

APRIL PARISH UPDATES

A Note from Fr. Alex

*Fellow Parishioners & Friends ... in light of the current health crisis and so much being up in the air schedule-wise, this month I thought it fit to offer you just a simple message, as well as a few updates—and, yes, a calendar page with a whole lot of “TBD” caveats. This is a trying time for us, for the greater community and for the world; it’s a time that puts our faith, mettle and resolution to the test. **It’s a time that reminds us of what’s most important: the presence of God in our lives, the true meaning of our humanity and the well being of those we know and do not know.** Thank you to those many parishioners of Saint Philip who have helped me touch base with and look in on the more vulnerable members of our parish; I know so many of our faithful are doing this in your neighborhoods and cities as well. More needs will arise. We’ll keep up communication with you and take it all week by week.*

*This is all extra surreal, as it is our beloved Lenten period. But even though we can’t be together in the usual way, we are still together spiritually. **Lent is still real; it still represents and enables our journey closer to Christ.** Keep praying, forgiving, reflecting, fasting and learning—it all still matters and is every bit as real for us as a parish family as in a “normal” year. We’ll get through this, with God’s help. —with Love in Christ, Fr. Alex*

Stewardship: A Vital Situation—Not Insurmountable

The Stewardship Committee would like to thank all of those who have submitted a commitment card this year, whether early on or in response to the recent letter highlighting our vital financial needs at this point. At the writing of this article, we have received a total of 71 Commitment Cards for 2020, which is well below the 91 we received around the same time last year. Please do not let your foot off the gas. It is never too late. And, as you know, your Saint Philip family needs you now more than ever. Our challenge is substantial—but we have a generous, faithful community, and nothing before us is insurmountable, if we put our faith in Christ.

Download a 2020 Commitment Card (please complete/send back to us) and give online today:
stphilipnh.org/stewardship/

What Stewardship Means to Me: Norris Family



Hello! Geoff and I are so happy to be a part of the Saint Philip Stewardship Committee. Saint Philip has been our spiritual home for many years and has been a constant place of comfort, strength, and joy. We

view Stewardship as a way not only to thank God for our Saint Philip community, but also as a means to “pay it forward” with our time, treasure and talent. We feel it is important to keep our community strong and to do our part. —Offered by Julie Norris

“What Saint Philip Means to Me” will be a recurring piece in Come & See, providing a window into the meaning of Stewardship at Saint Philip, as it relates to each parishioner. Like to share your story and thoughts? Contact Fr. Alex. He’d love a submission from you and yours for our Summer 2020 newsletter.

Festival News: Postponing, Not Canceling

It’s likely no surprise to most of us that our original plan for a May 15/16 festival is impossible, given the current health crisis. **Your Festival Committee is working hand in hand with the Parish Council to forge a new date, likely in September or October.** We’ll keep you informed—and we’ll get this done! On a related note, we’ll continue to seek advertisers for our Ad Book, which is a vital part of our festival revenue.

Contact Joyce Powell to learn more about the Ad Book:
stphilipfestival@gmail.com; 781 858-8458.

Sacraments, Funerals & Memorials

Baptism

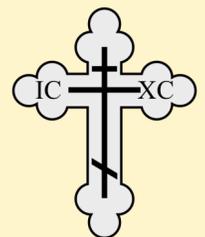
Sophia Keaveney, Feb 29

Funeral

Constantina Polychronopoulos, March 20

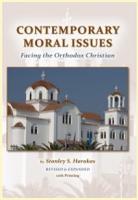
Memorial

Richard Murphy (40 days), Feb 23



CALENDAR

April 2020 Tentative Overview

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Holy Week Donations With the fluid virus situation, our Holy Week & Kouvouklion needs are being reassessed. Thank you for your support thus far!		Adult Education/Enrichment Fr. Alex has been offering recorded Orthodox Life sessions, as well as Face Book live streaming sessions, and will continue to do so. Whether or not you have the Harakas text, check out the videos/join him live whenever you can. The discussion is important and so is the sense of community maintained within these events.				
Calendar Notes <i>The calendar reflects the challenging scenario and possibility of needing to worship from home throughout April and, of course, Holy Week/Pascha. We'll hope and pray for the best and keep you updated.</i>			Orthodox Life & Youth Remote Sessions (Times TBD) 1	2	Akathist Hymn, 6:30 pm (Live streaming) 3	Greek School, (Remote learning) 4
Saint Mary of Egypt Liturgy, 10 am (Live streaming) 5	6	7	Orthodox Life & Youth Remote Sessions (Times TBD) 8	9	10	Saturday of Lazarus Liturgy, 10 am (Breakfast & activities canceled) 11
Palm Sunday Liturgy, 10 am (Live streaming) Modified Holy Week schedule TBD, along with live streaming of select services 12	13	14	15	16	Holy Friday Youth Retreat (Remote) 17	18
Holy Pascha/Easter Agape Vespers, 11 am (Live streaming) Easter Egg Hunt canceled 19	20	21	22	23	24	Greek School, (Remote learning) 25
Saint Thomas Liturgy, 10 am (Live streaming) 26	27	28	29	30	Literary Spring <i>"If people did not love one another, I really don't see what use there would be in having any spring."</i> —Victor Hugo, <i>Les Miserables</i>	