

## PARISH NEWS

- ❖ **Name Days:** We congratulate those celebrating their namedays and wish them all many years.
  - Constantine Hammond (St. Constantine XI)
  - Justin Kawa (Martyr Justin the Philosopher)
- ❖ **Choir Rehearsal:** We are holding special rehearsals for the choir in preparation for the Metropolitan's visit. Please see Yana Hammond with any questions.
- ❖ **Metropolitan's Visit:** Metropolitan Hilarion will be visiting our parish the weekend of June 17-18. Please mark your calendars and plan to be at services that weekend for our hierarchical visit.
- ❖ **All-Night Vigil Class:** On June 25, we will begin a new series entitled *Heaven on Earth: The Meaning of the All-Night Vigil*. The class will examine the historical and scriptural roots of the Church's cycle of daily prayer as well as pointing out the Patristic understanding of the significance of this cornerstone our Orthodox liturgical life. Copies of Fr. Daniel Sysoev's book *Christian Mystery: The Order of Divine Services with Commentary* are available in the bookstore as a study companion for this course.
- ❖ **Feast of St. Theodore Stratelates:** Our Patronal Feast, the Commemoration of the Transfer of the Relics of the Holy Great-Martyr Theodore Stratelates is coming up. We will serve vigil for this feast at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, June 7. Then on Wednesday, June 21, we will serve the Hours and Divine Liturgy at 8:00 am and have a Lenten Potluck Meal that evening at 6:00 pm. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Welcome to  
**Sts. Theodore Orthodox Church**  
96 Los Robles St., Williamsville NY 14221  
Tel: 716-634-6712  
[www.ststheodore.org](http://www.ststheodore.org)

Priest John Boddecker  
Deacon Andrew Hammond

We are a parish of the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad, and all are welcome to worship with us! Our services are in English. Please join us for lunch downstairs after the service.

May 29 / June 11, 2017

### First Sunday after Pentecost Sunday of All Saints

#### This Week's Schedule

Monday	Midnight Office and Typika	7:00 am
Tuesday	Midnight Office and Typika	7:00 am
Wednesday	Midnight Office and Typika Little Compline with Akathist Holy Apostles	7:00 am 6:00 pm
Thursday	Midnight Office and Typika	7:00 am
Friday	Midnight Office and Typika	7:00 am
Saturday	All-Night Vigil	5:00 pm
Sunday	Greeting of the Metropolitan Hours and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy <i>Meal in Trapeza after Services</i>	9:00 am

#### Today's Readings

**Epistle:** Hebrews 11:33-12:2  
**Gospel:** Matthew 10:32,33, 37-38; 19:27-30

## TROPARIA AND KONTAKIA

**Troparion for the Resurrection - Tone 8:** From on high didst Thou descend, O compassionate One; / to burial of three days hast Thou submitted / that Thou mightest free us from our passions. // O our Life and Resurrection, O Lord, glory be to Thee.

**Troparion for All Saints - Tone 4:** Adorned in the blood of Thy martyrs / throughout all the world, as in purple and fine linen, / Thy Church, through them doth cry unto Thee, O Christ God: / Send down Thy compassions upon Thy people; // grant peace to Thy flock and to our souls great mercy.

**Kontakion for All Saints - Tone 8:** To Thee, O Lord, the planter of creation, / the world doth offer the God-bearing martyrs as the first-fruits of nature. / By their intercessions, preserve Thy Church, Thy commonwealth, in profound peace, // through the Theotokos, O Greatly-merciful One.

### A WORD FROM THE HOLY FATHERS

The Entire Orthodox Church today celebrates the memory of all saints from all ages who pleased God, the leader of whom is the Most Pure Mother of God. This day is memorable for us every year, because although each of us marks his or her own name day—or angel day—on a specific day of the Church calendar, when the heavenly patron is celebrated, but on this day we also glorify all the saints who pleased God throughout the ages, including our own heavenly patrons, whose names we were given at the Sacrament of Baptism and given again to monastics at the tonsure into the ryassa, monasticism, or the great schema.

If all the saints participate invisibly in the services on this solemn day, then how can we imagine that they would abandon us? As we read in the Akathist and canons, these are our brothers and sisters. Next Sunday will be the feast of all Russian saints. Therefore, remember that the first Pleiades of ten Patriarchs began with Holy Patriarch Job. The second Pleiades, after two hundred years, began with the Holy Patriarch Tikhon who died under the Communists. Although, in between them was Holy Patriarch Hermogenes. Therefore today we will be filled with spiritual joy and at the same time concerned with our Christian duty—ceaseless prayer, in God’s churches as well as at home, in our cells, and other places where we turn to the Lord with prayerful sighs.

Let us pray to the Lord. May the Lord grant all that we have asked of Him today at the moleben of thanksgiving. Everything is set forth there, for whom and for what. We have asked on behalf of the whole Church, of our monastery, and of each of us individually that the Lord would not deprive us of His mercy. And since He will not deprive us, since He will be with us, then we have nothing to fear—not in the past, nor in the present, nor in the future.

+ Archimandrite John (Krestiankin)

St. Kosmas of Aeitola says that the martyrs are in Paradise with their blood, and the monastics with their ascetic life—and how shall we who beget children attain Paradise? By hospitality, relieving the poor, the blind, the lame (like St. Joachim), by almsgiving, love, and fasting which causes us to be enriched in body and soul.

Hieromonk Ambrose (Young)