



THE PARISH PRESS

St. Philip Orthodox Church



WISDOM FROM FR. B: PRAYER IS KEY.

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**.

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

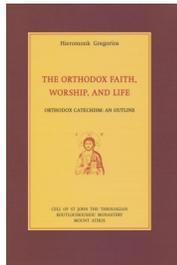
NEWSPAPERS: Salfid Rescue Kennel, our neighbor on Clearview Road, is always in need of old newspapers. Look for the box in the hallway.

MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAITHFUL GIVERS!

Wisdom from Higromonk Gregorios

Preconditions to Prayer:

- + Forgiveness
- + Perseverance
- + Attentiveness
- + Humility
- + Struggle
- + Faith



A Message from Fr Noah

Dear Saint Philip's Family,

We have the great blessing of hosting this month a bright and holy man of God from Lebanon, Metropolitan Ephraim Kyriakos. He is the brother Raymond and uncle of the Jamil, Joseph, and Raja. Please enjoy the following very brief biography.

He was born in Beirut, Lebanon on April 15, 1943, the son of Jamil Kyriakos and Alice Manassah. Eventually he studied engineering in Paris, France before working in his field in the construction of a subway station and then teaching in Beirut and Tripoli where he also led the Orthodox Youth Movement center in Beirut.

In 1972, Ephraim left his secular career at Balamand and then Thessalonica. He was ordained a deacon in 1974 and a priest in 1978. In Greece, Ephraim entered the monastic community when he was tonsured a monk at the Monastery of St. Paul on Mount Athos on October 16, 1983. At his tonsure, he received his name "Ephraim", in honor of Ephraim the Syrian. After Ephraim returned to Lebanon, he established his own monastery in Nahr Baskinta, near Biq'aata, Holy Archangel Michael Monastery. Ephraim was elevated to archimandrite 1991. On October 18, 2009 in the Marian Church Damascus he was elevated to arch-episcopacy and was received in Tripoli the following day in festivities at the Saint George Cathedral.

He will be with us from Nov 10-17. Please come to receive his blessing, hear his teaching, and be edified by his deep prayerful peace – especially at the Nov 12th Hierarchical Divine Liturgy.

In Christ,

+Fr. Noah

Mark Your Calendar:

Thanksgiving Liturgy
Thursday, Nov 23, 9 a.m.

St. Nicholas
Tuesday, December 5 - Vespers & Artoklasia w/ Youth Choir 7 pm, Youth Activity 8 pm
Wednesday, December 6 - Orthros 9 am, Liturgy 10 am

Advent Retreat
Saturday, December 9
Drs. David & Mary Ford: *When the Foundations Are Shaken: Biblical & Patristic Wisdom for Living through Spiritual Upheaval*

Bp Thomas visit
December 15-17

Nativity of Christ
Sunday, December 24 -
Orthros 8:45 am, Liturgy 10 am
Vespers & Artoklasia 6 pm,
Festal Orthros 7 pm

Monday, December 25 -
Festal Liturgy 9 am;
Vespers for Synaxis 6 pm

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)

CONFESSIONS before or after Vespers and during Matins as time allows, or by appointment.

Check our calendar for special services!

OUR SYMPATHY IN CHRIST



is offered to **Nancy and the Manze family** upon the repose **Al (Anthony)**, who reposed on October 9. Funeral services were held on October 14 at St. Philip's.

AND to the **Salfiti family** upon the repose of their mother **Else**, who reposed on October 14. Funeral services were held on October 20 at St. Philip's.

AND to **Celia-Marie** upon the repose of her mother, **Margaret**, on October 27.

MAY THEIR MEMORY BE ETERNAL!

Parenting Suggestion

From *Parenting Toward the Kingdom* by Philip Mamalakis:

"To parent toward the Kingdom requires us to improve the way we interact with our children in every situation and to connect our hearts and homes to Christ and His Church. In this way our children experience the love of God in the home and encounter Christ and His Church in the center of it" (p. 317).



Did You Know?

- **Justin's** Tonsuring as a Reader and **Jeff's** Ordination as a Sub-Deacon, God willing, will happen on December 17th prior to the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy. **Please pray** for these men and their families as they draw near to further serve the Lord.
- **Living Orthodoxy Podcast** – Justin and Jeff are producing a podcast for the parish, including **discussions** of the liturgical year (e.g., feasts & fasts), weekly **homilies**, and **interviews** from venerable parishioners. It can be accessed on the parish website for download/subscription. They welcome your feedback!
- Stay connected with parish life by synching with our calendar on **Google Calendar**. See <https://www.st-philip.net/calendar.html> for instructions on how to add the parish calendar to your own device.
- **Newborns:** Let's rejoice with the Giordano, Matczak, Chilbert, Hewitt, Chavchandze, and Kotsatos families on the births of their babies! **Let's support them** with prayer and a helping hand.
- Our Parish, along with St. George and Holy Ascension are hosting the **Parish Life Conference** at Antiochian Village June 27 - July 1, 2018. Please plan on attending this "spiritual family reunion" with our bishop and the parishes. We are looking for some volunteers and sponsors.
- **The Fast is Coming Up** – Pray and Plan for a Profitable Advent.
- The president of **Chick-fil-A** is Orthodox! Meet **Tim Tassopoulos**. http://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/features/meet_chick_fil_a_president_tim_tassopoulos



Biblical Wisdom

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,
 And the counsel of saints is understanding;
 For to know the law is characteristic of a good mind.
 For in this manner you will live a long time,
 And the years of your life shall be increased.
Proverbs 9:10-11 (OSB)

Wisdom from Fr. B.

Prayer is Key.

Fr. Boniface gave this advise specifically to a group of people starting a mission. It is definitely important in this setting and all aspects of our life. It is common to overlook or underestimate prayer. Indeed, it is common to talk about prayer and not pray very much. This is especially because prayer is most important thing we can do each day. It is the last thing that the Devil wants us to do since that is. Let's re-start with this apostolic prayer: "Lord, teach us to pray!" (Luke 11:1).

Ask Abouna

Previous Question:

Fr. Noah, please tell us about the Department of Homeschooling.

Answer:

Glory to God! This work is going well, better than I deserve and better than I ever dreamed. God has helped (as he has done with our parish ministry) with sending very talented and faithful people. Please review the following material.

With us everything should be secondary compared to our concern with children, and their upbringing in the instruction and teaching of the Lord.
 ~ St. John Chrysostom

This department was created in 2015 and is staffed by volunteers who are grateful for the Metropolitan's support for this growing educational option.

The primary goal of the Department of Homeschooling is to promote, support, and unite homeschooling families throughout the Archdiocese.

Secondarily, we seek to remind all parents that their children's education is their responsibility, whether or not they outsource this task.

<http://antiochian.org/department-homeschooling>

<https://saintemmeliakonferences.com/>

New Question:

Fr Noah, please tell about the office transition.

Challenge for 2017:

BE LED BY THE SPIRIT, NOT PUSHED BY THE PASSIONS (Romans 8:12-14)

The most difficult battles in our lives are with the demons, who trick us into destructive thinking so that we wander away from God in our hearts and habits. *Unseen Warfare*, edited by St. Nicodemos of Mount Athos, gives us four weapons in the spiritual life:

1. Don't trust yourself.
2. Trust God daringly.
3. Don't Stop Praying.
4. Don't Stop Struggling.



~ **Sacrament of CONFESSION** ~

As Orthodox Christians we prepare for **Holy Communion** by prayer, fasting, a life of keeping the commandments and repentance, and quarterly Confession. **Great Vespers** on Saturday night is an important part of our preparation as well, as part of the Church's cycle of services, along with Orthros and the Feasts/Fasts. Vespers is also a good service to bring visitors, and following Vespers is a convenient time for **Confession**.



Missions Minute

The 2017 OCMC Health Care Team to Guatemala has been asked to offer primary care in addition to prenatal care, obstetrics and dental care at the newly constructed Fr. Andres Giron Health Clinic. This is the first Orthodox clinic in Guatemala, located in the peaceful Mayan village of Aguacate, where the nearest medical facility was hours away in Mexico. Show the love of Christ by sharing your talents as a health care provider or donating to the effort (https://www.ocmc.org/about/view_team.aspx?TeamId=1187).

Everyday Evangelist

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

Say genuinely, "God willing," and "Thank God."