

This Week at Holy Apostles...

Sunday, 2/22 – 6:00pm Forgiveness Vespers (at SCH)
Clean Monday, 2/23 – 6:00pm Compline (at HA)
Wednesday, 2/25 – 6:00pm Presanctified Liturgy w/ Lenten Potluck following
Friday, 2/27 – 6:00pm Salutations to the Theotokos (at SCH)
Saturday, 2/28 – 9:30am Liturgy – Saturday of Souls (at SH)
11:30am – Lenten Retreat (at SCH)

Thank you...

Pres. Lavinia and Fay for your offerings of Prosfora, Tim & Kathy for hosting today's fellowship, Nick for greeting, and all of the chanters who helped today and throughout the week!

Future Dates to Keep in Mind

Sunday, 3/1 & 3/8 – Undies Sunday
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

Some Words from a Saint/Elder...

"If you have sinned, acknowledge the sin and repent. God will forgive the sin and once again give you *a new heart...and a new spirit* (Ez. 36:26). There is no other way: Either do not sin, or repent."
- St Theophan the Recluse (+1894)

"If we are not willing to sacrifice this temporal life, or perhaps even the life to come, for the sake of our neighbor, as were Moses and St. Paul, how can we say that we love him? For Moses said to God concerning his people, 'If Thou wilt forgive their sins, forgive; but if not, blot me as well out of the book of life which Thou hast written' (Ex. 32:32 LXX); while St. Paul said, 'For I could wish that I myself were severed from Christ for the sake of my brethren' (Rom. 9:3). He prayed, that is to say, that he should perish in order that others might be saved — and these others were the Israelites who were seeking to kill him."
- St Peter of Damascus (+750)

May our Merciful Lord grant you good strength for your Lenten journey! Let us eagerly embrace our repentance!

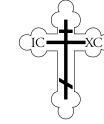
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The Sunday Witness

The Weekly Bulletin of Holy Apostles
Orthodox Christian Church of Cheyenne
February 22, 2015 – Forgiveness Sunday



Commemorated Today

The Finding of the Precious Relics of the Holy Martyrs in the Quarter of Eugenius

Our Righteous Fathers Thalassius and Baradatus

Anthousa the Martyr & her 12 Servants

Today's Hymns

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

Apolytikion for the Resurrection (Appendix 4): When the women Disciples of the Lord had learned from the Angel the joyful message of the Resurrection and had rejected the ancestral decision, they cried aloud to the Apostles triumphantly: Death has been despoiled, Christ God has risen, granting His great mercy to the world.

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

Kontakion: O guide to wisdom, provider of prudence, disciplinarian of fools, and defender of the poor, fortify and discipline my heart, O Master; You, give me a word, O Word of the Father. For behold, I will not hinder my lips from crying to You: O merciful Lord, have mercy on me who have fallen.

Today's Epistle Reading

Cantor: *Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.*

God is known in Judah; his name is great in Israel.

The Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans (13:11-14; 14:1-4)

Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for God is able to make him stand.

Gospel Reading

The Reading is from the Gospel of Matthew (6:14-21)

The Lord said, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

"And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

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.