



# THE PARISH PRESS

## St. Philip Orthodox Church



BABY STEPS TO HOLINESS - WRITE A LIST OF PEOPLE TO PRAY FOR DAILY

### NEWS ~ N ~ NOTES

#### INT'L FOOD FESTIVAL

Friday, September 20 - 4-8 pm  
Saturday, September 21 - 11 am - 7 pm



Invite your family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers! Visit our website to download the flyer and menu! Sign up to help!

#### GIVING UPDATES

**MONTHLY OUTREACH COLLECTION:** Many thanks to all for your contribution to our August collection. We collected & delivered numerous hair care products! In **September**, we are collecting **Cleaning Supplies**.

**CHRISTMAS IN JULY:** Christmas in July: THANK YOU and God bless all our generous friends and parishioners for remembering to bring an extra offering for summer needs. A total of \$3,685. has been received to date and will support this year's needs: Our cemetery, a sign that can be seen from Rt 309, missions, and children's books.

May God bless all our faithful givers!

#### Oatmeal Apple Crisp

5 to 6 apples, sliced or cut into cubes (leave peel on for fiber)  
1 cup old fashioned oats  
1/2 cup butter  
3/4 to 1 cup sugar  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
Chopped walnuts (optional)



- For topping, cut together oats, butter, sugar, & cinnamon, then add nuts.
  - Place apple slices or cubes in glass pie plate, sprinkle w/cinnamon, cover with topping.
  - Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes.
- (Use less sugar with sweet apples, more with tart apples.)

[/http://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=1006041509301](http://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=1006041509301)

### A Message from Fr Noah

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Glory to God! We have rounded out another liturgical year. September 1st is the ancient "New Year" of God's people from Old Testament times, through Byzantium, and even into Holy Russia. A relic of this is even apparent in the "academic" year which begins in September.

As we are looking ahead to this new year, let's deepen our life in Christ by prayer and attending the services, by fasting and spiritual reading, by almsgiving and stewardship, by ministry and hospitality.

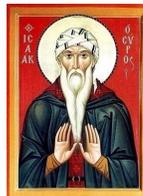
I am excited about the future and I hope you are too. With God, all things, even repentance and reconciliation, healing and softening of heart are possible.

Join me in greeting this new year with refreshed faith, redoubled hope, and revitalized love!

Your Servant in Christ, + *Fr. Noah*

### Wisdom from St. Isaac the Syrian

- As a handful of sand thrown into the ocean, so are the sins of all flesh as compared with the mind of God.
- Just as a strongly flowing fountain is not blocked up by a handful of earth, so the compassion of the Creator is not overcome by the wickedness of his creatures.
- Someone who bears a grudge while he prays is like a person who sows in the sea and expects to reap a harvest.



### Holy Mysteries

**Erika Reigle-Damrongrsri**, daughter of **Don & Maryann Reigle**, was received into the Holy Orthodox Church by Chrismation here on Saturday, August 24. On the same day, her daughter, **Margaret Damrongrsri**, was Baptized into Christ.

**MAY GOD GRANT THEM MANY YEARS!**

### Mark Your Calendar!

#### Matushka Olga Sewing Club

Tuesdays, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Learn or teach, work on your own project or on projects for those in need.  
All welcome.

#### Labor Day Picnic

Monday, September 2, Noon - 7 p.m.  
at Spring Hollow.

All are welcome! Please bring a dish to share. Tableware provided. Need directions or additional information? See Jonathan Black at Coffee Hour.

Sunday School begins September 8.  
Prayers for teachers & students.

Choir Rehearsals resume September 8.  
Contact Kh. Elizabeth for a schedule.

#### Nativity of the Theotokos

Sunday, September 8

9/11 Prayers following Akathist on 9/11

#### Catechumens & Inquirers

Tuesdays, 7 p.m.  
September 10 - November 12

#### Bible Study: Apologetics

Wednesdays following Akathist at 7 p.m.  
September 11 - November 6

#### Elevation of the Cross

Friday, September 13  
Vespers & Artoklasia, 7 p.m.  
Saturday, September 14  
Matins 9 a.m., Liturgy 10 a.m.

#### International Food Festival

Friday, September 20, 4 p.m. - 8p.m.  
Akathist at 4 p.m.  
Saturday, September 21, 11a.m. - 7p.m.  
Vespers at 4 p.m. [Note special time!]

#### LOOKING AHEAD:

#### Book Study - Life of Moses

Saturdays, 5 p.m.  
October 5 - November 9  
See Todd Moore to order the book.

Annual Parish Meeting - October 28

## Did You Know?

- **John Hulik**, son of **Val Hulik**, graduated from Souderton Area High School in June, earned his Eagle Award in August, and will be attending Penn State in the fall. Congratulations!
- Congratulations to our **newly engaged couples: Elizabeth Stehman & Jesse Giordano** and **Nicholas Burke & Katie Bitner**. God bless you in preparations for your marriages!
- **VCS** - 45 youth were involved in learning about miracles. Take a minute to enjoy the pictures from the week, they are displayed. Save the date for next year's VCS: August 4-8, 2014 - on the Theotokos.
- **Father James** just returned from a pilgrimage-tour of Russia. Ask him about it!
- Thanks to a few "kitchen angels" and your generous donations, our **kitchen renovation project is complete** and the kitchen is in fine shape.
- We have a **Sunshine List** - so that we can send cards, pray, and visit our shut-ins. Pick one up on the free literature table.
- **Carpooling to Church** can be a great way to save money and deepen your relationship with your neighboring parishioner. 
- **Coffee hour** is a vital ministry of hospitality. Please help us keep this tradition of fellowship strong in our parish.
- **Coffee hour does not start until after the Liturgy is over.** The food is blessed after the announcements after we sing Our Father together.
- You can help make our many visitors feel welcome by a warm smile and a kind greeting. Please take a minute to **say hello to visitors**.
- The **choir will be rehearsing again** September 8. There are "new singer rehearsals on September 8 & November 3, as well as a full schedule of regular rehearsals. If you'd like to join the choir, please get a blessing from Fr. Noah and then speak to Kh. Elizabeth.
- During the **Megalyrnarion** of the Divine Liturgy (usually, "It is truly meet") we can and should be praying in our hearts for our departed beloved. At this time the priest or deacon is reading diptychs (lists) of departed.
- Our **parish website** is rich with resources. Check it out: [www.st-philip.net](http://www.st-philip.net)
- Our **Stewardship** team is gearing up for another "Forty Days of Growth in Stewardship;" October 6th is the Kick Off. Thanks for your prayers and generosity.
- Your **pledges and special offerings** keep our parish doing God's work! Thanks to all our faithful stewards.
- If you use your **bank's bill-pay** feature for your contributions, please remember to **notify your bank** of St Philip's change of mailing address (1970 Clearview Rd, Souderton, PA 18964).
- We are blessed a beautiful choir, but please **join in singing** the ancient hymns of our services!
- An Orthodox Christian should **come to church** for Vespers, Matins, Feasts, and other special services.
- An Orthodox Christian ought to **come to confession** about four times per year and as needed.



- We have 38 members of the **Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch** in our parish. This is a philanthropic organization that supports many of the charitable works that our archdiocese couldn't undertake otherwise. If you are sacramentally active and consistent in your stewardship, please talk to Fr. Noah about being inducted when Bishop THOMAS visits in November.

### MAILING ADDRESS CHANGE - P O BOX IS NOW CLOSED!

In order to save the time and expense of traveling to the Post Office, we have installed a mailbox at the church, and will now be **receiving mail at our street address**. Make a note:

**1970 Clearview Road, Souderton, PA 18964**

If you use your bank's bill-pay feature for your contributions, please be sure to **notify your bank** of the change.

## Ask Abouna

**Previous Question:** Fr. Noah, since priests only work two hours a week, what do you do with the rest of your time?

**Answer:** Ha, ha! Very funny! Indeed, the Lord's Day (Sunday) Divine Liturgy is high point of a priest's week, but it is certainly not all there is to his schedule and work load.

Let me give you a laundry list of pastoral duties:

- Vespers, Matins, and other services
- Visitation of the Sick and Shut-Ins
- Daily Prayer for Parishioners
- Email, Telephone, Text and Postal Correspondence
- Homily, Bulletin, Service and Meeting Preparation
- Overseeing all the Ministries of the Parish
- Spiritual Counseling
- Preparation for Sacraments
- Hearing Confessions
- Following Up with Visitors
- Attending Conferences
- Leading Workshops
- Keeping up with Bible and other spiritual reading
- Responding to calls from the alarm company at all hours of the day and night.
- Trying to spend time with my family & on yard work.



The priestly life is a beautiful life for a man who is called to it, but it is not an easy one. Please pray for me and all priests to keep up the zeal and faith to fulfill our calling to lead people to salvation!

**New Question:** Fr. James, tell us about your trip to Russia.

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

### Baby Steps to Holiness

## WRITE A LIST OF PEOPLE TO PRAY FOR DAILY

I was in seminary with a wonderful old deacon, Triva, from Serbia. Struggling to keep up with everything, I asked this godly man to pray for me. He smiled broadly, hugged me, and then whipped out a piece of paper and a pen from his breast pocket and wrote down my name. I noticed that there were many other names on there, as well. What a beautiful and faithful friend and brother in Christ! We can all be like that too. I have a typed list of the names of each of my family, my parishioners, and my friends and colleagues that I endeavor to pray for every day. When I get a prayer request, I scribble it on an index card and pray for it daily. I've been taught to say my morning prayers (Trisagion, Creed, etc.) and then read quickly and unemotionally the names of those I am praying for and then say my prayer rule of the Jesus Prayer for myself and for them. So make your list, keep it in your prayer corner and keep an index card with you so you can faithfully pray for those for whom you ought. Among the first... Metropolitan Philip, Bishop Thomas, Fr. Noah, Fr. Boniface, Fr. James, Dn. Herman ...

