ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. HERMAN OF ALASKA

sthermanshillington.org

133 West Broad Street
Shillington, PA 19607
610-775-4461

Fr. John Black, rector
johnmblack@gmail.com

Welcome Home! We are glad you are with us today.
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June 28, 2026 – 4th Sunday After Pentecost

We continue the Apostles' Fast, through EOD Sunday.
The fast is broken with Monday's Liturgy for Ss Peter & Paul.

*Sat June 27, 2-4pm – **Know-Your-Faith Class***
Sat June 27, 4pm – Great Vespers & confessions
Sun June 28, 9am – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship
*followed by **Vespers** for the Feast of **Ss. Peter & Paul***
Mon June 29, 9am –Liturgy for Ss. Peter & Paul
Tues June 30, 9:30am – Divine Liturgy for the Synaxis of the Apostles *at Holy Apostles Orthodox Church, 7111 Wertzville Rd, Mechanicsburg, PA*

Sun June 28 – Sat July 4: St Tikhon's Summer Camp

Sat July 4, 4pm – Great Vespers & confessions
Sun July 5, 9am – Divine Liturgy & fellowship
Tues July 7, 3:15pm – **Helping Harvest** Food Distribution at Ss C&H

Sat July 11, 4pm – Great Vespers & confessions
Sun July 12, 9am – Divine Liturgy & fellowship. **Prosphora Workshop**.
Tues July 14, 6pm – (SsC&H) Vesperal Liturgy for Ss Julitta & Cyricus *at Ss. Constantine & Helen (Fr John serving)*

Looking ahead: Sun July 19: Knoebel's Picnic, sponsored by the Harrisburg Chapter of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America.

Hymns of the Day

Troparion for the 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 the world // great mercy.

Troparion for St. Herman (Tone 4, Valaam melody)

O blessed Father Herman of Alaska, / North Star of Christ's holy Church, / the light of your holy life and great deeds / guides those who follow the Orthodox way. / Together we lift high the Holy Cross / you planted firmly in America. / Let all behold and glorify Jesus Christ, // singing His holy Resurrection.

(Glory) Kontakion for the 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 unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

(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: 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.

Announcements

Mary's Shelter is seeking donations of gently-worn shoes (or even new shoes), for any age. Shoes can be dropped off at Mary's Shelter, 615 Kenhorst Blvd, Reading.

Reading Hospital is seeking daytime volunteers for its "No One Dies Alone" program to remain at bedside with patients at end-of-life. "Volunteers receive comprehensive training and are asked only to offer their time and presence by sitting quietly with patients, reading to them, or simply offering a hand to hold." Volunteers must be 18 and submit to a background check. Please let Fr John know if you are interested.

We are continuing our collection for Jess Sullivan who is battling cancer. Cash or Amazon gift cards are the most useful. See Kathy Wanenchak or Marina Long (or write "For Jessica" on a blank envelope).

The Shillington / Governor Mifflin area celebrates the 50th anniversary of *Community Days*, Fri June 26 – Sat July 4, located at Governor Mifflin Intermediate School. For more information, see communitydays.com.

Prayers

The newly-departed: John Frimenko (5/6).

For health of: Abp. Nathaniel, Abp. Alexander, Abp. Benjamin, Pani Anna Marie Slovesko, Mat. Mary Reynolds, Bernard Kusior, Nina Fatula, Gloria Spitko, Jessica (Philothea) Sullivan & infant Lucas, Richard Kawood, Peggy Hay.

For our Catechumens: Bradley Bosch, Brian Craig, Zaden Mershon.

For our diocese's seminarians and families: Subdeacon Jacob & Mariana Kurtz (Luka, Noah, & Magdalena), Reader Alexander Koropsak, Nicholas & Abigail Sheridan.

Attendance

Sun May 24 Liturgy: 44 (37 A, 7 C)
Sun May 31 Liturgy: 32 (27 A, 5 C)
Sun Jun 7 Liturgy: 28
Sat June 13 Vespers: 9
Sun Jun 14 Liturgy: 29 (28 A, 1 C)
Sat June 20 Vespers: 7
Sun Jun 21 Liturgy:
Tues June 23 Vespers: 5

Social Hour & Church Cleanup Schedule

	Social Hour	Church Clean-up
July 5	Haven Black & Brad Bosch	Marie Drosdak & John Waselus
July 12	Peggy Hay & Traci Weinstein	Tina Gurnavage & Stephanie Drosdak
July 19	Kathy Wanenchak & Stephanie Selis	John Lorchak & Phyllis Kawood
July 26	Elaine Dougherty & Karin Holm	Marie Drosdak & Traci Weinstein

Aug 1 - 14: Dormition Fast

Aug 2	Tina Gurnavage & Marcia Lutz	Russ & Peggy Hay
Aug 9	Vicky McDonnell & Phyllis Kawood	Kyle & Daria Teter
Aug 16	Marie Drosdak & Stephanie Drosdak	Eugene & Kathy Wanenchak
Aug 23	Karen Sichak & Becky Kauffman	Marie Drosdak & John Waselus
Aug 30	Daria Teter & Marina Long	Brad & Becky Kauffman

I am not worthy, Master and Lord, that Thou shouldst enter under the roof of my soul;[1] yet inasmuch as Thou desirest to live in me as the lover of men, I approach with boldness. Thou hast commanded: **Let the doors be opened which Thou Thyself alone hast made** and Thou shalt enter with Thy love for men just as Thou art. Thou shalt enter and enlighten my darkened reasoning. I believe that Thou wilt do this.

For Thou didst not cast away the prostitute who came to Thee with tears, neither didst Thou turn away the tax-collector who repented, nor didst Thou reject the thief who acknowledged Thy kingdom, nor didst Thou forsake the repentant persecutor, the Apostle Paul, even as he was.[2] But all who came to Thee in repentance Thou didst unite to the ranks of Thy friends,[3] who alone art blessed forever, now and unto the endless ages. Amen.

– a Prayer Before Communion, of St John Chrysostom

[1] Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10. [2] Acts of the Apostles 9:1-31. [3] John 15:14-15.

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.*

OMIT

Our Diocesan Seminarians

We are blessed to have 3 seminarians from our sister parishes living and studying at our seminaries. It is a difficult life; spiritually, logistically, and financially. Seminarians usually do not have outside employment due to the intensity of their studies and other responsibilities, and many seminarian families struggle to make ends meet. We can help them with monetary gifts or gift cards sent directly to them. Even if you are unable, please add them to your daily prayers. *May God grant them good strength and many blessed years!*

Nicholas and Abigail Sheridan
St. Vladimir's Seminary
575 Scarsdale Rd, Yonkers, NY 10707
Home Parish: St Herman's, Gradyville

Rdr. Alexander Koropsak
St. Vladimir's Seminary
575 Scarsdale Rd, Yonkers, NY 10707
Home Parish: Holy Apostles, Mechanicsburg

Sdn. Jacob and Mariana Kurtz
St. Tikhon's Seminary
P.O. Box 130, South Canaan, PA 18459
Children: Luka, Noah, & Magdalena
Home Parish: Holy Apostles, Mechanicsburg

The parish that receives converts must be willing to examine whether it is actually a community. It cannot merely be a congregation of people doing parallel individual piety in the same building. It cannot be an ethnic country club with icons. If there is no coffee, no shared meals, no events, no openness, no genuine mutual knowledge among parishioners (or only among some and not others) — if there is nothing the Liturgy can spill into — then the convert who was promised a village will find only a beautiful service and a parking lot. Converts who arrive with energy and longing to belong cannot be left standing idle at the edge of parish life, watching from a distance while an established inner circle does everything. Somewhere a trashcan needs emptying. A dish to wash. An elderly person to give a ride to. A task that is genuinely theirs. Not busywork and not a test of commitment. Real physical participation is how belonging is built, and belonging cannot be built in a vacuum.

This means longstanding parishioners need to think concretely and deliberately on how to integrate new converts. Doing coffee hour? Invite that new convert couple to bring the napkins and silverware. Parish work day? Say something to that newly chrismated guy with a truck... These are not administrative details. They are the architecture of community. They are the slots into which a new person or family can step in and, in stepping, become someone the parish knows and needs. A convert who has been given a job, however small, has been given a place. A convert left without one will eventually stop coming, quietly, and no one will quite know why.

– Martin Myers, “On Orthodox Formation & Convert Burnout”, *Fractology*, June 1, 2026.