



**St. George Orthodox Church**  
**2 Nottingham Terrace - Buffalo, NY 14216**  
**(716) 875-4222**  
[www.stgeorgebuffalo.com](http://www.stgeorgebuffalo.com)

**THE WEEKLY MESSENGER**

Published weekly in the interest of the parishioners and friends of Saint George Orthodox Church, Buffalo, NY a parish of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey and The Orthodox Church in America

**ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**2 Nottingham Terrace Buffalo, NY 14216**

**V. Rev. Jason Vansuch, Parish Priest**

**2 Nottingham Terrace 716-875-4222 Buffalo, NY 14216**

**Cell Phone: 609-851-3811 Email: [jvansuch@hotmail.com](mailto:jvansuch@hotmail.com)**

Archpriest Andreja Damjanovski, Attached Rev. Peter Irfan, Attached  
 Mat. Katia Vansuch, Choir Director

Dr. Boris Kuvshinoff, Parish Council President

Home: 716-812-6132 Email: [boris.kuvshinoff@gmail.com](mailto:boris.kuvshinoff@gmail.com)

**8th SUNDAY OF PASCHA — Tone 7. Holy Pentecost: Feast of the Holy Trinity.** St. Metrophanes, first Patriarch of Constantinople (325-326). Righteous Martha and Mary, the sisters of Lazarus (1st c.). Ven. Methodius "Peshnosha", disciple of Ven. Sergius of Rádonezh (1392). Martyrs Frontasius, Severinus, Severian, and Silanus, of Gaul (1st c.). Martyr Concordius of Spoleto (ca. 175). Hieromartyr Astius, Bishop of Dyrrachium in Macedonia (ca. 110). Venerable Father Zosima the Bishop of Babylon

**EPISTLE:**  
 Acts 2:1-11

Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

**GOSPEL:**  
 John 7:37-52; 8:12

**GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST!**

**GLORY FOREVER!**

**\*\*FLOWERS FOR THIS WEEK\*\***

In front of the Icon of Our Lord, In front of the Icon of The Theotokos, and on the Center Icon Table are donated by St. George Orthodox Church!

Altar Vigil Candles are offered by Anthony DeNuovo in Loving Memory of Thy Departed Servants of his family. May their memory be eternal.

**TODAY'S WEEKLY MESSENGER IS SPONSORED BY:**

St. George Orthodox Church

**WELCOME TO ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH**

We welcome all of you to the Divine Liturgy this morning, especially those who are visiting with us here at St. George Orthodox Church. Everyone is invited to the Parish Fellowship Hall following the Divine Liturgy for Christian Fellowship. It is our prayer that your experience this morning was spiritually uplifting and you will return very soon to pray with our parish family. In the Orthodox Church, we do not practice open Communion. However we do invite everyone to come and participate in the Divine Liturgy. Hence only those Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared themselves through prayer and fasting may receive Holy Communion. May the Lord bless you with many years of good health and happiness.

# HYMNS FOR THE DIVINE LITURGY

## *The First Antiphon (Psalm 66)*

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.

*Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.*

Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

*Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.*

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe.

*Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

*Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.*

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## *The Second Antiphon*

The Lord answer you in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob protect you!

*O Gracious Comforter, save us who sing to Thee: "Alleluia!"*

May He send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion!

*O Gracious Comforter, save us who sing to Thee: "Alleluia!"*

May He remember all your offerings, and fulfill all your plans!

*O Gracious Comforter, save us who sing to Thee: "Alleluia!"*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Only begotten Son and immortal Word of God, Who for our salvation didst will to be incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary. Who without change didst become man and was crucified, Who art one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit: O Christ our God, trampling down death by death, save us!

## *The Third Antiphon*

In Thy strength the king rejoices, O Lord, and exults greatly in Thy salvation.

Blessed are 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!

Thou hast given him his heart's desire, and have not withheld the request of his lips.

Blessed are 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!

For Thou didst him with goodly blessings; Thou hast set a crown of fine gold upon his head.

Blessed are 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!

## Entrance Verse

Be exalted, O Lord, in Thy strength! We will sing and praise Thy power!

## **Tone 8      Troparion**

Blessed are 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!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

## **Tone 8      Kontakion**

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

*(Instead of the Trisagion, we sing:)*

As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia.

## THE PROKEIMENON – Tone 8

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe!

*v: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.*

## ALLELUIA VERSES

*By the Word of the Lord the heavens were made; and all their host by the Spirit of His mouth.*

*The Lord looked down from heaven, and saw all the sons of men.*

## THE HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS

**(Instead of “It is truly meet ...,” we sing:)**

Rejoice, O Queen, glory of mothers and virgins.  
No tongue, however sweet or fluent, is eloquent enough to praise you worthily. Every mind is overawed by your childbearing.  
Therefore, with one voice, we glorify you.

## COMMUNION HYMN

Let Thy good Spirit lead me on a level path! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

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### === Scriptural Readings for the Week ===

<b>Monday</b>	Eph. 5:5-19	Matt. 18:10-20
<b>Tuesday</b>	Romans 1:1-7, 13-17	Matt. 4:25-5:13
<b>Wednesday</b>	Romans 1:18-27	Matt. 5:20-26
<b>Thursday</b>	Romans 1:28-2:9	Matt. 5:27-32
<b>Friday</b>	Romans 2:14-29	Matt. 5:33-41
<b>Saturday</b>	Romans 1:7-12	Matt. 5:42-48
<b>Sunday</b>	Hebrews 11:33-12:2	Matt. 10:32-33,37-38;19:27-30

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## EPISTLE LESSON FOR TODAY

**ACTS 2:1-11**

### **In those Days:**

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language.

Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.

## GOSPEL LESSON FOR TODAY

**JOHN 7:37-57, 8:12 (Feast of Holy Pentecost)**

### **Let us Attend!**

On the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Therefore many from the crowd, when they heard this saying, said, "Truly this is the Prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Will the Christ come out of Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the seed of David and from the town of Bethlehem, where David was?" So there was a division among the people because of Him. Now some of them wanted to take Him, but no one laid hands on Him. Then the officers came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why have you not brought Him?"

The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this Man!" Then the Pharisees answered them, "Are you also deceived? Have any of the rulers or the Pharisees believed in Him? But this crowd that does not know the law is accursed." Nicodemus (he who came to Jesus by night, being one of them) said to them, "Does our law judge a man before it hears him and knows what he is doing?"

They answered and said to him, "Are you also from Galilee? Search and look, for no prophet has arisen out of Galilee." Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

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Blessed are 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!



**Who is so great a god as our God?**

**Thou art the God Who doest wonders!**

## **ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH (Buffalo, NY)** **PARISH OUTREACH MINISTRIES**

To the Glory of God, every year our beloved parish family answers The Call of Our Lord of ministering to those in need by fulfilling The Gospel of Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ with participating in 5 on-going Parish Outreach Ministries within the local Buffalo Area on an on-going basis and especially during the Nativity Season.

Every year, we look forward to another wonderful blessed Nativity Season of bringing the joy, the love, and the peace of The Nativity of Our Lord to everyone especially through the following the outreach ministries:

**Hearts for The Homeless** – which is a mobile soup kitchen/thrift shop that feeds the poor and chronic homeless on the street. Characterized by a profound spiritual motivation. The program offers nourishing food, as well as clothing, pertinent information regarding area services, companionship and hope for the future.

- Each Month we collect a different canned good/non-perishable food item along with hygiene products and drop them off at the Hearts for The Homeless Distribution Center

**Buffalo City Mission** – exists to meet the spiritual and practical needs of the poor through the demonstration of the love and preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in providing love, care, shelter, food, and other means necessary to those in need.

- Each Month we collect hygiene products, clothing for men, women, and children and drop them off at the Buffalo City Mission Distribution Center

**HomeSpace** – is a local community organization ministering to local teens and pre-teen moms which provides comprehensive care to 14-21 yr old moms (providing those essential items necessary for caring for their children: diapers, wipes, baby food, clothing (infants through 7/8 years old). HomeSpace Corporation supports at-risk young women to achieve independence two generations at a time.

- Each Month we collect hygiene products, clothing for young women and children along with those essential items necessary for caring for their children: diapers, wipes, baby food, clothing (infants through 7/8 years old) and drop them off at the HomeSpace Distribution Center

**Mats for Mission/Resurrection Life Food Pantry** – A Local Organization assisting with providing rest mats made out of plastic bags for the less fortunate as well as providing food and other means necessary to those in need.

- Each Month we collect plastic bags as well as canned goods and non-perishable food items and drop them off at the Resurrection Life Food Pantry Distribution Center.
- Beginning in January 2023, our church school children will be volunteering here on a regular basis assisting with collecting and sorting out Food Bags for those in need.

**Baker Victory** – A Local Organization dedicated to fostering the highest possible quality of life and personal achievement by partnering with children, adults, their families and the WNY community through a diverse array of social, health and human services.

- Twice a year we collect gifts and other essential items necessary for the children and drop them off at the Baker Victory Distribution Center.

**\*\*We also support Compass Care Pro-Life Agency on a regular basis!**

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 MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU AND GUIDE YOU  
 FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND PRAYERS!  
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**Remember our Loved Ones during Our Daily Prayers**

*‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’*  
 {Matt. 25:40}

As we say our daily prayers, let us also take time out to remember our loved ones who are homebound, who are in hospitals and who are in nursing homes. Let us remember them that GOD will continue to watch over them and protect them. Also, during the Year, let us take to either send them a card, give them a call, or visit them to let them know how much we love them, how much we remember them, and how much we pray for them.

Please refer to the of our Parish Shut-Ins below.

If anyone has any questions or would like to add someone to our List of Parish Shut-Ins, please see or contact Fr. Jason. May God continue to bless you and guide you!

**ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH PARISH SHUT-INS (2022)**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| Mr. Anthony Dipiano<br>305 North Street<br>Apt. 77<br>Buffalo, N           | Reader Victor Shanchuk<br>McAuley Residence<br>1503 Military Rd.<br>Buffalo, NY 14217<br>716.881.3096 | Mrs. Luba Japadjief<br>Elderwood Nursing Home<br>104 Old Niagara Rd.<br>Lockport, NY 14221 (Room 47A) |
| Mr. Albert Fadell<br>317.376.2562  | Nicholas Wityk<br>65 South Main Street<br>South Oakfield NY   |   |
| Andrew Wityk<br>Ellicott Center<br>200 Seventh Street<br>Buffalo, NY 14201 |   |   |

**\*\* NEW COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE FOR 2023 IN THE PARISH FELLOWSHIP HALL!  
 BE SURE TO SIGN UP TO HOST A COFFEE HOUR! PLEASE JOIN US EVERY  
 SUNDAY IN THE PARISH FELLOWSHIP HALL FOLLOWING THE DIVINE LITURGY  
 FOR SOME CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP WITH ONE ANOTHER!\*\***

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**\*\*PLEASE REFER TO THE WEEKLY EMAILS AND PARISH WEBSITE  
 FOR CHANGES TO THE CALENDAR!\*\***  
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## **THE SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY SERVICES and ACTIVITIES**

### **SUNDAY JUNE 4, 2023**

**THE GREAT FEAST OF HOLY PENTECOST: THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

The Hours – **9:10 AM**

Festal Divine Liturgy followed by

Vespers of Pentecost with Kneeling Prayers – **9:30 AM**

Annual Parish Family Ethnic Luncheon/Church School Picnic following Divine Liturgy!

### **MONDAY JUNE 5, 2023**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Day of The Feast of Pentecost: THE DAY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Divine Liturgy – **9:30 AM**

### **SATURDAY JUNE 10, 2023**

Great Vespers – **4:00 PM**

### **SUNDAY JUNE 11, 2023**

**THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS**

The Hours – **9:10 AM**

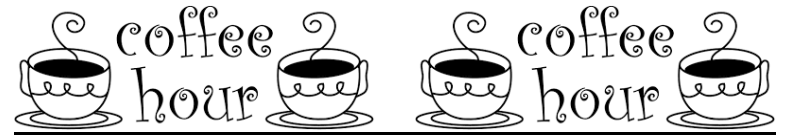
Festal Divine Liturgy– **9:30 AM**

Coffee Hour Fellowship in Parish Fellowship Hall following Divine Liturgy!

#### **FR. JASON, MAT. KATIA, ANNA, AND ALEXANDRA WILL BE AWAY**

Fr. Jason, Mat. Katia, Anna, and Alexandra will be away from Thursday June 8 and will be returning on Friday June 16. With that in mind, if there is an emergency or if anyone needs the assistance of a priest, please contact Fr. Andreja (716) 345-5381 or Fr. Peter (716-342-8520) who are covering for Fr. Jason while he is away. Also, if anyone needs anything while Fr. Jason is away, please contact Dr. Boris (716. 812-6132). You may also contact Fr. Jason on his cell phone as well as call the rectory and leave a message and he will return your call as soon as he can. There will be services here the weekend that Fr. Jason is away as Fr. Andreja will be serving Great Vespers on Saturday June 10 at 4:00 PM and Divine Liturgy on Sunday June 11 at 10:00 AM.

**\*\*PLEASE REFER TO THE WEEKLY EMAILS AND PARISH WEBSITE  
FOR CHANGES TO THE CALENDAR!\*\***



If anyone has any questions about fasting or restrictions when hosting coffee hour, please see Fr. Jason and he will help you and guide you!

When hosting coffee hour, please check the refrigerators in the Parish Fellowship Hall the week before we are hosting to see what supplies we will/may need.

We will also be using real coffee cups for coffee hour. If anyone needs assistance with cleaning them or using the dishwasher following Coffee Hour, please see or contact Mat. Katia.

**If there is no host for coffee hour,  
then we will not have coffee hour on that particular Sunday.**

If anyone would like to host coffee hour or has any questions regarding one's preparations for Coffee Hour, please see or contact Mat. Fran ([610.698.1666/frances.vansuch@yahoo.com](mailto:frances.vansuch@yahoo.com))

**\*\*We have 12 available Sundays in 2023!\*\***



## FIND YOUR SPIRITUAL HOME In The Orthodox Christian Church

SATURDAY Great Vespers 4:00 PM  
SUNDAY Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM (Sept-May)  
9:30 AM (May-September)

~ All are Welcome ~

Do we have questions about our life, its meaning, purpose, destiny?  
Are we desiring to know Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God?  
Are we seeking forgiveness, healing, and wholeness?

Do we wonder where to go to find answers?

We can find the answers to these questions and so many other questions  
in The Holy Orthodox Church through Her Sacred Tradition,  
Holy Scriptures, Her Teachings and Dogmas.

The Orthodox Church is the original Christian Church, the Church founded by the Lord Jesus Christ and described in the pages of the New Testament. Her history can be traced in unbroken continuity all the way back to Christ and His Twelve Apostles, empowered and sent forth on the day of Holy Pentecost. Incredible as it seems, for over twenty centuries she has continued in her undiminished and unaltered faith and practice. Today her apostolic doctrine, worship, and structure remain intact. The Orthodox Church maintains that the Church is the living Body of Jesus Christ. Many of us are surprised to learn that for the first 1000 years of Christian history there was just one Church.

Where is "**The Church**" to be found and experienced today? Come Taste and See How Good The Lord is every Sunday by joining us for The Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM.

What is Orthodox Christianity all about? How does it differ from other Christian confessions? This section will attempt to answer these questions and many more.

For a visual introduction to the Orthodox Church, please view the video link below:

[http://www.youtube.com/v/Gj4pUphDitA&color1=0xb1b1b1&color2=0xcfcfcf&feature=player\\_embedded&fs=1](http://www.youtube.com/v/Gj4pUphDitA&color1=0xb1b1b1&color2=0xcfcfcf&feature=player_embedded&fs=1)

For a brief introduction and in depth study to The Orthodox Faith and to find answers to: 'What we Believe?', 'Who we Are?', and 'How we Live?', please view the PDF link below:

<http://orthodoxdelmarva.org/files/studies/InquirersClassV1final.pdf>

or you may visit the OCA website by clicking the link below:

<http://oca.org/orthodoxy/the-orthodox-faith>

or you can begin a Journey Through Orthodoxy by clicking the link below:

<http://journeytoorthodoxy.com>

To learn more ways that we can teach our children about the Orthodox Faith, The OCA has provided a wonderful website for us to use that provides great resources such as (handouts, texts, articles, stories, and much more)! To see this great website, please view the PDF link below:

<http://dce.oca.org/page/resources/>

If you have any questions or would like to know more about The Orthodox Faith or needs and help or assistance, please contact our parish priest: V Rev. Jason Vansuch (jvansuch@hotmail.com) or 716.875.4222 and he will be able guide you.

## Come and See how we are all called to be Stewards of The Church!

- Stewardship is our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.
- Stewardship is caring for the needs of others.
- Stewardship is offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us.
- Stewardship is what a person does after saying "I Believe . . .", as proof of that belief.
- Stewardship is learning how to be a responsible and concerned caretaker of Christ's Church; it is learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work, for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God.

If you would like to make a donation to our parish, please feel free to use the QR Code or link to our parish website donation page below. Thank you for your continued support and generosity for our parish in bringing The Love and Faith of Our Lord Jesus Christ to all! May God continue to bless and guide you and keep all of you in His loving care today and always!



St George Orthodox Churc...  
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## **ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH PRAYER LIST**

*Please remember in prayer Thy Servants of God...*

### **FOR THE HEALTH OF THY SERVANTS:**

#### **HIERARCHS**

Archbishop BENJAMIN      Archbishop ALEJO  
Archbishop NATHANIEL      Archbishop DANIEL

#### **CLERGY**

Archpriest Herman, Matushka Cynthia and George, Elizabeth  
Archpriest Vladimir and Matushka Jeanne  
Archpriest Alexey and his family  
Archpriest Timmothy/Mat. Michelle  
Archpriest John and Presbyter Nancy  
Archpriest Ken and Matushka Natalie  
Archpriest Andreja, Popadija Anica and Family  
Archpriest Timmothy      Archpriest Leonid      Archpriest David  
Archpriest John (Onofrey)      Archpriest James      Archpriest Robert  
Priest Peter and Mat. Mary  
Dn. Sean and Mat. Heather  
Dn. Mark and his family

**MATUSHKI** Mat. Deborah Popadija Sara      Mat. Gayle      Mat. Natasha  
Mat. Barbara Mat. Katia Mat. Paraskeva      Mat. Joanna Popadia Vicki  
Mat. Patricia      Mat. Gloria      Christine      Coard      Karen  
Catherine      Ivan/Marina/Inna      Bonnie/Silviu      Jennifer, Amanda  
Edwina      Irene      Luba      Jim, Darren, Marsha  
Serena/Asma Lillian      Reader Victor      Nicholas, Andrew  
Marilyn      Frank      June      Theodora Amanda, Chase Ronald, Candice  
Sarah      Albert      Boris      Oscar      Billy      Clyde  
Xenia, Justin, Danielle, Anne, Patricia      Larry Joseph      Frank  
Victor      Catherine      Susan      Svetlana      Juliana  
Evelyn      Robert      Rebecca      Paul      Brian  
Jeanne Angela, Jason, Michelle      Linda      Justin      Frances  
John, Helen      Ashley      Steven      Barbara      Daniel  
Joseph, John, Margaret, Thomas, Victoria, Tyler      Matthew      William  
Melody      Natalie, Lorraine      Lee, Maribeth      Bridget  
Kelly, Robert, Boris, Zaeb, Tirza, Sabas, Sada, Charles, Thlisinitsa,  
Gemmal, Geesa, and Patric      Lia/Isaiah  
Olga and Eugene      Jeremy Stewart      Susan  
Susan Justin Louis Yuri/Elena      Alex      John, Kevin, Sean  
Anthony Aldona, Melinda, Pam      Valerie      Mary      John      Rebecca  
Jaime/Sammy, Juliana      Harry      James

Lee, Benjamin, Harry Patrick      Aspasia/Stavros  
Charles      Emma/Alexander      Elias, John, Joseph, Nadim, Theresa  
Vadym Iryna Yuriy Anastasia      Rosemary Anthony  
Seraphim      Anthony  
Mary, Hal, Autumn, Ariana, and Amber, Judithann Anita, James, Jeffrey,  
Dominic, Douglas, Rachel, Dennis, Edith, Robert, Joanna  
Brian John, Roberta, Barbara John, Michael John  
George Costa Jonathan, Kevin, Lary, Carly, Sherry, Mary Jo, Clara, Karl,  
Dragica, Mary      Al and Sophie and Family  
Stephen, Larry, Olga, Olga, Sally, Deborah, David  
Rdr Nicholas, Judithann, Michael, Mary, Cate, Michael, Gary, Damian, Olga,  
Alexandra, Barbara, Damian  
Ron, Illiana, Jillian, Joel, Robert, Susan, Arnold, Kyriaki, Konstantinos,  
Danny, Thomas, Amelia, Emily, Kevin/Juanita

Alyssa Marie and the child Luke Joshua born of her  
Children of God - Keely, Isla, Talia, Lane, Liam, Caiden  
Chryssanthi and the child to be born of her

#### **Diocese of NY&NJ Prayer List**

Archpriest Samuel      Mitred Archpriest Joseph Lickwar  
Mitred Archpriest Daniel and Mat. Myra  
Archpriest George      Archpriest Paul      Mitred Archpriest Ken (*Starevsky*)  
Archpriest Jonathan      Archpriest Paul

#### **Those Serving in The Armed Forces**

Kenneth, Nadine, Jason, Robert, Andrew, Justin, Shawn,  
Austin, Chris, John, Daniel, Gjorgie, Thomas

#### **Inquirers**

William and Darlene      Matthew      Ayden      Edward  
Rudy and Karen      Paul      Judy

For All of our Parishioners and their families, the communicants of this holy house, those who pray here, our loved ones and their families and for those who are praying with us today and all of those whom we have in our hearts and minds

For All of our parishioners who are in hospitals, nursing home, and those who are homebound.

For All of the ill-afflicted of our parishes and families especially those affected with the Coronavirus and other ailments and for their continued full recovery and good health



**For All of our doctors, nurses, physicians, and medical professionals**

**For our Nation that The Lord our God will continue to bless us and guide and teach us to love another, pray for one another and forgive one another.**

**For All of those who are travelling and for their safe journey and return to their homes**

**FOR THY DEPARTED SERVANTS OF GOD:**

**For all of those who tragically lost their lives to the Coronavirus and other ailments**

**All of the clergy and parishioners of This Holy House who have departed this life, who now lie asleep in the Lord**

**Metropolitan THEODOSIUS**  
Ever-Memorable Archpriest Eugene  
Ever-Memorable Archpriest Rastko  
Ever-Memorable Priest John  
Ever-Memorable Dn. Mark

**Metropolitan HERMAN**  
Ever-Memorable Archpriest Bernard  
Ever-Memorable Archpriest George  
Ever-Memorable Archpriest George  
Matushka Dorothy  
Khouria Grace

**Priest Leonid Gregory, Priest Peter, Archpriest Kirill, Dn. Michael, John Robert, Sister Thomas, Frank, Jenny, Charles, Florence, Michael Stevens, William, George, Marion**

**Ever-Memorable Pdn Gregory**

**Ever-Memorable Sbdn Gregory**

**Martha, Akhtar, Barkat, Rehmat**

**Newly-Departed Servants of God**

**Priest Angelo**      **Mat. Carol** (*Steffera*)  
*Suha/Grandmother of Mira*)

**Sultana** (*mother of*

**Lottie Nicholas Vasily Betty**

**Gi-Day** (*Mother of Zenash*)

**\*If anyone would like to have their loved ones added to the prayer list for remembrance during the Divine Liturgy and Divine Services, please see or contact Fr. Jason.**

**ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH BOOKSTORE**

As you are in the Parish Fellowship Hall for coffee hour, don't forget to check out our newly-formed Bookstore. We have some new items that just arrived. These items include: Icon ornaments, jewelry, Icons, prayer books, prayers ropes, and much more. If

you need a Gift, come check out the Bookstore...you may find something you like!! We are now also offering Gift Certificates for our Bookstore. Please speak with Dave or Andrea for more details/information!! We thank David and Andrea Chmiel who are managing of our Bookstore for us. If you have any questions or if you would like to order something that you do not see, please see or contact David or Andrea Chmiel and they will be able to assist you. You may also email them at: bookstore@stgeorgebuffalo.com. May GOD continue to bless and guide all of you.

**Also in the Parish Fellowship Hall, we have the Giving Tree! If anyone would like to sign up for Readers, Bulletin, Collection, Communion Cloth, Home Blessing, please see or contact Fr. Jason!**



**A SINCERE AND HEARTFELT THANKS AND APPRECIATION FOR THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS TO THE PARISH FROM OUR PARISH GIVING TREE**

Please be sure to check out "The Giving Tree" in the Parish Fellowship Hall as well as on our parish website ([www.stgeorgebuffalo.com](http://www.stgeorgebuffalo.com)) to see how we may be able to donate towards the needs of our parish through our continued support and stewardship for our beloved parish.

Some of the items on the leaves are as follows:

- Candles
- 7-Day Vigil Candles
- Flowers for Feast Days
- Charcoal
- Altar Wine
- Cups for Zapifka
- Paper Towels Toilet Paper Donation for Office Supplies (Paper, Copier)
- Monthly Donation for Health Kits for Mats for Mission
- Monthly Donation for Chowder Sale

If anyone has any questions, please see or contact Fr. Jason or Barbara. Thank you for your continued prayerful support and stewardship. May God continue to bless and guide all of you, your families and our entire Parish family and keep all of us in His Loving Care!

**DAILY FAMILY PRAYER RULE WE CAN PRAY TOGETHER AT HOME WITH OUR FAMILIES**

A Prayer Rule must be done in front of the icons and the Gospel in our Icon Corners with a lit candle.. It is important to remember that we must make time for God, for

the "Kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force" (Matt. 11:12). The best time to pray is in the morning or in the evening when we as a family can come together in prayer. Also, when using a Rule of Prayer, we must be flexible and do what we can and do it attentively and consistently. Our goal is to maintain the connection with God and cultivate a real relationship with Him.

With that in mind, please find below The Rule of Prayer offered by our Diocese for us to use at home especially during this most difficult time when we are not able to be in church together as a parish family.

<https://www.nynjoca.org/files/2020/praying-at-home/A-FAMILY-PRAYER-RULE.pdf>

**May God bless you and keep you always in His Loving Care!**

### **An Invitation to Support the Stewards of the OCA!**

The Orthodox Church in America (OCA) set the direction for expanding our apostolic work in North America at the 18<sup>th</sup> All-American Council. The foundation for this work is Jesus Christ, Whom we encounter in our spiritual lives, stewardship, evangelism and outreach, and relations with others as we engage the world. Being a steward of the OCA goes beyond the financial gifts which support the work of our church. Being a steward is about caring for and knowing the history of the mission of the Orthodox Church here in North America and finding your place in that history. Having received this great gift of our Orthodox Faith, we bear the responsibility to continue the legacy of Saint Herman and Saint Tikhon; Saint Innocent and Saint Alexis and all the other saints known and unknown who have worked to build up and expand Christ's Church here in North America. Please consider being a part of that mission today by giving to the Stewards of the OCA. For more information, please visit The OCA Website: <https://oca.org/become-a-steward>

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### **An Invitation to Support the Ministry of the DDB!**

In order to fund necessary ministries and fulfill the work of the Church in the Diocese of New York and New Jersey, **Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors** generously contribute financial support. To learn more about the DDB, please go to the following link: <http://vimeo.com/71021182> and watch a 60 second video inviting you to join the ever-growing list of Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors of The Diocese of New York and New Jersey who joyfully support the on-going work of our diocese. Their support allows us to provide assistance

to new mission parishes, scholarships to seminarians, support the departments of The Diocese, and much-needed encouragement to older struggling parishes. How about you? Our parish is a member of the DDB. If anyone would like to join, please see Fr. Jason as well as take a pamphlet from the table in the back of the church. May God continue to bless and guide you for your continued support. The Diocese of New York and New Jersey has two monthly newsletters: "**First Fruits**" and "**Beyond the Plateau.**" The goal, as expressed by Archbishop Michael, is to increase communication and grow the communal spirit of diocesan fellowship in the building-up and strengthening of our parish communities. To learn more about these monthly diocesan publications, please refer to the diocesan website: <http://www.nynjoca.org/newsletters.html>.

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### **"Lessons in Our Faith" Video presented by His Eminence Archbishop MICHAEL**

His Eminence Archbishop Michael presents a series of talks on matters of faith, belief, and the teachings of the Church. These instructional videos are concise and "to the point," offering Orthodox Christians much-needed information, helpful advice for their spiritual journey, and assistance in answering questions that may come from non-Orthodox friends or acquaintances. The goal is that we might better know and better live our faith. These instructional videos can be found at the Diocesan Website: <http://www.nynjoca.org>! For those who do not have internet, please see the handouts from each lesson which are located on the table in the back of the church. **There are 14 videos! Be sure to check them out!**

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### **WEEKLY VIDEO SERMONS GIVEN BY HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP MICHAEL**

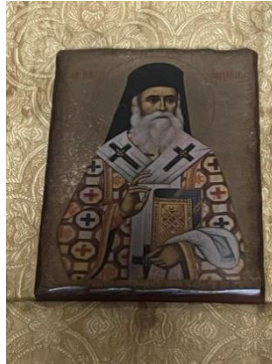
These sermons offered to us by The Diocese via video can be found on the Diocesan Website: <http://www.nynjoca.org>! There are videos for each week beginning with The Feast of Feasts – Holy Pascha! Be sure to check them out!

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## MONTHLY HEALING PRAYER SERVICE

### The Supplicatory Canon Prayer Service to St. Nektarios

MONDAY JUNE 26, 2023 – 6:00 PM



***LET ALL THAT YOU DO BE DONE IN LOVE. 1 Cor.16:14***

***YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND. Matt. 22:37***

***YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF. Matt. 22:39***

***LOVE YOUR ENEMIES AND PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PERSECUTE YOU. Matt. 5:44***

***LOVE IS PATIENT, LOVE IS KIND, LOVE DOES NOT ENVY, LOVE DOES NOT BOAST, LOVE IS NOT PROUD, LOVE IS NOT SELFISH, LOVE IS NOT PROVOKED. 1Cor. 13:4***

***LOVE BEARS ALL THINGS, LOVE ALWAYS HAS FAITH, LOVE ALWAYS HAS HOPE, LOVE ENDURES ALL THINGS. LOVE NEVER FAILS! 1Cor. 13:7,8***

## ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH EDUCATION CENTER

### THE FEAST OF HOLY PENTECOST

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.

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 fulness 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*).

Once again it must be noted that the feast of Pentecost is not simply the celebration of an event which took place centuries ago. It is the celebration of what must happen and does happen to us in the Church today. We all have died and risen with the Messiah-King, and we all have received his Most Holy Spirit. We are the "temples of the Holy Spirit." God's Spirit dwells in us (*Rom 8; 1 Cor 2-3, 12; 2 Cor 3; Gal 5; Eph 2-3*). We, by our own membership in the Church, have received "the seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit" in the sacrament of chrismation. Pentecost has happened to us.

The **Divine Liturgy of Pentecost** recalls our baptism into Christ with the verse from Galatians again replacing the Thrice-Holy Hymn. Special verses from the psalms also replace the usual antiphonal psalms of the liturgy. The epistle and gospel readings tell of the Spirit's coming to men. The kontakion sings of the reversal of Babel as God unites the nations into the unity of his Spirit. The troparion proclaims the gathering of the whole universe into God's net through the work of the inspired apostles. The hymns *O Heavenly King* and *We have seen the True Light* are sung for the first time since Easter, calling the Holy Spirit to "come and abide in us", and proclaiming that "we have received the heavenly Spirit." The church building is decorated with flowers and the green leaves of the summer to show that God's divine Breath comes to renew all creation as the "life

creating Spirit." In Hebrew the word for Spirit, breath and wind is the same word, **ruah**.

*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 (Troparion).*

*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! (Kontakion)*

The **Great Vespers of Pentecost evening** features three long prayers at which the faithful kneel for the first time since Easter. The Monday after Pentecost is the **feast of the Holy Spirit** in the Orthodox Church, and the Sunday after Pentecost is the **feast of All Saints**. This is the logical liturgical sequence since the coming of the Holy Spirit is fulfilled in men by their becoming saints, and this is the very purpose of the creation and salvation of the world. "Thus says the Lord: Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I your God am holy" (*Lev 11:44-45, 1 Pet 1:15-16*).

In the Church's annual liturgical cycle, Pentecost is "the last and great day." It is the celebration by the Church of the coming of the Holy Spirit as the end - the achievement and fulfillment - of the entire history of salvation. For the same reason, however, it is also the celebration of the beginning: it is the "birthday" of the Church as the presence among us of the Holy Spirit, of the new life in Christ, of grace, knowledge, adoption to God and holiness.

This double meaning and double joy is revealed to us, first of all, in the very name of the feast. Pentecost in Greek means fifty, and in the sacred biblical symbolism of numbers, the number fifty symbolizes both the fulness of time and that which is beyond time: the Kingdom of God itself. It symbolizes the fulness of time by its first component: 49, which is the fulness of seven (7 x 7): the number of time. And, it symbolizes that which is beyond time by its second component: 49 + 1, this one being the new day, the "day without evening" of God's eternal Kingdom. With the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Christ's disciples, the time of salvation, the Divine work of redemption has been completed, the fulness revealed, all gifts bestowed: it belongs to us now to "appropriate" these gifts, to be that which we have become in Christ: participants and citizens of His Kingdom.

## **THE VIGIL OF PENTECOST**

The all-night Vigil service begins with a solemn invitation:

"Let us celebrate Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit, The appointed day of promise, and the fulfillment of hope, The mystery which is as great as it is precious."

In the coming of the Spirit, the very essence of the Church is revealed:

"The Holy Spirit provides all, Overflows with prophecy, fulfills the priesthood, Has taught wisdom to illiterates, has revealed fishermen as theologians, He brings together the whole council of the Church."

In the three readings of the Old Testament (Numbers 11:16-17, 24-29; Joel 2:23-32; Ezekiel 36:24-28) we hear the prophecies concerning the Holy Spirit. We are taught that the entire history of mankind was directed towards the day on which God "would pour out His Spirit upon all flesh." This day has come! All hope, all promises, all expectations have been fulfilled. At the end of the Aposticha hymns, for the first time since Easter, we sing the hymn: "O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth...", the one with which we inaugurate all our services, all prayers, which is, as it were, the life-breath of the Church, and whose coming to us, whose "descent" upon us in this festal Vigil, is indeed the very experience of the Holy Spirit "coming and abiding in us."

Having reached its climax, the Vigil continues as an explosion of joy and light for "verily the light of the Comforter has come and illumined the world." In the Gospel reading (John 20:19-23) the feast is interpreted to us as the feast of the Church, of her divine nature, power and authority. The Lord sends His disciples into the world, as He Himself was sent by His Father. Later, in the antiphons of the Liturgy, we proclaim the universality of the apostles' preaching, the cosmical significance of the feast, the sanctification of the whole world, the true manifestation of God's Kingdom.

## **THE VESPERS OF PENTECOST**

The liturgical peculiarity of Pentecost is a very special Vespers of the day itself. Usually this service follows immediately the Divine Liturgy, is "added" to it as its own fulfillment. The service begins as a solemn "summing up" of the entire celebration, as its liturgical synthesis. We hold flowers in our hands symbolizing the joy of the eternal spring, inaugurated by the coming of the Holy Spirit. After the festal Entrance, this joy reaches its climax in the singing of the Great Prokeimenon:

"Who is so great a God as our God?"

Then, having reached this climax, we are invited to kneel. This is our first kneeling since Easter. It signifies that after these fifty days of Paschal joy and fulness, of experiencing the Kingdom of God, the Church now is about to begin her pilgrimage through time and history. It is evening again, and the night

approaches, during which temptations and failures await us, when, more than anything else, we need Divine help, that presence and power of the Holy Spirit, who has already revealed to us the joyful End, who now will help us in our effort towards fulfillment and salvation.

All this is revealed in the three prayers which the celebrant reads now as we all kneel and listen to him. In the first prayer, we bring to God our repentance, our increased appeal for forgiveness of sins, the first condition for entering into the Kingdom of God.

In the second prayer, we ask the Holy Spirit to help us, to teach us to pray and to follow the true path in the dark and difficult night of our earthly existence. Finally, in the third prayer, we remember all those who have achieved their earthly journey, but who are united with us in the eternal God of Love.

The joy of Easter has been completed and we again have to wait for the dawn of the Eternal Day. Yet, knowing our weakness, humbling ourselves by kneeling, we also know the joy and the power of the Holy Spirit who has come. We know that God is with us, that in Him is our victory.

Thus is completed the feast of Pentecost and we enter "the ordinary time" of the year. Yet, every Sunday now will be called "after Pentecost" - and this means that it is from the power and light of these fifty days that we shall receive our own power, the Divine help in our daily struggle. At Pentecost we decorate our churches with flowers and green branches - for the Church "never grows old, but is always young." It is an evergreen, ever-living Tree of grace and life, of joy and comfort. For the Holy Spirit - "the Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life - comes and abides in us, and cleanses us from all impurity," and fills our life with meaning, love, faith and hope.

Father Alexander Schmemmann (1974)

## **THE DAY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (2<sup>nd</sup> Day of the Feast of Holy Pentecost)**

On the day after every Great Feast, the Orthodox Church honors the one through whom the Feast is made possible. On the day following the Nativity of the Lord, for example, we celebrate the Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos (December 26). On the day after Theophany, we commemorate St John the Baptist (January 7), and so on.

Today we honor the all-Holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, Who descended upon the Apostles at Pentecost in the form of fiery tongues in fulfillment of the Lord's promise to send the Comforter to His disciples (JN 14:16). That same Holy Spirit remains within the Church throughout the ages, guiding it "into all truth" (JN 16:13).

One of the hymns at Vespers on Saturday evening tells us that the Holy Spirit "provides all things. He gushes forth prophecy, He perfects the priesthood, ... He holds together the whole institution of the Church."

At Vespers on the day of Pentecost, we hear that the Holy Spirit is "the Fountain of goodness, through Whom the Father is known, and the Son is glorified." He is "the living Fountain of spiritual gifts" Who "purifies us from our sins." It is by the Holy Spirit that "the prophets, divine Apostles, and martyrs are crowned." He is the source of life and of sanctification.

In the services of this day, we sing the same hymns as on Pentecost, except the Canon of the Holy Spirit, which is sung at Compline. The Vigil is not prescribed for the eve of today's feast. We sing the Great Doxology at Matins, but not the Polyeleos. The Irmos of the Ninth Ode ("Hail, O Queen, glory of mothers and virgins...") is sung in place of the Song of the Theotokos ("My soul magnifies the Lord...").

At the Liturgy, the priest or deacon chants the Entrance Verse ("Be exalted in Thy strength, O Lord. We will sing and praise Thy power.") as on the day of Pentecost. "Holy God" replaces "As many as have been baptized...." The dismissal of Pentecost is also used.

### **THE DAY OF THE HOLY TRINITY (3<sup>rd</sup> Day of the Feast of Holy Pentecost)**

Many of the hymns of Pentecost are repeated in the postfestal services of this week, and references to the Holy Spirit, and to fire, abound. In particular, we are reminded of the Unburnt Bush (Exodus 3:2), the zealous Prophet Elias who ascended to Heaven in a chariot of fire, the three youths in the fiery furnace, and the Lord descending on Mt. Sinai in fire (Exodus 19:18). As we commemorate the Holy Spirit this week, we look forward to the Sunday of All Saints, those righteous men and women of all nations and in every age, who were perfected and sanctified by the same Holy Spirit.

### **WHY DO WE WEAR GREEN ON THE FEAST OF HOLY PENTECOST?**

Green is the color associated with nature, and therefore of God's creation. Many churches at Pentecost will also be decorated with greenery and flowers. God's breath comes to renew all creation. The Holy Spirit is "everywhere present and fills all things..". So, therefore **Green is for Pentecost** (color of plants and new life, renewal)

Green is also associated with the Holy Spirit, as evidenced in Rublev's icon of the Holy Trinity, where the angel generally recognized as the Holy Spirit (on the right) wears green.

There are other customs that associate the Holy Spirit with nature and the created world. For example, in some Orthodox countries those who have flowers as their name, celebrate their nameday on Pentecost.

## **Green is not just for St Patrick's Day**

Today we celebrate Pentecost: the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples, and through them, to the entire world. In Orthodoxy, when we commemorate these biblical events, we do not simply remember them as happening in the past, but we celebrate that they are happening now. The Holy Spirit continues to heal us while pouring life, healing, and beauty into us, the people of the Lord, and into the whole world. From Pascha (Easter) until yesterday, the Orthodox priests wear white vestments in celebration of the resurrection of Christ. On Pentecost, the Roman Catholic priests wear red to signify the "tongues of fire" that came upon the apostles. In Orthodoxy, we wear green because that color symbolizes life. The Holy Spirit breathes new life into all of those who open their hearts.

In Orthodoxy, we celebrate this Life that is "everywhere present and filling all things," knowing that no matter our struggle, no matter our sin, no matter our questions, God embraces our whole being and is never absent from the heart that has made a genuine effort to turn toward Him.

## The meaning of the tongues of fire

While some groups such as Pentecostals heavily emphasize every believer speaking in tongues, pointing to the day of Pentecost as the proof that those who are filled with the Holy Spirit will utter things that are indiscernible, the Orthodox people I have spoken to have a slightly different perspective. For us, the apostles speaking in “tongues” was threefold:

1. It witnessed to the Jews making their pilgrimage into Judea for Pentecost. These Jews were from all over the Roman Empire and spoke a variety of languages. The apostles did not utter foreign languages and dialects just so that they could prove they had God’s Spirit, it was to minister to those around them. Therefore, the diverse tongues served a specific purpose.
2. The tongues showed the universality of the Christian faith. No longer was it just a Jewish Messiah who had come to free the Jews. But the very first act of the Holy Spirit was to enable the apostles to reach out to every Kingdom of the world. Thousands were added to their numbers that morning.
3. Lastly, it shows that the Holy Spirit is present within us as fire. *Our God is a consuming fire* and the tongues of fire represent both the illuminating and caustic properties of God’s dwelling within us: illuminating if our hearts are inclined toward repentance, caustic if we seek earthly treasures and pleasures of the flesh.



St. Andrew's Camp Summer 2023

Save the Dates!

Volunteers are ALWAYS needed before, during and after the camping season! Contact us for more information.

Week 1: Sunday, July 2 - Saturday, July 8 -- Horse Week 1

Week 2: Sunday, July 9 - Saturday, July 15 -- Mish Mash Week 1

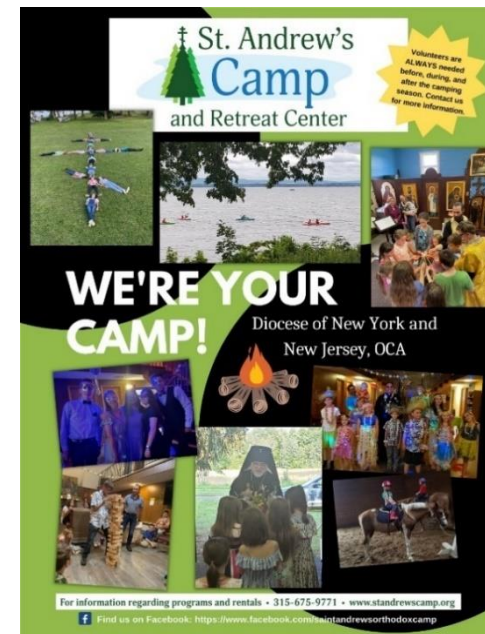
Week 3: Sunday, July 16 - Saturday, July 22 -- Horse Week 2

Week 4: Sunday, July 23 - Saturday, July 29 -- Teen Week 1

Week 5: Sunday, July 30 - Saturday, August 5 -- Teen Week 2

Week 6: Monday, Aug. 7 - Friday, Aug. 11 -- Family Week

[standrewscamp.org](http://standrewscamp.org)



St. Andrew's Camp and Retreat Center

Volunteers are ALWAYS needed before, during, and after the camping season. Contact us for more information.

**WE'RE YOUR CAMP!**

Diocese of New York and New Jersey, OCA

For information regarding programs and rentals • 315-675-9771 • [www.standrewscamp.org](http://www.standrewscamp.org)

Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/standreworthodoxcamp>

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH**

Fr. Jason, Matushka Katia

Anna and Alexandra Vansuch

Cordially Invite You to a

Parish Open House/ Church School Picnic

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**Sunday, July 2, 2023**

**12:00 pm to 3:00 pm**

**2 Nottingham Terrace**

**Buffalo, NY**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Luncheon Foods and Refreshments will be served**

**Games and Activities for Children and Fellowship for Everyone!!**

**Please RSVP to Matushka Katia by Wednesday June 28**

**[Katia.vansuch@gmail.com](mailto:Katia.vansuch@gmail.com)**

**609-851-3034**

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**\*\*General Confession will be served on Sunday June 25 at 9:00 AM.\*\***

**1) The Holy and Great Feast of the Descent of The Holy Spirit  
The Great Feast of Holy Pentecost**

**Friday June 2, 2023**

Full Memorial Panahyda Prayer Service – 6:00 PM

**Saturday June 3, 2023**

Great Vespers with Litiya – 4:00 PM

**Sunday June 4, 2023**

Festal Divine Liturgy followed by Vespers of Pentecost with Kneeling Prayers 9:30 AM

Annual Parish Ethnic Pot-Luck Luncheon in Parish Fellowship Hall following Vespers

**3) The Holy and Great Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist**

**Friday June 23, 2023**

Great Vespers with Litiya – 6:00 PM

**Saturday June 24, 2023**

Divine Liturgy – 9:00 AM

Great Vespers – 4:00 PM

Parish Council Meeting (Via Zoom) – 5:30 PM



3) The Holy and Great Feast of the Leaders of The Apostles:

Ss Peter and Paul

Wednesday June 28, 2023

Great Vespers with Litiya – 6:00 PM

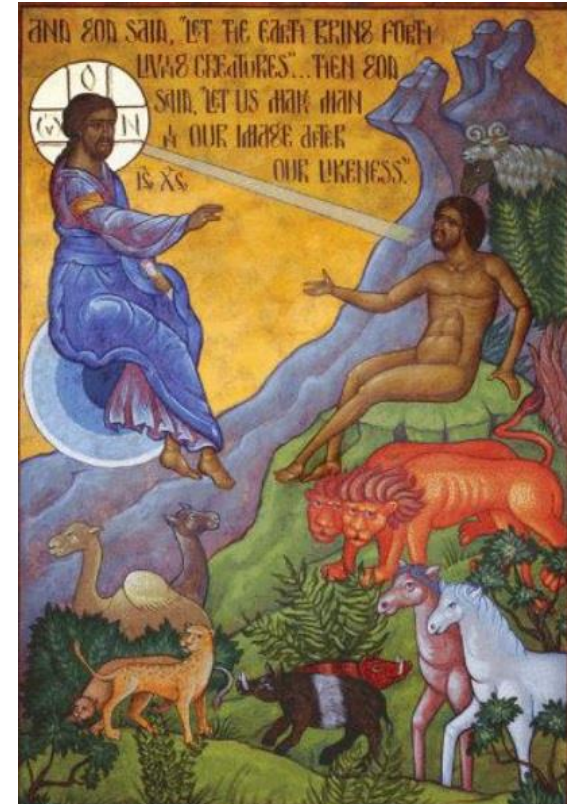
Thursday June 29, 2023

Divine Liturgy – 9:30 AM

**ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL**

**JUNE 25-29, 2023**



“All of Creation Rejoices.” The author, Kelly Potteiger, who previously wrote the “Let Your Light So Shine” series of lessons, describes the goal of these new lessons as exploring “our relationship with animals from the time of Adam’s creation to the Saints of the 19th century. The leading theme throughout is God’s creation, how it rejoices in glory to God, and how it strives for communion with God’s will.”

The OCA [Department of Christian Education](#) has released new materials to assist parishes and Church School teachers in the formation of Orthodox Christian Students. After reviewing these materials, we will be holding a Vacation Church School for our parish and inviting anyone else that would like to come from our sister parishes here in the area. This will be a great opportunity for our children to come together over the summer as part of their continued growth in their faith and love of Our Lord as well as their friendships with one another in prayer, fellowship, and fun!

## **DAILY SCHEDULE (Tentative)**

### **Tuesday June 27, 2023**

#### **12:00 to 3:30 PM**

Introduction: prayer and priest introduction —10 minutes (Fr. Jason)

Station 1: lesson—25 minutes (Teachers/Parents)

Break for 10 Minutes

Station 2: games—25 minutes (Teachers/Parents)

Break for 10 Minutes

Station 3: craft—25 minutes (Teachers/Parents)

Break for 10 Minutes

Station 4: snack—25 minutes (Teachers/Parents)

Closing: prayer and questions—10 minutes (Fr. Jason)

### **Wednesday June 28, 2023**

#### **Eve of The Feast of Ss Peter and Paul**

**\*\*Great Vespers with Litiya – 6:00 PM\*\***

#### **12:00 to 3:30 PM**

Introduction: prayer and priest introduction —10 minutes (Fr. Jason)

Station 1: lesson—25 minutes (Teachers/Parents)

Break for 10 Minutes

Station 2: games—25 minutes (Teachers/Parents)

Break for 10 Minutes

Station 3: craft—25 minutes (Teachers/Parents)

Break for 10 Minutes

Station 4: snack—25 minutes (Teachers/Parents)

Closing: prayer and questions—10 minutes (Fr. Jason)

### **Thursday June 29, 2023**

#### **The Feast of Ss Peter and Paul**

**\*\*Divine Liturgy – 9:30 AM\*\***

#### **12:00 to 3:30 PM**

Introduction: prayer and priest introduction —10 minutes (Fr. Jason)

Station 1: lesson—25 minutes (Teachers/Parents)

Break for 10 Minutes

Station 2: games—25 minutes (Teachers/Parents)

Break for 10 Minutes

Station 3: craft—25 minutes (Teachers/Parents)

Break for 10 Minutes

Station 4: snack—25 minutes (Teachers/Parents)

Closing: prayer and questions—10 minutes (Fr. Jason)

### **Friday June 30, 2023**

#### **12:00 to 3:30 PM**

Introduction: prayer and priest introduction —10 minutes (Fr. Jason)

Station 1: lesson—25 minutes (Teachers/Parents)

Break for 10 Minutes

Station 2: games—25 minutes (Teachers/Parents)

Break for 10 Minutes

Station 3: craft—25 minutes (Teachers/Parents)

Break for 10 Minutes

Station 4: snack—25 minutes (Teachers/Parents)

Closing: prayer and questions—10 minutes (Fr. Jason)

**\*\*FOR THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO SIGN UP AND ATTEND THE VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL, PLEASE CONTACT FR. JASON AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT APPROPRIATE ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE (Materials, food, etc). THERE IS NO COST TO ATTEND THE VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL!**

## 5) Annual Church School Picnic/Moleben - SUNDAY JUNE 4

\*Following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday June 4, we will be holding Our Annual Church School Picnic and Parish Ethnic Luncheon. We will also be holding the End-of-the year Moleben Prayer Service of Thanksgiving for the Church School. An email and mailing will be going out with More details and information.

Please plan on joining us for the celebration as we have a day planned filled with activities for everyone, good food, and lots of Fellowship.

## A Very Special Celebration of the The Great Feast of Holy Pentecost

**JUNE 3, 2023**

The Feast of Holy Pentecost is celebrated each year on the fiftieth day after the Great and Holy Feast of Pascha (Easter) and ten days after the Feast of the Ascension of Christ. The Feast is always celebrated on a Sunday.

The Feast commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles on the day of Pentecost, a feast of the Jewish tradition. It also celebrates the establishment of the Church through the preaching of the Apostles and the baptism of the thousands who on that day believed in the Gospel message of salvation through Jesus Christ. The Feast is also seen as the culmination of the revelation of the Holy Trinity.

In the Church's annual liturgical cycle, Pentecost is "the last and great day." It is the celebration by the Church of the coming of the Holy Spirit as the end—the achievement and fulfillment—of the entire history of salvation. For the same reason, however, it is also the celebration of the beginning: it is the "birthday" of the Church as the presence among us of the Holy Spirit, of the new life in Christ, of grace, knowledge, adoption to God and holiness.

This double meaning and double joy is revealed to us, first of all, in the very name of the feast. Pentecost in Greek means fifty, and in the sacred biblical symbolism of numbers, the number fifty symbolizes both the fulness of time and that which is beyond time: the Kingdom of God itself. It symbolizes the fulness of time by its first component: 49, which is the fulness of seven (7 x 7): the number of time. And, it symbolizes that which is beyond time by its second component: 49 + 1, this one being the new day, the "day without evening" of God's eternal Kingdom. With the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Christ's disciples, the time of salvation, the Divine work of redemption has been completed, the fulness revealed, all gifts bestowed: it belongs to us now to "appropriate" these gifts, to be that which we have become in Christ: participants and citizens of His Kingdom.

To read the rest:

[http://www.goarch.org/special/listen\\_learn\\_share/pentecost](http://www.goarch.org/special/listen_learn_share/pentecost)

LINKS TO LEARN ABOUT PENTECOST:

[http://www.goarch.org/special/listen\\_learn\\_share/pentecost](http://www.goarch.org/special/listen_learn_share/pentecost)

[http://www.goarch.org/chapel/saints\\_view?contentid=961&PCode=7PS&D=S&date=6/8/2014](http://www.goarch.org/chapel/saints_view?contentid=961&PCode=7PS&D=S&date=6/8/2014)

<http://lent.goarch.org/family/pentecost.asp>

***Join the celebration!!***

### **MANY LANGUAGES**

When we come together for the Pot-Luck Luncheon on the Feast of Holy Pentecost (SUNDAY JUNE 12), we will be singing 'The Our Father' in the various languages of our parish that represent the different ancestral backgrounds altogether simultaneously to represent The Holy Spirit coming down upon the faithful on that First Day of Pentecost and divided the tongues. If you know 'The Our Father' in your native language or another language, please let Fr. Jason know so that he can compile a list. So far we have the following ethnic ancestral customs:

English	Greek	German
Russian	Eritrean	Italian
Albanian	Spanish	
Bulgarian	Ukrainian	
Georgian	Romanian	
Arabic	Macedonian	

**ETHNIC FOODS**

We invite you to bring in an ethnic food to share during coffee hour. We hope to see foods from all different ethnicities that reflect the fact that our parish represents people from all different ancestral backgrounds.

*If you will be bringing in a pot-luck dish, please let Mat. Katia know by either speaking with her or emailing her: [katia.vansuch@gmail.com](mailto:katia.vansuch@gmail.com) or call/text her (609.851.3034)*

A list of the foods will be sent out separately in preparation for our Annual Festive Ethnic Luncheon.

**WEAR GREEN TO CHURCH ON SUNDAY JUNE 4**

Many times you will hear Pentecost being called "Green Sunday." So we hope you will wear green to help enhance the special celebration. (Do you think that green is only for the Irish to wear green for a holiday?)

**BRING GREEN CUTTINGS**

If you can, please cut some greens from your property and bring them in with you on SATURDAY JUNE 3... that we can use to help decorate the church; any length would good 😊

**We hope to see everyone on Sunday June 4, wearing green, bringing in a favorite ethnic food, and joining in this special Holy Day of Holy Pentecost.**

**Father’s Day Luncheon - SUNDAY JUNE 18**

\*Following the Divine Liturgy on Sunday June 18, we will be having our Annual Father’s Day Luncheon in the Parish Fellowship Hall. Please plan on joining us for the Divine Liturgy during which we will remember all of our beloved fathers, grandfathers, godfathers, uncles, and men of our parish and families as we ask God’s blessings upon all of them for continued good health and happiness as well as rest eternal and blessed repose to our beloved fathers, grandfathers, godfathers, uncles, and men of our parish and families who now lie asleep in the Lord.

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**SS PETER AND PAUL FAST**

**JUNE 12-29**

The spirit of Holy Pentecost leads us to another feast and fast of the church. The feast of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul is celebrated on June 29th . From the 4th Century on, the Church has celebrated this feast which is spiritually linked with Holy Pentecost. It stands as the witness of the Apostles immediate fruit at the descent of the Holy Spirit when it came upon them. The Feast is preceded by a fasting period called "Saints Peter and Paul Fast." The fast is different from year to year since it always begins on the Monday following All Saints' Sunday (1st Sun. after Pentecost). The fast in preparation for the feast begins this year on June 24th and continues to the feast on June 29<sup>th</sup>.