

DESCENT OF THE

HOLY SPIRIT



MAY 31, 2026



***ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH***

1501 8TH AVENUE

BEAVER FALLS, PA. 15010

(724) 847-1111

WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG

**HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA, ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK
AND**

METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA

**HIS GRACE BISHOP THOMAS, AUXILIARY BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE
OF CHARLESTON, OAKLAND, AND MID-ATLANTIC**

REVEREND FR. CHRISTOPHER DAVIS

WELCOME TODAY REVEREND FR. PETER GILLQUIST AND FAMILY

***Jesus said, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. (John 16:23)
When a new person is baptized or Chrismated we say to that person, "Welcome Home!" The Church is where each person voluntarily belongs as one who believes in and belongs to Christ.***

We take this opportunity to welcome those guests worshipping with us.

Anyone wishing to request prayers for Health and Well-being or a Trisagion prayer, please contact Dan Volitich or Joann Rossman, or leave a message on (724) 847-1111.

The Orthodox Church understands that the sacraments we experience are a fundamental part of the sacred life of a worshipping community that shares in "one body...one faith". (Eph. 4:5). Thus, we can only share Communion with those who are Orthodox and who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and Confession. If you are not Orthodox, or are not properly prepared, you are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing and then to take a piece of the blessed bread.

DIVINE LITURGY ON THE FIFTIETH DAY AFTER PASCHA

THE GREAT FEAST OF PENTECOST

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaimeth the work of His hands. Day unto day poureth forth speech, and night unto night proclaimeth knowledge.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

There are neither tongues nor words in which their voices are not heard. Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

(Refrain)

Glory... Both now... ***(Refrain)***

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

The Lord hear thee in the day of affliction; the Name of the God of Jacob defend thee. Let Him send forth unto thee help from His sanctuary, and out of Zion let Him help thee.

Refrain: Save us, O Good Comforter, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

Let Him remember every sacrifice of thine, and thy whole-burnt offering let Him fatten. ***(Refrain)***

The Lord grant thee according to thy heart, and fulfill all thy purposes. ***(Refrain)***

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

O Lord, in Thy strength the king shall be glad, and in Thy salvation shall he rejoice exceedingly. The desire of his heart hast Thou granted unto him, and hast not denied him the request of his lips. Thou wentest before him with blessings of goodness, Thou hast set upon his head a crown of precious stones. He asked life of Thee, and Thou gavest him length of days unto ages of ages.

After the Third Antiphon verses, chant the Apolytikion of Pentecost.

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF THE FEAST

Be Thou exalted, O Lord, in Thy strength; we shall praise and sing of Thy mighty acts. Save us, O Good Comforter, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

APOLYTIKION OF PENTECOST IN TONE EIGHT

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise, having sent upon them the Holy Spirit, and through them Thou hast fished the universe, O Lover of mankind, glory to Thee.

.KONTAKION OF PENTECOST IN TONE EIGHT

When the High One descended, confusing tongues, He divided the nations. And when He distributed the fiery tongues He called all to one unity. Wherefore, in unison we glorify the most Holy Spirit.

THE ANTI-TRISAGION HYMN

As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia. (*thrice*)

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

Have put on Christ. Alleluia. Dynamis!

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

THE EPISTLE

***Their voice has gone out into all the earth.
The heavens declare the glory of God.***

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (2:1-11)

When the day of Pentecost had come, the Disciples 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, Pontus 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."

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (7:37-52; 8:12)

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his belly 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, many 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 the Pharisees believed in Him? But this crowd, who do not know the Law, are accursed." Nicodemus, 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.

MEGALYNARION FOR THE FEAST IN TONE SEVEN

O thou who without experience of corruption wast found to be with child, and didst lend flesh unto the Word Who devised all things, O thou Mother who hast not known wedlock, O Virgin Theotokos, vessel of the Uncontainable One, dwelling place of thy boundless Fashioner, thee do we magnify.

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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

On the help we give the deceased through our prayers 'As is happens with wine inside a barrel that when the vineyard blooms in the field, the wine somehow senses it, and blossoms in fragrance itself — so it is with the souls of sinners. They receive some relief from the Bloodless Sacrifice offered for them in charity!'

ST ATHANASUS the GREAT

MAY/JUNE SERVICES

(NO VESPER SERVICES FROM MAY 1ST. THROUGH AUGUST 31st.)

MAY 31ST SUNDAY — PENTECOST

MATINS 9AM / DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

Followed by KNEELING PRAYERS

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JUNE 7TH SUNDAY — SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

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JUNE 14TH SUNDAY — ALL SAINTS OF ANTIOCH

ALL SAINTS OF NORTH AMERICA

DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

COUNCIL MEETING 12 NOON

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JUNE 20TH SATURDAY — COMMUNITY BREAKFAST 8:30-10:30 AM

JUNE 21ST SUNDAY — SUNDAY OF THE NEW MARTYRS

DIVINE LITURGY 10AM

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JUNE 28TH SUNDAY — FINDING OF THE RELICS OF CYRUS & JOHN

THE UNMERCENARIES

DIVINE LITURGY ?????

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Week after Pentecost (June 1 thru 6) is a NON-Fasting week.

**Peter and Paul Fast starts on June 8th thru June 28th,
Feast Day for The Holy Apostles Peter & Paul is June 29th.**

**Fr. Chris Davis will be celebrating Divine Liturgy with us for
the next 4 Sundays.**

PRAYERS ARE OFFERED FOR THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF:

Fr. Steven, Kh. Paraskeva, Carol, Debbie, Trish, Shannon, Justin, Perry Sassic & family, Roddy, Jan, Fr. Andrew, Frank, Charlene, Cindi, Harriet, Joann, Cindy, Ray, Marlene, Julianna, Elias, Carrie, Oliver, Pauline, Despina, Julius, Jonathan, Kristen, Luca, Sam, Michael, Esteven, Phephile, Kyriel, Justin, Levon, Aiden, Kayla, Joni, Kirsten, Jonathan K., Andrew, Yvonne Rosemary and Patti..

FOR THOU ARE THE RESSURECTION, THE LIFE, AND THE REPOSE OF THY SERVANTS WHO HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP ESPECIALLY:

Prayers are offered in memory of..... Fr. Seraphim Moslener

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MEMORY ETERNAL FATHER SERAPHIM MOSLENER

Father Seraphim Moslener was born August 23, 1947. He reposed on Monday, May 25th 2026. He was ordained to the Holy Diaconate at the hand of Bishop John on September 9, 2012 and to the Holy Priesthood on November 15, 2017 at the hand of Bishop Thomas in the Antiochian Christian Orthodox Archdiocese. Father Seraphim also served as Deacon and Priest at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Beaver Falls PA from 2012 until 2019 with Fr. Christopher Davis. Following the service in his home parish he was blessed to assist his God-father, Father Peter Jon Gillquist for two years at All Saints Parish in Bloomington, Indiana. He especially loved to see people grow which is why he enjoyed being a pastor, therapist, and teacher. His greatest love was for God who gives the growth. His great love beyond that was for each of his children and grandchildren but especially for his wife who was his spiritual guide, moral compass and best friend since they married on May 5, 1973. As a pastor he was always grateful for support of lay persons. As a priest he was enriched by his peers, especially in the Clergy Peer Learning Support Group which he facilitated in 2016. He worked beside wonderful volunteers in FOCUS, the Beaver County Orthodox Christian Ministry, and in the Hill District of Pittsburgh at St. Moses the Black Orthodox Church. He was always blessed to serve at the Monastery of the Transfiguration.

THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

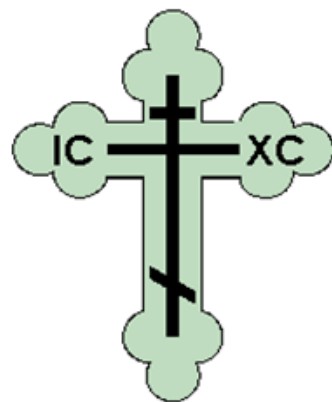
As we celebrate the feast of PENTECOST today, it is important that we note that this day is a fulfillment of promise that Christ gave to His Apostles at the Last Supper. As they gathered for one final Passover meal, our Lord explained to them that although He would be leaving them, He would not be abandoning them — He would send them the Holy Spirit, who would guide them in all things. When Jesus was about to return to His Heavenly Home, He instructed the Apostles to go back to Jerusalem and wait.

Obediently, they did what they were told. With the rushing of a mighty wind and the appearance of tongues of fire, the Holy Spirit entered the Upper Room where the Apostles were patiently waiting and came into their hearts. The Holy Spirit changed them instantly from timid, fearful men into fearless witnesses for Christ. They went out into the streets of Jerusalem and shared their first-hand knowledge of the Risen Lord, and 3,000 people became Christians that very day because of what they heard.

When we think of Pentecost, there is a great danger of simply viewing it as an event that happened in the life of the Apostles. The Holy Spirit did NOT come solely to these 12 men. The spirit comes to ALL of US, and we are all capable of receiving the same power, enthusiasm, joy and excitement for spreading the Word of God that the Apostles were given. The Holy Spirit came to us on the day of our baptism. When we pray frequently, the Holy Spirit comes to us. Every time we come to confession, the Holy Spirit comes to us. Everytime we receive the Eucharist, the Holy Spirit comes to us.

We must remember that we are given a great responsibility that goes along with the gift of the Holy Spirit. We are charged to do what the Apostles were asked to do: *“Go and teach all nations!”* We know what the Apostles were able to accomplish for Christ and His Church through the Grace of the Holy Spirit. *How about us? What are we doing?*

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**CHECK WEBSITE FOR FEAST DAY SERVICES
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**OFFICE HOURS
By Appointment**