

## **HOLY APOSTLES ORTHODOX CHURCH**

Currently meeting in Twin Chimneys Office Park  
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*OUR FUTURE CHURCH HOME*

## **PARISH BULLETIN FOR DECEMBER 2011**

### **THE GRACE OF GOD HAS APPEARED TO ALL**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Everyone who was here last weekend witnessed a wondrous and archetypal outpouring of God's grace. When Metropolitan Hilarion laid hands on Father Christopher, he carried on the same timeless activity that is part of the grace of God rained down on our heavenly patrons, the Holy Apostles. The Lord said to them after His resurrection, "Receive ye the Holy Spirit." The Metropolitan called down that same Holy Spirit on Father Christopher. This grace was called down on us as well. It's the same grace that comes down on the Holy Gifts so that we can eat and drink of His Body and Blood.

We pray with the ordination service that all things be brought to perfection. We envision perfection, which vision is a gift of God to help show us the way forward in the Lord. He has granted that Father Christopher be made a helper, a great helper, on that way.

Whenever we pray "O Heavenly King" in our prayers, we pray for Him in His Holy Spirit to fill all things. While we have fulfillment of that prayer all the time when we open our eyes to see it, what happened last week and unfolds daily and hourly as a result makes fiercely clear that "God is with us", as says the prophet. From the ground of our hearts, we thank Him and bless Him; we worship Him.

Father George

## **SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND EVENTS FROM 12/1/2011 THROUGH 1/8/2012**

*11/28 Monday the Nativity Fast began*

**12/1 – Thursday 7-9 PM** – Choir Rehearsal – *Preparing for the Metropolitan’s visit and the Ordinations*

**12/2 – Friday 6:30 PM** – Vespers, Matins & 1<sup>st</sup> Hour

**12/3 – Saturday 8:30 AM** – Hours & Hierarchical Divine Liturgy & Ordination to the Priesthood of Father Deacon Christopher, with Ordination to the Diaconate of Monk Damaskinos – Fore-Feast of the Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple – Venerable Gregory of Decapolis – *Following the service, all are invited to the Rectory for a Reception for Metropolitan Hilarion and the newly-ordained Father Christopher until 3 PM*

**12/3 – Saturday 5 PM** Evening Vigil – *We sing “Christ is born” in this service and continue through Nativity*

**12/4 – Sunday 9:40 AM** Hours & Divine Liturgy – 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – The Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple – *One of the 12 Great Feasts of the Church – After the agape meal and Sunday School, weather permitting, a prayer service will be held at the St. Joseph’s Chapel*

**12/5 – Monday 7 PM** Parish Council

**12/7 – Wednesday 7 PM** – Prayer Service to the Holy Great Martyr Katherine with petitions on behalf of the parish and the sick

**12/8 – Thursday 7-9 PM** – Choir Rehearsal – *Choir members needed! Rehearsals are required, so if you can sing this is an opportunity for you!*

**12/9 – Friday 7 PM** – St Joseph’s Young Adults at the Rectory

**12/10 – Saturday 5 PM** Evening Vigil

**12/11 – Sunday 9:40 AM** Hours & Divine Liturgy – 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Holy Martyr Monk Stephen the New - *After the agape meal and Sunday School, weather permitting, a prayer service will be held at the St. Joseph’s Chapel*

**12/11 – Sunday 6 PM** – “Orthodox Spirituality and the Heart” – a talk by Constantine Zalalas at the church. Donations for the benefit of the parish and its building fund

**12/14– Wednesday 7 PM** – Prayer Service with the Akathist of St. Romanos to the Mother of God of Iveron on behalf of the parish and the sick – *followed by discussion on a spiritual topic*

**12/15 – Thursday 7-9 PM** – Choir Rehearsal – *Choir members needed! Rehearsals are required, so if you can sing this is an opportunity for you!*

**12/17 – Saturday 5 PM** Evening Vigil

**12/18 – Sunday 9:40 AM** Hours & Divine Liturgy – 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Holy Venerable Sabbas the Sanctified

**12/18 – Sunday 6:30 PM** Evening Vigil

**12/19 – Monday 8:40 AM** Hours & Divine Liturgy – St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia

**12/21 – Wednesday 7 PM** – Prayer Service with the Akathist of St.

Romanos to the Mother of God of Iveron on behalf of the parish and the sick – *followed by discussion on a spiritual topic*

**12/22 – Thursday 7-9 PM** – Choir Rehearsal – *Choir members needed! Rehearsals are required, so if you can sing this is an opportunity for you!*

**12/24 – Saturday 5 PM** Evening Vigil

**12/25 – Sunday 9:40 AM** Hours & Divine Liturgy – 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Sunday of the Holy Forefathers – Our Venerable Father Herman Wonderworker of Alaska – *Parish Pledge forms for 2012 due today!*

**12/28 – Wednesday 7 PM** – Prayer Service with the Akathist of St.

Romanos to the Mother of God of Iveron on behalf of the parish and the sick – *followed by discussion on a spiritual topic*

**12/29 – Thursday 7 PM** – Choir Rehearsal – *Choir members needed!*

*Rehearsals are required, so if you can sing this is an opportunity for you!*

**12/31 – Saturday 5 PM** Evening Vigil

**1/1 – Sunday 9:40 AM** Hours & Divine Liturgy – 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Sunday of the Holy Fathers – *After the agape meal and Sunday*

*School, weather permitting, a prayer service will be held at the St. Joseph's Chapel*

**1/6 – Friday 9:00 AM** – Royal Hours, Vespers & Divine Liturgy of St. Basil, the Eve of the Nativity of Christ

**1/6 – Friday 6:30 PM** – Evening Vigil

**1/7 – Saturday 9:40 AM** – Hours & Divine Liturgy, the Nativity according to the flesh of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ – *One of the twelve great feasts of the Church – The Nativity Fast ends today – Potluck parish meal at the church – please indicate your contribution on the sign-up sheet in the kitchen, or talk to Maria Petrenko about the needs*

**1/7 – Saturday 5 PM** – Evening Vigil

**1/8 – Sunday 9:40 AM** Hours & Divine Liturgy – 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Sunday After Nativity – The Holy Kinsmen of Christ, Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James the Lord's Brother

**1/8 – Sunday 6 PM** – Singing of Christmas Carols at the Rectory with potluck of Ethnic Appetizers