

This Week at Holy Apostles...

Sunday, 3/22 – Joy Corey short talk and Q&A after Liturgy
5:30pm Pan-Orthodox Great Vespers at Holy Apostles
Monday, 3/23 – 5:30pm Fundraising Meeting
6:00pm Compline (at Holy Apostles)
Wednesday, 3/25 – 8:45 Orthros, 9:30 Liturgy – Annunciation
NO PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY
Friday, 3/27 – 6:00pm Salutations to the Theotokos

Thank you...

Adrienne for your offerings of Prosfora, Stephan & Kay for hosting today's fellowship, Curtis for greeting, and all of the chanters who helped today and throughout the week!

Some Words from a Saint/Elder...

"In all your undertakings and in every way of life, whether you are living in obedience, or are not submitting your work to anyone, whether in outward or in spiritual matters, let it be your rule and practice to ask yourself: Am I really doing this in accordance with God's will?"

"You cannot learn to see just because someone tells you to do so. For that, you require your own natural power of sight. In the same way, you cannot discover from the teaching of others the beauty of prayer. Prayer has its own special teacher in God, who 'teaches man knowledge' (Ps. 93:10). He grants the prayer of him who prays. And He blesses the years of the just."
- St. John Climacus

Future Dates to Keep in Mind

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

Welcome to our guest speaker, Joy Corey!

Thank you for being with us!

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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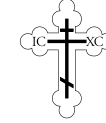
Presiding Priest: Fr. Paul Truebenbach

Phone: 307-331-5197

The Sunday Witness

The Weekly Bulletin of Holy Apostles
Orthodox Christian Church of Cheyenne

March 22, 2015 – Sunday of St. John Climacus



Commemorated Today

St. John Climacus (St. John 'of the Ladder')

Basil the Holy Martyr of Ancyra

Kalliniki & Vassilisa the Martyrs

Euthemios the New Martyr

Today's Hymns

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

Apolytikion for the Resurrection (Appendix 8): You descended from on high, O compassionate One, and condescended to be buried for three days, so that from the passions You might set us free. Our life and resurrection, O Lord, glory be to You.

Apolytikion for the Saint: With the rivers of your tears you made the barren desert bloom; and with your sighs from deep within, you made your labors bear their fruits a hundredfold; and you became a star, illuminating the world by your miracles, O John, our devout father. Intercede with Christ our God, for the salvation of our souls.

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: *The Lord will give strength to his people.*

Bring to the Lord, O sons of God, bring to the Lord honor and glory.

The Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews (6:13-20)

BRETHREN, when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore to himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

Gospel Reading

The Reading is from the Gospel of Mark (9:17-31)

At that time, a man came to Jesus kneeling and saying: "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me."

And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!"

And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse;

so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

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 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.