



State of the Parish Report

Monday, October 28, 2013

Holy Apostles Orthodox Mission

www.holyapostleschurch.org

Rev. Fr. Timothy Hojnicky, Rector

Dear brother and sisters, my family in Christ:

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

This past year was one filled with much joy and activity! We are entering into a very exciting and challenging time in the life of our community! As usual, this past year has been a busy time at Holy Apostles! By the Grace of God our community continues to grow and develop into an icon of Christ Himself. Here are a few notable highlights of the past year:

Baptisms:

- (3/30/13) Emily Sremanak
- (5/4/13) Marcus Linnehan (on Holy Saturday!)
- (9/1/13) Ambrose Crews

Chrismations:

- (4/27/13) Nicholas Sooy

Funerals:

- (+8/3/13) Subdeacon Richard Hathaway
- (+10/17/13) Pauline Fetsko

New Donations/Additions:

- New Table choir stands (made by John Linnehan & Co., Winter, 2013)
- New 7 Branch Candelabra for the Altar (Spring, 2013)
- 2 new Iconostas Icons of St. John the Baptist & St. Nicholas (Autumn, 2013)
- Purchase of 14 acres of Land ☺ (3/15/13)

Parish Census:

- Adults : 90
- Children: 44

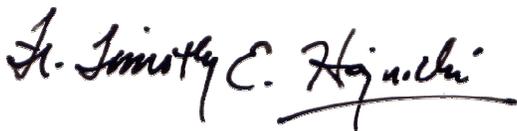
TOTAL SOULS: 134

Some other highlights:

- In June, our parish held our 2nd Annual Vacation Church School, with the theme: "Putting on the Armor of God." Our hall area was transformed into a medieval hall with every family creating a Shield Crest. Our younger children spent three evenings enjoying lessons, games, crafts, and skits. Our teens had lessons and went swimming every evening.
- Some other youth activities included a Youth Charity Luncheon, a St. Nicholas Day Tree Trimming Celebration, participation in the Annual Diocesan Winter Teen Retreat, and a Kids Lenten Mini-retreat. Our Patronal Feast was especially marked with the visit of our Diocesan Locum Tennes, Bishop Melchisedek of Pittsburgh.
- We have a Mom's Group - the OMG (Orthodox Mom's Group) to help keep our young mothers together and sane. ☺ In September, we started a Men's Breakfast where men of the parish gather for food and fellowship monthly. In the future the hope is that this could serve as a work day for the parish where the men can work and eat together.
- Our Church School began again on September 22, with over 45 children participating! Note that we are in compliance with the current OCA policy and procedures on sexual misconduct with background clearances for all teachers and workers with our youth.
- Our Annual Dinner Dance & Silent Auction was held on Sunday, October 20. It was a great success, and the proceeds went completely to our building fund.
- And finally, the greatest event of the year was the recent blessing of our new property this past October 13. It was a wonderful day where 118 of our parishioners, and friends of the parish gathered to help us ceremonially break ground for the proposed new building. Much is expected to take place in the coming year, and looking back and looking forward we can only say:

Glory to God for all things!

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Timothy C. Hojnicky". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Fr. Timothy Hojnicky, Rector