

PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER VIRGIN MARY
(Pokrov)

November 14th 2021

5 2nd Street
Herminie, PA 15637
<http://pokrov.iksnazul.com/>

Cantor
Joseph Luzanski



*Christ is among us!
That means that the risen Lord is among us. The
answer goes,
He is and always will be.*

Liturgical Schedule

Divine Liturgy
Sunday: 9am
Holyday: 9am

Confessions

One half hour before
the divine liturgy or by
appointment

25th Sunday after Pentecost

Tone 8

Philip Apostle

Served By

We are waiting for a priest to be assigned to our
parish.

Wisdom from the Church Fathers

Since it is likely that, being men, they would sin every day, St. Paul consoles his hearers by saying 'renew yourselves' from day to day. This is what we do with houses: we keep constantly repairing them as they wear old. You should do the same thing to yourself. Have you sinned today? Have you made your soul old? Do not despair, do not despond, but renew your soul by repentance, and tears, and Confession, and by doing good things. And never cease doing this.

Saint John Chrysostom

The greatest gift of God to us is the gift of sharing His life. We have been made "partakers of the divine nature" (2 Peter 1:4): a process begun in us at our christening. When we live a life of faith, this relationship is deepened, furthering the process of our divinization or theosis. This movement continues in us through life and death and will not be complete until the resurrection of all mankind on the last day. Then our risen bodies as well as our spirits will share in the resurrection life and partake in glory. "We know we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is" (1 John 3:2).

Reminder:

There is a list for Divine Liturgy and Sanctury Lamp intentions in the vestibule of the church.

November

15 Nativity Fast

21 The Entry of the Most Holy Mother of God into the Temple

December

6 St Nicholas the Wonderworker and Archbishop of Myra in Lycia

9 (8) The Conception of the Most Holy Mother of God by the Righteous Anna

We are mindful of the issues caused by the corona virus and we want to keep our congregation and our visitors safe . The church is wiped down after each service. There is also plenty of space for social distancing.

Why Do We Keep Phillip's Fast?
Steve Puluka

Unlike the Great Fast before the Feast of the Resurrection (Pascha), the Phillipian fast is seldom known or practiced in the Byzantine Church. Often it is confused with the Roman Catholic practice of Advent.

Since the Nativity / Theophany events hold less importance than Pascha - the Feast of Feasts - (the Resurrection), a detailed structure never evolved for the Phillipian Fast. Yet the Phillipian Fast is an ancient practice in preparation for the Incarnation and Theophany of the Lord Jesus Christ. This 40 day fast is important and should be preserved and practiced. The Phillipian Fast can help us to better understand and appreciate all of God's saving plan.

Without the structure and public events to guide us, the practice of the Phillipian Fast has gradually fallen off. Theologically, the birth and the public ministry of Christ are inextricable linked. The Phillipian Fast was created to prepare us to receive Christ into the world and begin His public ministry. They are two sides of a single coin. The Phillipian fast prepares us to receive the public ministry of Christ announced at Theophany.

On arriving at Bethlehem and the Nativity on December 25th, we begin to prepare for the Theophany. We do not stop at the Nativity. In our joy at God's arrival, we press forward and see the Theophany. With Theophany we experience the beginning of Christ's revelation to us of the mysteries of God. Most important of all, this event points out the Mystery of the Trinity, a mystery long hinted in the Old Testament.

If you do not love your neighbor you do not love the Lord – The Lord teaches that the man going down was the neighbor of no one except of him who wanted to keep the Commandments and prepare himself to be a neighbor to everyone that needs help. This is what is found after the end of the parable, “Which of these three does it seem to you is the neighbor of the man who fell among robbers?” Neither the priest nor the Levite was his neighbor, but – as the teacher of the law himself answered – “he who showed pity” was his neighbor. The Savior says, “Go and do likewise.” (Origen)

Born in Bethsaida beside the Sea of Galilee, Philip was so well versed in the Holy Scriptures that he immediately recognized Jesus as the Messiah upon seeing him the first time. After Pentecost, St. Philip preached in Asia and Greece. I

The tomb of St. Philip was unearthed in a great discovery in the Denizli province of Turkey in 2011. The discovery took place at the Hierapolis (Pamukkale) ancient excavation site of Denizli in western Turkey on Tuesday 26 July 2011. The excavation has been going on in the area for some 32 years led by the Italian Prof. Francesco D'Andria. Prof D'Andria gave the news of the great discovery on Tuesday, saying: [i]"The discovery of the tomb of St Philip, who is a very important figure for Christianity, will make a tremendous impression in the world,"[/i] shortly after the great success of his team.

Up till now, people believed that the tomb of St. Philip was in the back hill of Hierapolis, but Italian Archaeologist Francesco D'Andria and his team discovered a new church ruin near 40 meters of the hill and the real tomb of St. Philip the Apostle is in the church.