

Services. As Holy Communion is not only the partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ but a physical sign of the union of Orthodox Christians in one Body, wholly united in faith and worship, this Mystery is reserved for Baptized and/or Chrismated Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared through prayer, fasting, and Holy Confession; further, it is proper that one receive Communion only if they have arrived prior to the Gospel for the day. If you have not properly prepared or are not an Orthodox Christian, we do invite those who would like to do so to approach Holy Communion with the other parishioners and recite the words, "The blessing of the Chalice," for a blessing from the priest.

For those receiving Holy Communion, please give the priest your Baptismal name when approaching the Chalice 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 spilling the Precious Body and Blood of our Lord, we ask that you not venerate the Chalice after receiving.

This Week at Holy Apostles...

Sunday 6/29 – 5:00pm Great Vespers with Dinner & Fellowship to follow
Monday 6/30 – 8:30 Orthros, 9:30 Liturgy – Synaxis of the Holy Apostles
Tuesday 7/1 – 9:00 Orthros, 9:30 Liturgy – Sts. Cosmas & Damien
Wednesday 7/2 – 6:30pm Paraklesis

Thank you...

Stephan and Jamie for your offerings of Prosfora, Bob & Ellyn for hosting today's fellowship, Chris for greeting, and all of the chanters who helped today and throughout the week! Thank you also to Elias Galeotos for the offering of Communion wine!

A Word from the Fathers...

To the extent that you pray from your soul for the one who spread scandal about you, God will reveal the truth to those who were told the scandal. – St. Maximus the Confessor

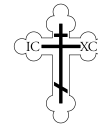
Holy Apostles Orthodox Christian Church
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Presiding Priest: Fr. Paul Truebenbach

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The Sunday Witness

The Weekly Bulletin of Holy Apostles
Orthodox Christian Church of Cheyenne
June 29, 2014 – Feast of Sts. Peter & Paul



Saints of the Day

The Holy Apostles, Peter & Paul

Today's Hymns

Apolitikion for the Resurrection: When you descended to the realm of death, You as life immortal rendered to Hades a mortal blow by Your all radiant divinity. And when You from infernal depths and the darkness below did raise the dead, all the hosts of heaven's power did proclaim and cry out, 'O life-giving Christ and our God we give glory.'

For the Apostles: Preeminent Apostles and teachers of the universe, intercede with the Master of all, to grant peace to the whole world, and great mercy to our souls.

Hymn of the Church: O holy Apostles, intercede with the merciful God, that He grant unto our souls forgiveness of offences.

Kontakion: A protection of Christians unshamable, intercessor to our holy Maker, unwavering, reject not the prayerful cries of those who are sin; instead, come to us for you are good; your loving help bring unto us, who are crying in faith to you: hasten to intercede, and speed now to supplicate, as a protection for all time, Theotokos for those who honor you.

Today's Epistle Reading

Cantor: *Their voice has gone out into all the earth. The heavens declare the glory of God.*

The Reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians (11:21-33; 12:1-9)

BRETHREN, whatever anyone dares to boast of -- I am speaking as a fool -- I also dare to boast of that. Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I. Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one -- I am talking like a madman -- with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. Five times I have received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I have been beaten with rods; once I was stoned. Three times I have been shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brethren; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure upon me of my anxiety for all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant?

If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed for ever, knows that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands.

I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven -- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise -- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows -- and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think

more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Gospel Reading

The reading is from the Gospel of Matthew (16:13-19)

At that time, Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do men say that the Son of man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

For 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, this 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, we ask that you allow us to treat you as our honored guest and not participate in the offering after the service. Again, thank you for joining us!

A Note on Holy Communion

The Orthodox Church invites all to come and participate in the Divine