

condemnation, as St. Paul explains (1 Corinthians 11:27-30). If you have not properly prepared or are not an Orthodox Christian, we would like to extend an invitation, if you so desire, to approach Holy Communion with the other parishioners and recite the words, "The blessing of the Chalice," for a blessing from the priest. Further, ALL are welcome to receive the blessed bread given out by the Priest after the conclusion of the Liturgy.

For those receiving Holy Communion, please give the priest your Baptismal name and hold the red Communion cloth with both hands against the bottom of your chin. We also ask that women please remove any lipstick before approaching the Chalice. Finally, to avoid any possibility of hitting the Chalice, we ask that you not venerate the Chalice after receiving.

This Week at Holy Apostles...

Monday, 2/9 – 5:30pm Fundraising Meeting
Tuesday, 2/10 – 7:00am Men's Group
8:45am Orthros, 9:30 Liturgy – St Haralambos (at HA)
Wednesday, 2/11 – NO Paraklesis
(*Fr. Paul will be in Denver from Wednesday through Friday*)
Saturday, 2/14 – 8:45am Orthros, 9:30 Liturgy – Saturday of Souls

Thank you...

Tina and Kathy for your offerings of Prosfora, Greg & Tara for hosting today's fellowship, Jim & Estelle for greeting, and all of the chanters who helped today and throughout the week!

Future Dates to Keep in Mind

Monday, 2/9 – Fundraising Meeting at church – 5:30pm
Saturday, 2/28 – Cheyenne Parishes Lenten Retreat at SCH after Liturgy
Saturday/Sunday, 3/21, 22 – Guest Speaker – Joy Corey
Sunday, 4/12 – Great and Holy Pascha
Saturday, 7/11 – WB&AR

Lending Library News: A big "Thank you!" to all those who have donated books to our Lending Library and to those who will donate books.

Please note: When you check out a book, please sign the Check Out Notebook with your information, being sure to put the date you check out the book(s) and put in the date you **return** the book(s). Thank you for your cooperation.

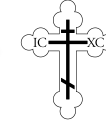
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The Sunday Witness

The Weekly Bulletin of Holy Apostles
Orthodox Christian Church of Cheyenne
February 8, 2015 – Sunday of the Prodigal Son



Commemorated Today

Theodore the Commander & Great Martyr

The Holy Prophet Zacharias

Nikephoros & Stephanos the Martyrs

Afterfeast of the Presentation of our Lord & Savior into the Temple

Note: At the 2nd Antiphon (beginning on page 9), instead of, "Who is risen from the dead," we chant, "Who were held in the arms of righteous Symeon..."

Today's Hymns

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

Apolytikion for the Resurrection (Appendix 2): When You descended unto death, O Lord who yourself are immortal Life, then did You mortify Hades by the lightning flash of Your Divinity. Also when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the Powers of the heavens were crying out: O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory be to You.

Apolytikion for the Feast: Lady full of grace, rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, for Christ our God, the Sun of righteousness has risen from you and He illumined those in darkness. And you, righteous Elder, be glad in heart, receiving in your embraces the One who liberates our souls and bestows on us the Resurrection.

Apolytikion for the Church: O Holy Apostles, intercede with the merciful God, that He grant unto our souls forgiveness of offenses.

Kontakion: You sanctified the virginal womb by Your birth, O Lord, and blessed the hands of Symeon fittingly, O Christ God; and even now You came and saved us. Now, give peace to our Nation in time of war, and empower our Leaders, so loved by You, the only one who loves humanity.

Today's Epistle Reading

Cantor: *Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us.*

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

The Reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (6:12-20)

Brethren, "all things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" -- and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.

Gospel Reading

The Reading is from the Gospel of Luke (15:11-32)

The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything.

But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned

against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry.

Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

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

The Orthodox Church invites all to come and participate in the Divine Services. As true communion occurs only when we are wholly united in faith and worship, the Mystery of Holy Communion is reserved for Baptized and/or Chrismated Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared through prayer, fasting, and Holy Confession and who have arrived prior to the Gospel for the day; this is to protect ourselves against receiving Communion to our