

# + SAINTS PETER AND PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America  
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## *Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory to God For All Things!*

October 11, 2015	19 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am
October 17	Saturday	Great Vespers	4:00 pm
October 18	20 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am

**Saints of the Day:** Holy Apostle Philip of the Seventy, one of the seven deacons (1st c.). Venerable Theophanes the Confessor and Hymnographer, Bishop of Nicaea (850). Venerable Leonid of Optina (1841). Synaxis of the Saints of Optina: Saint Leonid (repose) (1841), Saint Macarius (1860), Saint Moses (1862), Saint Anthony (1865), Saint Hilarion (1873), Saint Ambrose (1891), Saint Anatole (the "Elder") (1894), Saint Isaac I (1894), Saint Joseph (1911), Saint Barsanuphius (1913), Saint Anatole (the "Younger") (1922), Saint Nektary (1928), Saint Nikon the Confessor (1931), New Hieromartyr Archimandrite Isaac II (1937). New Hieromartyrs Priests Philaret and Alexander 1918). New Hieromartyr Juvenalius (Maslovsky) Bishop of Riazan (1937). Venerable Theophanes, faster of the Kiev Caves (12th c.). Martyrs Zenaida (Zenais) and Philonilla of Tarsus in Cilicia (1st c.). Saints Nectarius (397), Arcadius (405), and Sinisius (427), Patriarchs of Constantinople. Saint Gomma, Patron of Lier (775). Venerable Ethelburga, Abbess of the Monastery of Barking (England) (676). Venerable Cainnech (Kenneth), Abbot of Aghaboe (Ireland) (600). Saint Philotheus (Kokkinos) of Mt. Athos, Patriarch of Constantinople (1379).

**Please remember in your prayers:** Suffering Christians of Egypt, Syria, the Middle East and Ukraine. Bishop Boulos and Bishop Yohanna, of Aleppo. Archimandrites Athanasy, Nectarios, Luke, Pachomy. Archpriests Alvian, Eugene, Leonid, John, Jason, John, Vincent. Priests Jacobus, Leonid, Andrew. Deacons Mark, Demetrios, Philip. Mother Victoria. Mothers Raphaela, Michaela, Catherine, Anna. Sister Piama. Monk Victor, Matushka Joanna, Mary, Valentina, Dimitri, Nina, Daniel, Helen, Catherine, Anna, Peter, Helen, Michael, Stephanie, David, Erin, Zara, Nolan, David, Emelie, Michael, Ed, Nettie, Anita, Maria, Michael, John, Linda, James, Nancy, Susan, Daniel, Aaron, Nicole, Ashley, Mark, Jennifer, Nina, Nadine, Michael, Anna, Gregory, Marianna, Isaiah, Jamie, Albert, Kevin, Robert, Robert, Andrew, Betty, David, Warren.

**God Grant Many Years!** Prayers for the health of Barbara Daley were offered at Liturgy and Moleben on October 4, at her request.

**God Grant Many Years!** Prayers for the health of Ted Bazil were offered for his nameday at Liturgy and Moleben at the request of Father John Udics.

**Memory Eternal.** Prayers for the repose of Olga Prawlocki were offered today at Liturgy and Litiya at the request of David and Debie Chlus.

**Memory Eternal.** Prayers for the repose of Theodore Litwen were offered today at Liturgy and Litiya at the request of Stephanie Litwen.

**Memory Eternal.** Prayers for the repose of Ann Dulak and Dimitri, Olena, Michael and Michael Alexczuk were offered today at Liturgy and Litiya at the request of the "Memory Eternal Requiem Service Fund."

### **FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

November 21 Saturday 11am there will be a BAKE SALE at church. On sale will be:

Pierogi – frozen. Haloopchi –frozen. Fresh baked bread.

For more information call Barbara at 867 7853. You can help make pierogi – please call Barbara.

### **Catholicos-Patriarch Ilia II Relates A Miracle That Once Happened To His Mother**

*Tbilisi, December 6, 2014*

On the feast of the Presentation (Entry) of the Mother of God into the Temple Catholicos-Patriarch Ilia II of All Georgia greeted the congregation and said: "This is one of the greatest feasts. When the Theotokos was led into the Holy of Holies that could be entered once a year only by the high-priest, it was a sign that She was an extraordinary person ...

"Today I want to talk to you of the significance of the Church in our lives. The Church is the gateway to the Heavenly Kingdom. And blessed is the family or the person who stands before these gates. Blessed is he who feels the significance of the Church. A special grace is present in the Church. The grace of the Holy Spirit...

"I recall the time when we started construction on the Holy Trinity Cathedral in Tbilisi, how we dug out the foundations. Many people thought what to fill the trench with, and whether we were really able to build a church.

Even when there was still nothing there, we felt the presence of a special grace on that spot.

I recollect those days when people even did not want to leave the spot. There was just a pit there... But God filled everything. And He built this church for us, and our people together with Him. This was to become the

Church of the Holy Trinity. Whatever a man does is his (or her) self-portrait... This means the power of the Holy Spirit has been poured out in abundance on Georgia”.

Patriarch Ilia II went on: “I want to recall my childhood. There was no Sunday or Saturday, when our father, mother, and all of us children missed a church service. We attended the Church of Holy Prophet Elijah in Vladikavkaz. Once during the service mother said to us, children: “Stay here, and I will go out.”

She went to the grave that was and still is there—the grave of Anastasia Andreyevna. Her surname was Andreyeva. She was Greek by birth. Her ancestors were Greeks. She was a wonder-worker. Died in 1932. She worked miracles. Mother came to the grave and saw people there flocked together, kneeling and praying. She wondered why they were crying... “Don’t you see anything?” she was asked. “Nothing,” she replied. “Then make a sign of the cross and kneel down.” It was in the afternoon during a church service. She knelt down and saw the Mother of God with the Savior on Her arm. She bent over to kiss the Feet of the Theotokos but the Latter suddenly disappeared and then reappeared. 17 people witnessed this miraculous event.

The personal keys and staff of St. Anastasia that she always took with her are kept at our Patriarchate. They had been given to my father and he gave them to me.

Anastasia was a wonderful person. During the war the Germans were about to enter the city, when one soldier saw an old woman walking with a staff in a cemetery situated on the outskirts of the city. He stopped her and cried: “Who are you?” She answered: “I am Anastasia; I am guarding over this city.” The Germans failed to enter the city.

I remember how my parents prepared before going to church. How they prepared our clothes, cooked the meal... When we departed on Saturday and returned on Sunday, dinner was ready...

I do not remember a day when we did not stand in prayer together in the evening.

This is the way we should raise our children. With love. I cannot remember any loud word in our family, nor a shout. There always was peace and quiet, and we, children, inherited this from parents.”

The patriarch has also interceded for the people who mortgaged their houses and now are subject to eviction.

At the end of the sermon, Patriarch Ilia blessed the people: “May the Lord send us patience and peace. May He grant us His Divine grace, which heals the infirm and completes imperfection.” [Pravoslavie.ru](http://Pravoslavie.ru) 14 / 12 / 2014

**APOSTLE PHILIP OF THE SEVENTY, ONE OF THE SEVEN DEACONS** is not to be confused with Saint Philip one of the Twelve Apostles (November 14). This Philip was born in Palestine, was married and had children.

After the Descent of the Holy Spirit, the Twelve Apostles made Philip a deacon in the Church of Jerusalem. Along with the other six deacons, they appointed him to deal with the offerings of the faithful and attend to the concerns of the widowed, the orphaned and the needy. The eldest among the seven deacons was the holy Archdeacon Stephen. When the persecution of Christians began, the Jews stoned the Protomartyr Stephen. The Apostle Philip left Jerusalem and settled in Samaria. There he successfully preached Christianity. Among the disciple's converts was the noted magician Simon, who "after being baptized, continued with Philip." (Acts 8:9-13)

At the command of an angel of the Lord, Saint Philip set out upon the road connecting Jerusalem with Gaza. There he met an official of the empress of Ethiopia, whom also he converted to Christianity (Acts 8:26-39). The holy disciple Philip tirelessly preached the Word of God in many of the lands of the Near East adjoining Palestine. At Jerusalem the Apostles made him a bishop and sent him to Tralles in Asia Minor, where he also baptized many.

Saint Philip died in old age.

### **SAINT THEOPHANES THE CONFESSOR AND HYMNOGRAPHER, BISHOP OF NICEA**

Saint Theophanes, Confessor and Hymnographer, Bishop of Nicea was the younger brother of Saint Theodore the Branded (December 27). The brothers received an excellent education and were particularly involved in philosophy. Striving towards the knowledge of God, they settled in the Lavra of Saint Sava. Here Saint Theophanes was tonsured, and later became a hieromonk.

The holy brothers were famed as advocates of icon veneration. They boldly fulfilled the mission entrusted them by the Patriarch of Jerusalem and went to Constantinople to denounce the iconoclast emperor Leo the Armenian (813-820). Afterwards, they also denounced the iconoclast emperors Michael Balbos (820-829) and Theophilus (829-842).

The saints had to endure imprisonment, hunger, even torture. The emperor Theophilus gave orders to inscribe a phrase insulting to the glorious confessors upon their faces with red-hot needles. Therefore, they are called "Branded". "Write whatever you wish, but at the Last Judgment you shall read your own writing," said the agonized brothers to the emperor. They sent Theodore to prison, where also he died (+ 833), but Theophanes was sent into exile. With the restoration of Icon veneration Saint Theophanes was returned from exile and consecrated Bishop of Nicea. The saint wrote about 150 canons, among which is a beautiful canon in defense of holy icons. He died peacefully around the year 850.

**THE MARTYRS ZENAIDA AND PHILONILLA OF TARSUS** lived in Tarsus in Cilicia during the first century, and were related to the holy Apostle Paul. They were pious Christian women, and both of them shared a love of learning. By whatever means were available to them at that time, they acquired medical knowledge.

The two sisters left their home and settled in a cave near the city of Demetriada, where they lived in constant prayer and work. The citizens of Demetriada soon learned that there were two women doctors who gladly treated everyone who turned to them for help, yet did not require payment for their services. They also healed people's souls by converting them to Christ.

One night, some pagans went to their cave and stoned them. Saints Zenaida and Philonilla suffered martyrdom for Christ, thereby receiving incorruptible crowns of glory from the Lord.