

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.
- ❖ **CONFESSIONS** will be heard by Fr. Thomas Frizelle on Saturday April 12 following Great Vespers. If you need confession at another time, please contact Fr. Matthew so that he can put you in touch with another priest.
- ❖ **LITURGICAL CALENDARS** for April are available in the narthex and online at www.sainthermanwasilla.org.
- ❖ **THE HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE** is included on the April calendar.
- ❖ **THANK YOU** to those who participated in the church clean up day yesterday. Your service is very much appreciated.
- ❖ **PASCHA FEAST INFO:** The Pascha Feast will be Sunday April 20 after Agape Vespers, which starts at 3:00pm. Anna Phelps will be the money collector and will ask people to sign up to bring dishes and to clean up. *Adults are asked to pay \$10 and children to pay \$5.* If this will not be possible for your family, please don't stay home on account of money, instead talk to Fr. Matthew or Anna about your needs. You are welcome to invite guests, but PLEASE let Anna know before Pascha if you are doing so and pay for them if you are able. *We may need to rent tables and chairs again so head counts are needed.* If you can afford to pay this weekend, Anna will be starting to count heads and take money. Thank you!!
- ❖ **THE CHURCH BOOKSTORE** is now housed in Fr. Matthew's office, and will be open each Sunday briefly during coffee hour or other times by request.
- ❖ **AN ACOLYTE TRAINING DAY** will be Saturday May 17. Details on the time to follow. 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.
- ❖ **LENTEN PRAYER OF ST. EPHRAIM THE SYRIAN:**
O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, meddling, lust of power, and idle talk. (*prostration*)
But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant. (*prostration*)
Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins, and not to judge my brother, for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen. (*prostration*)

SAINT HERMAN

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

PRIMATE

His Beatitude, 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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5TH SUNDAY OF LENT
(SAINT MARY OF
EGYPT)

April 6, 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

(For the fifth Sunday of Lent)

Make your vows to the Lord our God, and perform them.

God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (9:11-14)

Brethren, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), He entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

THE GOSPEL

(For the fifth Sunday of Lent)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (10:32-45)

At that time, Jesus took His twelve Disciples, and began to tell them what was to happen to Him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles. And they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit upon Him, and kill Him; and after three days He will rise." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Him, and said to Him, "Teacher, we would that thou shouldst do for us whatsoever we shall desire" And Jesus said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" And they said to Him, "Grant us to sit, one at Thy right hand and one at Thy left, in Thy glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to Him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized. But to sit at My right hand or at My left is not Mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

SAINTS OF THE DAY

Commemoration of our Righteous Mother Mary of Egypt;
Eutychios, patriarch of Constantinople; Venerable Platonida of Nisibis in
Syria; Venerable Gregory Byzantios of the Great Lavra on Athos

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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

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

NO CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PALM SUNDAY AND PASCHA

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES

April 6 - 13

Monday 6:30pm: Great Compline

Wednesday 6:30pm: Presanctified Liturgy

Friday 6:30pm: Little Compline with Canon of St. Lazarus

Saturday 9:00am: Divine Liturgy for the Raising of Lazarus

Saturday 6:30pm: Great Vespers, confession available after Vespers

Sunday 9:00am: Festal Matins; 10:00am: Divine Liturgy for Palm Sunday

A GOOD WORD

VITAMINS FOR THE SOUL

- ❖ "As 'religiousness' declines around us, I often hear and see people talk as if the solution is for us to sort of go shallower. To treat the Gospel as if it's a product to be sold. To come up with a sort of user-friendly faith, that serves merely as a nice window dressing for our lives, while we continue to live our lives with the same materialistic values and goals as anyone else. However, I think that's exactly the wrong approach. Rather than going shallower, we need to go deeper. We need to live out the Gospel -- to be more diligent in our prayers, more humble in our interactions with other people, kinder, more gentle, more diligent in reading the Scriptures and the Church Fathers. We need to go to confession more often, take communion frequently, and above all, ***actually have faith and trust in God, and act accordingly***. If we're lukewarm or shallow in our faith, sort of hedging our bets, then it's worse than an open and honest disbelief, and often the cause of it. To proclaim the Gospel, we must, with God's help, live it deeply, in the marrow of our bones." -- Fr. John Hogg
- ❖ "You should secretly give from what you have to those in need, so that you receive from God, Who sees in secret, a hundred times more, as well as life eternal in the age to come (cf. Mt. 6:4; Mk. 10:30)."
-- St. Gregory Palamas

**The Patriarchal Vicar
of New York
and all North America**



**The Most Reverend Metropolitan
Silouan of Buenos Aires
and all Argentina**

**THE SELF-RULED ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
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L012/0414

New York, April 1st 2014

Very Esteemed Hierarchs, Clergy,
Members of the Board of Trustees
And Faithful
Of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

Peace in the name of our Lord!

I have just returned from my trip to the Antiochian Village. As I reflect on the events of the past week, here in Englewood, New Jersey, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all of you for your thoughtful and heart-felt prayers during our most difficult week as we bid a final farewell to our beloved Metropolitan Philip, of thrice-blessed memory. In behalf of this entire Archdiocese, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all those individuals who, labored with love, in caring for all of the arrangements, whether in New York (Archdiocese Headquarters and St. Nicholas Cathedral) or at the Antiochian Village. Your actions are a reflection of the dedication and love that you have for this Archdiocese and for our beloved Metropolitan Philip and his memory.

On Saturday, March 29th, I had the opportunity and pleasure to meet with: the Clergy of the Archdiocese, who were present, following the funeral service; the esteemed members of the Board of Trustees following the meal of mercy; and in the evening the Hierarchs (members of the Local Synod). During these meetings, I expressed to all my personal gratitude for having received me with much love, nobility and generosity. I assured all that my functions here, as Patriarchal Vicar, is to convene a Special General Assembly, to be "called" according to the terms of the Constitution of this Archdiocese, as soon as possible, for the purpose of election of nominees to the office of "Metropolitan" of this Archdiocese.

In the meantime, I am making the necessary plans to visit all of the dioceses of this Archdiocese, within the next several weeks. It is my intention that during these visits, I will assure all that my presence here, as Patriarchal Vicar, is to serve this Archdiocese during the anticipated short period of time until the election of a New Metropolitan Archbishop and to



bring a spirit and sense of love and comeliness, as we all prepare for the upcoming Special General Assembly.

As most of you may already know, the general theme of my messages during the past week focused on the great legacy of our beloved Metropolitan Philip in addition to your role in reinforcing the bond of unity, service, peace and love. My hopes and prayers is that your commitment to the service of the Church remains unaltered, with the highest sense of responsibility that you have always demonstrated with your deeds, words and attitude. My visiting your dioceses and parishes is a way to strengthen this aspect of your holy zeal and serving love.

Following my meeting with the Hierarchs of the Local Synod, last Saturday, and after consulting the Saliba Family on Monday at the Antiochian Village, we took the decision to celebrate the Memorial of the 40th Day of his Eminence Metropolitan Philip on Sunday, May 4, 2014 in all the parishes of the Archdiocese. I hope I can celebrate the Divine Liturgy to be followed by the 40th Day Memorial service at the Cathedral of Saint Nicholas in Brooklyn, New York, while all of you will be realizing the commemoration in your own parishes. I kindly remind all to please continue commemorate his Eminence, Metropolitan Philip, among the departed, at all divine services through the 40 Day Memorial.

May our Lord give comfort to your hearts and bless your zeal in the service of your church.

† **Silouan**

Metropolitan of Buenos Aires and all Argentina

&

Patriarcal Vicar of New York and all North America