

**Venerable Father LUKE of SICILY**  
**Commemorated November 6**



Saint Luke was from the city of Taormina in Sicily. From childhood he loved going to church, not merely to hear the inspired words but in order to put them into effect. When he was eighteen, his parents wanted him to marry but, aflame with love of God and of virginity, Luke fled by night. He took refuge deep into the mountains and was with the wild beasts, keeping a complete fast forty days. He was therefore counted worthy of a vision of an angel of God, who made plain what his way of life should be. He came down the mountain and went to a nearby monastery where he received the holy angelic Habit. He embraced many hardships from then on. For eighteen months he ate only every three or four days, taking nothing but a little bread and water. Beyond this, he would grant no consolation to his mortal body.

He left this monastery with another monk for the savage wastes of Etna. The plants growing here and there on the desolate mountainside were his only food. He hardly allowed any time for sleep, wore only one garment in all weathers and went barefoot. He made a rule never to leave his cell until he had recited the whole Psalter. When he was done, he would read the Third Hour and then get on with his manual work until the Sixth Hour. Only after reading the Sixth Hour would he take a little food accompanied by the usual prayers. In keeping to this pattern of life, he sanctified the day and the night by continuous prayer. His contests were rewarded by wonderful gifts of divine Grace. God granted him to share largely in his Holy Spirit so the he could illuminate the most obscure passages of holy Scripture, leading people to say of him in amazement, *How is it that this man knows lettes, when he has never been studied?* (John 7:15). Indeed, who could describe his sincere humility, his deep love for all men and the treasures of his discernment?

Following a revelation, he settled in a less forbidding place and took spiritual care of twelve disciples. The needs of his community brought him to Constantinople where he visited the various monasteries of the City and conversed with spiritual fathers he found there. On his return journey, he got as far as Corinth and stopped in a nearby village. There, seven months later, he gave up his soul in peace to God, at the age of forty. Immediately very many miracles began to take place thereabouts, and a sweet scented myrrh flowed from his tomb.

***Just as man whose head is underwater cannot inhale pure air, so a man whose thoughts are plunged into the cares of this world cannot absorb the sensation of the world to come.***

***St. Isaac the Syrian***

**HOLY CROSS ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
**950 Maple Drive, Hermitage PA 16148**  
**Protopresbyter George J. Treff**  
**Rectory 724-346-3151: Office/Hall 724-346-9937**  
**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6 & 13, 2022**  
**Website: [www.holycrosshermitagepa.org](http://www.holycrosshermitagepa.org) and Fb**



***Holy Cross Orthodox Church***  
***950 Maple Drive***  
***Hermitage, Pa. 16148***

## Sunday, November 6 & 13, 2022

### 10am Great Doxology & Holy Liturgy

*Welcome all! Christ is in our midst!  
May our Lord direct you in His path to  
righteousness always. And may the Saints  
rejoice in your good works.*

### Notes & Announcements

#### **Turkey Dinner today following Liturgy.**

Thank you Nelu & Maria Garoiu for co-sponsoring the dinner IMO parents Maria & Ioan and Maria & Vasile. May their memories be eternal.

Thank you Emil Hoyt for being a co-sponsor of the dinner to celebrate his 98th birthday. Multi Ani Emil!

**Holy Cross Bookstore & Gifts** Located below, off St. Nicholas Room. See Patty Barbat for purchases or request for items.

**Coffee Hour** following services, all welcome!

**Charity of Caring** We are called as Christians to care for our neighbors. All coffee hour proceeds go to towards the programs we sponsor along with ladies aid participation and support.

**Blanket & Socks Drive** is ongoing through November 19. More information will be coming with a December date for distributing and/or helping with a soup lunch. Please leave items in box on stage in social hall.

### Candles, Donations & Holy Bread October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

- Patty Barbat: Candles H&B President Biden & Vice President Harris; Ukraine; IMO Elaine Wild, Teddy Krumbach.
- Marianthy Cramer: Candle H&B for Evan.
- M/M Gene Kauffman: Candles H&B Happy Birthday Fina Colleen Joseph, Fr. Calinic, Marty

Young.

- Elaine Luca: Candles H&B Rick & Gina Skody; H&B Joe & Linda Nemetz & Family; H&B Vali Buian. Candles IMO parents on their birthdays & anniversary; IMO George & Phoebe Hallman.
- Carol & Bill Murrin: Candles H&B family.
- David Murrin: Candles H&B World peace: those in need; friends, family, acquaintances; Holy Cross members, my Goddaughters, those in Ukraine & all in need.
- Joseph & Linda Nemetz: Candles H&B David, Danielle, Isabelle, Jonah, Aiden; Linda & Phyllis; Rick & Gina; Helen Szakach & Elaine Luca; Jim Kostra. Holy Bread FHO Gina Skody & Phyllis Dromo.
- John & Peg Phillips: Candles H&B Nick, Helen & Heidi. H&B Nick, Megan, Codi & Devney.
- Ed & Mel Rochow: Candle H&B for all of Holy Cross.
- M/M Rick Roman: Candle H&B Melissa & Natalie Roman. Candle IMO Dad, Romie Roman

### Candles, Donations & Holy Bread October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022

- Patty Barbat: Candles H&B President Biden & Vice President Harris; H&B Pamela Davis; IMO Elaine Wild, Teddy Krumbach.
- Nelu & Maria Garoiu: Candles H&B Family, children & grandchildren; H&B Vali Buian. Candles IMO parents Maria & Ioan and Maria & Vasile; IMO John Buian
- David Murrin: Candles world peace (Home); friends, family, acquaintances; for Holy Cross members; my Goddaughters; for Ukraine; for those in need.
- Ken & Jennifer Wansack: Candles H&B and safe travel to and from Florida; H&B for all our family and friends of Holy Cross; IMO Mosu on his birthday; IMO Dad (Skip) and Mom (Kathy); all deceased family & friends.

## Saint Herman Archbishop of Kazan Commemorated November 6

Saint Herman, Archbishop of Kazan, lived during the sixteenth century. He was born in the city of Staritsa, and was descended from the old boyar nobility of the Polevi. In his youth Gregory (his baptismal name) was tonsured at the Joseph-Volokolamsk monastery under Igumen Gurias, who later became Archbishop of Kazan (December 5). (Saint Gurias was head of the monastery from 1542 to 1551).

At the monastery Saint Herman occupied himself with copying books, and he was a close friend of Saint Maximus the Greek (January 21), who was living there in confinement. In 1551 the brethren of the Staritsa Dormition monastery, seeing his piety, chose him as their archimandrite.

Taking up the governance of this monastery with a pastoral zeal, Saint Herman concerned himself with its internal and external order, for he himself was a model of humility and meekness. He exhorted all to observe their monastic commitment strictly, and he introduced into his monastery the Rule of Saint Joseph of Volokolamsk (October 18).

But after two and a half years Archimandrite Herman left the Staritsa monastery, leaving its direction to the hieromonk Job (June 19), who afterwards was to become the first Patriarch of Moscow, and was an ascetic and sufferer for the Russian Land.

Saint Herman's love for solitary struggles brought him to return to his original Volokolamsk monastery, where he strove toward salvation as a simple monk. However, when the new heretic Matthew Bashkin (who refused to acknowledge the Holy Mysteries and denied faith in the Holy Trinity) appeared at Moscow, Saint Herman and his own father (who had received tensure at the Volokolamsk monastery with the name Philotheus) were summoned to the Moscow Council of 1553. The Council censured the heretic Bashkin and resolved to send him for correction to Saint Herman at the Volokolamsk monastery, since Saint Herman was known for his holy life and zeal for the faith in Christ.

In 1555, after the taking of Kazan, an archepiscopal See was established there. Saint Gurias, the former igumen of Volokolamsk monastery, was chosen as archbishop. He was entrusted with building the Dormition monastery in the city of Sviyazhsk for missionary purposes. By decree of Saint Gurias, Saint Herman was appointed as head of this new monastery in Sviyazhsk. A stone cathedral was built with a belltower and monastic cells. The igumen of the monastery lived very frugally in a cramped cell beneath the cathedral belltower. Saint Herman particularly concerned himself with acquiring a library for the monastery. Soon his monastery became famous for its good works, and it became a center of enlightenment for the Kazan region.

On March 12, 1564, after the repose of Saint Gurias, Saint Herman was consecrated Bishop of Kazan. The short duration of his tenure there was marked nonetheless by his efforts to build churches and to enlighten the people of the region with the light of Christ.

In 1566, Ivan the Terrible summoned Saint Herman to Moscow and ordered that he be elected to the Metropolitan cathedra. At first, Saint Herman refused to have this burden imposed upon him. The Tsar would not tolerate any objection, however, and the saint was obliged to settle into the Metropolitan's quarters until his elevation to the position of Metropolitan.

Seeing injustice among those of the Tsar's inner circle, Saint Herman, true to his pastoral duty, attempted to admonish the Tsar. "You are not yet elevated to Metropolitan, and already you place constraints upon my freedom," the Tsar told him through his aides. He ordered Saint Herman expelled from the Metropolitan's quarters and that he be kept under surveillance.

The saint lived in disgrace for about two years, and died on November 6, 1567. They buried him in the church of Saint Nicholas the Hospitable. In 1595, at the request of the inhabitants of Sviyazhsk, the relics of the saint were transferred from Moscow to the Sviyazhsk Dormition monastery. Saint Hermogenes, then Metropolitan of Kazan, visited his grave.