



*Welcome to St. Olympia Orthodox Church,  
a young and, God willing, growing community of worshipers.*

*Fr. Nikolay Khalimonov, Priest-in-Charge, 323-851-7989, nkhalimonov@yahoo.com  
Fr. Alexy Karlgut, Dean/Administrator, 607-759-1833*

*Please join us for prayer and fellowship.*

**Upcoming Services:**  
**Saturday, Dec 9, 16**  
**Great Vespers: 5pm**

**Sunday of the Holy Forefathers**  
**December 17**

**Sunday, Dec 10, 17**  
**Divine Liturgy: 10am**  
**Coffee and fellowship**  
**will follow the service**

*The above services are  
at St. Olympia Church  
34 North Main Street  
Norwood, NY, 13668*

*Mailing Address  
St. Olympia Orthodox  
Church PO Box 122  
Canton, NY 13617*



**Saint Herman of Alaska**  
**December 13**

*By faith You justified the Forefathers, when through them You betrothed Yourself beforehand to the Church of the Gentiles. The saints boast in glory, that from their seed there is a glorious fruit: she who bore You without seed. By their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.*

**Troparion**

*O joyful north star of the Church of Christ, guiding all men to the Heavenly Kingdom; teacher and apostle of the true faith; intercessor and defender of the oppressed. Adornment of the Orthodox Church in America, blessed Father Herman of Alaska, pray to our Lord Jesus Christ for the salvation of our souls!*

**Troparion**

## Sunday of the Holy Forefathers December 17

The Sunday that falls between December 11-17 is known as the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers. These are the ancestors of Christ according to the flesh, who lived before the Law and under the Law, especially the Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, “In thy seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed” (Gen. 12:3, 22:18).

Righteous Aaron, Righteous Benjamin, Righteous Deborah, Righteous Hezron, Righteous Isaac, Righteous Jacob, Righteous Judith, Righteous Miriam, Prophet Nathan, Prophet Nehemiah, Righteous Noah, Righteous Rebecca, Righteous Sarah, Prophet Solomon, Righteous Susanna, Righteous Ruth, Righteous Mary, grandmother of the Theotokos, Prophet Daniel and the Three Holy Youth are all celebrated today.



### Troparion

*Great are the accomplishments of faith, for the Three Holy Youths rejoiced in the source of the flame, as if by restful waters, and the Prophet Daniel appeared as a shepherd of lions as of sheep. By their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.*



## Saint Herman of Alaska December 13

A full biography of the life of Saint Herman of Alaska can be found at

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2023/12/13/103530-repose-of-venerable-herman-of-alaska-wonderworker-of-all-america>

### The Repose of Saint Herman of Alaska December 13

*With what wreaths shall we crown the venerable Herman, leader of the Aleuts and apostle of Orthodoxy?*

*He received the Valaam leavening of the Holy Spirit and preached the Gospel to the Aleuts in word and deed, disregarding, along with the flesh, all that is of the flesh.*

*With tears and prayers,  
with suffering and with prolonged fasting,  
and with a most immortal love for the people,  
he led them to Christ, Who has great mercy.*

*Vespers, Lord I Call, Stikhera*



**Virgin Martyr Lucy of Syracuse**  
**December 13**

Saint Lucy was born in Syracuse, Sicily during the reign of Diocletian. She distributed her wealth to the poor, and made a vow of virginity. Since she refused to marry him, a rejected suitor denounced her to the prefect Paschasius as a Christian, and she was arrested. She was sentenced to be defiled in a brothel, but with God's help she preserved her purity.

Then the pagans attempted to burn her alive, but she was not harmed by the fire. Finally, she was killed by a sword thrust to the throat.

The name Lucy (Lucia) is derived for the Latin word for light (lux), and so she is often invoked for afflictions of the eyes. There is a tradition that she was blinded by her torturers, and the church of San Giovanni Maggiore in Naples even claims to possess her eyes.



***Wearing the radiant mantle of virginity, and virginally betrothed to the Life-giver Christ, you forsook the love of your earthly betrothed; therefore, as a bridal gift, you brought to Him the outpouring of your blood. O Virgin Martyr Lucy, intercede with Him for us all!***

**Troparion**

***We honor you, pure Virgin and trophy-bearer Lucy, and we praise your illustrious contest; for you desired only the beauty of Christ, disdaining all corruptible things. When you were beheaded, you received incorruptible glory.***

**Kontakion**



**Kontakion of the Nativity of Christ**

***Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One,  
and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One!  
Angels with shepherds glorify Him!  
The wise men journey with a star!  
Since for our sake  
the Eternal God was born as a Little Child!***

## PARISH WISH LIST

*A wish list to help our parish grow!*

### SPECIAL, one-time needs or items

A **Changing Table** for our newly remodeled, accessible restroom

### RECURRING needs:

**Paper Plates** (small and large), **Paper Bowls**, **Hot Cups**

**Napkins**

**Plastic Utensils**, especially **Forks**

**Paper Towels**

**Toilet Paper**

*Holy Mother Olympia, pray to God for us!*

## UPCOMING DIOCESAN & PARISH EVENTS

### UPCOMING NATIVITY SERVICES

<b>Saturday, December 23</b>	<b>5 PM</b>	<b>Vespers</b>
<b>Sunday, December 24</b>	<b>10 AM</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy</b>
<b>Monday, December 25</b>	<b>10 AM</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy of the Nativity</b>

WEEKDAY VESPERS 5 PM AT THE HERMITAGE OF ST OLYMPIA

For information please contact Mother Sophronia at [mothersophronia@gmail.com](mailto:mothersophronia@gmail.com)  
or via Facebook: Nun Sophronia Hofstead.

### Troparion of the Nativity of Christ

*Your Nativity, O Christ our God,  
has shone to the world the Light of wisdom!  
For by it, those who worshipped the stars,  
were taught by a Star to adore You,  
the Sun of Righteousness,  
and to know You, the Orient from on High.  
O Lord, glory to You!*

