



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

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 Fr. Alexy Karlgut, Dean/Administrator, 607-759-1833*

Please join us for prayer and fellowship.

**The Holy Transfiguration of our Lord God
 and Savior Jesus Christ
 August 6**

Upcoming Services:
Saturday, August 5, 12
Great Vespers: 5pm

Sunday, August 6, 13
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, NY13617**



**Glorification of Venerable Herman of Alaska
 August 9**

*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.*

Troparion

Litya from Vespers of the Transfiguration

In Your goodness You have sanctified the whole world with Your Light: You were transfigured on a high mountain, showing Your power to Your Disciples; for You redeem the world from transgression. Therefore we cry out to You: "O Lord of compassion, save our souls!"

You were transfigured in glory on Mount Tabor, O Christ God, showing to Your Disciples the glory of Your Divinity. Enlighten us also with the light of Your knowledge and guide us in the path of Your commandments, for You alone are good and the Lover of man!

*Christ, the Light that shone before the sun,
Who in the body lived upon the earth,
and before His Crucifixion fulfilled all His fearful dispensation
in a manner befitting His divine majesty,
today upon Mount Tabor mystically manifests the image of the Trinity.
Taking aside the expressly chosen Disciples, Peter, James and John,
He led them up into the mountain alone.
Concealing briefly the flesh He had assumed,
He was transfigured before them,
manifesting the loveliness of the original beauty,
though short of full perfection;
for He spared them as He assured them, lest seeing, they die.
Yet they perceived as far as they were able with their bodily eyes.
He likewise presented the chief Prophets, Moses and Elijah,
who testified to His Divinity:
that He is indeed the true brightness of the essence of the Father,
the Ruler of the living and the dead.
Therefore, a cloud covered them like a tabernacle,
and out of a cloud the Father's voice bore witness and said:
"This is My beloved Son,
Whom I have begotten without change from the womb before the Morning Star;
I have sent Him to save those who are baptized in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
and who confess with faith that the one power of the Godhead is indivisible:
Listen to Him!"
O Christ our God, Who are supreme in goodness and the Lover of man,
shine also upon us with the light of Your unapproachable glory, //
and make us worthy to inherit Your eternal Kingdom!*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of our God, and behold the glory of His Transfiguration, the glory of the Only-begotten Son of the Father! Let us receive light from His light! Let us be uplifted in spirit, and forever sing the praises of the consubstantial Trinity!

now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Moses, who saw God, and Elijah who rode the fiery chariot across the heavens unconsumed, beheld You in the cloud at Your Transfiguration, O Christ. They testified that You are the Maker and fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets. With them, O Master, count us also worthy of Your light, that we may sing Your praises forever!

Saint Tikhon, Bishop of Voronezh, Wonderworker of Zadonsk and All Russia

August 13

Saint Tikhon of Zadonsk, Bishop of Voronezh (in the world Timothy), was born in the year 1724 in the village of Korotsk in the Novgorod diocese, into the family of the cantor Sabellius Kirillov... His father died when Timothy was a young child, leaving the family in such poverty that his mother was barely able to make ends meet.

As a thirteen-year-old boy, he was sent to a clergy school near the Novgorod archbishop's home, and earned his keep by working with the vegetable gardeners. In 1740, he was accepted under a state grant set up for the Novgorod seminary. The youth excelled at his studies. Upon finishing seminary in 1754, he became a teacher there, first in Greek, and later in Rhetoric and Philosophy. In the year 1758, he was tonsured with the name Tikhon. In that same year they appointed him to be prefect of the seminary.

In 1759, they transferred him to Tver, elevating him to be archimandrite of the Zheltikov monastery. Later, they appointed him rector of the Tver seminary and, at the same time, head of the Otroch monastery.

His election as bishop was providential. Metropolitan Demetrius, the presiding member of the Holy Synod, had intended to transfer the young archimandrite to the Trinity-Sergiev Lavra. On the day of Pascha, at Peterburg, Archimandrite Tikhon was one of eight candidates being considered for selection as vicar-bishop for Novogorod. The lot fell on him three times.

On the same day, during the Cherubic Hymn, Bishop Athanasius of Tver, without realizing it, commemorated him as a bishop while cutting out particles from the prosphora at the Table of Oblation. On May 13, 1761 he was consecrated Bishop of Keksgolma and Ladoga (i.e., a vicar bishop of the Novgorod diocese).

In 1763, Saint Tikhon was transferred to the See of Voronezh. During the four and a half years that he administered the Voronezh diocese, Saint Tikhon provided constant edification, both by his life and by his numerous pastoral guidances and soul-saving books. He wrote a whole series of works for pastors:

Concerning the Seven Holy Mysteries
A Supplement to the Priestly Office
Concerning the Mystery of Repentance
An Instruction Concerning Marriage

The saint considered it essential that each priest, deacon and monk have a New Testament, and that he should read it daily. In an Encyclical, he called on pastors to perform the Holy Mysteries with reverence, with the fear of God, and love for one's neighbor. (An Explanation of Christian Duties was often republished in Moscow and Peterburg during the eighteenth century).

...The saint was unflinching in his efforts to administer the vast diocese, and he often spent nights without sleep. In 1767, poor health compelled him to give up running the diocese and withdraw for rest to the Tolshevsk monastery, at a distance 40 versts from Voronezh.

In 1769, the saint transferred to the monastery of the Theotokos in the city of Zadonsk. Having settled into this monastery, Saint Tikhon became a great teacher of the Christian life. With deep wisdom he set forth the ideal of true monasticism in his Rule of Monastic Living and his Guidances to Turn from the Vanity of the World, and in his own life he fulfilled this ideal. He kept strictly to the precepts of the Church. Zealously (almost daily) he visited the temple of God, and he often sang and read in the choir. In time, out of humility, he altogether ceased participating and serving, but merely stood in the altar, reverently making the Sign of the Cross over himself. He loved to read the Lives of the Saints and the works of the Holy Fathers. He knew The Psalter by heart, and he usually read or sang the Psalms on his journeys.

The saint underwent much tribulation because he had to leave his flock. When he recovered his health, he thought about returning to the Novgorod diocese, where Metropolitan Gabriel had invited him to head the Ivéron Vallaisk monastery. But when his cell-attendant mentioned this to the Elder Aaron, he declared: "Are you mad? The Mother of God does not direct him to move away from here." The cell-attendant conveyed this to His Grace. "If that is so," said the saint "I shall not move away from here," and he tore up the invitation...

The fruition of all his spiritual life were the books that the saint wrote while in retirement:

A Spiritual Treasury, Gathered From The World (1770), and
On True Christianity (1776)

The saint lived in very simple circumstances: he slept on straw, covered by a sheepskin coat. His humility was so great that he paid no attention to the workers who laughed at him as he walked about the monastery, pretending that he did not hear it. He used to say, "It is pleasing to God that even the monastery workers mock me, and I deserve it because of my sins." He often said, "Forgiveness is better than revenge."...

Strict towards himself, the saint was indulgent towards others. On the Friday before Palm Sunday, he entered the cell of his friend the schemamonk Metrophanes, and he saw him at table together with Cosmas Ignatievich, of whom he was also fond. There was fish on the table, and his friends became upset (fish is not permitted during Lent, except for Feast days). The saint said, “Sit down, for I know you. Love is higher than fasting.” To further calm them, he ate some of their fish soup...

By his deeds of self-denial and love of soul, the saint advanced in contemplation of Heaven and foresaw the future. In 1778, he had a vision in his sleep: the Mother of God stood in the clouds, and near Her were the Apostles Peter and Paul. On bended knees, the saint prayed to the All-Pure Virgin for the peace of the whole world. The Apostle Paul loudly exclaimed: “When they shall say, peace and safety; then sudden destruction will come upon them” (I Thess. 5:3). The saint fell asleep in trembling and in tears. The following year, he again saw the Mother of God in the air and several people near Her. The saint knelt down, and near him four others in white garments also fell to their knees. The saint entreated the All-Pure Virgin for someone, that She would not leave him (the saint did not tell his cell-attendant who the four people were, nor for whom the request was made). She answered, “Let it be as you ask.”

Saint Tikhon prophesied much about the future, particularly the victory of Russia over the French in 1812. More than once they saw the saint in spiritual rapture, with a transformed and luminous face, but he forbade them to speak about this.

For three years before his repose he prayed each day, “Tell me, O Lord, of my end.” And a quiet voice in the morning dawn said, “It will be on a Sunday.” In that same year, he saw in a dream a beautiful meadow with wondrous palaces upon it. He wanted to go inside, but they said to him: “In three years, you may enter. For now, continue your labors.” After this the saint secluded himself in his cell and admitted only a few friends.

Both clothing and a grave were prepared for the time of his death. He often came to weep over his coffin, while standing hidden from people in a closet. A year and three months before his death, in a vivid dream, it seemed to the saint that he was standing in the monastery church. A priest of his acquaintance was carrying the Divine Infant, covered with a veil, out of the altar through the Royal Doors. The saint approached and kissed the Infant on the right cheek, and he felt himself stricken on the left. Awakening, the saint sensed a numbness in his left cheek, his left leg, and a trembling in his left hand. He accepted this illness with joy.

Shortly before his death, the saint saw in a dream a high and twisting ladder and he heard a command to climb it. “At first, I was afraid because of weakness,” he told his friend Cosmas. “But when I started to go climb, the people standing around the ladder lifted me higher and higher, up to the very clouds.”

“The ladder,” said Cosmas, “is the way to the Heavenly Kingdom. Those who helped were those you have helped by your advice, and they remember you.” The saint said with tears, “I thought so, too. I feel that my end is near.” He frequently received the Holy Mysteries during his illness.

Saint Tikhon died, as was revealed to him, on Sunday August 13, 1783, at the age of fifty-nine. The first uncovering of his relics occurred on May 14, 1846.

Saint Tikhon’s glorification took place on Sunday August 13, 1861.



**Saint Tikhon, Bishop of Voronezh, Wonderworker of Zadonsk and All Russia
August 13**

UPCOMING DIOCESAN & PARISH EVENTS

Pictures from St Olymphia's Patronal Feast with Archbishop Michael – July 24-25, 2023

Link to photo gallery on Facebook

<https://fb.watch/m4iZQzDjag/?mibextid=cr9u03>

St Olymphia Parish Council Meeting

Monday, August 7, 7:30 PM via Google Meet

Diocesan Council Meeting

Tuesday, August 22, at 11:00 AM

Diocesan Chancery, Bronxville NY

Presbyter's Council Meeting

Thursday, September 28, at 1:00 PM

Diocesan Chancery, Bronxville NY

WEEKDAY VESPERS AT THE HERMITAGE OF ST OLYMPIA

Weekdays at 5 PM

For information please contact Mother Sophronia at mothersophronia@gmail.com

or via Facebook: Nun Sophronia Hofstead.

From Vespers, July 24

