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.
Find a parish close to you: orthodoxyinamerica.org
Interested in the Orthodox Faith? orthodoxintro.org

July 19, 2026 – 7th Sunday After Pentecost
Fathers of the 1st – 6th Ecumenical Councils

Sat July 18, 4pm – Great Vespers & confessions

Sun July 19, 9am – Divine Liturgy & fellowship. Memorial Service *(Panikhida)* for Vera (Ressetar) Bortniak, Mat. Stephanie's mother.

Later this afternoon: Knoebel's Picnic, Knoebel's Amusement Park, Elysburg, PA. Arrive any time after Liturgy. Free dinner at Pavilion "B" at 6pm. Sponsored by the Harrisburg FOCA.

Wed July 22, 9am – Divine Liturgy for St Mary Magdalene & St Marcella of Chios *(here at St Herman's, Fr Emmanuel serving)*

From Friday 7/24 – Monday 7/27, Fr John will be away. Call Fr John first for any pastoral emergencies. If unreachable, call Fr Theodore Petrides at 570-713-7095.

Sat July 25, 4pm – **No Vespers**

Sun July 26, 9am – Divine Liturgy & fellowship (Fr Edward Hughes)

The Dormition Fast begins August 1 and ends with the Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God, on August 15.

Sat Aug 1, 4pm – Great Vespers & confessions

Sun Aug 2, 9am – Divine Liturgy & fellowship

Hymns of the Day

Troparion for the Resurrection (Tone 6)

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb; / the guards became as dead men. / Mary stood by Thy grave, / seeking Thy most pure body. / Thou didst capture hell / not being tempted by it. / Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. // O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee.

Troparion for the Fathers of the Councils (Tone 8)

Most glorious art Thou, O Christ our God! / Thou hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth! / Through them Thou hast guided us to the True Faith! // O greatly compassionate One, glory to Thee!

Kontakion for the Resurrection (Tone 6)

When Christ God, the Giver of Life, / raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand, / He bestowed resurrection on the human race. // He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

(Glory) Kontakion for the Fathers of the Councils (Tone 8)

The Apostles' preaching and the Fathers' doctrines have established one Faith for the Church. / Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from heavenly theology, // It defines and glorifies the great mystery of Orthodoxy.

(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 15:1-7

Brethren: We who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification. For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me." For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.

Gospel: Matthew 9:27-35

At that time, as Jesus passed by, two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying, "Son of David, have mercy on us!" And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith let it be to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, saying, "See that no one knows it." But when they had departed, they spread the news about Him in all that country.

As they went out, behold, they brought to Him a man, mute and demon-possessed. And when the demon was cast out, the mute spoke. And the multitudes marveled, saying, "It was never seen like this in Israel!" But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the ruler of the demons."

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

Prayers

The newly-departed: Fr Alexandar Haig (6/25). John Frimenko (5/6).
The departed: Vera (Ressetar) Bortniak (7/21/2025).

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

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 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

Announcements

THANK YOU to those who stayed after Coffee Hour last week for our Prosphora Workshop! A sign-up sheet will soon be posted downstairs on the bulletin board for rotating volunteer bakers. If you missed it and would like to learn more, please see Fr John or Mat. Alexandra.

Mary's Shelter is seeking donations of gently-worn (or new) shoes, for any age. A collection box is now in the Narthex. *The last day to donate here is Sunday August 2.*

"I fear to approach Holy Communion, for I am unworthy; yet I tremble even more at the thought of being left without it and perishing."
– St Ephrem the Syrian

"You came into the world to save sinners; therefore You came to save Me also? You came to find and to save him who was lost; therefore You came to seek me too, for I am one of the lost. O Lord, O my God and Creator! I should have come to You as a transgressor of Your law. I should have fallen at Your feet, cast myself down before You, humbly begging forgiveness, pleading with You and craving Your mercy. But You Yourself have come to me, wretched and good-for-nothing servant that I am; my Lord has come to me, His enemy and apostate; my Master has come and has bestowed his love of mankind upon me. Listen my soul: God has come to us."

– St. Tikhon of Zadonsk, *A Treasury of Russian Spirituality Vol. II* (Nordland Publishing Co.), 216.

Social Hour & Church Cleanup Schedule

	Social Hour	**Church Clean-up**
July 5	Tina Gurnavage & Marcia Lutz	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	Haven Black, Brad Bosch, Christina Monarek	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

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.*