



St. Phoebe, Deacon

September 3

“I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is [also] a minister (*diakonos*) of the church at Cenchreae, that you may receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the holy ones, and help her in whatever she may need from you, for she has been a benefactor to many and to me as well.”

❖ *St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 16:1-2*

Enlightened by grace and taught the faith by Paul, an apostle of Christ, you were found worthy of the diaconate and you carried Paul's words to Rome. O Deacon Phoebe, pray to Christ God that his Spirit may enlighten our souls and guide the discernment of the Church that the gifts and voices of women may be received and affirmed in our day for the service of God's people!

Paul proclaimed you as a protector of many, including himself. Hearken to those who approach you with faith and who cry out to you with love: Rejoice, glory of Corinth and pride of Achaia; rejoice, you lamp of Cenchreae; rejoice, O Deacon Phoebe.

*Prayer texts adapted from hymns of the Orthodox liturgy:
Apolytikion in the Third Tone and Kontakion in the Second Tone.
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