

# Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

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## JANUARY 1, 2017

**28th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 3. The Circumcision of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. St. Basil the Great, Archbishop of Cæsarea in Cappadocia (379). Sunday before Theophany.** Martyr Basil of Ancyra (ca. 362).

**EPISTLE: 2 TIMOTHY 4.5-8:** In the light of the Incarnation, be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

**COLOSSIANS 2.8-12:** Our completion is in Christ, who fulfills all things.

**GOSPEL: MARK 1.1-8:** Christ comes to baptize His faithful with the Holy Spirit.

**LUKE 2.20-21, 40-52:** You must be about your Father's business, in His House.

**COFFEE HOUR: THIS WEEK:** New Years Potluck

**NEXT WEEK:** Available

**READERS LIST:** To encourage more of the faithful of the parish to read during the divine services, a sign-up sheet is now available at the information table on which anyone can select a time to read. All skill levels are welcome.

**LAKE BLESSING:** In order to schedule the annual Theophany Lake Blessing, all those who wish to be present need to tell Fr James of their availability. The current possibilities are January 14 and 21.

**SCRIPS FUNDRAISING PROGRAM:** After some research, we are trying a new fundraiser. Some of you have probably used this program before and some of you may not have. The way it works is fairly simple: 1) You buy a gift card for a store where you shop...or a gift card as a Christmas present... or do to your own Christmas shopping.. or for whatever reason you want. 2) An order for gift cards will be placed on December 13<sup>th</sup>, and be delivered by December 18<sup>th</sup>. Then you can use them as gifts, or for your normal everyday shopping. 3) The church automatically receives a percentage of the money from the retailer. If you have any questions, or would like to order, see Greg Johnson.

**COMMEMORATIONS:** 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, January 10. We will be reading and examining chapter 7 of Fr Alexander Schmemmann's book *For the Life of the World*.

**PARISH LIBRARY:** If you have any theological, spiritual or religious books that would be appropriate for the Parish Library, donations would be most welcome. There are some holes on the bookshelves that need to be filled in. Please see Fr James to help round out the collection.

**THANK YOU!:** To Ivan for hanging our icon of the Saints of North America. This is another step in the beautification. We look forward to the completion of the icon of the 12 Apostles next.

**POINSETTIAS:** If you donated toward the purchase of the poinsettias, please feel free to take one of the plants home today after the Divine Liturgy. After the are claimed, any one is free to take one home for themselves or to share with a friend or a neighbor.

**CALENDARS:** The 2017 Liturgical Wall Calendars have arrived and are available to be taken home. With this calendar, you will have the daily readings for each day of the year, as well as the differing regulations for fasting. Additionally, the gorgeous icons will adorn one or several of the rooms in your homes.

## PRAYER SCROLL

### LIVING:

Apr Timothy H  
Apr Herman S  
Apr Sergius K  
Apr Thomas E  
Apr Stephen M  
Apr John R  
Apr Patrick C  
Mother Raphaela  
Mother Christophora  
Mat Joanna B  
Mat Katya  
Mat Mary G  
Joshua  
Brittany  
Gretchen  
Peter  
Marriane  
Terrence  
Helen  
Judy  
Mary & Susan  
John & Carmine

Nathan  
Leah  
Helen  
Lindsey  
Elizabeth  
Mary  
Joe A  
Daniel  
Andrew & family  
Carol  
Wilhemina  
Elizabeth  
David  
Shirley  
Larry  
Christina  
Jim & Kim  
Rachel  
Constantine & Maria  
Gaetan  
Christine  
Samuel  
Lisa

Lyudmila  
Nickolay  
Anetta  
Zachary  
Iconographer Helena  
Natasha, Lena, Vera, &  
Sergei  
Caleb  
Joshua  
Cleopatra  
Brian & Ally  
Steve, Marisa & Magdalena  
Danielle  
Larry, Mark & Katie  
Ann  
Dorothy  
Ronald  
Sheryl & Lacey  
Alexander, Angela & Anton  
Peter  
Steven & Stephanie  
Gregory & Ann  
Raymond

Vincent  
Photini  
Children: Anthony, Mia,  
Isabel, Bear and Victoria  
Seminarians: Rdr Robert  
and Ivan  
**BIRTHDAYS:** Edward.  
**ANNIVS:** None.  
**NAMESDAYS:** None.

### REPOSED:

Apr John U  
Priest Matthew  
Priest John  
Apr Alexander  
Dn Mark  
Rdr Gregory  
Daniel  
Ada  
Lillian  
Joseph  
Marie  
Joseph  
Laura

Martha  
Stanley & Helen,  
Taissia  
Steluta  
Theophan  
Lynda  
Florence  
James  
James R  
Vasily  
Modecai  
Alexandr  
Ron  
John  
Eleanor  
Harold  
Alfred  
**NEWLY REPOSED:** Louise  
**ANNIVERSARIES:** None.

**BY THE NUMBERS:** Last Collection: \$3850. Weekly Budget: \$1150.  
MTD: \$5049. Monthly Budget: +\$1049. November: -\$41. Building: \$427.

## SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

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

**NAMING AND CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST SUNDAY, JANUARY 1:** 9:10 AM Hours,  
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

**MONDAY, JANUARY 2:** Rector's Sabbath

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 3:** 8:30 Morning Prayers  
6 PM Great Vespers for the Feast

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4:** 9 AM Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the 70 Apostles

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 5:** 8:30 Royal Hours

6 PM Vigil for the Feast of Theophany

**THEOPHANY FRIDAY, JANUARY 6:** 9 AM Divine Liturgy for the Feast

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 7:** 6 PM Great Vespers for the Feast

**JANUARY 8:** 9:10 AM Hours, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

## PRAYER FOR CHURCH GROWTH

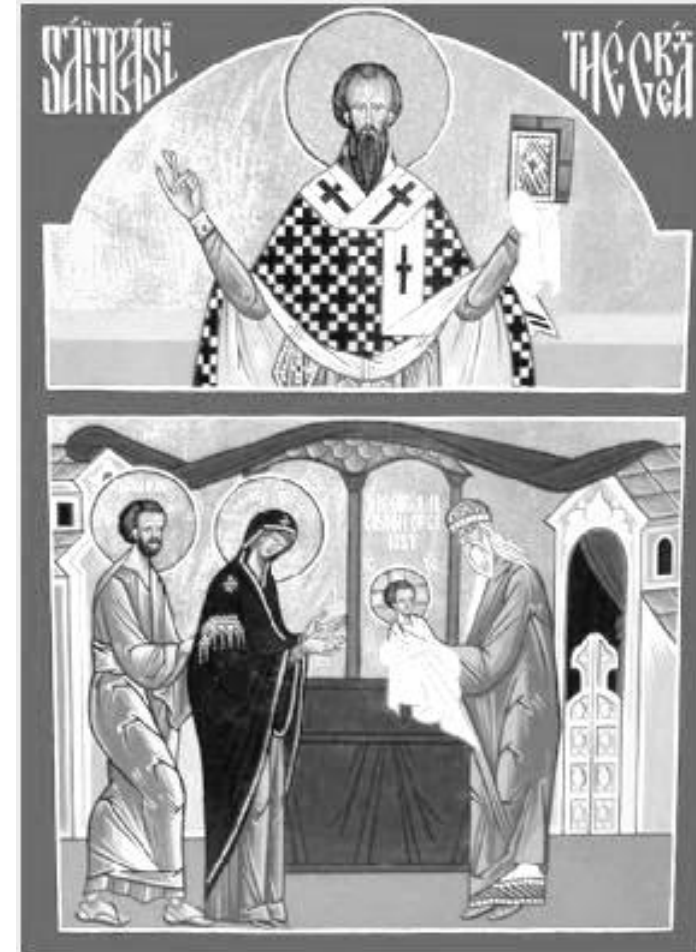
Again, we pray to Thee, O Lord our God, that you would renew us and this parish by the Power of the Holy Spirit. Fill us with love and longing for Thee. Grant that we would seek not our own will but to do Thy will in all things and to be willing to lay down our lives out of love for Thee and for our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

## CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST AND COMMEMORATION SAINT BASIL THE GREAT

O Eternal God, Thou art holy and love the human race, and are tremendous in deeds and marvelous in works. Thou made the heavens, the earth, the seas and all that is in them. Thou kept Thy covenant and fulfilled all Thy decrees. For Thou did not abandon man utterly and keep him in the darkness of sin, but Thou sent Thy only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, from Thy eternal bosom, that He might become flesh and be born, that He might be wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger as a newborn Child, that He fulfill all that was spoken by the prophets, that He be circumcised on the eighth day, in Thy infinite wisdom a way to conquer the wisdom of the wicked and the plots of the evil one. On this day of Thy holy and light-bearing birth, Thou shone upon both the flock of the shepherds and the flock of the celebrated Hierarch Basil. Through his prayers show us to be imitators of his wondrous life. Keep Thy Church in peace and concord, and hear us and have mercy on us all. For it is Thou Who give us everything that is good, and we give glory to Thee, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

# Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

Lansing, New York



SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2016

CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST  
ST. BASIL THE GREAT, ARCHBISHOP OF CÆSAREA IN CAPPADOCIA

# WEEKLY HYMNS FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>

## Troparion Tone 3 (Resurrection)

Let the heavens rejoice!  
Let the earth be glad!  
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.  
He has trampled down death by death.  
He has become the first born of the dead.  
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,  
and has granted to the world//  
great mercy.

## Troparion Tone 1 (of the Feast)

Enthroned on high with the Eternal Father and Your Divine Spirit,  
O Jesus, You willed to be born on earth of the unwedded handmaid, ^your  
Mother.  
Therefore You were circumcised as an eight-day-old Child.  
Glory to Your most gracious counsel;  
glory to Your ^dispensation;//  
glory to Your condescension, O only Lover of mankind!

## Troparion Tone 1 (to St Basil)

Your proclamation has gone out into all the earth,  
which was divinely taught by hearing your voice.  
You expounded the nature of creatures  
and ennobled the manners of men.  
O venerable Father of royal priesthood;//  
entreat Christ God that our souls may be saved!

## Kontakion Tone 4 (to St Basil)

You were revealed as the sure foundation of the Church,  
granting all mankind a lordship which cannot be taken away;//  
sealing it with your precepts, O venerable Basil, revealer of heaven.

## Kontakion Tone 3 (of the Feast)

The Lord of all accepts to be circumcised,  
thus, as He is good, He excises the sins of mortal men.  
Today He grants the world salvation,  
while light-bearing Basil, high priest of our Creator;//

rejoices in heaven as a divine initiate of Christ.

## Prokeimenon Tone 6 (Circumcision)

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

**Tone 1:** My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. (Ps 48/49:3)

## Epistle

2 Timothy 4:5-8 (Sunday before the Theophany)

Colossians 2:8-12 (Circumcision)

## Alleluia Verses Tone 8

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: O God, be bountiful to us and bless us, show the light of Your countenance upon us, and have mercy on us! (Ps 66/67:1-2)

v: That we may know Your way upon the earth, and Your salvation among all nations. (Ps 66/67-3)

**Tone 8:** v: Give ear, O shepherd of Israel, You Who lead Joseph like a flock! (Ps 79/80:1)

## Gospel

Mark 1:1-8 (Sunday before the Theophany)

Luke 2:20-21, 40-52 (Circumcision)

## Hymn to the Theotokos

All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace:  
the assembly of Angels and the race of men.  
O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise,  
the glory of virgins,  
from whom God was incarnate and became a Child –  
our God before the ages.  
He made your body into a throne,  
and your womb He made more spacious than the heavens.  
All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace.//  
Glory to you!

## Communion Hymns

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

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings. (Ps 111/112:6b-7a) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

## HYMN OF PRAISE:

### THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD AND GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST & SAINT BASIL THE GREAT

By St. Nikolai Velimirovich

You, Who, gave the Law to the world and to man,  
You, the Law-giver, placed Yourself under the Law,  
Others, you enjoined by impostition -  
Yourself, voluntarily.

That is why on the eighth day, in the flesh,  
You were circumcised.

In fulfilling the Law, with a new one You replaced it:  
Circumcision of the flesh, was replaced with a spiritual one.

That impure passions we cut off from ourselves  
And with a spirit pure, to gaze upon You.

That, with the spirit, the will of the body to cut and to constrict, Your will,

O Savior, by the spirit we fulfill it -

To this circumcision, the saints learned,

Their fiery example, to us, they left.

Wonderful Basil, to a glowing ray, similar,

To such circumcision, generations, he teaches.

To Basil, be glory, Your servant,

Great, because of You, humble and constrained He became.

That is why he became great, Great He remained.

### EXAPOSTILARION OF THE FEAST AND ST BASIL THE GREAT

With the desire of love of wisdom thou didst cut away that which covered thy soul, O father, and in thy miracles wast shown to the world to be like the sun; and thou hast illumined the thoughts of the faithful, O divinely wise Basil, initiate of the mysteries of the Trinity and servant of the Theotokos.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

The Creator of the ages, Who hath fulfilled the law, is circumcised in the flesh as a babe eight days of age; He is wrapped in swaddling bands as a man; He is fed with milk Who, as God, sustaineth all things by His infinite might and holdeth all things in His hand.

## THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

On the eighth day after His Nativity, our Lord Jesus Christ was circumcised in accordance with the Old Testament Law. All male infants underwent circumcision as a sign of God's Covenant with the holy Forefather Abraham and his descendants [Genesis 17:10-14, Leviticus 12:3]. After this ritual, the Divine Infant was given the name Jesus, as the Archangel Gabriel declared on the day of the Annunciation to the Most Holy Theotokos [Luke 1:31-33, 2:21]. The Fathers of the Church explain that the Lord, the Creator of the Law, underwent circumcision in order to give people an example of how faithfully the divine ordinances ought to be fulfilled. The Lord was circumcised so that later no one would doubt that He had truly assumed human flesh, and that His Incarnation was not merely an illusion, as certain heretics had taught. In the New Testament, the ritual of circumcision gave way to the Mystery of Baptism, which it prefigured [Colossians 2:11-12]. Accounts of the Feast of the Circumcision of the Lord continue in the Eastern Church right up through the fourth century. The Canon of the Feast was written by Saint Stephen of the Saint Sava Monastery. In addition to circumcision, which the Lord accepted as a sign of God's Covenant with mankind, He also received the Name Jesus [Savior] on the eighth day after His Nativity as an indication of His service, the work of the salvation of the world [Matthew 1:21; Mark 9:38-39, 16:17; Luke 10:17; Acts 3:6, 16; Philippians 2:9-10]. These two events -- the Lord's Circumcision and Naming -- remind Christians that they have entered into a New Covenant with God and "are circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ" [Colossians 2:11]. The very name "Christian" is a sign of mankind's entrance into a New Covenant with God.

### SYNAXIS OF THE 70 APOSTLES

The Synaxis of the 70 Apostles was established by the Church to indicate the equal honor of each of the 70. They were sent two by two by the Lord Jesus Christ to go before Him into the cities He would visit (Luke 10:1). Besides the celebration of the Synaxis of the Holy Disciples, the Church celebrates the memory of each of them during the course of the year, on a multitude of different feastdays. With the Descent of the Holy Spirit the 70 Apostles preached in various lands. Some accompanied the 12 Apostles, like the holy Evangelists Mark and Luke, or Saint Paul's companion Timothy, or Prochorus, the disciple of the holy Evangelist John the Theologian, and others. Many of them were thrown into prison for Christ, and many received the crown of martyrdom. There are two more Apostles of the 70: Saint Cephas, to whom the Lord appeared after the Resurrection (1 Cor. 15:5-6), and Simeon, called Niger (Acts 13:1). They also were glorified by apostolic preaching. There are discrepancies in some lists of the 70 Apostles. In a list attributed to Saint Dorotheus of Tyre (June 5) some names are repeated (Rodion, or Herodion, Apollos, Tychicus, Aristarchus), while others are omitted (Timothy, Titus, Epaphras, Archippus, Aquila, Olympas). Saint Demetrius of Rostov consulted the Holy Scripture, the traditions passed down by the Fathers, and the accounts of trustworthy historians when he attempted to correct the mistakes and uncertainties in the list in compiling his collection of Lives of the Saints. The Church in particular venerates and praises the 70 Apostles because they taught us to honor the Trinity One in Essence and Undivided.