



Sunday, July 31, 2016

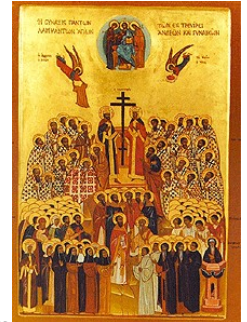
St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church

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

Great Vespers & Confessions each Saturday at 6 pm – 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

Liturgical Services/Activities



This Week:

Sun. July 31/July 18

6th Sunday after Pentecost. Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Councils

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:45 a.m. Reading of the Third Hour

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship Hour

Wed. Aug. 3/July 21

Prophet Ezekiel (6th c. B.C.)

Adult Religious Education Class not offered this week. (Parishioners are urged instead to attend National Night Out on Tuesday, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.: see p. 2.)

Sat. Aug. 6/July 24

Venerable Macarius, abbot of Zheltovod and Unzha (1444 AD)

The Holy Fathers of the First Six Councils

6:00 p.m. Great Vespers followed by Holy Confessions

Sun. Aug 7/July 25

7th Sunday after Pentecost. Holy Women Olympias (Olympiada) the Deaconess of Constantinople (409 AD), and the Virgin Eupraxia of Tabenna (413 AD)

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice

9:45 a.m. Reading of the Third Hour

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship Hour

2016 Finances

The Parish needs \$1571.92 /week to meet budget

Week	Amount Received	Difference from amount needed
Year-to-date	\$ 49,135.49	+ \$ 6072.11
July 17	\$901.62	- \$670.30
July 24	\$456.31	- \$1115.61

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, 7/23– 24 Divine Liturgy, 7/24 – 54

Intercessory 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, Artemis Danzig, Judith (Maria) Cook, Ana Rosado-Nazario, Lana Campbell, Maria Connerley, Matushka Kathleen Webster, Emma Nicole Parkinson, 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 Joanna Mitchell, Protodeacon Brian Patrick Mitchell, Presvytera Flora Chioros, Father Stanley Voyiazakis, Presvytera Katherine Baker, Peter Pederson, Monk Anthony (West Virginia), Archpriest George Larin, Matushka Masha Potopav, Matushka Sophia Doubleday, Evdokiya Bykon, Kevin McCarthy, James Dunham, Eleanor Magee, 2LT Benjamin Stracquatano, USA (Korea), David Jones (Peace Corps, Ghana), James Puckett, Nora Milligan, Archpriest Victor Potopov, Dsa. Monica Pappas, Archpriest John Nehrebecki, Paisley Joanna Milligan, Emily Vasquez, Nicholas Bluma, Ronald Proctor, baby Aidan, Kris Breem, Dimas Lowry, Archpriest Theodore Shomsky, Ann Yuschak, Sarah Heitke, Alex Woglom, James Woglom, Archimandrite Iov (Holy Trinity Monastery), Archpriest Anastasy Yatreliis, Deacon Alexander Laymon, Charles Jordan, Jo Ann Swift, Archpriest George Rados, Abbess Makaria, James and Bryce Wilt, Logan Peters, Sandra Brown, Joe and Jill Peabody, Brian Green, Glen A. Cooper, Kiernan Green, the captive Orthodox bishops from Aleppo, Syria: His Eminence Archbishop Boulos (Yazigi) and Mar Archbishop Youhanna Ibrahim

Memory Eternal: Rev. Jacques Hamel, Ann C Gibson, Hannah and Laurel Peabody, Archpriest Theodore Shevzov, Patrick Hazantones, Ronald Weaver

September Iconography Workshop

Our parish will be hosting our 6th Annual 6-Day Iconography Workshop September 12-17th, led by Fr. Igumen Mefodii, master iconographer of the Prosopon School of Iconology.

No previous artistic experience is needed for beginners to do Archangel Michael and those who have previously done icons will do another based on their experience. We will be introduced to the symbolism of the elements in the icon and of each step in the process. We will follow the ancient traditional Russian-Byzantine techniques of painting icons including applying gold leaf, the "floating" egg tempera with natural pigments, and the final application of oil. The workshop atmosphere will be that of a spiritual retreat as we work quietly and prayerfully each day, breaking for a potluck lunch.



The deadline to register is approaching quickly, Aug. 22nd, and many have already signed up. Further details can be found in the fliers on our bulletin board and kitchen pass-through window, our parish website or Facebook page, or by contacting me.

--Mat. Joanna Laymon

Adult Religious Education

After a brief hiatus, Adult Religious Education classes has resumed on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. The current series focuses on the Divine Liturgy, why we worship the way we do, and what every detail of the Divine Liturgy means both historically and for us today. You do not need to have attended the previous sessions to participate.

Scrip

It is really wonderful to welcome so many new people to our "little church in the woods". You have probably seen the little sign in the fellowship hall advertising "Scrip", and may have wondered what it is all about. Scrip is a program which provides "free money" to non-profit organizations. Basically, our church purchases gift cards (scrip) at a discounted rate and sell them to the parishioners at face value. The size of the discount depends on the vendor, for example, a card from Lowes usually offers 4%, Chiles offers 11%, L.L. Bean 18%. There are hundreds of vendors participating in the program. These percentages, albeit small can amount to significant donations. Up until a couple of years ago, the average from scrip for the year was \$2500 (this more than pays half our rent for the year). With the loss of some of our parishioners, the income from scrip has declined. I keep the most popular ones for our parishioners on hand. These include Giant, Shoppers Food Warehouse, WAWA, Sheetz, Exxon, WalMart and Target, Lowes, Amazon, and a few popular restaurants. I try to replenish my supply once a month, however, if someone wants something I do not have on hand, I can get it by the following Sunday. In addition, there is a way parishioners can order scrip directly from Great Lakes Scrip by entering a code which will identify the order coming from a St Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church parishioner, however no one seems interested in that option and prefer to obtain their scrip from me. I would explore that option if anyone wishes. The code would insure the church would be credited for the discount. Sunday, I will have copies of the vendor list available.

You know, we are half way to Christmas. Gift cards make great gifts. Just saying.

National Night Out

Reader Moses reports: Our parish will participate in Stafford County's National Night Out on 2 August at the Target parking lot in Stafford Marketplace. The outing is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, support and participate in local anticrime efforts, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and to send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. For us, as St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church, the event is a means to present ourselves to the community and to introduce Orthodoxy to those who are unaware of the true Church - that includes most of the population of Stafford. I will need help in setting up for the event - we'll have our tent, tables, chairs, icons, brochures, etc. to transport to the site and erect. We'll also need parishioners to man our booth throughout the hours of 1700 to 2100 on that day. More information will be forthcoming after I attend the Sheriff's Office final planning meeting on 11 July.

HOLY CONFESSIONS

Faithful communion in the Holy Mysteries requires faithful participation in the Holy Mystery of Confession. To apply Fr. Thomas Hopko's felicitous phrase "regular and disciplined communion" also to Confession entails Holy Confession ideally each month by those faithful who expect 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. However, Holy Confession less frequent than bi-monthly is, according to the guidance of our recent hierarch, His Beatitude Metropolitan Jonah, inadequate preparation for receiving the Body and Blood of our Lord. Regular opportunities for Holy Confession at St Herman of Alaska Orthodox Mission include the following: each Saturday after Great Vespers, each Wednesday evening before the Adult Religious Education class (that is, from 6 p.m. until 6:45 p.m.), Sundays after Divine Liturgy upon request, and by appointment at other times. Of course, parishioners may have established previous relations with other Orthodox priest-confessors that they may wish to continue. If that is the case, I ask only that such parishioners let me know the names of their priest-confessors, so that I can be confident that the spiritual relation is strong. Please honor the minimum standard for this necessary spiritual discipline and vital sacramental opportunity.

~ Archpriest Alexander

Fellowship Hour

July 31 ~ Potluck Fellowship
Aug. 7 ~ Fellowship hosted by Team 1

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

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Reader Schedule

July 31 ~ Reader Steve Miroy
Aug. 7 ~ Reader Steve Terrell

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

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Prosfora

Nancy St. Clair is currently providing the Prosfora for Sundays, while Matushka Kathleen is doing so for weekday feast days. If you are interested in helping to make Prosfora for the church, please contact Nancy St. Clair.

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.