



Sunday, September 22, 2018

# St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church

A PARISH OF THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OUTSIDE OF RUSSIA—EASTERN AMERICAN DIOCESE

Great Vespers & Confessions each Saturday at 6 pm – Bible Study each Wednesday at 7 pm – Divine Liturgy each Sunday at 10 am

60 Clifton Chapel Lane, Stafford, Virginia 22555 – Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1295, Stafford, VA 22555 – Website: [www.sthermanorthodox.org](http://www.sthermanorthodox.org)

## Liturgical Services/Activities:

**Sun. Sept. 23/Sept. 10** 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost. Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora at Nicomedia (305 AD)

**9:15 a.m.** Choir Practice

**9:30 a.m.** Reading of the Hours

**10:00 a.m.** Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship Hour

**Wed. Sept. 26/Sept. 13** Repose of St. John Chrysostom (407 AD)

**7:00 p.m.** Great Vespers for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross

**Thurs. Sept. 27/Sept. 14** The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-giving Cross

**10:00 a.m.** Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross

**Sat. Sept. 29/Sept. 16** Venerable Paul the Obedient of the Kiev Caves (13th c.)

**4:30 p.m.** Catechumen Class

**6:00 p.m.** Great Vespers.

**Sun. Sept. 30/Sept. 17** 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost. Martyrs Sophia and her three daughters: Faith (Vera), Hope (Nadezhda), and Love (Lyubov), at Rome (137 AD)

**9:15 a.m.** Choir Practice

**9:30 a.m.** Reading of the Hours

**10:00 a.m.** Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship Hour



*Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora*

## Attendance

Readers Vespers, 9/15 – Divine Liturgy, 9/16 – 66  
Festal Vespers, 9/20 – 20 Festal Divine Liturgy, 9/21 – 25

## 2018 Finances

**The Parish needs \$1756.77 /week to meet budget\***

<u>Week</u>	<u>Amount Received</u>	<u>Difference from amount needed</u>
Year-to-date	\$ 69,817.50	+ \$ 9,437.01
September 9	\$ 2,060.75	+ \$ 303.98
September 16	\$ 1,591.00	- \$ 165.77

*Honor the Lord from your righteous labors and offer Him the first fruits from the fruits of righteousness, that your storehouses may be filled with an abundance of grain and your wine presses may gush with wine. 1*

## Intercessory Prayer List

*Metropolitan Jonah requests that you send him to 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 payer, so that we may keep the list current.*

LIVING: Met. Jonah, Rebecca Laymon, Judith (Maria) Cook, Ana Rosado-Nazario, Ann Yuschak, Sarah Heitke, Dsa. Monica Pappas, Paisley Joanna Milligan, Charles Jordan, Emma Nichole Parkinson, Rob Cornwell, Beth Baggett, Archpriest Alexander Webster, Katie (Salome) Supples, Robert Jenkins, Sarah Elizabeth Francis, Father Methodius, Donna Colaiani, Archpriest Michael Sekela, Patricia Connerley, Martha Connerley, Kathy Sekela, Mark Laymon, Kristin Blaylock, Janis Sergeant, Millicent Novic, Ray Liddick, Chad Gallagher, Matushka Cindy Joanna Mitchell, Protodeacon Brian Patrick Mitchell, Presvytera Flora Chioros, Father Stanley Voyiazakis, Monk Anthony (West Virginia), Archpriest George Larin, Matushka Masha Potopav, Matushka Sophia Doubleday, Evdokiya Bykon, Kevin McCarthy, James Dunham, James Puckett, Nora Milligan, Archpriest Victor Potapov, Archpriest Theodore Shomsky, Archimandrite Iov (Holy Trinity Monastery), Jo Ann Swift, Abbess Makaria, James and Bryce Wilt, Ryan Wilt, Logan Peters, Sandra Brown, Glen A. Cooper, Kieman Green, Protodeacon Nicholas Lukianov, Matushka Nadejda Revitsky, Archpriest George Johnson, Lisa King Buka. Richard Buka Sr., Gene King, Larry Terrell, Matushka Larisa Hutnyan, Jackie Leopold, Ellaine Baron, Protodeacon Pavel Wolkow, Mother Theodora, Archpriest Alexander Veronis, James Kushiner, Michael Gann, Anders Bjorklund, Maria Papademetriou, Peter and Laura Roshak and baby Mark, Archpriest George Kallaur, Archpriest Paul Ivanov, Christina Spannic, Ksenia Resnikoff, Maximos Andreas Winans, Deacon Nicholas Pappas, Elizabeth Orlowsky, Conley Rohall, Jean Manco, Katherine Katsikas, Michael Kyle, Julia, Mark, Juanita, Marie Liller, Jimmy Lloyd, Jessica Anne Swift, Matushka Eugenia Neherbecki, Homer Lewis, James Perry, Debbie Vatisstas, George Katsikas, Timothy Vlahos, Vasilliki, Wallace Sullivan, the captive Orthodox bishops from Aleppo, Syria: His Eminence Archbishop Boulos (Yazigi) and Mar Archbishop Youhanna Ibrahim

MEMORY ETERNAL: Aggeliki, Linda Gale Jordan, Nicholas Gramenopolous, Argyroula, Demetrios, Howard J. Stickley



### Fellowship Hour

Sept. 23 ~ Fellowship provided  
by Team 4

Sept. 30 ~ Potluck Fellowship

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 Nancy St. Clair.



### Reader Schedule

Sept. 23 ~ Reader Stephen Terrell

Sept. 27 ~ Reader Moses Palmer

Sept. 30 ~ Brother Paul Neutrom

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



### Prosfora

Nancy St. Clair is currently providing the Prosfora. If you are interested in helping to make Prosfora for the church, please contact Nancy St. Clair.

*We are registered with two broadcast media weather alert systems: (1) television: WJLA-TV (channel 7) and News Channel 8, and (2) radio: WTOP radio (103.5, 103.9, 107.7 – all FM) and WTOP.com Any closings will also be posted on the home page of our website and via email to those who have asked to be on our electronic mailing list.*

### Readings for the Week of September 16<sup>th</sup>

#### Sunday 9/23

Luke 24:36-53 (6th Matins Gospel)

2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1

Matthew 15:21-28

Galatians 6:11-18 *Sunday before the Universal Elevation*

John 3:13-17 *Sunday before the Universal Elevation*

#### Monday 9/24

Matthew 11:27-30 Matins Gospel

Ephesians 4:25-32

Matthew 23:13-22

Galatians 5:22-6:2 *St. Silouan*

Luke 6:17-23 *St. Silouan*

#### Tuesday 9/25

Ephesians 5:20-26

Matthew 23:23-28

Philippians 2:5-11 *Epistle, Theotokos*

Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28 *Gospel, Theotokos*

#### Wednesday 9/26

Ephesians 5:25-33

Matthew 23:29-39

Thursday Reading

Ephesians 5:33-6:9

Matthew 24:13-28

Hebrews 3:1-4 *Epistle, Church*

Matthew 16:13-18 *Gospel, Church*

#### Thursday 9/27

John 12:28-36 Matins Gospel (*The Universal Exaltation*)

1 Corinthians 1:18-24 *The Universal Exaltation*

John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35

*The Universal Exaltation*

#### Friday 9/28

Ephesians 6:18-24

Matthew 24:27-33, 42-51

2 Timothy 2:1-10 *Great-martyr Nicetas*

Matthew 10:16-22 *Great-martyr Nicetas*

#### Saturday 9/29

1 Corinthians 15:39-45

Matthew 19:3-12

1 Corinthians 1:26-29 *Saturday After*

John 8:21-30 *Saturday After*

Dear Parishioners,

As our church family is growing. We desperately need more volunteers to help with the Fellowship Hour. We currently have 4 teams to cover the first 4 Sundays, the 5th Sunday is designated as a "Pot Luck Sunday". The more members we have on a team the better as it will help with people out of town for vacation, illnesses, etc. If you do not like to cook you can help by bringing a dessert, fruit, a salad, cheese and crackers, vegetables and dip or chips and pretzels.

Please contact Nancy St. Clair to volunteer. She will assign you to a team and get you in touch with the other members.

### Announcing a Parish Assembly on October 7<sup>th</sup> after Divine Liturgy. Please plan to attend!

#### Seeking Donations for Sunday School Icon Corner

The Sunday School would like to grow their Icon corner in the Sunday School room. Currently there is a small icon of Christ and a small icon of the Theotokos. If you have any duplicate icons at home, or icons you would be willing to donate to help fill the icon corner, please speak to Lori Mellor. (Paper icons or past calendars with pictures of icons would also be welcome!)

#### Meditations on a Pilgrimage

All,

Here is the first of a series of meditations on my current pilgrimage that was requested by Deacon Alexander for the Saint Herman's Bulletin. I hope you all enjoy it and find something in it that is edifying.

I arrived in Cairo for the first time, on my way to Saint Catherine's Monastery. Saint Catherine's Monastery was built at the site of the Burning Bush seen by Moses right at the foot of Mount Sinai in the far south of the Sinai Peninsula. It was built between 548 and 565 AD. It is one of the oldest working monasteries in the world. It counts amongst its treasures the world's oldest continually operating library that contains many thousands of original illuminated manuscripts, including some of the earliest copies of the Ladder of Divine Ascent by Saint John Climacus in existence one of which I had the blessing of being able to examine. The monastery also possesses around 4000 rare icons. Amongst its many relics the monastery also treasures one of the incorrupt hands of the great martyr Catherine. In addition, the monastery church which was originally built around the burning bush and is the oldest continuously occupied Church in the world. The ceiling is built of the original cedar of Lebanon which is still intact from its original construction. Naturally the monastery because of its prestige was richly endowed by most of the Byzantine emperors. The monastery now has about 25 monks and also counts itself as the smallest and likely most peaceful autocephalous Orthodox Church in the world headed by the Abbot and Archbishop of Sinai.

I imagine that most pilgrims to Saint Catherine's could write a book about their experiences, however I will spare you by only sharing one of the events that stood out the most to me.

During one Vespers I was standing in the back of the Church next to some elaborately carved wooden doors from the 11<sup>th</sup> century, surveying the dozens of gold and ivory lampadas that hung from almost every free part of the ceiling, as I looked towards the Altar; as the monks were chanting Lord I Cried I saw the evening light falling on the priest as he censed in front of the altar I had the distinct feeling that I had entered a time machine and had been transported back to the 6<sup>th</sup> century and was an active participant in a Byzantine drama and indeed I was as this scene has been replayed every single day for nearly 1500 years. While the setting made this feeling more acute I think it is profound for us as Orthodox Christians to realize that we also in a mystical and tangible fashion join with our brothers and sisters of ages past in the drama of worship that not only has its roots in Christianity but indeed going all the way back to the first man Adam and the Israelites who once occupied this land.

Because of my location I have been inspired to read through the Old Testament again and it has struck me once again that it is not just the story of a distinct ethnic group from the other side of the world, rather it is the story of us and how God has never given up on humanity and has continued to reveal Himself to us in as much as we can bear even after we fell (fall) from our disobedience.

If you have the opportunity I strongly recommend that every one of you take the time to make a pilgrimage to some of the many Holy sites that have been preserved by our Orthodox faith and for those of you who cannot I hope that some of these short reflections can in some small way share the grace that is to be found not only in these various physical locations but in our Orthodox faith as a whole.

Thank You  
Father Silouan (Brown)

