ST. HERMAN OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

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July 20, 2025: 6th Sunday After Pentecost. *The Prophet Elijah.*

This Week

Sat July 19, 4:30pm – Great Vespers & Confessions
Sun July 20, 9am – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship. *Enrollment of Stephanie Selis into the Catechumenate.*

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

The Dormition Fast begins on Friday, August 1.

Sat Aug 2, 4:30pm – Great Vespers & Confessions
Sun Aug 3, 9am – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship

> *Wednesday August 6 is the Great Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord.*
> Tues Aug 5, 6:00pm – Festal Great Vespers w/ Litya
> Wed Aug 6, 9:00am – Festal Divine Liturgy

Hymns of the Day

Resurrection (Tone 5)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, / co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, / born for our salvation from the Virgin; / for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, / to endure death, / and to raise the dead // by His glorious Resurrection.

Prophet Elijah (Tone 4)

An angel in the flesh and the cornerstone of the Prophets, / the second forerunner of the coming of Christ, / glorious Elijah sent grace from on high to Elisha, / to dispel diseases and to cleanse lepers. // Therefore he pours forth healings on those who honor him.

Resurrection (Tone 5)

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior, / shattering its gates as Almighty, / resurrecting the dead as Creator, / and destroying the sting of death. / Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man, // and we cry to Thee: "O Lord, save us!"

For 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 12:6-14

Brethren: Having gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

Gospel: Matthew 9:1-8

At that time, Jesus got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city. Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you." And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man blasphemes!" But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" – then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." And he arose and departed to his house. Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.

Attendance

Sun Jun 1 Liturgy: 30 adults, 4 children (Communion: 25 adults, 4 children)
Sun Jun 8 Liturgy: 24, 0 children (Communion: 17)
Sun Jun 29 Liturgy: 21 adults, 2 children (Communion: 12 adults, 2 children)
Sun Jul 6 Liturgy: 27 adults, 2 children (Communion: 23 adults, 2 children)
Sun Jul 13 Liturgy: 22 adults, 2 children (Communion: 16 adults, 2 children)

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: Apr. Jason Kappanadze (6/14). Apr. Paul Kucynda (7/9). Zophia Kowalczyk (6/13). Jeffrey Moeller (6/14). All those departed in the attacks in Damascus, Syria, and all victims of natural disasters.

MANY YEARS to **Fr. Vasily** (Permiakov) who was elected as *Bishop of San Francisco and the Diocese of the West*, by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the OCA this past week at the All-American Council. Please keep Fr. Vasily in your prayers, that God may preserve and protect him and give him strength as he prepares for his ordination and enthronement in August. *AXIOS!*

Christ left no written statement of His teaching, nor did the apostles set about drawing up a creed at first. Instead, as soon as they received power at the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, **they began to bear witness to Christ**, to His death and resurrection. Those who believed the testimony of the apostles were baptized and received the Holy Spirit.... Through the testimony of the apostles, new communities and congregations arose everywhere....

The Church is called *ecclesia* ... meaning *an assembly of people*.... The original distinguishing feature of the Church, implied in its very name, is that of **assembling in one place as the Lord's own people**. Wherever the first Christians met, there was the Church or the assembly of the people of God. **In this coming together the Christians encountered the Christ in whom they believed**. They experienced this encounter in a special way in the Eucharist ... Thus it was a joyous service of thanksgiving—this is the meaning of the Greek word *eucharistia*....

Not even in our day is the Christian faith a philosophy or an ideology; **it is an encounter with Christ**. The same three things — faith, *ecclesia* and *eucharistia* — still lead to this encounter. Together they are a framework instituted by God, through which the new life of Christ is given to the world.

– Abp Paul of Finland, *The Faith We Hold* (SVS Press, 1980), 11-12.

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.