confession/Absolution. If you visit another Orthodox parish, you must make it known to the priest, in advance, that you are prepared. (Don't just step into the Communion line without letting the priest know who you are and where you are from.)

HAVE YOU MADE YOUR CONFESSION?

Great and Holy Week - Pascha - Bright Monday

Sunday, April 1:	BRIDEGROOM MATINS, 7 p.m.
Monday, April 2:	PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY, 10 a.m. BRIDEGROOM MATINS, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, April 3:	PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY, 10 a.m. Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 12:30 p.m. BRIDEGROOM MATINS, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, April 4:	PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY, 10 a.m. SACRAMENT OF HOLY UNCTION, 7 p.m.
Thursday, April 5:	VESPERAL LITURGY, 4 p.m. TWELVE GOSPELS MATINS, 7 p.m.
Friday, April 6:	ROYAL HOURS (Youth Choir), 10 a.m. VESPERS OF BURIAL, 4 p.m. LAMENTATIONS MATINS, 7 p.m.
Saturday, April 7:	GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY DIVINE LITURGY, 10 a.m. PASCHAL SERVICES BEGIN AT 11:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 8:	PASCHA! CHRIST IS RISEN! AGAPE VESPERS, 2 p.m. - Egg Hunt
Monday, April 9:	BRIGHT MONDAY PASCHAL MATINS, 9:00 a.m. DIVINE LITURGY, 10 a.m. PASCHAL VESPERS, 2 p.m.

BE SURE TO POST YOUR HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA SCHEDULE AT HOME!

OUTREACH COLLECTION: Cleaning Supplies.

WISDOM FROM FATHER B.: The Liturgy never ends.

ATTENDANCE: At Vespers on Mar 24: 53 Divine Services on Mar 25: 236
OFFERINGS: Candles, \$254.90. Collections, \$452. Youth, \$30. Flowers, \$170. Book Shelf, \$299. Burial Ministry, \$280. Food for the Hungry, \$200. Pastoral Discretion, \$500. Stewardship, \$3,829. Total received: \$6,014.90.

GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS & GENEROSITY!