

St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church

August 21st 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

Aug. 21 – Fellowship Team 3
Aug. 28 – Fellowship Team 4
Sept. 4 – Fellowship Team 1
Sept. 11 – 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.

✠ ✠ ✠

Reader Schedule

Aug. 21 – SubDcn Aaron Lessin
Aug. 28- Rdr. Stephen Miroy
Sept. 4 – SubDcn Stephen Terrell
Sept 11 – Rdr. Joseph McLeod
Sept 18 – Rdr. John Raccenello

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

Liturgical Services/Activities:

Sat. Aug 20/Aug 7

Martyr Dometius of Persia (365) and two disciples

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

Sun. Aug. 21/Aug. 8

Synaxis of saints of Valaam Monastery

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

Wed. Aug. 24/Aug. 11

Holy Martyr and Archdeacon Euplus of Catania

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

Sat. Aug 27/Aug 14

Forefeast of the Dormition

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

Sun. Aug. 28/Aug. 15

The Dormition of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary.

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

**Readings for the Week of
August 21th**

Sunday 8/21

John 21:1-14 (10th Matins Gospel)
1 Corinthians 4:9-16 (Epistle)
Matthew 17:14-23 (Gospel)

Monday 8/22

John 21:15-25 Matins Gospel
2 Corinthians 2:3-15
Matthew 23:13-22
Acts 1:12-17, 21-26 Apostle
Luke 9:1-6 Apostle

Tuesday 8/23

2 Corinthians 2:14-3:3
Matthew 23:23-28

Wednesday 8/24

2 Corinthians 3:4-11
Matthew 23:29-39

Thursday 8/25

2 Corinthians 4:1-6
Matthew 24:13-28

Friday 8/26

John 10:9-16 Matins Gospel
2 Corinthians 4:13-18
Matthew 24:27-33, 42-51
Hebrews 7:26-8:2 St. Tikhon
Matthew 5:14-19 St. Tikhon

Saturday 8/27

1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Matthew 19:3-12
Galatians 5:22-6:2 St. Theodosius
Theodosius
Luke 6:17-23 St. Theodosius

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.

Parish Assembly

There will be an all Parish assembly on Sunday, September 18 at 1:00 p.m. An agenda will be forthcoming.



Aquia Fest/Pig Roast

Aquia Church has once again invited us to piggyback on their Annual Fall Festival and Pig Roast, October 1st, between 8 am and 2 pm.

Our church has been part of this event ever since our founding. At first, it was a way to make money for our newly founded church. A couple years after the Sisterhood was formed, we girls decided, since we were doing most of the work, it would be a good fundraiser for the Sisterhood. We usually make \$900 - \$1000, plus or minus in each year.
Not too shabby.!

An email has gone out to the members of the Sisterhood and, Stella Jordan, who is coordinating the event will be making announcements in church as the date gets closer. We will be looking for volunteers to help. Most of all we need food to sell. In the past, the things that sell the best are ethnic foods like, spinach pies, baklava, cabbage rolls, perogis, and stromboli, and the usual, but not limited to, fudge, cream puffs, and cookies. Please, if you know how to make something that you believe will sell, please do. There will be electricity if needed.

The Sunday before, Stella will need help with the containers and tables designated for the Sisterhood, brought upstairs and put in her van.

On the day of the festival, we will be setting up around 6:30 am. We need volunteers with muscle to help with the canopy, banner and tables. We will need ladies to SET UP and price the food. If you plan to bring food, come as early as possible. Mark any food items that contain nuts. We will need volunteers to WORK the festival, selling and packaging up the food that is purchased. Someone to collect the money. After 2 pm we will be taking everything down. We will need muscle again to help with TAKE DOWN.
If there is food left over, we will take it back to the church to sell on Sunday.

I know, if you work, Saturdays are busy, It is quite possible we may have enough volunteers to “man” the tables for the 6 hours we are there. If we do, then just dropping by and purchasing something will be helpful. Quite often, we are our own best customers. I buy cabbage rolls because they are just too hard to make. 😊

Beginning this Sunday Stella will have a signup sheet in fellowship hall. However, an email to stavroulaj@verizon.net. will work just as well. This is such a fun event!!! For me, I always seem to connect with someone I don't get to speak to during fellowship.

Aquia Fest/Pig Roast

As you know the Sisterhood has been given a space at the annual Aquia Episcopal Church fall festival/pig roast on Sat. Oct. 1st,, from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. and we piggy-back on their day of family fun activities. As our main fund-raiser it is also an opportunity for us to be a witness for St. Herman's and enjoy a morning of fellowship. Besides selling our baked goods we have a "Too Good to Waste Table" where we can sell what-nots.

Since space is very limited to one table and the nearby grass:

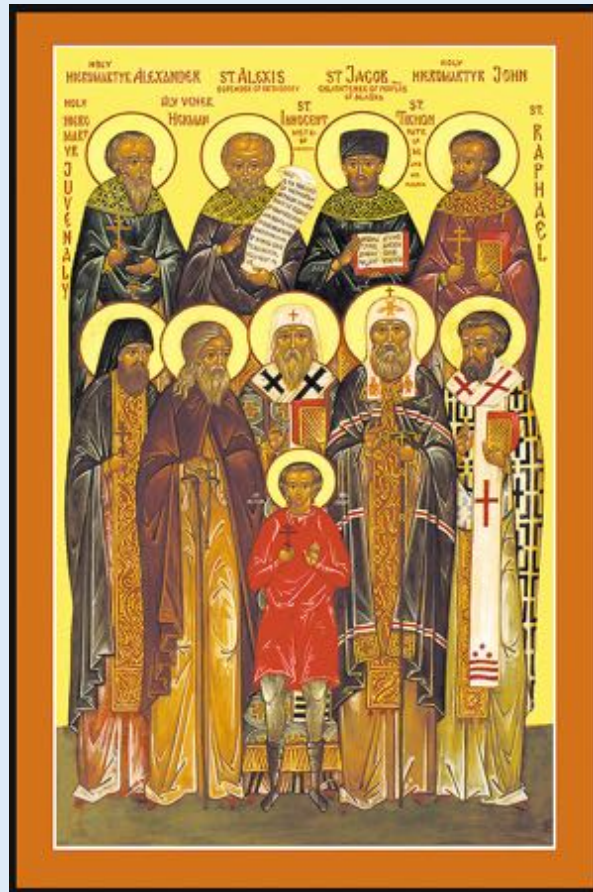
- * They should be of high quality, almost-new, clean, smaller items.
- * You must price them.
- * They must be brought to Aquia early that morning (8:00) or given to someone to bring them for you.
- * No clothes, large items, furniture, or appliances.

If your items do not sell, please pick them up before 2:00, or ask someone to get them for you. If you like, we can set up a table of anything leftover for purchase during fellowship on Sun. Oct 2nd. Anything left after Sunday will be given to Good Will.

Contact Mat. Joanna Laymon (lightwriters77@gmail.com) if you would like to declutter your home and bring your what-nots. If you do not bake or have clutter to donate, consider donating some time or purchasing some goodies to support our Sisterhood!

10th Sunday after PENETECOST EPISTLE: 1 Cor. 4:9 – 16

- ⁹ For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men.
- ¹⁰ We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ! We are weak, but you are strong! You are distinguished, but we are dishonored!
- ¹¹ To the present hour we both hunger and thirst, and we are poorly clothed, and beaten, and homeless.
- ¹² And we labor, working with our own hands. Being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure;
- ¹³ being defamed, we entreat. We have been made as the filth of the world, the offscouring of all things until now.
- ¹⁴ I do not write these things to shame you, but as my beloved children I warn you.
- ¹⁵ For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.
- ¹⁶ Therefore I urge you, imitate me.



10th Sunday after PENTECOST GOSPEL: Matthew 17:14 – 23

- ¹⁴ And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying,
- ¹⁵ Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water.
- ¹⁶ So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him.
- ¹⁷ Then Jesus answered and said, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me."
- ¹⁸ And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour.
- ¹⁹ Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?"
- ²⁰ So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.
- ²¹ However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.
- ²² Now while they were staying in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men,
- ²³ and they will kill Him, and the third day He will be raised up. And they were exceedingly sorrowful.



SAINT TIKHON OF ZADONSK AND VORONEZH

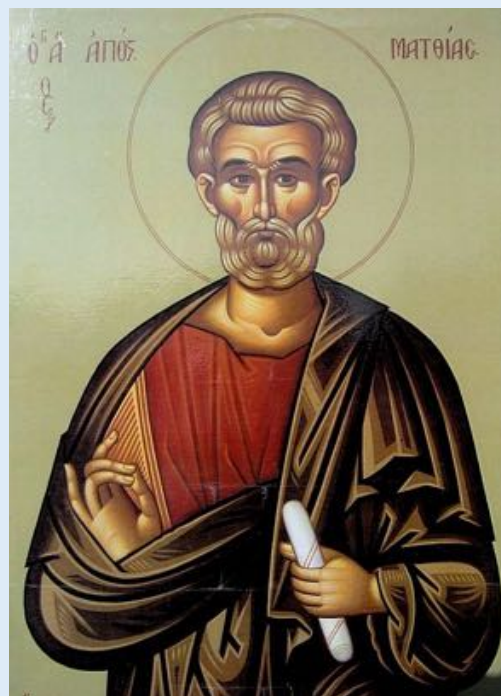
Tikhon was born in a simple peasant family in the village of Korotsk, in the providence of Novgorod, in the year 1724 A.D. He received the monastic tonsure at age thirty-four, and, because of his ascetic practice and great spiritual wisdom, he was soon elevated to higher positions of service, until he was consecrated Bishop of Voronezh. His episcopacy lasted for almost five years, but, because of frail health, he withdrew and took up residence in the Monastery of Zadonsk. He died peacefully in the year 1783 A.D. in Zadonsk, where his miracle-working relics now repose. He was a great ascetic of the Russian Church, a rare shepherd, a strong intercessor, and the author of the most beautiful spiritual works. By his wisdom, holiness and asceticism, Tikhon can be equated with the great fathers of the Orthodox Church of ancient times. Because of the many witnessed miracles that were performed over his relics, he was proclaimed a saint, first by the people, then officially by the Church in the year 1861 A.D.



THE HOLY APOSTLE MATTIAHAS

Matthias was born in Bethlehem, of the tribe of Judah. He studied with St. Simeon the God-receiver in Jerusalem. When the Lord went out to preach about the Kingdom of God, Matthias joined the others who loved the Lord--for he himself loved Him with all his heart, and heard His words and witnessed His works with delight.

Initially Matthias was numbered among the Seventy Lesser Disciples of Christ. However, following the Resurrection of the Lord, the place of Judas being empty, the apostles drew lots and thus chose Matthias as one of the Twelve Great Apostles: And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was surnamed Justus and Matthias. And they prayed and said: "You Lord, who knows the hearts of all men, show which of these two You have chosen, that he may take part of this ministry and apostleship from which Judas by transgression fell that he might go to his own place" (Acts 1:23-26). Receiving the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, Matthias set out to preach the Gospel--first in Judea, and then in Ethiopia, where he endured great tortures for the sake of Christ. It is held that he preached throughout Macedonia, where they wanted to blind him; but he became invisible to his torturers, and thus escaped danger. The Lord appeared to him in prison, encouraged him, and freed him. Finally, he returned again to his work in Judea. There he was accused and brought to court before the high priest Ananias, before whom he fearlessly witnessed Christ. Ananias (the same who had slain the Apostle James) condemned Matthias to death. They led Matthias out, stoned him, and then decapitated him with an axe. (This was the Roman manner of killing a person who was sentenced to death, and the hypocritical Jews applied this method to Matthias, to show the Romans that he had been an enemy of Rome.) Thus this great apostle of Christ died, and took up his habitation in the eternal joy of his Lord.



THE HOLY MARTYRS ARCHDEACON LAWRENCE; SIXTUS, POPE OF ROME; AND OTHERS WITH THEM

When Pope Stephen was slain (August 2), St. Sixtus, who was an Athenian by birth, was appointed in his place. Sixtus was at one time a philosopher and then became a Christian. This was a time in which the bishops of Rome were slain one after the other: to become Bishop of Rome meant to be consigned to martyrdom. Emperor Decius was determined to destroy Christianity. Pope Sixtus was quickly brought to trial, with two of his deacons--Felicissimus and Agapitus. As the three were led to prison, Archdeacon Lawrence said to the pope: "Where are you going, Father, without your son? Where, O bishop, without your archdeacon?" The pope consoled him, prophesying to Lawrence that he would undergo even greater tortures for Christ, and that he [Lawrence] would shortly take this path. And indeed, as soon as they had beheaded Sixtus and his two deacons, Lawrence was apprehended. Lawrence had presciently placed all of his affairs, and the affairs of the Church, in order. As treasurer and steward [oikonomos] of the church, he removed all of the church's valuables to the home of the widower Cyriacus. (On that same occasion, he healed Cyriacus of a terrible head pain by the touch of his hand and restored the sight of a blind man, Crescention.) After being thrown into prison, Lawrence healed Lucillus, a prisoner of many years, of blindness; and then he baptized him. Witnessing this, Hippolytus, their jailer, was also baptized. He later suffered for Christ (August 13). Since Lawrence did not want to deny Christ--but on the contrary, advised Emperor Decius to reject his false gods--his face was beaten with stones, and his body was beaten with a scorpion (a chain with sharp teeth, and a curved handle like a scorpion's tail). Romanus, a soldier present at the torture, converted to the Christian Faith, and was immediately beheaded. In the end, they placed Lawrence on a gridiron, naked, and lit a fire under him. Roasting in the fire, St. Lawrence thanked God and mocked the emperor for his paganism. After Lawrence gave his pure and heroic soul to God, Hippolytus removed his body under cover of night to the home of Cyriacus, and then to a cave, where Hippolytus honorably buried him. St. Lawrence, with the others, suffered in the year 258 A.D.



REFLECTION

One form of martyrdom--and a sign of one's overwhelming love for one's fellow man--is to take another's sin upon one's self. As death is the consequence of sin, to take another's sin on one's self means: to add to your own death still another death,

And sin, when it is finished, brings forth death (James 1:15). However, God rewards with resurrection those who, out of love, take another's death upon themselves. There are many examples of the saints taking upon themselves the sins of their fellow men. Thus, it is said of St. Ammon: A brother came to Ammon and confessed that he had fallen into sin, and because of the sin he committed, he felt he had to leave the monastery and return to the world. Ammon told that brother that he would take the brother's sin upon himself, and counseled him to remain in the monastery. The brother remained in the monastery, and Ammon was steadfast in offering repentance and prayers to God. After a short time, Elder Ammon received a revelation from God--that the sin was forgiven because of Ammon's love for the brother. When St. Macarius, St. Simeon the Fool-for-Christ, St. Theodora and others were accused of promiscuity, they did not defend themselves, but, taking upon themselves the sin of others, received the weighty [and unjust] punishment for sin, and patiently endured everything, until God revealed their innocence to men.

REFLECTION

"Give thanks to the Lord, but do not forget His great men, the poor and the needy, for they can accomplish much with God the Lord." These are the words of the illustrious Russian ascetic of the nineteenth century, Father Nazarius, the abbot of Valaam [Valamo] Monastery. He spoke these words to the wife of a high-ranking official in St. Petersburg [Petrograd] who had fallen into disfavor with the Tsar because of certain serious accusations. The accused official became ill from worry and lay in bed. Hearing that Father Nazarius had arrived in St. Petersburg, the wife of this official hurriedly sought him out, and related the misfortune that had befallen them, and implored him to pray to the Lord for her husband. "Do you have any copper or silver coins, any small change?" Father Nazarius asked her. The woman brought the coins and gave them to him. Then Father Nazarius left. Later that evening, Nazarius returned, and gladdened the wife with this news: "Glory to God! All those close to the Tsar have promised to intercede for you." Naturally, the wife thought he meant the courtiers of Tsar Alexander Pavlovich; but the spiritual father meant the beggars on the streets, to whom he had distributed the coins, and whom he had asked to pray to God for the husband of this woman. And shortly the news arrived that the Tsar was reconsidering this matter concerning the woman's husband and wanted to review it. This was just what her husband wanted. When the woman began to thank Father Nazarius, he said: "Give thanks to the Lord; but do not forget His great men, the poor and the needy--for they can accomplish much

New Festal Icon

Sts. Joachim and Anna, The Conception of the Theotokos

The icon of the Conception of the Theotokos is very simple. Joachim and Anna tenderly embrace, standing before a bed. Without being explicit, it is boldly confessed that, whilst a miracle granted to a barren couple, the conception of St Mary happened through natural means.

In the corners, Joachim and Anna are shown separately. According to the Protoevangelium, in his grief Joachim retired to the desert in fasting and prayer for forty days, whilst Anna remained lamenting at home. An angel was sent to each of the holy couple announcing that their entreaties had been heard by God and that they should return to each other to conceive: the main scene shows the happy meeting.

In the background are the walls of Jerusalem, with the bed placed before the Royal Gates. The gates are a prefiguration of Mary, who by being the Mother of God is the royal gates through which the King of Kings, Jesus Christ, enters the world

<https://iconreader.wordpress.com/2011/12/08/conception-of-the-theotokos-by-joachim-and-anna/>



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
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

Attendance 137

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, Glen & Mich Mine, Sarah Francis, Jeanine Karam, Christina Kendrat

MEMORY ETERNAL: Roy Patrick St. Clair