ST. HERMAN OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

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June 22, 2025: 2nd Sunday After Pentecost, All Saints of North America

This Week

The Apostle's Fast continues until Sunday June 29 (the feast of Ss Peter & Paul).

Sat June 21, 4:30pm – Great Vespers & Confessions
Sun June 22, 9am – *All Saints of North America*. Divine Liturgy & Fellowship.

June 24 is the Nativity of St John the Baptist. Please visit our friends at Ss. Constantine & Helen for this feast.
Mon June 23, 4:00pm – Great Vespers
Tues June 24, 8:15am – Matins & Divine Liturgy

Sat June 28, 4:30pm – Great Vespers & Confessions
Sun June 29, 9am – *Ss. Peter & Paul*. Divine Liturgy & Fellowship.

(June 29–July 5 – St Tikhon's Summer Camp)

Today's Scripture

Epistle: Hebrews 11:33-12:2

Brethren: By faith, the Saints subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the enemies. Women received their dead raised to life again. And others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented; of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of

the earth. And all these, having obtained a good report through faith, did not receive the promise. God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect without us.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith.

Gospel: Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38; 19:27-30

The Lord said to his disciples, "Every one who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven....

"Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me."

... Then Peter said in reply, "Lo, we have left everything and followed you. What then shall we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of man shall sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundred-fold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first."

Prayers

For health of: Archbishop Nathaniel Popp, Archbishop Alexander Golitzin, Mat. Myra Kovalak, Marcia Lutz, Bernard Kusior, Julia Jay, Nina Fatula.

Especially remember in prayer Rebecca Ream, who is acutely ill, together with her family (Dave, Jesika, and Justin).

The newly-departed: Protodeacon Stephen Sweet (5/30). Christina Murianka (5/18). Robert Long (5/23). Michael Drenchko (5/26). Zophia Kowalczyk (6/13).

Announcements

The Apostles' Fast is one of the four "fasting seasons" of the liturgical year and is therefore a good time to renew ourselves in Confession, the Sacrament of Repentance. In the OCA, it is strongly recommended that everyone, clergy included, seeks confession *a minimum of four times a year* (even better, once every 1-2 months). The best time to come to confession is at the end of an evening service (like Saturday Vespers).

CONGRATULATIONS to Elena Long, who has graduated high school. We wish her well as she begins the next chapter in her life, and we pray that God will bless and protect her, and grant her *many years!*

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Spiritual gifts are for the benefit of the Church; they are given **not for the individual's sake, but for the common good of the community**. The Holy Spirit distributes the gifts as He wills, according to **the needs of the Church**… Every gift from the Holy Spirit is intended **to build up the Church and strengthen faith**. They should not be used for personal gain or self-glorification, but to **serve the community** and **fortify faith**…

The Holy Spirit is the main agent in the life of the Church. He **grants** us the power to serve, **teaches** us the truth, and **guides** us in the way of righteousness. Every **successful** ministry in the Church is due to the work of the Holy Spirit… Just as one body has many members, each with its own function, so **the Church has multiple gifts**, each serving a specific **purpose** and complementing the other gifts…

– St John Chrysostom

Attendance

Sun May 4 Liturgy: 28, 0 children (Communion: 23)
Sun May 11 Liturgy: 22, 0 children (Communion: 17)
Sun May 18 Liturgy: 27 adults, 2 children (Communion: 22 adults, 1 children)
Sun May 25 Liturgy: 28, 0 children (Communion: 22)
Sun Jun 1 Liturgy: 30 adults, 4 children (Communion: 25 adults, 4 children)
Sun Jun 8 Liturgy: 24, 0 children (Communion: 17)

Welcome to all visitors who have prayed and celebrated the Divine Liturgy with us this morning! We invite all of you downstairs for fellowship after the conclusion of the Liturgy. If you have any questions at all, please reach out to Fr. John at any time. *We hope to see you again!*

Please note: In the Orthodox Church, the receiving of Holy Communion is the sign of one's full participation in the mystery of the Faith, and all Orthodox Christians should receive it frequently.

For this reason, Communion is offered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves to receive it (through prayer, fasting, and confession) and are at peace with each other. Those who partake of the Eucharist normally fast from food and drink in the morning before the Divine Liturgy, if they are able.