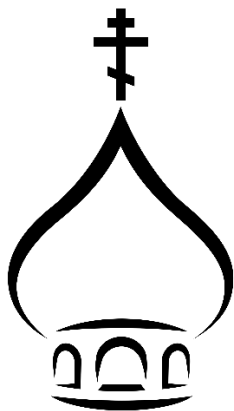


Great Vespers

Saturday, December 12, 2020

Sunday of the Holy Forefathers

Repose of Ven. Herman of Alaska, Wonderworker of All America



SAINT NICHOLAS
RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



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Reverend Matthew Joyner, Rector
Cell: 570-468-2261
Email: nkyorthodox@gmail.com

Very Reverend James Mason, Attached

Reverend Timothy Hasenecz, Attached

Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo

Mr. Bryan Distefano, Parish Council President

Reader Nicholas Lezinsky, Choir Director

Jennifer Bzik, Administrative Assistant
Email: assistant4stnicholas@outlook.com

Note to our Guests and Friends Visiting St. Nicholas:

We offer a most sincere and heart-felt welcome to St. Nicholas Church! Please be advised that according to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves to receive the Holy Sacrament.

(Please note - Information to be included in next Sunday's bulletin must be submitted by noon on Thursday. Thank you! ~ Jennifer N. Bzik)

980 Bridle Path Road | Bethlehem, PA 18017-3120 | T: 610-867-0402
stnicholasoca.org

Great Vespers

Saturday, December 12, 2020

Sunday of the Holy Forefathers

Rest of Ven. Herman of Alaska, Wonderworker of All America

Lord, I Call

(Tone 1) Lord I call upon Thee, hear me! Hear me, O Lord! Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me! Receive the voice of my prayer, when I call upon Thee, hear me O Lord! Let my prayer arise, in Thy sight as incense, and let the lifting up of my hands, be an evening sacrifice, hear me O Lord!

(10) *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy Name.*

Tone 2 *(for the Resurrection)*

Come, let us worship the Word of God begotten of the Father before all ages, and incarnate of the Virgin Mary! Having endured the Cross, He was buried as He Himself desired. And having risen from the dead, He saved me, an erring man.

(9) *The righteous will surround me, for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.*

Christ our Savior nailed to the Cross the bond against us, He voided it and destroyed the dominion of death. We fall down before His Resurrection on the third day.

(8) *Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

With the Archangels let us praise the Resurrection of Christ! He is our Savior, our Redeemer. He is coming with awesome glory and mighty power to judge the world which He made.

(7) *Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

Tone 8 *(for the Forefathers)* *(The Paradise of Eden)*

Today, as we celebrate the Forefathers' memory, let us the faithful praise Christ the Redeemer, Who magnified them in all the nations! He is the Lord Who does wondrous deeds, for He is powerful and mighty! Through them He has shown us the rod of His strength: she is Mary, the only pure and Virgin Maiden of God. From her Christ blossomed, bringing forth life, eternal salvation, and unending bliss for all.

(6) If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.

O Master, Thou didst deliver the holy Youths from the fire, and Daniel from the mouths of lions; Thou didst bless Abraham, Isaac, Thy servant, and Jacob, his son; Thou didst consent to become like us by being born of their seed, to be crucified and buried, in order to save our Forefathers, who fell of old. Thus Thou didst crush the bonds of death, raising with Thyself all the dead of ages past, who worship Thee, O Christ, King of the ages.

(5) For Thy Name's sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

Walking amidst the flames as in a gentle shower of rain, the godly Youths exulted in the dew of the Spirit. By this they mystically prefigured the Trinity and Christ's incarnation. Wise through faith, they quenched the power of fire. So also the righteous Daniel stopped the mouths of lions. Through their intercessions we beseech Thee, O Savior and Lover of man: Deliver us from the unquenchable and eternal fire, and make us worthy of Thy heavenly Kingdom!

(4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

Standing in a furnace of flaming fire as though in dew, the Holy Youths mystically prefigured Thy coming from a Virgin, by which we are illumined but not consumed. So also the righteous Daniel, glorious among the Prophets, clearly revealed Thy divine Second Coming when he cried out: "I saw thrones set up,

and the Judge was seated, and the river of fire flowed before Him." By their intercessions save us from this fire, O Christ our Master!

(3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

Tone 2 *(for St. Herman) (With what crowns)*

With what wreaths shall we crown the venerable Herman, leader of the Aleuts and apostle of Orthodoxy? He left his native land and went to an untamed people to proclaim Christ and the Orthodox faith. He was neither afraid nor terrified of the Enemy's darkness, but aided by divine grace, he enlightened a nation and led it to Christ, Who has great mercy.

(2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

With what wreaths shall we crown the venerable Herman, leader of the Aleuts and apostle of Orthodoxy? He received the Valaam leavening of the Holy Spirit and preached the Gospel to the Aleuts in word and deed, disregarding, along with the flesh, all that is of the flesh. With tears and prayers, with suffering and with prolonged fasting, and with a most immortal love for the people, he led them to Christ, Who has great mercy.

(1) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

With what wreaths shall we crown the venerable Herman, leader of the Aleuts and apostle of Orthodoxy? Along with the struggle in the wilderness and the feat of holiness, he accomplished the work of an apostle of Orthodoxy. Laboring greatly, he saved the native peoples from the Evil One's delusion, receiving the grace of working wonders, quenching the fires and turning back assaults of the waters. Having reached the end, he passed over to Christ, Who has great mercy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Tone 5 *(for St. Herman)*

Thou didst send forth Thine Apostles, O Lord, to proclaim the Gospel to all creation, and in the latter times Thou didst send out this man to bring Orthodoxy to the Aleutian Islands. And having sown there the seed with grace, he harvested abundantly a field of fruitfulness, which remains, even till now, prospering in the Lord. Therefore we pray to thee, our venerable Father Herman: Do not cease through thy prayers to care for thy people, and for all of us who lovingly celebrate thine all-honorable memory!

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 2 *(Theotokion - Dogmatikon)*

The shadow of the Law passed when grace came; as the Bush burned, yet was not consumed, so the Virgin gave birth, yet remained a Virgin. The Righteous Sun has risen instead of a pillar of flame. Instead of Moses, Christ, the Salvation of our souls.

Aposticha

Tone 2 *(for the Resurrection)*

Thy Resurrection, O Christ our Savior, has enlightened the whole universe, recalling Thy creation. Glory to Thee, O almighty Lord!

The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!

By the Tree Thou didst destroy the curse of the Tree, O Savior. By Thy burial Thou didst mortify the majesty of death. Thou hast enlightened our race by Thy Resurrection. O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!

For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.

When Thou wast seen nailed to the Cross, O Christ, Thou didst restore the beauty of Thy creatures. The soldiers showed their inhumanity when they pierced Thy side with a spear. The Hebrews, not knowing Thy power, asked that

Thy tomb might be sealed, but through the mercy of Thy compassion, Thou didst accept the tomb and didst rise on the third day! O Lord, glory to Thee!

Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!

O Christ, the Giver of life, for the sake of the dead Thou didst voluntarily endure death, descending into hell as the Mighty One to save those who awaited Thy coming, granting them the life of paradise instead of hell. Grant also to us who glorify Thy Resurrection on the third day cleansing of our sins and great mercy!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Tone 1 *(for St. Herman)*

O Holy Father, we remember today the great teachers and ascetics, because of thy deeds and example. Thy wondrous life confounded the Enemy. Thou didst converse with the Angels. Together with them, pray for the salvation of our souls!

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 3 *(for the Forefathers, by Germanus)*

Come all who love the feast, let us praise in psalms the assembly of the Forefathers: Adam, our first Father, Enoch, Noah, Melchizedek, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; and those who came after the Law: Moses, Aaron, Joshua, Samuel and David, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Daniel, and with them the Twelve Prophets: Elijah, Elisha, and all the rest, Zachariah and John the Baptist: all those who proclaimed Christ, the Life and Resurrection of the human race!

Troparia

Tone 2 Troparion (*Resurrection*)

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: "O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!"

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

Tone 7 Troparion (*St. Herman*)

O joyful North Star of the Church of Christ, guiding all men to the Heavenly Kingdom, teacher and apostle of the True Faith, intercessor and defender of the oppressed, adornment of the Orthodox Church in America: Blessed Father Herman of Alaska, pray to our Lord Jesus Christ for the salvation of our souls!

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 2 Troparion (*Forefathers*)

Through faith Thou didst justify the Forefathers, betrothing through them the Church of the gentiles. These saints exult in glory, for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit: she who bore Thee without seed. So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!

Physician of our souls and bodies, Who has sent Your only-begotten Son to heal every sickness and infirmity, visit and heal us, Your Servants, from all physical and spiritual ailments, through the grace of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant to us patience in this sickness, strength of body, and recovery of health. Lord, You have taught us through Your Word to pray for each other that we may be healed. For You are the source of healing, and to You we give glory; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers at the Divine Liturgy for the Health of the Servants of God:

Metropolitan Herman

Igumen David Lewis

Archpriests: Thomas Edwards, John Perich, Rodion Pfeifer, James Mason, Claude Vinyard, Dimitri Oselinsky, David Shewczyk, Dennis Swenki, James Weremedic

Priests: Matthew Joyner, Ian Shipley, John Nightingale

Matushki: Ashley Joyner, Marie Mason, Johanna Bohush, Evelyn Edwards, Paraskeva Vansuch, Myra Kovalak, Gloria Martin, Maryann Oselinsky, Priscilla Shipley, Katia Vansuch, Lisa Weremedic

Servants: Bethany Bruder, Mary Brzuchalski, Helen Cotirgasanu, Roberta Cusick, Val Danchenko, David Distefano, Christopher Felix, Olga Frimenko, Patricia G. Fu, David Gowarty, Patricia Grammes, Walter Grigoruk, Rachel Hardesty, Nicholas Hazzard, Jonathan Hontz, Michael H. Isbansky, Sarah Jubinski, Pauline Kasick, Mary K. Koretski, Stephanie Koretski, David Lezinsky, Judy Lezinsky, Olga Maksimova, Peter Marsh, Lanelle Mikolaitis, Catherine Miller, Nicolae & Doina Marian, Mary Orzolek, Kylie Pinho, Ryan Pinkowicz, Kiera Pheiffer, Gordon Roberts, Clara Roman, Victoria Ross, Mary Ruzila, Nancy A. Sabol, Robert Schainfeld, Cate Shea, Julia Smith, Julia G. Smolenski, Mary Strohecker, Ola Tatusko, Irene Witanek

Child of God: Emily Estrin

Please remember them and all our homebound and nursing home parishioners in your daily intercessory prayers.