



# ST OLYMPIA ORTHODOX CHURCH

POTSDAM, NEW YORK 13676

ORTHODOX CHURCH OF AMERICA  
DIOCESE OF NY AND NJ



*Welcome to St. Olympia Orthodox Church,  
a young and, God willing, growing community of worshipers.*

*Our priest is Fr. Paul Fedoroff, Priest-in-Charge.  
You may reach him at [priestpaulfedoroff@gmail.com](mailto:priestpaulfedoroff@gmail.com) or 518-573-7987 (cell)*

*Please join us for prayer and fellowship.\*\**

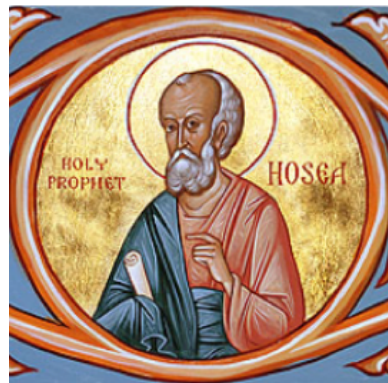
*\*\* After meeting with  
Archbishop Michael, we  
are revising our Covid  
plan to accommodate as  
many people as would be  
safe for services. It is  
helpful to know who is  
planning to come. Please  
contact Peggy Wheeler,  
315-322-8425. \*\**

**Upcoming Services:**  
**Sunday, October 18, 25**  
**Hours: 9:40am**  
**Divine Liturgy: 10am**  
**Saturday, October 17, 24**  
**Vespers: 5pm**

**Coffee and a muffin!**  
**\*\*Social Distancing  
guidelines must be  
observed.**

*The above services are at  
St. Olympia Chapel  
123 Main Street  
Potsdam. NY. 13676*

## Prophecies of the Resurrection and the Holy Spirit



**Prophet Hosea**  
**October 17**

*After two days He will heal us. In the third day we  
shall rise and live before Him.*  
Hosea 6:2

*For I delivered to you first of all that which I also  
received: that Christ died for our sins according to  
the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He  
rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,  
I Corinthians 15:3-4*

*After this it shall come to pass that I will pour out My Spirit upon  
all flesh; your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your old men  
shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions.  
And in those days I shall pour out My Spirit on My servants and  
on My handmaids.  
And I shall give wonders in the heavens and upon the earth,  
blood and fire and vapor of smoke.  
The sun shall be turned into darkness and the moon into blood  
before the great and glorious day of the Lord comes to pass.  
And it shall be that whoever shall call upon the name of the Lord  
shall be saved...*

Joel 3:1-5

*Quoted by Peter in  
Acts 2: 17-21*



**Prophet Joel**  
**October 19**

## Seven Holy Youths “Seven Sleepers” of Ephesus

October 22 and August 4

The Seven Youths of Ephesus: Maximilian, Iamblicus, Martinian, John, Dionysius, Exacustodianus (Constantine) and Antoninus, lived in the third century. Saint Maximilian was the son of the Ephesus city administrator, and the other six youths were sons of illustrious citizens of Ephesus. The youths were friends from childhood, and all were in military service together.

When the emperor Decius (249-251) arrived in Ephesus, he commanded all the citizens to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods. Torture and death awaited anyone who disobeyed. The seven youths were denounced by informants, and were summoned to reply to the charges. Appearing before the emperor, the young men confessed their faith in Christ.

Their military belts and insignia were quickly taken from them. Decius permitted them to go free, however, hoping that they would change their minds while he was off on a military campaign. The youths fled from the city and hid in a cave on Mount Ochlon, where they passed their time in prayer, preparing for martyrdom. The youngest of them, Saint Iamblicus, dressed as a beggar and went into the city to buy bread. On one of his excursions into the city, he heard that the emperor had returned and was looking for them. Saint Maximilian urged his companions to come out of the cave and present themselves for trial.

Learning where the young men were hidden, the emperor ordered that the entrance of the cave be sealed with stones so that the saints would perish from hunger and thirst. Two of the dignitaries at the blocked entrance to the cave were secret Christians. Desiring to preserve the memory of the saints, they placed in the cave a sealed container containing two metal plaques. On them were inscribed the names of the seven youths and the details of their suffering and death.

The Lord placed the youths into a miraculous sleep lasting almost two centuries. In the meantime, the persecutions against Christians had ceased. During the reign of the holy emperor Theodosius the Younger (408-450) there were heretics who denied that there would be a general resurrection of the dead at the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Some of them said, “How can there be a resurrection of the dead when there will be neither soul nor body, since they are disintegrated?” Others affirmed, “The souls alone will have a restoration, since it would be impossible for bodies to arise and live after a thousand years, when even their dust would not remain.” Therefore, the Lord revealed the mystery of the Resurrection of the Dead and of the future life through His seven saints.

The owner of the land on which Mount Ochlon was situated, discovered the stone construction, and his workers opened up the entrance to the cave. The Lord had kept the youths alive, and they awoke from their sleep, unaware that almost two hundred years had passed. Their bodies and clothing were completely undecayed.

Preparing to accept torture, the youths once again asked Saint Iamblicus to buy bread for them in the city. Going toward the city, the youth was astonished to see a cross on the gates. Hearing the name of Jesus Christ freely spoken, he began to doubt that he was approaching his own city. When he paid for the bread, Iamblicus gave the merchant coins with the image of the emperor Decius on it. He was detained, as someone who might be concealing a horde of old money. They took Saint Iamblicus to the city administrator, who also happened to be the Bishop of Ephesus. Hearing the bewildering answers of the young man, the bishop perceived that God was revealing some sort of mystery through him, and went with other people to the cave.

At the entrance to the cave the bishop found the sealed container and opened it. He read upon the metal plaques the names of the seven youths and the details of the sealing of the cave on the orders of the emperor Decius. Going into the cave and seeing the saints alive, everyone rejoiced and perceived that the Lord, by waking them from their long sleep, was demonstrating to the Church the mystery of the Resurrection of the Dead.

Soon the emperor himself arrived in Ephesus and spoke with the young men in the cave. Then the holy youths, in sight of everyone, lay their heads upon the ground and fell asleep again, this time until the General Resurrection. The emperor wanted to place each of the youths into a jeweled coffin, but they appeared to him in a dream and said that their bodies were to be left upon the ground in the cave. In the twelfth century the Russian pilgrim Igumen Daniel saw the holy relics of the seven youths in the cave.

*Excerpted from the OCA website*