

St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church July 10th Weekly Bulletin

60 Clifton Chapel Lane, Stafford, Virginia 22555 –
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1295, Stafford, VA 22555 –
Website: www.sthermanorthodox.org



✠ Sunday Divine Liturgy 10 a.m. ✠

✠ Saturday Catechumen Class 3 p.m. Vespers and Confessions 5 p.m. ✠

✠ Wednesday Confession, Vespers and Adult Ed. Classes 5 p.m. 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

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Fellowship Meal

July 10 – Fellowship Team 2
July 17 – Fellowship Team 3
July 24 – Fellowship Team 4
July 31- Fellowship POTLUCK

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 Jo Lu Terrell.

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Reader Schedule

July 10 – Rdr. Stephen Miroy
July 12 – Michael R.
July 17 – John R.
July 24 – Br. Andrew

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

Liturgical Services/Activities:

Sat. July 9/June 26

Appearance of the Tikhvin Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos

3:00 p.m. Catechumen's Class
4:00 p.m. Confessions
5:00 p.m. Great Vespers

Sun. July 10/June 27

Venerable Sampson the Hospitable of Constantinople

9:30 a.m. Hours
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Mon. July 11/June 28

Forefeast of Ss. Peter and Paul

5:30 p.m. Vespers at the **MONASTERY**

Tues. July 12/June 29

The Holy, Glorious and All-praised Leaders of the Apostles, Peter and Paul

9:30 a.m. Hours
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy followed by Potluck

Wed. July 6/June 21

Synaxis of the Holy, Glorious and All-praised Twelve Apostles

5:00 p.m. Confession
6:30 p.m. Vespers
7:00 p.m. Adult Education Class

**Readings for the Week of
June 22th**

Friday 7/8

Romans 11:25-36
Matthew 12:1-8

Saturday 7/9

Luke 1:39-49, 56 Matins Gospel
Romans 6:11-17
Matthew 8:14-23
Philippians 2:5-11 Theotokos
Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28
Theotokos

Sunday 7/10

Luke 24:1-12 (4th Matins Gospel)
Romans 6:18-23 (Epistle)
Matthew 8:5-13 (Gospel)

Monday 7/11

Luke 1:39-49, 56 Matins Gospel (Theotokos) or Matthew 11:27-30 (if Saints Cyrus and John serve perform)
Romans 12:4-5, 15-21
Matthew 12:9-13
Tuesday Reading
Romans 14:9-18
Matthew 12:14-16, 22-30
Philippians 2:5-11 Theotokos
Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28
Theotokos
Galatians 5:22-6:2 Saints
Luke 6:17-23 Saints

Tuesday 7/12

John 21:15-25 Matins Gospel
2 Corinthians 11:21-12:9 Epistle, Apostles
Matthew 16:13-19 Gospel, Apostles

Wednesday 7/13

Romans 15:7-16
Matthew 12:38-45
1 Corinthians 4:9-16 Apostles
Mark 3:13-19 Apostles

Festal Icons

St Herman is blessed to have our very own iconographer in our midst. Matushka Joanna has embarked on a journey to provide the festal icons for our church. Take a moment to look around our church and see the beautiful hand written icons she has provided. St Herman recognizes the value of her labors. The Festal Icons Fund was created to provide recompense to Matushka Joanna for these valuable additions to our church. Please consider supporting her work by making a donation to that fund. We are trying to collect \$2000 for each icon.

Closing Costs for Clifton Chapel

To complete our purchase of Clifton Chapel the parish will need to pay for legal fees, title search and surveys of the property and the road. If you would like to assist in covering these expenses, please indicate "Clifton Chapel purchase" on your gift. Funds collected in excess of these needs will be added to the Clifton Chapel improvement fund.

Church Food Pantry

We need volunteers to help stock up the church pantry! Please contact Sue @ srcasablanca@gmail.com if you would like to get involved. This endeavor would help the whole church so please consider helping out.

Baptismal Gifts

We have been so blessed to have so many baptisms! I wanted to remind you that if you need a baptismal cross, Mother Andrea has many lovely ones in her gift shop. She is acquiring Russian ones while they are still available in places. Her gift shop is stocked full of books, icons, liturgical items, and of course, gifts! Visit her website and visit her in Rochelle, VA at the Queen of All Skete." <https://queenofallskete.org/about-us/>

COVID-19 Book

Fr. Alexander's book on COVID-19 is finally available on Amazon, "[Let No One Fear Death](#)". Among the other chapter contributors is Metropolitan Jonah. Also note that this book, after only week on amazon.com, is already the no. 1 "Best Seller" among the 50 best-selling books in the category of "Ecclesiology Christian Theology." Vladyka and Fr. Alexander are willing to sign copies for any parishioners who purchase the book!

Sewing Guild

The St Herman Sewing Guild will meet this Saturday, from noon until 2:30 pm in the fellowship hall. Bring your machines, thread, scissors, pins and projects you want to make. No experience necessary. We have some easy projects for those who want to learn about sewing. For questions contact Judith Cook at sarithsews@gmail.com or Kris Milligan at thosmilligans@gmail.com. The Sewing Guild meets the second Saturday of every month.



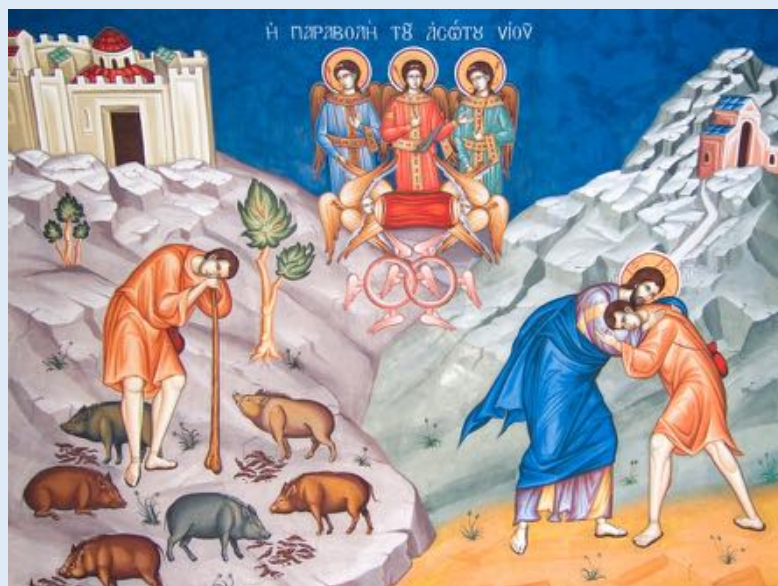
4th Sunday after PENETECOST EPISTLE: Romans 6:18-23

- ¹⁸ And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.
- ¹⁹ I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.
- ²⁰ For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.
- ²¹ What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death.
- ²² But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.
- ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

REPENTANCE

Repentance is a change in our mode of existence: man ceases to trust in his own individuality. He realizes that existing as an individual, even a virtuous individual, does not save him from corruption and death, from his agonizing existential thirst for life. This is why he takes refuge in the Church, where he exists as someone loving and loved. He is loved by the saints, who give him a "name" of personal distinctiveness and take him into the communion of their love despite his sinfulness; and he himself strives to love others despite their sinfulness, to live free from the necessities of his mortal nature. He struggles to overcome his individual resistances, his individual wishes and autonomous impulses, not in order to "improve himself" individually, but in order to measure up to the "frenzied love" of Christ and the saints, to the preconditions required for personal life as opposed to natural survival.

- Christos Yannaras



4th Sunday after PENTECOST GOSPEL: Matthew 8:5 – 13

- ⁵ Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him,
- ⁶ saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented."
- ⁷ And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him."
- ⁸ The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed.
- ⁹ For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it.
- ¹⁰ When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!
- ¹¹ And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.
- ¹² But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
- ¹³ Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour.

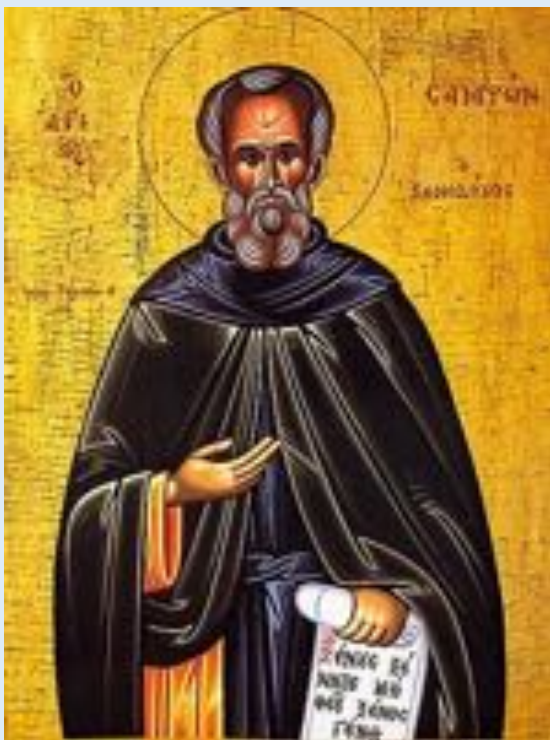
LORD I AM NOT WORTHY THAT YOU SHOULD COME UNDER MY ROOF

Let us listen, as many as are to receive Christ: for it is possible to receive Him even now. Let us hearken, and emulate and receive Him with as great a zeal, for indeed, when you receive a man who is hungry and naked, you have received and cherished Him.-St. John Chrysostom



St. Sampson, the Hospitable One Who Received Strangers

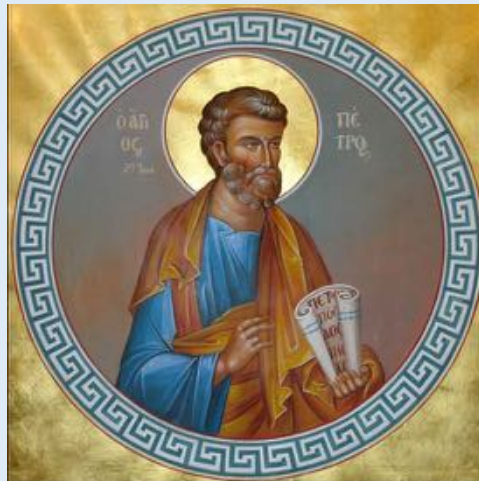
Sampson was born of wealthy and eminent parents in ancient Rome, where he studied all the secular sciences of that time, dedicating himself particularly to the science of medicine. Sampson was a compassionate and unmercenary physician and administered cures to the sick, both for the body and the soul, counseling everyone to fulfill the requirements of the Christian Faith. He later moved to Constantinople, where he lived in a small house, from which, as the sun disperses its rays of light, he spread forth upon the whole land alms, comfort, counsel, hope, medicine and, in general, help to the helpless, both spiritually and physically. The patriarch heard of the great virtues of this man and ordained him a priest. At that time, Emperor Justinian the Great became ill and all his physicians were convinced that the illness was incurable. Then the emperor prayed to God with great fervency, and God revealed to him in a dream that Sampson would heal him. And indeed, when the emperor learned of Sampson, he invited him to his court, and as soon as the elder placed his hand on the ailing spot the emperor recovered. When the emperor offered him enormous wealth for this, Sampson thanked him but did not want to accept anything, saying to him: "O Emperor, I had gold and silver and other goods, but I left all for the sake of Christ, in order to gain eternal, heavenly wealth." When the emperor insisted on doing something for him, holy Sampson implored the emperor to build him a home [hospice] for the poor. There Sampson served the poor as a parent serves his children. Mercy toward the poor and helpless was natural to him. Finally, this saintly man, completely filled with heavenly power and goodness, reposed peacefully on June 27, 530 A.D., and was interred in the Church of his relative, the Holy Martyr Mocius. After his death, Sampson appeared many times to those who called upon him for assistance.



There is no one so stupid as he who cannot see his own sins and cannot see the virtues of others. There is no one so enlightened as he who can see and recognize his own sins and the virtues of others. St. John Chrysostom equates those who see only the faults of others, and criticize them, to flies that fall on the wounds of others, not in order to heal them but to gnaw at them and poison them more. "God has sent us here for penance [Epitimija]," said Blessed Theophilus of Kiev (+1853). He who knows and feels that he is here for penance immerses himself in silence and contemplation of his own sin, which has brought him to do penance. The same blessed one further said: "Weep also over the sins of your fellow man; without this, not one created human being will be saved." To weep over or to proclaim--how is it written, my son? With Blessed Theophilus, it is to weep over, but with Satan, to proclaim. And about himself, Blessed Theophilus at the point of death left this testament to his brethren: "Remember stinking Theophilus!" This is the testament of the holiest human being in Kiev in the year 1853 A.D.

Holy Apostle Peter

Peter was the son of Jonah and the brother of Andrew, the First-called. He was of the tribe of Simeon, from the town of Bethsaida. He was a fisherman and was at first called Simon, but the Lord was pleased to call him Cephas or Peter: And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, He said, You are Simon the son of Jonah: you shall be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, a rock (John 1:42). He was the first of the disciples to clearly express faith in the Lord Jesus, saying: Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God (Matthew 16:16). His love for the Lord was great, and his faith in the Lord became gradually stronger. When the Lord was brought to trial, Peter denied Him three times; but after only one glance into the face of the Lord, Peter's soul was filled with shame and repentance. After the descent of the Holy Spirit, Peter showed himself to be a fearless and powerful preacher of the Gospel. Following one of his sermons in Jerusalem, three-thousand souls were converted to the Faith. He preached the Gospel in Palestine, Asia Minor, Illyria and Italy. Peter worked many powerful miracles: he healed the sick and resurrected the dead, and the sick were healed even from his shadow. He had a great struggle with Simon the Magician, who proclaimed himself to be a god, but who was in reality a servant of Satan. Peter finally shamed and defeated him. By order of Simon's friend, the evil Emperor Nero, Peter was condemned to death. Having consecrated Linus Bishop of Rome, and having counseled and comforted the flock of Christ, Peter proceeded joyfully to his death. Seeing the cross before him, he begged his executioners to crucify him upside down, for he considered himself unworthy to die as had his Lord. Thus, this great servant of the Great Lord reposed and received a wreath of eternal glory.



Holy Apostle Paul

Paul was born in Tarsus and was of the tribe of Benjamin. At first he was called Saul. He studied under Gamaliel, and was a Pharisee and a persecutor of Christianity. He was miraculously converted to the Christian Faith by the Lord Himself, Who appeared to him on the road to Damascus. He was baptized by the Apostle Ananias, named Paul and numbered in the service of the Great Apostles. With fiery zeal Paul preached the Gospel everywhere, from the borders of Arabia to Spain, among the Jews and among the Gentiles, and received the title "the Apostle to the Gentiles." As horrible as his sufferings were, so much greater was his superhuman patience. Throughout all the years of his preaching, Paul hung from day to day as on a weak thread between life and death. Having fulfilled all his days and nights with labor and suffering for Christ, having organized the Church in many places, and having attained such a degree of perfection, he was able to say: It is now no longer I that live, but Christ lives in me (Galatians 2:20). Paul was beheaded in Rome during the reign of Emperor Nero, at the same time as the martyrdom of the Apostle Peter.

Simon Peter and Simon the Magician. The enemies of Christianity frequently like to cite examples of great miracle-workers among the pagans in order to deceive the gullible, denigrate the Christian Faith and exalt paganism, sorcery, soothsaying, satanism and every other charlatanism. There is no doubt that Satan through his servants also attempts to perform miracles, but none of the miracles of his servants proceed from love for man, compassion, mercy or faith in God, but rather from pride, selfishness, vanity and hatred for mankind. A Christian should learn from the story of the apostles to differentiate divine miracles from satanic deceits and fantasies. Only let the Christian recall the Apostle Peter and Simon the Magician. Let him compare the miracles of Peter with the so-called miracles of Simon. The apostle converted the stony hearts of men into noble hearts, he cured the sick, and he raised the dead--and all of this by prayer and faith in the Living God. However, Simon the Magician amazed the people with diabolical illusions. The Apostle Peter was a friend of God, and Simon the Magician was a friend and protégé of the perverted Emperor Nero, who ended his life by suicide. The miracles of the pagan fakirs belong to the same category as the illusions and deceits of Simon the Magician. Just as from a distance hot sand resembles water, so also the "miracles" of the fakirs resemble the life-creating miracles of Christianity.



HYMN OF PRAISE

SAINT PETER SAINT PAUL

Unlearned and learned, but equal in spirit,
And, in the love of God, as strong as angels,
Peter a simple man, Paul educated,
Both were illumined by the grace of the Spirit.
Two flaming candles, unquenchable candles,
Towering and beautiful, two brilliant stars.
They traversed the earth and spread the light.
Nothing did they take, but to men they gave all;
They were utterly poor, but the world they enriched;
They were prisoners and servants, but conquered the
whole world.
With the teaching of Christ they enriched the world;
With new weapons they conquered the whole world:
With humility and peace and meekness blessed,
With prayer and fasting and mercy powerful.
When their stormy day passed into stormy night,
Bloodthirsty Nero, their lives, cut short.
But when Nero, the ruler of the world, a command
issued,
To suffering, giving over Peter and Paul,
The world was theirs and no longer Nero's;
By death the apostles gained the Kingdom.

The Assembly of the Holy Glorious Apostles

SAINT PETER	June 29 and January 16
SAINT ANDREW	November 30
SAINT JAMES, THE SON OF ZEBEDEE	April 30
SAINT JOHN THE THEOLOGIAN	September 26 and May 8
SAINT PHILIP	November 14
SAINT BARTHOLOMEW	June 11 and August 25
SAINT THOMAS	October 6
SAINT MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST	November 16
SAINT JAMES, THE SON OF ALPHEUS	October 9
SAINT THADDEUS OR JUDE, THE BROTHER OF JAMES	June 19
SAINT SIMON THE ZEALOT	May 10
SAINT MATTHIAS	August 9
SAINT PAUL	June 29

Saint Peter was crucified upside down.

Saint Andrew was crucified.

Saint James, the son of Zebedee was beheaded.

Saint John the Theologian died in a miraculous manner.

Saint Philip was crucified.

Saint Bartholomew was crucified, scrapped (flayed) and beheaded.

Saint Thomas was pierced with five spears.

Saint Matthew the Evangelist was burned alive.

Saint James, the son of Alphaeus was crucified.

Saint Thaddeus or Jude, the Brother of James was crucified.

Saint Simon the Zealot was crucified.

Saint Matthias was stoned and then beheaded after death.

Saint Paul was beheaded.



THE HOLY MARTYRS COSMAS AND DAMIAN

Cosmas and Damian were unmercenary physicians and miracle-workers. These two saints were brothers, born in Rome. As children, they were baptized and brought up in the Christian spirit. They possessed abundant grace from God to heal men and livestock from every disease and suffering, usually by the laying on of hands. They sought no reward for their efforts, only requiring the infirm to believe in Christ the Lord. They compassionately distributed their inheritance of a large estate to the poor and those in need. At that time the Emperor Galerius reigned in Rome. Before Galerius, persecutors of Christianity brought these two holy brothers bound in chains. After prolonged interrogation, Galerius ordered them to deny Christ and offer sacrifices to the idols. Cosmas and Damian not only refused to obey the emperor but also counseled him to abandon the lifeless idols and recognize the One True God. "Our God is not created, but rather He is the Creator of all. Your gods are the inventions of men and the work of the hands of mere craftsmen. If you did not have craftsmen to make your gods, you would have no one to worship." After Cosmas and Damian had worked a miracle upon the emperor himself--they miraculously cured him from a grave infirmity--the emperor proclaimed his faith in Christ and released the holy brothers in peace. Cosmas and Damian continued to glorify God and heal the sick, and they were themselves glorified by the people on all sides. Envious of their glory, a certain doctor, a former teacher of theirs, led them into the mountains, under the pretext of gathering healing herbs, and stoned them to death. They suffered honorably for the Faith of Christ in the year 284 A.D. Their memory remains eternal in the Church on earth, and their souls took up their habitation in the Kingdom of the Lord, to live eternally in glory and in joy.



Reflection

The Protestants have denied the power of God to work miracles through material things. By doing this they thought to spiritualize the Christian Faith; however, in doing this they have impoverished and deformed Christianity. They have rejected the action of God's power through icons, through the relics of the saints, through the Cross, and finally, some of them, even through the power of Holy Communion. If they were to follow this erroneous path to the end, they would have to reject even the miracles which occurred through the living body of the Lord Jesus, for His body was also material; likewise the miracles from the touch of the hands of the apostles and the saints, for these hands are also material--not to mention the rod of Moses, or the vesture of the All-holy Birth-giver of God, or the handkerchief of the Apostle Paul and so forth. In this rejection, the Protestants stand in contradiction to the entire ancient Church. Here is one out of thousands and thousands of proofs that God acts through things, especially when He wants to glorify His saints: There was a tall pillar erected in Alexandria bearing a statue of Emperor Theodosius dressed in a monastic habit and with a monastic staff in his hand. This pillar served as a memorial of the emperor's victory over his adversaries while he was clad in the monastic habit of St. Sennuphius and held his staff in his hand. When God so wills, even one garment of a saint will conquer the powerful armies of unbelievers. Who would dare to limit the actions or the methods of action of the power of the Almighty God?

2022 Finances
The Parish needs TBD/week to meet budget

<u>Week</u>	<u>Amount Received</u>	<u>Difference from amount needed</u>
May 1	\$ 4,199.00	TBD
May 8	\$ 3,169.00	TBD
May 15	\$ 3,714.06	TBD
May 22	\$ 1,455.00	TBD
May 29	\$ 5,175.27	TBD
June 5	\$ 4,732.56	TBD
June 12	\$ 3,775.00	TBD
June 19	\$ 5,173.00	TBD
June 26	\$ 1,887.00	TBD
July 3	\$ 2,887.00	TBD

Attendance 141

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, Claire, 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, Ephraim, Reader Moses, Jo Ann, Sarah, Paul, Brianna, Robert, Baby Nina, Charley & Alexandra, Irina & baby, Rebecca, Priest Alexander Laymon, Archpriest Michael Sekela, Fr. Filipe and his family, Irene and John, Inna and Emma, Ronin O'Neill, Anastasia and Mila, Brody (Anthony) Lessin, Sophia Stylianopoulos, Olga Petrova and the baby, Mary Zupan and Lawrence, Glen & Mich Mine, Sarah Francis, Jeanine Karam, Christina Kendrat

MEMORY ETERNAL: Anita Sanford, Roy Patrick St. Clair