

Sunday of the Forefathers of Christ & Herman of Alaska, Enlightener of the Aleuts

December 13, 2009

Saintly Notes

**St. Herman of Alaska, Enlightener of the Aleuts
(December 13)**

Herman of Alaska was a Russian Orthodox monk from Valaam Monastery in Russia who traveled with eight other monks in 1793 to bring the Gospel to the native Aleuts and Eskimos in the Aleutian Islands.

As part of the Russian colonization of the Americas, Russians had been exploring and trading there since at least 1740. Thus, he marks the first arrival of Orthodox Christian missionaries in North America. He built a school for the Aleutians, and he often defended them from the injustices and exploitation of the Russian traders. He was known to them as *Apa* which means "Grandfather." He lived most of his life as the sole resident of Spruce Island, a tiny wooded island near Kodiak Island.

St. Herman's Orthodox Theological Seminary (Kodiak, Alaska) is named in his honor. A portion of his relics are enshrined at the St. Ignatius Chapel at the Antiochian Village, where he is regarded as one of their patron saints.

(orthodoxwiki.org)



Sunday of the Forefathers of Christ & Herman of Alaska, Enlightener of the Aleuts

All Saints Orthodox Church, Raleigh NC
(www.allsaintsnc.org)
919-859-1332

The V. Rev. Nicholas R. A. Sorensen, Archpriest
The Rev. Philip Pelikan, Priest
The Rev. David Keim, Deacon

December 13, 2009

This Week's Schedule

Today: 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy;
1:00p SOYO Bowling
Monday: Church Office Closed
Tuesday: 7:00p Practical Orthodox Living Series
Wednesday: 9:15a Third Hour Prayers; 6:30p Vespers
Friday: 6:30p Advent Paraklesis
Saturday: 5:30p Great Vespers
Sunday: 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy

Third Antiphon

Troparion of the Resurrection
Tone 2

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death,
O Thou deathless and immortal One, then
Thou didst destroy Hell with Thy Godly
power. And when Thou didst raise the dead
from beneath the earth, all the Powers of
Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ,
Thou giver of Life, glory to Thee.

Entrance Hymn

Come, let us worship . . . Alleluia.

Troparion
for the Resurrection—Tone 2

See above.

Troparion

for the Forefathers—Tone 2

Thou hast justified by faith the ancient
Forefathers, and through them Thou hast
gone before and betrothed unto Thyself the
Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints,
therefore, take pride in glory; for from their
seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and she it
was who gave birth to Thee without seed.
Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ
God, save our souls.

Troparion

for St. Herman—Tone 4

Blessed ascetic of the northern wilds and
gracious intercessor for the whole world,
teacher of the Orthodox Faith, good
instructor of piety, adornment of Alaska and
joy of all America, holy Father Herman,
pray to Christ God that He save our souls.

Troparion

of All Saints—Tone 4

As with fine porphyry and royal purple Thy
Church has been adorned with Thy martyr's
blood shed throughout all the world. She
cries to Thee, O Christ God, send down Thy
bounties on Thy people, grant peace to Thy
habitation and great mercy to our souls.

Kontakion

of Preparation for Christ's Nativity
Tone 3

The Virgin cometh today to the cave to give
birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word eternal.
Therefore, rejoice, O earth, at the message;
with the angels and shepherds give glory to
Him who shall appear by His own will as a
young child, He who is from eternity God.

The Trisagion

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal . . .

Scripture

for today and next Sunday

Today: (See insert)

Next Sunday:

Epistle: Heb. 11:9–10, 32–40

Gospel: Matt. 1:1–25

Megalynarion—Tone 8

It is truly meet and right . . .

Communion Hymn

Tone 8

Praise the Lord . . . Alleluia.

Post-Communion Hymn

We have seen the true light . . .

Parish Notes

Altar Servers Today

Ethan Haynes, Rim Gibrealfa, John Pridgen,
Jonah Sieck, Michael Fogg, Justin Fogg.

Special Attention

- **Estimated Giving Forms.**



This Sunday and next Sunday, we will
be distributing Estimated Giving
Forms (just in case you did not get
one) and providing a special
collection plate for you to submit them
at the back of the Nave following the
Divine Liturgy.



May God bless you for your
generosity and for your offering of
Thanksgiving to God.

- **December Calendars.** December
calendars are available on the narthex
table, as well as on our church
website www.allsaintsnc.org. If you
go to the website you will find the
calendar for the month by clicking on
the link entitled "Parish Hall." At this
link you will also find "Fasting
Guidelines" and "Coffee Hour
Schedule."
- **New Temple Construction Update.**
On our church website
www.allsaintsnc.org you will find
information about our building project
and the most current timetable for
completion. Photos are also viewable.
- **The Sacrament of Confession.**
Please note that the sacrament of
confession is available at All Saints by
appointment only. Please call the
church office or email Fr. Nicholas at
orthorider.nras@gmail.com.
- **Christmas Day Service.** The Divine
Liturgy for the Nativity will be
celebrated at 9:00am on Christmas
Day, preceded by the Nativity Orthros
at 8:00am. As in years past, our
Church School students will be
presenting a Christmas Message
following the service. Please plan to
attend this service as well as all the
special services on Christmas week.
- **Sermons at All Saints.** Please note
that many of the sermons delivered at
All Saints are available in the Narthex.
Take, read, and share.
- **Please Note the Epiphany House
Blessing Sign-Up Sheets on the
Wall Opposite the Doors to the
Parish Hall.**

Today's Epistle and Gospel Readings

Prokeimenon:

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.

For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.

†Epistle: Col. 3:4–11 (RSV)

Brethren, when Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

†Gospel: Luke 14:16–24 (RSV)

The Lord spoke this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had

been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

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**A Word
from Our Fathers**

“Often when someone throws a rock at a dog, rather than rushing at the person who threw the stone, the dog will run and bite the stone. We do the same thing. The tempter [i.e. the evil one] uses someone else to tempt us, either in word or deed, and, rather than deal with the tempter that threw the stone, we bite the rock—our fellow man—that the hater of the good used against us.”

(Blessed Elder Amphilochios of Patmos)

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