



St. Herman of Alaska Eastern Orthodox Church

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Hudson, OH 44236
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"An Orthodox Presence in Northeastern Summit County"
www.sainthermanchurch.org



Important This Week:

Thursday, 24Oct, 7PM Adult Study / Friday, 25Oct, 7PM Enquirer's Class
Saturday, 26Oct, 6PM Vespers
Sunday, 27Oct, 10AM, Divine Liturgy

20Oct24

17th Sunday After Pentecost—Tone 8

Those Who Are Poor

Glory to Jesus Christ!

We're all familiar by now with today's parable of Lazarus and the rich man. Let's look instead at today's world, and the poor and needy who surround us, the 'rich'.

For many years in the streets of Sophia, this old man could be seen walking from his home to the cathedral, where he would sit and beg.



The man is Dobri Dobrev, a name whose meaning is "good".

Dobri would sit as a beggar, a modern day "fool for Christ". Whatever money he received, he put penny-by-penny into a bank account. He took none of it for his own use, to provide a livelihood for himself. Instead, he lived off of a Bulgarian pension fund which provided 80 euros (about \$100)

per month for those personal needs.

The rest? He would go to the bank, and when sufficient funds had been accumulated from his begging, he would remove what he could and donate.

Where?

Some went to orphanages that were unable to pay their bills. Most went to churches.

Around the year 2000 he donated all of his belongings to the Church, and took up residence in a small extension to Sts. Cyril and Methodius church in his native village of Bailovo.



Dobri was interviewed by a young man once who asked him why he chooses to live in this way. His answer was, "Once I did a bad thing," and he now was trying to repent for those past sins by helping others.

Most of Dobri's philanthropy

will remain known only to him and to God. But when he gives to churches, they take note. Over his lifetime it's estimated that he gave over \$50,000 to churches, to monasteries, and to other entities in need. He gave about \$20,000 to the Cathedral in Sophia—the single largest donation in the church's over 100 year history!

He married in 1940 and fought in WWII. A bomb that fell near him rendered him almost totally deaf for the rest of his life. He had four children, two of whom he outlived. As he begged, he spoke with those passing by about the Lord—begging and evangelizing.

Dobri fell asleep in the Lord on 13Feb2018 at the age of 103. Those who know his story refer to him as "St. Dobri of Bailovo".

Words that we have from this Godly man are, "The good will is just and true. Everything in it is good," and also, "We must not lie, nor steal, nor commit adultery. We must love each other as God loves us."

I'm sure that Dobri is sharing a place in Abraham's bosom alongside Lazarus!

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, Don, Nora & Bob
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

Weekly Statistics

Saturday	Vespers	12Oct	7 faithful	17 views
Sunday	Divine Liturgy	13Oct	32 faithful	13 views
Thursday	Adult Study	17Oct	4 faithful	

In the News

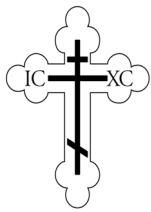
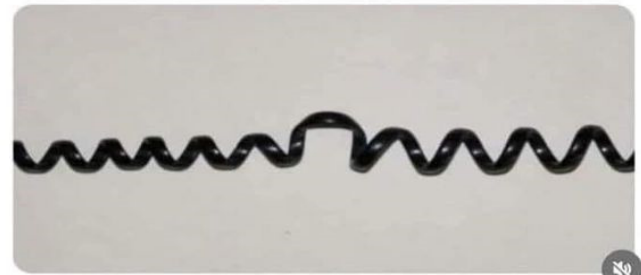
Videos of services can be found at:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfAOKICLMmH_FIDe8SoWOWw

The Hudson Ministerial Association is once again collecting jugs of laundry detergent, to be distributed with the packages that will go out for Thanksgiving (I believe). They're asking for TEN (10) jugs of detergent from each parish in the community. Let's do our part. If you can bring a jug of detergent, please leave it in the "drop area" in the social hall near the exit door. Donations need to be delivered to Christ Community Chapel by Monday, 28Oct.

You'll Have to be Over 40 to Get It

Them: How long ago did your OCD issues begin?

Me:



If we wish to acquire humility, we must ask God to send us someone who will offend us.

(St. Dorotheos of Gaza)

Fr. Thomas Hopko's "55 Maxims" - Fourth of Nine

FOUR

- 19. Be polite with everyone, first of all family members
- 20. Maintain cleanliness and order in your home
- 21. Have a healthy, wholesome hobby
- 22. Exercise regularly
- 23. Live a day, even a part of a day, at a time
- 24. Be totally honest, first of all with yourself



Fifth Sunday of St. Luke (*oca.org*)

The Parable of the Holy Gospel does not refer to the Second Coming of Christ, neither to His Last Judgement, but to the period of time between man's death and the Second Glorious Coming of Christ our Lord and God. This period is called: The Middle Condition of the souls.

What is death?

Death, according to Holy Scriptures, is the separation of the human's soul from his body. Death was not created by God right from the beginning, but came as the result of man's Fall, disobedience and unrepentance (Gen. 3:9-13). "And unto Adam He said, because you have hearkened unto the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree, of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shalt not eat of it': cursed is the ground for your sake; in sorrow shall you eat of it all the days of your life; thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to you; and you shall eat the herb of the field; in the sweat of your face shall you eat bread, till you return to the ground; for out of it were you taken: for you are dust, and to dust shall you return" (Gen. 3:17-19).

Death has three forms:

Physical Death, occurs when the body stops functioning biologically. The soul is separated from the body (Gen. 3:19) "And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom; the rich man also died, and was buried" (Luk 16:22).

Spiritual Death, occurs when man is in life, but has not believed in Jesus Christ or leads a sinful life. When a man refuses to repent and to accept the Grace and Love of Christ our God, which is granted through the Holy Sacraments of the Church, then he is spiritually dead. Through the Holy Sacraments of Confession and Repentance, and that of Holy Communion man overcomes spiritual death. Spiritual Death is the removal of God's Grace from man. "But Jesus said to him, Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead" (Matt 8:22).

Eternal Death, occurs when man dies unrepentant, refusing even at his last moments to ask for God's forgiveness. "And whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Spirit it shall not be forgiven" (Luke 12:10).

Before Physical death and during Spiritual Death man can turn to God to receive forgiveness of all his sins. Eternal Death is unchangeable. "And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed; so that they which would pass from here to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from there. (Luke 16:26).

Once man dies and has not turned to God through His Holy Church, there is no chance for salvation. The Apostle Paul teaches us saying: "and as it is appointed unto men to die after this the judgement" (Heb. 9:27). All men will pass this stage and there is no one who can avoid it, because death is the most certain event in man's life.

The important question is: In which condition shall death find us? At that last and most important moment of our life, will we have repented? Will we have had Confession? Will we have forgiven all those who had done harm against us? Will we have turned to God, or remained unrepentant?

The last critical moment of one's life, when death occurs, is the condition in which God shall judge us. In other words, if God finds us during death in repentance, He shall judge us with mercy. If God, on the other hand, finds a heart and soul full of sins and unrepentant, then He will judge according to our deeds (Matt. 25:31-46). Christ teaches us saying that we should make peace with our judge (conscience) as long as we are together. God's Mercy reigns as long as man is in life; after death God's Justice shall reign for ever. "and these shall go away into everlasting punishment; but the righteous into life eternal" (Matt. 25:46).

According to Holy Scriptures during death the souls of the righteous are taken up to Heaven by the Angels of God (Luke: 16:22), where as the souls of those who have done evil are taken by the demons (Luke: 12:20). It is natural therefore to state, that the souls of all those who believed in Christ, lived according to His Commandments, joined their whole existence with His Life and received the Seal of the Gift of the Holy Spirit (that is the Sacrament of Holy Chrismation), cannot be under the authority of the demons. On the contrary, all those who have not believed in Christ, all those who renounced Him, all those who left the Church and joined heresies are under the dark authority of Satan.

When the soul separates from the body, the demons attack viciously. The sinful passions, which overrule the soul, seek satisfaction, but because of the separation from the body they cannot be satisfied. This creates a terrible displeasure to the soul and man's soul becomes more infuriated and suffocates.

Therefore, my beloved friends let us seek God's mercy and forgiveness before that terrible day, in order that we may not be found unworthy of our calling.

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 8) *You descended from on high, O Merciful One! You accepted the three-day burial to free us from our sufferings. O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!*

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.*

Glory to the Father....

Kontakion of the Day: (Tone 8) *By rising from the tomb, You raised the dead and resurrected Adam. Eve exults in Your Resurrection, and the world celebrates Your rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!*

Now and ever....

Kontakion to the Theotokos: *Steadfast Protectress of Christians, constant advocate before the Creator, despise not the entreating cries of us sinners, but in your goodness speedily come to help us who call on you in faith. Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you.*

Epistle: 2Cor 6:16-7:1

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

Monthly Financial Tracker

September Total Income	\$43,498
September Total Expenses	\$ 2,293
September Net Income (Loss)	\$41,205

Web Tracker

StHerman Google Bus Site	606	interacts/28 days
Blog Site Views	48649	Total Views
Web Site Views	15982	Total Views
Facebook Followers	5491	Total

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

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**CURRENT WEEK
HIGHLIGHTED**

October 2024												
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday						
14th Sunday 2nd Luke Divine Liturgy 10AM 2Cor 1:21-2:4 Luke 6:31-36	29	30 Protection of Theotokos Heb 9:1-7 Luke 10:38-42,11:27-28	1	2 Gal 3:15-22 Luke 6:46-7:1	3 Adult Study 7PM Gal 3:23-4:5 Luke 7:17-30	4 Enquirer's Class 7PM Gal 4:8-21 Luke 7:31-35	5 Vespers/Conf 6PM 1Cor 4:17-5:5 Luke 5:27-32					
15th Sunday 3rd Luke Divine Liturgy 10AM 2Cor 4:6-15 Luke 7:11-16	6	7 Gal 4:28-5:10 Luke 7:36-50	8 Gal 5:11-21 Luke 8:1-3	9 Gal 6:2-10 Luke 8:22-25	10 Adult Study 7PM Eph 1:1-9 Luke 9:7-11	11 Enquirer's Class 7PM Eph 1:7-17 Luke 9:12-18	12 Vespers/Conf 6PM 1Cor 10:23-28 Luke 6:1-10					
16th Sunday 4th Luke Divine Liturgy 10AM 2Cor 6:1-10 Luke 8:5-15	13	14 Eph 1:22-2:3 Luke 9:18-22	15 Phil 2:17-23 Luke 9:23-27	16 Eph 3:8-21 Luke 9:44-50	17 Adult Study 7PM Eph 4:14-19 Luke 9:49-56	18 Apostle/Evang Luke Enquirer's Class 7PM Col 4:5-9,14,18 Luke 10:16-21	19 Soul Sat Liturgy 10AM Vespers/Conf 6PM 1Cor 10:23-25 Luke 7:2-10					
17th Sunday 5th Luke Divine Liturgy 10AM 2Cor 6:16-7:1 Luke 16:19-31	20	21 Eph 4:25-32 Luke 10:22-24	22 Eph 5:20-26 Luke 11:1-10	23 Eph 5:25-33 Luke 11:9-13	24 Adult Study 7PM Eph 5:33-6:9 Luke 11:14-23	25 Enquirer's Class 7PM Eph 6:18-24 Luke 11:23-26	26 Grt Martyr Demetrius Vespers/Conf 6PM 2Tim 2:1-10 John 15:17-16:2					
18th Sunday 6th Luke Divine Liturgy 10AM 2Cor 9:6-11 Luke 8:26-39	27	28 Phil 1:1-7 Luke 11:29-33	29 Phil 1:8-14 Luke 11:34-41	30 Phil 1:12-20 Luke 11:42-46	31 Adult Study 7PM Phil 1:20-27 Luke 11:47-12:1	1 Sts Cosmos & Damien Enquirer's Class 7PM 1Cor 12:27-13:8 Mat 10:1, 5-8	2 Vespers/Conf 6PM 1Cor 15:58-16:3 Luke 8:16-21					