



Sunday, January 12, 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

Liturgical Services/Activities:

Sun. Jan. 12/Dec. 30	<u>30th Sunday after Pentecost. Righteous Joseph the Betrothed, Holy Righteous David the King, and James the Brother of the Lord</u> 8:45 a.m. Matins 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship
Wed. Jan. 15/Jan. 2	<u>Righteous Juliana of Lazarevo (AD 1604)</u> 6:30 p.m. Great Vespers at Monastery of St. Demetrios, with potluck dinner to follow
Sat. Jan. 18/Jan. 5	<u>New Hieromartyrs Priest Vladimir (AD 1918)</u> 5:15 p.m. Confessions 6:00 p.m. Great Vespers
Sun. Jan. 19/Jan. 6	<u>31st Sunday after Pentecost. The Holy Theophany of Our Lord, God, and Saviour Jesus Christ (Baptism of the Lord).</u> 8:45 a.m. Matins 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship

Attendance

Great Vespers, 1/4– Divine Liturgy, 1/5–

2019 Finances

The Parish needs \$1,742.51 /week to meet budget

<u>Week</u>	<u>Amount Received</u>	<u>Difference from amount needed</u>
Year-to-date	\$ 105,275.57	+ \$ 14,069.08
December 29	\$ 971.00	- 771.51
January 5	\$ 00.00	- 00.00

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. ♪

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, Mark, Janis, Paisley, George, Archpriest Alexander, Matushka Kathleen, Emma Nicole, Alexa Kate, Steven, Chad, Millicent, Archpriest Victor, Matushka Masha, Pdn. Patrick, Matushka Joanna, Matushka Sophia, Mother Theodora, Archpriest Alexander, James, Leonidas, Sophia

MEMORY ETERNAL: Deacon Gregory Jewett



Fellowship Hour

Jan. 12~ Fellowship provided by Team 2

Jan. 19~ Fellowship provided by Team 3

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 Nancy St. Clair.



Reader Schedule

Jan. 12~Sdn. Nicholas Sanford

Jan. 19~TBA

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.

We are registered with two broadcast media weather alert systems: (1) television: WJLA-TV (channel 7) and News Channel 8, and (2) radio: WTOF radio (103.5, 103.9, 107.7 – all FM) and WTOF.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.

Readings for the Week of January 12th

Sunday 1/12

John 20:11-18 (*8th Matins Gospel*)
Galatians 1:11-19 *Sunday After*
Matthew 2:13-23 *Sunday After*

Monday 1/13

Hebrews 11:17-23, 27-31
Mark 12:13-17

Tuesday 1/14

John 10:9-16 *Matins Gospel*
Colossians 2:8-12 *Circumcision*
Luke 2:20-21, 40-52 *Circumcision*
Hebrews 7:26-28, 8:1-2 *Saint*
Luke 6:17-23 *Saint*
2 Timothy 4:5-8 *Sunday before the Theophany*
Mark 1:1-8 *Sunday before the Theophany*

Wednesday 1/15

Matthew 11:27-30 *Matins Gospel*
James 1:1-18
Mark 12:28-37
Galatians 5:22-6:2 *Venerable*
Luke 6:17-23 *Venerable*

Thursday 1/16

James 1:19-27
Mark 12:38-44
2 Timothy 2:1-10 *Martyr*
Matthew 10:16-22 *Martyr*

Friday 1/17

Acts 13:25-33 *Royal Hours: 1st Hour*
Matthew 3:1-11 *Royal Hours: 1st Hour*
Acts 19:1-8 *Royal Hours: 3rd Hour*
Mark 1:1-8 *Royal Hours: 3rd Hour*
Romans 6:3-11 *Royal Hours: 6th Hour*
Mark 1:9-15 *Royal Hours: 6th Hour*
Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7 *Royal Hours: 9th Hour*
Matthew 3:13-17 *Royal Hours: 9th Hour*

Saturday 1/18

1 Timothy 3:14:4-5 *Saturday before the Nativity*
Matthew 3:1-11 *Saturday before the Nativity*
1 Corinthians 10:1-4 *Vespers*
Luke 3:1-18
1 Corinthians 10:1-4 *Blessing of Waters, Epistle*
Mark 1:9-11 *Blessing of Waters, Gospel*



This Nativity night bestowed peace on the whole world;

So let no one threaten;

This is the night of the Most Gentle One – Let no one be cruel;

This is the night of the Humble One – Let no one be proud.

Now is the day of joy – Let us not revenge;

Now is the day of Good Will – Let us not be mean.

In this Day of Peace – Let us not be conquered by anger.

Today the Bountiful impoverished Himself for our sake;

So, rich one, invite the poor to your table.

Today we receive a Gift for which we did not ask;

So let us give alms to those who implore and beg us.

This present Day cast open the heavenly doors to our prayers;

Let us open our door to those who ask our forgiveness.

Today the DIVINE BEING took upon Himself the seal of our humanity,

In order for humanity to be decorated by the Seal of DIVINITY.

— St. Isaac Syrian, Nativity Sermon

THE NATIVITY

January 7, 2020 · [Abbot Tryphon](#)

The Condescension of God and the Deification of Man

We Orthodox Christians on the Julian Calendar are now celebrating the birth of Jesus, the incarnation of God on Earth. And this celebration of the Nativity of Christ will mark the spiritual upheaval of the universe, for this solemn day marks the embodiment of God on Earth, and the day God became flesh in Jesus, and, potentially, in all creatures.

The celebration of the Nativity of Christ is as important for our salvation as Pascha, for the compassion revealed in the Nativity is but a precursor to the gift this compassionate God incarnate has for us. That which began with the incarnation of God taking on our flesh in order to unite Himself to His creation, will culminate with the bodily resurrection. The Nativity provides all of us with the possibility of divine redemption, for it is in the Holy Nativity that God reveals His love for us, in His great condescension to become like us.

This celebration of the birth of Jesus is not about the commemoration of a helpless baby given birth in a stable, nor is this about a sort of magic baby discovered by the Wise Men. The birth of Christ is not about a Jesus who died on the cross to “atone” for the sins of all humanity, as a sacrifice to pacify an angry God. The celebration of the Nativity of Christ is not about the concept of original sin, that all humans are born inherently corrupt. The Nativity is about the essential goodness of humans, who have been created in the image and likeness of our Creator.

The messages of both the Nativity and the crucifixion is that we are most human, most like God, when we respond to the suffering of others. Our Orthodox theology about the Nativity, is about the “co-suffering love of God.” The Nativity of Christ is about the God who created the world becoming incarnate, while the foundations of the Earth are shaken. The Nativity of Christ is about Theosis, whereby we are deified, and by His grace, share in His Divinity, just as He has joined Himself with our humanity.

With love in Christ,
Abbot Tryphon

Taken from: <https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/morningoffering/2020/01/the-nativity-4/>