

The Orthodox Church in America DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA AND EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA The Most Rev. Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia

April 18, 2018

Update on Fr John Nightingale --- Spring 2018

Dear to God,

Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen! Fr. John and Matushka Kyra expressed their gratitude for the cards, visits, phone calls and financial support. No one wants to be forgotten. In visiting Fr John a few weeks ago, I was informed he has started physical therapy again. Unfortunately, when he was at the V. A. Hospital, they stopped physical therapy when he was no longer making progress. Sadly, with the therapy discontinued he lost strength and some of the range of motion in his hands.

They have faced difficulty finding reliable nursing help to assist with getting him in and out of bed, as well as hygeine. The V.A. was covering someone coming once a day, seven days a week, but now reduced it to three days. Generally, the nursing staff does not arrive until 12:30 p.m., or later and sometimes not at all. As sometimes happens, they have also had money, wallets and other items stolen.

Fr. John remains positive and prayerful, but states that dealing with the day things with inconsistent nursing care, in some ways is worse than dealing with the disability itself. Nevertheless, he continues to be grateful for the Lord's blessings, the phone calls, cards, visits and financial support.

May our Lord continue to grant Fr John and Matushka Kyra strength and send them angels of mercy to assist them with the day to day needs, strength and encouragement.

Your unworthy father in Christ,

+MARK

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