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THE DELIVERER

A Monthly Newsletter of St. George Upper Darby



JUNE DATES TO REMEMBER

Pentecost: The Descent of the Holy Spirit

By Fr. Thomas Hopko

In the Old Testament Pentecost was the feast which occurred fifty days after Passover. As the passover feast celebrated the exodus of the Israelites from the slavery of Egypt, so Pentecost celebrated God's gift of the ten commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai.

In the new covenant of the Messiah, the passover event takes on its new meaning as the celebration of Christ's death and resurrection, the "exodus" of men from this sinful world to the Kingdom of God. And in the New Testament as well, the pentecostal feast is fulfilled and made new by the coming of the "new law," the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples of Christ.

When the day of Pentecost had come they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed as resting upon each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit ... (Acts 2.1-4).

The Holy Spirit that Christ had promised to his disciples came on the day of Pentecost (Jn 14.26, 15.26; Lk 24.49; Acts 1.5). The apostles received "the power from on high," and they began to preach and bear witness to Jesus as the risen Christ, the King and the Lord. This moment has traditionally been called the birthday of the Church.

(Continued on page 2.)

- Bible study - 6/1 and 6/15
- Fellowship of St. Moses the Black - 6/13
- Parish Council - 6/19
- St. Katherine Women meeting - 6/26

June Greeters and Readers

June 5

Greeters: Teen SOYO
Reader: Caroline Becker

June 12

Greeters: Ed and Karla Donahue
Reader: Kerry San Chirico

June 19

Greeters: Burke family
Reader: Ed Donahue

June 26

Greeters: Cynthia Long and Michael Martin
Reader: Sheri San Chirico

Interested in being a greeter? Contact Ed Donahue at edjdonahue@gmail.com

Interested in being a reader? Contact Matt Gordon at msgordon2@gmail.com

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In the liturgical services of the feast of Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit is celebrated together with the full revelation of the divine Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The fullness of the Godhead is manifested with the Spirit's coming to man, and the Church hymns celebrate this manifestation as the final act of God's self-disclosure and self-donation to the world of His creation. For this reason Pentecost Sunday is also called Trinity Day in the Orthodox tradition. Often on this day the icon of the Holy Trinity—particularly that of the three angelic figures who appeared to Abraham, the forefather of the Christian faith—is placed in the center of the church. This icon is used with the traditional pentecostal icon which shows the tongues of fire hovering over Mary and the Twelve Apostles, the original prototype of the Church, who are themselves sitting in unity surrounding a symbolic image of “cosmos,” the world.

On Pentecost we have the final fulfillment of the mission of Jesus Christ and the first beginning of the messianic age of the Kingdom of God mystically present in this world in the Church of the Messiah. For this reason the fiftieth day stands as the beginning of the era which is beyond the limitations of this world, fifty being that number which stands for eternal and heavenly fulfillment in Jewish and Christian mystical piety: seven times seven, plus one.

Thus, Pentecost is called an apocalyptic day, which means the day of final revelation. It is also called an eschatological day, which means the day of the final and perfect end (in Greek eschaton means the end). For when the Messiah comes and the Lord's Day is at hand, the “last days” are inaugurated in which “God declares: ... I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh.”; This is the ancient prophecy to which the Apostle Peter refers in the first sermon of the Christian Church which was preached on the first Sunday of Pentecost (Acts 2: 1-7; Joel 2: 28-32).

[Read the rest of the article here.](#)

Upcoming Events

Coffee Hour Potluck - June 26

Coffee hour on Sunday, June 26 will be a potluck. Please bring a dish to share! As a reminder, it will fall during the Apostles' Fast, so please make sure the dish is fast-friendly.

Parish Directory Update

We will be circulating an updated parish directory in early summer. If your information has changed, or if you would like to add your information to the directory, please contact the church office at office@saintgeorgeupperdarby.org.

Parish Life Conference

The Parish Life Conference is back in person for 2022! The conference, hosted by St. Mary (Johnstown) and St. Michael (Greensburg), will be held at the Antiochian Village on July 29 through July 3. For more info and to register, [visit the conference homepage](#). You can also click the image to the left for a copy of the full conference agenda.



WITH THE BLESSING OF HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN JOSEPH AND HIS GRACE BISHOP THOMAS

save the date

ANTIOCHIAN HERITAGE MUSEUM

2022 PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE
JUNE 29 - JULY 3, 2022

ANTIOCHIAN VILLAGE CONFERENCE CENTER

THE DIOCESES OF
NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON, D.C.
OAKLAND, CHARLESTON AND THE MID-ATLANTIC

June 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Bible study 7pm	2 Ascension Orthros and Liturgy 9am 12 Baskets 8pm	3	4 NO Vespers Orthodoxy 101 6pm
5 Orthros & Liturgy 9:30am	6 Maintenance Committee 8pm	7 Matins 9am Akathist 7pm Choir Practice 7pm	8	9 NO 3rd Hour	10	11 Vespers 5pm Orthodoxy 101 6pm
12 Pentecost Orthros & Liturgy 9:30am	13 FSMB 7pm	14 Matins 9am Akathist 7pm Choir Practice 7pm	15 Bible study 7pm	16 3rd Hour 9am Icon Committee 7:30pm	17	18 Vespers 5pm Orthodoxy 101 6pm
19 Orthros & Liturgy 9:30am Parish Council 12:30pm	20	21 Matins 9am Akathist 7pm Choir Practice 7pm	22 Bible study 7pm	23 3rd Hour 9am	24	25 Vespers 5pm Orthodoxy 101 6pm
26 Orthros & Liturgy 9:30am SKW 12:30pm	27	28 Matins 9am Orthros and Liturgy 6pm (Ss. Peter and Paul)	29 Parish Life Conference: June 29 - July 3 at Antiochian Village	30 NO 3rd Hour		

To view the full calendar, visit www.saintgeorgeupperdarby.org

Not on our mailing list? Contact Caitlin at office@saintgeorgeupperdarby.org
to add your name to our mailing list.