ST. HERMAN OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

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July 6, 2025: 4th Sunday After Pentecost

This Week

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

(July 14–18 – OCA All-American Council)

Sat July 19, 4:30pm – Great Vespers & Confessions
Sun July 20, 9am – *Prophet Elijah.* Divine Liturgy & Fellowship

Sat July 26, 4:30pm – **No Vespers**.
Sun July 27, 9am – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship (Fr Edward Hughes)

Hymns of the Day

Resurrection (Tone 3)

Let the heavens rejoice! / Let the earth be glad! / For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. / He has trampled down death by death. / He has become the first born of the dead. / He has delivered us from the depths of hell, / and has granted to the world great mercy.

St Sisoes (Tone 1)

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body, / you were a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father Sisoes. / You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil and prayer, / healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith. / Glory to Him Who gave you strength! / Glory to Him Who granted you a ^crown! // Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

Resurrection (Tone 3)

On this day, Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, / leading us from the gates of death. / On this day, Adam exults as Eve rejoices. / With the prophets and patriarchs // they un-ceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

To the Mother of God (Tone 6)

Steadfast protectress of Christians, / constant advocate before the Creator; / despise not the entreating cries of us sinners, / but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith. / Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, // for you always protect those who honor you!

Today's Scripture

Epistle: Romans 6:18-23

Brethren: Having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness. For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 8:5-13

At that time, when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour.

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.

Also please remember in prayer Mary Hummer, the mother of Mat. Alexandra, on the 4th anniversary of her repose (7/6/2021).

Every one of us is made in the image of God, and every one of us is like a damaged icon. But if we were given an icon damaged by time, damaged by circumstances, or desecrated by human hatred, we would treat it with reverence, with broken-heartedness. We would not pay attention primarily to the fact that it is damaged, but to the tragedy of its being damaged. We would concentrate on what is left of its beauty, and not on what is lost of its beauty. And this is what we must learn to do with regard to each person as an individual.... but also—and this is not always as easy—with regard to groups of people, whether it be a parish or a denomination, or a nation. We must learn to look, and look until we have seen the underlying beauty of this group of people. Only then can we even begin to do something to call out all the beauty that is there. Listen to other people, and whenever you discern something which sounds true, which is a revelation of harmony and beauty, emphasize it and help it to flower. Strengthen it and encourage it to live.

– Metropolitan Anthony Bloom of Sourozh

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.