

## VIGILS - 8-16

**Susan Guzy (4)** 7/26 In loving memory of brother, Bill. Vichnaya Pamyat!

**Laura Kovach (4)** Birthday blessings to Matt; Congratulations and many years to newly elevated Very Reverend Archpriest Fr. Andrew. Axios! Axios! Axios!; God's blessings and healing to everyone battling or suffering during the COVID-19 pandemic; God's blessings of peace and healing for our country; For healing or health of Sarah and her unborn baby, Betty, Betty, Julia, Andrea, Mark, Joe, Margi, Dana, Bodhi, Chuck, Steve, Jeanne, Mary, Joe, Sonya, Ron and Larry.

**Sandy Martin (1)** Special intentions

**Jim Mazur(2)** In memory family and friends; For health of family and friends

**Janice Timko (1)** In blessed and loving memory of my special parents, Sophia and Peter Monak, Aug 21<sup>st</sup>, mother's 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary. "Vechnaya Pamyat"

**Twarek (8)** Blessing and safe travel to Archbishop Paul; Axios to Father Andrew; For health and recovery of Ron, Mary, JC, Loren, Sonya; Health of David; For the health of Tom, Sarah, Jason, Nancy, Margi & Joe; For health of Betty, MaryAnn & Bob, Judy, Chuck, Steve, Bohdi, Liz, Joe, Julia, Diane, Stella, Jake, Helen; God grace and healing for the people of Beirut; Special intentions

---

## SEPTEMBER CANDLE AND BULLETIN SPONSORS

**Bulletin: (\$50)** Fr. Fr. Andrew in memory of His Grace Bishop John & His Eminence Archbishop Michael's mother, Anna

**Chandelier: (\$50)** From Joe and Valerie in memory of Rose Haburt

**Altar Candles: (\$50)** Fr. Fr. Andrew in memory of my My Grandfather Steve Bartek

**Candles on the Tomb: (\$25)** From Athanasia in memory of her family

**Eternal Light & Icon Screen: (25)** From Joe & Valerie in memory of Violet Bargdill & LaVerne Schutt

Note: If something is already taken and you want to sponsor it, please let Fr know. There can be more than one sponsoring family/individual.

## Greetings of Metropolitan Tikhon to Metropolitan Onufriy of Ukraine on the anniversary of his election and enthronement

His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon congratulated His Beatitude Metropolitan Onufriy of Kyiv and All Ukraine on the joint occasions of the 6th Anniversaries of his election and enthronement as Metropolitan of Kyiv and All Ukraine.

Your Beatitude, Dear Brother and Concelebrant in the Lord's Mysteries:  
Christ is in our midst!

I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ on the joint occasions of the 6th Anniversaries of your election and enthronement as Metropolitan of Kyiv and All Ukraine. May the days' celebration be filled with the joy of our Risen Lord! Many years, Dear Vladyka!

Leading the Church of Ukraine through a difficult period in her history, you have given the contemplative, monastic life as an example for your people. Rather than being "a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal", you have revealed to all that the acquisition of humility must be the principle effort of Christians, so that the fruit of humility may be received: the true joy and self-emptying love for all that Christ brings. Certainly, the love in Christ that you have for your flock is evident to all. This love that you have for them as their leader and father in the Lord Jesus Christ "does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right", and indeed "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things" (1 Corinthians 13:6-7). May you always continue in this life, following the examples of Seraphim of Sarov, Xenia of St. Petersburg, Herman of Alaska, the Chorus of the Fathers of the Kyiv Caves, and countless other saints! May your love in Christ, acquired through many years of ascetic efforts, always continue to grow! And may your flock be inspired to increase in humility and love through your example!

With warmest regards and best wishes, I remain  
Sincerely Yours in Christ,

+Tikhon

Archbishop of Washington

Metropolitan of All America and Canada

## Metropolitan Tikhon Visits Monastery of the Holy Transfiguration

From Saturday, August 8-Sunday, August 9, [His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon](#) visited the [Monastery of the Holy Transfiguration](#) in Ellwood City, PA, in order to celebrate the feast of [Saint Herman of Alaska](#), and ordain Subdeacon John Thetford to the holy diaconate. On Saturday evening, His Beatitude presided at the celebration of the festal vigil. At the conclusion of vigil, he presented the Very Reverend Abbess Christophora a primatial gramota honoring and thanking her and the Sisterhood for their internet ministry work. His words appear below.

We celebrate today, with festive cheer and glorious hymns, a simple monk. We honor today, with loving veneration and songs of praise, a humble, quiet man.

This simple monk, this humble, quiet man is known, to those who have eyes to see, ears to hear, and hearts to discern, as the Venerable Herman of Alaska. How remarkable that such a person, little recognized by the world and lacking in external distinctions, is being celebrated 226 years after the beginning of his missionary activity on this continent, 184 years after his death, and particularly today, on the 50th anniversary of his glorification as a saint by the Orthodox Church.

He was clearly an intelligent man with some degree of education, as one can tell from his letters. He was physically strong and enjoyed good health, as we hear in the stories of his labors. He had the opportunity to travel to far off cities and further his education. He could have chosen any of a variety of careers, and become successful.

But rather than settling for such opportunities, the humble Herman laid aside the love of self, put all of his trust in God, and devoted himself to the search for the one thing needful. He made a conscious choice, not dictated by necessity or passionate desire, to struggle in order to acquire the blessings of the Kingdom of Heaven, not as promises to be fulfilled in the distant future but as realities to be experienced in this very life.

Anyone who has made this choice, such as the monastics here at the Monastery of the Transfiguration in Ellwood City, Pennsylvania, understands both the difficulty of the struggle and

the joy of the experience. They understand it because the way we draw closer to a saintly person is the opposite of the way we draw near to a worldly person.

It is, in many ways, much easier to draw near to a saint than to draw near to a prominent worldly person. To approach, to imitate, or even to speak with a famous or successful worldly person, one often has to rise to their exalted state of fame, fortune, or expertise: a small effort at any of those things often seems futile.

But to approach a saint, one does not rise, but rather goes down to try to plumb the depths of their humility. And even the smallest step or effort in this direction, that is to descend towards the profound humility of the saints, connects us to them and unites us to the One who is the source of that humility, our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is what monastics try to do. Forsaking worldly goals, they have decided to come here and live the monastic life, seeking communion with our Lord Jesus Christ, striving for his humility through obedience and receiving his love through their life in community and their ministry of hospitality.

Indeed, monastics love the people who live in the world so much that they die to “this world”, in imitation of God’s Only Begotten Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, who was given up for the salvation of the world.

Following the example of Saint Herman, the nuns of this monastery have always reached out to the community and world surrounding them with love and understanding.

Since its inception in 1968, this monastery has used the local language, made connections with the local community, and been a model community of Orthodox unity in America.

In more recent years, this monastery became one of the first Orthodox communities to engage Orthodox Christians nationally and internally via consistent live streaming of the Divine Services.

When the Coronavirus pandemic suddenly fell upon our country in March, many of our churches had no capability to stream, and many of our faithful were unable to participate in the services.  
***Con’t Next Page***

## *Monastery Con't*

This is why thousands of Orthodox Christians around the country flocked to this monastery's live stream, and found solace in joining their prayers alongside those of the nuns. Indeed it seemed that the monastery church quickly became the largest live gathering, albeit a remote gathering, of Orthodox Christians anywhere in the country.

This unique ministry does seem to be a fitting imitation of Saint Herman of Alaska, for Saint Herman constantly connected with those far and wide through his unceasing holy prayers.

And so, it is fitting that on this feast today of St. Herman's glorification, I present to Mother Abbess Christophora and the Sisterhood of this Holy Monastery a Primatial gramota in honor of their dedicated live streaming of the services, particularly in these last few months and as an encouragement to continue to offer, not only this liturgical service but to faithfully persevere in their life of prayer which sustains all of us.

May our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, through the prayers of our Holy Father Herman of Alaska, always protect and preserve this Holy Monastery of the Transfiguration!

On Sunday morning, His Beatitude presided at the celebration of the festal Divine Liturgy. During the liturgy, he ordained Subdeacon John Thetford. Concelebrating with His Beatitude were Archpriest Alexander Rentel, Chancellor of the Orthodox Church in America, and Priest John Ketchum, Proistamenos of Kimissis tis Theotokou Parish, Racine, Wisconsin, and Dn. John's father-in-law, and Protodeacon John Oleynik.

Following the Divine Liturgy, His Beatitude met with His Eminence Archbishop Melchisedek of Pittsburgh and Archpriest William Evansky, Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Western Pennsylvania, and discussed matters facing the Orthodox Church in America and the diocese. Additionally, he was able to meet with Dn. Peter Ilchuk, All-American Council Manager, and receive an status update on the All-American Council, scheduled for July 2021 in Baltimore, Maryland. His Beatitude also met with Archpriest Thomas Soroka, Program Manager for the Departments of the Orthodox Church in America, and discussed the work of the OCA Departments.

In the evening, His Beatitude had dinner with Mother Christophora and the Sisterhood of the Monastery.

As was [reported earlier](#), the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America at the spring meeting decided to postpone [the celebrations](#) for the [Fiftieth Anniversary](#) of the granting of the *Tomos* of Autocephaly, and the glorification of St. Herman of Alaska that had been previously announced.

## *Deacon Con't*

and since then has been serving as Hierodeacon to His Eminence Metropolitan Alexander at the Holy Resurrection Cathedral in Lagos.

The establishment of an indigenous Orthodox Church in Nigeria is a recent phenomenon of the last two decades. Greeks, Bulgarians, Russians, and Ethiopians lived throughout Nigeria, but had not established an outreach to the Nigerian people. A Nigerian Calvary Grace Church comprised of many congregations began corresponding with, and then joined, a non-canonical "orthodox catholic" church in the United States. During this time, a Nigerian chief, Dr. Ilikannu, was searching for the original Church and, in doing so, began corresponding with the Patriarchate of Alexandria. Dr. Ilikannu was instrumental in uniting the splinter groups by 1983 with the desire of joining the original, historical Orthodox Church.

The years between 1985 and 1992 were rocky years for the new Orthodox churches, yet it was during this time that men's and women's groups and youth groups were being formed, and the communities were growing. By the beginning of 1988, the Orthodox in Nigeria had 12 priests and 6 deacons, with 12 parishes and numerous mission stations.

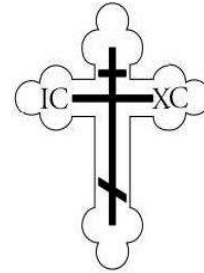
In 1997, a new diocese of Nigeria was established by the holy Patriarchal Synod, and His Grace Bishop Alexander was appointed the first bishop. Bishop Alexander had previously served in South Africa and as Director of the Patriarchal Office in Alexandria. Two years later, in May 1999, the diocese opened the St. Anthony School in Lagos, a small seminary for the education of catechists and candidates for the priesthood. In 2004, the diocese was expanded to become an Archdiocese, and His Grace was elevated to the rank of Metropolitan. The Orthodox Church in Nigeria faces many struggles, but is moving forward to spread the Gospel to those who hunger and thirst for truth.

First EVER

# "No Halupki Festival!" Festival Campaign

Holy Assumption Orthodox Church  
114 East Main Street ~ SR 163  
Marblehead, Ohio

General Info: 419-798-4591



Due to the pandemic, the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Halupki Festival will not be held.

You are cordially invited to support our historic parish with a tax deductible donation of \$15 (cost of a dinner ticket) or more and receive a

**20% discount on one (1) dinner ticket**  
for the  
**2021 Halupki Festival.**

You can make a donation by mail or visiting:

- our website at <https://www.holyassumptionmarblehead.org/>
- our parish FaceBook page [Holy Assumption Orthodox Church](#)
- or our festival FaceBook page [Holy Assumption Halupki Festival](#)



Visit us on Facebook!!  
"Holy Assumption Halupki Festival"

For more information visit

[www.holyassumptionmarblehead.org](http://www.holyassumptionmarblehead.org)

Email: [info@holyassumptionmarblehead.org](mailto:info@holyassumptionmarblehead.org)