

Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

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Paul Zawolowycz
Ambo Editor

Divine Services

Eve Sundays & Feast Days

5:00 PM Confessions

6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sundays and Feast Days

8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hour

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Please check weekly schedule
for specific days (last page).

Previous Ambos on website.

Articles for publication
should be submitted to:

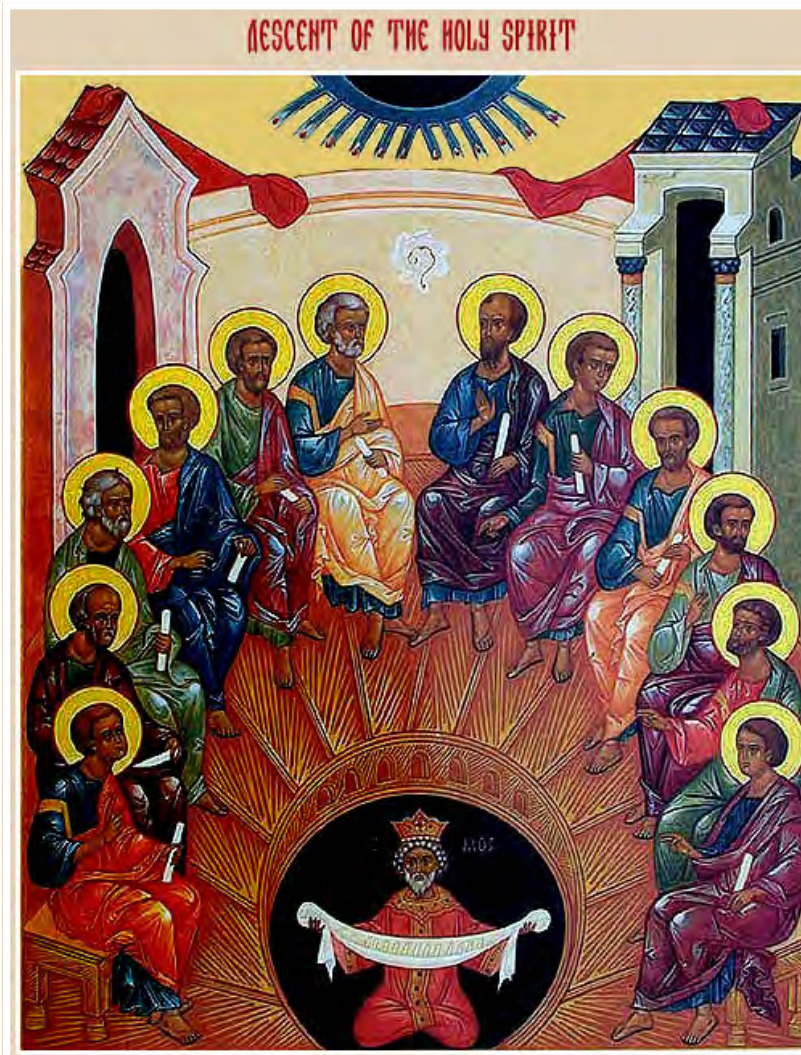
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JUNE 4, 2023

8TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA

HOLY PENTECOST
FEAST 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 fullness 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 East-

er, 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)

VISITATIONS

Fr. Cizmar would like to know who requires visitation. He is eager to visit those who might have gone a long time without visitation for any reason at all. A key duty of a priest's ministry is to visit the sick and confined, those unable to attend the holy services for any reason. His phone number and email address are printed on the front of every Ambo, and are repeated here: Father Jan Cizmar - 1(440) 732-8182 - st.theodosiuscathedral@gmail.com

FOCUS—ST. HERMAN HOUSE 10TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC & AUCTION

The 10th Annual Golf Classic & Auction is on June 26th, 2023, registration and lunch is at 10:00 AM at Tanglewood Club. A printable tri-fold pamphlet with all the information will accompany this Ambo, being attached to the same email. For questions, please email: golfsthermans@focusna.org or call Kirk at 216-973-9391

A Note from our Treasurer:

If any voting members would like a hard copy of the 2022 annual meeting book, we have extras on-hand. Please see me (Treasurer Nicholas Kozak) or parish secretary Mary Swit for a copy. Thank you kindly!

Landscaping Ministry

Spring is here!

Consider helping us to cut and edge the grounds around our cathedral, it's a great way of getting some sun and exercise while beautifying the church.

Please speak with **Joyce Tabeling** in person or call her at **216 408-7187**

PRAYER REQUESTS

as of 6/4/2023

Deceased

William Sudnick

Special Intentions:

Subdeacon Theodore Lentz

Subdeacon Igor Gajewsky

Subdeacon Roger Pinta

Reader Paul Pangrace

Reader Frank Tkacz

Stephan Chwalyk

Horia Dascalescu (*Lavinia's brother*)

Diane Kearsey (*Janice Tkacz's Sister*)

Janice Tkacz

Eleanor Wachovec (*friend of Karen Felon*)

Rachel Ohlin (*relative of Tatiana*)

Erin Zawolowycz

Carol Nielsen (*Paul Pangrace's sister*)

Virginia Medvec

Jeffrey Parhamovich (*brother of Karen Felon*)

Margaret Parhamovich (*sister-in-law of Karen Felon*)

Margaret Peyton (Cathy's aunt)

Jean Woycitzky Thompson (*Frank's cousin*)

Anna Marie Luvison (*daughter of Matthew & Katie (Ellis) Luvison*)

Debra Parhamovich (*sister of Karen Felon*)

Grace Mary Parhamovich (*mother of Karen Felon*)

Gayle Vidovich

Elizabeth Balasz

Christina Hile (*Nisi & Cindy's sister*)

Lonnie Ellis (*Husband to Debra Ellis*)

Robert Martin Prock

Valentina Zawolowycz (*mother of Paul Z*)

Michael and **Nichole** Zolikoff and **unborn child**

Mark

Michael Kapeluck (*friend of Cathy*)

Please submit names to the Prayer List by emailing them to Fr. Jan Cizmar st.theodosiuscathedral@gmail.com

Or calling at 1(440) 732-8182

Names remain on the list for 30 days unless requested otherwise.



EASTERN ORTHODOX WOMEN'S GUILD OF GREATER CLEVELAND

Unity Through Participation

Saturday, June 10, 2023
@ 10:00 A.M.

Monastery Marcha
5095 Broadview Road
Richfield, Ohio 44286

- **Potluck Picnic** (hotdogs & hamburgers provided)
- **Social time**
- **Wrap-up of the year and looking ahead to next year**

ST. THEODOSIUS IS A SUBSCRIBER TO TITHE.LY

In response to requests to be able to donate electronically, we have set up a Tithe.ly account so people can donate either regularly or for special occasions online. Click here to see: <https://www.sttheodosius.org/donate>



WEEKLY SCHEDULE 2023

Sunday, June 4
8th Sunday of Pascha
Holy Pentecost:
Feast of the Holy Trinity
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
*Pentecost Vespers with
Kneeling Prayers to follow*
Coffee Hour

Monday, June 5
Postfeast of Pentecost
Day of the Holy Spirit

Tuesday, June 6
Postfeast of Pentecost
3rd Day of the Trinity

Wednesday, June 7
Afterfeast of Pentecost
Venerable Daniel of Sketis (6th c.).
Hieromartyr Theodotus, Bishop of
Ancyra (303)



FAST-FREE WEEK

Thursday, June 8
Afterfeast of Pentecost
"Surety of Sinners" Icon of the Mother of
God of Korets

Friday, June 9
Afterfeast of Pentecost
St. Cyril, Archbishop of Alexandria
(444)

Saturday, June 10
Leavetaking of Pentecost
Hieromartyr Timothy,
Bishop of Prussa (4th c.)
1:00 PM Wedding of Andrea Clos &
Aaron Hochmann
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, June 11
1st Sunday of Pentecost
Synaxis of All Saints
Holy Apostles Bartholomew and
Barnabas (1st c.)
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour