



THE PARISH PRESS



St. Philip Orthodox Church

WISDOM FROM FR. B: FLY UNDER THE RADAR

NEWS ~ N ~ NOTES

INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL

Many Thanks to all our leaders, coordinators, cooks, runners, givers, prayers, greeters, workers, creators, mailers, heavy-lifters, assemblers, disassemblers, cleaners, supporters, sponsors, chanters, singers, and everyone who played a part in this tremendous endeavor. May God bless you and grant you Many Years!

GIVING UPDATES

MONTHLY OUTREACH COLLECTION: Thank you for your generosity to the needy of our community! In **October**, we are collecting **Bath & Shower 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!

**Challenge for 2016:
Pray Without Ceasing
(1 Thessalonians 5)**

Rejoice always,
pray without ceasing,
in everything give thanks;
for this is the will of God
in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



A Message from Fr Noah

Dear Saint Philip's Family,
After receiving compliments on the prayerfulness and beauty of Fr. Boniface's funeral, I'm hungry to make our funerals even more beautiful and impactful in our lives. I ask you to make attending parish funerals a priority, meditating on God's providence throughout our life and our inevitable deaths. Please visit our beautiful cemetery regularly (before Saturday vespers is an ideal time, since Saturday is the day we remember our departed), with prayers for the departed and spend a moment to tidy anything up that is needed.

Finally, please listen repeatedly to the recording of the funeral hymns that Simeon and Acker and I captured recently. Listen and sing along. Incorporate them into your evening prayers. Learn the hymns well so we can "sing away" together our chosen beloved from the parish family. Jacques Abboud recently told, and this is the inspiration, that in his town in Lebanon everyone knows and sings the funeral hymns. Find them on our website:

<http://st-philip.net/musicsamples.html>

Also, please understand that the recordings are not polished for concert quality, but for teaching and inviting participation. In Christ,

+ Fr. Noah

PS – Don't forget to reach out to with a kind word and gesture of help to Kh. Joyce and family, and stay close to Fr. Boniface in your prayers and alms.



Wisdom

Do not be surprised that you fall every day; do not give up, but stand your ground courageously. And assuredly, the angel who guards you will honour your patience.

St John Climacus

Mark Your Calendar:

Introduction to Orthodoxy

Saturdays, 4:30 pm
through November 19

Bp THOMAS visit

October 8-9

Come receive the blessing!

40 Days of Growth in Stewardship

Kickoff - October 16
"Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong" (1 Cor 16:13).

Annual Parish Meeting

Sunday, October 23, 1:00 pm

Services for St Philip

Sunday, November 13
Vespers & Artoklasia 6 pm, Matins 7 pm
Monday, November 14
Divine Liturgy 10 am

ADVENT FAST

November 15 - December 25

Visit of Myrrh-Streaming Icon from

Taylor PA

Friday, November 18, 6 pm
Advent Paraklesis & Akathist to the Theotokos, Nurturer of Children

Nativity Services (Special Schedule!)

Friday, December 23
10 am Royal Hours
Saturday, December 24
9 am Divine Liturgy
6 pm Vespers, Artoklasia, & Orthros
Sunday, December 25
9 am Divine Liturgy

We live Pascha to Pascha!

April 16, 2017

OUR SYMPATHY IN CHRIST

is offered to the **Tillger family** upon the passing of Michael's father, Michael Sr., who reposed on August 22. The funeral was held in Ardsley.
MAY HIS MEMORY BE ETERNAL!



Did You Know?

- Congratulations to **Natalia Mamardashvili** for being accepted at the master's level for piano at Westminster Choir College. She was awarded their highest allowable scholarship. She attributes this miracle to Fr. Boniface's encouragement and intercession. She will also be performing in the Westminster Symphonic Choir at the Kimmel Center before the holidays.
- **Irene Forssen** has kindly commissioned two pieces of church music to be composed in memory of our beloved Fr. Boniface. The composer is Nazo Zakkak, a young, professionally trained musician from California, who is the composer-in-residence for our Archdiocese. One piece will be a four-part choral arrangement, while the other is based on chant (melody and ison). Both pieces are based on a simple text from the Prophet Micah. Thank you, Irene!
- Where are **Niko and Kristen Chocheli** on Sunday mornings? They are helping to establish the Sunday School program at St George Georgian Orthodox Church in Philadelphia. They are here for Saturday Vespers and other services, and appreciate your prayers and keeping in touch with them. If you miss them, Fr Noah reminds you to come to Vespers.
- It takes a lot to keep a parish going. Money, yes of course. Your tithes and offerings are always needed. But that is not all. It takes **time** and **talent**, too! How can you help? Pray about it and ask Father Noah what is needed!

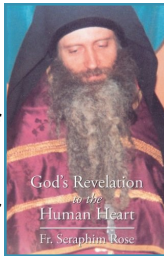
Book Recommendation

God's Revelation to the Human Heart

by Fr. Seraphim Rose

What does man seek in religion and what should he seek in it? How does God reveal Himself in order to bring man to a knowledge of the Truth? How does suffering help this revelation to occur? Fr. Seraphim Rose addressed these and other issues during a lecture at the University of California, Santa Cruz, in 1981. *God's Revelation to the Human Heart* is a transcription of that lecture, and the question-and-answer session between Fr. Seraphim and the university students.

Drawing upon a wealth of resources--the Holy Scriptures, patristic writings, the Lives of ancient and modern saints, and accounts of persecuted Christians in today's world--Fr. Seraphim leads the audience to the core of all Christian life: the conversion of the heart of man, which begins to burn with love for Christ and transforms him into a new man.



Ask Abouna

Previous Question: Why is it so important to have a Bishop?

Answer: Why? Because he is our link - through apostolic succession of doctrine, practice, and order - to Jesus Christ, the founder and head of the Church.

Scripture - In his gospel, St. John records Jesus Christ's high-priestly prayer for the unity of the Church (John 17:20-23) in which he prays that all who believe in Him would be perfectly one as He and God the Father are one. This unity is maintained by the bishop. St. Ignatius, who was consecrated Bishop of Antioch before the last book of the New Testament was completed, mentions the bishop as the unity of the local Eucharistic assembly. This is in continuity with scriptural witness in Acts and the epistles, which records that men were ordained by the apostles to oversee the churches in different cities. The structure of the hierarchy has necessarily developed since then in order to keep the church unified throughout time and far-flung place.

The central prayer of the consecration of a new bishop shows the Christ-like self-sacrificial love required to fulfill this apostolic ministry: "Grant, O Christ, that this man, who has been appointed a steward of the Episcopal grace, may become an imitator of thee, the True Shepherd, by laying down his life for thy sheep. Make him a guide to the blind, a light to those in darkness, a teacher to the unreasonable, an instructor to the foolish, a flaming torch in the world; so that having brought to perfection the souls entrusted to him in this present life, he may stand without confusion before thy judgment seat, and receive the great reward which thou hast prepared for those who have suffered for the preaching of thy Gospel."

We are blessed to have as our bishop a man of God who is working his tail off to fulfill that prayer. Join us in welcoming our Bishop THOMAS for his annual arch-pastoral visit for the regularly scheduled Lord's day services of October 8 and 9. Come to vespers! Come to Liturgy and Matins! Attend carefully to his bold and heart-felt prayer, chanting, and preaching. Kiss his hands, a living icon of Christ's hands, and pray for God to grant him many more years of faithful and excellent archpastoral ministry .

New Question: Another Fast? Really??? How can I improve my attitude toward fasting?



Wisdom from Fr. B.

"Fly under the radar."

Fr Boniface, as the wise and loving pastor and father that he is, constantly reminded me and others to be humble by keeping a low profile. His response to God's love was to be as effective as possible in reconciling people to God. Join me in applying this simple wisdom to every aspect of our lives. Do your job. Start it with a prayer. Do it well. Get it done quickly. Say a prayer of thanksgiving. Rejoice in God's mercy, but



don't be puffed up in success. Fly under the radar and you will be shot down a lot less.

PS - If you live sacramentally and fulfill your pledge to support our parish, please prayerfully consider joining the Order of Saint Ignatius and helping our Archbishop, Metropolitan Joseph, and Bishop THOMAS fulfill the special projects that make our Antiochian Archdiocese an effective serve in America and throughout the world. Since Fr. Boniface greatly championed the Order of Saint Ignatius, it would be a great work of mercy in his memory. Speak to Jonathan Black or Fr. Noah for more information.