



THE PARISH PRESS

St. Philip Orthodox Church



CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

NEWS ~ N ~ NOTES

FESTIVAL PREPARATIONS

The dates for our International Festival have been set - **September 20-21**. We'll need everyone's help to make this year's Festival even more successful than last year's. Please see Fr. Noah or Jonathan Yurchak, Festival Chair, to find out more. **Many tasks** will need willing hands; check out the sign-up sheets in the Great Room to see where you can lend a hand.

GIVING UPDATES

MONTHLY OUTREACH COLLECTION:

Many thanks to all for your contribution to our April collection. We collected & delivered 130 pounds of cleaning items! In **May**, we are collecting **Skin Care** items.



May God bless all our faithful givers!

A Message from Fr Noah

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Christ is risen!

It is with great joy that we exclaim this universal truth during the most radiant night of Pascha, in Bright Week, and throughout the forty days of Pascha.

We proclaim these words in the liturgy, in our family prayer times and meal times, etc... But, I wonder if we proclaim them by our actions? Do we forgive all things for the sake of the resurrection? Do we store up treasure in heaven, knowing that our life there is infinitely more than our life on earth?

Let us rejoice in the Lord, in His coming in the flesh to teach, heal, and die for us. Let us die to ourselves with Him that we might reign with Him on high forever and ever.

Grateful for the foretaste of eternity that we enjoy each Pascha, I remain,

Your Servant in Christ, + *Fr. Noah*

Walking in the Steps of the American Saints THANK GOD FOR ORTHODOXY

St. Alexis Toth of Wilkes-Barre (who reposed on May 7th, 1909) was a widowed missionary priest, sent from his homeland in Slovakia as an Eastern-Rite Catholic. His priesthood, as well as the Catholicism of the Slavic Eastern Catholics, was questioned and finally rejected by the Americanizing tendencies of the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States. In order to protect his flock in this hostile ecclesiastical environment, he led them in a return to their Orthodox Christian heritage. St. Alexis and 361 parishioners were received into the Orthodox Church on March 25, 1891, crying out, "Glory to God for His great mercy." After this he led about 20,000 more Slavic people back into the Orthodox Church.



Iwan & Lida Hutik

Please don't forget our home-bound parishioners. Pick up a 'Sunshine List' on the free literature table, say a prayer, and write them a card, call them, or drop by with some flowers. You'll be blessed at least as much as they will be.

Holy Mysteries - Steven & Tracey Kulp were Chrismated into the Holy Orthodox Church on Wednesday, April 3. **Timothy Podtelizhnikov**, son of **Alexei & Yuliya Podtelizhnikov**, was baptized into Christ on Saturday, April 6.

MAY GOD GRANT THEM MANY YEARS!

Bright Week

Every day a Sunday, a Lord's Day, another little Pascha! Come to these most joyful services!

GREAT & HOLY PASCHA

Sunday, May 5

CHRIST IS RISEN!

2:00 p.m. Agape Vespers & Egg Hunt

Monday, May 6 - BRIGHT MONDAY

PASCHAL MATINS 9 a.m., DIVINE LITURGY & Procession 10 a.m. - Potluck follows

PASCHAL VESPERS 7 p.m.

Tuesday, May 7 - BRIGHT TUESDAY

PASCHAL MATINS 9 a.m.

Matushka Olga Sewing Club 11 a.m.

PASCHAL VESPERS 7 p.m.

Wednesday, May 8 - BRIGHT WEDNESDAY

PASCHAL MATINS 8:30 a.m.

DIVINE LITURGY 9:30 a.m.

At St Paul,
Emmaus

PASCHAL VESPERS 7 p.m.



Thursday, May 9 -

BRIGHT THURSDAY

PASCHAL MATINS 9 a.m.,

PASCHAL VESPERS 7 p.m.

Friday, May 10 - BRIGHT FRIDAY

PASCHAL MATINS 9 a.m., DIVINE LITURGY & Procession 10 a.m. - Potluck follows

PASCHAL VESPERS, potluck - choir party
6:30 p.m. (at Kyriakos home)

Saturday, May 11 - BRIGHT SATURDAY

PASCHAL MATINS 7 a.m.

Mark Your Calendar!

Church & Cemetery cleanup day

Saturday, May 11 - 8 a.m.-noon

Bible Bowl Study resumes May 11

Saturdays following Vespers

Catechumens Class

Tuesdays at 7 p.m., May 14 - June 4

Paschaltide Bible Study

Vespers in Scripture & Tradition

Wednesdays following Akathist

at 7 p.m., May 15 - June 5

Services for Mid-Pentecost

Tuesday, May 28

VESPERS & ARTOKLASIA, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, May 29

MATINS 9 a.m., DIVINE LITURGY 10 a.m.

Services for Leave-Taking of Pascha

Tuesday, June 11

VESPERS 6 p.m., MATINS 7 p.m.

Services for Ascension

AT HOLY ASCENSION, WEST CHESTER

Wednesday, June 12

VESPERS 5 pm, MATINS 6 pm, LITURGY 7 pm

Parish Life Conference, July 3-7

Hosted by St Paul, Emmaus, PA



VCS - August 5-9

Miracles - Mark your calendars now!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES!



Jacqui Burke is graduating from Manhattanville College in Purchase, NY, with a BA in Psychology and an African Studies 'minor' area of concentration.

Bryan Cahouros is graduating from Temple University with a degree in History.

Brittany Gozur is graduating Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a BA Education, Family & Consumer Sciences. She achieved the Dean's List, and was the Standards Chairman, Membership Educator, & Secretary in the Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority. She is planning to student teach in the area this fall.

Penny McClintock is graduating from Temple University with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN). She is currently searching for a job in an emergency department or ICU setting.

Did You Know?

- We live from Pascha to Pascha: April 20, 2014
- It is easy, **too easy**, to "spiritually check out" after the fast is over.
- We often receive **Thank You notes** from individuals and organizations we have helped through our Needy Fund and various other additional gifts. Stop by the **Parish News bulletin board** to read them and see the blessings of your generosity.
- It is our duty and joy to **pray for and welcome** our many visitors, inquirers, catechumens, and new members to our parish. A warm welcome can often help a visitor become an inquirer.
- Fr. Noah is planning to **travel to Mt Athos** in October. Thanks for your prayers for his safe and edifying pilgrimage.
- **Bishop THOMAS** will be presiding over our **patronal feast**, Nov 13/14, prior to his annual Archpastoral Visit Nov 15-17, which will also be our **hosting of the delegates meeting**. Please speak to Fr. Noah if you'd like to help prepare.
- There is an **escape from the cares of the world**. Prayer. Church Services. Holy Scripture. "Oh, that I had wings like a dove; I'd fly away and be at rest!"
- Your pledges keep our parish **vibrantly glorifying God**, celebrating His Love, and building up His Church and His people!
- The **church ceiling** will be painted May 13-17.



Wisdom from St Nectarios

- Sacred Tradition is the very Church; without the Sacred Tradition the Church does not exist. Those who deny the Sacred Tradition deny the Church and the preaching of the Apostles.
- Seek God daily. But seek Him in your heart, not outside it.
- Two factors are involved in man's salvation: the grace of God and the will of man. Both must work together, if salvation is to be attained.
- We ought to do everything we can for the acquisition of virtue and moral wisdom, for the prize is beautiful and the hope great.

Ask Abouna

Previous Question: Father Noah, how can I avoid the spiritual "let down" after Pascha?

Answer: Let me answer by way of analogy. I used to run for my high school's Cross Country team, in the Santa Cruz Mountains of Northern California. It was inspiring to train and race amidst the Redwood trees native to the area, just as it was humbling to face the steep inclines. I remember how difficult it was, with legs and lungs burning, pushing myself up little ridges. Ironically, though, the tougher and more dangerous part was coming down the twisting and turning trails. Not only could you easily twist an ankle on the roots or injure your knees, but it was all too easy to "let up the pace." I remember a couple times early in my running days, coming to the front of the pack coming up the hill, only to have a wiser and more experienced runner zip by me on the way back down.

So, what does this mean for us, here and now? If Pascha is the climax of the year - indeed, we live from Pascha to Pascha! - then Lent and Holy Week are the uphill and the 50 Days of the Pentecost are the downhill. We have pushed our way to the summit and now we must not coast down but keep up the pace, keeping our eyes on the trail and our hearts at the finish line.



Some post-Pascha coaching tips for running with endurance:

- **Don't overeat.** Just because we aren't fasting any longer, doesn't mean that we should gorge ourselves, weighing our bodies and souls down.
- **Don't stop praying!** Keep to your prayer rule, renewed, refreshed, revitalized, not retired.
- **Don't stop coming to church!** Yes, we've worked hard in ascent to these most joyous days, but that doesn't mean we have a liturgical vacation.
- **Don't stop giving alms!**
Sure, we'll be tired after the big push, but Pascha is not the finish-line, our last breath is.

New Question: Fr. James, please discuss the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

CHALLENGE FOR 2013: Arrive before Liturgy to help sing the Great Doxology!



Thanks to all who contributed to help reach our match! Please speak to Fr. Noah if you'd like to give any significant gifts to this or any of the special funds of the parish.