



Holy Apostles  
ORTHODOX CHURCH

*Sunday of the Blind Man*

MAY 17, 2026



## Growing Christ's Church Nourishing a Community of Love

Holy Apostles is a community of love and transformation in Christ. Our mission is to be an extended village, welcoming and encouraging both adults and children to participate in the Orthodox Christian Faith, as we grow together, like the Holy Apostles, to know, love and serve Jesus Christ.

# Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

## CONTACT

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## PRIEST

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## SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

**Orthros** · 8:30 AM

**Divine Liturgy** · 9:30 AM

See online calendar at  
[HolyApostlesGo.org/calendar](http://HolyApostlesGo.org/calendar)  
for all upcoming services and events.

## JURISDICTION

Holy Apostles is a parish under the jurisdiction of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America in full communion with the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople.



## WELCOME VISITORS

Whether you are an Orthodox Christian new to the area or this is your first time visiting an Orthodox Church, we warmly welcome you to Holy Apostles. We are so glad you are here.

Please join us after the service for fellowship and a light coffee hour. We look forward to meeting you! Look for the visitors table and we will make sure to connect with you.

If you have any questions, an usher or greeter would be glad to help.

## HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion is offered to baptized and chrismated Orthodox Christians who have prepared through fasting and prayer. At the close of the service, please come up to receive antidoron (blessed bread) which is offered to all.

## A GUIDE TO THE SERVICE

The Divine Liturgy begins on page 19 of the hymnal at your seat. This bulletin mostly contains those elements of the service that change each week, including the hymns, readings, and prayers appointed for this Sunday.

## STAY IN TOUCH

Visit our website, [HolyApostlesGO.org](http://HolyApostlesGO.org), for our online calendar, events, news, and ministry information. Follow links to watch our livestream, listen to the parish podcast, read the monthly e-Bulletin and more!

*Holy Apostles is an English-language parish within the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese. Some hymns and refrains are repeated in Greek. You will find the Greek text for most of these in the hymnal, on the page facing the English text.*

## COMMON PHRASES OF WORSHIP IN GREEK

Lord, have mercy  
Κύριε, ἐλέησον  
Kýrie, eléison

To You, O Lord  
Σοί, Κύριε  
Sí, Kýrie

Glory to You, O God  
Δόξα σοι, ó Θεός  
Dóksa sí, o Theós

Grant this, O Lord  
Παράσχου, Κύριε  
Paráschou, Kýrie

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal  
Ἅγιος ó Θεός, Ἅγιος Ἰσχυρός, Ἅγιος Ἀθάνατος  
Ágios o Theós, Ágios Ischyros, Ágios Athánatos

Let us pray to the Lord  
Τοῦ Κυρίου δεηθῶμεν  
Tu Kyríu deithómen

**Orthros Gospel:** John 20:11-18**Mode:** Plagal 1st (Tone 5)**Saints and Feasts**

Sunday of the Blind Man; Andronicus and Junia the Apostles of the Seventy; Athanasius the New, Bishop of Christianoupolis; Solochon the Martyr

**Christ is Risen Hymn of Pascha***Hymnal p. 153*

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs

He has granted life.

Χριστός ανέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν, θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας, καὶ τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνήμασι ζωὴν χαρισάμενος.

Christós anésti ek nekron, thanáto thanáton patísas, ke tis en tis mnímasi zoín charisámenos.

*The Antiphons***The First Antiphon***Refrain after each verse:*

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.

**The Second Antiphon***Refrain after each verse:*

Save us, O Son of God, Who are risen from the dead. Save us who sing to You, Alleluia.

**The Third Antiphon***After each verse:*

Christ is Risen  
*See above*

*The Small Entrance*

**Priest:** “Wisdom. Let us be attentive!” (Σοφία, ὀρθοί! | Sophia, orthi!) “Bless God in the churches; bless the Lord from the fountain of Israel.”

**People:** Save us, O Son of God, Who rose from the dead. Save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

**Resurrectional Apolytikion***Hymnal p. 115*

To the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, let us, the faithful, give praise and worship. For he willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to endure death and raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

**Apolytikion of Holy Apostles***Hymnal inside cover*

O holy Apostles, intercede with the merciful God, that He may grant to us forgiveness for our sinful souls.

**Kontakion of Pascha***Hymnal p. 275*

Into the grave you descended, Immortal One, yet you destroyed the power of Hades, and as victor you arose, O Christ our God; you proclaimed to the myrrh-bearing women a greeting of joy, you brought peace to your holy apostles, and to the fallen you granted resurrection.

*The Epistle***Prokeimenon. Tone 5. Psalm 11**

**Reader:** You, O Lord, shall keep us and preserve us.

**Verse:** Save me, O Lord, for the holy man has ceased.

**Acts of the Apostles 16:16-34**

In those days, as we apostles were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

## *The Holy Gospel*

### **The Reading is from the Gospel of John 9:1-38**

At that time, as Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. I must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say

was born blind? How then does he now see?"

His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess him to be the Christ he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped him.

*The Liturgy of the Faithful***Megalynarion of Pascha***Hymnal p. 305*

The angel cried to the lady full of grace: Rejoice, rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again I say rejoice! Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb. With Himself, He has raised all the dead. Rejoice, O ye people. Shine! Shine! Shine! O New Jerusalem. The Glory of the Lord has shone on you. Exult now, exult and be glad, O Zion. Be radiant, O pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection, the Resurrection of your Son.

**Communion Hymn of Pascha***Hymnal p. 318*

Receive the Body, the Body of Christ. O taste the Fountain of Immortality.

Σώμα Χριστού μεταλάβετε, πηγῆς ἀθανάτου γεύσασθε.

Sóma Christú metalávetete, pigis athanátu gévsasthe.

**Post-Communion Hymn of Pascha***Hymnal p. 153*

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs  
He has granted life.

*The Lord's Prayer**Hymnal p. 77***English**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done, on earth  
as it is in heaven.

Give us this day  
our daily bread;  
and forgive our trespasses,  
as we forgive  
those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

**Ελληνικά**

Πάτερ ἡμῶν ὁ ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς  
ἀγιασθήτω τό ὄνομά σου,  
ἐλθέτω ἡ βασιλεία σου,  
γενηθήτω τό θέλημά σου,  
ὡς ἐν οὐρανῷ καί ἐπί τῆς γῆς.

Τόν ἄρτον ἡμῶν τόν ἐπιούσιον  
δος ἡμῖν σήμερον·  
καί ἄφες ἡμῖν τά ὀφειλήματα ἡμῶν,  
ὡς καί ἡμεῖς ἀφίεμεν  
τοῖς ὀφειλέταις ἡμῶν·  
καί μή εἰσενέγκῃς ἡμᾶς εἰς πειρασμόν,  
ἀλλά ῥῦσαι ἡμᾶς ἀπό τοῦ πονηροῦ.

**Greek Transliteration**

Páter imón o en tis ouranís,  
agiasthító to ónomá Sou;  
elthéto i vasilía Sou;  
genithító to thélimá Sou,  
os en ouranó ke epi tis ghis.

Ton árton imón ton epiúsion  
dos imín símeron;  
ke áfes imín ta ofelímata imón  
os ke imís afíemen  
tis ofilétes imón;  
ke mi isenégis imás is pirasmón,  
ala ríse imás από tou poniroú.

## *Post Liturgy*

### **Stewardship Prayer**

*Hymnal p. 362*

Lord Jesus Christ, our God, accept our offerings as You accepted the gifts of Your people throughout the ages. We offer these gifts to Your glory, for the support of the ministries of Your holy Church, for the alleviation of suffering and hunger, and for the proclamation of Your Gospel to the whole world. Grant us Your blessing, Lord our Savior, that we may always be faithful stewards, continuing to share the gifts You have given us, by the power of Your grace, mercy and love. May your name be glorified forever. Amen.

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## *Wisdom from the Fathers and Mothers*

### **St. Irenaeus**

*Against Heresies. 5.15.2. Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Vol: John 1-10. InterVarsity Press, 2006*

The work of God is, after all, the forming of man. He did this by an outward action, as Scripture says, 'And the Lord took clay from earth, and formed man.' Notice here too how the Lord spit on the earth, and made clay and smeared it on his eyes, showing how the ancient creation was made. He was making clear to those who can understand, that this was the [same] hand of God through which man was formed from clay.

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## *Reflections on John 9:1-38*

### **Fr. George Parsenios, Diakonia**

To know or not to know? That is the question in today's Gospel reading. Several people in today's passage claim to know things but are actually ignorant. The Pharisees are the loudest about what they know. They know that Jesus is a sinner, they know the blind man is a sinner, and they know that God spoke to Moses. But as for Jesus, they know nothing about him.

The parents of the blind man know things, too. They know the blind man is their son, and they know that he was born blind. But as for how he was healed, they know nothing about it. The opponents of Jesus know so many things...but only the wrong things. They are infected with a spiritual blindness, which is not like physical blindness. In physical blindness, nothing enters the eye. In spiritual blindness, everything enters our vision, but too many things and only the wrong things.

When we allow ourselves to consume too much of what is false or tempting or dark, we become like the Pharisees. We cannot recognize God standing right in front of us. We become like the parents of the blind man, who are alienated and disconnected from their child. We lose our close connection with our family.

Let us strive, therefore, to close our eyes to dark influences that distract and confuse us and open them to that which uplifts and connects us to God, especially our Orthodox faith. And let us remember to be careful in our relationships, not only with our families, but with our friends and neighbors, and particularly with our fellow church parishioners. Let us forgive and be patient and be kind, so that we might all proclaim together: *Χριστός Ανέστη! Christ is Risen!*

Unless otherwise specified, events take place at Holy Apostles. For more information, please see website calendar and events page: [holypostlesgo.org/calendar](http://holypostlesgo.org/calendar)

### Fellowship Hall Temporary Closure

Due to building construction needs, we are temporarily losing access to the fellowship hall. Consequently, Fellowship/Coffee Hour is canceled on the following Sundays: May 17, 24, and 31. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we move closer to completing this project.

### Feast of Holy Ascension

Thursday, May 21 • Orthros 8:30 AM; Divine Liturgy 9:30–11:00 AM  
Join us in celebrating Holy Ascension, which marks Christ's glorification and the completion of His earthly ministry.

### Bible Study (Online)

Wednesday, May 20 • 12:00–1:00 PM • Zoom: 838 6157 6484  
Join us as we deepen our understanding of God's Word. We are studying the Gospel of John, Chapter 20.

### Men's Fellowship: Pub Night at Diamond Knot

Thursday, May 28 • 6:30–8:30 PM  
5602 232nd St SW, Mountlake Terrace  
The men's group is heading to Diamond Knot Brewpub for an evening of good food, brews, and fellowship.

### Feast of the Saturday of Souls

Saturday, May 30 • Orthros 8:30 AM; Divine Liturgy 9:30–11:00 AM  
On this Saturday of Souls, we gather to pray for all departed Orthodox Christians.

### Parish Clean-Up Outdoor Work Party

Saturday, May 30 • 11:00 AM–1:00 PM, following the Saturday of Souls Divine Liturgy  
Let's spruce up our church grounds together! To the best of our ability, we'll be trimming, tidying, and doing what we can to make our parish property shine. Lunch and beverages will be provided. Please contact Earl Bardin (425-330-0793) with any questions!

### Orthodox Connections Teen Group Escape Room End-of-Year Celebration!

Sunday, May 31 • 2:00–5:30 PM  
The Escape Game Seattle, 2101 Westlake Ave, Seattle Teens! You are invited to our end-of-year Orthodox Connections celebration. We'll take the light rail together from Shoreline North to Seattle, then spend an hour solving puzzles as a team. \$25 per teen; RSVP required by Tuesday, May 26. (Ticket cost is 50% off the regular rate thanks to the generosity of our parishioners! If cost is a burden, please connect with Fr. Tom regarding scholarship opportunities.) For more details and to RSVP, contact Anthony Sitaras ([tonysitaras1@gmail.com](mailto:tonysitaras1@gmail.com)) or Erica Strauss ([erica.strauss@holypostlesgo.org](mailto:erica.strauss@holypostlesgo.org)).

### Nourishing Network Meal Packing

Tuesday, June 2 • 6:30–7:30 PM  
23200 100th Ave W, Edmonds  
Fun, fast-paced volunteer opportunity. Come pack meals for food-insecure children in the Edmonds School District.

### Run for Agape 5K Run/Walk for Camp Agape

Sunday, June 7 • 8:00 AM–12:00 PM  
Magnuson Park, 7400 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle  
Lace up your shoes on June 7 for the Run for Agape 5K and help support local children with cancer and their families.

### Book Club: Five Little Pigs by Agatha Christie

Sunday, June 7 • 12:00–1:30 PM  
Rescheduled due to construction. Come discuss this classic and fun Hercule Poirot mystery!

Have you filled out your 2026 Stewardship form? Please do!



Read the latest Monthly eBulletin



Check out the Holy Apostles Corner Podcast!

