

# The Holy Prophet Joel

(October 19)

The Holy Prophet Joel, who lived around 800 B.C., was one of the Twelve Minor Prophets of Israel. He prophesied the coming desolation of Jerusalem because of the people's sin and called them to repentance with fasting and tears (Joel 2:12-13). Yet, amid his warnings, he proclaimed a message of profound hope: that God would not abandon His people but would one day pour out His Spirit upon all flesh through the coming of the Savior (Joel 2:28-32). This prophecy was fulfilled at Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. Thus, Joel stands as a prophet of both repentance and renewal, announcing the dawn of the Messianic age.



According to the Synaxarion, Joel was from the tribe of Reuben and lived in the kingdom of Judah. His name means "The Lord is God." The Prologue of Ohrid by St. Nikolai Velimirovich tells us that he foresaw not only the coming judgment but also the final triumph of God's mercy and the outpouring of divine grace upon the nations. St. Nikolai writes that Joel "saw the day when the Spirit of God would dwell not only with the prophets and kings, but with all who call upon the Name of the Lord."

The Church, in her hymnography, connects Joel's vision to the mystery of Christ's Incarnation. The hymnographer Anatolius, in the Praises at Matins on the Sunday following the Nativity, interprets Joel's prophecy mystically: the "blood" refers to the Incarnation, the "fire" to Christ's Divinity, and the "pillars of smoke" to the Holy Spirit. Thus, Joel's ancient vision foreshadowed the entire mystery of salvation—the Word made flesh, the indwelling of the Spirit, and the renewal of creation through the coming of Christ, the Lord and Giver of Life.

Text & icon adapted from oca.org

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



## 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

**October 19, 2025**

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER  
PENTECOST &  
THIRD SUNDAY OF LUKE**

### COMMEMORATIONS:

JOEL THE PROPHET, VARYS THE MARTYR, JOHN OF  
RILAS, FELIX THE HIEROMARTYR & EUSEBIUS THE  
DEACON, JOHN THE WONDERWORKER OF  
KRONSTADT

**Tone 2 - Eothinon 8**

**Orthros Gospel: St. John 20:11-18**

**Epistle: 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9**

**Liturgy Gospel: St. Luke 7:11-16**

**TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION - Tone 2 -** When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Thou who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee!

**ORDINARY KONTAKION - Tone 2 -** O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

### **TODAY:**

**ORTHROS, 8:15 a.m.**

*Ft. Washington Mission Chapel Liturgy, 9:00 a.m.*

**DIVINE LITURGY, 9:30 a.m.**

Removal of Crowns: Hein, 11:15 a.m.

Coffee Hour & Sunday School, 11:15 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal, 12:30 p.m.

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Office Hours: Monday–Thursday 12:30pm - 5:00pm

Fr Noah & Fr James are available for hospital visits. Please contact them directly or call the church office.

## Weekly Ministries & Stewards:

### This Week:

**COFFEE HOUR:** Catechumen & Inquirer's Class  
**PROSPHORA BREAD:** John Child & Heather Taggart  
**ALTAR CANDLES:** Shaheen - Memory Eternal Larry  
**USHERS:** Dan M. & Radu C.  
**CLEANING TEAM:** Catechumen & Inquirer's Class  
**COFFEE HOUR TEAM:** Carolyn K., Eric M., Anders K., Liara P.

### Next Week (Oct. 26):

Teen SOYO  
 Gabi & Catalin Tinjala  
 Schneider-Anniversary  
 Nick M. & Chris H.  
 Todd & Kristi Moore  
 Miriam K., Ryan M., Daniel C. Laura B.

## Mark Your Calendar:

**Parish Annual Meeting**  
*October 26 @ 1:00 p.m.*

**Feast of St. Raphael**  
**October 31:** Festal Vespers & Artoklasia  
 6:30 p.m. *followed by a Harvest Party*  
*for all!* **November 1:** Festal Orthros  
 7:00 a.m. & Divine Liturgy 8:00 a.m.

**Bishop Thomas Visit**  
*November 10-17*

**The Feast of St. Philip is**  
**November 13:** Hierarchical Liturgy at  
 6:00 pm w/ the tonsure of Tim R. &  
 Keith E. Followed by a Festal Potluck  
 (last non-fasting meal before Advent)

**Nativity Advent Retreat**  
*Evangelism and Apologetics*  
 w/ Fr Timothy Hojnicky  
*November 2*

### Stewardship 2026

*"It is more blessed  
 to give than to receive"*

Please pray about how you will grow in  
 giving of your *time, talent & treasure.*  
 Please return your pledges (whether physi-  
 cal or online) by **St. Philip Day:**  
**November 14th.**  
<https://tinyurl.com/stphilip2026>

## OCTOBER OUTREACH COLLECTION:

**Bath & Shower Products**

### Pray For:

Living	Departed
Our Patriarch John and Faithful of Syria, and all the holy land Met. Onuphry and faithful of Ukraine Fathers of St Catherine Monastery on Mt Sinai  St Justin Academy Mission Chapel Hades Embittered Hieromonk Silouan Charles Daria George Bethlehem and her family Sandra Ludmilla Catherine Christine Maria John James James Steven Paraskevi Alexander Jesse, Nathan, Hannah, Elizabeth, Mary, Michael, Xenia, & all Missionaries Dn Nathan, Jacob, John, Irenaeus, Theophanes, Samuel, Darius & all seminarians and their families Those searching for houses, spouses, & jobs Courting, Engaged, & Newly-Crowned Couples Families struggling to conceive Expectant and new mothers and their babies Those in mourning The people of our land, and for their repentance, healing & unity	+Tatiana +Gabriel (October Parish Diptychs) +Steve +Marcella +Mary +Dorothy +Milan +Maria +Alex +Gus +Theodore +Mary +John +Alfred +Else +Ayele +Laurence +Raymond  <u>Catechumens</u> Ryan Kassandra Jasper Matthew Mary Martin Meghan-Photini John Steven Robert Liara Asher Sarah Andrew Carolyn Martin & Gabriella James Anthony Slavek Nevada Josiah, Casie & Ray, Gwen John Michael Daniel Christopher & Naila Adaele Jeff & Jasmine, Jackson, Jonah, Jayce & Jacob Andrew & Rebecca, Hannah, Miriam, Phoebe & Priscilla

## This Week:

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|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Mon, Oct 20:</b>   | Divine Liturgy, 6:30 a.m.<br>Daily Vespers, 6:30 p.m.<br>PC Meeting, 7:30 p.m.  |
| <b>Tues, Oct 21:</b>  | Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.<br>Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1:00 p.m.<br>Daily Vespers, 6:30 p.m.   |
| <b>Wed, Oct 22:</b>   | Divine Liturgy, 6:30 a.m.<br>Confession, 6:00 p.m.<br>Little Compline, 6:30 p.m.<br>FOCUS Norristown, 7:00 p.m.<br>Patristic Discussion, 7:15 p.m.  |
| <b>Thurs, Oct 23:</b> | Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.<br>Ask Abouna, 5:30 p.m.<br>Daily Vespers, 6:30 p.m.<br>Prayer Bible Study w/ Fr. Noah, 7:15 p.m.<br>FOCUS: Aviator Park, 8:00 p.m.                                   |
| <b>Fri, Oct 24:</b>   | Divine Liturgy, 6:30 a.m.<br>Confession, 6:00 p.m.<br>Paraklesis, 6:30 p.m.   |
| <b>Sat, Oct 25:</b>   | Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.<br>Catechism Class, 4:30 p.m.<br>Book Study w/ Fr. James, 5:00 p.m.<br>Great Vespers, 6:00 p.m.<br>Confessions, 7:00 p.m.<br>Men's Bonfire, 7:00 p.m.                 |
| <b>Sun, Oct 26:</b>   | Orthros & Confessions, 8:15 a.m.<br><i>Ft. Washington Mission Chapel, 9:00 a.m.</i><br>Divine Liturgy, 9:30 a.m.<br>Coffee Hour & Sunday School, 11:15 a.m.<br>Annual Parish Meeting, 1:00 p.m. |

**ATTENDANCE:** Vespers (10/11): 82      Liturgy (10/12): 278  
**MISSION CHAPEL:** 10/12 - 45

**OFFERINGS 10/12:** Candles, \$311. Collections, \$884. Book Shelf, \$130.  
 Building Fund, \$40. Mission Chapel, \$3,392.45. Stewardship, \$5,020.  
 Total received, \$9,777.45.

**THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**