



THE PARISH PRESS

St. Philip Orthodox Church



WISDOM FROM FR. B: IT'S NOT TIME YET. WAIT UNTIL ...

NEWS ~ N ~ NOTES

GIVING UPDATES

MONTHLY OUTREACH COLLECTION: Thank you for your generosity to the needy of our community! In **November**, we are collecting **Turkeys & Hams**.

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

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!

Holy Mysteries

Fr Herman Acker was ordained to the Holy Priesthood on Sunday, October 9.

Daniel Marquardt was baptized into Christ here at St Philip's on Saturday, October 15.

Daniel and Olena (Kulbachna) Marquardt were united in Christ by the Sacrament of Marriage here at St Philip's on Saturday, October 22.

MAY GOD GRANT THEM MANY YEARS!

Missions Minute

Where do OCMC missionaries serve? Albania, Guatemala, Kenya, Mongolia, New Zealand, Romania, USA, & in multi-country situations. Read about the unique ministry of the Colburn Family (translation, software development, & more) at https://www.ocmc.org/about/view_missionary.aspx?MissionaryId=20.

Everyday Evangelist

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

Volunteer with community organizations.

A Message from Fr Noah

Dear Saint Philip's Family,

I want you to read, ponder, and enact this beautiful, simple teaching of Saint Paisios on love:

Naturally, every person will be paid by the boss for whom he had worked. Those who work for Christ shall receive an hundredfold now in this time and in the world to come, eternal life; and those who work for the black boss will receive darkness even now.



Those who work for Christ but are prideful pollute their virtues, just as fried eggs are contaminated when bird's droppings fall on them. They then can only be thrown in the trash along with the frying pan.

Our lives have become so complicated. We've lost our first love. We've imported stones and thorns into the good soil of our hearts. We've become lukewarm. We've chosen to have our reward now. Help us! Save us! Have mercy on us! And keep us, O God, by Thy Grace! Lord, have mercy!

When you stand to pray, remember that God is the boss, the overly generous boss, who lets us choose and always gives us a second chance.

To Him be all the glory unto ages of ages! Amen.

In Christ,

+ Fr. Noah

OUR SYMPATHY IN CHRIST

is offered to the **Moore family** upon the passing of **Kristi's mother, Margery Brom**, who reposed at the end of October. The funeral was held in Waterloo, Iowa. **MAY HER MEMORY BE ETERNAL!**



Mark Your Calendar:

Introduction to Orthodoxy

Saturdays, 4:30 pm through November 19

Services for St Philip

Sunday, November 13

Vespers & Artoklasia 6 pm, Matins 7 pm
Monday, November 14
Divine Liturgy 10 am

ADVENT FAST

November 15 - December 25

Visit of Myrrh-Streaming Icon from Taylor PA

Friday, November 18, 6 pm
Advent Paraklesis & Akathist to the Theotokos, Nurturer of Children

Nativity Services (Special Schedule!)

Friday, December 23

10 am Royal Hours

Saturday, December 24

9 am Divine Liturgy

6 pm Vespers, Artoklasia, & Orthros

Sunday, December 25

9 am Divine Liturgy

We live Pascha to Pascha!

April 16, 2017

Practical Wisdom

From the Saints

Do not ask for love from your neighbor, for if you ask and he does not respond, you will be troubled. Instead, show your love for your neighbor and you will be at rest, and so will bring your neighbor to love.

- St. Dorotheus of Gaza

Let us not grieve when we make a slip, but when we become hardened by it.

- St. Isaac the Syrian

The ignorance of Scripture is a great cliff and a deep abyss; to know nothing of the divine laws is a great betrayal of salvation.

- St. John Chrysostom

Did You Know?

- **Victoria Psomiadis** was one of four medical students at her medical school to have their writings chosen for the new book, *in-Training: Stories from Tomorrow's Physicians*. The book presents first-person accounts by medical students of their experiences while becoming physicians. Learn more at <https://hscweb3.hsc.usf.edu/awardsblog/2016/10/25/usf-medical-students-included-in-book-of-reflections-from-medical-school/> Congratulations Victoria!
- **Fr Noah** recently prayed for the parishioners of St Philip's before the relics of St John Maximovich in San Francisco and at the resting place of St Raphael at Antiochian Village.
- Your **Amazon** purchases can benefit St Philip's! Simply start your shopping from the link at the top of every page of the **St Philip's website**.
- Your **pledges and special offerings** keep our parish doing God's work! Thanks to all our faithful stewards.
- **Coffee hour** is a vital ministry of hospitality. Please help us keep this tradition of fellowship strong in our parish. Remember, it doesn't have to be a meal; just a refreshing snack is sufficient. The 2017 schedule is now available on the Ministry Fair table!
- **AncientFaith.com** offers hundreds of talks on dozens of topics. Visit, learn, and grow!



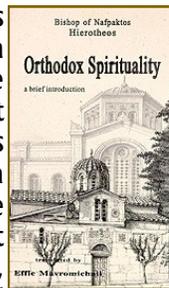
**Challenge for 2016:
Pray Without Ceasing
(1 Thessalonians 5)**

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing,
in everything give thanks;
for this is the will of God in Christ
Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

**Book Recommendation
*Orthodox Spirituality: A Brief Introduction***

by Metr. Hierotheos Vlachos



The spiritual person is he who partakes of and participates in the energies of the Most Holy Spirit; he, who has himself become a dwelling place of the Holy Spirit. This does not constitute an abstract, emotional or intellectual spirituality. The bearer of Orthodox spirituality par excellence is the Saint who is revealed through his teaching and his relics. The non-spiritual individual, who is deprived of the Holy Spirit, is the psychological and carnal person.

It is precisely the above distinction which points out the differences between Orthodox spirituality and other "spiritualities." Orthodox spirituality differs markedly from the "spiritualities" of the East and West. The difference in the dogma generates the difference in ethos as well. The essence of Orthodox spirituality lies in its therapeutic effects. It cures a person's infirmities and renders him an integrated person.

**A heavenly perspective on
earthly goods**
by St. Paisios

There is no man more intelligent than the merciful one who gives away earthly, perishable things and buys imperishable, heavenly things. Likewise, there is no great fool in the world than the greedy one who gathers things continually and yet is deprived continually, finally buying hell with his collected savings. Those, naturally, who are lost in material things are totally lost, for they have lost Christ.

Ask Abouna

Previous Question: Another Fast? Really??? How can I improve my attitude toward fasting?

Answer: I have heard this weary reaction many times. Too many times. "Father, its all we do... It seems that its always a fast day..." I've had it in my heart too many times, too.

I invite you to rethink fasting. It isn't just physical deprivation; it is also spiritual feasting. Don't think solely of the food you can't eat and the entertainment and recreational activities you should postpone. Think instead of the Lord Jesus Christ calling to you from the Holy Icons, the Holy Scriptures, the Saints and the Sacraments. He is chasing us down ... to strengthen us to act on our redemption from spiritual slavery.

I'm still thinking of our Lord's parable of Lazarus and the rich man. Our Church is in our face, not allowing us to have our reward now.

I'm also thinking of my doctor who reminds we about the need to lose a couple pounds, eat more vegetables, less rich foods, etc.

Embrace the disciplines that our mother, the Church, dictates! Embrace them as opportunities for a change of heart, a change of mind, a change of habits, to direct all our lives more purposefully into Christ's warm embrace!



New Question: Do you believe in Santa Claus?

SEE YOU IN CHURCH!

- Saturday:** VESPERS, 6 p.m.
- Sunday:** MATINS, 8:45 a.m.
DIVINE LITURGY, 10 a.m.
- Wednesday:** AKATHIST, 7 p.m.
(unless a festal service supersedes)

Check our calendar for special services!

Wisdom from Fr. B.

"It's not time yet. Wait until ..."

I heard Fr. Boniface give this advice to others, and myself, many times. "wait until... Pascha" "until... Christmas." "until... the fast is over." He used this in many situations, delicate as well as simple, joyful and sorrowful, to help people slow down by prayerfully

Wait

embracing the fast with (almost-) patient trust in God and then re-embracing the decision with a refreshed, repentant perspective. It doesn't guarantee the correct course of action will be chosen or completed perfectly, but it does help us swim out the tide of impulsiveness that our hyper-connected one-click consumerism has thrown us into.