



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

*Our priest is Fr. Paul Fedoroff, Priest-in-Charge.
 You may reach him at priestpaulfedoroff@gmail.com or 518-573-7987 (cell)*

*Please join us for prayer and fellowship.***

**** With the new order from NY State, we are restricted to ten (10) people per service. Everyone will need to sign up for each service. Please contact Peggy Wheeler, 315-322-8425. ****

Upcoming Services:
December 13, 20
Hours: 9:10am Divine
Liturgy: 9:30am
Saturday, December 12,19
Vespers: 5pm

Confessions: Saturday after Vespers, Sunday before Liturgy, otherwise by appointment.

Coffee after Liturgy!
****Social Distancing guidelines must be observed.**

The above services are at
St. Olympia Chapel
123 Main Street
Potsdam, NY, 13676

Sunday of the Holy Forefathers *Second Sunday before the Nativity, December 13*



*Today, as we celebrate the Forefathers' memory,
 let us the faithful praise Christ the Redeemer,
 Who magnified them in all the nations!
 He is the Lord Who does wondrous deeds,
 for He is powerful and mighty!
 Through them He has shown us the rod of His strength:
 she is Mary, the only pure and Virgin Maiden of God.
 From her Christ blossomed, bringing forth life,
 eternal salvation, and unending bliss for all.
 Vespers, Lord I Call, Stikhera*

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



Check out the life of St. Herman at
<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2020/12/13/103530-repose-of-venerable-herman-of-alaska-wonderworker-of-all-america>

Kontakion on the Nativity of Christ by St Romanos the Melodist

Prelude

Today the Virgin gives birth to him who is above all being,
and the earth offers a cave to him whom no one can approach.
Angels with shepherds give glory, and magi journey with a star,
for to us there has been born,
a little Child, God before the ages.

1

Bethlehem has opened Eden, come, let us see; we have found delight in secret,
come, let us receive the joys of Paradise within the cave.
There the unwatered root whose blossom is forgiveness has appeared.
There has been found the undug well from which David once longed to drink.
There a virgin has borne a babe and has quenched at once Adam's and David's thirst.
For this, let us hasten to this place where there has been born
a little Child, God before the ages.

4

As she spoke such words in secret and entreated the One who knows what is hidden,
she heard the magi seeking the babe. At once, the Maiden cried to them, "Who are you?"
They answered her, "And you, who are you, that you have borne such a Child?
Who is your father, who is she who bore you,
that you have become mother and nurse of a son without father?
On seeing his star we understood that there had appeared
a little Child, God before the ages.

5

"For Balaam laid before us precisely
the meaning of the words he spoke in prophecy,
when he said that a Star would dawn,
a Star that quenches all prophecies and auguries;
a Star that resolves the parables of the wise,
and their sayings and their riddles,
a Star far more brilliant than the star
which has appeared, for he is the maker of all the stars,
of whom it was written of old, 'From Jacob, there dawns
a little Child, God before the ages.

6

When Mary heard these amazing words,
she bowed low and worshipped the offspring of her womb and with tears, she said,
"Great, my Child, great is all that you have done for me in my poverty;
for see, magi are outside seeking you. The kings of the East seek your face,
and the rich among your people beg to see you,
for truly your people are those to whom you have been made known as
a little Child, God before the ages.

