

SS. PETER & PAUL

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Rev. Joseph McCartney, Rector

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Epistle Reading ~ Philipians 2:12-16

Gospel Reading ~ Luke 9:18-22

Martyr Varus, and with him seven Monastic Martyrs

This Week at a Glance

Sat, Oct 24th

6:00pm - Great Vespers

Sun, Oct 25th

9:30am - Divine Liturgy

Turkey Drive

Due to Corona Virus, there will be a change to this year's St. Herman's Turkey Drive. They are requesting a maximum of 20 cooked turkeys to be delivered the weekend before

Thanksgiving. They will also gladly accept frozen turkeys & hams to distribute to the needy.

If you would like to volunteer to cook a turkey at your home, please see Fr Joseph or Sam Jacob.

Gospel Meditation

On the Sunday of the Parable of the Sower, we are reminded once more of our Lord's far reaching preaching and teaching. He was, in effect, always sowing seeds. Occasionally, some followers embraced the word of God with a good heart, kept it, and bore fruit with patience. These men and women produced a bumper crop. More often than not however, those who received the word fell away. Even in the time of Jesus Christ.

How much of the seed Christ sowed still ended up as bird seed? Plenty. Consider the following: **a.** He fed 5,000 **b.** Multitudes were present on the Sermon on the Mount **c.** The roads were filled as he entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday **d.** And then today we are reminded, he often preached in cities, yet in smaller villages as well.

On a smaller scale, when he raised Jairus' daughter, the house was full and there was chaos. The New Testament is full of other example of the multitudes who heard the Word of God. Yet on the day of Pentecost, the evangelist Luke records there was just 120 present (Acts 1:15).

Looking back, it can be said with certainty that our Lord never forces anyone into a relationship with him. God always respects the freedom he created each person in.

We are all called to share the Word of God, to sow seeds. Yet, we refrain, offering perhaps we don't have the education or skill level necessary to do so, or concerned perhaps of our failed efforts in the past. Our days are filled with to-do lists, yet rarely on those lists is the need or desire to establish better human relationships. Witnessing to Christ's resurrection is a powerful witness, prophetic, and often unbeknownst to us, helps to sow seeds.

The success rate of sowing God's word won't always be successful. It doesn't mean we don't put forth the effort though.

The message of the today's gospel lesson is simple: Get Busy, Start Sowing.

Panikhida

Today's Panikhida is being said for **Alexandra** (Ray Asik's wife), **Elizabeth** (Delane Ward's mother) and **Zinaida** (Olga Sivinski's mother). May the Kingdom of Heaven be theirs, and may their memory be eternal!

Thank You!

I would like to thank my parish family for all your prayers and kind words for me during my medical procedure. Thanks be to God that all went well. It is great to be back in church with all of you. Once again, thank you and may God bless.

- Reader Alex

Fr Joseph Out of Town

Fr Joseph and family will be out of town from 10/26 and will return on 11/2. The Sunday service on Nov. 1 will be a Deacon's Service (non-eucharistic). In case of emergency, please call Fr Basil or Deacon Ed.

St. Herman House Auction

St. Herman's House is having an online fundraiser in November and needs your help to make it a success!

Their online fundraiser will take place November 15-22. They chose that week because its **National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week**. They are holding this online fundraiser in lieu of their annual November speaker's event and their annual December spaghetti dinner, both of which they had to cancel this year due to Covid-19.

During the week of November 15-22, They will be posting videos and other content on their Facebook page, Instagram and Twitter to highlight the issue of hunger and homelessness in our community and raise critical funds for St. Herman's. Their goal is to raise \$25,000.

You can visit their website www.sainthermans.org to find out more information.

Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke

The Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke, was a native of Syrian Antioch, a companion of the holy Apostle Paul (Phil.1:24, 2 Tim. 4:10-11), and a physician enlightened in the Greek medical arts. Hearing about Christ, Luke arrived in Palestine and fervently accepted the preaching of salvation from the Lord Himself. As one of the Seventy Apostles, Saint Luke was sent by the Lord with the others to preach the Kingdom of Heaven during the Savior's earthly life (Luke 10:1-3). After the Resurrection, the Lord Jesus Christ appeared to Saints Luke and Cleopas on the road to Emmaus.

Luke accompanied Saint Paul on his second missionary journey, and from that time they were inseparable. When Paul's coworkers had forsaken him, only Luke remained to assist him in his ministry (2 Tim. 4:10-11). After the martyric death of the First-Ranked Apostles Peter and Paul, Saint Luke left Rome to preach in Achaia, Libya, Egypt and the Thebaid. He ended his life by suffering martyrdom in the city of Thebes.

Tradition credits Saint Luke with painting the first icons of the Mother of God. "Let the grace of Him Who was born of Me and My mercy be with these Icons," said the All-Pure Virgin after seeing the icons. Saint Luke also painted icons of the First-Ranked Apostles Peter and Paul. Saint Luke's Gospel was written in the years 62-63 at Rome, under the guidance of the Apostle Paul. In the preliminary verses (1:1-3), Saint Luke precisely sets forth the purpose of his work. He proposes to record, in chronological order, everything known by Christians about Jesus Christ and His teachings. By doing this, he provided a firmer historical basis for Christian teaching (1:4). He carefully investigated the facts, and made generous use of the oral tradition of the Church and of what the All-Pure Virgin Mary Herself had told him (2:19, 51).

In Saint Luke's Gospel, the message of the salvation made possible by the Lord Jesus Christ, and the preaching of the Gospel, are of primary importance.

