

Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

347 Ridge Rd Lansing NY

HolyApostlesLansing.org

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JULY 12, 2015

6th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 5. Martyrs Proclus and Hilary of Ancyra (2nd c.). Ven. Michael of Maleinus (962). Martyrs Theodore and his son, John, of Kiev (983). Ven. Arseny of Novgorod, Fool-for-Christ (1570). Ven. Simon, Abbot of Volomsk (1641). Martyr Golinduc (in Baptism Mary), of Persia (591). Ven. John (998) and Gabriel, of the Holy Mountain (Georgian). Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos, "THE THREE HANDS." (8th c.).

EPISTLE: ROMANS 12.6-14: Guard the gifts you have been given, and use them with diligence in the service of the Lord.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 9.1-8: The blind man is cured and sees that it was God Who healed him.

COFFEE HOUR HOST: Potluck. **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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

ST ANDREW'S CAMP: Several of our youth and our rector will be at St Andrew's Camp this week. Should you need to contact Fr James, he can be reached by all normal means. Do not hesitate to contact him for pastoral needs this week.

UPCOMING DIVINE SERVICES: Aside from some of the daily services, our worship schedule remains the same - Great Vespers and Divine Liturgy - every week throughout the summer. Additionally, if you are traveling and looking for a place to worship during your travels see either Fr James or visit www.assemblyofbishops.org/directories/parishes.

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
Marianne
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: None.
ANNIVS: None.
NAMESDAYS: Chazz
(Vladimir).

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:
Gordon
ANNIVERSARIES:
None.

SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

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

SUNDAY, JULY 12: 9:30 Divine Liturgy and Social Hour,

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15: 8:30 Readers Matins

SATURDAY, JULY 18: 6 PM Great Vespers

SUNDAY, JULY 19: 9:30 Divine Liturgy and Social Hour

JULY 13-17: Fr James is at St Andrews Camp

JULY 20-24: All-American Council

AUGUST 8-9: 5th Anniversary Celebration

PRAYER FOR THE ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

“Furthermore we pray that the Lord, our Almighty and Eternal God, Source of all wisdom and understanding, will be with us as we prepare to gather in Council, that in striving to serve and glorify Him, we may be enlightened with right judgment and good purpose, for the building up of His Holy Church to His eternal glory: we pray Thee, O Lord, hearken and have mercy.”

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, July 12th, 2015
6th Sunday after Pentecost

WEEKLY HYMNS FOR SUNDAY, JULY 12

Troparion Tone 5 (Resurrection)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,
born for our salvation from the Virgin;
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,
to endure death,
and to raise the dead//
by His glorious Resurrection.

Troparion Tone 8 (Venerable Michael)

The image of God was truly preserved in you, O Father,
for you took up the Cross and followed Christ.
By so doing you taught us to disregard the flesh for it passes away
but to care instead for the soul, since it is immortal//
Therefore your spirit, O holy Father Michael, rejoices with the Angels.

Troparion Tone 4 (Martyrs Proclus and Hilary)

You holy martyrs Proclus and Hilary, O Lord,
through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from You, Our God.
For having Your strength, they laid low their adversaries,
and shattered the powerless boldness of demons//
Through their intercessions, save our souls!

Kontakion Tone 5 (Resurrection)

You descended into hell, O my Savior,
shattering its gates as Almighty,
resurrecting the dead as Creator,
and destroying the sting of death.
You have delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Man,//
and we cry to You: "O Lord, save us!"

Kontakion Tone 4 (Martyrs Proclus and Hilary)

Like the morning star,
your glorious sufferings enlighten us with holy miracles.
We celebrate you memory, Proclus and Hilary;
pray to Christ God for us//
that He will save our souls!

Kontakion Tone 2 (Venerable Michael)

By your deeds you withered the arrogance of the flesh;
through enlightenment you gave wings to your agility of spirit.
You were revealed as a dwelling place of the Trinity,
Whom you now clearly behold.//
Blessed Michael, unceasingly pray for us all!

Prokeimenon Tone 5

You, O Lord, shall protect us and preserve us from this generation forever. (Ps 11/12:7)
v: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly! (Ps 11/12:1)

Alelluia Verses Tone 5

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
v: I will sing of Your mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Your truth from
generation to generation. (Ps 88/89:1)
v: For You have said: "Mercy will be established forever; My truth will be prepared in the
heavens." (Ps 88/89:2)

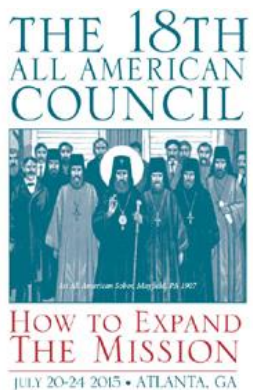
Communion Hymn

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

ALL-AMERICAN COUNCILS AND SOBORS

The Orthodox Church in America has convened 25 All-American Councils since the first in 1907. In order to differentiate between the councils before autocephaly and after it, when the church began a new existence, it was decided that the councils from 1907 to 1970 would be called by the term "Sobor" and that these gatherings since autocephaly in 1970 would be called by the equivalent term in English "Council".

Therefore, the 14th All-American Sobor in 1970 became the 1st All-American Council. Prior to autocephaly, these gatherings were commonly called by their Russian name: "Sobor" even in English. In Russian, there is no difference in the name for the councils before and after autocephaly, both are called: "Sobor".



LETTER FROM THE METROPOLITAN ON THE ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL

FROM JULY 20, 2014

To the Venerable Pastors, God-loving Monastics and Devout Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America:

I greet all of you as we mark one year before the opening of the 18th All-American Council, slated to convene in Atlanta, Georgia from July 20-24, 2015. The Council, which will provide an opportunity for the entire Church to gather in worship, fellowship and discipleship, is one of the most inspiring events in the life of our Orthodox Church in America. And the task of the 18th All-American Council appears to be all the more uplifting inasmuch as it has as its theme "How to Expand the Mission" - the very theme that Saint Tikhon pursued at the First All-American Sobor that gathered in Mayfield, Pennsylvania in 1907.

During this year, in which we mark the 220th Anniversary of the arrival of the first Orthodox Christian missionaries in Kodiak, Alaska, I ask that we dedicate ourselves to reflecting on the mission of Orthodox Christianity in North America and that we embrace the communal and personal challenges the Council theme places before

How can we - as the Orthodox and deaneries and parishes, and - expand the Church's ministry
How can we, collectively and Saints Herman and Innocent - and who have struggled and sacrificed continent a vibrant expression of

As we prepare to gather witness our unity in Jesus Christ, within our communities, and our guidance of the Holy Spirit, how we might continue the work of Saint Tikhon, who challenged his flock to "expand the Mission." Hence, I encourage every member of the Orthodox Church in America - those who will be attending the Council as well as those who will follow its proceedings from afar - to consider not only where we have been during these past 220 years, but where we are going in the immediate future and beyond. Only by coming together to discern our call to discipleship will we truly discover and reveal the strength and power of the Body and Bride of Christ, the Church.

I encourage you to visit regularly the official All-American Council web site - 18aac.oca.org - for important updates, documents and Council - related resources during the coming year, that "with one mind we may confess Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the Trinity one in essence and undivided."

With love in Christ,



† TIKHON

Archbishop of Washington, Metropolitan of All America and Canada



us:
Church in America, as dioceses as members of the Body of Christ and witness on this continent? individually, continue the vision of all those, known and unknown, to make Christ's Church on this "the life of the world to come"? in Council, our task will be to our thirst for His Will to be done ability to discern, through the

ICON OF THE THREE HANDS

(SEE THE COVER PAGE FOR AN IMAGE)

Today we remember this famous icon painted by Saint John of Damascus in thanks to the Theotokos for a miraculous healing.

Saint John lived in a time when it was dangerous to be an outspoken, dedicated lover of icons, as he was. Born in 674 to devout Christians, John always lived under Moslem rule. His father held a high position as the financial officer for the governing caliph. In fact, John would succeed his father in that post. He was also well-versed in theology, astronomy, mathematics and musical composition. His father had bought the freedom of a captive—a very learned monk from Sicily-- taken in a raid on the coast of Italy. John's father gave him the position of tutor to John, who made rapid progress as a student.

In 726, perhaps influenced by Moslem thinking, the Byzantine Emperor Leo III "the Isaurian", issued an edict prohibiting the veneration of icons. He ignored the protests of the Patriarch of Constantinople, a slight which showed how influential iconoclasm had become in the Byzantine court.

John, in response, wrote the first of three treatises "against those decrying the Holy Images." When the emperor followed his first edict with another forbidding not only veneration but even the public display of icons, John wrote his second treatise, and then a third.

What made John's writing especially effective was his ability to put his thoughts in simple language. Though his thinking was brilliant, he managed to make it understandable to anyone willing to pay close attention. His writings rallied many people to the cause of preserving icon veneration, which the nervous iconoclast emperor rightly perceived as a threat.

Emperor Leo acted quickly and deviously. He accused John to the caliph, calling his writings "treasonous." The caliph ignored John's protests of innocence, and ordered that his right hand—his writing hand—be cut off.

In agony, John begged to be given his cut-off hand. Holding it close to his wrist, he prostrated himself before the icon of the Mother of God and implored her to heal him. After hours of intense prayer he fell asleep, and dreamed that the Theotokos promised to heal him, and urged him to work hard with his restored hand. When he awoke his hand was healed, with only a red scar at the wrist.

The "Icon of the Three Hands" was John's expression of thanks to the Theotokos. To the usual depiction of Christ and His Mother, John added a third hand made of silver.

John also honored the Mother of God's directive to work hard. He retreated to a monastery near Jerusalem, and continued to write commentaries, theological treatises and hymns. One of the best-known of his hymns is "All of Creation Rejoices in You, O Full of Grace." Each time we sing it, during the Liturgy of Saint Basil, we join John of Damascus in his grateful dedication to the Mother of Our Lord.