

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

JANUARY 3, 2016

31st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 6. Forefeast of the Theophany. Sunday before Theophany. Holy Prophet Malachi (400 B.C.). Martyr Gordius at Cæsarea in Cappadocia (4th c.). Ven. Genevieve of Paris (5th c.).

EPISTLE: 2 TIMOTHY 4.5-8: Be watchful in all things and fulfill your apostolic ministry.

GOSPEL: MARK 1.1-8: From the wilderness, John calls the faithful to prepare the way for the coming of the Lord.

COFFEE HOUR: Potluck. **NEXT WEEK:** Eileen and Bob.

HOUSE BLESSINGS: It is that joyous time of year when we schedule house blessings - to welcome Christ into our homes as we begin a new year, in celebration of his revelation in the River Jordan. To schedule your house blessing, please see Fr James as soon as possible..

ALTAR SERVERS RETREAT: The Annual Diocesan Altar Server Retreat will be held at St Basil Academy in Garrison NY from February 6-8. The main focus of this annual retreat is to bring the altar servers of our diocese together in prayer, Christian fellowship, education, and fun. There is no charge to participate in the retreat but early registration is essential.

KNOW YOUR FAITH: The next Know Your Faith Class will be held on January 12th at Unwind Coffee Shop in the Ithaca Mall. We will be looking at the life of St John Chrysostom. The readings can be found on pages 37-42 of the handouts, available at holypostleslansing.org/knowyourfaith.html

AFRICAN ORTHODOXY PRESENTATION: On Thursday, January 28th, we will host David Murphy of Cornell University who will be presenting on his experiences in a rural Orthodox community in Kenya.

WELCOME!: We warmly welcome all of our visitors! It's good to have you with us! Please know that Fr James' contact information: Cell: 315-706-6185 Email: adelphotheos@gmail.com

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.

ONLINE CALENDAR: The calendar of services and events on the parish webpage has been updated to a new format. It is now a Google calendar, which can be subscribed to so that it can sync with your online calendars as well. This will also make it easier to modify and provide subscribers with notices about upcoming events. Please subscribe and share with friends!

MARCH FOR LIFE: Two chartered buses will take local participants to the annual March For Life in Washington DC. They are leaving Ithaca late evening on January 21st and returning late evening the 22nd. Cost is \$25 each. Registration deadline is December 1st. For more information or to register, contact Ithacatodc@yahoo.com.

5TH ANNUAL LAKE BLESSING: In celebration of Holy Theophany, we will be blessing Cayuga Lake on January 9th at 3 PM, with refreshments to follow at the church. If you would like to help with the small meal, see Bernice or Eileen. To help with the service or with the cross retrieval, see Fr James.

LIVING:

Apr Timothy H	Helen
Apr Herman S	Lindsey
Apr John C	Susanne H
Apr Thomas E	Elizabeth
Apr Michael T	Mary
Apr Stephen M	Joe A
Apr John U	Daniel
Abbess Silouana	Andrew & family
Mother Raphaela	Harold
Mother Christophora	Wilhemina
Mat Cecelia	Elizabeth
Mat Katya	David
Joshua	Shirley
Brittany & Isaac	Larry
Gretchen	Christina
Peter	Jim & Kim
Marriane	Rachel
Terrence	Constantine & Maria
Helen	Gaetan
Judy	Christine
Gretchen	Samuel
Mary & Susan	Lisa
John & Carmine	Lyudmila
Nathan	Nickolay
Leah	Anetta
	Zachary

Iconographer Helena	Joseph
Natasha, Lena, Vera, &	Laura
Sergei	Martha
Caleb	Stanley & Helen,
Cleopatra	Taissia
Brian & Ally	Steluta
<u>Catechumens:</u> Elliott,	Theophan
Micah, Danielle.	Lynda
<u>Children:</u> Christopher E,	Florence
Anthony, Mia and Isabel	James
<u>Seminarists:</u> Rdr Robert	James R
and Ivan	Vasily

BIRTHDAYS: None.

ANNIVS: None.

NAMESDAYS: None.

REPOSED:

Priest Matthew	John
Priest John	NEWLY REPOSED:
Apr Alexander	None.
Dn Mark	ANNIVERSARIES:
Rdr Gregory	None.
Daniel	
Ada	
Lillian	
Joseph	
Marie	

SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3: 8:40 Hours, 9 AM Divine Liturgy, Social Hour (No RC SS)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5: 8:30 Royal Hours

6 PM Compline and Water Blessing

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6: 9 AM Divine Liturgy for the Feast and Water Blessing

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7: 8:30 Morning Prayers

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8: 8:30 Morning Prayers

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9: 3 PM Great Blessing of Cayuga Lake

6 PM Great Vespers

6:40 PM Akathist to Jesus Christ for Loved Ones Who Have Fallen Asleep

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10: 8:40 Hours, 9 AM Divine Liturgy, Social Hour

JANUARY 12: Know Your Faith

JANUARY 24: Annual Parish Meeting

JANUARY 28: Orthodoxy in Kenya: Growth Amidst Poverty

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, JANUARY 3RD, 2016
FOREFEAST OF THE THEOPHANY
STE GENEVIEVE OF PARIS

WEEKLY HYMNS FOR JANUARY 2, 2016

Troparion Tone 6 (Resurrection)

The angelic Powers were at Thy tomb;
the guards became as dead men.
Mary stood by Thy grave,
seeking Thy most pure body.
Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it.
Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life.//
O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee.

Troparion Tone 4 (of the Forefeast)

Prepare, O Zebulon,
and adorn thyself, O Naphtali!
River Jordan, cease flowing,
and receive with joy the Master coming to be baptized!
Adam, rejoice with our first Mother,
and do not hide yourselves as ye did of old in Paradise;
for having seen you naked,
He has appeared to clothe you with the first garment.//
Christ has appeared to renew all creation.

Troparion Tone 4 (Martyr Gordius)

Thy holy martyr Gordius, O Lord,
through his suffering has received an incorruptible crown from Thee, our God.
For, having Thy strength, he laid low his adversaries,
and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.//
Through his intercessions save our souls!

Kontakion Tone 6 (Resurrection)

When Christ God the Giver of Life,
raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand,
He bestowed resurrection on the human race.//
He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

Kontakion Tone 4 (Prophet Malachi)

Endowed with the gift of prophecy, O Malachi,
you clearly proclaimed the saving coming of Christ to the world.//
His brightness has brought light to the whole universe.

Kontakion Tone 8 (Martyr Gordius)

Holy Gordius, the earth has received the sweat of thy labors;
the blood thou didst shed has made the universe rejoice.
Save by thy prayers those who sing of thy glory in faith,//
fittingly honoring thee, O divine and glorious martyr worthy
of all praise.

Kontakion Tone 4 (of the Forefeast)

Today the Lord enters the Jordan and cries out to John:
"Do not be afraid to baptize me.//
For I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man."

Prokeimenon Tone 6

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thy inheritance! (Ps 27/28:9)
v: Unto Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! (Ps 27/28:1)

Alleluia Verses Tone 8

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
v: O God, be bountiful to us and bless us, show the light of Thy countenance upon us, and have mercy on us. (Ps 66/67:1-2)
v: That we may know Thy way upon the earth, and Thy salvation among all nations. (Ps 66/67-3)

Communion Hymn

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

TO ST GENEVIÈVE

Awed by the purity of thy virginity and greatness of thine ascetic feats, marveling,
we cry out to thee, O Geneviève: By thine entreaties deliver us from the dangers that beset us in these perilous times, for vile heresies abound that threaten our souls, and we are hard pressed to evade them; but come thou do our aid, O venerable mother. -Ode III Sessional Hymn



VENERABLE GENEVIEVE OF PARIS

Saint Genevieve was born of wealthy parents in Gaul (modern France) in the village of Nanterre, near Paris, around 422. Her father's name was Severus, and her mother was called Gerontia. According to the custom of the time, she often tended her father's flocks on Mt. Valerien.

When she was about seven years old, St Germanus of Auxerre (July 31) noticed her as he was passing through Nanterre. The bishop kissed her on the head and told her parents that she would become great in the sight of God, and would lead many to salvation. After Genevieve told him that she wished to dedicate herself to Christ, he gave her a brass medal with the image of the Cross upon it. She promised to wear it around her neck, and to avoid wearing any other ornaments around her neck or on her fingers.

When it was reported that Attila the Hun was approaching Paris, Genevieve and the other nuns prayed and fasted, entreating God to spare the city. Suddenly, the barbarians turned away from Paris and went off in another direction.

Years later, when she was fifteen, Genevieve was taken to Paris to enter the monastic life. Through fasting, vigil and prayer, she progressed in monasticism, and received from God the gifts of clairvoyance and of working miracles. Gradually, the people of Paris and the surrounding area regarded Genevieve as a holy vessel (2 Tim. 2:21).

St Genevieve considered the Saturday night Vigil service to be very important, since it symbolizes how our whole life should be. "We must keep vigil in prayer and fasting so that the Lord will find us ready when He comes," she said. She was on her way to church with her nuns one stormy Saturday night when the wind blew out her lantern. The nuns could not find their way without a light, since it was dark and stormy, and the road was rough and muddy. St Genevieve made the Sign of the Cross over the lantern, and the candle within was lit with a bright flame. In this manner they were able to make their way to the church for the service.

There is a tradition that the church which St Genevieve suggested that King Clovis build in honor of Sts Peter and Paul became her own resting place when she fell asleep in the Lord around 512 at the age of eighty-nine. Her holy relics were later transferred to the church of St Etienne du Mont in Paris. Most of her relics, and those of other saints, were destroyed during the French Revolution. In the Middle Ages, St Genevieve was regarded as the patron saint of wine makers.



ST. NIKOLAI VELIMIROVICH ON THE HOLY THEOPHANY

When our Lord reached thirty years from His physical birth, He began His teaching and salvific work. He Himself signified this "beginning of the beginning" by His baptism in the Jordan river.

St. Cyril of Jerusalem says, "The beginning of the world - water; the beginning of the Good News - Jordan." At the time of the baptism of the Lord in water, that mystery was declared to the world: that mystery which was prophesied in the Old Testament; the mystery about which in ancient Egypt and India was only fabled; i.e., the mystery of the Divine Holy Trinity.

The Father was revealed to the sense of hearing; the Spirit was revealed to the sense of sight, and in addition to these, the Son was revealed to the sense of touch. The Father uttered His witness about the Son, the Son was baptized in the water, and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove hovered above the water. When John the Baptist witnessed and said about Christ, "Behold, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world" (John 1:29), and when John immersed and baptized the Lord in the Jordan, the mission of Christ in the world and the path of our salvation was shown. That is to say: The Lord took upon Himself the sins of mankind and died under them [immersion] and became alive again [the coming out of the water]; and we must die as the old sinful man and become alive again as cleansed, renewed and regenerated. This is the Savior and this is the path of salvation.

The Feast of the Epiphany [Theophany in Greek] is also called the Feast of Illumination. For us, the event in the Jordan river illuminates, by manifesting to us God as Trinity, consubstantial and undivided. That is one way. And, the second: everyone of us through baptism in water is illumined by this, that we become adopted by the Father of Lights through the merits of the Son and the power of the Holy Spirit.

HYMN OF PRAISE TO THE HOLY TRINITY

O, Holy Lord, holy in creating,
All that You create by Your Word, by Your Spirit You consecrate.
O, Mighty Lord, mighty in suffering,
For the world You walk to Your death; for the world, You resurrect.
Immortal Lord, in voice, we praise You;
Father, Son, Holy Spirit - God, have mercy on us!
The Father, Who appeared over Jordan as a Voice,
The Spirit, Who as a White Dove hovered,
The Son, Who by the Prophet John was baptized,
Three rays of light, one light shown,
The Trinity manifested, we praise You in voice:
Father, Son, Holy Spirit - God, have mercy on us!