

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ **WELCOME** to all who are visiting with us today! We hope you will feel at home here and, if you do not already have a church home, will consider becoming a part of the Saint Herman Church community.
- ❖ **WELCOME to FATHER THOMAS FRIZELLE.** We are glad to have you with us today serving Liturgy on your Feast Day. May God grant you many years!
- ❖ **FR. MATTHEW WILL RETURN NEXT WEEKEND.** Today he is in Coral Gables, Florida, at St. George Antiochian Cathedral. If there is an emergency need for a priest during Fr. Matthew's absence, you may call Fr. Christopher Stanton at (907)775-2046.
- ❖ **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** resumes today for all ages. The last class of the semester will be Sunday May 18.
- ❖ **PLEASE RETURN YOUR FOOD FOR HUNGRY BOXES** to the narthex by May 4. Thank you.
- ❖ **LITURGICAL CALENDARS** for May are available in the narthex and also are online at www.sainthermanwasilla.org.
- ❖ **ACOLYTE TRAINING DAY WILL BE SATURDAY MAY 17** from 10am – 2pm. Any boy or man age 7 and older is welcome to come if they have any interest or experience in serving at the altar. If you are interested in serving at the altar but cannot make it to the training, then please talk to Fr. Matthew.
- ❖ **SAVE THE DATE – ST. HERMAN'S COUNTRY FAIR MAY 31.**
- ❖ **ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE – APRIL 29.** Saint John's Orthodox Christian School in Eagle River is now enrolling students Preschool-8th grade for the 2014-2015 school year. Beginning in 2014-2015, a complete 7th & 8th grade program will be offered. SJOCS has been educating students for over 30 years, providing them with sound academics set in a loving Christian environment. Take a tour and meet the teachers during Open House on April 29th from 6:30-8:00pm. For more information call (907)696-3920.
- ❖ **THE CHURCH BOOKSTORE** is now housed in Fr. Matthew's office, and will be open Sundays briefly during coffee hour or other times by request.

SAINT HERMAN

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

*Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America
Diocese of Los Angeles and the West*

PRIMATE

His Eminence, the Most Blessed Patriarch JOHN
of Antioch

DIOCESAN HIERARCH

His Eminence, the Most Rev. Archbishop JOSEPH

PASTOR

Rev. Fr. Matthew Howell

DEACONS

Rev. Dn. Thomas Ross

Rev. Dn. John Phelps

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THOMAS
SUNDAY

April 27, 2014

A NOTE REGARDING HOLY COMMUNION

Welcome! In the Orthodox Church, reception of the Holy Eucharist is reserved for baptized, chrismated Orthodox Christians who have prepared by prayer, fasting and a recent confession. If you are visiting or otherwise not prepared to commune today, you are welcome to receive some of the unconsecrated, blessed bread which the acolytes are holding. We pray for all to be united in the Body and Blood of Christ! If you would like to learn how you can enter into communion with the Orthodox Church, please speak with our clergy.

THE EPISTLE

Great is the Lord, and great is His power.

Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good.

The Reading from the Acts of the Sainly and Pure Apostles. (5:12-20)

In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands of the Apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high honor. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the high priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the party of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they arrested the Apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (20:19-31)

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the Disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the Disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other Disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe." Eight days later, His Disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the Disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His Name.

SAINTS OF THE DAY

Sunday of Thomas the Apostle, Called "The Twin";
Hieromartyr Simeon, Bishop of Jerusalem and the kinsman of the Lord;
John the Confessor, Abbot of the Monastery of the Chaste;
Eulogios the Hospitable of Egypt;
Stephen, Abbot of the Kiev Caves and Bishop of Vladimir

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Ages 3-6: Every Sunday at 9:00am

Ages 7-9, 10-12, and 13-19: Every Sunday following Liturgy

Last Day of Classes is May 18

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES

April 27 – May 4

Wed. 6:30pm: Daily Vespers

Sat. 6:30pm: Great Vespers

Sun. 9:00am: Matins

Sun. 10:00am: Divine Liturgy

A GOOD WORD

VITAMINS FOR THE SOUL

- ❖ "The people itself, by passing through the Red Sea, proclaimed the good tidings of salvation by water. The people passed over, and the Egyptian king with his host was engulfed, and by these actions this sacrament was foretold. For even now, whensoever the people are in the water of regeneration, fleeing from Egypt, from the burden of sin, it is set free and saved. But the Devil with his own servants (I mean of course, the spirits of evil), is choked with grief, and perishes, deeming the salvation of men to be his own misfortune." -- St. Gregory of Nyssa
- ❖ "The joy of Pascha comes to us through the reality of the Cross. The bliss of salvation comes through our death at Baptism."
-- His Eminence, Archbishop JOSEPH
- ❖ "Liturgy is not a rigid thing to be repeated unconsciously. It is an expression of the human need to talk to the Lord, and to thank Him for His grace. Liturgy is spirit and life running through the veins of the body of the Church, and nurturing all its members. It revives the Church, the community and the individuals with the grace that is bestowed upon it. Hence, we are here before a precious gem. We should polish it and reveal its glorious face, stressing the essence of the liturgical practice which leads the believer to grow in Christ. It is therefore important to resort to all tools that enable the people to reach the depth of this inspiring liturgy, that they may take from it that which will help them attain salvation and understanding of the mystery of God." -- His Beatitude, Patriarch JOHN X