

St. Herman's Orthodox Church

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June 4 2023 – Pentecost Sunday

Sunday: Hours and Divine Liturgy – 9:30 am
Saturday: NO Catechumen's Class, Confession – 4 pm Vigil – 5 pm
Wednesday: Confession – 4:30 pm Vespers – 6:30 pm Adult Education Class – 7 pm
Meal Team 1
Commemoration of the Second Ecumenical Council (381)
John 20:19-23 (Matins Gospel)
Acts 2:1-11
John 7:37-52; 8:12

Troparion and Kontakions:

Pentecost, Troparion, Tone VIII –

Blessed art Thou, Christ our God, Who didst make the fishermen wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit, and through them didst draw the world into Thy net. Lover of men, glory to Thee.

Koniakion, Tone VIII –

When the Most High came down and confused the tongues, He divided the nations, but when He distributed the tongues of fire, He called all to unity. And with one accord we glorify the All-Holy Spirit.

Holy Martyr Basiliscus –

No Troparion is given in the Menaion.

Kontakion, Tone VIII, "To thee, the champion leader..." –

Thou wast shown to be mighty and manly in suffering and all-wondrous in miracles,/ and, manifestly bearing forth the name of Christ, thou didst put the tyrant to shame,/ Wherefore, we honor thee, O most-honored Basiliscus, ever crying:// Rejoice, O splendid adornment of martyrs!.

Acts 2:1-11

- ¹ When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
- ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.
- ³ Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.
- ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
- ⁵ And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven.
- ⁶ And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language.
- ⁷ Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans?"
- ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born?

- ⁹ Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,
¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,
¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.

John 7:37-52; 8:12

- ³⁷ On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.
³⁸ He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.
³⁹ But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.
⁴⁰ Therefore many from the crowd, when they heard this saying, said, "Truly this is the Prophet."
⁴¹ Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Will the Christ come out of Galilee?
⁴² Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the seed of David and from the town of Bethlehem, where David was?
⁴³ So there was a division among the people because of Him.
⁴⁴ Now some of them wanted to take Him, but no one laid hands on Him.
⁴⁵ Then the officers came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why have you not brought Him?"
⁴⁶ The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this Man!"
⁴⁷ Then the Pharisees answered them, "Are you also deceived?
⁴⁸ Have any of the rulers or the Pharisees believed in Him?
⁴⁹ But this crowd that does not know the law is accursed.
⁵⁰ Nicodemus (he who came to Jesus by night, being one of them) said to them,
⁵¹ Does our law judge a man before it hears him and knows what he is doing?
⁵² They answered and said to him, "Are you also from Galilee? Search and look, for no prophet has arisen out of Galilee."
¹² Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

Announcements

Food Pantry

We are now moving to a system of giftcards for food, groceries, and gas. Please contact Fr.

Alexander Laymon for assistance

anevsky54@gmail.com

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.

MATUSHKA OLGA SEWING GUILD

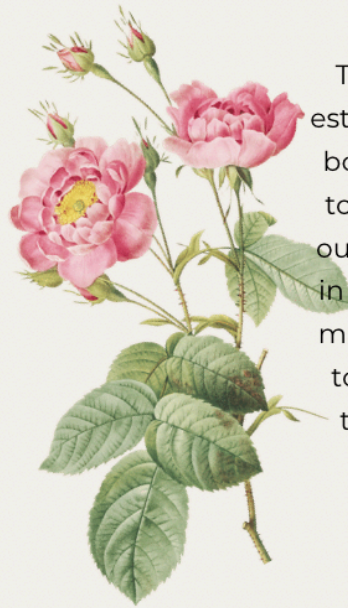
The sewing guild meets every second Saturday of the month from noon until 2:30 pm to work on pattern making and other various projects for the church. Bring your sewing machine and white thread to help with these projects. No sewing experience is required; these are learn as you go projects.

SARITHSEWS@GMAIL.COM

THOSEMILLIGANS@GMAIL.COM



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.

St. Herman is kicking off a new initiative this summer which is a Family Camping Trip. It is our hope that this will become an annual event. Lucie Myrekta is the coordinator. Please get in touch with her if you are interested in participating. Her contact information is below.

- Three St. Herman families have already committed to going.
- The dates that they have made reservations for are July 18-22. However, it is fine if you can not make it for exactly those dates as long as there is some overlap.
- The camping trip will be at Lost River State Park, Mathias, West Virginia.
- Families who are interested will need to make their own reservations.
- Some financial assistance is available.
- Everyone, from babies to grandparents, is encouraged to participate.

Lucie's contact info:
mobile - (414) 477 9601
paluki@protonmail.com

18-22 JULY

ST. HERMAN'S SUMMERCAMP

LOST RIVER STATE PARK, MATHIAS, WEST VA
THE GOAL IS FELLOWSHIP - TO GIVE PEOPLE THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET TO KNOW AND ENJOY EACH OTHER. THIS WOULD BE AN EXTENSION OF WHAT WE SEE HAPPENING AT ST. HERMAN WHENEVER OUR CHURCH DOORS ARE OPEN.



1. THE HOLY MARTYR BASILISCUS

Basiliscus was a kinsman of St. Theodore the Tyro. He was tortured together with Eutropius and Cleonicus. When the latter two were crucified and had died (March 3), then Basiliscus was returned to prison. At that time the emperor's deputy was being replaced, and so Basiliscus remained imprisoned for a long time. Basiliscus prayed with tears that God would not deprive him of a martyr's death. After he prayed at length, the Lord Jesus Himself appeared to him, promised to fulfill his wish, and sent him to his village to bid farewell to his mother and brothers. Then a new deputy, Agrippa, arrived and ordered that Basiliscus be brought from the village immediately. While Basiliscus was on his way from the village to the town of Amasea, the Lord worked a great miracle through His martyr, as a result of which many people believed in Christ. Agrippa ordered the martyr to offer a sacrifice to the idol Apollyon. "'Apollyon' means 'destroyer,'" said Basiliscus, and with fervent prayer he turned the idol into dust and burned the temple with fire from heaven. The frightened Agrippa attributed this to magic and ordered that Basiliscus be beheaded. At that moment, Agrippa went insane. In his madness, he went to the scaffold, found a little blood of the martyr in the dust, and placed it under his belt, and was healed. Coming to his senses, he was baptized. Marinus, a citizen of Comana, later built a church over the relics of the saint, at the place of Basiliscus's execution, and many afflicted people found healing there.

2. THE HOLY MARTYR JOVAN VLADIMIR, KING OF SERBIA

Jovan Vladimir was of princely lineage from Zahumlje. His grandfather was called Hvalimir and his father Petrislav. As a ruler, he was wise, merciful, meek, chaste and brave. He fervently prayed to God and voluntarily built churches and supported them. However, he had difficult struggles both internally and externally: internally from heretics and the Bogomils, and externally from Tsar Samuel and Tsar Basil who wanted to conquer him. Samuel captured him deceitfully and cast him into prison. While he languished in prison an angel of God appeared to him and foretold that he would shortly be freed, but that he would die a martyr's death. Getting to know him better, Samuel grew to like him and gave his daughter Kosara to be his wife. When Samuel died, his son Radomir was crowned Tsar. But Vladislav, Radomir's twin brother, slew Radomir, then deceitfully summoned Vladimir and beheaded him in the year 1015 A.D. The relics of this saintly king are preserved incorrupt in his monastery near Elbasan, and numerous miracles have been worked over them throughout the ages and to this day. In 1925 a church was built to honor this crowned martyr near the Monastery of St. Nahum, since Jovan Vladimir had been a benefactor of that glorious monastery.

3. THE SECOND ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

This Council was called during the reign of Emperor Theodosius the Great in Constantinople in the year 381 A.D. Its goal was to confirm the Orthodox teaching concerning the Holy Spirit. Macedonius, Patriarch of Constantinople, had erroneously taught that the Holy Spirit was God's creature and not a Divine Person [Hypostasis], and therefore not equal to the Father or the Son, or One in Essence with Them in the Holy Trinity. Macedonius was condemned by this Council, and the teaching about the Holy Spirit was added to the Nicæan Creed [the Symbol of Faith].

4. THE HOLY RIGHTEOUS MELCHISEDEK, KING OF SALEM

Melchisedek was a contemporary of our forefather Abraham. According to the words of the Apostle Paul he was a king, a priest and a type of the Lord Jesus Christ (Hebrews 7).

HYMN OF PRAISE **MELCHISEDEK, KING OF SALEM**

Melchisedek, king of Salem,
Whence is his family?
He was a king and a priest
Of the Highest King--God
He was greater than Abraham;
He was and remains a mystery.
He blessed Abraham;
To him, Abraham gave a tribute.

He was a king and priest in the world,
 And became a forefigure of Christ.
 He proclaimed peace and justice;
 He was and remains a mystery.
 His origin and end are unknown,
 As is the length of his earthly life,
 But it is known that he lived--
 A beautiful example of a man.
 King, saint, righteous one:
 Such was Melchisedek--
 A prophet and forefigure of Christ.
 A prophet he was, without words,
 But with a most beautiful personality.
 A prophet he was, without words;
 A prophet--with righteousness and mercy.!

REFLECTION

How was Moses able to fast for forty days? How were the many Christian ascetics able to live a long life in extreme abstinence from food and drink? For the physical man who does not know about the spiritual life, this is impossible to believe. It is impossible even to prove it to him, for the understanding of it is achieved only by experience. When the torturers of St. Basiliscus detained him for three days without food and water, and when they did offer him food to eat, he refused, saying that he was not hungry. "I am," said he, "filled with immortal food and do not want to receive mortal food. You are fed by earthly bread, but the heavenly word of God feeds me; wine makes you happy, but the grace of the Holy Spirit makes me happy; meat satisfies you, but fasting satisfies me; physical power strengthens you, but the Cross of Christ strengthens me; gold makes you rich, but the love of Christ enriches me; clothing adorns you, but good works adorn me; you are made happy with laughter, but I am comforted by the Spirit through prayer." Behold this man, one of many, in whom the word of the Lord was confirmed: Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God! (Matthew 4:4).

CONTEMPLATION

Contemplate the grace of God the Holy Spirit in the Mystery [Sacrament] of Baptism:

1. How that grace cleanses man from original sin;
2. How it brings man to participation in the freedom of Christ

HOMILY

on the bodies of men as temples

"Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price" (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

How is it, brethren, that our bodies became the temple of the Holy Spirit? Because we are bought with a price. The Lord Jesus bought us with His cares, labors, sufferings and death. Because of this price we were made worthy to become the temple of the Holy Spirit.

But someone will say: "That price was paid a long time ago, and we live twenty centuries later!" It is all the same: the price was not paid for one time and for one generation, but rather for all times and for all generations from Adam to the Dreadful Judgment. And if billions and billions of human beings are born on earth, the price is paid for all of them. The price is so great and rich that, if all the sand in the sea were changed into men, the price would be sufficient. Brethren, from what moment do our bodies become the temple of the Holy Spirit? From the moment of our baptism.

Although the price is paid for all men, only those who are baptized become the temple of the Holy Spirit. Brethren, what is the consequence of the Holy Spirit taking up His abode in us? The consequence is this: that we are not our own anymore. When the Holy Spirit takes up His abode in our bodies, then He becomes the Master over us, and not we over our bodies or over ourselves. Then, brethren, we are the possession of God the Holy Spirit. Brethren, what did it mean at the Mystical Supper [Last Supper], when the Lord washed even the feet of Judas, and Judas received a piece of bread from the Lord, when the Scripture says: Satan entered into him (John 13:27). Oh, what dreadful words! Oh, what a horrible punishment for the traitor of God! Brethren, does this not mean that when we reject God, Who washes and feeds us, the Spirit of God departs from us and Satan settles in His place? Oh, what a harsh meaning! Oh, what a terrible reminder to all of us who are baptized! The Holy Spirit settled in us during our

baptism and made us a temple for Himself. But the Holy Spirit does not dwell in us by force, but rather according to our good will. If we transgress against Him, He departs from us; Satan enters in His place, and our physical temple is transformed into a pigsty.

O All-good Holy Spirit, do not leave us. Have mercy on us and forgive us.
To Thee be glory and praise forever. Amen.

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, Sarah Francis, Jeanine Karam, Christina Kendrat, Alexa, Valentina, Victor, Maria, Max, Mark, Elena, Anna, Benedict, Fr. Mark Grant and family

MEMORY ETERNAL: Andrew Geracoulis, Maria Papademetriou

