

Knowing, Praying, Living the Holy Scriptures

"How I have loved thy law, O Lord! The whole day it is my meditation." (Ps 118:97)

Leviticus 25:9-10

"On the Day of Atonement you shall make the trumpet to sound throughout all your land. Then you shall sanctify the fiftieth year, and proclaim remission throughout the land to all its inhabitants." (OSB)

Last week we made passing mention of the Jubilee Year as an important feature of how God forms the economic life of His people. On top of the Sabbatical Year— not cultivating the Land every 7th year—the people of God were to observe a special Year after every "seventh 7," that is, after every 49 years. This is the Jubilee: the 50th Year after seven times seven, which is also the 8th Year of the last seven. On this Year, there was to be a "forgiveness/remission" of debts as the people entered the "new age" of the next Jubilee cycle.

It is hard to overstate the importance of the Jubilee for later developments in Israel and the Church's understanding of *all of history*. We see this in 2 Chron 36:21 in connection with Israel's 70-year exile in Babylon as predicted by Jeremiah (25:11-12; 36:10; Dan 9:2 OSB). After all of Israel's abominations, the Land must have its 70-year Sabbath rest, and the Jubilee is God's proclamation of forgiveness of sins and the return of the exiles.

This pattern can be seen clearly in the prophecies of Daniel as well, though the interpretation remains deeply obscure. In Daniel 9:20-27, Daniel prophesies of a period of 70 sevens (weeks) of years, that is, 490 years. The Fathers do indeed see in this, in connection with the Christ's own Daniel-like prophecy (Matt 24), a prophecy of periods of history, from the decree to rebuild the Temple (ca. 458 BC) culminating in the Crucifixion (ca. AD 33), when "the Anointed One" is "put to death" (Dan 9:26), which itself anticipates the destruction of the Jerusalem Temple in AD 70.

This destruction signifies the complete transfer of "the Temple" and its sacrifices into their fulfilled, eternal realities in Christ and the worship of the Church "in Spirit and truth." Jesus' self-offering as the eternal Passover and Day of Atonement sacrifice (Heb 9-10) has ushered in the eternal Jubilee (the 50th/8th Year), whence we have forgiveness of debts & sins, return from exile (resurrection), and inheritance of the eternal Kingdom (Matt 26:28; Col 1:14)!

Other Jews around the time of Christ were anticipating this very thing. One celebrated text from the Dead Sea Scrolls, 11QMelchizedek, weaves a fascinating web of Old Testament texts to present the hope for a heavenly priest-king Melchizedek who

will proclaim to them the jubilee, thereby releasing them from the debt of all their sins. [He shall pro]claim this decree in the fir[s]t [wee]k of the jubilee period that foll[ows nine] jubilee periods. Then the "[Day of Atonement]" shall follow af[ter] the [te]nth jubilee period, when he shall atone for all the Sons of [Light] ... For 'this is the time decreed for "the year of Melchiz[edek]'s favor" (cf. Isa. 61:2), [and] by his might he w[ill] judge God's holy ones and so establish a righteous ki[n]gdom, as it is written about him in the Songs of David, "God has taken his place in the council of God; in the midst of the gods he holds judgment" (Ps 82:1).

When Jesus appears in the synagogue in Nazareth, in Luke 4, and He reads from the Isaiah scroll, He is proclaiming the Jubilee remission:

The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim remission to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD. (Lk 4:18-19; Isa 61:1-2)

Because "Our Father" has remitted our debts, as we pray, this is why we are to forgive one another's debts (Matt 6:12), bearing with one another in love (Eph 4:12, 32; Col 3:13), fulfilling the Jubilee in our forgiving 70 times 7 (Matt 18:22).



ST. PHILIP ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the
Antiochian Archdiocese

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His Grace Bishop THOMAS



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August 18, 2019

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

COMMEMORATIONS:

AFTER-FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS
MARTYRS FLOROS AND LAUROS OF ILLYRIA
VENERABLE SOPHRONIOS OF ST. ANNE SKETE ON
ATHOS

Tone 8 - Eothinon 9

Orthros Gospel: St. John 20:19-31

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 3:9-17

Liturgy Gospel: St. Matthew 14:22-34

RESURRECTION TROPARION - 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 DORMITION - Tone 1 - In thy birth-giving, O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling-asleep thou hast not forsaken the world; for thou wast translated into life, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore, by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

TODAY: Orthros 8:45 am; Divine Liturgy 10 am
Coffee Hour after Liturgy.
Parish Council, 12:45 pm

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Office Hours: Monday through 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.

Weekly Ministries & Stewards:

	This Week:	Next Week (Aug 25):
PROSPHORA BREAD:	Gabi & Catalin Tinjala	MaryLynne Black
EPISTLE READER:	Jennifer Howanetz	Rdr. Nathan Jekel
USHERS:	Sdn. John N & Gabe Q.	Peter C. & Steve K.
ALTAR CANDLES:	----	----
GREETERS:	Steve & Carolyn Kaminsky	Justin & Kate Gohl
CLEANING TEAM:	Olena, Alemash, Zerfenesh & Tsegereda	Jamil & Nicole Kyriakos family
COFFEE HOUR:	Potluck	Potluck

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?

Mark Your Calendar:

Beholding of the Forerunner (Strict Fast)

Wednesday, August 28
Vespers 7 pm

Thursday, August 29
Orthros 9 am, Liturgy 10 am
w/ Fasting Potluck to follow

Ecclesiastical New Year

Sunday, September 1

Nativity of the Theotokos

Sunday, September 8
& First Day of Sunday School

Elevation of the Holy Cross (Strict Fast)

Friday, Sept 13
Vespers & Artoklasia, 7 pm

Saturday, Sept 14
Orthros 9 am, Divine Liturgy 10 am
w/ Fasting Potluck to follow

International Food Festival

September 20-21

Pray For:

Living	Departed
Archimandrite David (Griffeth)	Masresha Alees
Sharon-Elizabeth	Isaac Najib
Denise-Photini	
Mary Magdalene	
Laurence	
Lasha B	<u>Catechumens</u>
Otari B	Zachary,
Daniel H	Evan, Tina,
John	Robert,
Doris	Michael;
Nancy	Todd, Kendra,
	Liesel, Todd,
Thomas,	John Moses,
Elizabeth & all Missionaries	Virginia
New & Expectant Mothers & children	<u>St. Nina's List</u>
	Andrea
	Jeremy
	Michael

Ministry Highlights

"As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." (1 Peter 4:10)

"Bookshelf Ministry"

The purpose of the Bookshelf Ministry is to provide Orthodox books, icons and devotional items to our parish family at as low a price as possible. The Bookshelf Ministry provides Orthodox books and icons to our parish family at a reasonable price. If you don't see a title you would like, feel free to ask if it can be special ordered. Please support the Bookshelf Ministry as much as you are able. For more information contact Todd Moore (toddmoo@comcast.net) or Frank Chilbert (frankchilbert@gmail.com).

This Week:

**** Office closed & NO Parking Lot Access ****
– Mon-Wed for Parking Lot Resealing

Monday, Aug 19: *Office closed.*

Tuesday, Aug 20: *Office closed.*

Wed, August 21: *Office closed.*
Byzantine Chant Workshop, 6 p.m.
Compline & Patristic Reading, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Aug 22: **SIXTH HOUR, 12 noon**

Friday, August 23: **SIXTH HOUR, 12 noon**

Saturday, Aug 24: Men's Breakfast, 8 a.m.
Women of St. Mariamne Picnic at Lake Galena, 12 noon
Teen – Lawn Games & Cookout, 3 pm
VESPERS 6 p.m., Confession 7 p.m.

Sunday, Aug 25: **ORTHROS 8:45 a.m., Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.**
Catechism – Orientation Class, 11:45 a.m.
Coffee Hour after Liturgy.
Sunday School Teacher Meeting, 12:30 p.m.

OUTREACH COLLECTION: Paper Products

SPIRITUAL WARFARE: "Destroy"
Taking Every Thought Captive to Christ

ATTENDANCE: At Vespers on Aug 10: 58 Divine Services on Aug 11: 182
OFFERINGS: Candles, \$232. Collections, \$189. Youth, \$8. Book Shelf Ministry, \$82. Needy Fund, \$60. FOCUS Backpacks, \$40. Stewardship, \$4,760.63. Total received: \$5,371.63. Festival account: \$175.

GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS & GENEROSITY!

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