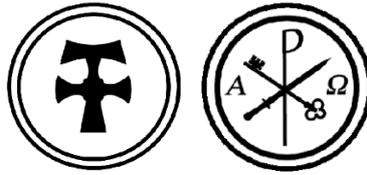


Monastery of St. Antony and St. Cuthbert

The Brotherhood of the Glorious Apostles Peter and Paul



February 2019

From Fr. Philip:

Theophany:

We have plenty of water here in the Monastery so finding some to bless was not hard. Trickier was deciding what was a waterbody and what was a temporary run off. In the end we blessed three areas:



The stream that runs through St. Caedmon's Wood and under St. Melangell's cell.

The pond and the water that runs into the pond and onto the marsh.

The three ponies watched with increasing concern!

They like to watch every movement but you could see them thinking "This is an odd thing to be doing: can we eat his clothes?"



It is wonderful to see Holy Water spilling all over the monastery property now in plentiful amounts. The fish and other organisms in the ponds and streams inhabit the holy water. We, too, should inhabit holiness.

Coming to stay:



Lots of people are coming to stay with us which is great. We can manage about 6 guests (and another two in the cabins in the woods) depending on the mixture of sexes. In March we are having several people coming for extended stays so we are pretty full. If you would like to come in March you may have to share a room. In any case the sooner you let us know what you'd like to do the easier it is for us to plan. (This is also the case if you are coming for the day, particularly if you need to be picked up.)

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/>

This place has some simple, clean and comfortable accommodation for individuals but also does group bookings.

The Crown Inn, Wentnor. <https://www.crowninnwentnor.co.uk/> This one has only four rooms – one of which is pet friendly. All four rooms are beautiful.

Both offer good service and clean, simple rooms with good food. If you make use of either of these places (for a meal, for example, please let them know why you are visiting and say so on Trip Advisor as this helps with the local economy.)



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 feel you are a member of our community.

Developments:

We now have outside lights thanks to Yuri who worked hard putting them up. This has made it much easier to get round to the Chapel at night. Previously it could be very disorientating.

The compost heap is filling up nicely too – the soil here is thin, cold, wet and almost pure clay so the organic matter will improve it hugely.

Internet:

We are working on getting videos on the Internet. There are a couple on the website and on Youtube and more will be coming soon.

Other Monasteries in U.K.:

Everyone knows about the Monastery in Essex. It always amuses and impresses me when one travels abroad and people say “Have you been to Essex?” when they mean have you been to **St. John the Baptist Monastery** there. If you have not been perhaps you should.

Also the newly founded Monastery on the Island of Mull (Of All Celtic Saints). <https://mullmonastery.com/> or <https://www.facebook.com/celticsaintsmonastery/> this is a wonderful development and is the first (hopefully of many!) Orthodox Monastery in the Scottish Islands for 1000 years.

Essex:



Mull:



You may also like to see this BBC documentary about Hamatoura, Lebanon:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b0c0zm85/our-world-the-good-struggle>

Your prayers!

Fr. Philip.

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



Yuri putting up the new lights in the snow!

Standing Order Form.

To the Manager

Bank Address:

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

Account Name*	
---------------	--

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.