

Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

347 Ridge Rd Lansing NY

HolyApostlesLansing.org

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OCTOBER 23, 2016

18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 1. Holy Apostle James (Jacob), the Brother of the Lord (ca. 63). Translation of the Relics of Bl. Jacob (James) of Borovichí, Wonderworker of Novgorod (ca. 1540). St. Ignatius, Patriarch of Constantinople (877-878).

EPISTLE: 2 Corinthians 9.6-11: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly.

GOSPEL: Luke 16.19-31: The story of the righteous Lazarus and the banished rich man.

COFFEE HOUR: THIS WEEK: Casey **NEXT WEEK:** Protosenko Family

COFFEE HOUR: We are in need of families or groups to sign up to host Coffee Hour over the next several weeks. Many dates are available and need to be filled immediately.

RUN WITH A MISSION: The next Building Fund Fundraiser will be to sponsor Fr James as he attempts to run the Philadelphia Half Marathon on November 19. Sponsorships per mile receive rewards including such things as t-shirts and icons of the 12 Apostles. To find out more, head to www.gofundme.com/runwithamission. Share the link with a friend, through email and on social media.

CHOIR REHEARSALS: Choir rehearsals will be held each Sunday morning. If you would like to practice with the choir (everyone is invited to sing, if even from the nave), and would like you name added to the email list, see Greg F or Janet. All are invited to join in the rehearsals, regardless of skill level, as well as to sing during the services.

COMMEMORATIONS: Are you curious about the tray of breads that are brought into the altar during the Divine Liturgy? They are commemoration loaves. It is customary, upon entering a Church for the Divine Liturgy, to bring a commemoration booklet or fill out a prayer slip. This is brought into the altar for those names to be remembered during the Divine Liturgy. Everyone is invited to send names into the altar at every Liturgy. In return, you will receive a small loaf of bread out of which particles are taken and, ultimately, placed into the chalice with the Body and Blood of Christ.

WELCOME VISITORS! 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.

KNOW YOUR FAITH: The next series of Adult Ed classes is chugging along! The next class has been rescheduled for Tuesday, October 25. We will be reading and examining chapter 3 of Fr Alexander Schmemmann's book *For the Life of the World*. Later in this academic year we will be studying 1. The Sacraments; 2. *The Way of a Pilgrim*; and 3. Church History. We are slated to have classes every other Tuesday night, as much as we are able to. If you would like a copy of the syllabus, please see Fr James.

CONSECRATION: Abp Michael will consecrate the Temple of Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Elmira Heights on Saturday, October 29th. The Rite of Consecration followed by the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will begin at 9 AM. A festive reception will follow. The diocesan family is warmly invited to join in this celebration.

SOCIAL ROUNDTABLE: Today, following the Divine Liturgy, a conversation will be held to share ideas about how people of faith can and ought to respond to the election season. How does an Orthodox Christian engage in the voting booth?

PRAYER SCROLL

LIVING:	John & Carmine	Samuel	Steve & Stephanie	Joseph
Apr Timothy H	Nathan	Lisa	Raymond	Laura
Apr Herman S	Leah	Lyudmila	<u>Children:</u> Anthony, Mia,	Martha
Apr Sergius K	Helen	Nickolay	Isabel, Bear and Victoria	Stanley & Helen,
Apr Thomas E	Lindsey	Anetta	<u>Seminarians:</u> Rdr Robert	Taissia
Apr Stephen M	Elizabeth	Zachary	and Ivan	Steluta
Apr John R	Mary	Iconographer Helena	BIRTHDAYS: None.	Theophan
Apr Patrick C	Joe A	Natasha, Lena, Vera, &	ANNIVS: None.	Lynda
Mother Raphaela	Daniel	Sergei	NAMESDAYS: Fr James.	Florence
Mother Christophora	Andrew & family	Caleb	REPOSED:	James
Mat Joanna B	Carol	Joshua	Apr John U	James R
Mat Katya	Wilhemina	Cleopatra	Priest Matthew	Vasily
Mat Mary G	Elizabeth	Brian & Ally	Priest John	Modesai
Joshua	David	Steve, Marisa & Magdalena	Apr Alexander	Alexandr
Brittany	Shirley	Danielle	Dn Mark	Ron
Gretchen	Larry	Larry, Mark & Katie	Rdr Gregory	John
Peter	Christina	Ann	Daniel	Eleanor
Marriane	Jim & Kim	Dorothy	Ada	NEWLY REPOSED: Harold,
Terrence	Rachel	Ronald	Lillian	Helen, Apr Boniface B, Mat
Helen	Constantine & Maria	Sheryl & Lacey	Joseph	Cecelia, Galeen, Arch
Judy	Gaetan	Alexander, Angela & Anton	Marie	Alexander, Arch Alexander
Mary & Susan	Christine	Peter		ANNIVERSARIES: None.

BY THE NUMBERS: Last Collection: \$801. Weekly Budget: \$925.
MTD: \$3488. Monthly Budget: \$4000. September: -\$1334. Building: \$45.

SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

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

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

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24: Rector's Sabbath

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25: 8:30 Morning Prayers

7 PM Know Your Faith at Cup O'Joe Café in the Ithaca mall

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26: 9:30 AM Daily Matins

7:30 PM Cornell OCF in Anabel Taylor Hall

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27: 8:30 Morning Prayers

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28: 8:30 Morning Prayers

9:20 Cornell Morning Prayers in Anabel Taylor Hall

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29: 6 PM Great Vespers

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30: 9:10 AM Hours, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy, and Social Hour

PRAYER FOR CHURCH GROWTH

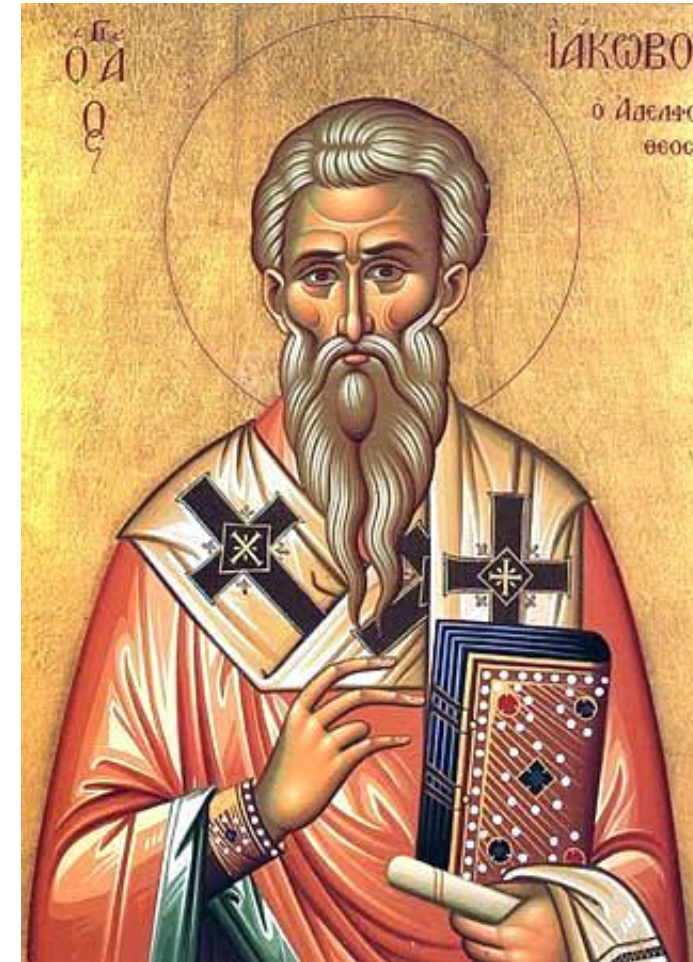
Again, we pray to Thee, O Lord our God, that you would renew us and this parish by the Power of the Holy Spirit. Fill us with love and longing for Thee. Grant that we would seek not our own will but to do Thy will in all things and to be willing to lay down our lives out of love for Thee and for our 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.

APOSTLE JAMES, THE BROTHER OF THE LORD

Holy Apostle James, the Brother of God (Adelphotheos) was the son of Righteous Joseph the Betrothed (December 26). From his early years James was a Nazarene, a man dedicated to God. The Nazarenes vowed to preserve their virginity, to abstain from wine, to refrain from eating meat, and not to cut their hair. The vow of the Nazarenes symbolized a life of holiness and purity, commanded formerly by the Lord for all Israel. When the Savior began to teach the nation about the Kingdom of God, St James believed in Christ and became His apostle. He was chosen as the first Bishop of Jerusalem. St James presided over the Council of Jerusalem and his word was decisive (Acts 15). In his 30 years as bishop, St James converted many to Christianity. Annoyed by this, the Pharisees and the Scribes plotted together to kill St James. They led the saint up on the pinnacle of the Jerusalem Temple and asked what he thought of Jesus. The Apostle began to bear witness that Christ is the Messiah, which was not the response they were expecting. Angered, the Jewish teachers threw him off the roof. The saint did not die immediately, but gathering his final strength, he prayed to the Lord for his enemies while they were stoning him. St James' martyrdom occurred about 63 A.D. The holy Apostle James composed a Divine Liturgy, which formed the basis of the Liturgies of Sts Basil the Great and John Chrysostom. The Church has preserved an Epistle of St James in the New Testament.

Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

Lansing, New York



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23RD, 2016

18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ST JAMES THE JUST, THE BROTHER OF THE LORD

WEEKLY HYMNS FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23RD

Troparion Tone 1 (Resurrection)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,
while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure body,
You rose on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world.
The powers of heaven therefore cried to You, O Giver of Life:
"Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ!
Glory to Your Kingdom!//
Glory to Your dispensation, O Lover of mankind!"

Troparion Tone 4 (Holy Apostle James)

As the Lord's disciple you received the Gospel, O righteous James;
as a martyr you have unfailing courage;
as God's brother, you have boldness;
as a hierarch, you have the power to intercede.//
Pray to Christ God that our souls may be saved.

Kontakion Tone 1 (Resurrection)

As God, You rose from the tomb in glory,
raising the world with Yourself.
Human nature praises You as God, for death has vanished.
Adam exults, O Master!
Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to You://
"You are the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!"

Kontakion Tone 4 (Holy Apostle James)

When God the Word, the Only-begotten of the Father,
came to live among us in these last days,
He declared you, venerable James, to be the first shepherd and teacher Jerusalem
and a faithful steward of the spiritual Mysteries.//
Therefore, we all honor you, O Apostle.

Prokeimenon Tone 1

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on You! (Ps 32/33:22)
v: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just! (Ps 32/33:1)

Tone 8: Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe! (Ps 63/64:10)

Alleluia Verses Tone 1

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

v: God gives vengeance unto me, and subdues people under me. (Ps 17/18:47)

v: He magnifies the salvation of the King and deals mercifully with David, His anointed, and his seed forever. (Ps 17/18:50)

Tone 1: The heavens will praise Your wonders, O Lord; and Your truth in the congregation of the saints. (Ps 88/89:5)

Communion Hymns

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

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe! (Ps 63/64:10)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

PRAYERS FROM THE LITURGY OF ST JAMES

O Almighty God, Lord Whose Name is great, Thou have given us entry to the Holy of Holies through the coming of Thine only-begotten Son, our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. Seeing that we are in fear and trembling when we desire to stand before Thy Holy Altar, we pray and entreat Thy goodness: O God, send down upon us Thy good Grace, and sanctify our souls and bodies and spirits; turn our thoughts to piety, so that, with a pure conscience we may bring Thee gifts, presents and fruits, that our sins may be blotted out and so that Thou will be merciful to all Thy people, through the grace and compassion and love for mankind of Thine only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou are blessed unto ages of ages.

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O, only compassionate and merciful, long-suffering and abundant in mercy, Thou art truly the Lord. Look down from the holiness in which Thou dwellest and hear us as we entreat Thee: preserve us from all temptations diabolical and human. Do not set Thy help far from us, or bring upon us chastisements heavier than we can bear. For we are unable to overcome adversities, Lord, but Thou art able to save us from every adversity. God, save us from the difficulties of this world, according to Thy goodness, so that we may enter Thy Holy Altar with a pure conscience and without blame; and, together with the heavenly Powers, that we may send up to Thee the blessed and thrice-holy hymn; and that, having completed this Divine Liturgy which is most pleasing to Thee, we may be considered worthy of everlasting life. Amen.

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O God, great and wonderful! Look down upon Thy servants who have bent their necks before Thee. Stretch forth Thy mighty hand, so full of blessings, and bless Thy people. Guard Thine inheritance, so that always and without ceasing we may glorify Thee, our only living and true God, the Holy and Consubstantial Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. For to Thee belong, and are due from us, every doxology, all honor, worship and thanksgiving, to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

HALLOWEEN: AN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

By John Sanidopoulos

One of America's most beloved and fastest growing holidays is Halloween, and it is also the most demonized. Many of all ages, both young and old, celebrate it with innocence and a smile, yet some also condemn it with fury as an evil and violent day. The majority see Halloween as a fun children's holiday on which they dress up in costumes and go door to door to get candy, while others view it as a remnant of paganism and a subtle celebration of satanism. Amid this confusion and dichotomy, I will attempt to set the record straight in a short yet concise manner based on the most up-to-date studies, and examine whether or not the Church is called to demonize or sanctify Halloween based on the truth.

After many years of research, observation and participation in this holiday, if I were to give the simplest and most accurate one-sentence summary for the history of Halloween, it would be this:

Halloween originated as a medieval Christian celebration that was part of the Triduum of All Hallows, or Hallowmas (All Hallows Eve, All Hallows Day and All Souls Day lasting from October 31 - November 2), and in the 19th and 20th centuries it acquired Western European and North American cultural traditions that established it as an annual celebration of these societies.

Hence, from this summary we learn of Halloween's Christian origins and its evolution as an annual cultural celebration. What we don't learn from this summary is the negative perspective of the holiday, which demonizes it and condemns it as pagan and satanic. The reason for this is that from a Christian perspective, there is no reason to demonize it nor condemn it as a pagan or satanic holiday.

Here's why. If we were to trace the origins of Halloween to one specific event in history, it would be when Pope Gregory III (731-741) dedicated an oratory in the original Saint Peter's Basilica of Rome in honor of all the Saints on November 1st, which initiated a local Roman custom to celebrate the feast of All Saints on November 1st. Before this time the feast of All Saints, also known as All Hallows, was celebrated throughout the Christian world since the 4th century to mainly commemorate all the Martyrs either in April or May, including Ireland. The Franks then the English were the first to follow Rome in celebrating the feast of All Saints on November 1st, and this became official under Pope Gregory VII in the early ninth century. The word "Halloween" merely refers to October 31st being the day of All Hallows Eve, and later November 2nd also became part of the Triduum with the commemoration of All Souls Day on which prayers and philanthropic acts were done on behalf of the dead, which was also part of established Christian tradition since the early centuries.

This may come as a shock to some who believe the myth that Halloween has its origins or is associated with paganism or satanism. The truth is that Halloween never was and never has been associated with paganism or satanism, though some pagans and satanists may embrace it as part of the melting pot we call America. Instead what we find is that the Church established Hallowmas as original holy days, not to sanctify an old pagan celebration among the Celts as has been popularly and falsely believed, but to celebrate an already well-established feast dedicated to all the Saints.

Up until the 19th century, Halloween in Western Europe and America was a firmly Roman Catholic feast day that acquired and developed various cultural traditions, as all major holidays did at the time and still do. The mythology that Halloween had pagan origins prior to Christian times arose for the first time in the 19th century among Celtic scholars, who had their own personal agendas in falsifying history. They came up with the idea that October 31-November 2 were days when pagan Celtic peoples celebrated a feast of the dead known as Samhain, even though there is no historical record of such a feast among the

ancient Celts. How did they come up with this? It was believed at the time that Christian feast days, such as Christmas and Easter, had pagan origins, and that the Church merely Christianized established pagan celebrations to win over converts. The way the Celtic scholars explained the origins for the feast of All Saints, which was popular among the Irish of the 19th century, was by tracing it back to the ancient Celts, without historical precedence. Though these false ideas are still popularly believed today, any honest historian can easily spot the agenda in these falsifications of history, and they have been firmly discredited.

What about the connection with satanism? This first entered the popular American imagination in the 1960's through urban mythology created by conservative fundamentalist Christians. These fundamentalist Protestants, already opposed to the Roman Catholic feast of All Saints, sought to demonize the holiday by basing their research on 19th century Celtic scholars. Through them Samhain became a pagan god, an alternative name for Satan, and that practices like trick or treating were originally established out of fear to appease dead spirits, which were really demons. They would hysterically say: "Those who oppose Christ are known to organize on Halloween to observe satanic rituals, to cast spells, to oppose churches and families, to perform sacrilegious acts, and to even offer blood sacrifices to Satan." It didn't help at the time that through Hollywood, 19th century monsters like Dracula and Frankenstein from Gothic literature were gaining in popularity and they became established costumes for children.

In the late 1960's Anton LaVey, the founder of existential Satanism and the Church of Satan in San Francisco, took advantage of this urban myth among fundamentalist Christians, whom he most wanted to provoke, and established Halloween as one of the three major holidays of the Church of Satan (along with the Satanist's own birthday, since LaVeyan Satanism is atheistic and about worship of one's self, and Walpurgisnacht on April 30, which was also promoted among fundamentalists as a "witch holiday"). This marketing maneuver by Anton LaVey was taken seriously by fundamentalists, who already feared the holiday, and fundamentalists began to take advantage of this new connection by eventually creating what has been called the "Satanic Panic" of the 1970's and 1980's. Urban myths about Halloween grew during this time to scare people away from celebrating Halloween, such as making up stories of crazed adults who sought to harm innocent trick or treaters by planting poison or razor blades in children's candy, and how pumpkins were carved to depict the facial expressions of the damned in hell. This fundamentalist literature, most popularly identified with people like Jack Chick, soon became the established opinion of just about every Christian Church in America, even among Roman Catholics who still celebrate Hallowmas between October 31 and November 2.

Since the days of the so-called Satanic Panic, Christians have generally viewed Halloween as pagan and satanic. What this has done is basically handed over the holiday to take on more of a pagan and satanic character, which it did not generally have prior to this time. This is an unfortunate lesson in what happens when the Church demonizes rather than sanctifies. Christians opened the door to the devil, and the devil has taken every advantage.

Christians can continue to associate Halloween with paganism and satanism if one's perspective of the holiday is to demonize it in such a way, or if they choose to limit their observations to certain disagreeable elements that certain people may take advantage of on Halloween, but essentially Halloween is not pagan or satanic unless one chooses to make it so. Unfortunately this myth continues to be perpetuated by many leaders of the Church, choosing against the narrow way of researching the truth and transforming our cultural heritage for the easier path of egotistical condemnation which only extends the kingdom of the devil.

For the Rest of the article, see the EBulletin