



# THE PARISH PRESS

## St. Philip Orthodox Church



BABY STEPS TO BIBLICAL LITERACY - JEREMIAH, BARUCH, LAMENTATIONS, AND EPISTLE OF JEREMIAH

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES!

**Stephanie Berman** is graduating from Spring-Ford High School in Royersford and will attend West Chester University for Nursing.



with the Philadelphia Catholic League. Andrew will be joining the United States Marine Corps.

**Kalioppe Godshall** is graduating from Springside Chestnut Hill Academy where she earned Honor Roll or High Honors each semester of high school. Kali completed her high school career by working with the team updating the Orthodox Prayer Book iOS app for the Orthodox Christian Network. Kali will be entering the College of Engineering at Penn State University Park in the Fall.

**Alexandra Metelow** is graduating from Pennridge High School in Perkasie, where she was in National Honor Society and Executive Council, and 3rd team all-league tennis. Alexandra will attend University of Pittsburgh for Biomedical Engineering.

**Marissa Kemperman** is graduating from Boyertown Area Senior High School, where she was on the High Honor Roll every year. She is in the National Honor Society, and was involved in Future Business Leaders of America (1st place in regional competition), German Club (President), Stage Crew (VP), Mock Trials, as well as earning a Green Cord for community service (300 hours). In addition, Marissa toured Europe singing with the Concert Choir. Marissa will be attending Messiah College for Psychology and Business Administration

**Stephanie Mitchell** is graduating summa cum laude from Central Bucks West High School in Doylestown, where she was the drum major for CB West marching band during her senior year and managed the varsity wrestling team for 4 years. She was also in the honor society and several other clubs. Stephanie will attend Penn State University (main campus) in the fall, studying Mechanical Engineering.

**Andrew McClintock** is graduating from Lansdale Catholic High School, where he was Varsity Football captain and won the All Catholic Team Award for Offensive Line

**Simone Noelle Rumph** is graduating from Quakertown Community High School, where she was in National Honor Society. Simone was granted a full 4-year scholarship to Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine, where she will major in Science and History.

**Abay Tadesse** is graduating from Germantown Academy, where he won the National Achievement Award. Abay will be attending University of Pittsburgh for pre-med.

### A Message from Fr Noah

Dear Brothers and Sisters,  
Glory to God!



I am writing this on a retreat at a monastery with a beautiful blessing for our parish. I was given a Holy Relic of St. Jacob of Hamatoura, Lebanon – a martyr of the 13th Century who was lost to history until recently, when his tomb was rediscovered – which I will keep on the altar here. I'll write more about him and perhaps we'll have an icon of him soon! But, in the meantime, my receiving the relic is an interesting and instructive story.

After vespers, I met a beloved spiritual father of our Antiochian Church who just happened to be visiting the monastery. I kissed his hand and exchanged a brief greeting and would have gone to my room and rested. But, I hadn't been shown to my room yet. So, I wasn't sure what to do so I just waited as nuns and visitors scurried off. A nun said, "go to the archondariki with the other priests." (The archondariki is the reception room, especially for distinguished guests.) I hesitated, but eventually I sheepishly popped my head in and was invited to sit down. Over tea and a conversation which I tried to follow in Greek, Arabic, and a little English, Abouna pulled a little cloth bag out of his rasso (cassock) and then gave me a shard of bone of St. Jacob.

This gift was ironic (or, better, providential) because I wanted to ask him a word for me, my family, and my parish – but was embarrassed to ask. In answer to my unvoiced request for guidance, I received a relic of a great saint, a tireless priest and pastor and monastic, who gave his life after refusing to compromise his belief in Christ. This is the word for us: honor God by serving others, even to the point of suffering for Him, and He will honor you!

Your Servant in Jesus Christ, the Judge and Rewarder of the Contest,

+ Fr. Noah

### OUR SYMPATHY IN CHRIST



is offered to the **Hulik** family upon the passing of mother and grandmother, **Lida**, on May 8. The funeral was held at St Philip's on May 13, with burial in St Philip's Cemetery.

AND to **David Marovich** and the **Freudig** family upon the passing of **Donna Marovich** on May 9. Services were held on May 14 at St Philip's, with burial in Roslyn.

**MAY THEIR MEMORY BE ETERNAL!**

### Baby Steps to Biblical Literacy:

#### Old Testament Prophet Jeremiah



The Holy Prophet Jeremiah is often called the "weeping prophet" because he prophesied the destruction of the Jerusalem and the Temple, as well as the captivity of God's people in Babylon. But his jeremiads, as woeful as they are, do point repentance and faithfulness in preparation for the new covenant that would be written on believers' hearts. Baruch, Jeremiah's scribe, writes about the people's repentance during their captivity.

**NEWS ~ N ~ NOTES**

**GIVING UPDATES**

**MONTHLY OUTREACH COLLECTION:** Thanks to all for your generosity to the needy of our community! For June, 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.

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

**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.

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

**Mark Your Calendar:**

**Apostles Fast**  
June 8-29

**Ss. Peter & Paul**  
Sunday, June 28 (at St Philip's)  
Vespers & Artoklasia, 7 pm  
Monday, June 29 (at St Paul, Emmaus)  
Matins 6 p.m., Liturgy 7 p.m.

**Parish Life Conference**  
July 1-5 - Hauppauge, NY  
www.stjohnorthodoxchurch.com

**Visit from Bp JOHN (Abdalah)**  
July 11-12

**Sacred Music Institute at Antiochian Village**  
July 8-12 - Info on bulletin board

**Archdiocese Convention**  
July 20-26 - Boston, MA  
www.acboston2015.com

**Vacation Church School**  
August 3-7

**Challenge for 2015:  
Build Up the Body of Christ  
(Ephesians 4)**

Are you ready for ministry? You were re-born to serve so pray to God for a servants heart, to be equipped to build up our Orthodox Church and our parish of St. Philip.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES!**

**Peter Gibbs** graduated from Lehigh University with a degree in Industrial & Systems Engineering. He is moving to Fort Lauderdale, FL, to work for an asset management consulting firm.

**Stephen Morrash** graduated from NYU's Steinhardt School of Culture, Education & Human Development with a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics Teacher Education with an Educational Theatre minor. He was chosen by the Steinhardt Awards Committee to represent the Steinhardt graduate class as the class representative at the all-university commencement. While at NYU, Stephen has worked as an Admissions

Ambassador, has held several Development Intern positions in New York City theaters, and has also directed plays and musical productions in the theater department. Stephen has accepted a seventh grade mathematics teaching position at M.S. 260 - Clinton School for Writers and Artists in Manhattan.

**Dave Haas** graduated with a BS in Biology from Villanova with a minor in political science. He hopes to get employment soon at an animal clinic in order to obtain hands-on clinical hours before applying for admission to veterinary school, hopefully with a specialty in large animal care.



**THANK YOU!** It was a great blessing to celebrate the Leave-taking of Pascha with Fr Noah, Fr James, Dn Herman, and visiting Fr Milorad Orlic AND a beautiful choir and a wonderful congregation gathered afterwards for a festive meal. Thanks to all who attended and to all involved with preparations for this event. We are grateful also for your generous offerings for the Expansion Fund of the Saint Andrew Mission in Lewes, DE.

*Father Boniface and Kh Joyce*

**Did You Know?**

- Fr. Noah is forming a newly established **Department of Homeschooling** for our Archdiocese. He asks for your special prayers for this and also your extra help in the ministries of the parish.
- We have **new icons** in the narthex (St. Gabriel, St. Vukasin, St. Pulcheria) as well as wedding banquet draping.
- Our **Camp Scholarship Fund** has assisted **17 kids** to attend camp this year. **Please make a contribution**, large or small, for this worthy **investment in the spiritual formation of our youth.**
- **Fr Gabriel Tannous**, a son of our parish, just graduated from St. Vladimir's Seminary and is heading to Davie (Ft Lauderdale area), FL, to serve as the proestamenos (pastor) of St. Philip parish there. (Fr. Noah was relieved that it wasn't our St. Philips!)
- **Vacationing** this summer? Go to church on Sunday. Introduce yourself to the priest. Bring Father Noah a bulletin and your impressions. Don't take a vacation from God!!!
- There are many **monasteries** within a day's drive. Take a day or two off and make a little pilgrimage this summer.
- As beautiful as our choir sounds, it is not singing a concert but leading the faithful in prayer. Please **join in the singing** and "Make a joyful noise to the Lord!"

**Ask Abouna**

**Previous Question:** What's new at our daughter parish of Holy Ascension in West Chester, PA?

**Answer:** Fr. Noah's observations:

- Good growth & forward movement
- Newly-ordained Deacon Nicholas Reid
- Prayerful atmosphere at services
- A bright & joyful choir
- Youth involvement & participation
- Steady progress on a new church building on property - sewer connection issue has been resolved
- Visit their website: [www.holyascension.net](http://www.holyascension.net)



**New Question:** Fr. B, tell us about St. Andrew's in Lewes, DE, and also about the mission in Easton, MD.

**Missions Minute**

Vince Cirao

You need not be a missionary to do the work of a missionary. But you do need a heart for God and those made in His image. In a church where I once served was a parishioner named Frank. Frank constantly invited people to church. Frank was very sincere and had a genuine love and concern for people and they bore witness to that fact before the church. May our love for God and people always transcend our fear of rejection.

**Everyday Evangelist**

*"As the Father has sent me, so I send you." (Jn 20:21)*  
**June:** Pray daily for St. Philip's Outreach and Evangelism.