

Liturgical Readings:

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 2:1-11

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 and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontos and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God."

JOHN 7:37-52; 8:12

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, 'Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now this he said about the Spirit, which those who believed in him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, some of the people said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So there was a division among the people over him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him. The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees answered them, "Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, who do not know the law, are accursed." Nikodemos, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, "Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee." Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

PENTECOST TROPARION - TONE EIGHT:

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 Mankind, Glory to Thee!

PENTECOST KONTAKION - TONE EIGHT:

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!

Homily by Fr Rodney Torbic

We are abundantly blessed to have the Holy Gospel available to us. We experience the Lord Jesus Christ through the Holy Gospel. We benefit immeasurably from the Lord's teachings and life in the Gospel.

The Great Feast of Pentecost is upon on us. We will celebrate the Feast in God's Holy Church throughout the week. Our lives benefit beyond measure from the Holy Spirit.

The Church offers opportunities to continue to learn, worship and experience God. God's Holy Church is a refuge in these troubled times where we can seek guidance and peace for ourselves, our families and communities.

The Church offers God's love for each and every person. Healing of the soul and body are experienced in God's Holy Church. The burdens of sin are lifted from believers repenting and seeking to begin anew.

The current Gospel describes that no man spoke like Jesus. (Jn.7:46) The wisdom coming from the Lord Jesus Christ is timeless. Believers always benefit from immersing their lives in the words and teachings of Jesus Christ.

Jesus stated in the present Gospel that believers following Him will have the light of life. (Jn.8:12) In the dark days of life, the Lord Jesus Christ lights the path to follow for salvation and eternal life. (Acts 16:17, Jn.3:15)

The present Gospel emphasizes the wisdom of careful consideration before making judgements and final decisions. Nicodemus said: "Doth our law judge any man, before it hear him, and know what he doeth?" (Jn. 7:50-51)

As we seek to discern the path to follow to the Heavenly Kingdom, let us consider the abundant teachings available from God's Holy Church and view them very carefully. (Ps.118/119:105, Jeremiah 6:16, Mt.7:13-14)

The lives of the saints and martyrs offer lasting lessons and are very well preserved in the Church. The saints and martyrs are time-tested witnesses proving that following Jesus Christ in times of great hardship has enduring value.

When turmoil and uncertainty seem to prevail, the Holy Spirit provides answers and direction in the hearts and minds of attentive believers. The Lord Jesus Christ encourages the thirsty to come to Him and to drink. (Jn.7:37)

Life changes for the better when centered in Jesus Christ. Growth in Christ is possible and expected throughout life. (2 Cor. 3:18, Rom 12:2) The Great Feast of Pentecost transforms celebrating believers.

God's Church is fully alive on this Great Feast and connects believers through the centuries. Time in the Church is a great mystery and is transcended by the power of God.

Believers draw new strength from the presence of the Holy Spirit on this Great Feast. Abundant joy fills the hearts, minds and souls rejoicing in God's holy action! (Gal. 5:22)

Life unfolds each day according to God's purpose. The Psalmist said: "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it" (Ps.118:24-KJV) Believers are challenged to seek God's purpose in each day.

The Church provides the vision for believers to follow through life. The Church gives believers the opportunities to adjust the travels of life and to repent of erroneous ways.

The soul's hunger is satisfied and fully nourished in Jesus Christ. Jesus said: "I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." (Jn .6:35)

Regardless of our condition in life, it is always timely to turn to Jesus Christ for salvation and eternal life. The Feast of Pentecost is a welcoming occasion for the faithful and for seekers to draw near in fervor.

Joy springs from the Holy Spirit abiding in believers' hearts, minds and souls. Believers celebrating the Descent of the Holy Spirit earnestly express gratitude and love for God .(Gal. 5:22)

The Church has celebrated and confessed belief in the Holy Spirit through the centuries. May our love and gratitude for the Holy Spirit always be evident in the way we live each day.

DONATIONS RECEIVED ON MAY 31ST

Thank you for your continuing financial support! Please, remember that without our fund raisers and fish fries that we cannot hold at this time, your contributions are more important than ever.

Offerings \$560.00; Candles \$90.00

BELL TOWER FUND - Total to date \$45,455.60/\$ 32,500.00

Amazon Smile \$16.46; John Yarina and Donna Yarina \$100.00

WE ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR THE LARGE CANDLES (\$25)
THANK YOU!

BOOK OF THE MONTH JUNE
“Liturgy and Life” - Fr Alexander Schmemmann

UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY at 7:45 PM - Evening Prayer through the Conference call (339) 207-6529

TODAY (June 7th) - This Sunday on “Orthodoxy Live” we are blessed to host a lecture by His Grace +Irinej, Bishop of Eastern America on Pentecost at 7pm!
Please be sure to like/follow the new, official Diocesan Facebook page as this will be the host of Orthodoxy Live from this day forward.

MONDAY (June 8th) - Pentecost Monday
9:30 AM - Divine Liturgy

TUESDAY (June 9th) - Pentecost Tuesday
9:30 AM - Divine Liturgy

SATURDAY (Jun 13th)
6:00 PM - Great Vespers

SUNDAY (Jun 14th) - Sunday of All Saints
9:30 AM - Divine Liturgy
Liturgical Readings: Epistle (Hebrew 11, 33-12, 2); Gospel (Matthew 10, 32-33; 37-38)

Dear ones,

Please, keep in your hearted prayers our beloved brothers and sisters in Christ

- who suffer of cancer: Jenifer, Linda, Sandy (Simko)
- who pray the God for the restoration of health: Irine (Martinovich), Grace (Vuckovich), Ranka (Banda), Edward (Gartell), George (Momcilovic)