

# Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

347 Ridge Rd, Lansing, NY 14882

HolyApostlesLansing.org

Fr Joel Brady, Rector 570 251 1963

Bill Allard, Senior Warden 607 743 2895

## September 24, 2017

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 7.** Holy New Martyrs of Alaska, Hieromonk Juvenaly (ca. 1796) and Peter the Aleut (1815). Holy Protomartyr and Equal-to-the-Apostles Thecla (1st c.). Ven. Nicander, Hermit, of Pskov (1581). Monk Martyr Galacteon of Vologdá (1612). Ven. Coprius of Palestine (530). Ven. Abramii, Abbot of Mirozh (Pskov). St. Vladislav of Serbia (1230–39). Ven. Dorothy of Kashin. Ven. Silouan of Mt. Athos (1938). The “Mirozh” (1198) and “Myrtle Tree” Icons of the Most-holy Theotokos.

**EPISTLES: 2 Corinthians 6:1–10:** Do not receive the Grace of God in vain.

**Romans 8:28–39:** All things work together for good for those who love God.

**GOSPELS: Luke 5:1–11:** The miraculous catch of fish.

**Luke 21:12–19:** Jesus warns of persecutions.

**COFFEE HOUR: This week:** Olympia & Family **Next week:** Potluck

**MOTHERS’ GROUP:** Several of our parish mothers will be having informal gatherings at the church on Wednesday mornings following Matins, to discuss Christian family life and the liturgical year. There’s still room to join! Please see Danielle if interested.

**HURRICANE RELIEF:** Archbishop Michael has directed that parishes in the Diocese take a special collection for International Orthodox Christian Charities, to assist with their relief work for the hurricanes in Texas and Florida. We’ve made an additional collection basket available, or if you wish to donate directly, you can visit [iocc.org](http://iocc.org).

**RUMMAGE SALE:** Thanks to everyone who donated items or helped out with the church rummage sale! We sold lots of things for the building fund, and were able to pass on a lot of what was left over to good causes. All told, we made a bit over \$700. May God bless all of your work!

**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, September 26, at 7 PM. See Fr Joel for more details. Also, if you’ve been wanting to come but Tuesday evenings aren’t a good time for you, please let Fr Joel know, as we may be moving to another time, and input would be appreciated.

**FRIENDLY REMINDER:** Please remember, when signing up for coffee hour, that this includes

washing the mugs and silverware. You can take the bin home and bring it back. This is important to keeping the church clean, and if everyone does it with their hosted coffee hour, the responsibility will be shared so as not to burden anyone unnecessarily.

**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 Michael M  
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  
Felicía  
Tom  
Vladimir  
Lou  
Seraphim & Anna  
Micah, Danielle, &  
Family  
Gregory & Ashley  
Petruta  
Katherine

Children: Anthony,  
Mia, Isabel, Bear,  
Victoria, Iva Bell,  
Panagiotis, Ada,  
Grace, Elias, Jack,  
Everett  
Seminarians: Dcn  
Ivan, Rdr Robert  
Birthdays: Kristina  
Anniversaries:

### REPOSED:

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

Stanley  
Taissia  
Stelujta  
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  
Walter  
Martha  
Olga  
Newly Reposed:

**BY THE NUMBERS:** Last Collection: \$3225. Building Fund: \$23. Weekly Budget: \$1150. MTD: \$5346. Monthly Budget: \$4600.

## SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

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

**Sunday, September 24:** 9:10 AM Hours, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy and Social Hour

**Tuesday, September 26:** 9 AM Divine Liturgy (St. John the Theologian)

7 PM "Know Your Faith" book discussion

**Wednesday, September 27:** 8:30 AM Matins

**Thursday, September 28:** 8:30 AM Morning Prayer

**Friday, September 29:** 8:30 AM Morning Prayer

**Saturday, September 30:** 6 PM Great Vespers

**Sunday, October 1:** 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 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.

## FROM THE OCTOËCHOS

Today death and hades and the lowest depths of the earth shake in terror at the presence of One of the Trinity. The earth quakes and the gatekeepers of hades are struck with terror at beholding You. But all creation, rejoicing with the prophets, sings a song of victory to You, our Redeemer and God, as You destroy now the power of death. Let us also shout and cry aloud to Adam and those who are sprung from him: The Cross has brought him back. *Enter, you faithful, into the resurrection!*

*Glory to God for all things!*

# HOLY APOSTLES ORTHODOX CHURCH LANSING, NEW YORK



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2017  
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## ON PRAYER BY ST. SILOUAN THE ATHONITE

He who loves the Lord is ever mindful of Him, and the thought of God begets prayer. If you are forgetful of the Lord, you will not pray, and without prayer the soul will not dwell in the love of God, for the grace of the Holy Spirit comes through prayer. Prayer preserves a man from sin, for the prayerful mind stays intent on God, and in humbleness of spirit stands before the Face of the Lord, Whom the soul of him who prays knoweth.

But the novice naturally needs a guide, for until the advent of the grace of the Holy Spirit the soul is involved in fierce struggle against her foes, and is unable to disentangle herself if the enemy offer her his delights. Only the man with experience of the grace of the Holy Spirit can understand this. He who has savored the Holy Spirit recognizes the taste of grace...

Prayer comes with praying, as the Scriptures say; but prayer which is only a habit, prayer without contrition for our sins, is not pleasing to the Lord.

Let me interrupt for a while my talk concerning prayer.

My soul yearns after the Lord, and I seek Him ardently, and my soul suffers thought of no other matter. My soul yearns after the living Lord, and my spirit strains towards Him, my Heavenly Father, my kin. The Lord made us His kin by the Holy Spirit. The Lord is dear to the heart – He is our joy and gladness, and our firm hope. O gracious Lord, mercifully seek out Thy creation, and shew Thyself to Thy people in the Holy Spirit, as Thou shewest Thyself to Thy servants. Rejoice every afflicted soul, O Lord, by the coming of Thy Holy Spirit. Let all who pray to Thee know the Holy Spirit.

O all ye people, let us humble ourselves for the sake of the Lord and the Kingdom of Heaven. Let us humble ourselves and the Lord will give us to know the power of the Jesus Prayer. Let us humble ourselves and the Spirit of God Himself will instruct the soul.

O man, learn the humility of Christ and the Lord will give you to taste of the sweetness of prayer. And if you would pray purely, be humble and temperate, confess yourself throughly, and prayer will feel at home in you. Be obedient, submit with a good conscience to those in authority. Be content with all things, and your mind will be cleansed of vain thoughts. Remember that the Lord sees you, and be fearful lest anyway you offend your brother. Neither dispraise nor grieve him, even by a glance, an expression on your face, and the Holy Spirit will love you and Himself be your help in all things.

The Holy Spirit is very much like a dear mother. A mother loves her child and has pity on it; and the Holy Spirit likewise has pity on us, forgives and heals us, enlightens and rejoices us. And the Holy Spirit is to be known through humble prayer.

The man who loves his enemies soon comes to know the Lord in the Holy Spirit, but of the man who does not love his enemies I have no wish to write. Yet he is to be pitied, for he is a torment to himself and to others, and will not know the Lord.

The soul that loves the Lord cannot help praying, for she is drawn to Him by the grace she has come to know in prayer.

We are given churches to pray in, and in church the holy offices are performed according to books. But we cannot take a church away with us, and books are not always to hand, but interior prayer is always and everywhere possible. The Divine Office is celebrated in church, and the Spirit of God dwells therein, but the soul is the finest of God's churches, and the man who prays in his heart has the whole world for a church. However, this is not for everyone.

Many use their lips to pray, and like to read prayers from books; and this is good and the Lord accepts

their prayers and is merciful to them. But if a man prays to the Lord while thinking of other things, the Lord hearkens not to his prayer.

The prayer of the man who prays from habit is always the same, but the prayer of him who prays fervently knows many vicissitudes; now he is engaged in struggle with the enemy, now with himself and his passions, now with other people; and in all this he has need of fortitude.

Ask counsel of the experienced, if such you find, and humbly entreat the Lord, and the Lord will give you understanding because of your humility...

If you are minded to pray in your heart and are not able, repeat the words of your prayer with your lips and keep your mind on the words you are saying, as St. John Climacus explains. In time the Lord will give you interior prayer without distraction, and you will pray with ease. Some there are who have injured their hearts in their efforts to force their minds into their hearts to pray, so much so that afterwards they were unable to pronounce the words of their prayer with their lips either. But do not forget the pattern of spiritual life: God bestows His gifts on the simple, lowly and obedient soul. The man who is obedient and temperate in all things – in food, in speech, in movement – receives the gift of prayer from the Lord Himself, and prayer continues without difficulty in his heart.

Unceasing prayer is born of love, while fault-finding, idle talk and self-indulgence are the death of prayer. The man who loves God is able to keep his mind on Him day and night since no form of activity interferes with loving God. The Apostles loved the Lord, and the world did not hinder them – though they were not forgetful of the world and prayed for it, and preached. True, Arsenius the Great was bidden to 'shun people' but in the desert, too, the Spirit of God teaches us to pray for people and for all the world.

Everyone in this world has his task to perform, be he king or patriarch, cook, blacksmith or teacher, but the Lord Whose love extends to everyone of us will give greater reward to the man whose love for God is greater. The Lord gave us the commandment to love God with all our hearts, with all our minds, with all our souls. But without prayer how can one love? The mind and heart of man, therefore, must always be free to pray.

When we love someone, we like to think about that person, talk about him, be with him. Now the soul loves the Lord, as her Father and Creator, and stands before Him in awe and love; in awe because He is the Lord; in love because the soul knows Him for her Father – He is all mercy, and His grace sweeter than aught else...

I lack the power to describe how greatly the Lord loves us. This love is made known in the Holy Spirit, and the soul when she prays knows the Holy Spirit.

Some there are who say that prayer beguiles. This is not so. A man is beguiled by listening to his own self, not by prayer. All the Saints lived in prayer, and they call others to prayer. Prayer is the best of all activities for the soul. Prayer is the path to God. Through prayer we obtain humility, patience and every good gift. The man who speaks against prayer has manifestly never tasted of the goodness of the Lord, and how greatly He loves us. No evil ever comes from God. All the Saints prayed without ceasing: they filled every moment with prayer.

When the soul loses humility, she loses grace and love for God at the same time, and ardent prayer is extinguished. But when the soul stills her passion and grows humble, the Lord gives her His grace, and then she prays for her enemies as for herself, and sheds scalding tears for the whole world.

From *Saint Silouan the Athonite* by Archimandrite Sophrony, pp 292-297.

Source: [http://www.orthodoxprayer.org/Articles\\_files/Silouan-0n%20Prayer.html](http://www.orthodoxprayer.org/Articles_files/Silouan-0n%20Prayer.html)

## WEEKLY HYMNS FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

**Troparion, Tone 7 (Resurrection)**

By Your Cross You destroyed death.  
To the thief You opened Paradise.  
For the Myrrhbearers You changed weeping into joy.  
And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God,  
to proclaim that You are risen,//  
granting the world great mercy.

**Troparion, Tone 4 (New Martyrs of Alaska)**

Today Alaska rejoices and America celebrates,  
for the New World has been sanctified by martyrdom.  
Kodiak echoes with songs of thanksgiving,  
Iliamna and Kenai observe the Festival of Faith.  
The Apostle and Martyr Juvenaly is glorified,  
and Peter the Aleut is exalted by his voluntary sacrifice.  
In their devotion and love for the Lord  
they willingly endured persecution and death for the Truth.//  
Now in the Kingdom of Heaven they intercede for our souls.

**Kontakion, Tone 7 (Resurrection)**

The dominion of death can no longer hold mankind captive,  
for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers.  
Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry:  
“The Savior has come to those in faith;//  
enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

**Kontakion, Tone 4 (New Martyrs of Alaska)**

Today Valaam joins Alaska in celebrating this joyous feast,  
as her spiritual son Juvenaly embraces the New-Martyr Peter with love.  
Together they suffered for the Lord in America  
and united the Old World with the New by their voluntary sacrifice.//  
Now forever they stand before the King of Glory and intercede for our souls.

**Prokeimenon, Tone 7**

The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace.  
v: Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

**Another, Tone 4:** The Lord has shown all the wonders of His will to the Saints who are in His land.

**Alleluia, Tone 7**

v: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your Name, O Most High.

v: To declare Your mercy in the morning, and Your truth by night.

v: The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them and delivered them out of all their troubles.

## THE HOLY MARTYRS JUVENAL AND PETER

*Saint Juvenal*, the Protomartyr of America, was born in 1761 in Nerchinsk, Siberia. His secular name was John Feodorovich Hovorukhin, and he was trained as a mining engineer. In a letter to Abbot Nazarius of Valaam (December 13, 1819), Saint Herman says that Saint Juvenal “had been an assistant at our monastery and was a former officer.”

After his wife died in 1791, John entered a monastery at Saint Petersburg (Saint Herman’s Letter of December 13, 1819) and was tonsured with the name Juvenal. Three years later, he went to Alaska as a missionary.

During 1794, the hieromonks Juvenal and Macarius spent two months in the area around Kodiak teaching the inhabitants about Christ and baptizing them. They traveled in small boats of hide in all sorts of weather, dividing up the territory among themselves. Saint Herman tells of a conversation he heard one day as he walked with the hieromonks to a small hill on the south side of the harbor. They sat down facing the sea, and spoke of various things. Soon they began to discuss where each of them should go to preach. Aflame with zeal and eager to set out on their journey, a friendly argument ensued between Father Macarius and Father Juvenal. Father Macarius said he intended to go north to the Aleutian Islands, and then make his way to the Alaskan mainland, where the inhabitants had invited him to visit. The monks had a map of Captain Cook’s which indicated that some Russians were living near a certain river in that particular area, and Father Macarius hoped to find them. . .

As he listened to their apostolic fervor, Saint Herman says he “went from joy to rapture” (Letter to Abbot Nazarius, May 19, 1795).

In 1795, Father Juvenal baptized over 700 Chugatchi at Nushek, then he crossed Kenai Bay and baptized the local people there. In 1796, according to native oral tradition, Saint Juvenal came to the mouth of the Kuskokwim near the present village of Quinahgak, where he was killed by a hunting party (There is a forged diary attributed to Ivan Petroff which gives a slanderous version of Father Juvenal’s death, and alleges that he was martyred at Lake Iliamna).

The precise reason for Saint Juvenal’s murder by the natives is not known. However, they later told Saint Innocent something about his death. They said that Saint Juvenal did not try to defend himself when attacked, nor did he make any attempt to escape. After being struck from behind, he turned to face his attackers and begged them to spare the natives he had baptized.

The natives told Saint Innocent that after they had killed Saint Juvenal, he got up and followed them, urging them to repent. They fell upon him again and gave him a savage beating. Once more, he got to his feet and called them to repentance. This happened several times, then finally the natives hacked him to pieces. Thus, the zealous Hieromonk Juvenal became the first Orthodox Christian in America to receive the crown of martyrdom. His unnamed guide, possibly a Tanaina Indian convert, was also martyred at the same time. . .

We know very little about *Saint Peter*, except that he was from Kodiak, and was arrested and put to death by the Spaniards in California because he refused to convert to Catholicism. . .

Both in his sufferings and in his steadfast confession of the Faith, Saint Peter is the equal of the martyrs of old, and also of the New Martyrs who have shone forth in more recent times. Now he rejoices with them in the heavenly Kingdom, glorifying God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, throughout all ages.

*Source: DCA.org*