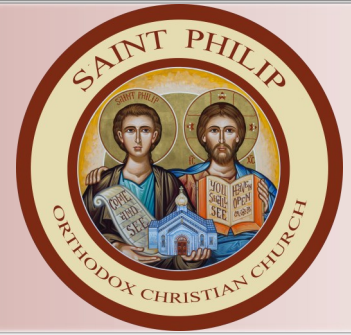


# THE PARISH PRESS

## St. Philip Orthodox Church

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### Mark Your Calendar:

#### Summer Weekday Liturgies

Tues/Fri/Sat @ 10 am

(Masks required for Saturday liturgy)

#### Evening services (6:30 pm)

Wednesday: Little Compline

Friday: Paraklesis

Saturday: Great Vespers

#### Young Saints Club

Fridays, 10am-12:30pm

Starting July 10

#### Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday, July 24, 2-7 pm

See Beth McClintock or Jerry Burke to sign up.



#### Dormition Fast - August 1-14

Daily Paraklesis

Holy Unction, Aug 12, 4 pm

#### Transfiguration of Christ

Wednesday, August 5

Vespers & Artoklasia, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 6

Orthros 9 am, Liturgy 10 am

Blessing of fruit & garden produce.

Fasting potluck after liturgy.

#### Dormition

Friday, August 14

Vespers, Artoklasia & Lamentations 6:30 pm

Saturday, August 15

Orthros 9 am, Liturgy 10 am

Blessing of herbs & flowers

#### Beheading of the Forerunner

Friday, August 28

Vespers 7 pm

Saturday, August 29 - STRICT FAST DAY

Orthros 9 am, Divine Liturgy 10 am

Fasting potluck after liturgy

#### Sunday School begins Sept 13

*In happy moments,*

*Praise God.*

*In difficult moments,*

*Seek God.*

*In quiet moments,*

*Worship God.*

*In painful moments,*

*Trust God.*

*In every moment,*

*Thank God.*



On behalf of the office staff at St. Philip,  
In Christ, Celia-Marie (office@st-philip.net)

### A Message from Fr. Noah

Dear Saint Philip's Family, Christ is in our midst!

In his book *The Benedict Option*, Rod Dreher, briefly a parishioner here with his family, outlines the necessity of intentional Christian community, so we don't lose our identity in the rising tide of secularism. The need was great then and is becoming more and more. I love our country and I'm broken hearted to see the disintegration and devastation around me. I love our Orthodox church and I'm saddened by the division that I hear about. And this is only a virus!

What are we going to do when bigger problems come our way? Are going to refrain from worship? Neglect the Sacraments? Hide the Light of the World? May God help us to be bold! What does that boldness look like? Our Lord describes it very clearly, and also gives us a warning of what it doesn't look like:

Here is Christian living in its clearest

form:

*"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind," and "your neighbor as yourself"* (Luke 10:27).

Here is how Christians are not supposed to live:

*"and because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold"* (Matthew 24:12-13).

Lord Jesus Christ, rip out of our hearts the weeds of self-love, and false-love, and plant by the Holy Spirit in us true love: The Love that motivated your incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension, that warmed the hearts of the Virgin Mary, prophets, the apostles, the Myrrhbearers, the great hierarchs, martyrs, venerable monastics, missionaries, and all our righteous forebears!

Lord, have mercy!

+Fr. Noah

### Births & Holy Mysteries

Congratulations to Ben & Holly Daniel and family on the birth of their healthy baby boy, **Lucas Epan James**, born at 3:54pm on June 21.



& to Nick & Katie Burke and family on the birth of their healthy baby girl, **Eva Veronica**, on June 20.

**MAY GOD GRANT THEM MANY YEARS!**

### NEWS ~ N ~ NOTES

**MONTHLY OUTREACH COLLECTION:** Thank you for your generosity to the needy of our community! In July, we are collecting Oral Care Products.

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

**MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR FAITHFUL GIVERS!**

### Patristic Wisdom

"In this world, therefore, the dominion of good men is profitable, not so much for themselves as for human affairs. But the dominion of bad men is hurtful chiefly to themselves who rule, for they destroy their own souls by greater license in wickedness; while those who are put under them in service are not hurt except by their own iniquity. For to the just all the evils imposed on them by unjust rulers are not the punishment of crime, but the test of virtue. Therefore, the good man, although he is a slave, is free; but the bad man, even if he reigns, is a slave, and that not of one man, but, what is far more grievous, of as many masters as he has vices ..."

St. Augustine, *City of God* 4.3



### OUR SYMPATHY IN CHRIST

is extended to Fr. Gregory & the Dudash family upon the repose of Matushka Linda, on June 24.

**MAY HER MEMORY BE ETERNAL!**

## Ministry Together w/ Dn. David Hyatt

*"Be still and know that I am God."*

Psalm 45(46):10



I don't know about you, but during this time of coronavirus restrictions I have felt quite a bit of restlessness. My typical routines of work and activity have been significantly altered and it has taken a couple of months for me to settle down and live into a new rhythm of life. There are a number of changes that I do not want to become a "new normal," but there are some that I hope to continue. One of these is an increased practice of stillness.

In Tito Colliander's *Way of the Ascetics*, we read, "Busyness over many things is, in all its forms, chiefly a poison. Look within, examine yourself accurately, and you observe that many of these apparently self-giving deeds spring from a need to deafen your conscience: that is, from your uncontrollable habit of satisfying and pleasing yourself (Romans 15:1)" (p. 21).

Busyness is a poison that we choose to drink in order to drown out the cry of our soul for a deep drink of living water. Instead, we prefer the temporary satisfaction of elixirs which numb our lives to what is real and true – especially the reality of our own sin.

The remedy for busyness is stillness. St. Neilos the Ascetic writes, "We no longer value stillness, which helps to free us from past defilement, but prefer a whole host of things which distract us uselessly from our true goal" ("Ascetic Discourse," in *The Philokalia: The Complete Text*, Vol. 1).

Our true goal is our salvation, entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven, union with the Holy Trinity by grace. Our struggle, our "busyness," if not towards this end results in death – even if our activity is religious in nature. We simply cannot live this way if our goal is Christ!

Psalm 45 (46), a psalm that the Fathers have taught us to understand as about the hidden things concerning Christ, calls us into a different way of life that is caught up in our fulfillment in "the Lord of hosts." It begins this way, "God is our refuge and power; a help in afflictions that severely befall us. Therefore we will not fear when the earth is troubled..." What then is to be our response in the midst of afflictions? Verses 11-12, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth. The Lord of hosts is with us, the God of Jacob is our protector."

The afflictions that we face may be the external difficulties of life – disease, illness, relational problems, job loss, etc. – which call us to be still before God and learn to trust that He is with us. We also experience the afflictions of the soul, our passions, which we try to avoid by the distractions of busyness and the satisfaction of our desires.

Would you join me in transforming the forced stillness that we have encountered during this coronavirus pandemic into a new way of living life? Speak to your Spiritual Father about your desire to learn how to live a life of stillness before God, so that together we may avoid the poison of busyness and live "quiet and peaceful lives in all godliness" (1 Timothy 2:2).

## Did You Know?

- Now that **warmer weather** is here and Sunday School is not in session, our children will naturally want to **play outside** during coffee hour. **Parents**, please teach your children to be **watchful** of cars (even when they're parked), to be **respectful** of others' property, and to **pick up** their trash. (They should not bring cups or plates out with them. Have them finish their snack indoors and place their trash in the bin.) Also, younger children **MUST** be properly **supervised**.
- **Modesty** is an important offering to God and to each other, even in the summer months, at church and out and about. Modesty doesn't have to mean homely. Beards and head-coverings are traditional expressions of modesty that can stylishly complement respectful and beautiful clothes.
- You should still **go to church when you go on vacation**. Research. Call ahead. Ask a blessing from the priest before taking Holy Communion. Bring back a bulletin or other info and ideas for Fr. Noah.
- **The Dormition Fast** (August 1-14) is a time to tune up our souls and bodies with escalated prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and other spiritual disciplines to bring us closer to Christ and His Holy Mother! Please plan on attending at least one Paraklesis.



## KID'S CORNER

w/ Calzβ Gohl

Throughout the year we see many different colors of vestments, but do you know what each color means?

There are 7 different colors: white, gold, blue, red, green, purple, and black came later on.

White represents rejoicing. It is worn at Pascha when we are rejoicing over our Savior's resurrection.

Blue represents the Theotokos. It is worn on feasts about Theotokos, for example the Dormition.

Red represents sacrifice. It is worn on feasts of martyrs because they suffered for their faith.

Green represents new life. It is worn on Pentecost when the Church was born and the Spirit came down after the

Ascension.

Purple represents repentance. It is worn in Lent when we repent and fast until Pascha, the resurrection. Black represents mourning. It is worn at funerals when we mourn for our loved ones. Last but not least, gold represents joy. It is worn on ordinary Sundays when no other color is specified, when we technically celebrate the resurrection.

As you can see, each color represents something and tells the story of Jesus.

### Check out the Kids Summer Reading Program!

Forms are available in the Library. Sign out a book & get started!



## Parenting Suggestion

Discuss with your families this clear warning from the end of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 7:24-27):

*"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."*

May His holy words help shape in your family obedience to the Way for many generations!