

# HERMITAGE

February 2017

The Newsletter of the Hermitage of the Holy Cross

## A Message from Archimandrite Seraphim concerning Lenten Prayers for the Departed at Holy Cross Monastery

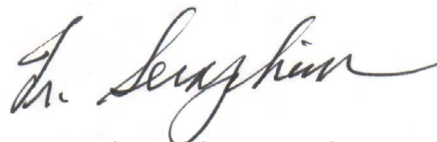
As we once again enter into the season of Great Lent, we remember especially in our prayers our beloved departed and those who have gone on before us and who now await the general Resurrection in Christ.

St. John of San Francisco says that the greatest help we can give to the souls of the departed is to have them prayerfully commemorated at Liturgies and Pannykhidas. When we commemorate the departed at the Divine Liturgy, particles of bread are offered for them, mystically uniting them to the Body and Blood of Christ; all Orthodox Christians, living and departed, are united to each other and all of heaven, being made one in the One God Who is Three Persons—a foretaste and the beginning of life eternal.

We invite you to please submit, for prayerful commemoration, the names of Orthodox Christians who have departed this life, along with an optional offering of alms - as much as you desire to give. These names will be com-

memorated at every Liturgy, Pannykhida, Litya, and Matins for the Departed during Great and Holy Lent. Asking mercy for ourselves and for all who cannot ask anymore for themselves, may we find the great mercy of divine life this Pascha, and at the General Resurrection may we all be raised unto life eternal, finding mercy at the Last Judgment. Amen.

*Enclosed you will find a commemoration slip and a return envelope. Please write the names of reposed Orthodox Christians\* and send the slip back to us, together with whatever offering of alms you choose to make on behalf of your loved ones.*



Archimandrite Seraphim

\* Please submit formal Orthodox Christian names only.



*The Hermitage Brotherhood wishes you a blessed Lenten season!*



**The Hermitage of the Holy Cross is a Russian Orthodox Men's Monastery under the omophorion of His Eminence Metropolitan Hilarion of Eastern America and New York. The Abbot and Confessor of the monastery is Archimandrite Seraphim.**

**Mailing Address:**

**505 Holy Cross Road  
Wayne, WV 25570**

**Administrative Offices:**

**304.849.2072**

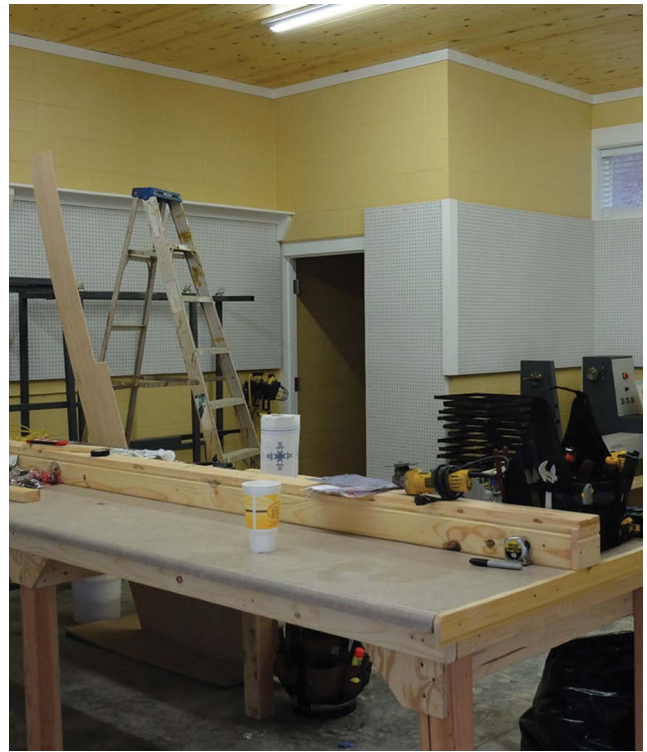
**Business Office / Gift Shop:**

**304.849.4726**

**[www.holycross-hermitage.com](http://www.holycross-hermitage.com)**

## St. Herman Building Update

Thanks be to God, we are happy to report that much progress has been made in building our new “St. Herman’s Building,” which will provide much needed space for a new candle dipping room, a new industrial bakery, and a meeting place for the monastic community – all of which we were sorely lacking over the past number of years. The candle making crew has just recently moved into their new candle room, and candle production is now fully operational. The rest of the building is scheduled to be completed soon thanks in no small part to your financial support and your prayers. Thank you, and may God reward you!



## Recent Ordinations & Tonsures



On January 10th, the eve of the Feast of the Holy Innocents, Metropolitan Hilarion graced the brotherhood with his presence and prayed with us during the evening divine services. On the following day, he served the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy. At the Small Entrance, he awarded Fr. Nektarios, the superior of St. John’s Skete in Ohio (a dependency of Holy Cross), the right to wear the gold cross. At the Great Entrance, the second hierodeacon of Holy Cross, Fr. Paisios, was ordained to the holy priesthood. After the consecration of the Holy Gifts, Subdeacon-monk Macarius was ordained to the diaconate. The Hermitage also has three new rassophore-monks: Fr. Theophil, Fr. Elias and Fr. Nicholas. A new novice, Br. John, has joined our monastic ranks as well. Please make special and fervent intercession for the newly-tonsured, newly-ordained and newly-awarded clergy and monastics, that they might be filled with all virtue and grace, shining the light of Christ upon the Church and all the world to the glory of God.

