

# Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

347 Ridge Rd Lansing NY

HolyApostlesLansing.org

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## MAY 31, 2015

### 8th SUNDAY OF PASCHA — Tone 7. HOLY PENTECOST: FEAST OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

Apostle Hermas of the Seventy (1st c.). Martyr Hermias at Comana (2nd c.). Martyr Philosophus at Alexandria (3rd c.).

**EPISTLE:** ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 2.1-11: The Holy Spirit, the Comforter, the Giver of Life, is gifted to the Apostles.

**GOSPEL:** John 7.37-52, 8.12: No one has spoken like Christ, and He is the light of the world.

**COFFEE HOUR HOST:** Allard Family. **NEXT WEEK:** Pot Luck.

**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, June 7<sup>th</sup> at Unwind Coffee Shop in the Ithaca Mall. We will be reading and discussing chapter 20 of the Gospel of St John: The Empty Tomb; the Risen Lord appears to Mary Magdalene, to the Disciples, to Thomas; First Conclusion. Invite your friends to join us. The complete syllabus is available on the information table and online.

**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.

**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.

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

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**YARD SALE:** This year's yard sale will potentially take place later in the summer. This is a reminder that we are in need of suitable items for the sale. See Bernice to donate items.

#### 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:** Annie,

Chazz, Janet. **ANNIVS:**

None.

**NAMESDAYS:** Janet.

#### 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

Modesai

**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.

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

**TUESDAY, JUNE 2:** 8:30 Morning Prayers

6 PM Choir Rehearsal

7:30 Know Your Faith at Unwind Café in the Ithaca Mall

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3:** 8:30 AM Daily Matins

**THURSDAY, JUNE 4:** 9 AM Divine Liturgy for St Martha

**FRIDAY, JUNE 5:** 8:30 Morning Prayers

**SATURDAY, JUNE 6:** Parish Council Conference in Watervliet

6 PM Readers Vespers

**ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, JUNE 7:** 9:30 Divine Liturgy and Social Hour

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

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

## FR TOM HOPKO ON THE FEAST OF PENTECOST

Pentecost is not simply the celebration of an event which took place centuries ago. It is the celebration of what must happen and does happen to us in the Church today. We all have died and risen with the Messiah-King, and we all have received his Most Holy Spirit. We are the "temples of the Holy Spirit." God's Spirit dwells in us (Rom 8; 1 Cor 2-3, 12; 2 Cor 3; Gal 5; Eph 2-3). We, by our own membership in the Church, have received "the seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit" in the sacrament of chrismation. Pentecost has happened to us.

The Divine Liturgy of Pentecost recalls our baptism into Christ with the verse from Galatians again replacing the Thrice-Holy Hymn. Special verses from the psalms also replace the usual antiphonal psalms of the liturgy. The epistle and gospel readings tell of the Spirit's coming to men. The kontakion sings of the reversal of Babel as God unites the nations into the unity of his Spirit. The troparion proclaims the gathering of the whole universe into God's net through the work of the inspired apostles. The hymns *"O Heavenly King and We have seen the True Light are sung for the first time since Easter, calling the Holy Spirit to "come and abide in us", and proclaiming that "we have received the heavenly Spirit."* The church building is decorated with green to show that God's divine Breath comes to renew all creation as the "life-creating Spirit." In Hebrew the word for Spirit, breath and wind is the same word, **ruah**.

# Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

Lansing, New York



Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015

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

Holy Pentecost: Feast of the Holy Trinity

**8th SUNDAY OF PASCHA**  
**HOLY PENTECOST: FEAST OF THE HOLY TRINITY**

**THE FIRST ANTIPHON**

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe.

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

*Refrain:* Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!

**THE SECOND ANTIPHON**

The Lord answer you in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob protect you!

*Refrain:* O Good Comforter, save us who sing to You: "Alleluia!"

May He send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion!

*Refrain:* O Good Comforter, save us who sing to You: "Alleluia!"

May He remember all your offerings, and fulfill all your plans!

*Refrain:* O Good Comforter, save us who sing to You: "Alleluia!"

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

*Only-begotten Son*

**THE THIRD ANTIPHON**

In Your strength the king rejoices, O Lord, and exults greatly in Your salvation.

***Troparion of the Feast***

You have given him his heart's desire, and have not withheld the request of his lips.

***Troparion of the Feast***

For You meet him with goodly blessings; You set a crown of fine gold upon his head.

***Troparion of the Feast***

**ENTRANCE VERSE**

Be exalted, O Lord, in your strength! We will sing and praise Your power!

*(Ps 20/21:13)*

**TROPARION TONE 8**

Blessed are You, O Christ our God;

for You have shown the fishermen to be most wise

by sending down on them the Holy Spirit

and through them catching all the world in Your net.//

Glory to You, O good God Who love mankind!

**KONTAKION TONE 8**

When He came down and confused the tongues, the Most High divided the nations;

but when He distributed the tongues of fire, He called all people to unity.//

Therefore, with one voice we glorify the most-Holy Spirit.

**INSTEAD OF THE TRISAGION, WE SING**

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia.

**PROKEIMENON TONE 8**

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe! *(Ps 18/19:4)*

*v: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.*

**ALLELUIA VERSES TONE 1**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v: By the Word of the Lord the heavens were made; and all their host by the Spirit of His mouth. (Ps 32/33:6)*

*v: The Lord looked down from heaven, and saw all the sons of men. (Ps.32/33:13:)*

**HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS**

Rejoice, O Queen, glory of mothers and virgins!

No tongue, however sweet or fluent, is eloquent enough to praise you worthily.

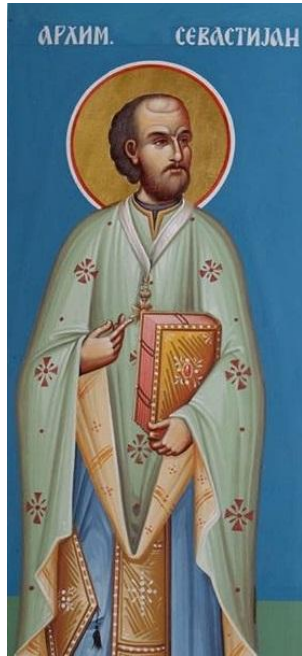
Every mind is overawed by your childbearing.

Therefore, with one voice, we glorify you.

**COMMUNION HYMN**

Let Your good Spirit lead me on a level path! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

## THE NEWLY CANONIZED ST SEBASTIAN DABOVICH



Born Jovan (John) Dabovich in San Francisco, California on June 21, 1863, to Serbian immigrant parents from Sassovae, Serbia, Archimandrite Sebastian grew up with the church in San Francisco where his parents operated a store. After finishing high school he served his parish as a reader and teacher.

In 1884, he was assigned to assist at St. Michael's Cathedral in Sitka, Alaska before he was sent to Russia to prepare for a life as a missionary priest. After three years of study at the St. Petersburg and Kiev Theological Academies, John was tonsured a monk in 1887 with the name Sebastian and ordained a deacon. Following his ordination, Dn. Sebastian returned to San Francisco where he served as deacon at the San Francisco cathedral. He also taught at the pastoral school in San Francisco.

On August 16, 1892, Dn. Sebastian was ordained a priest by Bishop Nicholas. He was soon sent to Minneapolis, Minnesota to replace Fr. Alexis Toth as the priest of St. Mary's parish. While there he also taught at the Missionary School. After a year, Fr. Sebastian

returned to San Francisco where he organized the first Serbian Orthodox Church, dedicated to St. Sava, in Jackson, California. Additionally, Fr. Sebastian was also asked by Bishop Tikhon to be a member of the North American Mission administration. In 1902, he continued his missionary activities, returning to Alaska as dean of the Sitka deanery.

As more Serbians emigrated to the United States, Abp. Tikhon asked Fr. Sebastian to lead a Serbian Mission in the North American diocese. With his appointment to head the mission, Abp. Tikhon elevated Fr. Sebastian to archimandrite on August 15, 1905. For the next five years Archim. Sebastian led the Serbian Mission from its center at the Holy Resurrection Serbian Orthodox Church in Chicago, Illinois, where he was the parish priest.

In 1910, Fr. Sebastian asked for a release from the Serbian mission so that he could return to missionary work. Then in 1913, he joined the faculty of the newly opened St. Platon Seminary in Tenafly, New Jersey. Shortly thereafter feeling a call to service the church in his ancestral Serbia, Fr. Sebastian asked for a release from the American Mission. He went on to serve as a chaplain in the Serbian army in the Balkan Wars and World War I. Other than for brief visits to the United States in 1915 and 1917, Fr. Sebastian spent the rest of his life serving the Church of Yugoslavia.

Archim. Sebastian reposed in Yugoslavia on November 30, 1940, and was buried at the Monastery of Zicha.

## A HOMILY ON THE KNEELING PRAYERS OF PENTECOST

(Orthodoxy Today) By Fr. Richard Demetrius Andrews

Orthodox Christians have a particular way of expressing our submission and obedience to God. We do this in a small way by bowing our heads. Repeatedly throughout our worship, we hear the priest or deacon say, "Let us bow our heads to the Lord." This petition occurs right before a prayer in which we usually ask for something. We ask for things from God because we realize: 1) that we are powerless to obtain them and, 2) God has the power to grant them. Bowing our heads is physical way of expressing our words and emphasizing that we don't necessarily deserve what we ask for. Bowing expressed our humility before God and says in effect: "God you are greater than me. I need you." We also express our submission and obedience to God by bending our knees or kneeling. At every Divine Liturgy, during the Small Entrance of the Gospel, we sing "Come let us bow down to Christ and worship Him the Son of God..." At the end of the Divine Liturgy today, we will pray the Kneeling Vespers of Pentecost. Before each Kneeling Prayer, the priest or deacon will say, "On bended knee let us pray to the Lord." What will we be asking from God in these prayers?

The First Kneeling Prayer acknowledges that Jesus Christ knelt when praying to His Father in the Garden of Gethsemane (Luke 22:41). We ask God to 1) hear us; 2) accept us; 3) forget our sins; 4) purge our sinful thoughts; 5) make us worthy to return to Him; 6) visit us; 7) free us from the devil; 8) make our lives secure in His holy and sacred laws; 9) entrust us to a guardian angel; 10) gather us into His Kingdom; 11) grant us forgiveness; and 12) cleanse us by the Holy Spirit. In the Second Kneeling Prayer we ask God to: 1) teach us how to pray and what to pray for; 2) govern our life, 3) make known the way we should walk; 4) grant us wisdom; 5) renew our spirit, 6) make our mind firm; 7) not to be fooled by worldly delights; 8) to desire enjoyment of future and heavenly treasures; 9) grant mercy; 10) make us holy; 11) extend a helping hand to us; and 12) Accept our prayer. The Third Kneeling Prayer, interestingly, is for our departed loved ones, in which we ask God to: 1) give rest to their souls; 2) place their names in the book of life; and 3) forgive their sins. No doubt this final prayer is also for us as we anticipate the time when we will leave this earthly life and join our departed loved ones.

Kneeling down in worship in church and reciting the prayers are only two of the three components in being submissive, obedient and humble before God. The third element is the actions of our life once we walk up into the social hall and out the doors back to our homes and daily life. How will God hear us if we never talk to Him in prayer each day? He cannot accept us if we do not come to Him. God cannot purge our sinful thoughts if keep holding on to them. He cannot make our lives secure if we keep ignoring His sacred and holy commandments. He cannot forgive us if we do not forgive others. God can cleanse us if we bathe in the Sacrament of Holy Confession. He can teach us how to pray and what to pray for if we regularly practice prayer. He can grant wisdom, renew our spirit and make our mind firm if we read daily from His required textbook-the Holy Bible. God extends His helping hand to us all the time, but we must make an effort to stretch out our hand to Him.