Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

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January 7, 2018

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – **Tone 6.** Afterfeast of the Theophany. Synaxis of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John. Sunday after Theophany.

Epistles: Eph 4:7–13: Grace given to each by measure.

Acts 19:1–8: John's Baptism; Christ's Baptism.

GOSPELS: Matt 4:12–17: The beginning of Christ's preaching.

Jони 1:29-34: John proclaims Christ.

Parish Focus Groups: Fr Jonathan Ivanoff visited our parish recently to discuss forming a vision for our mission parish going forward. We're planning to continue that conversation within the parish: during coffee hour we'll have a short presentation about this, and then through the month of January we'll have a series of small group meetings. You'll have the opportunity to sign up for a meeting today.

HOLY WATER: On the Feast of Theophany, we celebrated the Great Blessing of Waters. Holy water is available to take home

Coffee Hour: This week: Potluck

Next week: Olympia & Family

from the font, and will be available all year in the side alcove if you need more.

LAKE BLESSING: Next Saturday, January 13, we'll continue our Theophany celebration with the blessing of Cayuga Lake at Myers Point. Join us to celebrate God's santification of all creation!

House Blessings: Now that we've celebrated Theophany, we'll commence the annual season of house blessings. Fr Joel will be scheduling times to bless homes starting today!

PRAYER SCROLL

By the Numbers: Last Collection: \$1850. December Total: \$14177.

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.

SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

With Daily Readings

Sunday, January 7: 9:10 AM Hours, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy and Social Hour • Eph 4:7–13; Matt 4:12–17; Acts 19:1–8; John 1:29–34

Monday, January 8: No services • James 2:14–26; Mark 9:42–10:1

Tuesday, January 9: 8:30 AM Morning Prayer • James 3:1–10; Mark 10:2–12

Wednesday, January 10: 8:30 ам Matins • James 3:11–4:6; Mark 10:11–16

Thursday, January 11: 8:30 AM Morning Prayer • James 4:7–5:9; Mark 10:17–27

Friday, January 12: 8:30 AM • 1 Peter 1:1-2, 10-12, 2:6-10; Mark 10:23-32

Saturday, January 13: 3 РМ Blessing of Cayuga Lake

6 PM Great Vespers • Eph 6:10-17; Matt 4:1-11; 1 Thess 5:14-23; Luke 16:10-15

Sunday, December 31: 9:10 AM Hours, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy and Social Hour • 1 Tim 1:15–17; Luke 18:35–43

Confessions are heard before and after Vespers, after Morning Prayers Tuesday-Thursday, or by appointment.

WEEKLY HYMNS FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

Troparion, Tone 6 (Resurrection)

The Angelic <u>Powers</u> were at Your tomb; the guards became as <u>dead</u> men.

Mary <u>stood</u> by Your grave, seeking Your most pure <u>body</u>.

You took hell <u>captive</u>, not being <u>tempted</u> by it.

You came to the Virgin, <u>granting</u> life.//
O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You.

Troparion, Tone 1 (Theophany)

When <u>You</u>, O Lord, were baptized in the <u>Jor</u>dan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest.

For the voice of the Father bore witness to You,

calling You His Beloved Son;

and the Spirit in the form of a dove

confirmed the truthfulness of His word.

O Christ our God, You have revealed Yourself//

and have enlightened the world, glory to You!

Troparion, Tone 2 (John the Baptist)

The <u>mem</u>ory of the righteous is celebrated with <u>songs</u> of praise.

but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for you, O <u>Fore</u>runner. You were <u>shown</u> indeed to be the most honorable of the Prophets,

for in the waters you baptize the <u>One</u> Whom you preached. After suffering with joy on behalf of the truth,

you proclaimed even to those in hell the God Who appeared in the flesh,

Who takes away the <u>sin</u> of the world// and grants us great mercy!

Kontakion, Tone 6 (St John the Baptist)

The river Jordan trembled, and was <u>driv</u>en back, filled with fear at Your <u>com</u>ing in the flesh, while John drew <u>back</u> in awe as he fulfilled the ministry of the Spirit.

The ranks of Angels stood amazed

when they beheld You baptized in the stream.

And we, who were in darkness, are filled with light.//

We praise You, O God made manifest, as You enlighten all.

Kontakion, Tone 4 (Theophany)

Today You have shone forth to the world, O Lord, and the light of Your countenance has been marked on us. Knowing You, we sing Your praises: "You have come and revealed Yourself,//O unapproachable Light."

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 7: The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord, and shall hope in Him.

Alleluia, Tone 5

v: I will sing of Your mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Your truth from generation to generation.

v: For You have said: "Mercy will be established forever; My truth will be prepared in the heavens."

Instead of "It is truly meet"

Magnify, O my soul, the most-pure Virgin Theotokos, more honorable than the heavenly hosts.

No tongue knows how to praise you worthily, O Theotokos; even Angels are overcome with awe praising you.

But since you are good, accept our faith;

for you know our love inspired by God.

You are the defender of Christians, and we magnify you.

Communion Hymns

The grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men. The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

On the day after Theophany, we celebrate Saint John the Forerunner, in keeping with the tradition of dedicating the day after a feast to the memory of a person or persons involved in the events commemorated. Besides his obvious role as the one who baptized Christ in the Jordan, Saint John plays a role in the Theophany in the broader sense of God's revelation of Himself in Christ. John is the last in the long line of prophets who prepared the way for Christ, and proclaimed the message which would be taken up by Christ Himself: "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!" (Matt 3:2; 4:17).