



**Saint Herman
Orthodox Church**
991 W. Prentice Ave.
Littleton, CO 80120
303-798-7306
www.sthermanoca.org

+ A Parish of +

The Orthodox Church in America
www.oca.org

Rt. Rev. Benjamin Bishop
of San Francisco and the West
www.dowoca.org

VRev. Father John Armstrong
frjohnarm@hotmail.com

+ Worship Services +

Saturdays, 6:30 pm
Great Vespers

(3rd & 6th Hour Prayers, 9:10 am)

Sundays, 9:30 am
DIVINE LITURGY

Feast Days *(See Monthly Calendar)*

+ Pastoral Ministries +

Please call Fr. John anytime for *an appointment* for any of the following reasons: *Confession / Counseling, Home / Hospital Visits, Memorial Services, Moliebens, Slavos, Unction, or just to talk:* 720-940-8619 (c)

+ Parish Prayer List +

Pray for the health and salvation of:

Hieromonk Ambrose *(Young)*
Gerondissa Theodelphi
Alaskan prisoners here in CO
Benjamin Armstrong
Eva Baker
Garry Baker
Olivia Botha
Christopher Cheaqui
Daniel Christus
Kafa Dalal
Michael & Dagmar Drakulich
Bertie Ericson
Gregory, Samuel, & Nicholas
Jesus, Michael, & Lenny
Susanna Mikita
John & Michael Palmer
Barbara Payne
Esther Schafer
Mara Shuput
Joan Wagner
Thomas Wells
Louis & Dorothy Zang

Our Missionaries:

James Hargrave
Christina Semon
Faith Young

Our Catechumens:

Kevin Donahue *(April 1)*
Sean Donahue *(son; April 1)*
Brian Fahey & Stacy Skiftenes *(Feb. 12)*
Lucas Grimm
Jon & Courtney Layton *(Feb. 19)*

Newly Departed: Archpriest Joseph Hester (2/2)

Memorial: Vara Stassen (2/9), Sava Skarbek (2/9)



February 5, 2012

34th Sunday of Pentecost, Tone 1

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

[Beginning of the Lenten Triodion]

Today's Scriptures: 2 Timothy 3:10-15; St. Luke 18:10-14

February 5, 2012

Welcome to St. Herman Orthodox Church!
We're glad you joined us for worship today!
May the blessing of the Lord be upon you!

Birthdays:

Andrew Zhang (2/5)

"Preserve them, O Lord, for many years!"

Church School

+ This Week +

Wednesday, February 8, Adult Ed,
10 am & 6:30 pm: *Fasting*

Thursday, February 9, 6:30 pm,
Parish Council

Fast-free Friday, February 10, 6:30 pm
BBQ Dinner & Square Dance

Saturday, February 11:

- 1. 4:45 pm, *Intro to Orthodoxy***
- 2. 6:30 pm, *Great Vespers followed by Confession***

Greeters for February

Today, Feb. 5, Christine/Garry Baker
February 12, ??? Volunteers needed!
February 19, ??? Volunteers needed!
February 26, Olga Thomas

+ Looking Ahead +

Sun., Feb. 12, 8:30 am, *Chrismation*
of Brian Fahey & Stacy Skiftenes

Sunday, Feb. 19, 8:30 am, *Baptisms*
of Jon and Courtney Layton

Great Lent begins Monday, Feb. 27

"Open to me the doors of repentance,
O Life-Giver, for my spirit rises early
to pray towards Thy holy Temple,
bearing the temple of my body
all defiled, but in Thy compassion
purify me by the loving-kindness of
Thy mercy! Lead me on the paths of
salvation, O Mother of God, for I have
profaned my soul with shameful sins
and have wasted my life in laziness,
but by your intercessions deliver me
from all impurity. When I think of the
many evil things I have done, wretch
that I am, I tremble at the fearful Day
of Judgment, but trusting in Thy loving-
kindness like David I cry to Thee:
Have mercy on me, O God! Have mercy
on me, O God! Have mercy on me,
O God, according to Thy great mercy!"

Handmaidens for February

Today, Feb. 5, Lily Backus, Tori Pyle
February 12, Maeve, Sasha Pollard
February 19, Madeline S., Katherine P.
February 26, Jackie Pyle, Kyrianna

+ Synaxarion +

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee. The Pharisees were an ancient and outstanding sect among the Jews known for their diligent observance of the outward matters of the Law. Although, according to the word of our Lord, they "did all their works to be seen of men" (Mt. 23:5), and were hypocrites, because of the apparent holiness of their lives they were thought by all to be righteous, and separate from others, which is what the name Pharisee means. On the other hand, Publicans, collectors of the royal taxes, committed many injustices and extortions for filthy lucre's sake, and all held them to be sinners and unjust. It was therefore according to common opinion that the Lord Jesus in His parable signified a virtuous person by a Pharisee, and a sinner by a Publican, to teach His disciples the harm of pride and the profit of humble-mindedness.

Since the chief weapon for virtue is humility and the greatest hindrance to it is pride, the divine Fathers have set these three weeks before the Forty-day Fast as a preparation for the spiritual struggles of virtue. This present week they have called Harbinger, since it declares that the Fast is approaching; and they set humility as the foundation for all our spiritual labors by appointing that the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee be read today, even before the Fast begins, to teach, through the vaunting of the Pharisee, that the foul smoke of self-esteem and the stench of boasting drives away the grace of the Spirit, strips man of all his virtue and cast him into the pits of Hades; and through the repentance and contrite prayer of the Publican that humility confers upon the sinner forgiveness of all his wicked deeds and raises him up to the greatest height.

+ All foods allowed the week that follows this Sunday

The Holy Martyr Agatha. This glorious virgin and martyr for Christ was born in the Sicilian town of Palermo of noble and prosperous parents. When the Emperor Decius launched a persecution of Christians, St. Agatha was arrested and brought to judgment before Quintian the judge. He saw Agatha's beauty and desired her for his wife. When he suggested this to her, she replied that she was the bride of Christ and could not be faithless to her Betrothed. The judge condemned her to cruel torture: Agatha was flogged, mocked, bound to a tree and beaten till the blood flowed. After that, the judge again urged her to deny Christ and so escape further torture, to which Christ's bride replied: 'These tortures are of great help to me. As wheat cannot come to the granary until it is cleansed of its chaff, so my soul cannot enter Paradise unless my body has first been broken by torture.' Then the torturer ordered that her breasts be cut off and then she be thrown into prison. The holy Apostle Peter appeared to her in the prison and restored her to physical wholeness and health. She was once again taken out for torture and again cast back into prison, where she gave her soul to God in the town of Catania in the year 251. After her death, her torturer Quintian set out to appropriate her lands, but on the way the horses became maddened under him and his soldiers. They were savaged on the face, thrown onto the ground and trampled to death. Thus God's punishment came swiftly upon him for his ferocious crime against St. Agatha.

The Holy Martyr Theodula. She suffered for Christ in the time of Diocletian, the impious Roman Emperor. During her tortures, Theodula brought one of her torturers, Helladius, to his senses and to the Christian Faith. When Helladius openly confessed his faith in Christ, he was beheaded. Theodula showed great courage at her trial, for which the judge considered her witless. To this, she retorted: 'It is you who are witless, for you forget the one true God and bow down to lifeless stones.' The judge put her to cruel torture, which Theodula endured with heroism, making her torturers marvel and bringing them to Christ. Among these were two eminent citizens, Macarius and Evagrius. With these two and many others, Theodula was thrown into a red-hot furnace, where they all finished this life with honor and were made worthy of the Kingdom of Christ.

St. Polyeuctus, Patriarch of Constantinople. For his great mind, his zeal for the Faith and his power of oratory, he was called a second Chrysostom. The Russian Princess Olga came to Constantinople in the time of Patriarch Polyeuctus and the Emperor Constantine Porphyrogenitus, and was baptized there in 957. The Patriarch baptized her, and the Emperor stood godfather. St. Polyeuctus prophesied: 'Blessed art thou among Russian women, for thou hast desired the light and cast away darkness; the sons of Russia will bless thee to the last generation.' From being a simple monk, Polyeuctus was raised to the Patriarchate in 946, and remained on the patriarchal throne until his death in 970.