

The Very Reverend Stephan Close

B.S.	Arizona State University,	Tempe, AZ	1978
M.Div.	Asbury Theological Seminary,	Wilmore,. KY	1982
	St. Stephen's Curriculum,	Ligonier, PA	1990
In Residence	St. Vladimir's Seminary,	Yonkers, NY	1991-1992

Fr. Stephan attended his first Divine Liturgy in Amsterdam in 1980 where he met his wife, Annette, while serving a street mission with WAM. He further served street missions with WAM in NYC, Chicago, and the Soviet Union. They joined the EOC in 1982 and were married in 1984.

Fr. Stephan and his wife were received into the Orthodox Church in 1988.

He was ordained to the priesthood in 1992 while attending St. Vladimir's Seminary.

After serving parishes as assistant priest in Detroit and Montreal, he was commissioned a chaplain in the United States Air Force and served 20 years; including wartime deployments overseas.

While serving as an USAF Chaplain, he established missions in VA and TX which have become regular parishes.

He has served missions with OCMC to Albania, India, and Tanzania. He has also served the OCF, RealBreaking to Mexico, Guatemala, and Puerto Rico.

Upon retiring from the military in 2014, he has assisted at St. Luke Antiochian Orthodox Church in Erie, Colorado.

He considers himself a pastor and believes that love never fails.