Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

347 Ridge Rd Lansing NY
HolyApostlesLansing.org
Fr James Worthington, Rector 315-706-6185
Rdr Bob West, Sr Warden SrWarden@HolyApostlesLansing.org

JUNE 21, 2015

Father's Day

4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 3. Translation of the Relics of the holy and wonderworking Unmercenaries Cyrus and John (412). Ven. Xenophon, Abbot of Robeiksk (Novgorod—1262). Ven. Sergius and Herman, Wonderworkers of Valaam (ca. 1353). St. Paul the Physician, of Corinth. Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos, "THE THREE HANDS" (8th c.).

EPISTLE: ROMANS 6.18-23: For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus.
GOSPEL: MATTHEW 8.5-13: Jesus finds great faith in the Roman Centurion.

COFFEE HOUR HOST: Olympia and Family. **NEXT WEEK:** Potluck.

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.

STRAWBERRY SOCIAL: A Strawberry Social will be held on Friday evening, July 3rd from 4-6 PM at the church. This is in conjunction with the Lansing Fireworks, so we should see a lot of traffic. Cake bakers, servers and socialites will all be needed. See Rdr Bob for more information.

5TH ANNIVERSARY: As we approach our 5th Anniversary, we need some help in organizing the appropriate festivities. Abp 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.

T-SHIRTS: The t-shirts for the parish have arrived! They are a beautiful 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.

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.

APOSTLES FAST: The Apostles Fast is in full swing and continues until the feast of Ss Peter and Paul on June 29th. During this time, it is the teaching of the Orthodox Church to maintain a Lenten diet while preparing for this feast. The Fast is thought to have been instituted out of thanksgiving to God for the witness of the apostles of Christ. With this Fast, believers express their thanks for the apostles' endurance of persecution during their mission.

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.

DIOCESAN YOUTH DAY: REGISTER for the Annual Diocesan Youth Day at Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson NJ on August 20th from 9 AM to 8:00 PM. The cost of $30 includes all park fees, round-trip bus transportation from Saint Mary's Church, and a meal voucher! Reservations must be made by August 10th. The event is for all diocesan youth and their friends, from elementary school to college for a day of fun and fellowship.

LIVING:
Apr Timothy H
Apr Herman S
Apr John C
Apr Thomas E
Apr Michael T
Apr Stephen M
Pr Athanasios
Dn Symeon
Dn Michael
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
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: Demetrios. **ANNIVS:** Darlene & Ed.
NAMESDAYS: Paula, Olympia.

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, Gordon
ANNIVERSARIES: None.

Schedule for This Week

Confessions are heard before and after Vespers and at any other convenient time.

Sunday, June 28: 9:30 Divine Liturgy and Social Hour,
Monday, June 29: 9:30 Divine Liturgy for Ss Peter & Paul in Endicott
Tuesday, June 30: 9 AM Divine Liturgy for Parish Feast Day
Wednesday, July 1: 8:30 Daily Matins
Thursday, July 2: 8:30 Morning Prayers
Friday, July 3: 8:30 Morning Prayers
4-6 PM Strawberry Social
Saturday, July 4: 6 PM Great Vespers
Sunday, July 5: 9:30 Divine Liturgy and Social Hour,

August 8-9: 5th Anniversary Celebration

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.

Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

Lansing, New York

Sunday, June 28th, 2015
4th Sunday after Pentecost
Unmercenaries Cyrus and John

Troparion Tone 3 *(Resurrection)*

Let the heavens rejoice!
Let the earth be glad!
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.
He has trampled down death by death.
He has become the first born of the dead.
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,
and has granted to the world//
great mercy.

Troparion Tone 5 *(Cyrus and John)*

You have given us the miracles of Your martyrs, Cyrus and John,
as an invincible rampart, O Christ God;
through their prayers, frustrate the plans of the heathens,
and strengthen the faith of the Orthodox Christians,//
for You alone are good and love mankind.

Kontakion Tone 3 *(Resurrection)*

On this day You rose from the tomb, O Merciful One,
leading us from the gates of death.
On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices;
with the Prophets and Patriarchs//
they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Your power.

Kontakion Tone 3 *(Cyrus and John)*

Having received the gift of miracles through divine grace, O saints,
you work wonders in the world unceasingly.
You remove all of our passions through your invisible surgery,
divinely-wise Cyrus and glorious John,//
for you are truly divine physicians.

Prokeimenon Tone 3 *(Resurrection)*

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises! *(Ps 46/47:6)*
v: Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! (Ps 46/47:1)

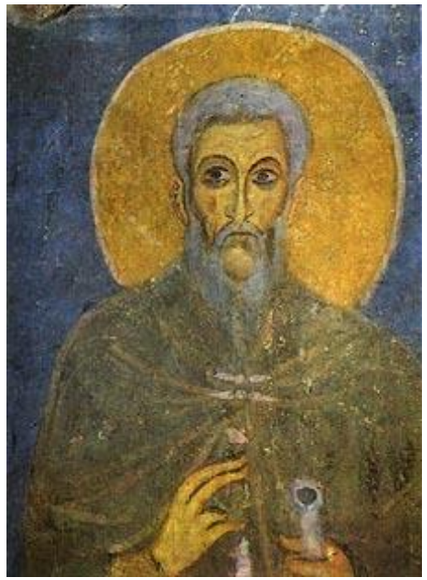
Alleluia Verses Tone 3

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
v: In You, O Lord, have I hoped; let me never be put to shame! (Ps 30/31:1)
v: Be a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me! (Ps 30/31:2)

Communion Hymn

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

Holy and Wonderworking Unmercenary Cyrus



The Transfer of the Relics of the Holy Martyrs, Unmercenaries and Wonderworkers, Cyrus and John from the city of Konopa, near Alexandria (where they suffered in the year 311) to the nearby village of Manuphin, took place in the year 412. This Egyptian village prompted fear in everyone, since in a former time there was a pagan temple inhabited by evil spirits. Patriarch Theophilus (385-412) wanted to cleanse this place of demons, but he died. His wish was fulfilled by his successor in the See of Alexandria, the holy Patriarch Cyril (412-444). He prayed fervently in carrying out this project. An angel of the Lord appeared in a vision to the hierarch and commanded the venerable relics of Sts Cyrus and John be transferred to Manuphin. His Holiness Patriarch Cyril did the angel's bidding and built a church at Manuphin in the name of the holy martyrs.

From that time this place was purified of the Enemy's influence, and by the prayers of the holy Martyrs Cyrus and John there began to occur many miracles, healings of the sick and infirm. An account Sts Cyrus and John is located under January 31.

Archpastoral Letter: Supreme Court Ruling on Marriage

June 26, 2015
Beloved in the Lord:
Christ is in our midst!

Today we have heard the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States to overturn all bans of same-sex marriages by states. In doing so, it has declared such unions as being a constitutional right. This means that same-sex marriages can be legally performed in all states of our country.

Despite this announcement, nothing has changed the teaching of our Holy Orthodox Church. As hierarchs, clergy and faithful, preserving the Christian Tradition handed down by the Lord Himself, "the faith which was once for all delivered to the Saints" (Jude 3), were-affirm the meaning of the Mystery of Marriage given to us in His Sacred Scripture:

1) God wills that men and women marry, becoming husbands and wives. He commands them to increase and multiply in the procreation of children, being joined into "one flesh" by His divine grace and love. He wills that human beings live within families
(Genesis 1:27; 2:21-24).

2) The Lord went even further to declare that people who look at others to lust after them in their hearts have "committed adultery" (cf. Matthew 5:27-30).

3) Christ's apostles repeat the teachings of their Master, likening the unique marriage between one man and one woman to the union between Christ and His Church, which they experience as the Lord's very Body and His Bride (Ephesians 5:21-33; II Corinthians 11:2).

As further guidance in this matter, I urge you to read the **Synodal Affirmation on the Mystery of Marriage**, issued by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America in 2013:

http://oca.org/holy-synod/statements/holy-synod/synodal-affirmation-of-the-mystery-of-marriage

and the 2013 Statement, **On Marriage**, from the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the USA:

http://assemblyofbishops.org/about/documents/2013-assembly-statement-on-marriage-and-sexuality

No matter what the prevailing pressure of the culture or the highest legal court of our land may proclaim, the timeless teaching of the Church echoes the rule of marriage revealed to us by the Lord, written in the Scripture, and reaffirmed by the wisdom and examples of the Saints. Because "we have the mind of Christ" (I Cor. 2:16), no matter what the government or society may say, like St. Peter and the Apostles, "we must obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).

With my prayers, my blessing and my love,

+ Michael

+ M I C H A E L
Archbishop of New York and the
Diocese of New York and New Jersey

Saint Junia and Saint Andronicus of the Seventy

Commemorated on May 17

Saint Junia and Saint Andronicus of the Seventy were relatives of the holy Apostle Paul. They labored much, preaching the Gospel to pagans. St Paul mentions them in his Epistle to the Romans: "Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen and fellow prisoners, who are of note among the Apostles, who also were in Christ, before me" (Romans 16:7).

St Andronicus was made Bishop of Pannonia, but his preaching also took him and St Junia to other lands, far from the boundaries of his diocese. Through the efforts of Sts Andronicus and Junia the Church of Christ was strengthened, pagans were converted to the knowledge of God, many pagan temples closed, and in their place Christian churches were built. The service in honor of these saints states that they suffered martyrdom for Christ.

In the fifth century, during the reign of the emperors Arcadius and Honorius, their holy relics were uncovered on the outskirts of Constantinople together with the relics of other martyrs at the gate of Eugenius (February 22).

It was revealed to the pious cleric Nicholas Kalligraphos that among the relics of these seventeen martyrs were the relics of the holy Apostle Andronicus. Afterwards, a magnificent church was built on this spot.

Kontakion for Junia and Andronicus

Let us praise the apostle of Christ, Andronicus,
the all-radiant star who illumined the nations with the light of the knowledge of God.
Together with him we praise all-wise Junia,
who shone with righteousness.
To them let us cry out:
"Unceasingly pray to Christ God for us all."