



# THE PARISH PRESS

## St. Philip Orthodox Church



**CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!**

### NEWS ~ N ~ NOTES

#### GREETINGS FROM FR JOSEPH BUTTS & FAMILY!

Fr. Joseph Butts and his family are former St Philip's parishioners, and Fr Joseph was ordained here. A Navy Chaplain, he is currently stationed with Combat Logistics Battalion 11 (CLB 11) at Camp Pendleton, California. CLB 11 is part of the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (11th MEU). The mission of the MEU is to provide geographic combatant commanders with a forward-deployed, rapid-response force capable of conducting conventional amphibious and selected maritime special operations at night or under adverse weather conditions from the sea, by surface and/or by air while under communications and electronics restrictions. Fr. Joseph will be deploying later this year with the 11th MEU. Fr. Joseph and family will be moving to Norfolk, VA in the summer of 2017. Please keep Fr. Joseph, Kh. Yvonne, Micah, Isaac, Jacob, Genevieve, Jillian, and all the Marines and Sailors in your prayers over the next year. Fr. Joseph and Kh. Yvonne can be reached at ybnavy@gmail.com.



#### GIVING UPDATES

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



**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!**

### A Message from Fr Noah

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are at the center of the Paschal Vortex that takes up about half of the year to draw us nearer to the reality of the resurrection. This is a reminder that all of our life, including death, is God's domain. Bring faith, hope and love, for the sake of the resurrection, into your daily life:

Faith because of the great deeds of God in the past.

Hope for the future that God has forged.

Love for God and all His creation which is recreated in Christ's resurrection.

With this in mind, I am thankful that our life does not end in the grave, and am thankful to remain

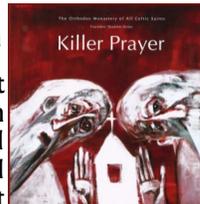
Your Servant In Christ,

+ Fr. Noah

### Book Recommendation

#### Killer Prayer

by Fr Seraphim Aldea



Have you ever looked at your prayer book with the distinct feeling of 'I hate you, I hate you, I hate you?' Have you felt totally useless spiritually, unable to move forward for one tiny step? Do you, in fact, feel that you are going backwards, rather than advancing in any way; that your prayer life is worse today than yesterday, and definitely worse than a year ago? Well, in that case, rejoice, for this is the sure sign that your prayer is working.

By prayer, our saints say, we get closer to God; unfortunately, getting closer to God means we have to get closer to ourselves first, closer to our own hearts, because that is where Christ reveals Himself – and getting to know one's own heart is nasty business; getting to know who you really are is never fun, never a fulfilling or comforting experience.

When your prayer kills you on the inside, let it. And give thanks. When your prayer exposes the small person that you are in front of your own conscience, let it. And give thanks.

### Mark Your Calendar:

**THOMAS SUNDAY:** Procession to Cemetery for Blessing of Graves following Sunday School and Coffee Hour.

**Introduction to Orthodoxy**  
Saturdays, May 14 - June 18, 4:15 p.m.

**Mid-Pentecost**  
Tuesday, May 24  
Vespers 6 pm, Matins 7 pm  
Wednesday, May 25  
Divine Liturgy 10 am



**Ascension**  
June 8/9 - Service times & location TBD

**Three Serbian Apostles to America**  
The Lives of St. Nicholai of Zicha & South Canaan, St. Sebastian of Jackson, and St. Mardarije of Libertyville  
Saturday, June 4th following vespers  
Presented by Archpriest Milorad Orlic

**High School Graduate Recognition**  
Sunday, June 12

**Pentecost**  
Sunday, June 18/19

**Apostles' Fast**  
Monday-Wednesday, June 27-29

**Ss Peter & Paul, June 28/29**  
Service times & location TBD

**Parish Life Conference**  
June 29 - July 3  
<http://www.antiochianevents.com/ny.html>

**Sacred Music Institute**  
July 13-17  
At the Antiochian Village

**Vacation Church School**  
August 1-5

**International Food Festival**  
September 16-17



**We live Pascha to Paschal!**  
April 16, 2017

**Did You Know?**



- **“Beneath Thy Compassion”** is the earliest known prayer to the Theotokos - at least as early as AD250. Read more at <http://trisagionfilms.com/2014/09/09/prayer-to-the-theotokos/>
- **Modesty** is something that we learn from Jesus Christ and the Saints. We are not only modest in our putting on our “Sunday Best” but also out in public.
- **Is there something** you'd like to see in the newsletter? See Fr Noah with suggestions!
- **We live from Pascha to Pascha!** May 1, 2016 - April 16, 2017.

**Missions Minute**

OCCM is looking for volunteers for summer mission trips. Make this the year you receive this blessing!

**Everyday Evangelist**

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

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings glad tidings of good things, who proclaims salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns!”- *Isaiah 52:7*



**Wisdom**



O strange Orthodox Church, so poor and weak, with neither the organization nor the culture of the West, staying afloat as if by a miracle in the face of so many trials, tribulations and struggles; a Church of contrasts, both so traditional and so free, so archaic and so alive, so ritualist and so personally involved, a Church where the priceless pearl of the Gospel is assiduously preserved, sometimes under a layer of dust; a Church which in shadows and silence maintains above all the eternal values of purity, poverty, asceticism, humility and forgiveness; a Church which has often not known how to act, but which can sing of the joy of Pascha like no other.

-- Fr Lev Gillet - from his 1937 funeral homily for Archimandrite Irénée (Louis-Charles) Winnaert, the founder of the Orthodox Church of France

**Baby Steps to Holiness**

**May - Read a Book of the Bible**

I hear about people’s low points in life quite often. “Father, help me... I don't know what to do... How should I respond to such and such. I can't bear the insults any longer...”

We are constantly battered by the waves on the stormy sea of life. Because of that, we need to be anchored to the Rock of Faith, in the daily reading of the Holy Scriptures... Read one book of the Bible and enjoy and be edified by the way that the Apostle or Prophet by divine inspiration chose to deliver God's message. Don't know where to start? Here are some suggestions:



Gospel of John or Acts of the Apostles. (These are read liturgically during the 40 days of Pascha). Or, something shorter: James, 1 John, or Philippians.

We'll find answers to our questions and comfort in our sorrows in the faithful reading of God's Word. May it be blessed!

**Challenge for 2016:**

**Pray Without Ceasing**  
(1 Thessalonians 5)

Go to Church. Say Your Prayers. Remember God. This three-point Babushka Sermon is all we need: Going to Church aligns us with all the saints and angels. Saying your prayers offers each day to God. Remembering God offers each moment to God. Remember God means with thanksgiving and fear, with love and respect, with hope and trust.

**Ask Abouna**

**Previous Question:** What is the “Paschal Vortex”?

**Answer:** The Paschal Vortex, a new and friendly phrase of mine, is the time from Sundays prior to the Preparation for Great Lent , Lent, Holy Week, Great and Holy Pascha, Bright Week, Mid-Pentecost, the Leave-taking of Pascha, Ascension, Pentecost, and All Saints Sunday. Any Orthodox Christian who takes the Great Fast and the Feast of Feasts seriously will know what this means. It is the swirling-whirling moving of the Holy Spirit in the fasts and feasts and celebrations of the great text-books of repentance and rejoicing, the Triodion and Pentecostarion. It is the “Divine Undertow” dragging us further into the depths of God’s love for us. It is consuming. It is exhausting. It is in the way of our worldly pursuits. Yet, it is refreshing. It is rejuvenating. It raises our horizons from earth to heaven.

**New Question:** How, and why, do we celebrate Pascha for 40 Days?

**Cemetery Ministry Team Updates**

- Our Church Cemetery, just down the lane, is an important part of our Orthodox Life in Christ.
- Prepare in Advance. Talk to Fr. Noah about purchasing your family graves.
- Stop by to pray for our beloved departed and straighten things up on your way out!
- Who will pray for you after your repose?

**CHRIST IS RISEN : INDEED HE IS RISEN!**

- GREEK: CHRISTOS ANESTI : ALITHOS ANESTI!
- ARABIC: AL-MASEEH QAM : HAQAN QAM!
- SLAVONIC: CHRISTOS VOSKRESE : VO ISTINU VOSKRESE!
- ALBANIAN : KRISHTI UNGJALL : VERTET UNGJALL!
- ROMANIAN: CHRISTOS A- INVIAT : ADEVERAT K- INVIAT!
- GERMAN: CHRISTUS IST AUFERSTANDEN : ER IST IN WAHRHEIT AUFERSTANDEN!
- ITALIAN: CRISTO E RISORTO : E VERAMENTE RISORTO!
- INDIAN: YESU UAR THU : YESU UAR THU!
- GE’EZ: KRESTOS TENESSA IMUTAN : KRESTOS TENESSA IMUTAN!
- GEORGIAN: CRISTE AHS-D-GA : CHESH MAR EET AD!
- FRENCH: LE CHRIST EST RESSUSCITÉ : VRAIMENT IL EST RESSUSCITÉ!
- SPANISH: CRISTO HA RESUCITADO : EN VERDAD, HA RESUCITADO!



**GLORY TO HIS THIRD DAY RESURRECTION:  
LET US ADORE HIS THIRD DAY RESURRECTION!**

---  
We live from Pascha to Pascha! May 1, 2016 - April 16, 2017