



Sunday, February 15, 2015

# St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church

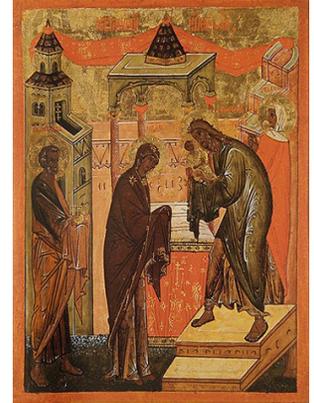
A PARISH OF THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OUTSIDE OF RUSSIA—EASTERN AMERICAN DIOCESE

Great Vespers & Confessions each Saturday at 6 pm – Daily Vespers & Bible Study each Wednesday at 7 pm – Divine Liturgy each Sunday at 10 am  
60 Clifton Chapel Lane, Stafford, Virginia 22555 – Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1295, Stafford, VA 22555 – Website: [www.sthermanorthodox.org](http://www.sthermanorthodox.org)

## Divine Services / Activities

### This Week:

- Sun. Feb. 15/Feb. 2**      **Sunday of the Last Judgement (Meatfare Sunday)**  
**The Meeting of Our Lord, God and Saviour Jesus Christ**  
**9:15 a.m.**      Congregational Singing Practice  
**9:45 a.m.**      Reading of the Third Hour  
**10:00 a.m.**      Festal Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship Hour  
**12:30 p.m.**      Parish Council Meeting
- Wed. Feb. 18/Feb. 5**      **Venerable Shio Mgvime**  
**7:00 p.m.**      Daily Vespers and Bible Study
- Sat. Feb. 21/Feb. 8**      **Venerable Pancratius, hieromonk of the Kiev Caves**  
**6:00 p.m.**      Great Vespers followed by Holy Confessions
- Sun. Feb. 22/Feb. 9**      **The Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheesefare Sunday)**  
**Martyr Nicephorus of Antioch**  
**9:15 a.m.**      Congregational Singing Practice  
**9:45 a.m.**      Reading of the Third Hour  
**10:00 a.m.**      Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship Hour



### 2015 Finances

The Parish needs \$1,555.77/week to meet budget

<u>Week</u>	<u>Amount Received</u>	<u>Difference from amount needed</u>
<b>Year-to-date</b>	<b>\$ 8521.21</b>	
February 1	\$ 2547 .00	+ \$991.23
February 8	\$ 1683 .00	+ \$127.23

*Honor the Lord from your righteous labors and offer Him the first fruits from the fruits of righteousness, that your storehouses may be filled with an abundance of grain and your wine presses may gush with wine. Proverbs 3:9-10*

### Attendance

Great Vespers, 2/7– 5

Divine Liturgy, 2/8 – 35

### Prayer List

*Archpriest Alexander requests that you send him to full name and general reason for intercessory prayer (such as health or illness, unemployment, family issues, military deployment to Afghanistan, etc.) for his pastoral care. Only the names of the living (and recently deceased) will be included in the prayer list in the weekly bulletin. He also requests that the faithful who have requested intercessory prayers for various persons let him know when there is no longer a specific need for payer, so that we may keep the list current.*

LIVING: Rebecca Laymon, Joan Laymon, Judith (Maria) Cook, Ana Rosado-Nazario, Lana Campbell, Artemis Danzig, Maria Connerley, Matushka Kathleen Webster, Emma Nicole Parkinson, Matushka Joanna Laymon, Archpriest Michael Sekela, Tom Zakielarz, Patricia Connerley, Martha Connerley, Kathy Sekela, Mark Laymon, Kristin Blaylock, Janis Sergeant, Millicent Novic, Ray Liddick, Leonidas Stylianopoulos, Sophia Stylianopoulos, Chad Gallagher, Matushka Cindy Mitchell, Presvytera Flora Chioros, Joshua Epstein, Father Stanley Voyiazakis, Presvytera Katie Baker, the captive Orthodox bishops from Aleppo, Syria: His Eminence Archbishop Boulos (Yazigi) and Mar Archbishop Youhanna Ibrahim

MEMORY ETERNAL: Larry Brown

### Blessing of Homes for Theophany

Archpriest Alexander will, God-willing, be available (by appointment) for the annual blessing of homes as early as early Monday afternoon (January 19) following the Festal Divine Liturgy. Please email him at [chaplain.webster@gmail.com](mailto:chaplain.webster@gmail.com) or call his cell: 703-297-7744.

## Fellowship Hour

Feb. 15 ~ Fellowship meal hosted by Team 3

Feb. 22 ~ Fellowship meal hosted by Team 4

If anyone has any questions or is interested in hosting a particular Sunday please contact Maria Connerley.



## Reader Schedule

Feb. 15 ~ Reader Steve Miroy

Feb. 22 ~ Reader Steve Terrell

If you are interested in assisting with the reading or becoming a tonsured reader please contact Deacon Alexander.



## Prosfora

Nancy St. Clair is currently providing the Prosfora. If you are interested in helping to make Prosfora for the church, please contact Nancy St. Clair.



## Metropolitan's Trip to See Mission in Hati

Our own Metropolitan Hilarion, First Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia, recently visited our growing mission in the island nation of Haiti. For details and a photo slideshow, see <http://www.adiocese.org/News/2015/feb/haiti.en.htm>



## Parish Council Meeting

At the end of fellowship hour today we will hold our monthly parish council meeting. All are welcome to attend and we welcome your input on the issues we discuss.

Some of the important things on today's agenda include: preparation of services for Great Lent, discussion of the sexual misconduct policy ROCOR has adopted, the creation of a committee to fine tune the rules governing the newly created building fund, creation of a committee to research accounting/budgeting software for the parish, discussion of a pre-Advent seminar with guest speaker, and discussion of our next hierarchical visit."

## Volunteers Needed for New Committees

We need energetic and motivated volunteers to staff two important new committees. The first is a committee to fine tune the rules governing our newly created building fund to include how to best manage the money in the fund (savings account, CDs?)

The second committee is a long term committee that will research the various accounting/budgeting software on the market to make a recommendation on what the parish should adopt in the future. This will consist of both internet research and talking to and/or visiting other churches to see what they use.

If you are interested please attend today's parish council meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting please let Deacon Alexander or Reader Jason know that you are interested in being in a specific committee and we will contact you this coming week.

## CONFESSION IS GOOD (EVEN VITAL) FOR THE BODY AND THE SOUL!



The renowned Swiss psychiatrist Paul Tournier once wrote: "I could give very many examples, especially of patients who have come to visit me only once, . . . with the sole purpose of finding someone to whom they could confess a sin that has been weighing upon them for years. . . . The tremendous joy brought by forgiveness plays an important part in causing the medical effects [of healing]. . . In many cases I have seen a physical illness disappear overnight after the confession of a lie or an illicit love-affair." Thus even a Reformed Protestant like Tournier recognized that confession is good for the body, as well as the soul.

And we Orthodox have a special opportunity, rare in the modern world, to avail ourselves of the healing Mystery of Holy Confession at regular intervals in our own churches. A good spiritual rhythm would allow for each of us to come to Holy Confession each month, especially if one hopes to receive the Body and Blood of Our Lord at each Sunday Divine Liturgy. The timing may be extended through the practice of oikonomia (exception for the greater good of both the person and the community) to once every two months, but not a day longer, as our former hierarch Metropolitan Jonah permitted. It has been disappointing to me that Holy Confession is rather (shall we say?) "under-utilized"; here at St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church.

Regular opportunities for Holy Confession here in Stafford include the following: each Saturday after Great Vespers, each Wednesday evening (or other evenings when scheduled) before Daily Vespers (that is, from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.), Sundays during the fellowship hour after Divine Liturgy upon request, and by appointment with me at other times. Of course, a parishioner may have established a previous relation with another Orthodox priest-confessor that you wish to continue. If that is your situation, I ask only that you let me know the name of your priest-confessor, so that I can be confident that the spiritual relation is authentic and strong.

~ Archpriest Alexander

We are registered with two broadcast media weather alert systems: (1) television: WJLA-TV (channel 7) and News Channel 8, and (2) radio: WTOP radio (103.5, 103.9, 107.7 -- all FM) and WTOP.com Any closings will also be posted on the home page of our website and via email to those who have asked to be on our electronic mailing list.