

Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

347 Ridge Rd Lansing NY

HolyApostlesLansing.org

Fr James Worthington, Rector 315-706-6185

Rdr Bob West, Sr Warden SrWarden@HolyApostlesLansing.org

DECEMBER 28, 2014

29th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 4. Afterfeast of the Nativity. Sunday after Nativity. Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James the Brother of the Lord. The 20,000 Martyrs of Nicomedia, including: Glycerius, Zeno, Theophilus, Dorotheus, Mardonius, Migdonious, Indes, Gorgonius, Peter, Euthymius, and the Virgins: Agape, Domna and Theophila (302). Ven. Ignatii of Lomsk (Vologdá—1591). Apostle Nicanor the Deacon (38 A.D.). Ven. Simeon the Myrrhusher, of Mt. Athos (14th c.).

EPISTLE: GALATIANS 1.11-19: St Paul meets St James before beginning his ministry.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 2.13-23: The wise men come, Joseph flees to Egypt with His family, and they return to Nazareth.

COFFEE HOUR HOST: Bill & Janet. **NEXT WEEK:** Available.

VESPERS NEXT WEEK: Rdr Bob.

HOURS: Available/Eileen. **NEXT WEEK:** Available/Eileen.

EPISTLE READER: Bill. **NEXT WEEK:** Available.

4TH ANNUAL LAKE BLESSING: In celebration of Holy Theophany, we will be blessing Cayuga Lake on January 10th at 12 Noon, with refreshments to follow at the church. If you would like to help with the small meal, see Bernice or Eileen. To help with the service or with the cross retrieval, see Fr James.

KNOW YOUR FAITH: The next class will be January 13 at Unwind Coffee Shop in the Ithaca Mall. We will be reading and discussing chapter 10 of the Gospel of St John, The Good Shepherd Discourse; Feast of Dedication; Jesus Retreats across the Jordan. Invite your friends to join us. The complete syllabus is available on the information table and online.

DDB: In grateful thanksgiving for the support of the Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors Program, each year we have given a little bit back. Please consider a donation to this fund to add on to the amount that will be donated from the Parish as a whole.

WELCOME! 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.

INTERIOR DESIGN: You will notice that the social area and nave have been redesigned a fair bit. In order to make room for coffee hour, the panels have been moved forward a few feet. Consequently, several pews were removed. As we grow, you are encouraged to move from the pews and into the open spaces created, in imitation of classical Orthodox tradition. Additionally, there is a folding chair that is a sample that we may use to replace the remainder of the pews. Have a look and provide any comments to Fr James after the Divine Liturgy.

ST. ANDREW'S CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS: His Grace, Bishop Michael, is appealing to individuals across our Diocese, who realize that they have been blessed by God and are in a position to share in those blessings, to provide a Christmas "gift of Camp for a week" for our young people to attend St. Andrew's Camp, in Jewell, NY, this coming summer. Your gift would bless a camper who otherwise could not attend St. Andrew's because of financial constraints. The cost of Camp is \$300 per week per individual – that includes room and board, meals, and all activities, including at least one special excursion each week. Checks may be made payable to St. Andrew's Camp Scholarship, and mailed to: Diocesan Chancery, 33 Hewitt Ave., Bronxville, NY 10708. Visit www.saintandrewscamp.org for more information on the Camp.

PRAYER SCROLL: LIVING: Archpriest Timothy Holowatch, Archpriest Herman Shick, Archpriest John Chupeck, Archpriest Thomas Edwards, Archpriest Michael Thier, Archpriest Stephen Mack, Dn Symeon, Abbess Silouana, Mother Raphaela, Mother Christophora, Mat Cecelia, Mat Katya, Mat Catherine, Mat Dorothy, Joshua, Brittany & Isaac, Gretchen, Toni, Peter, Marriane, Terrence, Helen, Judy, Gretchen, Mary & Susan, John & Carmine, Nathan, Leah, Helen, Lindsey, Christopher E, Susanne H, Olga S, Elizabeth, Mary, Joe A, Daniel, Andrew and family, Harold, Wilhemina, Children Anthony, Mia and Isabel, Gordon, Elizabeth, David, Madeline, Shirley, Larry, Christina, Caleb, Jim & Kim, Rachel, Constantine & Maria, Gaetan. **BIRTHDAYS:** Darlene. **ANNIVERSARIES:** None. **NAMESDAYS:** None.

REPOSED: Priest John, Archpriest Alexander, Rdr Gregory, Daniel, Ada, Walter, Lillian, Joseph, Marie, Joseph, Laura, Martha, Stanley, Helen, Charles, Arthur, Taissia, Steluta, Theophan, Lynda. **NEWLY DEPARTED:** Florence (11-29), Lynda (11-23), James (11-20), James (11-15). **ANNIVERSARIES:** John Yarosh.

FB Check-in



SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28: 9 AM Divine Liturgy and Social Hour (No RC SS) **TUESDAY,**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30: 8:30 Morning Prayers

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31: 8:30 Daily Matins

6 PM Great Vespers for the Feast

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1: 9 AM Divine Liturgy for the Naming of Christ and St Basil

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2: 8:30 Morning Prayers

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3: 6 PM Great Vespers, First Saturday Church School

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4: 9 AM Divine Liturgy and Social Hour (No RC SS)

January 5-6: Theophany Services. January 10: Lake Blessing

Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

PO Box 333

Lansing, NY 14882

Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

Lansing, New York



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2014

29TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY. HOLY RIGHTEOUS ONES: JOSEPH THE BETROTHED,
DAVID THE KING, AND JAMES THE BROTHER OF THE LORD.

Troparion to the Apostles

First enthroned of the Apostles, And teachers of the Universe; Entreat the Master of all
To grant peace to the world, And to our souls great mercy!

29TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Afterfeast of the Nativity. Sunday after Nativity. Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James the Brother of the Lord.

Troparion Tone 4 *(Resurrection)*

When the women Disciples of the Lord
learned from the Angel the joyous message of the Resurrection,
they cast away the ancestral curse
and elatedly told the Apostles:
“Death is overthrown!
Christ God is risen,//
granting the world great mercy!”

Troparion of the Feast Tone 4

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God,
has shone to the world the light of wisdom!
For by it, those who worshipped the stars,
were taught by a star to adore Thee,
the Sun of righteousness,
and to know Thee, the Orient from on high.//
O Lord, glory to Thee!

Troparion *(of the Righteous Ones)* **Tone 2**

Proclaim the wonder, O Joseph,
to David, the ancestor of God;
thou hast seen a Virgin great with child;
and thou didst give glory with the shepherds;
thou didst worship with the Magi,
and didst receive the news from the Angel. //
Pray to Christ God to save our souls!

Kontakion *(of the Righteous Ones)* **Tone 3**

Today godly David is filled with joy;
Joseph and James offer praise.
The glorious crown of their kinship with Christ fills them with great joy.
They sing praises to the One ineffably born on earth,
and they cry out: “O Compassionate One, save those who honor Thee!”

Kontakion of the Feast Tone 3

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One,
and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One.
Angels with shepherds glorify Him;
the Wise Men journey with the star,//
since for our sake the eternal God was born as a little Child!

Prokeimenon Tone 4

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works; in wisdom hast Thou made them all. *(Ps 103/104:24)*
v: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, Thou art very great! (Ps 103/104:1)
Tone 4: God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel. *(Ps 67/68:35)*

Alleluia Verses Tone 4

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! *Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth! (Ps 44/45:5)*
v. For Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest iniquity. (Ps 44/45:8)
v: Remember, O Lord, David and all his meekness! (Ps 131/132:1)

Hymn to the Theotokos

Magnify, O my soul, the most-pure Virgin Theotokos,
more honorable and more glorious than the heavenly hosts.
Out of fear, we should choose to love silence,
for that is a safer course;
so difficult it is lovingly to compose intricately woven songs
to thee, O Virgin.
But grant us strength, O Mother,
equal to our natural calling.

Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! *(Ps 148:1)*
The Lord has sent redemption to His people. *(Ps 110/111:9)*
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

ARCHPASTORAL MESSAGE OF HIS BEATITUDE, BISHOP MICHAEL FOR THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST 2014

**The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord
Thursday, December 25th, 2014**

Dearly Beloved of Our Diocesan Family:
Christ is Born! – Let us glorify Him!

*“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the Only-Begotten
of the Father, full of grace and truth ... And of His fullness
we have all received, and grace for grace.” (John 1:14, 16)*

The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord, which we celebrate today, does not simply mark the birth in Bethlehem of a beautiful baby boy, who grows up to be a good and kind man, a great teacher and a holy religious leader. It actually proclaims to the world the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, the coming in the flesh of the Son and Word of God to dwell among His people. The Divine Word becomes fully human without ceasing to be fully God; He assumes complete human nature, everything about our humanity, except sin. In One Person, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is both God and Man. Today the Church celebrates this central fact of our faith: the Son of God has appeared on earth as a real human, born of the Virgin Mary, in order to die and rise again to give life to the world.

When St. John the Theologian writes that the Word dwelt among us, he is telling us that He has literally “tabernacled” or “pitched His tent” among us. This recalls the Exodus and Sinai experiences, the Old Testament Ark of the Covenant and Temple, and the visions of the prophets – all places of God’s special appearances, the famous ways in which He revealed Himself in the past. These revelations show us that it is possible to know God, because He truly does reveal Himself. And they show us, too, that when we pray to the Lord in times of need, He does not have to imagine what we are going through – times of trouble or being misunderstood, hunger or poverty, rejection or loneliness, suffering or facing death. He only has to remember, because He has experienced all this Himself – in the fullness of our humanity!

In telling us that “we beheld His glory,” the Gospel reminds us of both Christ’s majesty and His humility: His majesty shown by the signs and wonders He performed and by the Divine Light that radiated from Him on the mount of the Transfiguration ... and also His humble service to mankind, as God, shown most perfectly on the Cross, where He experiences death in the flesh to

ransom us from the devil and sin and death. In both ways, He reveals Himself as the One sent from the Father. This divine glory was seen by

Moses on Mount Sinai, and by Peter, James and John on Mount Tabor; but it has also been seen by Saints of every age. And many more people have beheld His glory in the countless miracles, both small and great, that He continually works for us the faithful and to help bring those outside into the Faith.

The new-born Savior Jesus is called “the only Begotten Son of God” to make it clear that He Himself is divine. He has the same nature as God the Father. When St. John says that those who receive Him and believe in Him are given the power to become children of God (John 1:12), he means that by grace we can become like Jesus Christ. Our Orthodox Christian life, beginning with baptism, is thus about being children of God, growing spiritually, and being changed into the likeness of Christ. Again, St. John tells us: “Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God. Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He (Christ) is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is” (I John 3:1-2).

Saint John of Kronstadt summarizes the meaning of the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord when he writes: “And the Word became flesh! ... in order to make us earthly beings into heavenly ones; in order to make sinners into saints; in order to raise us up from corruption into incorruption, from earth to heaven; from enslavement to sin and the devil into the glorious freedom of children of God; from death into immortality, in order to make us sons of God and to seat us together with Him upon the Throne as His royal children. O boundless compassion of God! O inexpressible wisdom of God! O great wonder, astounding not only the human mind, but the angelic (mind) as well!”

On this most joyous Feast, let us unite together as a diocesan family, each in his own parish, and raise our voices in hymns of praise of the Incarnate One born of the Theotokos. Let us open our hearts to the gift of His love in His becoming one of us to die for our salvation; and let us renew our commitment to His way of life, begun at our baptism. Come, let us worship Him as our God! ... not just this day, but at every opportunity through the coming new year!

Please be assured of my prayers for each of you, for good health and the choicest of our Lord’s blessings, and my love for all the clergy and faithful of our God-protected Diocese.

With my prayers, my blessing and my love,

+ M I C H A E L
Bishop of New York and the Diocese of New York and New Jersey