

**Procession of the Honorable Wood of the Life-Giving  
Cross of the Lord (August 1)  
(First of the three "Feasts of the Savior" in August)**

The origin of this Feast is explained in the Greek Horologion of 1897: "Because of the illnesses which occur during the month of August, it was customary at Constantinople to carry the Precious Wood of the Cross in procession throughout the city for its sanctification, and to deliver it from sickness."



On the eve (July 31), the Cross was removed from the imperial treasury and placed it upon the Holy Table of the Great Church of Hagia Sophia (which is dedicated to Christ, the Wisdom of God). From August 1 until the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos, there was a procession throughout the entire the city, and then the Cross was placed where all the people could venerate it.

In the Russian Church this Feast is combined with the remembrance of the Baptism of Rus on August 1, 988. In the "The order of services for the holy, catholic, and apostolic Great Church of the Dormition," which was compiled in 1627 by order of Patriarch Philaret of Moscow and All Rus, there is a similar explanation of the Feast: "On the day of the Procession of the Precious Cross there is a Cross Procession with the Sanctification of Water, for the enlightenment of the people, in all the towns and places."

Knowledge of the day of the actual Baptism of Rus is preserved in the Chronicles of the XVI century: "The Baptism of the Great Prince Vladimir of Kiev and of all Rus took place on August 1."

In the current practice of the Russian Church, the service of the Lesser Sanctification of Water on August 1 takes place either before or after Liturgy. Because of the Blessing of Water, this first Feast of the Savior in August is sometimes called "the Savior of the Water." Along with the Blessing of Water, there may also be a Blessing of Honey (thus it is also called "the Savior of the Honey), because on this day, the newly-gathered honey is blessed and tasted.

(From <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2020/08/01/102161-procession-of-the-honorable-wood-of-the-life-giving-cross-of-the>)



**ST. PHILIP  
ORTHODOX  
CHURCH**

A Parish of the  
Antiochian Archdiocese

*His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH*



*His Grace Bishop THOMAS*



*Father Noah Bushelli, Pastor*

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*Father James Thayer*

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**July 26, 2020**

**THE HOLY RIGHTEOUS MARTYR  
PARASKEVA OF ROME &  
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**

**COMMEMORATIONS:**

THE HOLY HIEROMARTYRS HERMOLAUS, HERMIPPUS,  
AND HERMOCRATES  
PRISCA THE RIGHTEOUS MARTYR  
MOSES THE HUNGARIAN  
JACOB NETSVETOV THE ENLIGHTENER OF ALASKA  
VENERABLE GERONTIOS, FIRST SETTLER OF ST. ANNE  
SKETE ON ATHOS  
SABBAS III, ARCHBISHOP OF SERBIA

**Tone 6 - Eothinon 7**

**Orthros Gospel: St. John 20:1-10**

**Epistle: Galatians 3:23-4:5**

**Liturgy Gospel: St. Matthew 9:27-35**

**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 OF ST. PARASKEVA - Tone 1 -** Showing a diligence befitting thy calling, O namesake of preparedness, thou hast gained, as thy dwelling, a faith worthy of thy name, O prize-winning Paraskeva. Hence, thou pourest forth healings and intercedest for our souls.

**TODAY:** ORTHROS & Confession 8:45 a.m.  
Divine LITURGY 10 a.m.

*Postponing Fellowship due to tightened restrictions. Masks are encouraged.*

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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.

