

Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

347 Ridge Rd Lansing NY

HolyApostlesLansing.org

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JUNE 7, 2015

1st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 8. All Saints. Hieromartyr Theodotus, Bishop of Ancyra (303). Hieromartyr Marcellinus, Pope of Rome, and with him Claudius, Cyrenus, and Antonina (304). Hieromartyr Marcellus, Bishop of Rome, and those with him: Sisinius and Cyriacus—Deacons, Smaragdus, Largus, Apronian, Saturninus, Papias, Maurus, Screcentian, Priscilla, Lucina, and Princess Artemia (304, 305, 306, 310). Martyrs Cyriaca, Caleria, and Mary, of Cæsarea in Palestine (284-305).

EPISTLE: HEBREWS 11.33-12.2: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30: He who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

COFFEE HOUR HOST: Potluck. **NEXT WEEK:** Worthington House Blessing.

5TH ANNIVERSARY: As we approach our 5th 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 final class for the year will be Tuesday, June 16th at Unwind Coffee Shop in the Ithaca Mall. We will be reading and discussing chapter 21 of the Gospel of St John: Epilogue: Breakfast Appearance by Sea of Tiberias; Peter's Love & the Beloved Disciple; Second Conclusion. Invite your friends to join us.

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.

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.

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

APOSTLES FAST: The Apostles Fast begins tomorrow 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.

RE-VISIONING: On Thursday, June 11th, 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.

MANY YEARS! To Steve and Marisa who are being married today out in California, along with many local friends. As the ceremony takes place this afternoon, please remember them in your prayers.

MANY THANKS! To Fr Terry Baz for leading us in the Divine Liturgy today.

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

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: None.

ANNIVS: None.

NAMESDAYS: None.

WEDDING: Steven and

Marisa.

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.

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

MONDAY, JUNE 8TH: Beginning of the Apostles Fast

TUESDAY, JUNE 9: 8:30 Morning Prayers

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10: 8:30 AM Daily Matins

THURSDAY, JUNE 11: 8:30 Morning Prayers

6 PM Re-Visioning Dinner

FRIDAY, JUNE 12: 8:30 Morning Prayers

7 PM Movie Night

SATURDAY, JUNE 13: 6 PM Great Vespers

ALL SAINTS OF NA SUNDAY, JUNE 14: 9:30 Divine Liturgy and Social Hour, Worthington

House Blessing

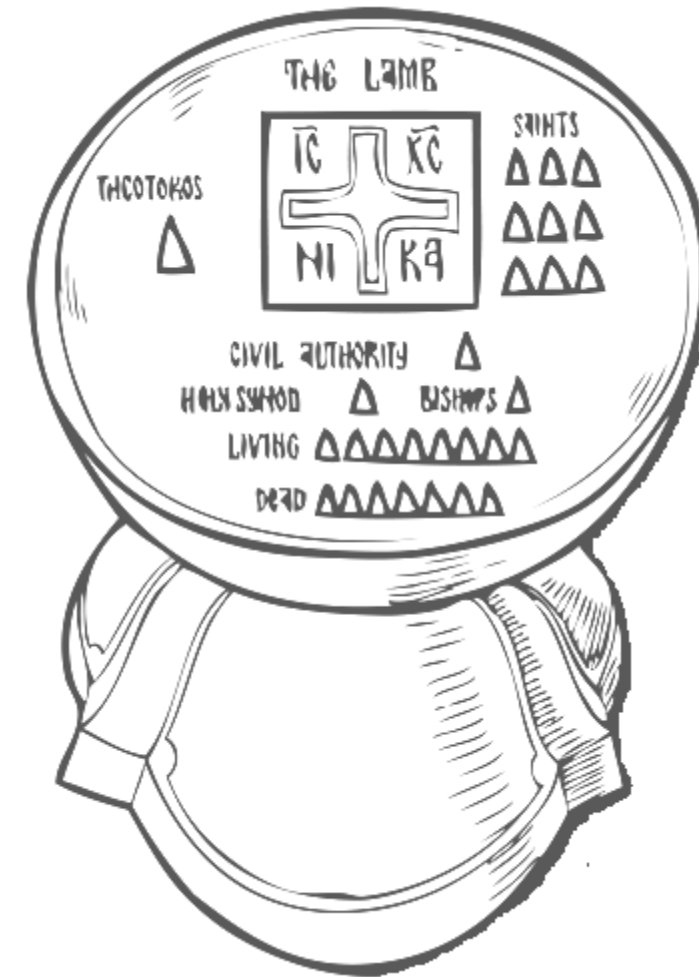
AUGUST 8-9: 5th Anniversary Celebration

THE HISTORY OF THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS

The feast of All Saints achieved great prominence in the ninth century, in the reign of the Byzantine Emperor Leo VI the Wise (886-911). His wife, the Holy Empress Theophano (December 16) lived in the world, but was not attached to worldly things. She was a great benefactor to the poor, and was generous to the monasteries. She was a true mother to her subjects, caring for widows and orphans, and consoling the sorrowful. Even before the death of St Theophano in 893 or 894, her husband started to build a church, intending to dedicate it to Theophano, but she forbade him to do so. It was this emperor who decreed that the Sunday after Pentecost be dedicated to All Saints. Believing that his wife was one of the righteous, he knew that she would also be honored whenever the Feast of All Saints was celebrated.

Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

Lansing, New York



Sunday, June 7th, 2015
1st Sunday after Pentecost
Feast of All Saints

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

Troparion Tone 8 (*Resurrection*)

You descended from on high, O Merciful One!

You accepted the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//

O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Troparion Tone 4 (*from the Pentecostarion*)

As with fine porphyry and royal purple,

Your Church has been adorned with Your martyr's blood shed throughout all the world.

She cries to You, O Christ God:

"Send down Your bounties on Your people,//

grant peace to Your habitation and great mercy to our souls!"

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Kontakion Tone 8(*from the Pentecostarion*)

The universe offers You the God-bearing Martyrs

as the first fruits of creation, O Lord and Creator.

By their prayers keep Your Church, Your habitation, in abiding peace//

through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One!

Prokeimenon Tone 8 (*Resurrection*)

Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God! (*Ps 75/76:11*)

v: In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel. (Ps 75/76:1)

Tone 4 (*Saints*)

God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel. (*Ps 67/68:35*)

Communion Hymns

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

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! (*Ps 32/33:1*)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

FROM VALUES TO CORE VALUES

There is a differences between "values" (which every parish has in one form or another) and true core values. The journey to core values involves three transitions:

Shared--From personal/randomly agreed upon to convictions collectively shared by most in the parish.

Holy -- True core values are holy. Often this involves a transition from current values based on secular topics or principles to values that express the fullness of the Gospel. Which of these values could be held by (e.g.) Kiwanis club - or PTA etc. Which can only be done by a church? By an Orthodox Church?

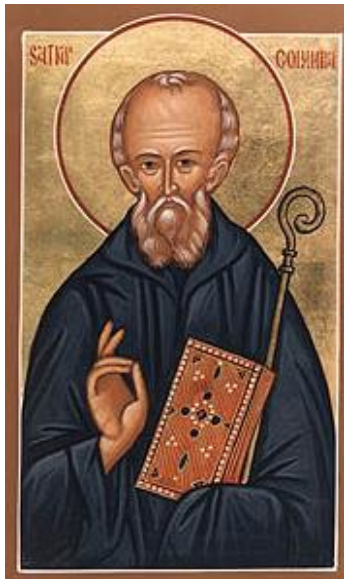
Lived -- In discerning core values it is important to differentiate between aspirational values - ones that are holy and shared but not enacted and values that are also lived.

These values that are truly "baked in" to the parish culture and expressed by behaviors, attitudes and the way we solve problems.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCOVERING CORE VALUES

- Discerning core values for a parish -- particularly a parish that has little past experience with dialogue -- can be tricky. Each parish should discuss the following questions:
- To what are we committed?
- As persons/individuals? As a parish?
- What is God calling me/us to do here?
- What are things like when they are at their best here? How do we evaluate that? What criteria do we use?
- How do we spend our time in this parish?
- What behaviors, methods, procedures, policies would be exhibited by an Orthodox Church that has stated ___ as a core value?
- What are we "against"? What behaviors would you/we simply not tolerate in this parish?
- What ideas have we rejected in the past? Why?
- Consider two decisions that the parish has made recently. What was the basis of those decisions? What does that action reveal about our values?
- What is the purpose/mission of our parish? (Who are we? What do we do? Why do we do it? Who do we do it for?) Given that purpose what should such a community value?
- What values are expressed by today's epistle and gospel?
- What values are demonstrated at our Parish annual meeting? Our Parish Council Meetings?
- What important Christian values are (often/occasionally) not observable at these sessions?
- Does our budget express our priorities and values?
- What sacred cows exist in our parish? What topics are undiscussable?
- What stirs us to action?
- What do we want our parish to be known for?
- What are we passionate about?

COLUMBA OF IONA



Our venerable and God-bearing Father **Columba of Iona**, Enlightener of Scotland (December 7, 521 - June 9, 597) (also known as **Columcille**, meaning "Dove of the Church") was an Irish missionary who helped re-introduce Christianity to Scotland and the north of England. The primary source on the life of St. Columba is the *Life of St. Columba*, a hagiography by St. Adomnan of Iona. A newly founded monastic community in the United States, St. Columba of Iona Orthodox Monastery (Southbridge, Massachusetts), seeks to bring the same Orthodox missionary zeal to the shores of the New World

He was born to Fedhlimidh and Eithne of the Ui Neill clan in Gartán, near Lough Gartán, Donegal. On his father's side he was great-great-grandson of Niall of the Nine Hostages, an Irish king of the fourth century. He became a monk and soon rose in the church hierarchy to the rank of priest. Tradition asserts that, sometime around 560, he became involved in a copyright wrangle with St. Finnian of Moville over a psalter. The dispute eventually led to the pitched Battle of Cul Dremhe in 561, during which many men were killed. (Columba's copy of the psalter has been traditionally associated with the Cathach of St. Columba.) As penance for these deaths, Columba was ordered to make the same number of new converts as had been killed. He was also ordered to leave Ireland and move such that he could not see his native country.

He travelled to Scotland, where it is reputed he first landed at the southern tip of the Kintyre peninsula, near Southend. However, being still in sight of his native land he moved further north up the west coast of Scotland. In 563 he founded a monastery on the island of Iona off the west coast of Scotland which became the centre of his evangelising mission to Scotland. There are many stories of miracles which he performed during his mission to convert the Picts.

Columba is also the source of the first known reference to the Loch Ness Monster. According to the story, in 565 he came across a group of Picts who were burying a man killed by the monster, and brought the man back to life. In another version, he is said to have saved the man while the man was being attacked, driving away the monster with the sign of the cross.

St. Columba's feast day is June 9, and with St. Patrick of Ireland (March 17) and St. Brigid of Kildaire (February 1) is one of the three patron saints of Ireland. The three are buried together in Downpatrick in County Down, deep within the famous Hill of Down.

SYNAXIS OF ALL SAINTS

The Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been saints at all times, and they have come from every corner of the earth. They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous, yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit. The Descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God's directive to "be holy, for I am holy" (Lev. 11:44, 1 Peter 1:16, etc.). Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost. This feast may have originated at an early date, perhaps as a celebration of all martyrs, then it was broadened to include all men and women who had borne witness to Christ by their virtuous lives, even if they did not shed their blood for Him.

In the Philokalia, St Peter of Damascus, in his "Fourth Stage of Contemplation," mentions five categories of saints: Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, and Monastic Saints. The hymnology for the feast of All Saints also lists six categories: "Rejoice, assembly of the Apostles, Prophets of the Lord, loyal choirs of the Martyrs, divine Hierarchs, Monastic Fathers, and the Righteous...." Some of the saints are described as Confessors, a category which does not appear in to the category of Martyrs. They were not put to death as the Martyrs were, but they boldly confessed Christ and came close to being executed for their faith. St Maximus the Confessor (January 21) is such a saint.

The order of these six types of saints seems to be based on their importance to the Church. The Apostles are listed first, because they were the first to spread the Gospel throughout the world.

The Martyrs come next because of their example of courage in professing their faith before the enemies and persecutors of the Church, which encouraged other Christians to remain faithful to Christ even unto death.

Although they come first chronologically, the Prophets are listed after the Apostles and Martyrs. This is because the Old Testament Prophets saw only the shadows of things to come, whereas the Apostles and Martyrs experienced them firsthand. The New Testament also takes precedence over the Old Testament.

The holy Hierarchs comprise the fourth category. They are the leaders of their flocks, teaching them by their word and their example.

The Monastic Saints are those who withdrew from this world to live in monasteries, or in seclusion. They did not do this out of hatred for the world, but in order to devote themselves to unceasing prayer, and to do battle against the power of the demons. Although some people erroneously believe that monks and nuns are useless and unproductive, St John Climacus had a high regard for them: "Angels are a light for monks, and the monastic life is a light for all men" (LADDER, Step 26:31).

The last category, the Righteous, are those who attained holiness of life while living "in the world." Examples include Abraham and his wife Sarah, Job, Sts Joachim and Anna, St Joseph the Betrothed, St Juliana of Lazarevo, and others.