ST. HERMAN OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

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June 29, 2025: 3rd Sunday After Pentecost. Saints Peter & Paul.

This Week

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)

Sat July 5, 4:30pm – **No Vespers**. (Fr John & family returning late from camp)
Sun July 6, 9am – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship.

Sat July 12, 4:30pm – Great Vespers & Confessions
Sun July 13, 9am – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship

Hymns of the Day

Resurrection (Tone 2)

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, / Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. / And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, / all the powers of heaven cried out: // "O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!"

Saints Peter & Paul (Tone 4)

O first-enthroned of the Apostles, / and teachers of the universe: / entreat the Master of all / to grant peace to the world, // and to our souls great mercy!

Resurrection (Tone 8)

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior, / seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb! / The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee, // and the world, my Savior, praises Thee forever.

Saints Peter & Paul (Tone 2)

O Lord, Thou hast taken up to eternal rest / and to the enjoyment of Thy blessings / the two divinely inspired preachers, the leaders of the Apostles, / for Thou hast accepted their labors and deaths as a sweet-smelling sacrifice, // for Thou alone knowest what lies in the hearts of men.

Today's Scripture

Epistle: Romans 5:1-10

Brethren: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access by faith to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man -- though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

Gospel: Matthew 6:22-33

The Lord said: "The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

"Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

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). All those departed in the attacks in Damascus, Syria.

"Dostoyevsky...emphasized two things: first, there is no great man; secondly, there is no worthless man. He described the blackest crimes and the deepest fall and showed that the authors of such crimes are men just as other men, with much good hidden under their sins. Servants and vagabonds, idiots and drunkards, the dirty katorzniki [inmates] from the Serbian prisons—all those people are God's sons and daughters, with souls full of fears and hopes, of repentance and longings after good and justice."

– St Nikolai of Zicha, "Religious Spirit of the Slavs"

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.