ST. HERMAN OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Welcome Home! We are glad you are with us today.
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March 25, 2026 – 5th Sunday of Great Lent. *St Mary of Egypt.*

If you are new to the Orthodox Faith, please read the Announcement concerning the Date of Pascha (Easter).

Sun March 29, 9am – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship
Tues March 31, 6pm – Choir Rehearsal
Wed April 1, 6pm – Presanctified Divine Liturgy, *hosting area parishes*.

Fri April 3, **7pm** – Compline & Canon for the Raising of Lazarus
Sat April 4, 9am – *Lazarus Saturday* – Divine Liturgy.
Sat April 4, 4pm – *Palm Sunday Eve* – Festal Great Vespers & Litya
Sun April 5, 9am – *Palm Sunday* – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship.

HOLY WEEK & PASCHA SCHEDULE

April 6, Holy Mon, 9am – Presanctified @ Ss Const & Helen
April 6, Holy Mon, 7pm – Bridegroom Matins

April 7, Holy Tues, 9am – Presanctified @ Ss Const & Helen *(FrJ serving)*
April 7, Holy Tues, 7pm – Bridegroom Matins

April 8, Holy Wed, 9am – Presanctified Here *(w/ area clergy)*
April 8, Holy Wed, 6pm – **Holy Unction**

April 9, Holy Thurs, 9am – *The Mystical Supper.* Vesperal Liturgy
April 9, Holy Thurs, 7pm – Matins of the Passion (12 Gospels)

April 10, Good Fri, 9am – Royal Hours. *(Tomb preparation to follow)*
April 10, Good Fri, 3pm – Burial Vespers
April 10, Good Fri, 7pm – Holy Sat Matins. *Procession with the tomb.*

April 11, **Holy Sat, 9am** – Vesperal Liturgy. *The "First Liturgy of Pascha". Christ's victory over death, the Old Testament Prophesies of the Resurrection, and the festive changing of colors.*

GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA: Sat April 11, 10pm – *Nocturnes, Procession, Paschal Matins & Divine Liturgy, followed by Blessing of Baskets and Paschal Fellowship.*

Hymns of the Day

For the Resurrection (Tone 1)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, / while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: / "Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom! // Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!"

For St Mary of Egypt (Tone 8)

The image of God was truly preserved in you, O Mother, / for you took up the Cross and followed Christ. / By so doing, you taught us to disregard the flesh for it passes away; / but to care instead for the soul, for it is immortal. // Therefore your spirit, O holy Mother Mary, rejoices with the angels.

Glory... St Mary of Egypt (Tone 3)

Having been a sinful woman, / you became through repentance a bride of Christ. / Having attained angelic life, / you defeated demons with the weapon of the Cross. // Therefore, O most glorious Mary, you are a bride of the Kingdom.

Now & ever ... To the Mother of God (Tone 6)

Protection of Christians never failing, / Mediatress before the Creator, ever constant. / Do not despise the voice of prayer of sinners, / but in your goodness come to help us who faithfully call upon you. / Hasten to entreat, hurry to pray, O Theotokos, // interceding always for those who honor you.

Today's Scripture

Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14

Brethren: Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Gospel: 10:32-45

At that time, Jesus took the twelve aside again and began to tell them the things that would happen to Him: "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit on Him, and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again."

Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask." And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" They said to Him, "Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They said to Him, "We are able." So Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared."

And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John. But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Prayers

The newly-departed: Patriarch Ilia of Georgia (3/17) Archbishop Seraphim (Sigrist) (2/7). Fr Theodore Mozes (3/9). John Susko (2/14). Olga Oscavich (2/23).
For health of: Abp. Nathaniel, Abp. Alexander, Abp. Benjamin, Pani Anna Marie Slovesko, Mat. Elizabeth Meyer, Bernard Kusior, Nina Fatula, Gloria Spitko, Jessica Sullivan and her infant Lucas, Richard Kawood. ***On hospice:*** Vera Eckert (mother of Kathy Wanenchak).
For our Catechumens: Bradley Bosch, Brian Craig.

Announcements

** If you are new to the Orthodox Faith, please note that our "Easter" (Pascha) celebration is one week later than the Catholic/Protestant date this year. Sunday April 6 is our Palm Sunday; Sunday April 12 is our Pascha. And our Paschal celebration (including Divine Liturgy) is in the middle of the night, beginning Sat April 11 at 10pm (there is no Liturgy at the usual Sunday Morning time that day).

We are sorry but our Prosphora teaching project will need to be rescheduled again due to a conflict in Mat. Alexandra's schedule.

Pascha Flowers – Please consider donating to offset the cost, in addition to your regular stewardship. Any amount is welcome. Please write *who you are praying for* on the envelope (either in thanksgiving for the living, or in memory of the departed).

All confessions should be finished by Unction on Holy Wednesday. At the beginning of the second half of Holy Week, the time for repentance comes to a end, and our focus shifts exclusively to Our Lord's Passion and His journey to the Cross. If this is difficult for you or for someone you know, please talk to me ASAP. Exceptions of course are made for those traveling from out of town, sick or shut-in, college students, etc.

Please remember to support our SCRIP program! Many of the stores and restaurants you *already shop at* are available – buy a gift card and spend it at the store just like your own cash, but in the process, St Herman's receives a percentage. It's a *very* easy way to support the parish. See Tina or Marie during coffee hour for more information.

If you are able to help mow the lawn a few times during the Spring and Summer months, please see the calendar downstairs on the bulletin board. Many hands make light work!

Attendance

Sat Feb 28 Liturgy: 10 *(St Theodore)*
Sun Mar 1 Liturgy: 33 adults, 2 children (Communion: 21 adults, 1 children)
Wed Mar 4 Presanctified: 20
Sun Mar 8 Liturgy: 26 adults, 2 children

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, please reach out to Fr. John at any time. *We love you and 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 are ***prepared*** *to receive it (through* ***prayer****,* ***fasting****, and a recent* ***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, as they are able.*