

# Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

347 Ridge Rd Lansing NY

HolyApostlesLansing.org

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## MAY 24, 2015

**7th SUNDAY OF PASCHA — Tone 6. Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. Afterfeast of Ascension.** Ven. Simeon the Stylite (the Younger) of the Wonderful Mountain (596). Ven. Nikita the Stylite, Wonderworker of Pereyaslav'—Zaleskii (786). Martyrs Meletius Stratelates, Stephen, John, and 1,218 soldiers, with women and children, including Serapion the Egyptian, Callinicus the Magician, Theodore, Faustus, the women: Marciana, Susanna, and Palladia, two children: Cyriacus and Christian, and twelve Tribunes—Faustus, Festus, Marcellus, Theodore, Meletius, Sergius, Marcellinus, Felix, Photinus, Theodoriscus, Mercurius, and Didymus, all of whom suffered in Galatia (138-161). St. Vincent of Lérins.

**EPISTLE:** ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 20.16-18, 28-36: We must take heed to shepherd the Church in the true faith, and defend it against the wolves.

**GOSPEL:** John 17.1-13: In our unity as a Church, Christ is glorified.

**COFFEE HOUR HOST:** The ½ Adults. **NEXT WEEK:** Allard Family.

**5<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY:** As we approach our 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we need some help in organizing the appropriate festivities. Bp Michael will be with us on the exact date, and it would be good if we could welcome all of our local Orthodox brothers and sisters to a wonderful celebration.

**KNOW YOUR FAITH:** The next class will be Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at Unwind Coffee Shop in the Ithaca Mall. We will be reading and discussing chapter 18 of the Gospel of St John: The Passion Narrative (cont.): Trial continues, Crucifixion, Death, Burial. Invite your friends to join us. The complete syllabus is available on the information table and online.

**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.

**FIRST SATURDAY CHURCH SCHOOL:** This coming Saturday is the first of the month, and the time for us to bring our kids to Vespers and Church School. Please make every effort to attend.

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

**RE-VISIONING:** On Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, we will be gathering as the full community to have dinner and to engage in a conversation about our future. This will be a joyous night celebrating our successes and planning for the evangelistic witness in the future.

**T-SHIRTS:** Orders are being taken for t-shirts for the parish. They are a beautiful design with a cross and the name of Holy Apostles Church on it. See the order for min the back of the Church. It is hoped that the order can go in this week in time for our summertime activities.

**RIDES:** If you are ever in need of a ride, or know someone who needs transportation to the divine services, there is now a link on the Contacts page of the parish website to aid in the coordination.

**YARD SALE:** Our third annual yard sale is just a few weeks away. This is a reminder that we are in need of suitable items for the sale. See Bernice to donate items.

**ONLINE SERMONS:** Sermons and other videos promoting our parish have been posted on YouTube. Search for Holy Apostles Orthodox Video and subscribe to the channel. If you ever miss a Divine Liturgy or the Feast Days, you can catch with the sermon later in the week.

**LITURGY TIME CHANGE:** For the months of June, July and August, the Divine Liturgy will begin at 9:30. The reading of the Hours will begin at 9:10. Please be punctual.

### LIVING:

Apr Timothy H

Apr Herman S

Apr John C

Apr Thomas E

Apr Michael T

Apr Stephen M

Pr Athanasios

Dn Symeon

Abbess Silouana

Mother Raphaela

Mother

Christophora

Mat Cecelia

Mat Katya

Mat Dorothy

Joshua

Brittany & Isaac

Gretchen

Peter

Marriane

Terrence

Helen

Judy

Gretchen

Mary & Susan

John & Carmine

Nathan

Leah

Helen

Lindsey

Susanne H

Elizabeth

Mary

Joe A

Daniel

Andrew & family

Harold

Wilhemina

Gordon

Elizabeth

David

Madeline

Shirley

Larry

Christina

Jim & Kim

Rachel

Constantine & Maria

Gaetan

Jean

Christine

Samuel

Lisa

Iconographer Helena

Catechumens: Elliott

Children: Caleb,

Christopher E,

Anthony, Mia and

Isabel,

**BIRTHDAYS:** John S,

Dirasamira, Eileen.

**ANNIVS:** Greg & Ann.

**NAMESDAYS:** None.

### REPOSED:

Priest Matthew

Priest John

Apr Alexander

Rdr Gregory

Daniel

Ada

Lillian

Joseph

Marie

Joseph

Laura

Martha

Stanley & Helen,

Taissia

Steluta

Theophan

Lynda

Florence

James

James R

Vasily

Modecai

**NEWLY REPOSED:**

Alexander, Roma,

Helen, Arch Roman,

Anna.

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

None.

## SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

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

**SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> COUNCIL, MAY 24:** 9 AM Divine Liturgy, Social Hour and Parish Council Meeting

**TUESDAY, MAY 26:** 8:30 Morning Prayers  
6 PM Choir Rehearsal

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 27:** 8:30 AM Daily Matins

**THURSDAY, MAY 28:** 8:30 Morning Prayers

**FRIDAY, MAY 29:** 8:30 Morning Prayers

**SATURDAY, MAY 30:** 6 PM Great Vespers

**PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 31:** 9 AM Divine Liturgy, Kneeling Vespers and Social Hour

**JUNE 11:** Re-Visioning. **JUNE 12:** Movie Night

**AUGUST 8-9:** 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

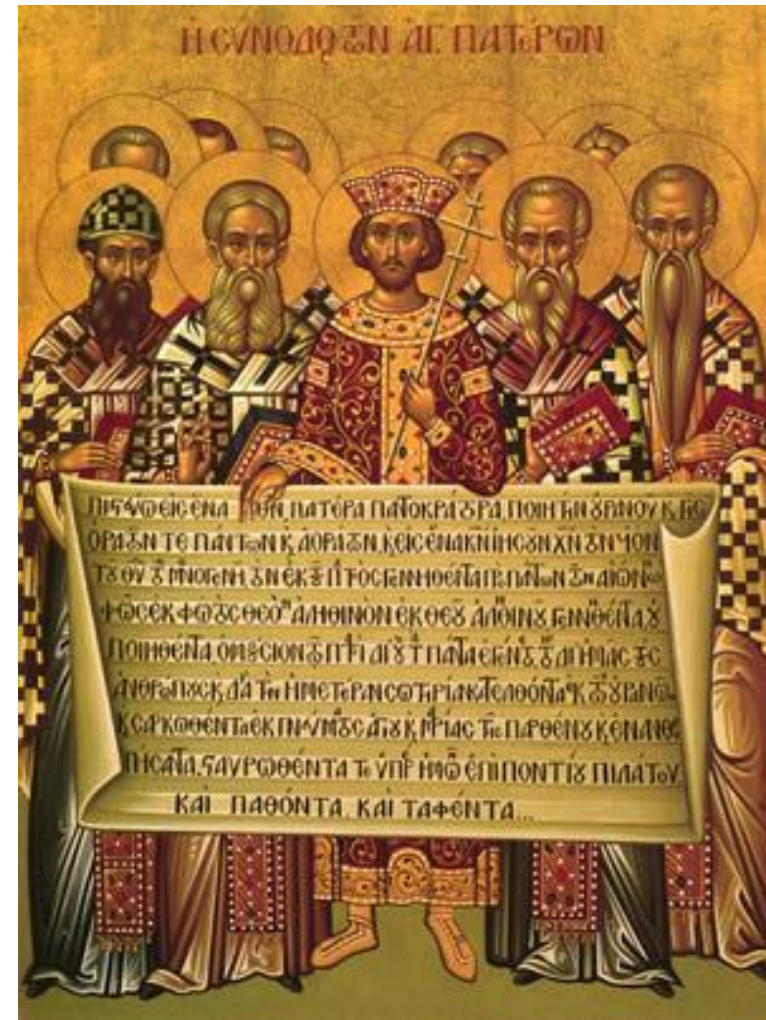
## LEX ORANDI, LEX CREDENDI, LEX VIVENDI

The liturgy is not something one experiences. Liturgy is not a 3 hour show on a Sunday morning. Liturgy is not where you talk to your best friend. Liturgy is life. Sounds a bit weird when one thinks about it. How can liturgy be life? As the title reads: *Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi, Lex Vivendi*: "The law of Worship determines the law of Faith determines the law of Life". This 5th century Latin term began to be incorporated into the life of the church. Liturgy is life because it forms not only what we do on a Sunday morning but it forms our entire life. Corinthians chapter 10 accounts the Eucharistic practice and not only does it mention the Eucharist but the climax of the Eucharist is partaken within the contexts of the unity of the community of the believers. The Eucharist is formed and shaped by the community of believers. If this is true and if we are to accept this "formula" then this is how liturgy is life! Liturgy representing life is then something not we do every Sunday rather it is lived out by the entire community on a daily basis. How can liturgy be life on a Wednesday afternoon in the middle of work school or whatever is might be?

- <http://livingorthodoxtheology.blogspot.com>

# Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

Lansing, New York



Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of PASCHA

Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

# 7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF PASCHA/ HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL AT NICAEA/AFTERFEAST OF THE ASCENSION

## Troparion Tone 6 (Resurrection)

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb;  
the guards became as dead men.  
Mary stood by Thy grave,  
seeking Thy most pure body.  
Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it.  
Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life.//  
O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee.

## Troparion Tone 4 (Ascension)

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God,  
granting joy to Thy Disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit.  
Through the blessing they were assured,  
that Thou art the Son of God,//  
the Redeemer of the world!

## Troparion Tone 8 (Fathers)

Thou art most glorious, O Christ our God,  
Who hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth.  
Through them Thou hast guided us to the true Faith.//  
O greatly compassionate One, glory to Thee!

## Kontakion Tone 8 (Fathers)

The Apostles' preaching and the Fathers' doctrines have established one  
Faith for the Church.  
Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from heavenly theology,//  
It defines and glorifies the great mystery of piety.

## Kontakion Tone 6 (Ascension)

When Thou hadst fulfilled the dispensation for our sake,  
and didst unite earth to heaven:  
Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God,  
not being parted from those who love Thee,  
but remaining with them and crying://  
"I am with you, and there is no one against you!"

## Prokeimenon Tone 4 (Song of the Three Children)

Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name forever!  
(Song of the three Holy Children, v. 3)  
v: For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us! (v. 4)

## Alleluia Verses Tone 1

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!  
v: The Lord, the God of gods, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to  
its setting. (Ps 49/50:1)  
v: Gather to Me My venerable ones, who made a covenant with Me by sacrifice! (Ps  
49/50:5)

## Hymn to the Theotokos

Magnify, O my soul, Christ the Giver of Life, Who has ascended from earth to heaven!  
We magnify thee, O Mother of God, who beyond reason and understanding gavest birth in  
time to the Timeless One.

## Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (Ps 148:1)  
Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise befits the just! (Ps 32/33:1)  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

**(Instead of "We have seen the True Light," we sing the Troparion of Ascension)**

## 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 APOSTLE CARPOS OF THE SEVENTY



Carpos was one of the Seventy Apostles. He was a follower and companion of the Apostle Paul by whom he was appointed as bishop of Varna in Thrace. He also preached the Gospel in Crete where he received St. Dionysius the Areopagite in his home. St. Dionysius testifies that Carpos was a man with an exceptionally pure mind, meekness and innocence and that the Lord Jesus, with His angels, appeared to him in a vision, and that he never began the Divine Liturgy unless he did not had a heavenly vision beforehand. In his Letter VIII, St. Dionysius the Areopagite related a story from St Carpos that he had once wished for the death of two sinners who were vexing him. The Lord appeared in a vision to him and said: "Strike against Me in future, for I am ready, even again, to suffer for the salvation of men; and this is pleasing to Me, provided that other men do not commit sin. But see, whether it is well for thee to exchange the dwelling in the chasm, and with serpents, for that with God, and the good and philanthropic angels." Enduring many assaults for the Name of Christ, he finally suffered at the hands of the unbelieving Jews and was killed and, with his soul, took up habitation in the kingdom of God to delight eternally gazing upon the Lord in glory.

## REFLECTION FROM ST. NIKOLAI VELIMIROVICH

We should not desire the death of a sinner, but his repentance. Nothing grieves the Lord more, Who suffered on the Cross for sinners, then when we pray to Him for the death of a sinner and thereby to remove him from our path. It happened that the Apostle Carpos lost his patience and began to pray that God send down death upon two sinful men; one a pagan and the other an apostate from the Faith. Then the Lord Christ Himself appeared to Carpos and said: "Strike me; I am prepared to be crucified again for the salvation of mankind." St. Carpos related this event to St. Dionysius the Areopagite and he wrote it down and gave it to the Church as a lesson to all, that prayers are needed for sinners to be saved and not for them to be destroyed, "for the Lord is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).



## ON THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

Jesus did not live with his disciples after his resurrection as he had before his death. Filled with the glory of his divinity, he appeared at different times and places to his people, assuring them that it was he, truly alive in his risen and glorified body.

o them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the Kingdom of God (Acts 1:3).

It should be noted that the time span of forty days is used many times in the Bible and signifies a temporal period of completeness and sufficiency (*Gen 7:17; Ex 16:35, 24:18; Judg 3:11; 1 Sam 17:16; 1 Kg 19:8; Jon 3:4; Mt 4:2*). On the fortieth day after his passover, Jesus ascended into heaven to be glorified on *1:9-11; Mk 16:19; Lk 24:51*). his final physical departure resurrection. It is the formal in this world as the glorious return to the into the world to he had given him to do (*Jn*

... and lifting his While blessing them, he carried up into heaven. And with great joy. ... (Lk 24:51-

The Church's ascension, as all such festal the remembrance of an Indeed, the ascension itself though it were simply the man floating up and away scripture stresses Christ's glorification with God the Father, together with the great joy which his disciples had as they received the promise of the Holy Spirit who was to come to assure the Lord's presence with them, enabling them to be his witnesses to the ends of earth (*Lk 24:48-53; Acts 1:8-11; Mt 28:20; Mk 16:16-14*).

In the Church the believers in Christ celebrate these very same realities with the conviction that it is for them and for all men that Christ's departure from this world has taken place. The Lord leaves in order to be glorified with God the Father and to glorify us with himself. He goes in order to "prepare a place" for and to take us also into the blessedness of God's presence. He goes to open the way for all flesh into the "heavenly sanctuary ... the Holy Place not made by hands" (see *Hebrews 8-10*). He goes in order send the Holy Spirit, who proceeds from the Father to bear witness to him and his gospel in the world, making him powerfully present in the lives of disciples.

