



St. Herman of Alaska Eastern Orthodox Church

5107 Darrow Road
Hudson, OH 44236

330 608-8896

"An Orthodox Presence in Northeastern Summit County"

www.sainthermanchurch.org



Important This Week

Sunday, 18Oct, **10AM** Divine Liturgy

Thursday, 22Oct, **7PM** Adult Study / Friday, 23Oct, **7PM** Enquirer's Class

Saturday, 24Oct, **10AM** Soul Saturday Liturgy, **6PM** Vespers

18Oct26

20th Sunday After Pentecost

Give Me Strength, Lord!

Very often, when we find ourselves feeling unequal to a particular task, we'll offer a short prayer, "Lord, give me strength."

In these times, I wonder if that prayer is enough....

I just read an article from a "like" link on Facebook from a guy who is a minister (i.e. NOT Orthodox), but who is nonetheless immersed in his vocation, and wanting to live according to what he's preached for a long time. But in his own life, there was strife, turmoil, disease and sickness, failure, troubles of all kinds, to the point of his being himself broken. And it brought him to the realization that in fact the oft used platitude, "God won't give you more than you can handle," is in fact a lie. He goes to prove the non-scriptural nature of this platitude. Indeed, there is in Scripture the following from the pen of Saint Paul: "God is faithful. He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear." (1Cor 10:13) But this is not about spiritual burdens, it's about temptation! What happens when literally everything in our lives get turned upside down, and we don't

know where to turn? It is a times like this that we as priests don't necessarily have the right words to offer. And yet, we must offer what we can. What is that?

Saint Paul answers the question of "burdens beyond our ability" later, in Second Corinthians, when he says, "We do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life." (2Cor 8)

Saint Paul sounds defeated there, I think. But his teaching doesn't stop here. He continues. "Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God, who raises the dead." (2Cor 9)

God allows burdens to come our way. Some are light. Some are heavy. Never forget that our Lord could not bear the physical burden of His cross as He went to Golgotha. "But when they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. Him they compelled to bear His cross." (Mat 27:32) And so a servant, one whom He had created, helped Jesus bear that physical

burden to the place where He would give up His life.

If Jesus as God is able to accept the help of His creation to overcome a burden in the flesh, we then too must be ready to accept the help of God to bear our burdens in the spirit! There will be times when we aren't able to carry them alone.

If God the Son vouchsafed to lean on us, His creation, to help Him carry a physical burden too hard for Him to bear, will He not be standing by to help us carry our spiritual burdens when they become too hard for us? Yes, there will be times when we have been burdened beyond our ability. There is no sin, but rather only virtue, in seeking help! God's help can come in many ways, and most of them (after the burden is removed) will appear to us to have been miraculous! But let us never reject God's help, in whatever form it may be offered.

He will be faithful to give us the strength we need to go as far as we can and then to rely on His help.

Give us the strength to do both, Lord!

Prayer Requests

Health: Met Joseph,
Pat, Richard, Judy,
Sue, Nora

Departed: Matushka
Elizabeth, Fr. Jerome

Weekly Statistics

Saturday	Vespers	10Oct	06 faithful	45views
Sunday	Liturgy	11Oct	41 faithful	30views
Thursday	AdultStdy	15Oct	05 faithful	

In the News

Videos of services can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfAOK1CLMmH - FIDe8SoWOWw>

We've continuing the Adult Study and Enquirer's Classes
each Thursday and Friday!!

Adult Sessions are on Thursdays at 7PM.

Enquirer's meet on Fridays at 7PM.

See y'all then!

2027 Church Calendars are available in the Church Hall!!!

Bad Pun??

I made a belt out of watches, once....

It was a waist of time!



Those who are in
Hades desire only
one thing from
Christ – to live for
five minutes in
order to repent.

*(St. Paisios
the Athonite)*

Piety and Hypocrisy [Abbot Tryphon]

How easy it is to worship with all piety and correctness while standing in a service within an Orthodox temple, yet make no effort to live Orthodoxy during the rest of our week. If we are abusive towards our spouse, abrasive with a coworker, and short tempered with a neighbor, all the piety and liturgical correctness of our Sunday morning is of no value.

If we cheat on our taxes, steal pens from the office, or refuse to point out an error to a clerk who has failed to ring up an item, we will have reduced our life in Christ to no more than membership in a club. If we walk past a child who is being bullied, without intervening, we have become the bully. If we fail to call the police when we hear a neighbor pleading with an abusive husband, not wanting to get involved, we are a wife beater. If we smile at the racist joke of a coworker, we are just as guilty of racism as he.

Being a Christian is far more than adherence to a set of doctrines, or the adaptation of liturgical forms of worship and piety. To be a follower of Christ is not like joining the Elks Club, where paying your dues and attending meetings makes you a member. Taking the name of the Saviour for ourselves, and calling ourselves Christian, must mean that we imitate the Saviour's life. It must mean that others see Christ in us, each and every hour of our day.

We must be the neighborhood peacemaker, the one who is quick to forgive when wronged, the person who is always looking for ways of being in service to others. If we truly wish to be called a Christian, we must put aside hypocrisy in all its forms, and live Christ. We must work towards changing the world, just as did Saint Seraphim of Sarov, who told us that if we acquire peace in our heart, we will save a thousand around us. Justice and peace does not come with revolution, but comes when the hearts of men and women are transformed by the Holy Spirit, and this change can only begin, when we put aside all hypocrisy, and replace it with genuine, heartfelt commitment to Jesus Christ, living in imitation of the Saviour.

In today's Gospel reading, the Evangelist Luke presented the Parable of Sower. Our Lord Jesus Christ used examples from the daily life to express the heavenly and divine truths. He was able in this way to help the man of good will to understand and to accept His divine message. Even today through the Parable of the Sower He takes the example of sowing, an image which is very familiar to the farmers. He compares the seed to the word of God, the earth to men's souls and the various conditions under which one accepts or renounces the word of God in his personal life.

Once, a farmer went out to his fields to sow. He sowed in all directions, but although he sowed with skill one part of the seeds fell on the road and was trampled down by the passing men and the rest was eaten by the birds. Another fell on rocky soil, and as it grew it dried, because it had no earth for its roots to spread. Another fell on ground full with thorns and as it grew amongst the thorns, it was strangled. Finally, another fell on good ground and when it grew it produced plentiful fruit, one hundred times more.

Man has naturally implanted within him the desire to ask and learn for everything. As man will question and searches the knowledge of science and wisdom, even more he will understand how little he really knows. If we are unable to know for things which take place around us, how much more we are ignorant of those things which take place beyond this world and which are unapproachable to man's research and knowledge?

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who is the source and fountain of all wisdom and knowledge, is the only One who can reveal to the good-willing man the mysteries concerning man's salvation. He assured His Disciples that "to you has been given to learn about the truths of God's Kingdom".

These truths – the mysteries of God – it is proper to be known by only those who believe in our Savior Jesus Christ.

The word of God is always full of life. It is the source of life and strength; it is always holy and powerful. But, to bear fruit it depends on the good will of every man who listens and accepts God's words within his heart. If man, because of his evil intentions does not accept in his heart the word of God, then the Divine Grace does not give its fruits and that soul cannot be vested with the virtues of Christ.

Many are those who listen to the word of God which is spread in various ways. The Bishops, the Priests, the Preachers, the Radio and the Television spread in their own ways the word of God. Everyone listens, from the youngest to the elderly, but the question arises: "How many keep the divine words within their hearts and practice it in their daily life"?

Our Lord Jesus Christ assured us saying, that "not anyone who calls me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven, but he who does the will of my Father". It is not enough to hear nice and beautiful sermons. It is not enough to study Holy Scriptures. It is not enough to come to church every Sunday and major feast days. All these must be done, but under the basic rule that we practice God's teachings in our daily life. First practicing and secondly teaching are the two basics of Orthodox Spirituality and Life.

All those who listen with indifference the Church's voice, the devil comes and removes from his soul the words of salvation so that man will not benefit and be saved. Man, then, remains under the darkness of sin, deprived from the Divine Light and suffering from spiritual starvation. How many are those who in their life deny the Divine Teachings? How many, although hear the word of God, yet, they turn their heart towards earthly and material things, thus allowing Satan and his devils to loot the sacred words of God from their hearts?

The word of God which is treasured in Holy Scriptures have the almighty Grace of God and the Life of the Holy Spirit. The word of God has the power to change, to regenerate man's soul and then man bears the fruits of virtue and piety. The fruitfulness of the virtues is achieved only within the Church, which is the soil. Outside of the Church they are many evil paths, those of unbelieving, doubting and materialism. Outside of the Church's Life man is strangled by the worldly cares.

When the word of God is accepted by a good-willing soul, then it is completely transformed spiritually and bodily. The unbeliever makes him a believer, the man of the flesh makes him spiritual, the greedy makes him a philanthropist, the blasphemer makes him a god-fearing person, the prodigal makes him an honest man.

Thus, we must not only hear or read the word of God, but we should practice it in our daily life. The acceptance and practice of God's words bears the fruits of virtues and changes man into the living temple of the Holy Spirit.

We welcome you to our humble church, and we pray that your experience here will be spiritually rewarding, calling you back to pray with us at our next scheduled service.

St. Herman of Alaska Eastern Orthodox Church is established with the blessing of His Eminence, Metropolitan JOSEPH of New York, and is one of approximately 30 parishes or missions that are all part of the Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Diocese of the USA, Canada and Australia, Bulgarian Patriarchate.

Our worship is exclusively in English, and we use “contemporary” English translations of liturgical texts wherever possible. Singing is congregational. The Divine Liturgy is literally “the work of the people”, and as such your presence and participation in the service are essential parts of our worship. The worship of others here present is diminished when you are absent or unable to participate.

Participation in the Eucharist is important to us, and as such we ask you to recognize that it is limited to Orthodox Christians who have prepared for receiving the very Body and Blood of our Lord. Preparation includes fasting from the previous evening and recent confession. If you are not known to our priest, please let him know as you approach that you are Orthodox and prepared to receive! Please do not be offended if the priest so questions your approach—this is important, truly “our Life”!

Troparion for the Day: (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 to the world great mercy.*

Glory to the Father....

Troparion to Saint Herman: *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.*

Now and ever....

Kontakion of the Day: (Tone 3) *On this day You arose 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 Your power.*

Epistle: Gal 1:11-19 / Col 4:5-9, 14, 18

Gospel: Luke 8:5-15 / Luke 10:16-21

Monthly Financial Tracker

Aug Total Income	\$ 7,391
Aug Total Expenses	\$17,749
Aug Net Income (Loss)	(\$10,358)

Web Tracker

Web Searches	514	interacts/28 days
Blog Site Views	238,680	Total Views
Web Site Views	21,387	Total Views
Facebook Vews	2,405	views/28 days

**St. Herman of Alaska
Eastern Orthodox
Church**

**Phone: 330-608-8896
5107 Darrow Road
Hudson, OH 44236**

E-mail:
frbasilr@gmail.com

Website:
www.sainthermanchurch.org

Facebook:
[Facebook.com/StHermanHudson](https://www.facebook.com/StHermanHudson)

October 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				Protection of Theotokos Adult Study 7PM Luke 9:1-7 Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28	1 NO Enquirer's Class Eph 6:18-24 Luke 6:17-23	2 NO Vespers 1Cor 15:39-45 Luke 5:17-26
18th Sunday 2nd Luke Divine Liturgy 10AM 2Cor 9:6-11 Luke 6:31-36	4 T1 Phil 1:1-7 Luke 6:24-30	5 Phil 1:8-14 Luke 6:37-45	6 Phil 1:12-20 Luke 6:46-7:1	7 Adult Study 7PM Phil 1:20-27 Luke 7:17-30	8 Enquirer's Class 7PM Phil 1:27-2:4 Luke 7:31-35	9 Vespers/Conf 6PM 1Cor 15:58-16:3 Luke 5:27-32
19th Sunday 3rd Luke Divine Liturgy 10AM 2Cor 11:31-12:9	10 T2 Phil 2:12-16 Luke 9:18-22	11 Phil 2:17-23 Luke 9:23-27	12 Phil 2:24-30 Luke 9:44-50	13 Adult Study 7PM Phil 3:1-8 Luke 9:49-56	14 Enquirer's Class 7PM Phil 3:8-19 Luke 10:1-15	15 Vespers/Conf 6PM 2Cor 3:12-18 Luke 7:2-10
20th Sunday 4th Luke Divine Liturgy 10AM Col 4:5-9, 14, 18 Luke 10:16-21	16 T3 Phil 4:10-23 Luke 9:18-22	17 Col 1:1-2, 7-11 Luke 9:23-27	18 Col 1:18-23 Luke 9:44-50	19 Adult Study 7PM Col 1:24-29 Luke 9:49-56	20 Enquirer's Class 7PM Col 2:1-7 Luke 10:1-15	21 Soul Saturday Liturgy 10AM Vespers/Conf 6PM 2Cor 3:12-18 Luke 7:2-10
21st Sunday 5th Luke Divine Liturgy 10AM Gal 2:16-20 Luke 16:19-31	22 T4 2Tim 2:1-10 John 15:17-16:2	23 Col 2:20-3:3 Luke 11:1-10	24 Col 3:17-4:1 Luke 11:9-13	25 NO Adult Study Col 4:2-9 Luke 11:14-23	26 NO Enquirer's Class Col 4:10-18 Luke 11:23-26	27 Vespers/Conf 6PM 2Cor 5:1-10 Luke 8:16-21