



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 FULL LENTEN FASTING CONTINUES

SEE PAGE 2 FOR WEEK'S FULL SCHEDULE!

29Mar26

Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

The Path to the Resurrection

The content of the Gospel of St. John records in short order our Lord's voluntary coming to Jerusalem to finish the work that began with the event that we witnessed here in our little church just 10 days ago, His Incarnation.

Today's Gospel comes from Chapter 12 of St. John. In Chapter 9 we find our Lord giving sight to the man born blind. In Chapter 10 the Lord reveals Himself as the Good Shepherd. In Chapter 11 He comes to Bethany, where yesterday we were witnesses to His Divine revelation as He restored to life His friend Lazarus who had been dead for four days.

Tomorrow (Monday, Mark 11:12-19) the Lord causes the fig tree to wither because it bore no fruit. From there, He goes to the Temple, where He overturns the tables of the moneychangers, driving them from His Father's house.

On Tuesday (Mat 21:23-24:51) Jesus is cornered by the Pharisees who are enraged about the encounter in the Temple. They pose question after question to the Lord, Who is not pressured in providing righteous answers to each. The Lord then goes on to publicly now call out these same Pharisees, ex-

posing how they "use religion" to gain status and also to crush the people with meaningless rules. This is where He delivers His *Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees—hypocrites* speech.

On Wednesday Jesus returns to Bethany where we find Him at the house of 'Simon the leper'. Here during the supper, a woman named Mary breaks open an alabaster jar of fragrant spikenard from which she anoints the feet and the head of the Lord. This causes the disciples, especially Judas, to object suggesting that it deprived the poor. The Lord instructs them, *The poor are with you always. Me you do not have always.* After this, Judas goes to the chief priests and offers to hand over Jesus to them. Judas' betrayal is the reason we fast on Wednesdays throughout the year.

On Thursday (John 13 thru John 17) the Lord gathers the twelve in a borrowed upper room where they eat the Passover meal. Before eating, Jesus washes the feet of all twelve, taking upon Himself the duty of the lowest servant. The Lord blesses and breaks the bread. He blesses the cup. With both He institutes the Eucharist for the Church for all time. After this He

offers His "High Priestly Prayer" for His beloved Apostles, and for the Church, His Bride, forever. After this, they go to Gethsemane, where our Lord prays in agony to the Father. Thereafter, Judas betrays Him with a kiss.

On Friday (John Chapters 18 and 19) the Lord is taken for multiple trials, before Annas, before Caiaphas, before Herod, and before Pilate.

He is spat upon, His beard is plucked out, He is slapped, He is beaten, He is judged ultimately not by any of these, but by the crowd who four days earlier shouted *Hosanna! Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.* These same people now shout even more loudly, *Crucify Him. CRUCIFY HIM!!*

All of us will have the opportunity to be witnesses to all we've just described over the next several days.

To share fully in the Resurrection, it is helpful to share fully in the path and the events that our Lord walked and endured before entering the tomb.

Join us.

Walk the walk with us!

Glory to Jesus Christ!

This Week's Prayer Requests

For Health—St. Herman's: Met. Joseph, Pat, Sandra, Richard, Sam, Judy, Mitchell, Joe, Christian, Al, Sam, Fr.Dn.Basil, Nikandra, Fr.Jerome, Nora & Bob, Lori, Bill
For the Departed: Patriarchs Maxim and Neofit, Metropolitans Theodosius and Maximos, Archpriest Stephan, Popadia Marika, Matushka Illaria, Nun Theophania, Matushka Theodora, Stephen, Reader Charles, Betty Lou, Lainey Kay, Katherine, Jeanne, Margaret, Lenni, Deaconessa Nana

Weekly Statistics

Saturday	Vespers	28Mar	19 faithful	20 views
Sunday	Divine Liturgy	29Mar	45 faithful	16 views
Wednesday	Presanct Liturgy	01Apr	18 faithful	11 views
Friday	Presanct Liturgy	02Apr	16 faithful	— views

In the News

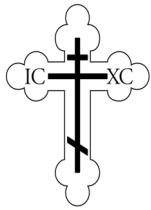
Videos of services can be found at:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfAOKICLMmH_-FIDe8SoWOW

If you plan to attend the IOCC Bright Friday Dinner Dance the deadline to purchase tickets is THIS SUNDAY!
 Enjoy appetizers.
 Family-style meal.
 Cash bar.
 Featured drinks.
 IOCC presentation.
 Live music and some ethnic dancing.
 Basket auction/raffle.
 Photo opportunity and more!
 Children welcome.
 Adults \$60, children 6-12—\$20, under 5 FREE!
 Tickets on-line at IOCC.org/Cleveland
 Or see Lissa Molchan!

Spiritual Food for the Fast

Who did not meet the Lord when He triumphantly entered Jerusalem as a King; and who did not cry out then, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" (Mat 21:15)? But only four days passed, and the same crowd cried with the same tongues, "Crucify Him!" (John 19:6) An amazing change! But why should we be surprised? Do we not do the very same thing when, upon receiving the Holy Mysteries of the Body and Blood of our Lord, we barely leave the church before forgetting everything—both our reverence and God's mercy toward us? We give ourselves over as before to self-pleasing deeds—at first small and then also large. Perhaps even before four days have passed.

-St. Theophan the Recluse



No one heals himself by wounding another.

(St. Ambrose of Milan)

Holy Week!



HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY,	APRIL 05
Divine Liturgy	1000AM
Bridegroom Matins	600PM
GREAT & HOLY MONDAY,	APRIL 06
Presanctified Liturgy	430PM
Bridegroom Matins	600PM
GREAT & HOLY TUESDAY,	APRIL 07
Presanctified Liturgy	430PM
Bridegroom Matins	600PM
GREAT & HOLY WEDNESDAY,	APRIL 08
Presanctified Liturgy	430PM
Holy Unction	600PM
GREAT & HOLY THURSDAY,	APRIL 09
St. Basil's Liturgy	1000AM
Matins/12 Passion Gospels	600PM
GREAT & HOLY FRIDAY,	APRIL 10
Royal Hours	1000AM
Vespers of Entombment	300PM
Matins/Lamentations	600PM
GREAT & HOLY SATURDAY,	APRIL 11
St. Basil's Liturgy	1000AM
Nocturnes	1130PM
PASCHA!!!,	APRIL 12
Matins, Divine Liturgy	Midnight
Agape Vespers	1130AM



On the Sunday of Our Lord's Triumphal Entry to Jerusalem *[orthochristian.com—Fr. Philip LeMasters]*

Human beings are blessed with the ability to focus on what is most important. So much of what we do at work or school, for example, requires that we tune out distractions and give our minds to the task before us.

St. Paul reminds us that we especially need to do so in the Christian life by giving our minds to what is true, noble, just, pure, lovely, virtuous, and praise worthy. Palm Sunday is a time that we all need this reminder as we enter into the mystery of our salvation as Jesus Christ journeys to His cross, descent into Hades, and glorious resurrection.

Nothing about this week comes naturally or easily to us. We understand wanting our enemies to suffer, but not freely suffering for their sake. We understand religious people judging others with self-righteousness, but not loving sinners to the point of dying on their behalf. We understand wanting our side to win, but not that true victory comes by laying aside all that looks like power in this world. We think that we understand a remote God in the heavens who does not understand how hard life is down here, not One who hangs on a cross, occupies a tomb, and descends to Hades.

There are times when what has been cloudy and confused becomes bright and clear, when what has been hidden is made manifest for all to see. Today is one of those times. For Jesus Christ, who revealed that He is the resurrection and the life by raising His friend Lazarus from the dead, now enters Jerusalem as the long-awaited Messiah to the welcoming cheers of the crowd.

But even before He gets to Jerusalem, the forces of darkness had decided to kill Christ because they could tell that someone who could raise the dead was a threat to their power; for He was neither a conquering general nor a Pharisee-like interpreter of the Law; and those nationalistic religious leaders had no use for a Messiah who did not serve their schemes of domination.

On Palm Sunday, it becomes clear that the Savior Who enters Jerusalem today is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. He is the Passover Lamb whose death and resurrection will conquer death itself. Mary, Lazarus' sister, performed a prophetic act when she anointed Christ with the same kind of costly ointment that was used to anoint the bodies of the dead. This Messiah, this One who is truly anointed to save His people and the whole world, will be rejected by the leaders of the Jews and crucified under the authority of the Romans. And when He is lifted up upon the Cross, He will draw all who believe in Him-- Jew, Gentile, male, female, rich, poor, all nations, classes, and races—to the life of a Kingdom that transcends this world and our petty divisions.

Jesus Christ will not reign as a soldier, a politician, or a rich man, but as a Suffering Servant, a slaughtered lamb, a despised victim of torture and capital punishment. The crowds are right on Palm Sunday to welcome Him as a conquering King in Whom God's promises will be fulfilled. But they misunderstand what kind of King He is and how He will conquer. For He rules from a cross and an empty tomb; instead of killing Roman soldiers, He kills death by allowing Himself to be killed; in the place of a magnificent stallion fit for a king, He rides a humble donkey that would impress no one.

The crowd is right, "Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel." They shout "Hosanna," which is a plea for God's salvation to come upon the earth. And it does through the Lord's death and glorious resurrection. But that's not what the crowds expected; it's apparently not what the disciples or anyone else anticipated. For it goes against all our preconceived notions of what it means to be successful, to be powerful, to rule upon the earth, and to be respectable and religious.

And it's still a very hard lesson for us to accept, for there is too much of the world in all of us and the demons never work harder than when we are trying to grow closer to Christ. That's why we need to follow St. Paul's advice to focus on what is truly holy this week, to rejoice always, and to "let your gentleness be known to all men." As St. Paul wrote, "The Lord is at hand" which is never more true than on this feast as He enters Jerusalem to the cheers of the crowds.

In Holy Week, what had been cloudy becomes clear; the truth is out in the open and we cannot ignore it any longer. Jesus Christ is the Passover Lamb, the Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world. He is our Champion, our Savior, our King, yet in His humility and love, the incarnate Son of God suffers on the cross as the lowest of the low in order to bring us to the heights of heaven and the joy of life eternal through His empty tomb.

And this week we journey with Him to that cross, becoming participants in His passion. Like Lazarus, we sit at table with Him. Like Mary, we anoint Him for burial. Like those gathered in Jerusalem, we welcome Him with palms and praises. Like the disciples, we eat the Passover with Him; like His mother Mary the Theotokos, the other faithful women, and the Apostle John, we kneel before His cross. Like Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus, we bury Him. And like the stunned myrrh-bearers and the doubting apostles, we will marvel at the unspeakable joy of His resurrection. For what looks like complete failure is actually total triumph, as we will see in the early hours of next Sunday.

Holy Week is the climax of Jesus Christ's life and of ours, too. For He goes to the cross for us; He dies and rises for our salvation, to bring us into the unending joy of eternal life, to defeat our ancient foe. So it's time to lay aside our usual distractions, excuses, and obsessions, and enter into the passion of our Lord by worshiping Him in the services of the church, as well as in every thought, word, and deed this week. If we can't attend literally every service, can all pray at home, read the Bible passages for Holy Week, and give less attention to the world and more to God.

It's time to embrace the great mystery of our salvation, of our Savior's infinite love and mercy, and thus share already in the blessedness of the Kingdom of Heaven. Holy Week is the time to enter into the Light that shines brightly even from the terror of the cross and the darkness of the tomb. Yes, our Savior has endured all these evils for us purely out of love; and He will soon rise over them triumphantly.

On Palm Sunday, it is clear who Jesus Christ is: The Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world. How will we respond to Him as He goes to the cross for us? Hopefully, with the fear of God and faith and love, we will draw near and not abandon or disregard Him.

Yes, that will take intentional focus and the discipline to turn away from temptations, distractions, and unholy thoughts that become obstacles along our path. Nonetheless, we must follow St. Paul's guidance to "Be anxious for nothing" and allow "the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding...[to] guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

"Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, the king of Israel. Hosanna in the highest!"

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 1) *By raising Lazarus from the dead before Your Passion, You confirmed the universal resurrection, O Christ God. Like the children with the palms of victory, we cry out to You, O Vanquisher of Death: “Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.”*

Troparion from the Feast: (Tone 1) *When we were buried with You in baptism, O Christ God, we were made worthy of eternal life by Your Resurrection. Now we praise You and sing: “Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.”*

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 from the Feast: (Tone 6) *Sitting on Your throne in Heaven, carried on a foal on earth, O Christ God, accept the praise of angels and the songs of children who sing: “Blessed is He Who comes to recall Adam!”*

Epistle: Phil 4:4-9

Gospel: John 12:1-18

Monthly Financial Tracker

Feb Total Income \$ 7,396
 Feb Total Expenses \$ 4,637
 Feb Net Income (Loss) \$ 2,759

Web Tracker

Web Searches 534 interacts/28 days
 Blog Site Views 118858 Total Views
 Web Site Views 20162 Total Views
 Facebook Views 2847 views/28 days

**St. Herman of Alaska
 Eastern Orthodox Church
 VRevFrBasil Rusen, Pastor**

Phone: 330-608-8896
 5107 Darrow Road
 Hudson, OH 44236
 Email: frbasilr@gmail.com
 Website: www.sainthermanchurch.org
 Facebook: factbook.com/
 StHermanHudson

**CURRENT WEEK
 HIGHLIGHTED**

April 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
St. Mary of Egypt 29 Divine Liturgy 10AM St.NicholasUnct 5P 10AM Heb 9:11-14 Mark 10:32-45	30 Isa 48:17-49:4; Gen 27:1-41; Prov 19:16-25	31 Isa 49:6-10; Gen 31:3-16; Prov 21:3-21	1 Isa 58:1-11; Gn 43:26-31; Prov 21:23-22:4	2 Isa 65:8-16; Gn 46:1-7 Prov 23:15-24:5	3 Isa 66:10-24; Gn 49:33-50; 26; Prov 31:8-31	4 Lazarus Satrdy Divine Liturgy 10AM Vespers/Conf 6PM Heb 12:28-13:8 John 11:1-45
5 Entry of Lord Divine Liturgy 10AM BridegrmMatins 6PM Phil 4:4-9 John 12:1-18	6 Grt&HolyMon Presanctified Lit 430P Bridegroom Mat 6PM Ex 1:1-20, Job 1:1-12 Matt 24:3-35	7 Grt&HolyTue Presanctified Lit 430P Bridegroom Mat 6PM Ex 2:5-10, Job 1:13-22 Matt 24:36-26:2	8 Grt&HolyWed Presanctified Lit 430P Holy Unction 6PM Ex 2:11-22; Job 2:1-10 Mat 26:6-16	9 Grt&HolyThur StBasil'sLiturgy 10AM 12 Passion Gsppls 6PM 1Cor 11:23-32 Mat 26:2-27:2	10 Grt&HolyFriday Royal Hours 10AM VespersEntmb 3PM Lamentations 6PM John 5:30-6:2	11 Grt&HolySatrdy StBasil'sLiturgy 10AM Midnight Office 1130 Rom 6:3-11 Mat 29:1-20
12 PASCHA!	13 Bright Monday	14 Bright Tuesday	15 BrightWednesday	16 Bright Thursday	17 Bright Friday	18 Bright Saturday
1130A Agape Vespers Acts 1:18 John 1:1-17	26 Thomas Sunday Divine Liturgy 10AM Acts 5:12-20 John 20:19-31	27 Myrrhbearers Divine Liturgy 10AM Acts 6:1-7 Mark 15:43-16:8	28 Acts 1:12-17, 21-26 John 1:18-28	29 Acts 2:14-21 Luke 24:12-35	30 Acts 12:1-11 John 15:17-18:2	31 Acts 2:38-43 John 3:1-15
19 Acts 3:19-26 John 2:1-11	20 Acts 4:1-10 John 3:16-21	21 Acts 4:13-22 John 5:17-24	22 Acts 4:23-31 John 5:24-30	23 Acts 19:1-8 John 5:30-6:2	24 Acts 5:21-33 John 6:14-27	25 Vespers 6PM Acts 3:11-16 John 3:22-33
26 Acts 6:8-7:5, 47-60 John 4:46-54	27 Acts 8:5-17 John 6:27-33	28 Acts 8:18-25 John 6:35-39	29 Acts 8:26-39 John 6:40-44	30 Acts 8:40-9:19 John 6:48-54	1 Vespers 6PM Acts 9:20-31 John 15:17-16:2	