

St. Chariton the Confessor

September 28

Saint Chariton the Confessor was born at Iconium in Lycaonia and suffered during a persecution under Emperor Aurelian (270–275). Inspired by the witness of the Protomartyr Thekla, also from his city, he boldly confessed Christ and denounced the pagan gods. Though tortured fiercely, he survived by God’s providence. After Aurelian’s death, the persecution ceased and Chariton was released. He resolved to serve the Lord fully, though he grieved that he had not received the crown of martyrdom.



On pilgrimage to Jerusalem, he was captured by bandits and thrown into a cave. They intended to kill him later, but while he prayed, a snake drank from their wine vessel and poisoned it. When the robbers returned, they drank and perished. Giving thanks, Chariton distributed their stolen gold to the poor, to churches, and to monasteries. At the site of his rescue he began his ascetic labors, founding the renowned Pharan Lavra. Many disciples gathered to him, and he guided them with wisdom and love.

Chariton composed a strict monastic Rule, yet yearned for solitude. He withdrew into the desert but continued to receive all who sought his counsel. He later founded two more monasteries: the Jericho Lavra (the Monastery of Saint Chariton) and the Souka, called “the Old Lavra.” Through his example, many Jews and pagans embraced the Faith.

In his final years, he dwelt in a cave near Souka, still guiding all three monasteries. He reposed peacefully at an advanced age on September 28, 350. According to tradition, he composed the Office of Monastic Tonsure. He was buried at the Pharan monastery, where his relics were enshrined in the church built on the site of the robbers’ cave.

Saint Chariton remains a shining example of courage, ascetic zeal, and pastoral love.

Text & Icon from oca.org

The disciples were called Christians first in Antioch (Acts 11:26)



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

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September 28, 2025

FIRST SUNDAY OF LUKE

COMMEMORATIONS:

CHARITON THE CONFESSOR, OUR
RIGHTEOUS FATHER ALKEISONUS,
METROPOLITAN OF NICOPOLIS; OLD EPIRUS,
BARUCH THE PROPHET, NEOPHYTOS &
AUXENTIOS THE MARTYRS OF CYPRUS,
WENCESLAUS THE MARTYR, PRINCE OF THE
CZECHS

Tone 7 - Eothinon 5
Orthros Gospel: St. Luke 24:12-35
Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10
Liturgy Gospel: St. Luke 5:1-11

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 7 - Thou didst shatter death by thy Cross, thou didst open Paradise to the thief; thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment bearing women into joy, and didst bid thine Apostles proclaim a warning that thou hast risen, O Christ, granting to the world the great mercy!

APOLYTIKION OF ST. CHARITON THE CONFESSOR - Tone 8 - The barren wilderness thou didst make fertile with the streams of thy tears; and by thy deep sighing thou hast given fruit through thy struggles a hundred-fold. Accordingly, thou hast become a star for the universe, sparkling with miracles. Therefore, O righteous Father Chariton, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

TODAY:

Orthros & Confessions, 8:15 a.m.
Ft. Washington Mission Chapel Liturgy, 9:00 a.m.
DIVINE LITURGY, 9:30 a.m.
Coffee Hour & Sunday School following Liturgy

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

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: Potluck
PROSPHORA BREAD: Gabi & Catalin Tinjala
ALTAR CANDLES: Celia-Marie Khouri
USHERS: TBD
CLEANING TEAM: Nick M., Chris H., Shirley D., Dylan H.
COFFEE HOUR TEAM: Calvin S., Mary T., Gabriel M.

Next Week (Oct 5):

Special Olympics Benefit Coffee Hour
 Kristi M. & Sissy H.
 Atkinson-Lily's Birthday
 TBD
 Beraki H., Val H., Mark Z., Robert S.
 Morgan T., Mark Z., Rose N., Simon K.

Mark Your Calendar:

Mental Health Talk

October 11 at 10:00 am

Mental Health in the Modern World: An Orthodox Holistic Approach w/ Keith Eisenhuth

Vigil for St. Luke

October 17/18

5pm: Holy Unction

6:30: Festal Vespers

8:30: Festal Orthros

10:30: Divine Liturgy

Midnight Festal Refreshments

Parish Annual Meeting

October 26 @ 1:00 p.m.

Feast of St. Raphael

November 1

Bishop Thomas Visit

November 10-17

The Feast of St. Philip is November 13.

Nov. 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 Fast Begins

November 15

Advent Retreat: Evangelism and Apologetics w/ Fr Timothy Hojnicky

November 22

SEPTEMBER OUTREACH COLLECTION:

Cleaning 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 Tatiana Bethlehem and her family Ludmilla Serge and Linea Archpriest Timothy Catherine Christine Maria John James James Ulrik Steven Paraskevi Anna Alexandra Alexander Nectarios 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	+Doris +Michael (September Parish Diptychs) +Helen +Michael +Barry +Helen +Timothy +George +Kh. Joyce Black <hr/> <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 John Michael Daniel Christopher and Naila Adaele And our inquirers

This Week:

Mon, Sept 29:

Divine Liturgy, 6:30 a.m.
 Daily Vespers, 6:30 p.m.

Tues, Sept 30:

Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.
 Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1:00 p.m.
 Daily Vespers, 6:30 p.m.

Wed, Oct 1:

Divine Liturgy, 6:30 a.m.
 Little Compline, 6:30 p.m.
 FOCUS Norristown, 7:00 p.m.
 Patristic Discussion, 7:15 p.m.

Thurs, Oct 2:

Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.
 Daily Vespers, 6:30 p.m.
 FOCUS: Aviator Park, 8:00 p.m.

Fri, Oct 3:

Divine Liturgy, 6:30 a.m.
 Paraklesis, 6:30 p.m.
 Teen Tea, 7:30 p.m.

Sat, Oct 4:

Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.
 CiRCE Workshop, 9:30 a.m.
 Catechism Class, 4:30 p.m.
 Book Study w/ Fr. James, 5:00 p.m.
 Great Vespers, 6:00 p.m.
 Confessions, 7:00 p.m.

Sun, Oct 5:

Orthros & Confessions, 8:15 a.m.
Ft. Washington Mission Chapel, 9:00 a.m.
 Divine Liturgy, 9:30 a.m.
 Trisagion Memorial (Ayele S), 11:00 a.m.
 Coffee Hour & Sunday School, 11:15 a.m.
 Choir Rehearsal, 12:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Vespers 9/20: 108

Liturgy 9/21: 252

OFFERINGS 9/21: Candles, \$337. Collections, \$2,016.21. Building Fund, \$260. Vestments, \$500. Woman's Fund, \$600. Handmaiden's, \$27. Mission Chapel, \$2853. Pastoral Discretion, \$800. Needy Fund, \$122. Teen Fund, \$500. Camping, \$200. Stewardship, \$11,511.04. Total received: \$20,726.27. Food Festival, \$19,112.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!