



Sunday, December 13, 2020

# 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](http://www.sthermanorthodox.org)

## Liturgical Services/Activities: *(please remember to sign up for services and communion)*

<b>Sun. Dec. 13/Nov. 30</b>	<b><u>27<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost. Holy and All-praised Apostle Andrew the First-Called (AD 62).</u></b> <b>9:30 a.m.</b> Reading of the Hours <b>10:00 a.m.</b> Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship <b>1:00 p.m.</b> Parish Council Meeting
<b>Wed. Dec. 16/Dec. 3</b>	<b><u>Prophet Zephaniah (Sophonias) (635 B.C.).</u></b> <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Vespers <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Adult Religious Education Class
<b>Sat. Dec. 19/Dec. 6</b>	<b><u>Venerable Nilus, monk, of Stolben Island (AD 1554).</u></b> <b>4:00 p.m.</b> Catechumen Class <b>5:15 p.m.</b> Confessions <b>6:00 p.m.</b> Vigil
<b>Sun. Dec. 20/Dec. 7</b>	<b><u>28<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost. St. Ambrose, bishop of Milan (AD 397).</u></b> <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Baptisms <b>9:30 a.m.</b> Reading of the Hours <b>10:00 a.m.</b> Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with ordinations followed by Fellowship

*The risk of the COVID virus has compelled some of our parishioners to absent themselves from public contact including attendance at the Divine Liturgy. If you have been unable to come to church and would like to have communion brought to your home, please contact Fr. Alexander at 540-212-1855 or [anevsky54@gmail.com](mailto:anevsky54@gmail.com).*

### Attendance

Great Vespers, 12/5--

Divine Liturgy, 12/6--

Vespers, 12/9--

### 2020 Finances

**The Parish needs \$2,110/week to meet budget**

<u>Week</u>	<u>Amount Received</u>	<u>Difference from amount needed</u>
Year-to-date	\$ 132,415.20	+ \$ 32,442.42
November 15	\$ TBA	\$ TBA
November 22	\$ 1,093.75	- \$ 1,016.25
November 28	\$ 3,955.25	+ \$ 1,845.25
December 3	\$ TBA	\$ TBA

*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. ˆ*

### Intercessory Prayer List

*Metropolitan Jonah requests that you send him the 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 prayer, so that we may keep the list current.*

LIVING: Sarah, Emmanuel, Mark, Claudia, Katherine, Erika, Victoria, Michael, Tate, Renate, Dieter, Rebekah, Sofia, Ioannis, Anastasia, Elizabeth, Georgia, John, Elena, Alice, Matthew, Boris, Elizabeth, Davis (Columba), Moses, Emma, Kristin, Monk Sergius, Priest John, Priest David, Priest Costa, Priest Michael, Presbyteria Cindy, Priest George, Presbyteria Areti, Nun Aimiliane, Priest Charalambos, Monk Serapheim, Elizabeth, Katje, Rachel, Mandi, Clive, Clair, Rebecca, Janis, Paisley, George, Archpriest Alexander, Matushka Kathleen, Emma Nicole, Alexa Kate, Steven, Millicent, Archpriest Victor, Matushka Masha, Pdn. Patrick, Matushka Joanna, Matushka Sophia, Mother Theodora, Archpriest Alexander, James, Leonidas, Sophia, Maria, Larry, Bill, Modestos, Katya & Michael, Ephraim, Reader Moses, Jo Ann, Sarah, Paul, Laura and baby Mary, Brianna, Robert, Baby Nina, Charley & Alexandra, Irina & baby, Rebecca, Melissa & babies, Kathy Mirov

MEMORY ETERNAL: Gregory Cornwell

Every Christian should find for himself the imperative and incentive to become holy. If you live without struggle and without hope of becoming holy, then you are Christians only in name and not in essence. But without holiness, no one shall see the Lord, that is to say they will not attain eternal blessedness. It is a trustworthy saying that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners (1 Tim. 1:15). But we deceive ourselves if we think that we are saved while remaining sinners. Christ saves those sinners by giving them the means to become saints.

(St. Philaret of Moscow, Sermon of September 23, 1847)



### Fellowship Hour

- Dec. 20 Fasting Fellowship provided by Team 3
- Dec. 27 Fasting Fellowship provided by Team 4

If anyone would like to join a team or be put on the list of substitutes, or is interested in hosting a particular Sunday please contact Brianna Lessin or Mat. Veronica Sirko.



### Reader Schedule

- Dec. 20 ~ Rdr. Stephen Terrell
- Dec. 27 ~ Rdr. Aaron Lessin

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



### Prosfora

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

## Readings for the Week of December 13<sup>th</sup>

### Sunday 12/13

Luke 24:12-35 (*5th Matins Gospel*)  
 Ephesians 6:10-17  
 Luke 13:10-17  
 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 *Apostle*  
 John 1:35-51 *Apostle*

### Monday 12/14

2 Timothy 2:20-26  
 Luke 19:37-44

### Tuesday 12/15

2 Timothy 3:16-4:4  
 Luke 19:45-48

### Wednesday 12/16

2 Timothy 4:9-22  
 Luke 20:1-8

### Thursday 12/17

Matthew 25:1-13 *Matins Gospel*  
 Titus 1:5-2:1  
 Luke 20:9-18  
 Galatians 3:23-29 *Great-martyr Barbara*  
 Mark 5:24-34 *Great-martyr Barbara*

### Friday 12/18

Luke 6:17-23 *Matins Gospel*  
 Galatians 5:22-6:2 *Epistle, Saint*  
 Matthew 11:27-30 *Gospel, Saint*  
 Titus 1:15-2:1-10  
 Luke 20:19-26  
 Saturday Reading  
 Ephesians 1:16-23  
 Luke 12:32-40

### Saturday 12/19

John 10:9-16 *Matins Gospel*  
 Hebrews 13:17-21 *St. Nicholas*  
 Luke 6:17-23 *St. Nicholas*

## When you Donate toward a Feast Day Icon You are Also Supporting the Building Fund for St. Herman's Future Church!



Our parish is requesting donations to sponsor our handwritten feast day icons, either totally or in part. Our goal is to raise \$3000 per icon. Two-thirds of the donations will be given to the church's building fund.

Your donation can be in any amount. We still need donations toward both the icon of The Embrace of Sts. Joachim and Anna and The Nativity of the Holy Theotokos. Please indicate with your check the feast day icon you prefer.

Please support this project for the beauty of our present and future church, according to the gift of God's Grace and to His Glory.

### Christmas Food Drive

The Christmas food drive set up by the teenage girls begins this Sunday, December 13 and lasts through Sunday, December 20. Please bring your nonperishable food items to the marked table in the church hall and they will be donated to SERVE of Stafford County. Thank you!!!

### Complaining

December 13, 2020 · [Abbot Tryphon](#)

#### Complaining bears the fruit of bitterness

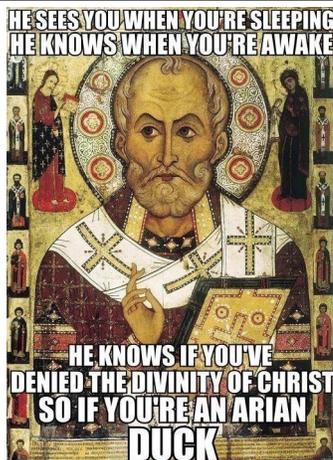
Instead of complaining, do something to make a difference in your life, and the lives of those around you. Keeping focused on making a difference. If there is reason to complain, change your complaint into a positive action that changes your perspective.

Complainers never change a thing by their constant negativity, other than make those around them want to take a cab to the other side of town. Complaining seems to many like such a little sin, and nothing to be worried about. Yet the impact of a complaining heart is spiritually ruinous, for when we complain we bear bitter fruits that destroy our peace and the peace of those around us.

When we refuse to fill our lives with complaints, we live our lives knowing that opposing the evil that is the root of our complaints means we preserve our inner peace. Some people live as though avoiding complaining will make everything worse, for they think that by doing so the destructive reality of negative thinking will be undone. Yet when we complain, we are returning evil for evil, and giving the fallen spirits the very thing they thrive upon.

Complaining never changes a thing, but only strengthens the power of the evil that is the very basis of our complaints. When we face every bad situation with a positive response, we empower the heart to good, as we diminish the power of negativity. By keeping a positive mindset, the sin of complaining is banished from our life, and everyone around us is bathed in a healing and healthy light.

With love in Christ,  
 Abbot Tryphon



Many think that the saints are far from us. But they are far from those who distance themselves from them, and very close to those who keep the commandments of Christ and have the grace of the Holy Spirit. In the heavens, all things are moved by the Holy Spirit. But the Holy Spirit is on earth too. He lives in our Church. He lives in the Mysteries. He is in the Holy Scriptures. He is in the souls of the faithful. The Holy Spirit unites all things, and therefore the saints are close to us. And when we pray to them, then the Holy Spirit hears our prayers, and our souls feel that they are praying for us.

(St. Silouan the Athonite, Writings, XII.3)

*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.*