

St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church

July 24th 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. ✠



Liturgical Services/Activities:

Saturday July 23/July 10

The Placing of the Precious Robe of the Lord at
Moscow

3:00 p.m. – Catechumen's Class

4:00 p.m. – Confession

5:00 p.m. – Great Vespers

Sunday July 24/July 11

The Placing of the Precious Robe of the Lord at
Moscow

9:00 a.m. – Baptism

9:30 a.m. – Hours

10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy

Wednesday July 27/July 14

Apostle Aquila of the 70, and St. Priscilla (1st c.)

5:00 p.m. – Confession

6:30 p.m. – Vespers

7:00 p.m. – Adult Education Class



SCHEDULES:

Meal Team:

July 24 – Fellowship Team 4

July 31 – Fellowship POTLUCK

Aug. 7 – Fellowship Team 1

Aug. 14 – Fellowship Team 2

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 joluterrell@gmail.com



Readers

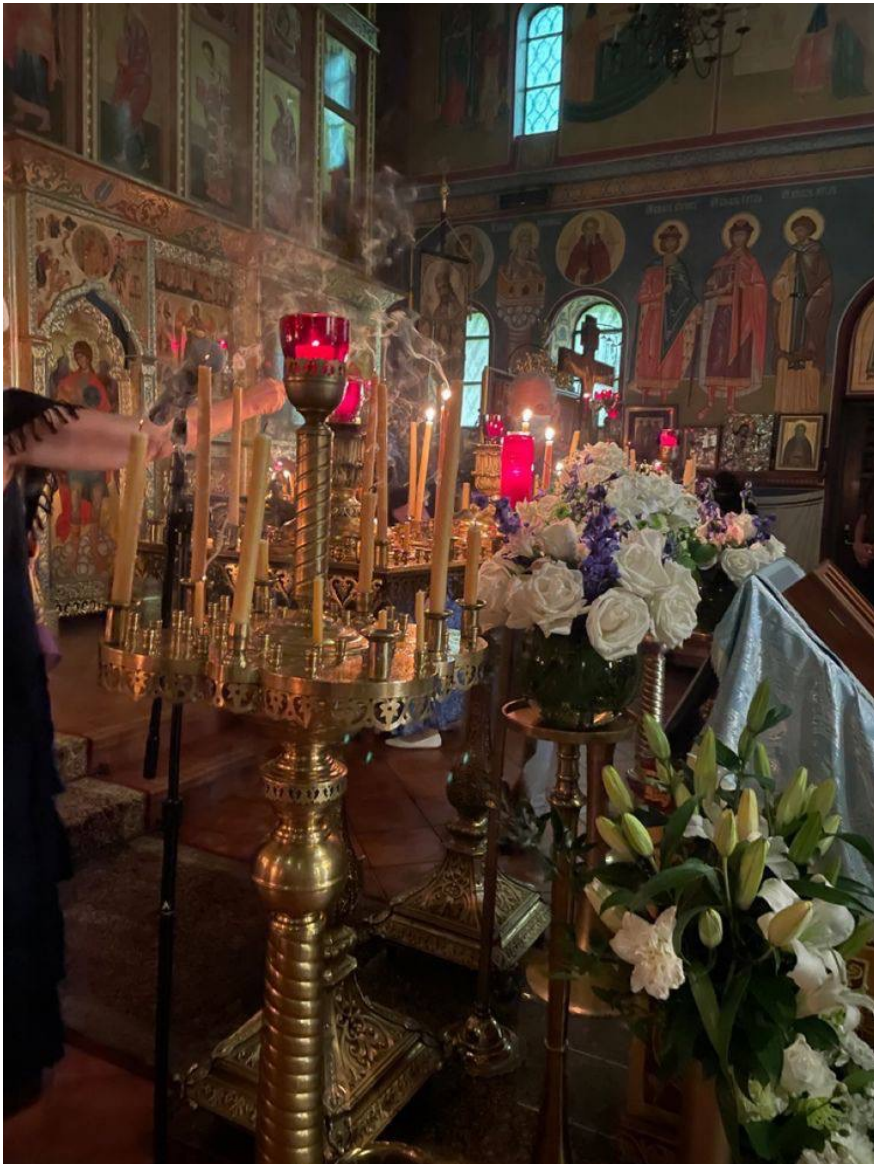
July 24 – Br. Andrew

July 31 – Rdr. John Aponte

Aug. 7 – George

Aug. 14 – Constantine

If you are interested in assisting with the reading and becoming a tonsured reader, please contact Fr. Alexander Laymon anevsky54@gmail.com





DAILY READINGS

<https://www.holytrinityorthodox.com/htc/orthodox-calendar/>

Saturday 7/23

Matthew 27:27-32 Matins Gospel
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 9:18-26
1 Corinthians 1:18-24 Robe
Mark 15:16-32 Robe
Galatians 5:22-6:2 St. Anthony
Matthew 4:25-5:12 St. Anthony

Sunday 7/24

Luke 24:36-53 (6th Matins Gospel)
Romans 12:6-14
Matthew 9:1-8
2 Corinthians 6:1-10 Saints
Luke 7:36-50 Saints

Monday 7/25

Luke 1:39-49, 56 Matins Gospel
1 Corinthians 5:9-6:11
Matthew 13:54-58
Philippians 2:5-11 Theotokos
Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28 Theotokos

Tuesday 7/26

1 Corinthians 6:20-7:12
Matthew 14:1-13
Hebrews 2:2-10 Epistle, Angel
Luke 10:16-21 Gospel, Angel

Wednesday 7/27

1 Corinthians 7:12-24
Matthew 14:35-15:11
Thursday Reading
1 Corinthians 7:24-35
Matthew 15:12-21

Thursday 7/28

John 10:9-16 Matins Gospel
Galatians 1:11-19 Equal-to-the-Apostles
John 10:1-9 Equal-to-the-Apostles

Friday 7/29

1 Corinthians 7:35-8:7
Matthew 15:29-31

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 handwritten 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 donating 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.

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/>



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Food Pantry

St. Herman's is now stocked with its very own food pantry! Bring any non-perishable foods below the Church hall. Bags are available to take anything.



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!



6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: ROMANS 12:6-14

- 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith;
- 7 or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching;
- 8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.
- 9 Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.
- 10 Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;
- 11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;
- 12 rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer;
- 13 distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.
- 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

Having Gifts that Differ According to the Grace Given to Us, Let Us Use Them

He wants to make them vie with each other, and to labor more earnestly by showing that it is they themselves who give the grounds for their receiving more or less. For he says indeed that it is given by God. But he also says that the beginnings lie with themselves in order to rouse the listless. This he does in the Epistle to the Corinthians as well, to produce these emotions. For when he says, 'covet the gifts earnestly,' (I Cor. 12:31), he shows that they were themselves the cause of the differences in what was given. For though it is a grace, yet it is not poured forth at random, but framing its measure according to the recipients, it lets as much flow as it may find the vessel of faith that is brought to be capable of holding..

6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: MATTHEW 9:1 - 8

- 1 So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city.
- 2 Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you."
- 3 And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man blasphemes!"
- 4 But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts?
- 5 For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise and walk'?
- 6 But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins-then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house."
- 7 And he arose and departed to his house.
- 8 Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.

Jesus Heals the Paralytic - St. John Chrysostom

Though in the beginning He Himself went about and did not require so much faith of those who came to Him, in this case they approached Him, and faith was also required on their part. For the words 'Seeing their faith', refer to the faith of those who had let the man down. He does not on all occasions require faith on the part of the sick - as for instance when they are insane or in any other way, through their disease, are out of their own control. Rather, in this case the sick man also had part in the faith, for he would not have suffered himself to be let down, unless he had believed. Forasmuch then as they had evinced such great faith, He also evinces His own power with all authority absolving his sins, and signifying in all ways that He is equal in honor with Him who begat Him ... Here again in another and greater way He constrains His very enemies to confess His equality in honor, and by their own mouth He makes it manifest... In this case in fact, He also discloses another sign - and that no small one - of His own God-head, and of His equality in honor with the Father. For when they said, 'To unbind sins pertains to God alone,' He not only unbinds sins, but prior to this He makes another kind of display of a thing which pertained only to God: publishing the secrets of the heart. For they had not uttered what they were thinking.

THE SOBOR OF THE ARCHANGEL GABRIEL

The Sobor of the Archangel Gabriel is celebrated on the day following after the Annunciation/Blagoveschenie, 26 March. This feast is celebrated a second time 13 July. The reason for its being established probably served the dedication in the XVII Cent. of a church at Constantinople, constructed in the name of the Holy Archi-Strategos / Chief of the Heavenly Hosts.

The Archangel Gabriel was chosen by the Lord to make the blest-announcement to the Virgin Mary about the Incarnation of the Son of God from Her, to the great rejoicing of all mankind. Therefore, on the day after the feast of the Annunciation – the day itself on which the All-Pure Virgin Herself is glorified, we give thanks to the Lord and we venerate His messenger Gabriel, who contributed to the mystery of our salvation.

The Myrrh-Bearing Women heard from the Archangel the joyous news about the Resurrection of Christ. Mindful this day of the manifold appearances of the holy Archangel Gabriel and of his zealous fulfilling of the Divine Will, and confessing his intercession before the Lord for Christians, the Orthodox Church calls upon its children with faith and with fervor to have recourse in prayer to the great Angel.



SAINT VLADIMIR THE GREAT, PRINCE OF RUSSIA

At baptism Vladimir was named Basil. He was the son of Prince Svyatoslav, and the grandson of Igor and Olga. Vladimir was at first entirely pagan, both in his faith and in his life. Learning that other faiths existed, he carefully began to inquire as to which of them was the best. For this reason, he sent emissaries to Constantinople. When the emissaries returned, they informed the prince that they attended a service in the Orthodox Church of the Divine Wisdom [Hagia Sofia] and that they were "outside themselves, not knowing whether they were on earth or in heaven." This inspired Vladimir to be baptized and to baptize his people. The main idol, Perun, was torn down from the hill of Kiev and hurled into the Dnieper River. After embracing the Christian Faith, Vladimir completely changed his life and exerted all of his efforts to correctly fulfill all the requirements of the Faith. In place of the destroyed idols, Vladimir ordered churches to be built throughout his realm, and he himself built a beautiful church dedicated to the Most-Holy Mother of God in Kiev. This church was built on the same spot where St. Theodore and his son John had earlier suffered martyrdom for Christ (July 12). With that same insuperable drive with which Vladimir had earlier espoused idolatry, he now spread Christianity. He found repose in the Lord in the year 1015 A.D.



The Holy Female Martyr Marina

Marina was born in Pisidian, Antioch of pagan parents. At the age of twelve, Marina learned about the Lord Jesus Christ: how He became incarnate of the All-Pure Virgin and how He worked many miracles, suffered death on the Cross and gloriously resurrected.

Her young heart became inflamed with love for the Lord and she vowed that she would never marry, and in her soul she further desired to suffer for Christ and be baptized in the blood of martyrdom. Her father hated her for her faith and did not consider her as his daughter. The imperial deputy, Olymbrius, learning from Marina that she was a Christian, at first desired that she would become his wife. When Marina refused, he ordered her to bow down before the idols. St. Marina replied: "I will neither bow down nor offer sacrifice to the breathless and dead idols, who do not recognize themselves and do not know that

we honor or dishonor them. I will not give them the honor that belongs only to my Creator." Then Olymbrius subjected Marina to harsh torture, and threw her into prison, completely covered with wounds and blood. In the prison Marina prayed to God. After her prayer, the devil appeared to her in the guise of a horrible serpent that entwined itself around her head. When she made the sign of the cross, the serpent burst apart and vanished. Then she was engulfed with a heavenly light, and it seemed to her that the walls and roof of the prison vanished, and a radiant, towering cross appeared. A white dove perched atop the cross, issuing forth a voice which said: "Rejoice Marina, rational

[discerning] dove of Christ, daughter of Zion in the highest, for your day of rejoicing draws near." Then, Marina was healed of all her wounds and pains by the power of God. The demented judge tortured her the following day, both in fire and in water, but Marina endured all, as though she were in another body. Finally, he condemned her to be beheaded. Before her death, the Lord Jesus appeared to her, accompanied by angels. She was beheaded during the reign of Diocletian; but in soul and power, she has remained alive in the heavens and on earth. A hand of St. Marina reposes in the Monastery of Vatopedi on Mt. Athos. There is also a monastery dedicated to St. Marina with a portion of her miracle-working relics, located atop Mount Langa in Albania, overlooking Lake Ohrid. Countless miracles have occurred and still occur in this monastery, witnessed not only by Christians, but by many Muslims as well. So much respect did the Turks have for this holy place, that they never dared disturb either the monastery or its property. At one time a Turk was the guardian of the monastery.



Christianity on Hospitality

Hospitality is respected in other faiths, but Christianity has emphasized hospitality as a duty and a responsibility. At the same time, gratitude for hospitality is no less a duty and responsibility for Christians. He who learns to be grateful to men for hospitality, will also know how to be grateful to God for hospitality. For what are we here on earth but the guests of God? And what are the angels in heaven but the guests of God? A story is told of King Philip of Macedonia-how he severely punished one of his courtiers for ingratitude. The king sent this courtier overseas to fulfill a task for him. The courtier accomplished the task and started off for home by boat. A tempest destroyed the boat, and the courtier found himself in the waves. Fortunately, he was not too far from land, and a fisherman saw the man drowning, hurried to his assistance with his small boat, and brought him ashore. After he had recovered and rested, the courtier returned to the king and related his misfortune in the tempest at sea. The king, wishing to reward the courtier, asked him if there was a gift he could give him. The courtier mentioned the fisherman, and told the king that he would like, most of all, to be given the fisherman's property by the sea. The king immediately granted the courtier his wish. When the courtier settled on the property of his greatest benefactor, the fisherman, in great despair, went to the king and related the entire tale with lamentation, saying that he had saved the life of the courtier, who had now ousted him from his home. Upon hearing this, the king became furious with the ungrateful courtier, and ordered that he be branded on his forehead with the words "an ungrateful guest."

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>
May 1	\$ 4,199.00	\$ 69.51
May 8	\$ 3,169.00	-\$ 960.49
May 15	\$ 3,714.06	-\$ 415.43
May 22	\$ 1,455.00	-\$ 2,674.49
May 29	\$ 5,175.27	\$ 1,045.78
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

Attendance 126

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, Presbytera Cindy, Priest George, Presbytera 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, Glen & Mich Mine, Sarah Francis, Jeanine Karam, Christina Kendrat

MEMORY ETERNAL: Roy Patrick St. Clair

Contact

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