



THE PARISH PRESS



St. Philip Orthodox Church

BABY STEPS TO HOLINESS - AFTER MORNING PRAYERS, PREVIEW THE DAY.

NEWS ~ N ~ NOTES

GIVING UPDATES

FORTY DAYS OF GROWTH IN STEWARDSHIP begins October 11th. Thank you and God bless you and all our faithful stewards! *The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and all who dwell in it. Ps 23(24):1*

MONTHLY OUTREACH COLLECTION: Thanks to all for your generosity to the needy of our community! For **October**, we are collecting **bath & shower products.**



NON-PERISHABLE FOOD COLLECTION: We continue to collect non-perishables of all kinds for the food pantries as well.

USED CLOTHING DROP-OFF SHED: Have you seen the shed in the rear parking lot? You can drop off used clothing & stuffed animals (no rags or household goods) to be sent to the needy locally and throughout the world.

NEWSPAPERS: Salfid Rescue Kennel, our neighbor on Clearview Road, is always in need of old newspapers. Look for the box in the hallway.



MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAITHFUL GIVERS!

A Message from Fr Noah

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Month of October begins with an important feast of the Virgin Mary, The Protection.



The feast day celebrates the appearance of the Mother of God at Blachernae (Vlaherna) in the tenth century. At the end of St. Andrew of Constantinople's life, he, with his disciple St. Epiphanius, and a group of people, saw the Mother of God, St. John the Baptist, and several other saints and angels during a vigil in the Church of Blachernae, nearby the city gates. The Blachernae Palace church was where several of her relics were kept. The relics were her robe, veil, and part of her belt that had been transferred from Palestine during the fifth century.

The Theotokos approached the center of the church, knelt down and remained in prayer for a long time. Her face was drowned in tears. Then she took her veil off and spread it over the people as a sign of protection. During the time, the people in the city were threatened by a barbarian invasion. After the appearance of the Mother of God, the danger was averted and the city was spared from bloodshed and suffering. (from Orthodoxwiki.org)

May Christ our True God protect us from sin, sickness, and trial and tribulation, through the holy and tearful prayers of His Mother and by the shelter of Her Veil!

+ Fr. Noah

Mark Your Calendar:

Chanting Workshops

Wednesdays 7:45 - 8:30
September 23 - November 11

Catechumens & Inquirers

Saturdays 4:15 - 5:45
September 26 - November 14

Blessed Surgeon

A Book Study led by Fr James
Sundays in October, following Liturgy

40 Days of Growth in Stewardship

October 11 - November 15

What is Orthodox Evangelism?

Presented by Fr Andrew Damick
Saturday, October 17, 7 p.m.

Bishop Thomas Visit

October 30 - November 1
Come receive the blessing!

Youth Choir

Saturdays in November, 5:00 p.m.
For youth in 2nd grade and up.
The Youth Choir will be preparing to sing St Nicholas Vespers on Dec 5, as well as another service.

Myrrh-Streaming Icon Visit

Friday, November 13
Vespers for St Philip, 5 p.m.
Paraklesis with Streaming Icon, 6 p.m.

Feast of St Philip

Friday, November 13
Vespers for St Philip, 5 p.m.
Paraklesis with Streaming Icon, 6 p.m.
Saturday, November 14
Matins 9 a.m., Liturgy 10 a.m.

Nativity Fast Begins November 15

Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple

Friday, November 20
Vespers 6 p.m., Matins 7 p.m.
Saturday, November 21
Divine Liturgy 10 a.m.



Pascha - May 1, 2016

Baby Steps to Holiness

October: After morning prayers, preview the day.



Are you tired of committing the same sins day after day? Our Lord tells us to "watch and pray lest you enter into temptation" (Matthew 25:41). But how is that done practically? It's simple ...

In the morning, after we say our prayers, we can spend a minute previewing, or thinking through, the day. For example, if it is a Wednesday and I am planning to visit a parishioner at their ice cream shop, I need to be ready with how I will graciously accept their hospitality and also keep the fast ... perhaps water ice or some soy ice cream.

Another example: this will probably hit closer to home for all of us. It is a holiday and you will be travelling to visit so-and-so-in-law, with whom you have a very strained relationship. Prepare yourself with positive thinking (focusing on the good, the blessings, etc.) and asking God for his help in that situation.

We can and should employ this strategic planning at the beginning of every day, so that we are not constantly caught off guard. This practical vigilance is good spiritual practice that will keep us from stumbling into sin. If we sin less, it means that our consciences are cleaner and we have more boldness in prayer, ministry, and evangelism.

Did You Know?

- **Scott and Zoë Endicott** have expressed their commitment to learning the Orthodox Faith, becoming catechumens in mid-September. Welcome!
- Many thanks to **Peter & Sue Psomiadis** for installing new shelves in the church to hold our Great Feast Icons!
- **Catechumens and Inquirers** – about 15-20. Please pray them, welcome them, and help them get integrated into our church family. Consider attending the Intro to Orthodoxy class (Saturdays at 4:15 through November 14) and praying with them at vespers.
- Our Stewardship Emphasis will, God willing, have a “**Ministry Fair**” element to it with a way to learn more about the various ministries in the parish.
- **Today can be a blessing** if you allow God’s love to shine through you!

Missions Minute

Pray for the Persecuted Church!

On August 26, 2015, before dawn, at around 4 o’clock in the morning, in order not to confront the residents of Dhermi in Himara, the Orthodox Church of St. Athanasius was secretly destroyed by construction inspection forces which were brought from other areas of the country. It was dejecting and offensive to see the Holy Gospel, the Icons and the sacred objects buried under the rubble. This act reminds us of the desecration at St. Mary’s Church in Permet, where the holy objects were thrown into a garbage truck.

Lord, have mercy!! O Lord, save Thy People and bless Thine Inheritance.

Everyday Evangelist

“As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” (Jn 20:21)

Walk by Faith, not by Fear.

Challenge for 2015:

Build Up the Body of Christ (Ephesians 4)

The Church is the locus and guardian of Holy Tradition. The revelation of God in Christ was given the Holy Apostles and passed along by them to the entire church, overseen by the hierarchy, and passed from generation to generation .

Wisdom

From the Wisdom of Sirach

This Old Testament Treasure Trove is part of the Greek (Septuagint) Old Testament’s Dueterocanon (secondary-canon). This work, known as Ecclasticus in the Latin Old Testament, shows a more developed eschatology which bridges the gap between the prophets and Christ Himself.

- ✦ My son, if you draw near to serve the Lord, prepare your soul for temptation. (2:1)
- ✦ Whoever touches pitch will be stained, and whoever associates with an arrogant man will become like him. (13:1)
- ✦ Do not walk after your own desires, but restrain your appetites. (18:29)
- ✦ He who confesses his fault will be kept from loss. (20:3)
- ✦ The heart of fools is in their mouth, but the mouth of the wise is in their heart. (21:26)
- ✦ Mourning for a dead man lasts seven days, but mourning for a fool or an ungodly man lasts all his life. (22:12)
- ✦ There are three things beautiful to see, and they are beautiful before the Lord and men: The harmony of brothers, friendship between neighbors, and a wife and husband well-adjusted together. (25:1)
- ✦ As fruit reveals how a tree is cultivated, so a man’s reasoning process reveals his heart. (27:6)

Ask Abouna

Previous Question: Father Noah, what is Catechism?

Answer: Catechism is the process of teaching (especially through question and answer, from the Greek “catecheo” meaning “sound coming down”, or instruction by the word of mouth) catechumens the Christian truths and practices. This is a very joyous and yet serious time. Throughout Church history it has had different shapes, methodologies, and durations. Our Bishop THOMAS has instructed the priests of our diocese that the period of catechesis be one year long. It consists of classes, reading, and most especially attending Divine Services and getting accustomed to living as an Orthodox Christian. Catechism is an “Engagement;” the intention of Marriage (being united to the church) is declared and prepared for.

This fall we have a large number of serious inquirers and catechumens, so I have formalized the process more than in the past. Please pray for them, welcome them, and get to know them at coffee hour.



New Question: Father James, tell us about your trip to Russia, pretty please ?

Holy Mysteries

Lukas Giga Koridze, son of George & Theresa Koridze, was baptized into Christ on Saturday, August 29.

Alex and Sarah (Morse) Kaminsky, were united in Holy Matrimony on Saturday, September 5.

MAY GOD GRANT THEM MANY YEARS!

Orthodoxy Online

Arms Open Wide - Orthodox Christian Disability Resources:
www.armsopenwide.wordpress.com

Orthodox Photos from around the world, and other resources:
www.orthodoxphotos.com

Lives of Saints:
www.goarch.org/chapel/calendar
www.o.ca.org/FSlives.asp
www.voskrese.info/spl/index.html
www.westsrbdio.org/prolog/prolog.htm

Iconograms (Orthodox web-based greeting cards)
www.iconograms.org

Lord have mercy

Ky-ri-e e-le-i-son

[Greek]

Ya-rab bur-ham

[Arabic]

Hos-pod-i po-mi-lui

[Russian]

U-pa-lo sheh gwee tzkal-len

[Georgian]

Dwam-neh mee-loo yesh-teh

[Romanian]

Eg'zeo Me'harene Kristos

[Ge'ez]