



Sunday, March 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

Divine Services / Activities

This Week:

Sun. Mar. 15/Mar. 2 **The Third Sunday in Great Lent: Adoration of the Cross**
Hieromartyr Theodotus, bishop of Cyrenia

9:15 a.m. Congregational Singing Practice

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

10:00 a.m. Procession with the Holy Cross

10:15 a.m. Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship Hour

12:45 p.m. Parish Council Meeting



Wed. Mar. 18/Mar. 4 **Martyr Conon of Isauria**

No Vespers or Bible Study This Evening (Clergy at diocesan retreat)

Adoration of the Cross

Sat. Mar. 21/Mar. 7 **The Holy Forty Martyrs of Sebaste**

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

Sun. Mar. 22/Mar. 8 **The Fourth Sunday in Great Lent:**

Venerable John Lestvichnik

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>
Year-to-date	\$ 13,451.16	
March 1	\$ 700.00	- \$ 855.77
March 8	\$ 3,298.95	+ \$ 1,743.18

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

Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, 3/4 – 14

Great Vespers, 3/7 – 5

Divine Liturgy, 3/8 – 38

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 Katherine Baker, Peter Pederson, Monk Anthony (West Virginia), Archpriest George Larin, the captive Orthodox bishops from Aleppo, Syria: His Eminence Archbishop Boulos (Yazigi) and Mar Archbishop Youhanna Ibrahim

MEMORY ETERNAL: Priest Matthew Baker

Blessing of Homes for Theophany

Archpriest Alexander is, God-willing, available (by appointment) for the annual blessing of homes. Please email him at chaplain.webster@gmail.com or call his cell: 703-297-7744.

Many Years!

Names Days:

- 2 Tad St. Clair
- 8 Wilmary Rosado
- 30 Patrick St. Clair
Roy Patrick St. Clair

Birthdays:

- 5 Eleni (Beth) Galvan
- 7 Anna Geracoulis
- 13 Susan Koory
- 17 Areti Stylianopoulos
- 22 Erik Laymon
- 25 Kevin Siewers
Tristan Thompson



Fellowship Hour

Mar. 15 ~ Lenten Fellowship meal
hosted by Team 3

Mar. 22 ~ Lenten 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

Mar. 15 ~ Adam Heitke

Mar. 22 ~ Reader Steve Miroy

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.



Wednesday Night Liturgy, Soup and Bible Study

Following the Presanctified Liturgies
during Lent, on Wednesday nights
there will be a light supper to
accompany Fr. Alexander's Bible
Study. If you would like to sponsor
the simple soup/bread crock pot
supper, please contact Mat. Joanna
by the Monday prior.



Wanted - Host for Paschal Vespers Potluck

Traditionally, our parish has celebrated the Resurrection with a Paschal Vespers at a parishioner's home followed by a potluck Agape Feast. We need a volunteer to host this year's Vespers and feast on 12 April at 2PM. All food and drinks will be provided by parishioners - we only need a location. If you would like to volunteer please see Dcn. Alexander or Rdr. Jason.

Lenten Thoughts

"When the heart is happy the face is cheerful. So when the whole man is in a manner commingled with the love of God, then even this outward appearance in the body, as in a kind of mirror, shows the splendor of his soul." *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*

This quote highlights the purpose of our fasting, transforming our heart, soul, and our nous into perfect receptors of the uncreated energies of the Holy Spirit, in order to reflect His indwelling.

I am reminded of God's created energies and the ways they can be compared to His uncreated energies. In high school physics classes we studied the manner in which light, water, and sound waves travel. These waves reflect back from surfaces, depending upon the condition of the objects from which they echo.

Light waves perfectly reflect from a mirror if the mirror is smooth and clean, without imperfections. Two mirrors perfectly aligned in this light will reflect each other infinitely.

Water and sound waves, too, echo from a smooth surface so perfectly that the incoming and outgoing waves create nodes, where there is stillness, no sound.

My dad, an amateur radio operator, taught me about repeaters. The relay stations received long distance radio signals emitted from his station and then transmitted them even longer distances. When the repeater was "down", not correctly tuned to the right frequency, he was unable to communicate as intended.

Through this Lenten season of fasting, repentance, and prayer, may each of us strive to smooth and still our heart, soul, and nous from distractions and passions so that we become perfect vessels of the Holy Spirit. May we then reflect the light of God's love to each other through our own countenances and by our actions.

Since we have reached the halfway mark in the Lent, I've offered the above reflection as encouragement to complete the rest of our journey.

Mat. Joanna Laymon

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.

May His Memory Be Eternal

On March 1st, Father Matthew Baker tragically died in a car accident on the way home from Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers service in Norwich, CT. He leaves behind him his wife, Presvytera Katherine (who recently suffered a miscarriage), and his six children, Issac, Elias, George, Ellie (Elefteria), Cyril and Matthew. Please pray for them and consider helping the family financially during this time. Donations for this large family without sufficient resources may be sent via: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, c/o Presvytera Katherine Baker, 247 Washington St., Norwich, CT 06360.

For a fitting tribute to Father Matthew by a fellow Orthodox priest, see:

<http://blogs.ancientfaith.com/roadsfromemmaus/2015/03/02/we-need-more-spiritual-brothers-losing-fr-matthew-baker/>



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.