

# Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

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HolyApostlesLansing.org

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## NOVEMBER 8, 2015

**23rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 6. SYNAXIS OF THE ARCHANGEL MICHAEL AND THE OTHER BODILESS POWERS: Archangels Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Selaphiel, Jegudiel, and Barachiel. Synaxis of the Holy Unmercenaries.**

**EPISTLE:** EPHESIANS 2.4-10: By grace you have been saved through faith - the gift of God!

HEBREWS 2.2-10 (ANGELS): God has made man a little lower than the angels; He has crowned them with glory and honor.

1 CORINTHIANS 12.27-13.8 (UNMERCENARIES): If I have all gifts and no love, I have nothing.

**GOSPEL:** LUKE 10.16-21 (ANGELS): The Lord said "I give you the authority to trample over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

MATTHEW 10.1. 5-8 (UNMERCENARIES): The Apostles are commissioned to Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons.

LUKE 8,41-56: The healing of Jairus' daughter and the woman who had a flow of blood.

**READERS:** Readers are needed to volunteer for readings at Vespers, for the Hours and the Epistle. If you are interested in doing this, see Fr James.

**COFFEE HOUR:** Tarallo Family. **NEXT WEEK:** Vuleta Family.

**DONATIONS:** If you are looking for ways to help out your parish church, consider donating prosphora, incense, wine, charcoal or products for the pantry.

**T-SHIRTS:** The parish t-shirts have arrived! They are a deep red emblazoned with a budded three bar cross, with the name of Holy Apostles Church on it. If you have ordered one, or would like to purchase one now, they are available in the back of the church.

**WELCOME!** We warmly welcome all of our visitors! It's good to have you with us! Please know that we are glad that you are here praying with us and invite you to join us after the service for a meal and to meet everyone in our community.

Fr James' contact information: Cell: 315-706-6185 Email: adelphotheos@gmail.com

**RED PRAYER BOOKS:** The Red Pocket Prayer Book is back in stock on our book table. There are also many other fine books and gifts that can be purchased.

**ST DIONYSIUS LECTURE:** Bp Alexander of Toledo and the Bulgarian Diocese, sponsored by our parish, will be coming to augment our Know Your Faith class which is studying the Church Fathers. He will be speaking at Anabel Taylor Hall on Tuesday November 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. He is an acclaimed scholar and we are most blessed to have him visit with us.

**GIRLS RETREAT:** The Second Annual Diocesan Girls Retreat for young women in grades 7-12 will take place at Saint Basil's Academy in Garrison, New York from November 13-15, 2015. If you are interested, please see Fr James.

<b>LIVING:</b>	Nathan	Anetta	Laura
Apr Timothy H	Leah	James Sr	Martha
Apr Herman S	Helen	Jan V.	Stanley & Helen,
Apr John C	Lindsey	Zachary	Taissia
Apr Thomas E	Susanne H	Iconographer Helena	Steluta
Apr Michael T	Elizabeth	Natasha, Lena, Vera, &	Theophan
Apr Stephen M	Mary	Sergei	Lynda
Pr Jason	Joe A	<u>Catechumens:</u> Elliott,	Florence
Pr Athanasios	Daniel	Micah, Danielle.	James
Dn Symeon	Andrew & family	<u>Children:</u> Caleb,	James R
Dn Michael	Harold	Christopher E, Anthony,	Vasily
Abbess Silouana	Wilhemina	Mia and Isabel	Modesai
Mother Raphaela	Elizabeth	<u>Seminarians:</u> Rdr Robert	Alexandr
Mother Christophora	David	and Ivan	<b>NEWLY REPOSED:</b> Ron,
Mat Cecelia	Madeline	<b>BIRTHDAYS:</b> None.	Dn Mark, John.
Mat Katya	Shirley	<b>ANNIVS:</b> None.	<b>ANNIVERSARIES:</b> None.
Mat Dorothy	Larry	<b>NAMESDAYS:</b> John S.	
Joshua	Christina	<b>REPOSED:</b>	
Brittany & Isaac	Jim & Kim	Priest Matthew	
Gretchen	Rachel	Priest John	
Peter	Constantine & Maria	Apr Alexander	
Marriane	Gaetan	Rdr Gregory	
Terrence	Jean	Daniel	
Helen	Christine	Ada	
Judy	Samuel	Lillian	
Gretchen	Lisa	Joseph	
Mary & Susan	Lyudmila	Marie	
John & Carmine	Nickolay	Joseph	

## SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

CONFESSIONS ARE HEARD BEFORE AND AFTER VESPERS AND AT ANY OTHER CONVENIENT TIME.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8:** 8:40 Hours, 9 AM Divine Liturgy, Social Hour.

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10:** 8 PM Ithaca College OCF in Mueller Chapel

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11:** 8:30 AM Readers Matins

7 PM Cornell OCF Meeting in Anabel Taylor Hall

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12:** 8:30 Morning Prayers

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13:** 8:30 Morning Prayers

9:15 Cornell OCF Morning Prayers in Anabel Taylor Hall

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14:** 6 PM Great Vespers

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15:** 8:40 Hours, 9 AM Divine Liturgy, Social Hour.

**NOVEMBER 17:** Bp Alexander Lecture on St Dionysius

**NOVEMBER 25:** Thanksgiving Akathist

## PRAYER FOR CHURCH GROWTH

Again, we pray to Thee, O Lord our God, that you would renew us and this parish by the Power of the Holy Spirit. Fill us with love and longing for Thee. Grant that we would seek not our own will but to do Thy will in all things and to be willing to lay down our lives out of love for Thee and for our neighbor. Draw thirsty souls to this place and remove their spiritual blindness, granting them through Thy grace to see the beauty of Thy Holy Glory in this place. Fill this community with new life, spiritual vigor and an insatiable desire to live godly and holy lives. Forgive us all of our sins as we fall down before Thee. Bring us all to a greater repentance and to an amendment of our lives as we look to Thee, the only Merciful and loving Lord Who calls all to salvation. We beg Thee, our merciful Lord, hear us, grant all of these petitions and all of our requests unto salvation: We pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

## THE ORDERS OF THE HOLY ANGELS

SERAPHIM (Is 6:12)	CHERUBIM (Gen 3:24)	THRONES (Col 1:16)
DOMINIONS (Col 1:16)	POWERS (1 Pet 3:22)	AUTHORITIES (1 Pet 3:22, Col 1:16)
PRINIPALITIES (Col 1:16)	ARCHANGELS (1 Thess 4:16)	ANGELS (1 Pet 3:22)

*To learn more about each of these orders, see our weekly Ebulletin.*

# Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

Lansing, New York



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2015

23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SYNAXIS OF THE BODILESS POWERS OF HEAVEN

# SUNDAY HYMNS FOR NOVEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>

## Troparion Tone 6 (Resurrection)

The angelic powers were at Your tomb;  
the guards became as dead men.  
Mary stood by Your grave,  
seeking Your most pure body.  
You took captive hell, //  
not being tempted by it.  
You came to the Virgin, granting life. //  
O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You.

## Troparion Tone 4 (Angels)

Commanders of the heavenly hosts,  
we who are unworthy beseech you:  
by your prayers encompass us beneath the wings of your immaterial glory,  
and faithfully preserve us who fall down and cry to you: //  
“Deliver us from all harm, for you are the Commanders of the Powers on high!”

## Kontakion Tone 6 (Resurrection)

When Christ God the Giver of Life,  
raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand,  
He bestowed resurrection on the human race. //  
He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

## Kontakion Tone 2 (Angels)

Commanders of God’s armies  
and ministers of the divine glory,  
princes of the bodiless Angels  
and guides of mankind;  
ask for what is good for us, and for great mercy. //  
Supreme Commanders of the Bodiless Hosts.

## Prokeimenon Tone 6

O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance! (Ps 27/28:9)  
v: To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! (Ps 27/28:1)  
**Tone 4:** He makes His Angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire. (Ps 103/104: 4)

## Alleluia Verses Tone 6

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God. (Ps 90/91:1)

v: He will say to the Lord: “My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I trust.” (Ps 90/91:2)

**Tone 5:** Praise Him, all His Angels, praise Him, all His hosts! (Ps 148:2)

## Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (Ps 148:1)

He makes His Angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire. (Ps 103/104:4)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

## SYNAXIS OF THE ARCHANGELS

The Synaxis of the Chief of the Heavenly Hosts, Archangel Michael and the Other Heavenly Bodiless Powers: Archangels Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Selaphiel, Jehudiel, Barachiel, and Jeremiel was established at the beginning of the fourth century at the Council of Laodicea, which met several years before the First Ecumenical Council. The 35th Canon of the Council of Laodicea condemned and denounced as heretical the worship of angels as gods and rulers of the world, but affirmed their proper veneration.

A Feastday was established in November, the ninth month after March (with which the year began in ancient times) since there are Nine Ranks of Angels. The eighth day of the month was chosen for the Synaxis of all the Bodiless Powers of Heaven since the Day of the Dread Last Judgment is called the Eighth Day by the holy Fathers. After the end of this age (characterized by its seven days of Creation) will come the Eighth Day, and then “the Son of Man shall come in His Glory and all the holy Angels with Him” (Mt. 25:31).

## DEFINITION OF SYNAXIS

The term **synaxis** (Greek: σύναξις - "gathering together"; Slavonic: sobor) may refer to any of the following:

- In general, any gathering of the faithful or clergy of the Orthodox Church for liturgical or administrative purposes, e.g., a synod or one of the divine services.
- More specifically, a gathering to celebrate the Divine Liturgy on the day following a major feast in honor of the saints involved in the primary celebration (e.g., on December 26, the day following the Nativity of Christ is the Synaxis of the Theotokos).
- In Slavonic, cathedrals are also known as sobors.

## ARCHANGEL MICHAEL

Over all the Nine Ranks, the Lord appointed the Holy Archangel Michael (his name in Hebrew means “who is like unto God”), the faithful servitor of God, as Chief Commander. He cast down from Heaven the arrogantly proud Lucifer and the other fallen spirits when they rebelled against God. Michael summoned the ranks of angels and cried out, “Let us attend! Let us stand aright before our Creator and do not consider doing what is displeasing unto God!”

## **ARCHANGEL GABRIEL**

The Archangel Gabriel whose name means “the strength (power) of God,” is the herald and servitor of Divine omnipotence (Dan 8:16, Luke 1:26). He announces the mysteries of God. On icons the Archangels are depicted in according to the character of their service: Gabriel appears with a branch from Paradise, presented by him to the Most Holy Virgin, or with a shining lantern in his right hand and with a mirror made of jasper in his left.

## **ARCHANGEL RAPHAEL**

The Archangel Raphael, whose name means “the healing of God,” is the curer of human infirmities (Tobit 3:16, 12:15). On icons the Archangels are depicted in according to the character of their service: Raphael holds a vessel with healing medications in his left hand, and with his right hand leads Tobias, carrying a fish for healing (Tobit 5-8).

## **ARCHANGEL SELAPHIEL (SALATHIEL)**

The Archangel Selaphiel, whose name means “the prayer of God, impelling to prayer” (3 Ezdras 5:16). He prays to God for mankind. On icons the Archangels are depicted in according to the character of their service: Selaphiel in a prayerful posture, gazing downwards, hands folded on the chest.

## **ARCHANGEL JHUDIEL (JEGUDIEL)**

The Archangel Jehudiel, whose name means “one who glorifies God,” encourages us to strive for the glory of the Lord, and intercedes for our efforts to be rewarded. On icons the Archangels are depicted in according to the character of their service: Jehudiel holds a golden crown in his right hand, in his left, a whip of three red (or black) thongs.

## **ARCHANGEL BARACHIEL**

The Archangel Barachiel, whose name means “the blessing of God,” entreats the mercy of God for people. On icons the Archangels are depicted in according to the character of their service:

Barachiel is shown with a white rose on his breast.

## **ARCHANGEL MICHAEL**

According to Church Tradition, and in the church services to the Archangel Michael, he participated in many other Old Testament events. During the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt he went before them in the form of a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Through him the power of the Lord was made manifest, annihilating the Egyptians and Pharaoh who were in pursuit of the Israelites. The Archangel Michael defended Israel in all its misfortunes.

He appeared to Joshua Son of Navi and revealed the will of the Lord at the taking of Jericho (Josh 5:13-16). The power of the great Chief Commander of God was manifest in the annihilation of the 185 thousand soldiers of the Assyrian emperor Sennacherib (4/2 Kings 19:35); also in the smiting of the impious leader Heliodorus (2 Macc. 3: 24-26); and in the protection of the Three Holy Youths: Ananias, Azarias and Misail, thrown into the fiery furnace for their refusal to worship an idol (Dan 3:22-25).

Through the will of God, the Chief Commander Michael transported the Prophet Habbakuk (December 2) from Judea to Babylon, to give food to Daniel in the lions’ den (Dan. 14:33-37). The Archangel Michael disputed with the devil over the body of the holy Prophet Moses (Jude 1:9).

The holy Archangel Michael showed his power when he miraculously saved a young man, cast into the sea by robbers with a stone about his neck on the shores of Mt Athos. This story is found in the Athonite Paterikon, and in the Life of St Neophytus of Docheiariou (November 9).

From ancient times the Archangel Michael was famed for his miracles in Rus. In the Volokolamsk Paterikon is a narrative of St Paphnutius of Borov with an account of Tatar tax-gatherers concerning the miraculous saving of Novgorod the Great: “Therefore Great Novgorod was never taken by the Hagarenes... when... for our sins the godless Hagarene emperor Batu devoured and set the Russian land aflame and came to Novgorod, and God and the Most Holy Theotokos shielded it with an appearance of Michael the Archangel, who forbade him to enter into it. He [Batu] was come to the Lithuanian city and came toward Kiev and saw the stone church, over the doors of which the great Archangel Michael had written and spoken to the prince his allotted fate, ‘By this we have forbidden you entry into Great Novgorod’.”

Intercession for Russian cities by the Most Holy Queen of Heaven always involved Her appearances with the Heavenly Hosts, under the leadership of the Archangel Michael. Grateful Rus acclaimed the Most Pure Mother of God and the Archangel Michael in church hymns. Many monasteries, cathedrals, court and merchant churches are dedicated to the Chief Commander Michael.

One of the chief temples of the city of Moscow, the burial church in the Kremlin, is dedicated to him. Numerous and beautiful icons of the Chief Commander of the Heavenly Hosts are also in his Cathedral. One of these, the Icon “Blessed Soldiery,” was painted in the Dormition Cathedral of the Moscow Kremlin. The saintly soldiers, Russian princes, are depicted under the leadership of the Archangel Michael.

We invoke St Michael for protection from invasion by enemies and from civil war, and for the defeat of adversaries on the field of battle. He conquers all spiritual enemies.