

Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

347 Ridge Rd Lansing NY

HolyApostlesLansing.org

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AUGUST 16, 2015

11th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 2. Afterfeast of the Dormition. Translation of the Image “Not-made-by-hands” of our Lord Jesus Christ from Edessa to Constantinople (944). (Third “Feast of the Savior in August”). Martyr Diomedes the Physician of Tarsus in Cilicia (298). Ven. Cherimon (Chæremon) of Egypt (4th c.). The “FEODOROVSKAYA” Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos (1239).

EPISTLE: 1 CORINTHIANS 9.2-12: Along with the Apostles, we must endure all things lest we hinder the gospel of Christ.

COLOSSIANS 1.12-18: Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18.23-35: The parable of the wicked servant – teaching us that we forgive all because Christ first forgave us.

LUKE 9.51-56, 10.22-24: The Son of Man came to save mankind and reveal His Father to them.

LITURGY TIME CHANGE: For remainder of the month of August, the Divine Liturgy will begin at 9:30. The reading of the Hours will begin at 9:10. Please be timely, early even.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS: On Sunday, August 30, we will have the annual Blessing of the Backpacks. Have your children come with their school bags to receive the blessing for students before beginning their academic year.

OCF LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE: The Diocese and OCF are holding leadership conference in Trenton, NJ on September 12th. If you are interested, please see Fr James to make arrangements.

FISH FRY: All Saints RC Church is having a Doug’s Fish Fry on August 20. Please stop by the church parking lot and help support our benefactors.

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.

T-SHIRTS: The parish t 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.

SILENT AUCTION: The silent auction for the donated icons continues. Please place your best bids today to help make this a successful fundraiser.

VACATION: Fr James will be on vacation from August 24-28.

LIVING:			
Apr Timothy H	Judy	Constantine & Maria	Rdr Gregory
Apr Herman S	Gretchen	Gaetan	Daniel
Apr John C	Mary & Susan	Jean	Ada
Apr Thomas E	John & Carmine	Christine	Lillian
Apr Michael T	Nathan	Samuel	Joseph
Apr Stephen M	Leah	Lisa	Marie
Pr Jason	Helen	Lyudmila	Joseph
Pr Athanasios	Lindsey	Nickolay	Laura
Dn Symeon	Susanne H	Anetta	Martha
Dn Michael	Elizabeth	James Sr	Stanley & Helen,
Abbess Silouana	Mary	Iconographer Helena	Taissia
Mother Raphaela	Joe A	<u>Catechumens:</u> Elliott	Steluta
Mother Christophora	Daniel	<u>Children:</u> Caleb,	Theophan
Mat Cecelia	Andrew & family	Christopher E, Anthony,	Lynda
Mat Katya	Harold	Mia and Isabel,	Florence
Mat Dorothy	Wilhemina	BIRTHDAYS: Alyssa W.	James
Joshua	Elizabeth	ANNIVS: Brian &	James R
Brittany & Isaac	David	Wendy.	Vasily
Gretchen	Madeline	NAMESDAYS: Samuel.	Modesai
Peter	Shirley	REPOSED:	NEWLY REPOSED:
Marriane	Larry	Priest Matthew	None.
Terrence	Christina	Priest John	ANNIVERSARIES:
Helen	Jim & Kim	Apr Alexander	None.
	Rachel		

SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16: 9:10 Hours, 9:30 Divine Liturgy and Social Hour, Parish Council Meeting

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18: 8:30 Morning Prayers
7 PM OCF Barbecue at Stewart Park

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19: 8:30 Daily Matins

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20: 8:30 No Morning Prayers
Doug's Fish Fry in Church Parking Lot

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21: No Morning Prayers
Diocesan Youth Day at Six Flags in NJ

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22: 6 PM Great Vespers

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23: 9:10 Hours, 9:30 Divine Liturgy and Social Hour

AUGUST 30: Blessing of the Backpacks

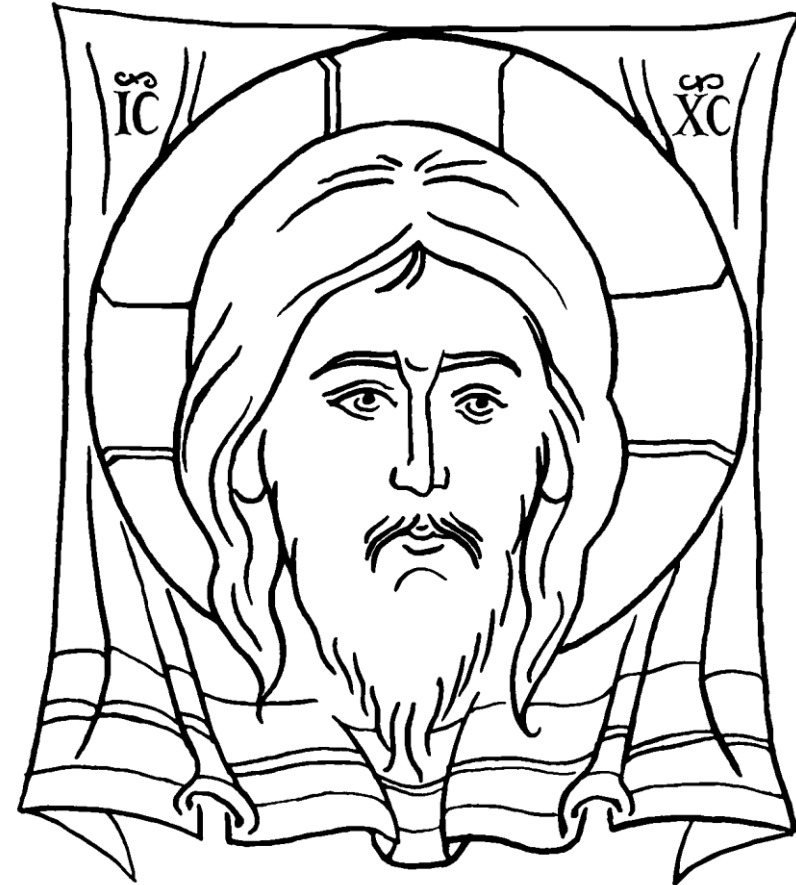
SEPTEMBER 12: OCF Leadership Conference

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, August 16th, 2015
11th Sunday after Pentecost
Afterfeast of the Dormition

HYMNS FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

Troparion Tone 2 (Resurrection)

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,
You destroyed hell with the splendor of Your Godhead.
And when from the depths You raised the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
"O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!"

Troparion Tone 2 (Icon not-make-by-hands)

We venerate Your most pure image, O Good One,
and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ God.
Of Your own will You were pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh
to deliver Your creatures from bondage to the Enemy.
Therefore with thanksgiving we cry aloud to You:
"You have filled all with joy, O our Savior, by coming to save the world."

Troparion Tone 1 (Dormition)

In giving birth you preserved your virginity.
In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos.
You were translated to life O Mother of Life,//
and by your prayers you deliver our souls from death.

Kontakion Tone 2 (Resurrection)

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior,
seeing the miracle of Your Resurrection from the tomb!
The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with You,//
and the world, my Savior, praises You forever.

Kontakion Tone 2 (Icon not-make-by-hands)

Uncircumscribed Word of the Father,
as we behold the victorious image of Your true incarnation,
not made by hands, but divinely wrought
in Your ineffable and divine dispensation towards us,//
we honor it with veneration.

Kontakion Tone 2 (Dormition)

Neither the tomb, nor death, could hold the Theotokos,
who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions.
For being the Mother of Life,//
she was translated to life by the One Who dwelt in her virginal womb.

Prokeimenon Tone 2

The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation. (Ps 117/118:4)
v: The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death. (Ps 117/118:18)

Tone 4: Sing to the Lord a new song, for the Lord has done marvelous things! (Ps 97/98:1)

Alleluia Verses Tone 2

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect you! (Ps 19/20:1)
v: Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call! (Ps 19/20:9)
v: O Lord, we will walk in the light of Your countenance, and will exult in Your name forever. (Ps 88/89:15b)

Hymn to the Theotokos Tone 1

The Angels, as they looked upon the Dormition of the Virgin,
were struck with wonder,
seeing how the Virgin went up from earth to heaven.

Heirmos: The limits of nature are overcome in you, O Pure Virgin:
for birthing remains virginal, and life is united to death;
a virgin after childbearing and alive after death,
you ever save your inheritance, O Theotokos.

Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (Ps 148:1)
I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. (Ps 115/116:13)
O Lord, we will walk in the light of Your countenance, and will exult in Your name forever.
(Ps 88/89:15b) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

TRANSLATION OF THE IMAGE “NOT-MADE-BY-HANDS” OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST FROM EDESSA TO CONSTANTINOPLE

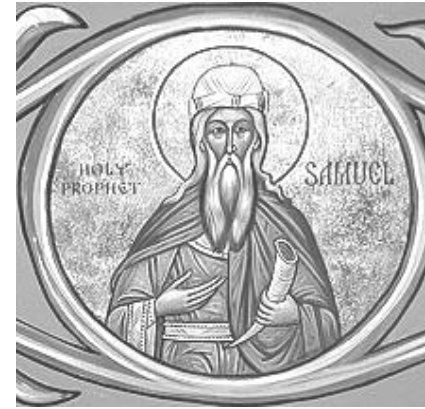
The Transfer from Edessa to Constantinople of the Icon of our Lord Jesus Christ Not-Made-by-Hands occurred in the year 944. Eusebius, in his HISTORY OF THE CHURCH (I:13), relates that when the Savior was preaching, Abgar ruled in Edessa. He was stricken all over his body with leprosy. Reports of the great miracles worked by the Lord spread throughout Syria (Mt.4:24) and reached even Abgar. Without having seen the Savior, Abgar believed in Him as the Son of God. He wrote a letter requesting Him to come and heal him. He sent with this letter to Palestine his own portrait-painter Ananias, and commissioned him to paint a likeness of the Divine Teacher.

Ananias arrived in Jerusalem and saw the Lord surrounded by people. He was not able to get close to Him because of the large throng of people listening to the preaching of the Savior. Then he stood on a high rock and attempted to paint the portrait of the Lord Jesus Christ from afar, but this effort was not successful. The Savior saw him, called to him by name and gave him a short letter for Abgar in which He praised the faith of this ruler. He also promised to send His disciple to heal him of his leprosy and guide him to salvation.

Then the Lord asked that water and a cloth be brought to Him. He washed His Face, drying it with the cloth, and His Divine Countenance was imprinted upon it. Ananias took the cloth and the letter of the Savior to Edessa. Reverently, Abgar pressed the holy object to his face and he received partial healing. Only a small trace of the terrible affliction remained until the arrival of the disciple promised by the Lord. He was St Thaddeus, Apostle of the Seventy, who preached the Gospel and baptized Abgar and all the people of Edessa. Abgar put the Holy Napkin in a gold frame adorned with pearls, and placed it in a niche over the city gates. On the gateway above the icon he inscribed the words, “Christ God, let no one who hopes on Thee be put to shame.”

One of the great-grandsons of Abgar, who later ruled Edessa, fell into idolatry. He decided to take down the icon from the city wall. In a vision the Lord ordered the Bishop of Edessa to hide His icon. The bishop, coming by night with his clergy, lit a lampada before it and walled it up with a board and with bricks. In the year 630 Arabs seized Edessa, but they did not hinder the veneration of the Holy Napkin, the fame of which had spread throughout all the East. In the year 944, the emperor Constantine Porphyrogenitos (912-959) wanted to transfer the icon to the Constantinople, and he paid a ransom for it to the emir of the city. With great reverence the Icon of the Savior Not-Made-by-Hands and the letter which He had written to Abgar, were brought to Constantinople by clergy. On August 16, the icon of the Savior was placed in the Tharossa church of the Most Holy Theotokos. There are several traditions concerning what happened later to the Icon Not-Made-by-Hands. According to one, crusaders ran off with it during their rule at Constantinople (1204-1261), but the ship on which the sacred object was taken, perished in the waters of the Sea of Marmora.

According to another tradition, the Icon Not-Made-by-Hands was transported around 1362 to Genoa, where it is preserved in a monastery in honor of the Apostle Bartholomew. It is known that the Icon Not-Made-by-Hands repeatedly gave from itself exact imprints.



PROPHET SAMUEL

The Prophet Samuel was the fifteenth and last of the Judges of Israel, living more than 1146 years before the Birth of Christ. He was descended from the Tribe of Levi, and was the son of Elkanah from Ramathaim-Zophim of Mount Ephraim. He was born, having been besought from the Lord through the prayers of his mother Hannah (therefore he received the name Samuel, which means “besought from God”). Even before birth, he was dedicated to God. Her song, “My heart exults in the Lord,” is the Third Ode of the Old Testament (1 Sam/1 Kings 2:1-10).

When the boy reached the age of three, his mother went with him to Shiloh and in accord with her vow dedicated him to the worship of God. She gave him into the care of the High Priest Eli, who at this time was a judge over Israel. The prophet grew in the fear of God, and at twelve years of age he had a revelation that God would punish the house of the High Priest Eli, because he did not restrain the impiety of his sons. Eli’s whole family was wiped out in a single day.

The prophecy was fulfilled when the Philistines, having slain in battle 30,000 Israelites (among them were also the sons of the High Priest, Hophni and Phinees), gaining victory and capturing the Ark of the Covenant. Hearing this, the High Priest Eli fell backwards from his seat at the gate, and breaking his back, he died. The wife of Phinees, upon hearing what had happened in this very hour, gave birth to a son (Ichabod) and died with the words: “The glory has departed from Israel, for the Ark of God is taken away” (1 Sam/1 Kgs 4: 22).

Upon the death of Eli, Samuel became the judge of the nation of Israel. The Ark of God was returned by the Philistines on their own initiative. After returning to God, the Israelites returned to all the cities that the Philistines had taken. In his old age, the Prophet Samuel made his sons Joel and Abiah judges over Israel, but they did not follow the integrity and righteous judgment of their father, since they were motivated by greed.

Then the elders of Israel, wanting the nation of God to be “like other nations” (1 Sam/1 Kgs 8: 20), demanded of the Prophet Samuel that they have a king. The Prophet Samuel anointed Saul as king, but saw in this a downfall of the people, whom God Himself had governed until this time, announcing His will through His chosen saints. Resigning the position of judge, the Prophet Samuel asked the people if they consented to his continued governance, but no one stepped forward for him.

After denouncing the first king, Saul, for his disobedience to God, the Prophet Samuel anointed David as king. He had offered David asylum, saving him from the pursuit of King Saul. The Prophet Samuel died in extreme old age. His life is recorded in the Bible (1 Sam/1 Kgs; Sirach 46:13-20).

In the year 406 A.D. the relics of the Prophet Samuel were transferred from Judea to Constantinople.