

June 30, 2024 / T one 5 / Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Christ is Among Us! He is and Always Shall Be!



June 30th: Synaxis of the Holy and Most Praiseworthy Twelve Apostles

With hymns of praise let us venerate Peter, the rock of faith, and Paul, a true teacher and mystic of Christ. Both were preachers of true piety and very brilliant stars of the Church, because they sowed the true word in the hearts of the faithful, bestowing fruitfulness to all. Now they entreat Christ our God that our souls be saved.

Holy Protection of Mary Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix
Most Reverend Kurt Burnette Apostolic Administrator
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Byzantine Catholic Church
1837 Alvarado Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110 Parish office: (505) 256-1539
www.olphnm.org

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday—Friday 10:00 am—4:00 pm
Thursday OFF

THEOSIS: 2nd & 4th Thursday
Bible Study 6:45 pm / Zoom

Advisory Board

Fr. Chris Zuger, Dan Riley, Rafael Plut,
Jeff Brewer, Michael Grega, Alicia Wells

Finance Council

Matthew Blain, Maria Alden

Father Artur Bubnevych, Pastor
Rectory (505) 268-2877
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Father Tyler Strand
(516) 661-0883
tylerastrand@yahoo.co.uk

Confession (Mystery of Reconciliation):

9:00—10:00 am on Sundays, before or after weekday Liturgies, or by appointment with Father

Mysteries of Baptism/Chrismation/Eucharist:

Must be arranged three months in advance.
(Pre-Jordan requirement)

Mystery of Crowning:

Must be arranged six months in advance
(Pre-Cana requirement)

Sick and Shut-Ins: It is the family's responsibility to notify the parish office when a parishioner is in the hospital or confined to home because of sickness or old age. Father will bring the confined person the Holy Mysteries on a regular basis. It is recommended that one receive the Anointing of the Sick before any major surgery. Please don't let the priest be last to know that someone is ill!

May the Lord Bless your kindness and generosity to His House!


ONLINE GIVING / ONLINE TITHING

is available on our website:

For those parishioners who can't attend in person or traveling or anyone who find this more convenient, we just set up a new way to tithe online using your credit card or debit card information. You can do a one-time donation or setup weekly donations!! You will receive a receipt and statement immediately after donating. The software takes a very small percentage of the donation, but its worth it for the ease of the system. You can donate using your computer / smartphone at: [ps://www.olphnm.org/giving](https://www.olphnm.org/giving).

Welcome to our Church! If you are looking for a spiritual home, contact Father Artur/Fr Chris or the office staff for more information. God bless you!

Romans 12:6-14; Matthew 9:1-8

- YouTube Live** 8:30 am Rosary; 9:00 am Matins & Confessions
10:00 am Divine Liturgy / Intention for the Parishioners of OLPH
Eternal Lamp: Holy Protection of the Mother of God over People of Ukraine
- July 1 Mon** ***Cosmas and Damian Unmercenaries / 1 Cor 5:9-6:11; Mt 13:54-58***
NO LITURGY
- July 2 Tue** ***Deposition of the Robes of the Theotokos / Heb 9:1-7; Lk 10:38-42 & 11:27-28***
NO LITURGY
- July 3 Wed** ***Hyacinth Martyr / 1 Cor 7:12-24; Mt 14:35-15:11***
NO LITURGY
- July 4 Thu** ***Independence Day / Andrew of Jerusalem Archbishop
1 Cor 7:24-35; Mt 15:12-21***
- July 5 Fri** ***Athanasius of Mount Athos Venerable / Gal 5:22-6:2; Lk 6:17-23***

9:00 am Prayer & Witness in front of abortion clinic on Lomas
6:00 pm Divine Liturgy / God's Blessing on Sangre de Cristo Explorer youth group and their leaders
- July 6 Sat** ***Sisoës the Great Venerable / Rom 12:1-3; Mt 10:37-11:1***
9:00 am (masks required) Healing and Salvation of Mady Davis by Shari
- July 7 Sun** ***OLPH Patronal Feast / 7th Sunday After Pentecost Rom 15:1-7; Mt 9:27-35***
4:00 pm Great Vespers (YouTube Live)
Hebrew Scriptures for Sunday:
Numbers 15:32-36; Sirach 13:1-21; Jeremiah 2:26-32
5:00 pm Divine Liturgy / +Priest Francis Vivona by David Vonderohe
- YouTube LIVE** 8:30 am Rosary; 9:00 am Matins & Confessions
10:00 am Divine Liturgy / Intention for the Parishioners of OLPH / Mysteries of Christian Initiation for Nadija Fuentes / Procession around the church with reading of 4 Gospels
3:00 pm picnic and pool party at Jileks

YOUTUBE LIVE-STREAMING: OLPH Sunday / Holy Day Liturgies are available on YouTube. The link is <https://youtube.com/c/olpimedia>. Please click the "Subscribe" button to make it easier for you to find the channel in the future. Please, send your feedback about the quality of the live stream / comments / suggestions to Dan Riley: riley.dan@gmail.com

Remember Those Who Request Our Prayers:

Physician and Help of Those in sickness, Redeemer and Savior of the infirm; O Master and Lord of all, grant healing to your servants. Be clement, show mercy to those who have sinned much, and deliver them, O Christ, from their Iniquities, that they may glorify your might divine

Sharif Rabadi	Harry & Barbara	Jordan Smith
Jenny Ford	De Lap	Janet Worthington
Marilyn Fore	Irene Bradley	Patti Klinkovsky
Sven & Barbara	Soriah Chavez	Matt Williamson
Svensson	Abraham Haddad	James Epstein
Laurie Bienz	Marianne Gerace	Katy Ford
Brent Dodson-	Michael Baron	Alton & Barbara
Sands	Gabriel Preisler	Bertschinger
Lara Davis	Jessica Pieniadz	Madalyn Davis
Carol Donlin	Rhonda	Rebecca Russo
Marcie Dark	Glasscock	Jacob McTernan
Jesse Hebert	Amber Roybal	Paola Terlaza
Fr Chris Zuger	Philip Leahy	Vicki Frank
Fr Chris Andrews	Juanita Montoya	Jennifer Herring
Fr Robert Rankin	Linda Granci	Emily
Fr. Steve Washko	Christopher	Wojciechowski
Buster Miscusi	Barlow	
Richard Jacobs	Joel Ford	

Intentions of the Rosary:

1st Decade: Help for persecuted Catholics, especially in communist and Islamic states

2nd Decade: Spiritual and physical growth of our parish and the Byzantine Catholic Church

3rd Decade: Increase in vocations to priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life to serve the Byzantine Catholic Church

4th Decade: Repose of the souls who have no one praying for them

5th Decade: Healing of the sick in body, mind and soul

Holy Father's Intentions / July

For the pastoral care of the sick

We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.

Prayer for Vocations:

“Son, be of good cheer! Your sins are forgiven!” The faith of the friends of the paralytic brought healing and forgiveness. All of us can do the same in our own lives. Priests, deacons, monks and nuns are especially called to do this in the Church for the life of the world. If this may be something God is calling you or someone you know to consider, contact the Vocations Office at 206-329-9219 or email: vocations@ephx.org



Vocation Icon

Today: Wofford Family
Next Sunday:
Sullivan Family

July 7, 2024

Cantor: Andrea Riley

Reader: Michael Wells Altar Server:
Michael Grega

Trojica: Monica Sena

Counters: Laura Serna & Michael Wells

Propers for 7/7/24

**7th Sunday after Pentecost
Tone 6**

Troparion- 152
v. Glory...

Kontakion - 152
v. Now & Ever...

Theotokion - 406

Prokeimenon & Alleluia - 153

Our Father - 71

The OLPH Prayer Warriors

make intercessory prayer a daily commitment. We pray voluntarily and without bias; that is, we take to the Blessed Trinity the requests that come our way.

The Prayer Warriors meet on Zoom every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. for themed meetings. **If you would like to join the Prayer Warriors**, would like additional information, and/or would like for us to pray for your intentions, please contact Patricia at pocb@unm.edu

Alicia's Hall Report!

Christ is among us! We celebrated our beloved pastor's birthday with pizza! May God grant Fr. Artur many more years!

A special thanks to our pizza set up crew, Mary Rose, Montañó & Serna girls and Lucy B. & Esther! A big thank you to Mike for his delicious beet salad, it was quite a hit and we'd love the recipe! Many thanks to Emily for the salad & a shout out to Mary Rose & Natalie for the gluten free food! A big thank you to everyone for taking care of the cleanup! It is always a joy to partake in a meal after liturgy! If you are able to, please sign up to host or help here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054AAAAA2AA4F94-olph#. Have a blessed week!

Coming Events—Mark Your Calendars Now

Sun July 7	50th Jubilee OLPH Patronal Feast
Tue July 16	6:00 pm Advisory Board Meeting
Fri July 19	Elijah Great Prophet / Simple Holy Day 6:00 pm Vigil Divine Liturgy
Thu Aug 1 Wed Jul 31	Beginning of Dormition Fast 6:00 pm Vigil Divine Liturgy/Lesser Blessing of Water / Blessing of Honey
Mon Aug 5 Tue Aug 6	Transfiguration of Our Lord / Solemn Holy Day 6:00 pm Vigil Divine Liturgy/Blessing of Fruit 9:00 am Divine Liturgy/Blessing of Fruit
Wed Aug 14 Thu Aug 15	Dormition of the Theotokos Holy Day of Obligation 6:00 pm Deposition of the Shroud / Liturgy / Blessing of Flowers 9:00 am Divine Liturgy / Myrovanije
Thu Aug 29 Wed Aug 28	Beheading of John the Baptist Simple Holy Day 6:00 pm Vigil Divine Liturgy
Sun Sep 1	Beginning of the New Church Year
Fri Sep 13 Sat Sep 14	Exaltation of the Holy Cross Solemn Holy Day 6:00 pm Vigil Divine Liturgy / Blessing of Litija 9:00 am Divine Liturgy
Mon Sep 30	Protection of the Theotokos Solemn Holy Day 6:00 pm Vigil Divine Liturgy
Sep 30— Oct 4	Annual Clergy Retreat in Tucson AZ
Tue Oct 15	Celebration of the OLPH 50th Jubilee 3:30 pm Hierarchical Divine Liturgy 6:00 pm Dinner at Sheraton 7:30 pm Dancing with a live band (Die Polka Schlingels)
Fri Nov 8	Archangel Michael and All Angels/Solemn Holy Day 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy
Thu Nov 14	Beginning of Phillip's Fast
Thu Nov 21 Wed Nov 20	Entrance of the Theotokos / Solemn Holy Day 6:00 pm Vigil Divine Liturgy

HAPPY 4th of JULY

Let us Pray to the Lord – Lord Have Mercy: O Father of all nations and Lord Of the Universe, may we always show ourselves to be a holy people, trusting in you, our God, and fulfilling your will, Since you have bestowed upon us this heritage Of your bounties, may we ever worship you, and make our nation a place of freedom, equality and justice for all.

O Most Pure Theotokos, we your people living in this new land dedicate our nation to you who gave birth to our Savior. Never turn away from us, but pray to Christ, your Son and our God, for the freedom and righteousness of those who call upon God the Creator of all.

Today is the Peter's Pence Collection, a worldwide collection that supports the work of the Universal Church, including the work of the Holy See and the charitable works of Pope Francis. Take this opportunity to join with Pope Francis and be a sign of mercy to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous today. For more information, visit www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html.

EPARCHIAL APPEAL 2024: The Annual Eparchial Appeal this year runs from **Feb 1st to Aug 31st**. The pledge form and information for the appeal was mailed directly from the Bishop's office to your home. Collected to date: \$8,512.00. Did you remember to send in your pledge? Our average giving has been about \$300.00 per household. Please, send your pledge directly to the Bishop's office in Phoenix, AZ, and our checks made to the Eparchy of Phoenix. Thank you for your support

Sunday July 7th – OLPH Patronal Feast day: The celebration will start on Saturday at 4pm with **Great Vespers** and blessing of Litija. Sunday morning **Festal Matins** at 9:00 am followed by the **Solemn Divine Liturgy** at 10:00am with the Procession around the church and reading of the four Gospels followed by Myrovanije anointing with partaking of the Litija bread as it is customary on such occasion. **Parish Picnic and Pool Party** is scheduled at 3 pm at Jileks house (817 Lamp Post Circle SE)The Jilek and Sullivan Families are honored to host the Parish picnic/pool party this year. **We invite you to bring** a side dish, desert, or chips and beverages of your choosing. Please bring folding chairs or picnic blankets, swimsuits, and a towel. You may park along the street and driveway of the house immediately to the east of our home. We can't wait to see you!

June 30: Synaxis of the 12 Holy Apostles: THE FAST OF THE APOSTLES, which we have just completed, leads up to two festivals in our Church: the Feast of the Prime Apostles, Saints Peter and Paul (June 29) and the Synaxis of the Apostles (June 30). On this second day we assemble for another gathering (synaxis) in honor of the Twelve, the companions of Christ who became the core group around whom the early Church was built. As St Irenaeus of Lyons wrote, "We have learned from none others the plan of our salvation, than from those through whom the Gospel has come down to us, which they did at one time proclaim in public, and, at a later period, by the will of God, handed down to us in the Scriptures, to be the ground and pillar of our faith" (A.H.3.1.1).

The New Testament records that the first Christians sought to replace Judas who had fallen away. St Peter outlined the qualities required for an apostle: "Therefore, of these men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection" (Acts 1:21, 22). To become one of the Twelve, then, one had to have witnessed the entire ministry of the Lord Jesus and His resurrection. Two men were proposed who met these requirements, "Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias" (v23). Neither of these men are mentioned by name in any of the Gospels. They were presumably among the Seventy, the second rank of the Lord's followers, whom our Church remembers with a synaxis on January 4.

Twelve or More?

Six of the Twelve are mentioned in all four Gospels as well as Acts: Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, and Thomas. Several others are mentioned in some of these writings: Bartholomew, Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, Lebbaeus surnamed Thaddaeus, Simon the Canaanite (the Zealot), Judas the son of James, Nathaniel, and Levi the tax collector.

In addition, St Paul is listed among the Twelve although his witness was to the risen Christ (Acts 9:1-9). Some commentators have said that some of the “extra” names are alternate names for the same people, such as the tax collector Matthew/Levi and Judas (Jude)/ Lebbaeus surnamed Thaddaeus. Many Jews at the time had Greek or Latin names as well as their family names which were Hebrew or Aramaic in origin.

Others have said that Twelve was a symbolic number in the culture which produced the Scriptures, representing perfection or completion. Still others give the following explanation: the Twelve were in fact the witnesses to the Twelve Tribes of Israel while Paul was the Apostle to the Gentiles. (<https://melkite.org/faith/let-us-honor-the-holy-apostles>)

The Royal Priesthood in a Secular World by Fr Stephen Freeman

St. Peter describes us as a “royal priesthood.”

“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light...” 1 Pt 2:9

We live in a world metaphor and simile. That is to say, we might call someone a “king” or “priest,” but really only mean that they remind us of a king or priest – that they are “like” a king or priest. We think that reality falls into one of two categories: what they really are, and what we think about them. There is stuff, and our thoughts about stuff.

Think of these two situations:

In the first, a person says “This bread and this wine truly become the Body and Blood of Christ.” In the second, a person says, “This bread and this wine make me think about the Body and Blood of Christ.”

Which of the two would be generally accepted by all modern people everywhere? Undoubtedly, the second situation wins hands-down. A Pew Research article of Catholics in America (in 2023) revealed that only one-third of Catholics believe that the bread and wine truly become the Body and Blood of Christ. We have no statistics on Orthodox belief. Nevertheless, when we embrace the full teaching of the Church, we are swimming against the strong current of our culture’s world-view.

The historic shift away from sacramental Christianity in the wake of the Reformation was more than a religious debate. The shift was a decided effort to de-sacralize the world and to collapse all things into a manageable form. One symptom of this shift was the increasing use of the word “superstition.” Much of this was a Protestant effort to refute Catholic claims. The larger result, however, was the disenchantment of creation itself.

For the modern world, God remains in heaven (at a safe distance where only religious people need concern themselves). Creation is now just stuff. Trees are lumber. Dirt is for mining or paving. All things have value in that they can be bought and sold. The world is not only “disenchanted,” it has been commodified.

Fr. Alexander Schmemmann famously taught that, in the sacraments, Christ does not make something to be what it is not. Rather, He reveals things to be what they are.

This is fundamental to Orthodox thought. To describe the world as sacrament is not a statement about how we see things – but a statement about how things truly are.

“...we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.” (2 Cor. 4:18)

Admittedly, this puts us at a disadvantage in the modern world. Modernity will argue and insist on the temporal, material aspects of reality (which allows for their management and commodification), while running rough-shod over the eternal for the same reasons. Ultimately, humanity itself is emptied of its eternal reality. There seem to be no limits in the growing world of medical experiment – everything that can yield a profit is permitted.

In the Fathers (particularly St. Dionysius the Areopagite and St. Maximus the Confessor), seeing the world as it truly is – is discussed under the heading of “natural contemplation” (theoria physike). This is described as a perceiving and understanding of the logoi of created things. All things are created through the Logos (John 1:3). As such, each created thing carries within it its own “logos” (logoi is the plural), its eternal purpose and proper character of its existence. Thus, created “things” are not just stuff to be managed, packaged, and sold. Creation is thoroughly grounded in God and cannot be rightly understood or related to apart from that eternal grounding.

O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all. (Ps. 104:24) The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, And night unto night reveals knowledge. There is no speech nor language Where their voice is not heard. Their line has gone out through all the earth, And their words to the end of the world.(Ps.19:1-4)

And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" (Rev. 5:13)

All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name. (Ps. 66:4)

But ask the beasts, and they will teach you; the birds of the heavens, and they will tell you; or the bushes of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind. (Job 12:7-10)

The proper movement in our Christian life is one in which we come to understand the mystery (the hidden, eternal life) of the creation in which we live. We reveal water in the actions of Baptism (and the Great Blessing of the Waters). We reveal bread and wine in the Eucharist. We reveal human beings in the many sacramental actions of the Church.

In the same manner, each of us serves a "priestly" role within creation, revealing and contemplating the logoi of all things. Creation does not "fight" with us. It does not overpower or impose its voice on our consciousness. All things eternal respond to love, in love, and with love. This is an echo of Matt. 5:8, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." As we nurture the love of Christ within us, and His love for all creation, we slowly come to see and know things for what they are – sacramental wonders that reveal the glory of God.

I return to my original thoughts on kings and priests. I have been an ordained priest (first Anglican, then Orthodox) for over 40 years. In that time, I have become keenly aware of what it means to see a human being as a sacrament. However, like creation, I cannot argue or force anyone to see that aspect of reality. My mind has recently thought of King Charles, whose coronation was clearly intended as a sacramental action (complete with anointing). He had to endure public protesters with signs saying, "Not my King." Worse still, in a highly secularized nation, his coronation could only be seen as dress-up and farce by many. John Cleese, the comedian, said it looked like something out of Monty Python. Sadly, it also means that the average citizen of that secularized world cannot be seen as a royal priesthood. Instead, they look like something to be managed and commodified.

There is an age-old British myth of the hidden king. The boy Arthur accidentally discovers his true identity as he withdraws a sword from a stone. C.S. Lewis draws on this myth as he posited an obscure, retired linguist as the "Pendragon," the right-born king of Logres (the eternal, invisible Britain), in his novel, *The Horse and His Boy*.

In Holy Baptism we are made to be kings and priests, or, more accurately, revealed to be what we are. Clothed in the righteousness of Christ, crowned with glory and honor, we await the revealing of all things and the manifestation of the Sons of God. (Fr. Stephen Freeman is a priest of the Orthodox Church in America, Pastor Emeritus of St. Anne Orthodox Church in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He is also author of *Everywhere Present* and the *Glory to God* podcast series).



Special THANK YOU

To Jeff Brewer for building our new most beautiful and most durable ever street sign!!

To Ilona Bilichak for designing our most awesome and beautiful street sign!!

May God grant to His faithful servants Jeff and Ilona many and blessed years!