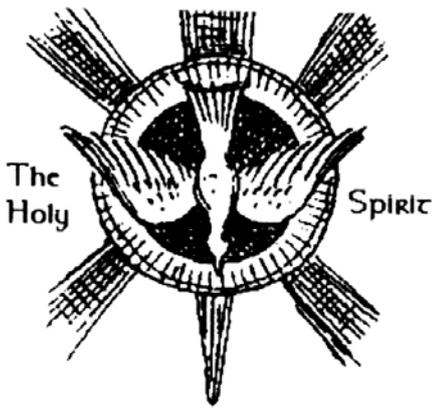


# CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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## BULLETIN OF MAY 27, 2018



### SUNDAY, MAY 27<sup>TH</sup>

#### Holy Pentecost

*One of the Twelve Great Feasts*

8:40a.m. Hours  
 9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy  
 Vespers/Kneeling Prayers  
 Coffee Hour

### MONDAY, MAY 28<sup>TH</sup>

#### Day of the Holy Spirit

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

### SATURDAY, JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup>

5:00p.m. Bible Study  
 6:00p.m. Great Vespers

### SUNDAY, JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup>

#### All Saints

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

*O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere and fillest all things; Treasury of Blessings, and Giver of Life - come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.*

#### READER SCHEDULE

**Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Daniel Moss

**Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>**

Joanne Patrick



#### A Warm Welcome!

We warmly welcome all our visitors. It's good to have you with us!

#### Feast of Pentecost – Today

Today, May 27<sup>th</sup>, we celebrate the Descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, 50 days after Pascha. On this day we have Vespers with Kneeling Prayers immediately following the Liturgy. There will be Liturgy tomorrow, dedicated to the Holy Spirit.



#### Fast-Free Week

During the week after Pentecost (May 27<sup>th</sup> – June 3<sup>rd</sup>) we do not fast, even on Wednesday and Friday. This week is given to us to celebrate the renewal of the Holy Spirit received on Pentecost.

#### Directory of the Parishioners and Friends

The newly updated directory is available at the candle stand for pick-up! One copy per family, please. Questions, see Nissa Nancy.



#### Supporting A Local Pregnancy Center

A charitable drive, "Bottles of Blessing!", will run from Mother's Day, May 13<sup>th</sup> to Father's Day, June 17<sup>th</sup>. You can pick up a Baby Bottle to take home and collect your loose change (cash / checks accepted!). This is to benefit The Shirley Grace Pregnancy Center in Berlin where women are cared for materially & spiritually.

#### Annual Memorial Day Pilgrimage

The Memorial Day Pilgrimage to Saint Tikhon's Monastery in South Canaan, PA is Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. For more info, please see: [memorialdaypilgrimage.com](http://memorialdaypilgrimage.com).



#### Two Suggestions

1) Invite someone new to church; 2) Talk to someone new today.



#### Have An Idea?

Do you have any idea that you would like to share about our Mission? Please let Fr. John or one of the Council know as we always look for ways to improve the Mission!

#### The Pool to be Opened on Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>

Following the Divine Liturgy and until 1pm, the pool will be open for swimming. A certified lifeguard will be on duty, but parents should still watch their children.



#### Prayer for Graduates – Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup>

As we come to the conclusion of the academic year, we offer thanks to God for His blessings. This prayer will be offered at the end of the Liturgy on Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup>.



CASH FLOWS THROUGH 4/30/18					CASH FLOWS IN MAY 2018					FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT		
OPERATING		OTHER		ALL	OPERATING		OTHER		ALL	AS OF: 5/27		
Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Net	Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Net	Available	Restricted	Savings
34,976	36,932	5,130	3,000	+174	5,243	9,233	500	0	-3,490	9,613	5,764	12,000

The tenth day after the Ascension of Jesus Christ was the fiftieth day after the Resurrection of Christ. It was the Jews' great feast of Pentecost, which commemorated the giving of the Law on Mt. Sinai.

All the Apostles, the Mother of God, and the other disciples of Christ and other of the faithful, were all together in one room in Jerusalem. It was the third hour of the day by the Hebrew reckoning of hours, according to our system – nine o'clock in the morning. Suddenly a sound came from Heaven, like a rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. There descended on them tongues that looked like fire, which rested on each one of them. There were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, previously unknown to them. Thus the Holy Spirit, according to the promise of the Savior, descended on the apostles in the form of tongues of fire, as a sign that He gave the apostles the ability and zeal to preach the teachings of Christ to all peoples. He descended in the form of fire as a sign of the power to cleanse sins, to sanctify and warm souls.

On the occasion of the feast of Pentecost, there were in Jerusalem many Jews who had come from various nations. Hearing the noise, a great multitude of people came together around the house where the disciples of Christ were. They were all bewildered and asked each other, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? How is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? How are they able to tell in our languages the mighty works of God?" In disbelief they said, "They are filled with new wine." Then the Apostle Peter, standing with the eleven, said that they were not drunk, but that the Holy Spirit had descended upon them, that it has been prophesied by the Prophet Joel, and that Jesus Christ, Whom the Jews had crucified, had risen from the dead, ascended into Heaven and poured out on them the Holy Spirit. Finishing this sermon about Christ, the = Peter said, "Let all the house of Israel therefore know assuredly that God has made Him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus, Whom you crucified."

The sermon of Peter so moved those who heard it that many more believed in Jesus Christ. They asked Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; then you shall also receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

So those who believed in Christ readily accepted baptism, and there were added that day about three thousand souls. Thus began the building of the Kingdom of

God on earth, the Church of Christ.

From the day of the descent of the Holy Spirit the Christian faith quickly spread with the help of God, and the number of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ multiplied. Instructed by the Holy Spirit, the apostles preached boldly to all about Jesus Christ, the Son of God, about His suffering for us and resurrection from the dead. The Lord helped them with many great miracles which were performed by the apostles in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. At first the apostles preached to the Jews, and then dis-

persed to various countries to preach to all the people. To perform the sacraments and to preach Christianity the apostles established, by the laying on of hands, bishops, presbyters, and deacons. This grace of the Holy Spirit, which was clearly conferred on the apostles in the form of tongues of fire, is now conferred in our Holy Orthodox Church invisibly in its sacraments, through the successors to the apostles, the pastors of the Church, its bishops and priests.

**Troparion – tone 8**

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit; through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. O Lover of Man, glory to Thee!

**Kontakion – tone 8**

When the Most High came down and confused the tongues, He divided the nations; but when He distributed the tongues of fire, He called all to unity. Therefore, with one voice, we glorify the all holy Spirit!



## THE HOLY SPIRIT

- ❖ is God, the third Person of the Holy Trinity;
- ❖ proceeds from the Father;
- ❖ is sent into the world by Jesus Christ;
- ❖ inspires God's People to speak God's truth and to do His will; and
- ❖ is the Giver of Life who upholds and sustains creation in its existence, life, and growth.



Fifty days after His resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ sent the Holy Spirit upon His disciples. What does the Lord Jesus Christ say about the Holy Spirit?



*If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, so that He may be with you forever, the Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive because it does not see Him nor know Him. But you know Him, for He dwells with you and shall be in you.*

– John 14:15-17

*But the Comforter, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.*

– John 14:26

*When He, the Spirit of Truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth. For He shall not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears, He shall speak. And He will declare to you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will receive of Mine and will declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and will declare it to you.*

– John 16:13-15

## CONTEMPLATION – THE DESCENT OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT ON THE APOSTLES

- ❖ How the Apostles stood in one mind at prayer.
- ❖ How, there came a sound from heaven as a rushing mighty wind.
- ❖ How there appeared fiery tongues, one on each of the Apostles.
- ❖ How the Apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in various tongues as the Holy Spirit gave them utterance.
- ❖ How some mocked them saying, "They have had too much new wine."
- ❖ How the rest wondered and marveled, hearing the Apostles speak to them of the wonderful works of God in their own languages.
- ❖ How the small are made great by God the Holy Spirit.
- ❖ How the fearful are made fearless by Him.
  - ❖ How He makes the simple wise.
  - ❖ How He makes the inarticulate eloquent.
  - ❖ How, from fishermen, He makes fishers of men for the Kingdom of God.
  - ❖ How, from shepherds of an irrational flock, He makes shepherds of a rational flock – the true sheep of the House of Israel.
    - ❖ How the Apostles, led by the Holy Spirit, traveled throughout the world without means and without friends.
    - ❖ How, through the Holy Spirit, the Apostles proclaimed the Lord's Gospel.
    - ❖ How, through the Holy Spirit, the Church continues to proclaim the Gospel to the ends of the earth.



**Question: What is the doctrine of the Incarnation and why is it important?**

**Answer:** The doctrine of the Incarnation is that the uncreated the Son of God has entered into creation, taking on flesh and becoming the prophesied Son of Man, the Savior of the world. The doctrine says that Christ is a single person with two natures, divine and human; being both perfectly and fully God, while at the same time perfectly and fully man.

The term used in the Nicene Creed to describe the relationship between God the Father and the Son of God is *homoousios* – meaning of the same substance. In other words, as the Father is truly God, so is the Son truly God – both being fully divine. In taking on our human nature, being like us in everything except sin (which is simply a deformation of our humanity), the Son of God, becomes also now truly man, taking the name Jesus Christ, and therefore *homoousios* (of the same substance) with us. And so, as we are fully human, Christ is likewise fully human. And so in Christ, we see the perfect union of the divine and human natures. The Incarnate Christ now serves as the perfect and only vehicle (only mediator) for humanity's return and reunion with God, who is the eternal Life from which man has fallen. In the Church, we are joined to Christ's Body, becoming one with Him, and being reconciled through and in Him to God, saved from our sin (separation from God) and from death (separation from life).

**Question: Can you please explain in detail how Christ can be both God and man!?**

**Answer:** There are many who questioned how this can be, how this could have taken place, how this can be intellectually comprehended, articulated, explained, etc.. And each attempt to bring this divine mystery down to the human level and dissect it under the faulty microscope of the imperfect mind has resulted in heresy. This is because the human mind has limitations – the greatest being the ironic lack of awareness of those very limitations (ie. pride). And so, some said that Christ couldn't be fully God, others that He could be fully man. The Arians thought the Son of God unequal to the Father and not fully God. The Docetists said that He only appeared to be man and really wasn't so. But the Fathers in humility preserved and codified the Apostolic

doctrine of the Incarnation, not explaining the "how" (which we can never comprehend) but expounding upon the "why", which is for us men and our salvation. You see the Fathers knew that if Christ were not truly God and truly man at the same time, then He could not be the mediator and Savior, He could not reunite us with God, who is life, and we would remain dead in our sins.

**Question: Why was the Virgin Mary necessary? Couldn't God "recreate humanity" without her?**

**Answer:** Now, while it is possible for God to create humanity entirely "from scratch" so to speak, this human being would not be fully part of the existing community of human beings, which God had originally created, and which shares its communal nature through the physical bond: Eve taken from Adam's rib, and children in subsequent generations being formed through the physical union of their descendants. A human being formed entirely separate would lack this important bond, it would not be part of the family, and community is actually one of the essential aspects to our human nature. Remember, we were created in the image of God – Who is a Trinity of Persons – who not only share the same divine substance but also share personal relationship and union, abiding in community with one another as the Father eternally begets the



Son, and the Spirit proceeds from the Father, who both in return offer their entire selves back to the Father in the same perfect love with which the Father loved them. At the divine level, this of course happens in a mystery outside creation, outside time and space.

Since personal connection is a fundamental aspect of the divine and human natures, Christ needed a person from which to receive His human nature in order to be fully human. The Virgin offered to Christ not only humanity but also this personal, familial bond. Hence He, who exists uncreated, outside time and space, born of the divine Father without a mother, enters into creation, time and space, born of a human mother without a father. In so doing, this Son of God – this single Person – shares the fullness of both natures, remaining in the community of Divine Persons as well as entering now through the Incarnation into the community of human beings. Through the Virgin, Christ joins not only otherwise abstract natures but also concrete person.