

ST. HERMAN OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2026

Vol. 2 issue 1



Schedule and Announcements

Service Schedule for February

Sundays

930am - Hours and Liturgy followed by a fellowship meal.

Tuesdays 730pm - Bible Study via zoom (watch email for changes or cancellations)

Wednesdays

5pm - Confessions

630pm - Vespers and a short talk

Saturdays

3pm Catechumen and Inquirers class

4pm Confessions

5pm Vespers or Vigil (Lent)

Important Dates in February

Triodion

Sunday, 2.1 - Publican and Pharisee: Triodion Begins

Sunday, 2.8 - Prodigal Son

Sunday, 2.15 - Meeting of The Lord, Last Judgement and Meatfare

Sunday 2.22 - Forgiveness Sunday and Cheesefare. *Divine Liturgy will be followed immediately by Forgiveness Vespers*

Lent - Clean Week

Monday, 2.23 -Great Canon of St. Andrew 6pm

Tuesday, 2.24 - Great Canon of St. Andrew 6pm

Wednesday 2.25 - Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts 6pm

Thursday 2.26 - Great Canon of St. Andrew 6pm

Friday 2.27 -Liturgy of Presanctified at St. Demetrios 12pm

****It is important to find a time for confession in the days leading up to Lent. Do not wait until Sunday morning of Forgiveness Sunday. Come on Wednesday or Saturday Vespers or arrange with a priest to hear your confession.***

All Parish Annual Meeting- Plan to Attend

It is very important that all members attend the annual meeting immediately following fellowship hour on 2.8. This is your opportunity to learn about our upcoming expansion, fundraising for that effort, upcoming events and important dates, and to vote on important matters for the new year.

A Word about Confessions

Please note that Sunday Confessions are not the normal practice and are being offered as a kindness. We encourage everyone to attend regularly scheduled Vespers services on **Wednesdays and Saturdays** for regularly scheduled confession opportunities. Should you have the need for pastoral care and longer confession, an appointment can be made. **If you still have the need for a Sunday confession, please keep in mind these should not be longer than 2-3 minutes, out of respect for the clergy and out of courtesy to those behind you.**

Commemorations and Blessing of Icons

Commemorations for Proskomedia must be given before the start of liturgy. They may also be submitted at Vespers the night before. Please label items to be blessed with a note and submit to an altar server before liturgy begins.

Reminder! 8 MPH on Clifton Chapel Lane. Please be considerate of our neighbors. During construction, only park outside the gate in the designated spaces if the lot is already full.

Will You Join our Expansion Efforts?

As you can see, we're moving full speed ahead on expanding St. Herman's The foundation of the new Narthex and wings are down, and we're finalizing plans for the framing, roof, and floor. The committee headed by Subdeacon Steve Terrell is finalizing the interior design and other aesthetic features. While we do not have a total cost, we can safely say it will be A LOT, and therefore we will be actively fundraising to meet the goals of our expanding congregation. Our fundraising goal is \$200,000, as this is estimated to fully fund the interior and exterior--with \$150K being the minimum for construction.

Mary April Washington is our fundraiser for the expansion effort, and you can contact her by email at orangeslice127@gmail.com for details on how you can donate.

We are looking for 4 people to donate \$25,000. A plaque for each donation will be placed in the church to recognize their donation. In exciting news, we already have 2 parishioners who have each donated \$25,000, so there are only 2 left. In addition, a plaque with names will be placed in the new Narthex for people who donate a certain amount. Over \$500 for "Donor", over \$1000 for "Founder", over \$2500 for "Builder", and over \$10,000 for "Benefactor".

Please prayerfully consider your finances before donating and remember your expansion donation should be in addition to what you regularly tithe as we still have to pay the priests and utilities.

Annual Chili Cook-off and Desert Bake-off Coming Soon!

On Meatfare Sunday, (Feb 15) plan to celebrate our last opportunity to enjoy meat with our annual ***Chili Cook-off!*** Bring your mama's best, your hottest, or your most exotic chili recipes to share and compete for top prize. The following week, on Cheesefare Sunday (Feb. 22) we have our annual under-18 only ***desert Bake-off***. The young people of our parish will be competing for top prize and we are the beneficiaries of their talents.

Please see Kayli Talbert for details and plan to participate!

Help Beautify the Temple with Flower Donations

Flowers are a wonderful way to participate in the worship of the Church and to add beauty to the Temple. It is also an excellent way to commemorate a loved one on a special date. Sign up at this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040B4FABAC2BA7F58-61578104-flowers#/>

A Little Light Housekeeping

Temple Etiquette

TLDR: Do not sit on the pews unless you cannot sit on the floor. Do not allow children or teens to sit on the pews.

With our rapidly growing congregation, there is an ever greater need to ensure that those who need seating should not have to stand. Mothers with infants or disabled children, older parishioners, and those who have medical issues or disabilities **must** be given priority. Please do not allow toddlers, children, or teens to take up seating space if they can sit on the floor. Refrain from placing purses, jackets and toys on the seats. Please place these items under the pews or leave them in your car during the service.

Pavilion Use - The Floor is NOT Lava.

TLDR: Do not allow children to walk on the furniture

Our beautiful pavilion is enjoyed every Sunday as an extension of the fellowship hall. Rules and manners that apply to the fellowship hall extend to the pavilion, so please instruct your children that the floor is NEVER LAVA in the pavilion. It should be a clean and safe space for everyone without muddy footprints on the tables.



To our Newly Illumined members, baptized on Theophany Weekend: Sophia, Irene, Ignatius, Ambrose, Dominique and Theodore...
Welcome Home!

St. Herman's Prayer Corner

Please send Met. Jonah the full name and general reason for intercessory prayer (such as health or illness, unemployment, family issues, military deployments, 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.



Prayers for non-Orthodox Reposed

Reader Anthony is offering regular Akathist prayers to St. Varus, intercessor for those who have died outside the Orthodox faith. He requests you email him the name of any whom you would like to commemorate, and you are invited to join him when you are able to pray the Akathist on Saturdays after vespers or Sundays after fellowship. anthonyrook27@gmail.com

Grant, O Lord, forgiveness and eternal joy to thy servants who have fallen asleep, for whom we cry to thee in supplication: Jesus, all-merciful judge, vouchsafe thy servants the sweetness of paradise.

Grant O Lord, Health and all things needful for the salvation of thy servants:

Metropolitan Paul and the brothers of the Kyiv Caves Lavra and the suffering, persecuted church in Ukraine. The persecuted Church and those suffering in the Holy Land, Archpriest Alexander, Abbot Tryphon, Hieroschemamonk Mefodii, Hieromonk Phillip, Priest Andrew, Priest Mark, Priest Alexander, Hieromonk Silouan, Reader Moses, Monk Alexei, Servants of God Benedict, Samuel, George, Brian, Anthony, Adam, Samuel, Nicholas, Handmaids of God Isadora, Sarah, Zacharoula, Photini, Maria, Maria, Stavroula, Svetlana, Koula, Joanna, Helen, Rebecca, Esther, Anna, Mary, Sophia, Macarius, Gabrielle

O Lord our God who dwellest in the heavens, and lookest down upon all thy works, look down upon thy servants, the catechumens, who have bowed their necks before thee and grant them a light yoke. Make them honorable members of thy Holy Church, and vouchsafe unto them the laver of regeneration, the forgiveness of sins, and the robe of incorruption, unto the knowledge of thee our True God.

Caleb, Luke, Krista, Allison, Riley, Andrew, Nicholas, Ansley, Rebecca, Logan, Tiffany, Jonathan, Michael, Manuel, Sivili, John, Sarah, John, Madeline, Justin, Jack, Ian.

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Important Dates at a Glance

Feb 8 Annual Parish Assembly

Feb 15 Meatfare - Chili Cook-off

**Feb 22 Cheese fare / Forgiveness Sunday / Youth
Desert Bake-off**

Feb 23 Start of Great Lent and Clean Week

