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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.

- Saturday 6/3 - Saturday of Souls
- Sunday 6/4 - PENTECOST
- June 5 - 11 Fast Free Week
- Sunday, June 11 - All Saints Sunday
- Monday, June 12 - Apostles' Fast starts
- Sunday, June 18- A visit with Antiochian Women of the East
- Parish Life Conference at Antiochian Village - June 28 - July 2
- Thursday, June 29 - Feast of SS. Peter & Paul (celebrated at Antiochian Village)

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).

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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.

[Continue reading here](#)

Stewardship Notes **by Jerome Burke,** **Chairman, Stewardship Committee**

The Cornerstone on the right front entrance of our beloved St. George Church reads 1929. Its original name was St. John’s and it was constructed by the Episcopal Archdiocese of Philadelphia. St. George Church roots began in Philadelphia in the 1920’s on 11 th Street where a Lebanese priest performed the Liturgy out of his home for fellow Lebanese immigrants. The next functional St. George Church was founded in 1934 - or thereabouts at 10th and Federal St in Philadelphia according to our church historian Dr. Joseph Nasife. Incidentally, he may have been the first baby baptized at that church. That structure served the community until 1973 when “ Stewards “ of St George thought it was in the best interest of the faithful to move the church to its current site and purchased the former St John’s Episcopal Church in Upper Darby which has been home since that time. While still a beautiful place of worship, our St. George Church is beginning to show its age as it approaches 100 years old.

Under the leadership of Father Joel and the Parish Council, significant improvements have been made to St. George over the past few years. The Church and our pastor's home have new roofs. Earlier this spring, 2 new HVAC systems were installed at 24,000 thousand dollars for our heating and cooling system. Work will soon commence on constructing a new women’s restroom and renovation of the present woman’s restroom into a men’s restroom with a cost of of 30,000. These improvements have been budgeted for and paid out of our building fund. Much work however still lies ahead of us.

Under the direction of our recently appointed chairman, Joe Solomon Jr The Long Term Planning Committee is exploring practical and cost effective solutions to challenges including handicapped access to Church for our disabled and elderly parishioners and space for our growing number of Sunday School students which is both adequate and nurturing. After all, they are our future “Stewards.” Additional projects warranting careful examination include new flooring for the great room, modernizing the kitchen, renovating the annex, and providing more parking for parishioners. All of these improvements require judicious planning, financial support and prayer. While we try to make improvements to our physical plant, we need to keep mindful of our larger mission to live the gospel and help our neighbors whether they may be such as our homeless neighbors in Philadelphia, refugees from war overseas or victims of natural disasters in Syria and Turkey.

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June Greeters and Readers

June 4

SOYO

Greeters & Readers: Randa Ibrahim and Gabrielle Gillam

June 11

Parish Council

Greeter: Jerome Burke
Reader: Michael Solomon

June 18

St. Katherine Women

Greeter: Cynthia Long
Reader: Caroline Becker

June 25

Ministry Teams

Greeters: Justine & Cassia Leach
Reader: Peter Solomon

Interested in being a greeter?

Contact

Office Administrator at
office@saintgeorgeupperdarby.org

Interested in being a reader?

If you're interested in becoming a reader for the Epistle on Sunday, please contact the church office.

Stewardship, continued

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At some time in the near future, we will be initiating a capital improvement campaign to help pay for these plans. These upgrades will improve the quality of life at St George for us and our children. As scripture reminds us "... whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one of us must give as he (she) has decided in his heart not reluctantly or under compulsion for God loves a cheerful giver ". (Corinthians 9-6-7) We also continue to be aware that Stewardship involves more than writing a check and includes lending one's talents to the church such as serving on ministry teams, cleaning the great room, choir, Sunday School helpers and teachers and welcoming visitors.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

Meet our High School Graduate: Lucy San Chirico



Hi, my name is Lucy Douglas San Chirico. My family and I have been parishioners of St. George for the past eight years, after we moved to the Philadelphia area. For four years I have gone to Harriton High School. Next year, I am going to go to Sarah Lawrence College in Bronxville, New York.

Although SLC doesn't have majors, I am going to be focusing a lot of my study on literature and creative writing. I'm very excited to do theater, ghost finding (the school is supposedly haunted!), writing, and analysis of literature in college. I'm most looking forward to being able to learn about things I'm interested in. I am most apprehensive about being able to turn everything in on time once I start college! *Saint George wishes Lucy all the best as she begins this new journey!*

Upcoming Events

Meal Trains

Congratulations and many years to Ed and Karla Donahue on the birth of their daughter Elizabeth, and additional congratulations and blessings to Stevie, Damon, and the boys on the birth of their new baby girl and sister, Cassis. If you would like to help the families with a meal during this time of transition for their families, please click the links below to sign up.

- Donahue family: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/nlw8o7>
- Henry family: <https://www.mealtrain.com/7e5gz8>

Parish Life Conference 2023

The annual Eastern Dioceses Parish Life Conference will be held at the Antiochian Village June 28 - July 2. The Conference is hosted by St. Moses the Black Mission, and the Speaker is Hieromonk Andrew Wermuth. Please use the QR code in the bulletin or visit www.stgeorgeupperdarby.org for more information.

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|--|
| <h1>JUNE 2023</h1> | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 Liturgy for Saturday of Souls 10 am Bible Study, 3:30 pm Vespers, 5 p.m. |
| 4 Pentecost Orthros 9:30am Liturgy 10:30 am Knealing Vespers immediately following Liturgy | 5 Maintenance Committee Mtg, 8 p.m. <i>Fast-free Week</i> | 6 Matins 9:30 am Akathist 7pm <i>Fast-free Week</i> | 7 <i>Fast-free Week</i> | 8 3rd Hour 9:30 am <i>Fast-free Week</i> | 9 <i>Fast-free Week</i> | 10 Bible Study, 3:30 pm Vespers, 5 p.m. <i>Fast-free Week</i> |
| 11 All Saints Sunday Orthros 9:30am Liturgy 10:30 am Choir Practice, 12:15 p.m. Parish Council Mtg, 12:30 pm | 12 Apostles Fast starts Fellowship of St. Moses the Black 7 pm | 13 Matins 9:30 am Akathist 7pm | 14 | 15 3rd Hour 9:30 am | 16 | 17 Bible Study, 3:30 p.m. Vespers, 5 p.m. |
| 18 Second Sunday of Matthew Orthros 9:30am Liturgy 10:30 am St. Katherine Women: Visit with AWE 12:15 Choir Practice, 12:30 pm | 19 | 20 Matins 9:30 am Akathist 7pm | 21 | 22 3rd Hour 9:30 am | 23 | 24 Nativity of St. John the Baptist Bible Study, 3:30 p.m. Vespers, 5 p.m. |
| 25 Leavetaking of St. John the Baptist Orthros 9:30am Liturgy 10:30 am Choir Practice, 12:30 pm | 26 | 27 Matins 9:30 am Akathist 7pm | 28 <i>Parish Life Conference</i> | 29 NO 3rd Hour <i>Parish Life Conference</i> | 30 <i>Parish Life Conference</i> | JULY 1 <i>Parish Life Conference</i> No Vespers |

