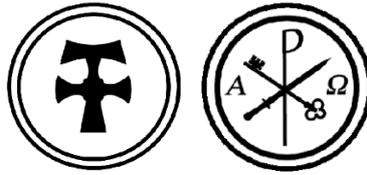


Monastery of St. Antony and St. Cuthbert

The Brotherhood of the Glorious Apostles Peter and Paul



January 2019

From Fr. Philip:

Gradually we are seeing the Light coming back into the world: first noticeable round about Theophany. In the bank behind the Chapel we can just see the first signs of the coming spring in some bulbs and particularly snowdrops showing through and some very early primroses in flower. However, before the spring comes, we are in for the worst of the weather to come.



Christmas was wonderful: we were able to have all the services and we had guests here to share the celebrations with us.

We had to sort about a bit to find enough space for everyone to have somewhere but with patience and perseverance everyone had a good bed and a decent private place to be.

The weather was kind and good enough for a couple of good brisk walks in the area.

When you come you should try to plan to walk: we are in an area of "Outstanding Natural Beauty."



Brothers. Nectarios and Deiniol printed out and practised lots of music and the effect was wonderful. You can hear some of this for yourselves here (or on our website):

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfWMAefJYqFEZkYiK2WmeEw/videos>



We have several relics in the chapel and these were put out for veneration. This is a great blessing. The relics remain on the side table but are only opened by appointment or on Great Feasts. They include Saints Basil the Great, John Chrysostom, Ephraim the Syrian, Mary Magdalene, Barbara, Melangell of Pennant, Nectarios of Pentapolis and St. Jakob of Hamatoura. The scents of lilies and roses are often noticed.

Coming to stay:

We are thrilled that people are wanting to come and stay and we want to encourage you to think about coming for as much time as you want. We are usually limiting this to 10 days to begin with so others can come too because our guest accommodation is limited.

Please contact us in good time if you want to stay overnight in the monastery. There are some good hotels that are clean, decent and simple nearby. Or in the summer you are welcome to bring a tent, caravan etc. and stay here if there is no room in our guest rooms.

Some people prefer to stay in one of the local Bed & Breakfast Hotels (particularly if they have little children and are not camping in the grounds):

The Bridges Inn, Ratlinghope <http://thebridgespub.co.uk/>

The Crown Inn, Wentnor. <https://www.crowninnwentnor.co.uk/>

Both offer good service and clean, simple rooms with good food.

Please note:

It is an expectation that all visitors take part in all the services for the duration of their stay. It is welcomed if you can help with catering, cooking and ground work, singing, chanting, serving, sewing, mending, building, advice etc. We hope that during your stay you will become a member of our community.

Developments:





Most people will not find a compost heap exciting but for us this is certainly exciting. Previously there were two conical compost bins which were far too small and simply acted as rat palaces (by the way we have three cats now so no more offers of kittens please!). The new compost maker is enormous, with three bays, which should really heat up and speed the process of turning organic waste into useful compost. The soil here is thin, heavy, cold and wet. Compost will really improve that.

We have also planted a gift of 12 Rhubarbs of different types. Hopefully at least some of them will thrive in this climate. They have been planted on ridges as these plants like plenty of water (no problem there and lots of drainage (ah....)).

A further series of beds are being dug: I'll let you know how they get on and if anything actually grows. The greenhouse is being returned to growing plants and the soil renewed and suitable things for it planted.

If you have cuttings, spare plants, things you can divide, from your garden which will grow in this setting, then we'd be delighted to receive them.

If you have cloches, coldframes, greenhouse, polytunnels, fruit frames, chainsaws, etc. that you no longer want then we can find a use for them here.

If you have tents, sleeping bags, a caravan or single duvets that you no longer want and can get them here then we can use them.

Your prayers!

Fr. Philip.

Internet:

I keep being asked to restart the talks on YouTube. I will but we need to get the internet fixed first. It takes 5 hours to upload one minute of video here!

Support:

Us supporting you:

Send us requests for prayer.

1. We are happy to remember people in our prayers, in the proskimide, artoklasias (lytias) and so on.
2. Come and stay to join us in prayer and our life for a few days.

You supporting us:

There are several ways to support the Monastery:

1. Please pray for us: Fr. Philip, Novice Deiniol, Novice Nectarios.
2. Through making use of our industries:
 - a. We create websites (please see the websites for the Antiochian Archdiocesan, the Cathedral, for Lincoln, Worcester and Manchester parishes. (Please check our website for developments).
 - b. We have a small Emporium which will gradually sell more things.
 - c. We will gradually add to these industries.
3. Through giving us good ideas!
4. Through direct giving. See below. You can find details on the website but also by making donations to our charity: THE STIPERSTONES TRUST Registered charity number: 1077603.

Making donations:

If you'd like to support what we are doing financially that would be lovely – but please do not feel that you “must”. We DO need money and we are already finding that we need to expand the monastery as more people are asking to stay and space is very limited.

We also need lots of things (we have far too much of some things already) but we need new paths, concrete, cement, wood, more cells, a larger church(the current one gets very cramped), taps that work (most of the taps here are broken) and a good plumber, the boiler maintained, new water heaters (some of them here don't work and it is cold) We also need to eat, and we need to feed our guests!

The best way you can help us with these things is by setting up a small monthly Standing Order. This is very easy. If you have Internet Banking it is five minutes work. Otherwise you could complete the attached form and send it to your Bank Manager. We will spend your money VERY carefully and be delighted to show you what we are doing in person.

To make this easy I have included a Standing Order Form at the end of the Newsletter.

You may also consider completing a Gift Aid form too. This increases your gift by 25% (so £1 becomes £1.25)

Address and Contacts:

Pontesbury

Shropshire

SY5 0SJ

01588 650571

www.orthodoxmonastery.co.uk

info@orthodoxmonastery.co.uk

Fr.Philip@gmx.com

The boys:



Standing Order Form.

To the Manager

Bank Address:

I/we hereby authorise and request you to debit my/our

Account Name*	
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Account Details

Sot Code	Account Number	Amount	Frequency
			Monthly

Beginning date	End date:
/ /	/ /

And credit

The Stiperstones Trust, Lloyds Bank, Pride Hill, Shrewsbury. SY1 1DG

Sort Code: 30-97-62	Account: 02291524
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Quoting reference: The Stiperstones Trust

Signed:	Date:
Name in Block Capitals:	

* Please ensure that the actual name on/of the account is included in this box so that we can accurately match your payment to our records.

Please print this page off and send it to your Bank Manager.

Gift Aid:

1. Title: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Tel/ mobile: _____ Email: _____

2. If you are a UK taxpayer, please tick the box below to join the Gift Aid scheme. Doing so will mean that we can claim up to 25p extra for every £1 you give, at no additional cost to you!

Yes, I am a UK taxpayer. Please treat all donations I make to The Stiperstones Trust as Gift Aid donations until further notice. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations to charities and Community amateur sports clubs (CASCs) in that tax year, it is my responsibility to pay any difference. The Stiperstones Trust will claim 25p on every £1 donated. Please let us know if you want to cancel the declaration, change your name and/or address or no longer pay enough tax on your income and/or capital gains.

Signed:

Date:

Please print off this page and send it to: The Stiperstones Trust, EDGE VIEW, BIRDS BARN LANE, WOLVERLEY, KIDDERMINSTER, DY11 5SG

Gift Aid Information When the Stiperstones Trust receives a donation from a UK taxpayer, we are entitled to claim an amount of tax (calculated at the basic rate of income tax in that year) paid on that donation. Once you have given your permission for us to do this on your behalf (by filling in this Gift Aid form), there is no need for you to do anything else. All that is required is that you must be a taxpayer and that you would have paid or will pay enough Income and/or Capital Gains Tax to cover all the Gift Aid claimed on all your donations to all charities and Community amateur sports clubs in that tax year. Please note that it is your responsibility to pay any difference. The amount of tax we claim will be 25% of the total value of your donations in that tax year. Furthermore, if you are a higher taxpayer, you are also entitled to claim the difference between the basic rate which we will claim and the amount of tax you have actually paid. For further details on how you can do this, please contact your tax office. If your tax situation changes and your gifts will no longer be eligible for the Gift Aid scheme, please contact us and we will amend your record accordingly.