

This Week at Holy Apostles...

Sunday, 3/15 – 5:30pm Pan-Orthodox Great Vespers at St. James in Fort Collins
Monday, 3/16 – 6:00pm Compline (at Sts. Constantine & Helen)
Tuesday, 3/17 – 7:00am Men's Group
Wednesday, 3/18 – 5:40pm Presanctified Liturgy w/ Lenten Potluck following
Friday, 3/20 – 6:00pm Salutations to the Theotokos
Saturday, 3/21 – 10:15am Joy Corey talk at Public Library (Willow Room)
Sunday, 3/22 – Joy Corey short talk and Q&A after Liturgy
5:30pm Pan-Orthodox Great Vespers at Holy Apostles

Thank you...

Estelle for your offerings of Prosfora, Jamie & Sarah for hosting today's fellowship, Zoe for greeting, and all of the chanters who helped today and throughout the week!

Some Words from a Saint/Elder...

"... Adam chose the treason of the serpent, the originator of evil, in preference to God's commandment and counsel, and broke the decreed fast. Instead of eternal life he received death and instead of the place of unsullied joy he received this sinful place full of passions and misfortunes, or rather, he was sentenced to Hades and nether darkness. Our nature would have stayed in the infernal regions below the lurking places of the serpent who initially beguiled it, had not Christ come. He started off by fasting (cf. Mk. 1:13) and in the end abolished the serpent's tyranny, set us free and brought us back to life."

- St. Gregory Palamas

Future Dates to Keep in Mind

Saturday/Sunday, 3/21, 22 – Guest Speaker – Joy Corey
Monday, 3/23 – Fundraising Meeting
Saturday, 4/4 – Lazarus Saturday pancake breakfast and palm folding
Sunday, 4/12 – Great and Holy Pascha
Saturday, 7/11 – WB&AR
Saturday, 11/14 – Open House & Car Raffle Drawing

Note: The church's alarm system will be armed VERY SOON. If you are going to be entering the parish during the week, please check with Fr. Paul or Jim to make sure it is not armed.

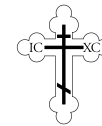
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The Sunday Witness

The Weekly Bulletin of Holy Apostles
Orthodox Christian Church of Cheyenne
March 15, 2015 – Sunday of the Holy Cross



Commemorated Today

The Holy, Life-Giving, and Venerable Cross

Agapius the Martyr & His Companions

Manuel the New Martyr of Crete

Holy Apostle Aristobulos of the Seventy, Bishop of Britain

Today's Hymns

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

Apolytikion for the Resurrection (Appendix 7): By means of Your Cross, O Lord, You abolished death. To the robber You opened Paradise. The lamentation of the myrrh-bearing women You transformed, and You gave Your Apostles the order to proclaim to all that You had risen, O Christ our God, and granted the world Your great mercy.

Apolytikion for the Cross: Save, O Lord, O Lord Your people and bless Your inheritance, grant victory to the rulers against the adversaries of the faith, and preserve Your commonwealth by Your holy Cross.

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

Kontakion: To You, the Champion Commander, I Your City inscribe victorious anthems of thanksgiving for deliverance from sufferings, O Theotokos. Inasmuch as you have power unassailable, from all manner of dangers set me free; that I may cry out to you: Rejoice, Bride unwedded!

Today's Epistle Reading

Cantor: *O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.*

To you, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.

The Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews (4:14-16; 5:1-6)

BRETHREN, since we have a high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee"; as he says also in another place, "Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek."

Gospel Reading

The Reading is from the Gospel of Mark (8:34-38; 9:1)

The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the

holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

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 worshipping 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 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.