



CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF JUNE 1, 2008

Please Remember in Prayer

Carol Boris, Nina Gordon, and Jane Koshutko who are recovering from treatment, as well as Constantina and Christos, and Alan and Virginia. If you have a prayer request, let Fr. John know.

Leave-Taking of Pascha – Wednesday, June 4th

With the Leave-Taking of Pascha, we no longer greet one another with "Christ is Risen" nor sing the Paschal Troparion, instead we sing the Troparion of the Ascension (found on page 3) in its place until Pentecost when this hymn is replaced with "O Heavenly King".

Feast of the Ascension – Thursday, June 5th

This week we celebrate the Lord's Ascension into Heaven, 40 days after His Resurrection from the dead. As this is one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Church's liturgical year, we all should try to be present for at least one of the divine services: 7:00pm Vespers on Wednesday, June 4th and 9:00 Divine Liturgy on Thursday, June 5th. More information about this feast is on page 3.



SUNDAY, JUNE 1ST

SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN

8:40a.m. Hours
9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4TH

LEAVE-TAKING OF PASCHA

7:00p.m. Great Vespers

THURSDAY, JUNE 5TH

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

One of the Twelve Great Feasts

9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy

SATURDAY, JUNE 7TH

6:00p.m. Great Vespers

SUNDAY, JUNE 8TH

FATHERS OF THE 1ST COUNCIL

8:40a.m. Hours
9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour



Bible Study – Monday, June 9th

are resuming this month beginning with a Bible Study on Monday, June 9th, at 7:00pm. The topic will be the very first days of the Church as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. Please see the monthly calendar for the Orthodox Movie Night and Orthodoxy 101 times.

Feast of Pentecost – Sunday, June 15th

On Sunday, June 15th, we celebrate the Descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, 50 days after Pascha. As a reminder, on this day we will have Vespers with the Kneeling Prayers immediately following the Divine Liturgy.



Baptism of Troy Duker – Saturday, June 28th

On Saturday, June 28th, at 5:00pm, we will welcome Troy Duker into the Orthodox Church through Holy Baptism. This is a great event in Troy's life, as well as in the life of our Mission, please set aside this time to celebrate this special event!



Donors Sought: Completion of Icons in the Altar

In the next few months new icons of the Theotokos and St. John the Baptist will be installed in our church. These icons, which will be approximately 5 feet by 3 feet in size, will be placed on the right and left sides of the Icon of Christ behind our altar table.

These three icons together are called the 'Deisis' – more information can be found on the second page of this bulletin. If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of these icons, please see Fr. John or Susan Pappas, our treasurer.

"Thou didst die – Thou Who art the Life of all – in order to revive me who was dead. Thou wast laid in the tomb that I might rise from the tomb. Thou wast brought to life again that I might believe in my own resurrection."

St. Tikhon of Zadonsk

READER SCHEDULE

Sunday, June 8th

Jen Alexion

Sunday, June 15th

Kathy Parrish



Bus Trip to Washington DC

A parish outing to Washington DC is currently being scheduled. Neither the date, nor the itinerary have been set yet. But if you are interested, please sign the sheet in the back of the church, so we have an idea how many people would like to go. The bus would most likely leave the church on a Saturday around 8:00am and return in the evening around 10:00pm. The trip will most likely feature a tour of St. Nicholas Cathedral where we will attend Vespers as well as a visit to a museum or art gallery.



Volunteers Sought: Parish Video

If you are interested in helping to put together a parish video for our website, please see Fr. John. We are looking for volunteers to share something about themselves and their lives as Orthodox Christians. It is hoped that the video will make visitors to our website more comfortable actually visiting our parish by introducing them to Orthodoxy and the people of our community. If you have never been in a film, here's your chance!

Open House at the Rectory

will be held on Sunday, June 29th, following a very brief coffee hour at the church. More info can be picked up at the candle stand. Everyone is invited!

JUNE CONGRATULATIONS!

Anniversaries:

- 6/9 George & Monica Stoicovy
- 6/12 Fr. John & Mat. Emily Parsells
- 6/17 Alan & Denise Royal
- 6/22 Francis & Renie Abdow
- 6/24 Bill & Kathy Parrish
- 6/27 Harry & Olga Holowach

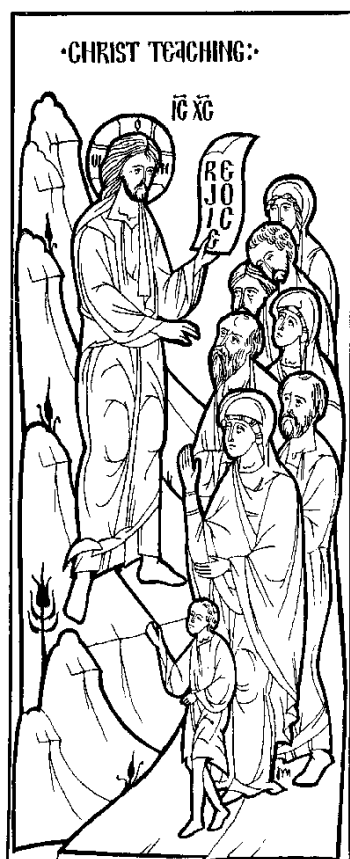
Birthdays:

- 6/9 Jennifer Alexion
- 6/16 Sandra St. Germain
- 6/19 Richard Evanusa
- 6/28 Renie Abdow
- 6/30 Bill Parrish

Namesdays:

- 6/29 Holy Apostles Peter & Paul
Paul St. Germain
Troy (Paul) Duker

If your name is not on this list and it should be, please see Fr. John, as soon as possible!



TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

- 1) We are Christ's disciples if we:
 - A. Keep His commandments.
 - B. Love one another.
 - C. Take up our crosses and follow Him.
 - D. All of the above.
- 2) The first bird Noah sent forth from the ark.
 - A. dove
 - B. raven
 - C. nuthatch
 - D. eagle
- 3) Moses received the Ten Commandments 50 days after Passover.
 - A. True
 - B. False
- 4) What happened 50 days after Christ rose from the dead?
 - A. Christ ascended into Heaven.
 - B. The Christians received the Holy Spirit.
 - C. St. Matthias replaced the Judas among the Twelve.
 - D. St. Stephen, the first martyr, was stoned to death.
- 5) To "speak in tongues" means to use words no one can understand.
 - A. True
 - B. False

For answers to these questions, please see page 4.



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD INTO HEAVEN

When the day of the Jewish Pentecost drew near, the disciples of Christ returned from Galilee to Jerusalem. On the fortieth day after the resurrection of Jesus Christ they were all together in one house. Jesus Christ appeared to them and spoke with them saying, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation. He who believes and is baptized will be saved, but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs shall accompany those who believe: in My name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."

Then the Savior said to the disciples that soon the Holy Spirit would come upon them, and until that time He charged them not to depart from Jerusalem. He said, "I send the promise of My Father upon you; but stay in the city, until you are clothed with power from on high; for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

Conversing with the disciples, the Savior led them out of the city as far as Bethany, to the Mount of Olives. The disciples, overjoyed with the words of the Savior, surrounded Him and started to ask, "Lord will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" The Savior said to them, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons which the Father has fixed by His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

When He had said this, Jesus Christ lifted up His hands and blessed His disciples. While He blessed them, He parted from them and He was lifted up to Heaven, and soon a cloud took Him out of their sight. Thus our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ ascended in His physical body to Heaven and sat down at the right Hand of God the Father. His human soul and body took on the indivisible glory

with His divinity. In His divinity, He always is and will be in Heaven and everywhere.

The disciples worshipped the ascended Lord and for a long time continued to stand and gaze into Heaven after Him. Then two angels in white robes appeared before them and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into Heaven? This Jesus, Who was taken up from you into Heaven, will come to earth in the same way (that is, in the flesh), as you saw Him go into heaven."

After this the disciples of Jesus Christ returned to Jerusalem with great joy and stayed there together, awaiting the descent of the Holy Spirit. All of them, together in soul, spent the time in prayer and were continually in the Temple of God, praising and thanking God. With them were several women and Mary, the Most-holy Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ, with their relatives. In those days the apostles, prayerfully, by casting lots, chose from among the other disciples of Christ the twelfth apostle, Matthias, to take the place of Judas the betrayer, who perished.

Ascended into Heaven, Jesus Christ, according to His own promise, invisibly always comes to earth among those who believe in Him and will come again to earth in visible form to judge the living and the dead, who will then rise from the dead. After this will begin the life of the next age, another, eternal life which for true believers and pious people will be completely blessed, but for disbelievers and sinners will be a time of great torment.

Troparion

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, granting joy to Thy disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Through the blessing they were assured that Thou art the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world!

Kontakion

When Thou didst fulfill the dispensation for our sake and unite earth to heaven, Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, not being parted from those who love Thee, but remaining with them and crying, "I am with you and no one will be against you!"

ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS RETURN TO ST. TIKHON'S

By Jon Meyer

[South Canaan, PA – 5/26/2008] Memorial Day is of course filled with parades in so many places around our area but a procession in Wayne County is much different and draws hundreds of people from all over the country.

The traditions date back more than a century. It was 104 years ago when people first began their pilgrimage to St. Tikhon's Monastery. Now the crowds in South Canaan are so much bigger. The sound of song and prayer so much louder. "I feel as though it's a spiritual fulfillment, one you don't get from a normal church experience," said Gregory Smith of Massachusetts.

The pilgrimage is meant to mark the anniversary of St.

Tikhon's, the first Orthodox monastery in the U.S. It often draws more than 1,000 people from all over the country. "They come from Illinois, from Massachusetts, from all over. It's very touching," said Nina Kuksa of Clarks Summit. "This is a family tradition for us. We come up here every on Memorial

Day," said Ralph Rogers of Philadelphia. The Rogers said this day has become a big Orthodox family reunion. "This is her (a baby's) first year here. Every year, they get more into it. The boys come up for summer camp," Rogers added.

Decades ago people used to come by foot. They used to process up over the mountain to get here. Those times have changed, but many things have not.

"The idea of pilgrimage has not changed, and I think that's why they come. We live in a very changing world where people are changing all the time but in the Orthodox Church, we keep things the same, hence the name Orthodox," said Father

John Kowalczyk of Jermyn.

So on a day so many go to Memorial Day parades and ceremonies, those at the monastery stick to their religion, praying for peace and enjoying their time together.



Following the Divine Liturgy on Memorial Day a procession is made to the monastery church where a Requiem Service is offered and the faithful pray for the departed brethren of the monastery as well as those who have lost their lives for their country.



ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

1. D, all of the above.
2. B, raven. Genesis 8:7 The raven is an unclean bird, Leviticus 11:15 and Deuteronomy 14:14 The second bird Noah sent forth from the ark was a dove which is a clean bird, Deuteronomy 14:11-20. This prefigured the gift of the Holy Spirit (in the form of a dove) which would come when the old man, subject to sin, was drowned in the waters of Holy Baptism.
3. A, true. This prefigured the Christians receiving the Law of God written on the fleshy tablets of the heart, rather than cold and hard stony tablets.
4. B, the Christians received the Holy Spirit on Pentecost.
5. B, false. The gift of speaking in tongues meant precisely the opposite. The Book of Acts records how the Apostles were able to proclaim the wonderful works of God to every person in Jerusalem, each in their own language.

