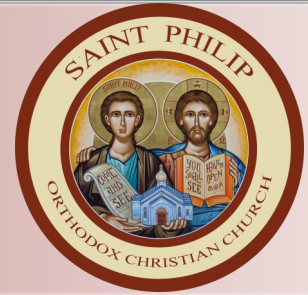


# THE PARISH PRESS

## St. Philip Orthodox Church

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### Mark Your Calendar:

#### Weekly Lenten Services:

Tues/Thurs: 6th Hour, 12 noon  
Mondays: Great Compline, 6:30 pm  
Wednesdays: Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 pm  
Fridays: Presanctified Liturgy, 10 am  
Little Compline 6:30 pm, w/  
Akathist

#### Services for St. Lazarus

Friday, Apr 23

6:30 p.m. Compline & Lazarus Canon  
Saturday, Apr 24  
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

#### Services for Palm Sunday

Saturday, Apr 24

6:30 p.m. Vespers & Artoklasia  
Sunday, April 25  
8:45 Orthros & Blessing of Palms  
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy & Procession

#### HOLY WEEK & PASCHA

Sunday, April 25

6:30 p.m. Bridegroom Orthros

Monday, April 26

10:00 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy  
6:30 p.m. Bridegroom Orthros

Tuesday, April 27

10:00 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy  
6:30 p.m. Bridegroom Orthros

Wednesday, April 28

10:00 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy  
4:00 p.m. Holy Unction  
6:30 p.m. Bridegroom Orthros followed by  
Unction anointing

Thursday, April 29

10:00 a.m. Vespertal Liturgy  
6:30 p.m. Twelve Gospels Orthros

Holy Friday

Friday, April 30

INVITE SOMEONE TO CHURCH TODAY!

10:00 a.m. Royal Hours  
4:00 p.m. Vespers of Burial  
6:30 p.m. Lamentations Orthros

Holy Saturday

Saturday, May 1

10:00 a.m. Vespertal Liturgy  
11:00 p.m. Nocturn, Paschal Matins,  
and Resurrection Liturgy

#### GREAT & HOLY PASCHA

Sunday, May 2

CHRIST IS RISEN!

12:00 noon Agape Vespers  
Followed by Egg Hunt



#### Bright Week

Services every day!

Including Divine Liturgy  
Monday, Wednesday, &  
Saturday at 10 a.m.

### A Message from Fr. Noah

Dear Saint Philip's Family,

As we continue through Lent, it is evident that our Good Lord is blessing our church in many, many ways.

First, we have the many **Liturgical Blessings** this season brings, and the special offering of musical talent in our parish. What a joy it was to celebrate the feast of the Annunciation with the chanting of our adult Byzantine Choir, and then to hear the Youth Choir sing the Akathist the Friday after.

Second, there are many **Ministerial Blessings** both present and on the horizon.

We are working on plans for a major building expansion, nave, narthex, kitchen, great room, classrooms, parking, outdoor chapel.

We are working on establishing a school. God willing, it will be a small start this fall.

We are preparing to receive a second antimins so we can start a mission chapel, to alleviate attendance and spread the faith.

We are blessed with many visitors, inquirers, catechumens, new families. What a joy and privilege to welcome them!

Coffee hour is resuming with precautions and outdoor seating. Please sign up to help in this vital ministry of community.

Sunday School has resumed

in person and also continuing with virtual resources.

Video Streaming of the services is in a good place, thanks to Greg H., and many others. If you'd like to be part of the team, please speak to Nick Morelli.

And there's all the people who contribute their time, talents, and resources to these ministries! Please continue to help our parish to do God's work, through your prayers, tithes, and offerings.

Third, there is the **Personal Blessing** of sharing life in the Body of Christ with you all!

YOU ARE AN ESSENTIAL PART

OF THE CHURCH! Your soul is eternally valuable; you are why Christ came to die, to offer His life so that you, and we, may have life with Him and together.

I know that I have not lead our parish perfectly during this trying time. I am eager to see our parish, all of its members and friends, reconciled, united, and moving forward together toward the Kingdom!

It is time for repentance!

It is time for Confession!

It is time to return!

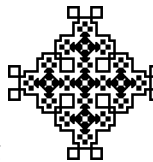
Take the fast seriously.

Invite friends and family to services for Holy Week.

The devil divides and drives us down.

Christ unites and elevates us!

In Christ,  
+Fr. Noah



### NEWS ~ N ~ NOTES

#### +MONTHLY OUTREACH COLLECTION:

Thank you for your generosity to the needy of our community! In **April**, we are collecting **Cleaning Supplies**.

#### +NON-PERISHABLE FOOD COLLECTION:

We continue to collect non-perishables of all kinds for the food pantries.

MAY GOD BLESS ALL OUR  
FAITHFUL GIVERS!

#### STUDY ON SACRIFICE IN SCRIPTURE & THE FATHERS

SATURDAYS IN LENT, 5 PM  
MAR 20-APR 24



All are invited, in person or over Zoom! As we make our Lenten journey, taking up our cross and following our Lord to the Cross, our journey will be deepened as we grow in awareness of how this fulfills God's intentions for all creation, as seen throughout Scripture and in the ongoing life of the Church. We will be reading excerpts of Patristic texts that comment on particular "moments" and "models" of Sacrifice in Scripture! — Sdn. Justin

# St. Philip Cemetery Notes



## Headstones and Grave

### Markers at St. Philip Cemetery

The rules and regulations for headstones and grave markers at St. Philip Cemetery were originally developed by the Cemetery Committee when the Cemetery was opened.

Headstones and flat markers (stone or metal) are allowed in Founder's Field and the simple burial area in the northern section of the cemetery. Only flat markers are allowed in the Memory Garden and Mercy Field. Temporary wooden markers may be used but permanent headstones or markers should be placed within six months of a burial.

No headstones or markers may exceed 48 inches in height. The maximum headstone size for a single grave is 48 inches wide, 48 inches high, and depth as required for stability. Maximum headstone size for a double grave for a husband and wife is 72 inches wide (base), 48 inches high and 24 inches deep (base). A minimum 4-inch-thick form must be used for the base of a headstone and done by contractor that has been approved by Cemetery Committee. Headstone designs should be submitted to the Parish Priest for review to ensure there are no problems.

No mausoleums or statuary are permitted in the cemetery. No non-orthodox symbols, fraternal or secular symbols are allowed on markers. A cross is always an acceptable symbol to put on a marker.

No planting of perennial plants, trees or bushes on plots is allowed. Annual plants are permitted during the summer months but must be removed by end of growing season. Plastic plants are discouraged. No fencing, coping, enclosure, iron, wirework, bench, or anything that hinders trimming up to the headstone, are allowed on plots.

Periodic checks of the cemetery will be made by the Cemetery Maintenance team to remove any non-compliant items that will interfere with routine maintenance (mowing/trimming) of the cemetery.

Care and maintenance of markers are sole responsibility of plot owner or family of the deceased. The Cemetery Committee and St. Philip Church are not responsible for any damage to headstones or markers.

## Lenten Prayer of St. Ephrem

Say it several times a day with prostrations on weekdays of the Fast. Study it, make St. Ephrem's words your plea to God!



O Lord and Master of my life,  
 take from me the spirit of sloth,  
 faintheartedness, lust of power and  
 idle talk.  
 But give rather the spirit of chastity,  
 humility, patience and love to thy  
 servant.  
 Yea, O Lord and King,  
 grant me to see my own sins, and not to  
 judge my brother,  
 for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages.  
 Amen.

## St. Nicholas Garden Project

**"And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed."**

We are in the midst of the creation of a garden behind the St. Nicholas House, with the hopes that it will yield a glorious harvest. Thus far, the area has been staked and the ground has been dug up. It is roughly a 25' x 60' area. There will be a cross-shaped path of wood chips running through the midpoints of the sides. This will divide the plot into four quadrants. **A tentative work day has been scheduled for April 10th**, where we will spread mushroom compost over the area, till it in, and prepare beds. After this, we hope to build a fence around the perimeter that will keep out critters, big and small. Irrigation is another concern that we would hope to have rectified in the coming weeks. Upon completing these tasks, we would be prepared for planting. This is very much a community garden, so suggestions and contributions are encouraged! It would be a good idea to start indoor seedlings now so that they might be ready for planting time.

M a y  
 o u r  
 L e n t e n  
 l a b o r s  
 y i e l d  
 P a s c h a l  
 f r u i t!



Constantine Magerr  
 Email: cmagerr4@gmail.com

## "Making a Defense":

Explorations in Orthodox Apologetics

### "CUP OF TEA"

#### PART 2: A Note to Young Believers

There will always be bullies. Sometimes we meet them on the playground; other times we meet them in the classrooms of our life, both literally and figuratively.

Bullies try to separate us from what we know to be true by intimidation, shame, and fear—fear of not being accepted, of not being "cool," of being "on the wrong side" of an issue. And our world is full of cultural and intellectual bullies who use their "expertise" or supposedly superior intellect or "moral vision" as a club to beat people into submission.

We must know, as Christians, that we are not part of this game, that we do not play the "game of life" according to those rules. God is our Coach and Referee; it is to Him that we look, and Him that we seek to please.

So, do not be afraid of or shamed by the "science"-filled culture of our day which demands physical explanations for everything around us, that tries to pit God and reason/science against one another. Science does not cancel God. It points to God. It does not compete with God. Rightly understood, science is gift of God to mankind so that we may uncover and explain the order in the universe as a revelation of God's loving care and provision for us.

We would not say a beautiful song is explained or written by piano keys alone, but rather by the composer of the music who uses the piano as his expression of that beauty. They are both valid but different and complementary explanations for the music.

Let us, then, always be confident in God, and always humble in what we think we know.

— by Joe Kyriakos & Sdn Justin

See John Lennox, "Can Science Explain Everything" (The Good Book Co., 2019), p. 35-36.

Please pray for your priests daily -  
 we need your prayers!

Fr. Noah, Fr. James.

*O Lord Jesus Christ, enkindle the hearts of all thy Priests with the fire of zealous love for thee, that they may ever seek thy glory; Give them strength that they may labor unceasingly in thine earthly vineyard for the salvation of our souls and the glory of thine all-honorable and majestic Name: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*