

This Week at Holy Apostles...

Sunday, 12/13 – PC elections and Philotochos meeting after Liturgy
Monday, 12/14 – 5:30pm Media Monday
Tuesday, 12/15 – 7:00am Men's Group
9:30am Divine Liturgy – St. Eleutherios (at SCH)
Wednesday, 12/16 – 6:00pm Paraklesis
Thursday, 12/17 – NO Women's Study Group

Thank you...

Adrienne, Alexis B, and Kathy for your offerings of Prosfora, Nancy & Zoe for hosting today's fellowship, Cameron for greeting, and all of the chanters who helped today and throughout the week!

Some Words from a Saint/Elder...

"It is significant how deeply attracted men are by the spectacle of an earthly king and how eagerly they seek after it; and how everyone who lives in a city where the king has his residence longs to catch a glimpse simply of the extravagance and ostentation of his entourage. Only under the influence of spiritual things will they disregard all this and look down on it, wounded by another beauty and desiring a different kind of glory. If the sight of a mortal king is so important to worldly people, how much more desirable must the sight of the immortal king be to those into whom some drops of the Holy Spirit have fallen and whose hearts have been smitten by divine love? For this they will relinquish all amity with the world, so that they may keep that longing continually in their hearts, preferring nothing to it."

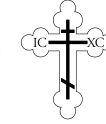
- St. Macarius of Egypt

Future Dates to Keep in Mind

Sunday, 12/13 – PC elections
Sunday, 12/20 – Christmas program
Wednesday, 12/23 – HAYA movie night and outing
Sunday, 12/27 – 5:00pm Christmas Party
Sunday, 5/1/16 – Great & Holy Pascha
Saturday, 7/9/16 – WBAR

The Sunday Witness

The Weekly Bulletin of Holy Apostles
Orthodox Christian Church of Cheyenne
December 13, 2015 – 11th Sunday of Luke



Commemorated Today

Herman the Wonderworker of Alaska
The Holy Martyrs Eustratius, Auzentius, Eugene, Mardarius, and Orestes of Greater Armenia
Lucia the Virgin-Martyr
Gabriel the Hieromartyr, Archbishop of Serbia

Today's Hymns

(to be chanted for pages 16 & 17 of the Liturgy Book)

Apolytikion for the Resurrection (Appendix 3): Let the heavens sing for joy, and let everything on earth be glad. For with His Arm the Lord has worked power. He trampled death under foot by means of death; and He became the firstborn from the dead. From the maw of Hades He delivered us; and He granted the world His great mercy.

Apolytikion for the Forefathers: By faith You justified the Forefathers, having through them betrothed to yourself the Church that came out of the nations. The saints are boasting in glory; for the glorious fruit, the Virgin who without seed gave birth to You, is from their progeny. At their entreaties, O Christ our God, save our souls.

For the Parish: O Holy Apostles, intercede with the Merciful God, that He grant unto our souls forgiveness of offenses.

Kontakion: On this day the Virgin Maid goes to the grotto to give birth to the pre-eternal Word in an ineffable manner. Dance for joy, all the inhabited earth, on hearing. Glorify along with Angels and with the shepherds Him who willed that He appear as a newborn Child, the pre-eternal God.

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Presiding Priest: Fr. Paul Truebenbach

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Today's Epistle Reading

Cantor: *Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers.*

For you are just in all you have done.

The Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians (3:4-11)

BRETHREN, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away; anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

Gospel Reading

The Reading is from the Gospel of Luke (14:16-24)

The Lord said this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time of the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and there is still room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I

tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet. For many are called, but few are chosen.'"

Welcome Visitors!

Holy Apostles Orthodox Christian Church would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our guests and visitors who are with us today. Thank you for worshiping with us, and please stay for Coffee Hour at the conclusion of the Liturgy! If you have any questions about this parish, the service, or the Orthodox Church in general, please feel free to ask a parishioner, look at the pamphlets in the Narthex (the entrance to the church), or ask Fr. Paul after the service. Finally, if this is your first visit to our parish, in order that we may treat you as our honored guest, we ask that you **not** participate in the offering after the service. Again, thank you for joining us, and let us know if we can do anything for you today or in the future!

A Note on Holy Communion

For non-Orthodox: Welcome to our parish and the service of the Divine Liturgy! As a point of information, the Orthodox Church invites all to come and participate in the Divine Services. As the fullest communion among people occurs only when we are wholly united in faith and worship, however, please know that the Mystery of Holy Communion is reserved for Baptized/Chrismated Orthodox Christians. If, at the time of Holy Communion, you would like to receive a blessing from the Priest, we welcome you to approach the Chalice with those receiving Communion and recite the words, "The blessing of the Chalice" to the Priest who will then offer a blessing over your head. Further, at the conclusion of the Liturgy, ALL are welcome (Orthodox and non-Orthodox) to receive a piece of the blessed bread given out by the Priest. And please stay for our fellowship hour following the Liturgy!

For Orthodox: Holy Communion is reserved for those who have properly prepared through prayer, fasting, and the Mystery of Holy Confession and have arrived prior to the Gospel for the day, remembering the teachings of St. Paul which tell us that receiving Holy Communion unworthily is to our condemnation rather than salvation (I Cor 11:29). When receiving Holy Communion, please remove any lipstick prior to approaching the Chalice and hold the Communion cloth with both hands against the bottom of your chin. Finally, please refrain from venerating the Chalice after receiving.