

St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church October 16th 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 4:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. ✠

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Fellowship Meal

Oct. 16 – Fellowship Team 3
Oct. 23 – Fellowship Team 4
Oct. 30 – POTLUCK
Nov. 6 – Fellowship Team 1

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

Oct. 16 – Rdr. Stephen Miroy
Oct. 23 – Isaac J.
Oct. 30 – Rdr. Joseph McLeod
Nov. 6 – Rdr. John Raccanello
Nov. 13 – Br. Andrew

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

Liturgical Services/Activities:

Thurs. Oct. 13/Sept. 30

Hieromartyr Gregory, bishop of Greater Armenia (335)

AT MONASTERY

5:00 p.m. Reading of the 9th Hour

5:30 p.m. Great Vespers

Fri. Oct. 14/Oct. 1

The Protection of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and

Ever-Virgin Mary

AT MONASTERY

8:30 a.m. Hours

9:00 a.m. Liturgy

Sat. Oct. 15/Oct. 2

Blessed Andrew, fool-for-Christ at Constantinople (911)

3:00 p.m. Catechumen's Class

5:00 p.m. Great Vespers and Confessions

Sun. Oct. 16/Oct. 3

Hieromartyr Dionysius (Dennys) the Areopagite, and with him
Martyrs Rusticus and Eleutherius (96)

9:30 a.m. Hours

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Wed. Oct. 19/Oct. 6

Holy and Glorious Apostle Thomas

4:30 p.m. Confession

6:30 p.m. Vespers

7:00 p.m. Adult Education Class

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

The Church Food Pantry is now open in the hall basement, and you can take food from the pantry anytime the hall is open. If you also need monetary assistance for items not in the pantry, such as gas or baby items, please talk to, email, or call Fr. Alexander Laymon at anevsky54@gmail.com or 540.212.1855.

The Pantry will continually be accepting food donations by placing the food in the hall, and accepting monetary donations in the church donation box marked "Food Pantry".

Limited Seating

The pews around the nave are placed there primarily for pregnant women, parents with small children, the aged and infirm. If you are young and healthy please be considerate of other parishioners and allow those who need to sit down a place to do so.

During Communion

It is customary in Orthodox Churches for those who commune to approach the chalice with crossed arms and to give their Orthodox name to the priest. Announcing one's name is most helpful to the priest who must then repeat the name when communing the individual.

Flower Fund

The Sisterhood has established a donation box to collect money to furnish flowers for our church. The box is in the narthex. Please make checks payable to the Sisterhood of the Myrrh-bearing Women.

Sewing Guild

The sewing guild meets every second Saturday of the month from noon until 2:30 pm to work on pattern making and other various projects for the church. Bring your sewing machine and white thread to help with these projects. No sewing experience is required; these are learn as you go projects. For additional information please contact Judith Cook at sarithsews@gmail.com or Kris Milligan at thosemilligans@gmail.com.



18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: 2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-11 (EPISTLE)

- ⁶ But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.
- ⁷ So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.
- ⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.
- ⁹ As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever."
- ¹⁰ Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness,
- ¹¹ while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.

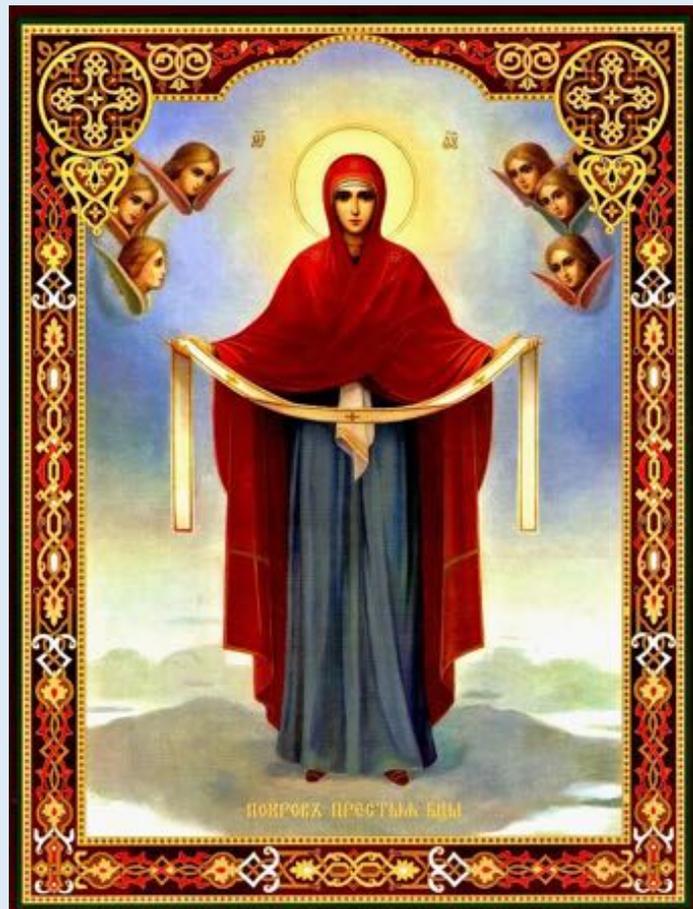
18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: LUKE 6:31-36 (GOSPEL)

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- ³¹ And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise.
- ³² But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.
- ³³ And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.
- ³⁴ And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back.
- ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil.
- ³⁶ Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

The Protection of the Most-Holy Theotokos

From time immemorial, the Church has celebrated the Most-holy Theotokos as the patroness and protectress of the Christian people, who, by her intercessory prayers, implores God's mercy for us sinners. The help of the Most-holy Mother of God has been clearly shown numerous times, to individuals and to nations, in peace and in war, in monastic deserts and in densely populated cities. The event that the Church commemorates and celebrates today confirms the Theotokos' consistent protection of Christian people. On October 1, 911 A.D., during the reign of Emperor Leo the Wise, there was an All-night Vigil in the Blachernae Church of the Mother of God in Constantinople. The church was full of people. St. Andrew the Fool-for-Christ was standing in the rear of the church with his disciple Epiphanius. At four o'clock in the morning, the Most-holy Theotokos appeared above the people, holding her omophorion outstretched as a protective covering for the faithful. She was clothed in gold-encrusted purple, and shone with an ineffable radiance, surrounded by apostles, saints, martyrs and virgins. St. Andrew said to Blessed Epiphanius: "Do you see, brother, the Queen and Lady of all praying for the whole world?" Epiphanius replied: "I see, Father, and am struck with amazement!" The Feast of the Protection was instituted to commemorate this event, and to remind us that we can prayerfully receive the unceasing protection of the Most-holy Theotokos in any time of difficulty.



St. Andrew the Fool for Christ

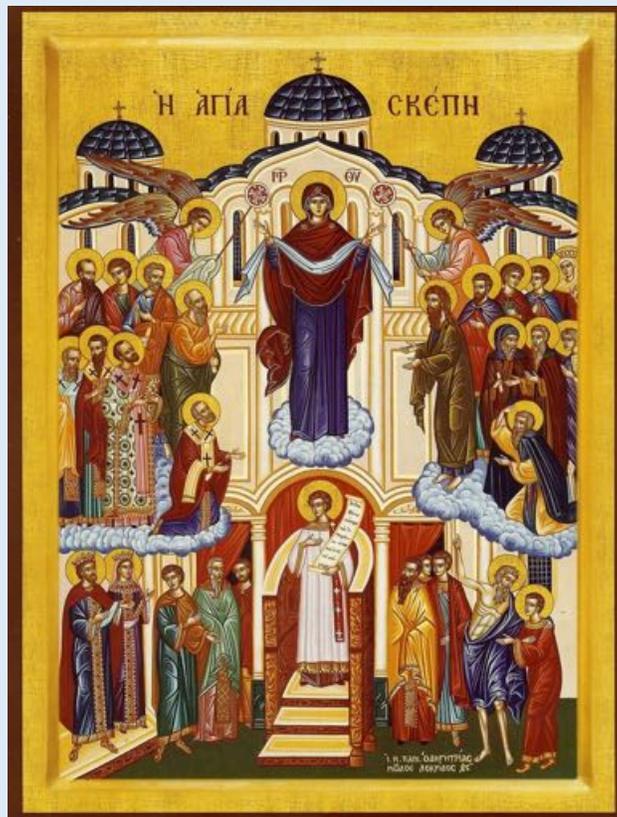
Andrew was a Slav by birth. As a young man, he was enslaved; and was bought by Theognostus, a wealthy man in Constantinople, during the reign of Emperor Leo the Wise (son of Emperor Basil the Macedonian). Andrew was handsome in body and soul. Theognostus took a liking to Andrew, and allowed him to become literate. Andrew fervently prayed to God, and with love attended church services. Obeying a heavenly revelation, he adopted the asceticism of foolishness for Christ. Once, when he went to the well for water, he tore off his clothes, and slashed them with a knife, feigning insanity. Saddened by this, his master Theognostus bound him in chains and brought him to the Church of St. Anastasia the Deliverer from Bonds, so that prayers would be read for him. But Andrew did not improve, and his master freed him as mentally ill. Andrew pretended insanity by day, but prayed to God all night long. He lived without shelter of any kind. He even spent the nights outside, walked around half-naked in a single tattered garment, and ate only a little bread when good men would give it to him. He shared all that he received with the beggars, and would mock them--to avoid being thanked by them--for holy Andrew wanted all his reward to come from God. Therefore, the great grace of God entered into him and he was able to discern the secrets of men, perceive angels and demons, exorcise demons from men, and correct men from their sins. Andrew had a most beautiful vision of Paradise and the exalted powers of heaven. He also saw the Lord Christ on His throne of glory; and he, with his disciple Epiphanius, saw the Most-holy Theotokos in the Church of Blachernae as she covered the Christian people with her omophorion. This occurrence is celebrated as the Feast of the Protection of the Most-holy Theotokos (October 1). In a vision he also heard ineffable, heavenly words that he dared not repeat to men. After a life of almost unparalleled harshness of asceticism, Andrew entered into rest in the eternal glory of his Lord in 911 A.D.



Reflection on Most Holy Theotokos

The Most-holy Theotokos has often appeared to holy men in need: sometimes to encourage them in asceticism, or to heal them from sickness, or to reveal a certain mystery to them. Two similar, wonderful events took place in the Great Lavra on the Holy Mountain. In Great Lent, during the chanting of the Great Akathist, St. John Koukouzelis was tired and sat down, facing the icon of the Theotokos. As he sat, he fell asleep. Just then, the Holy Most-pure One appeared to him in heavenly light and said: "Rejoice, O John! Chant and do not stop chanting, and for this I will not abandon you." With this, she placed a gold coin in John's hand. When he awoke from sleep, the gold coin was still in his hand. After this, many wonderful miracles were worked from the icon of the Theotokos, as well as from the gold coin.

The second incident involved St. Gregory the monk, who, like John Koukouzelis, was a church cantor. Patriarch Kallistos had established that in the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great, "All Creation Rejoices in Thee" be sung in place of "It Is Truly Meet." His successor, Patriarch Philotheus, rescinded this, reinstating "It Is Truly Meet" because of its brevity. But then, on the eve of the Theophany, and in the presence of Patriarch Gregory of Alexandria, St. Gregory sang "All Creation Rejoices in Thee" instead. Immediately after this, the Holy Most-pure One appeared to him, and, as she had done to John Koukouzelis, placed a gold coin in his hand. She said: "I am very grateful for your singing in my honor." Because of this, it was instituted that all Liturgies of St. Basil would thereafter include "All Creation Rejoices in Thee."



New Festal Icon

Theophany/Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ

“It’s all in the details!”

Did you notice these 5 things?

1. There is an axe leaning against the tree near St. John the Forerunner? Besides being the instrument of his death, it is a reminder of us to bear spiritual fruit or else we will be cut off.
2. A fish appears to be swimming upstream? It is a reference to “The sea looked and fled, Jordan turned back.” Ps. 113:3.
3. Christ is not submerged in the river as He is the one sanctifying creation, not the other way around.
4. Unlike what you find in Western art, the Spirit is not a dove. but in in the form of a dove, like a dove.
5. There are creatures under the river. They are the demons that lurk in the waters who are subject to God. Ps. 73: 14. “Thou did establish the sea by Thy might, Thou did break the heads of the dragons in the water.

—Mat. Joanna



2022 Finances

The Parish needs \$4,129.49/week to meet budget INCLUDING transfer to Building Fund

<u>Week</u>	<u>Amount Received</u>	<u>Difference from amount needed</u>
June 5	\$ 4,732.56	\$ 603.07
June 12	\$ 3,775.00	-\$ 354.49
June 19	\$ 5,173.00	\$ 1,043.51
June 26	\$ 1,887.00	-\$ 2,242.49
July 3	\$ 2,887.00	-\$ 1,242.49
July 10	\$ 1,879.00	-\$ 2,250.49
July 17	\$ 2,740.28	-\$ 1,389.21
July 24	\$ 1,540.00	-\$ 2,589.49
July 31	\$ 7,145.28	\$ 3,015.79
Aug 7	\$ 5,047.28	\$ 917.79
Aug 14	\$ 1,467.00	-\$ 2,662.49
Aug 21	\$ 2,702.00	-\$ 1,427.49
Aug 29	\$ 6,386.40	\$ 2,256.91
Sept 11	\$ 3,539.39	-\$ 590.01
Sept 18	\$ 2,930.00	-\$ 1,199.49
Sept 25	\$ 4,136.21	\$ 6.72
Oct 2	\$ 3,320.00	-\$ 809.49
Oct 9	\$ 3,688.28	-\$ 441.21

Attendance: 98

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, 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, Sarah Francis, Jeanine Karam, Christina Kendrat, Alexa

MEMORY ETERNAL: