

# Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

347 Ridge Rd, Lansing, NY 14882

HolyApostlesLansing.org

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## August 13, 2017

**TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. – Tone 1. Leavetaking of the Transfiguration.** St. Tikhon, Bishop of Vorónezh, Wonderworker of Zadónsk and All Russia (1783). Translation of the Relics of St. Maximus the Confessor (662). Uncovering of the Relics of Ven. Maxim of Moscow, Fool-for-Christ (ca. 1547). Martyr Hippolytus of Rome and those with him: Martyr Concordia, Irenæus, and Abundius (258). The Icon “Passion” of the Most-holy Theotokos.

**EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 4:9–16:** The example of the Apostles.

**GOSPEL: Matthew 17:14–23:** Christ casts out a demon.

**COFFEE HOUR: This week:** Eileen & Bernice **Next week:** Bazarov (Bishop’s Visit)

**DORMITION:** This Tuesday, August 15, is the Feast of the Dormition (falling asleep) of the Mother of God. We will celebrate the feast with Vespers on Monday evening at 6 PM and Liturgy Tuesday morning at 9 AM. Following the Liturgy, we will bless flowers and herbs; please bring any that you would like to have blessed.

**BISHOP’S VISIT:** Abp. Michael will be at our church next Saturday for Vespers and Sunday for Liturgy. On Sunday, Hours will begin at 8:40 and the Archbishop will enter at 9 AM. During the Liturgy, Ivan Bazarov will be ordained to the Holy Diaconate.

**DEANERY PICNIC:** Our parish will be hosting a picnic at Myers Park Pavilion B for the Deanery clergy and their families next Sunday afternoon, beginning at 2:30PM. Please come and enjoy the company of our local clergy and continue the festive weekend. You’re welcome to bring yard games or other activities, and we could also use a few coolers for drinks. For more information on how you can help out, please see Fr Joel.

**MISSION SCHOOL:** Following the picnic next Sunday, Fr Joel will be driving to Long Island for the oca “Mission School” in Huntington, NY. He will return, Lord willing, on Friday, August 25. All weekend services will be held as usual.

**RUMMAGE SALE:** We’re planning a church rummage sale and bake sale for Saturday, September 16. More details to come soon! In the meantime, start thinking of items you can donate, and see Bernice or Eileen about other ways to help and be involved.

**KNOW YOUR FAITH:** Our “Know Your Faith” class is underway, discussing Serge Verhovskoy’s *The Light of the World*. This book deals especially with the Orthodox understanding of Christ and His Church. It’s not too late to join; our next meeting will be Tuesday, August 15, at 7 PM. See Fr Joel for more details.

**WELCOME VISITORS!** We warmly welcome all of our visitors! Please know that we are glad to have you here praying with us, and we invite you to stay after the service to enjoy a meal and meet everyone in our community.

## PRAYER SCROLL

### LIVING:

Apr Timothy H  
Apr Herman S  
Apr Sergius K  
Apr Thomas E  
Apr Stephen M  
Apr John R  
Apr Patrick C  
Apr Steven V  
Pr Adam S & Angie  
Mother Raphaela  
Mother Christophora  
Mat Joanna B  
Mat Katya  
Mat Mary G  
Kh Lynn  
Mat Rebekah  
Pani Amy  
Joshua  
Brittany  
Gretchen  
Marianne  
Terrence  
Helen  
Judy  
Mary & Susan  
John & Carmine  
Nathan

Leah  
Helen  
Lindsey  
Elizabeth  
Mary  
Joe A  
Daniel  
Andrew & family  
Carol  
Elizabeth  
David  
Shirley  
Christina  
Jim & Kim  
Rachel  
Constantine & Maria  
Gaetan  
Christine  
Samuel  
Lisa  
Lyudmila  
Nickolay  
Anetta  
Zachary  
Helena  
Natasha, Lena, Vera,  
Sergei  
Caleb

Danielle  
Larry, Mark, Katie  
Ann  
Dorothy  
Ronald  
Sheryl & Lacey  
Alexander, Angela,  
Anton  
Peter  
Gregory & Ann  
Raymond  
Vincent  
Photini  
Robert  
Steven, Stephanie,  
and family  
Dianna  
Elizabeth  
John  
Felicia  
Tom  
Vladimir  
Lou  
Seraphim & Anna  
Micah, Danielle, &  
Family  
Gregory & Ashley

Children: Anthony,  
Mia, Isabel, Bear,  
Victoria, Iva Bell,  
Panagiotis, Ada,  
Grace, Elias, Jack,  
Everett  
Seminarians: Rdrs  
Robert & Ivan  
Birthdays: John  
Anniversaries:  
Namesdays:

### REPOSED:

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

Stanley  
Taissia  
Steluja  
Theophan  
Lynda  
Florence  
James  
James R  
Vasily  
Mordecai  
Alexandr  
Ron  
John  
Eleanor  
Harold  
Alfred  
Edward  
Michael  
Mat Julianna  
Mario  
Robert  
James  
Wilhelmina  
Barbara  
Sr Theophano  
Newly Reposed:  
Pdn Gregory, Walter,  
Martha, Olga

**BY THE NUMBERS:** Last Collection: \$2441. Building Fund: \$0. Weekly Budget: \$1150. MTD: \$2441. Monthly Budget: \$4600

## SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

*Confessions are heard before and after Vespers or by appointment.*

**Sunday, August 13:** 9:10 AM Hours, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy and Social Hour

**Monday, August 14:** 6 PM Great Vespers (Dormition)

**Tuesday, August 15:** 9 AM Divine Liturgy (Dormition)

7 PM "Know Your Faith" book discussion

**Wednesday, August 16:** 8:30 AM Matins

**Thursday, August 17:** 8:30 AM Morning Prayer

**Friday, August 18:** 8:30 AM Morning Prayer

**Saturday, August 19:** 6 PM Great Vespers

**Sunday, August 20:** 8:40 AM Hours, 9 AM Entrance of the Hierarch, Divine Liturgy and Social Hour

2:30 PM Deanery Clergy Picnic

## PRAYER FOR CHURCH GROWTH

Again, we pray to Thee, O Lord our God, that Thou wouldst 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.

## THE FEAST OF THE DORMITION by Metropolitan Kallistos (Ware)

Indeed, so far from being separated, Our Lady remains always most intimately linked to mankind – linked through her urgent intercession on our behalf. 'Lady, behold thy Son... Behold thy mother' (John 19:26–27). The Church has long seen, in these words of Our Lord from the Cross, the giving to Mary of a universal motherhood: she is mother not to John only, but to all the children of God. Dwelling in heaven with Jesus, her care as mother remains undiminished, and embraces the universe: 'In giving birth, O Theotokos, thou hast retained thy virginity, and in falling asleep thou hast not forsaken the world' (troparion of the feast). In heaven, as on earth, the Mother of God continues 'ever watchful in her prayers, and in her intercession lies unfading hope' (kontakion of the feast).

*From the introduction to The Festal Menaion, published by St. Tikhon's Seminary Press.*

# HOLY APOSTLES ORTHODOX CHURCH LANSING, NEW YORK



SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 2017  
TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

# THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF ST TIKHON OF ZADONSK

*“As a merchant from various lands gathers various goods, and brings them into his house and treasures them there, likewise a Christian can collect from the world soul-saving thoughts, and by collecting them in the treasury of his heart can form his soul.”*

Such is the opening motto of St. Tikhon Zadonsky's book, *A Spiritual Treasure Gathered from the World*.

St. Tikhon was born of an extremely poor family in 1724 in the turbulent wake of Church reforms largely instigated by Tsar Peter in an effort to “subdue the old Russia for the benefit of the new Russia to come.” With the increasing infiltration of Western liberalism, criticism fell upon clergy and particularly monastics as being “ignorant” and “backward.” Hierarchs bold enough to raise their voices against State interference in Church affairs were banished or otherwise silenced. Tikhon himself was forced to be present at the unjust defrocking of Metropolitan Arseny, a leading figure among those who opposed Catherine II's secularization of Church property, which was a blow directed against monasticism and its influence. The criticism of “ignorant” clergy was not altogether unjustified: there were few good seminaries and many of the poorer clergy were uneducated and merely fulfilled certain outward duties in order to make a living. Such were the conditions of the ecclesiastical world into which St. Tikhon was born and in which he struggled to preserve and spread the fire of true Christianity to the end of his days.

The son of a village reader, Tikhon was fortunate in being able to receive a good theological education although he constantly suffered from poverty. His soul was drawn to the secluded life, but by God's will he soon found himself rising rapidly in the Church hierarchy and in 1763 he was appointed bishop of Voronezh. His sensitive soul was burdened by all the difficulties of his position combined with the disorganization and low level of Church life. But he resolved to follow his God-given obedience and crucify himself for his flock. His task was not easy. Soon after his arrival to his new diocese he wrote:

“Some deacons and priests seem to be unable to read the Scripture properly. It is evident that they either do not possess Bibles, or are unfamiliar with them and do not read them, neglecting thus their own salvation and that of the people entrusted to them. The will of the Heavenly Father is revealed to us in the New Testament through His beloved Son...without knowing it one cannot fulfill it.”

He applied himself energetically to his pastoral duties: he opened a seminary, instituted special sermons, cared for the poor and the sick. His primary concern was in educating the people in basic, practical Christianity. One of his first booklets was on The duty of Christian parents to their children and of children to their parents. He addressed the upper classes sternly:

“God will not ask you Whether you taught your children French, German or Italian or the politics of society life – but you will not escape divine reprobation for not having instilled goodness into them. I speak plainly but I tell the truth: if your children are bad, your grandchildren will be worse...and the evil will thus increase...and the root of all this is

our thoroughly bad education.”

After 7 years of intense labors in the Lord's harvest, his health was undermined and his spiritual strength exhausted. He begged to be relieved of his episcopal robe which he said was “too heavy for him” and in 1768 he retired to Zadonsk Monastery where he lived until his death in 1783. Literally thousands of people, both lay and monastic, began to come to him for counsel. Here also he continued his literary career which he had begun in answer to the crying need of his flock.

It is both from the life of this extraordinary man of God and from his writings, that we can gather spiritual pearls to enrich our our impoverished spiritual lives as we struggle against the same evil tide of worldliness which was threatening to engulf St. Tikhon's flock in 18th century Russia...

One of his best-known literary legacies is his book *A Spiritual Treasure Gathered from the World*, a collection of short essays or sermons on various aspects of spiritual life. Simple images from the world are used as metaphors and expounded upon to produce clear and vivid illustrations of basic Christian principles which are more accessible and more easily remembered than mere abstract dogmatic or moral teachings, and may be compared to the New Testament parables. For example, one of his teachings on humility is entitled, “water flows from high mountains onto low places”: “We see that water gravitates from the mountains to low-lying areas; so too, the grace of God is poured out from the Heavenly Father upon humble hearts.” He goes on to explain what is needed to acquire such humility.

“Try to know yourself, your own wickedness. Think on the greatness of God and your wretchedness. Meditate on the suffering of Christ, the magnitude of Whose love and suffering surpass our understanding. Ascribe the good that you do to God alone. Do not think about the sin of a brother but about what in him is better than in yourself... Flee from glory, honors and praise, but if this is impossible, be sorry that such is your lot. Be benevolent to people of low origin. Be freely and willingly obedient not only to those above you but to those below... The lowlier we are in spirit, the better we know ourselves, and without humility we cannot see God.”

St. Tikhon knew both the New Testament and Psalter by heart and this is evident in his frequent references to them in all his works...

Throughout all of his writings he stresses the need to actively love one's neighbor, for herein is shown the love of God:

“For love does not seek its own, it labors, sweats, watches to build up the brother: nothing is inconvenient to love, and by the help of God it turns the impossible into the possible... Love believes and hopes... It is ashamed of nothing. Without it, what is the use of prayer? What use are hymns and singing? What is the use of building and adorning churches? What is mortification of the flesh if the neighbor is not loved? Indeed, all are of no consequence... As an animal cannot exist without bodily warmth, So no good deed can be alive without true love; it is only the pretence of a good deed.”

Source: <http://www.roca.org/OA/6/6e.htm>

## WEEKLY HYMNS FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

### 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 7 (Transfiguration)

You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ God,  
revealing Your glory to Your Disciples as far as they could bear it.

Let Your everlasting Light also shine upon us sinners,

through the prayers of the Theotokos!//

O Giver of Light, glory to You!

### 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 7 (Transfiguration)

On the mountain You were transfigured, O Christ God,  
and Your Disciples beheld Your glory as far as they could see it;

so that when they would behold You crucified,

they would understand that Your suffering was voluntary,

and would proclaim to the world//

that You are truly the Radiance of the Father.

### Prokeimenon, Tone 1

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on You!

v: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just!

**Another, Tone 4:** O Lord, how manifold are Your works; in wisdom have You made them all!

### Alleluia, Tone 1

v: God gives vengeance unto me, and subdues people under me.

v: :He magnifies the salvation of the King and deals mercifully with David, His anointed, and his seed forever.

**Another, Tone 8:** v: The heavens are Yours; the earth also is Yours.

### Instead of “It is truly meet . . .”

Magnify, O my soul, the Lord Who was transfigured on Mount Tabor!

Your childbearing was without corruption;

God came forth from your body clothed in flesh,

and appeared on earth and dwelt among men.

Therefore we all magnify you, O Theotokos.

### Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest!

O Lord, we will walk in the light of Your countenance, and will exult in Your name forever.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

## ON THE FEAST OF THE DORMITION by Metropolitan Anthony (Bloom) of Surozh

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.

The Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God - which combines two events: Her death and Her resurrection in the body on the third day - has been for centuries, indeed, from the very beginning of the existence of the Russian Orthodox Church its Feast, its joy, its glory.

The Mother of God has not been a passive instrument of the Incarnation; without Her 'Amen' the Incarnation would have been as impossible as without the will of God. She is the response of the whole creation to God's love and to God's gift of self not only to mankind but to the whole Cosmos He has created. And in that we rejoice, because Her word is our word. Her word was perfect, as Her trust was, Her faith was, Her gift of self was. Ours is imperfect, and yet our voices resound within Hers, weakly, hesitantly at times, but with faith and also with love. She is the glory of all Creation; the Mother of God: one might have expected that death could not touch Her; but if death and a death so cruel could touch Her Divine Son, the Son of God and the Son of Mary, the Son of God and the Son of man - of course She had to pay the tribute of all the earth to the sin of man and also die. But according to Orthodox Tradition, death could not keep Her prisoner. She had given Herself unreservedly and perfectly to God, and it was to God, no longer to the earth that She belonged. And on the third day, when the Apostles came and reopened Her grave for one of them to be able to venerate Her, who had not been present at Her burial, it was found empty: She had risen because the bonds of death could not hold Her, and corruption could not touch a body which had been the body of the Incarnation. What a wonderful joy to think that now, side by side with the risen and ascended Christ, one of us, of mankind, a woman of flesh and blood is enthroned and in Her we can see the glory which will, we believe, be ours if we are faithful to God as She was.

So, let us rejoice, and not only here where our church has been dedicated since the early eighteenth century to the Assumption of the Mother of God, to Her Dormition, but with the whole Russian Church, and with all those who belong to it and are scattered over the face of the world, one with the Mother Church, one with the Mother of God, worshipping the Lord with all there is in us and seeing in Her the image of the whole Creation in adoration before the Living God. Amen.