

# PENTECOST SUNDAY



*Icon of Pentecost*

## May 15, 2016: Pentecost Sunday

Epistle: Acts 2: 1-11

Gospel: Jn. 7: 37-52 & 8:12

**Mon., May 16**

**Pentecost Monday**

9:00 + Stephen Moskel (Nieces & Nephews)

**Tues., May 17**

8:00 + Mary Barren (Roger & Beverly Barren)

**Wed., May 18**

8:00 + Helen Turko (Frank Turko)

**Thurs., May 19**

8:00 + Nicholas Spryn (Mary Ann Spryn)

**Fri., May 20**

8:00 + Mary Beggin (Family)  
6:30 Moleben to the Mother of God

**Sat., May 21**

**No Morning Divine Liturgy**

10:30 Confessions.  
2:00 pm Confessions.  
4:00 pm + Andy Baranik (Daughter Andrea & Family)

**Sun., May 22**

9:00 For Our Parishioners  
11:30 + Dorothy Pompey (Family)

Heavenly King, Advocate, Spirit of Truth, Who are everywhere present and fill all things, Treasury of Blessings, Bestower of Life, come and dwell within us; cleanse us of all that defiles us, and, O Good One, save our souls.

+++++

### **First Antiphon**

The heavens declared the glory of God, \*  
and the firmament proclaims the work of His hands.  
*Through the prayers of the Mother of God, \* Savior, save us.*  
The word is revealed from day to day; \*  
and knowledge is past on from night to night.  
*Through the prayers of the Mother of God, \* Savior, save us.*  
Throughout all the lands their voices resound; \*  
to the ends of the world their message is heard.  
*Through the prayers of the Mother of God, \* Savior, save us.*

**Third Antiphon**

*The king rejoices in Your strength, O Lord. He delights in Your victory.*

Blessed are You, O Lord, for giving us fishermen most wise, sending down upon them the Holy Spirit. \* Thereby they catch the universe of mankind in the net of salvation. \* Glory to You, most merciful Lord.

*You gave him his heart's desire, You did not refuse the very wish of his lips.*

Blessed are You, O Lord, for giving us fishermen most wise, sending down upon them the Holy Spirit. \* Thereby they catch the universe of mankind in the net of salvation. \* Glory to You, most merciful Lord.

*You welcomed him with the choicest blessings; You placed a crown of precious stones upon his head.*

Blessed are You, O Lord, for giving us fishermen most wise, sending down upon them the Holy Spirit. \* Thereby they catch the universe of mankind in the net of salvation. \* Glory to You, most merciful Lord.

+++++

**Entrance Hymn**

*Lord, be exalted in Your strength. \* We sing and chant praises to Your might.*

+++++

**Instead of Holy God**

All you who have been baptized into Christ, you have put on Christ. Alleluia. (3 times).

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen.

You have put on Christ. Alleluia.

All you who have been baptized into Christ, you have put on Christ. Alleluia.

+++++

**Hymn to the Mother of God**

Rejoice, O my soul, in the Trinity of Persons, the One true God. Rejoice, O Queen, glory of virgins and motherhood! \* Even the poets lack the ability \* to describe the wonderful manner \* by which you gave birth to the Word of God. \* It is truly beyond human understanding, \* so with one voice, we sing you praises.

+++++

**Communion Verses**

Let Your Good Spirit guide me\* on level ground.\*

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## **Looking East: The Green Feast**

*This article was published in the May 31, 2009 edition of The Tidings, the official newspaper of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles by Gabriel Meyer*

By late spring, most of us, at least in Southern California, have our sights on summer. When I think of the great feast of Pentecost, commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles (Acts chapter 2), celebrated this year on May 15, these associations invariably come to mind: the Church's cycle of the feast of Redemption, begun during Holy Week and Easter, brought to completion at Pentecost, and nature around us brought from the promise of spring into the full bloom of summer.

For many Eastern Catholics, this rich dialogue between liturgy and creation plays out in a very literal way in the Feast of Pentecost --- as it did in the feast's own origins in ancient Jewish practice.

Pentecost (Greek for "50 days") capped the Passover "season" with a feast honoring the giving of the Torah on Sinai; but the Jewish feast originally was an agricultural feast, giving thanks for the first-fruits of the earth and the new harvest.

Similarly, in many Eastern Christian

customs related to Pentecost, harvest themes abound: green branches, grasses and wild flowers are brought to decorate the church on the feast, sometimes homes as well --- symbolizing the life-giving power of the Spirit who renews, revives and brings all things, even the world of nature, to fruition. Even the vestments of priests and deacons in the East are green, not red as in western practice.

But the Christian East's particular approach to the Pentecost reality does not stop with a little greenery.

Perhaps the most unique feature of Pentecost in the Byzantine tradition has to do with the so-called "Kneeling Prayers," which, in many churches, is celebrated directly after the Sunday Liturgy. This service includes a special set of three prayers, attributed to St. Basil the Great, which priest and congregation pray on their knees.

In our tradition, this service marks the first time since Holy Week that we have "bowed the knee" in a liturgical service. (Kneeling is rare in Byzantine practice; prayer is traditionally said standing.) The joy of the resurrection, in many Eastern traditions, rules out penitential gestures

such as kneeling and fasting for the 50 days (Pentecost) of the Easter season. Far from an invitation to personal introspection, these “kneeling” prayers are a proper Pentecostal call to action on a universal scale --- the prayers of a newly empowered Church, embracing its all-encompassing mission of mercy and enlightenment --- not only to the living, but even to the dead.

If Eastern Christian theology finds rich expression in its hymns and prayers, the theology of the Christian East takes its clearest and most distinctive form in iconography.

While space permits no more than a few words on a vast topic, the Pentecost icon of the “Descent of the Holy Spirit” shows the Twelve Apostles around a

semicircular table above which the radiant “sun” of the Holy Spirit disperses rays or tongues of fire above their heads. An empty seat or “throne” at the head of the table symbolizes the invisible presence of Christ in their midst; in some icons, an altar makes the eucharistic connection even clearer. Mysteriously, in the middle of the icon, a dark cavern opens in which an old man, crowned, cradles a scroll.

All of which brings us back to summer, to nature in full bloom --- not an unworthy “icon” of Pentecost, surely, or of our own Pentecostal journey to spiritual and human fruition in the care of that Spirit who, as the great Byzantine hymn says, is “the Treasury of Blessings, present in all places, filling all things.”

## Day for Vocations

Pentecost Sunday has been designated as a Day for Vocations for all parishes and institutions in the Archeparchy of Philadelphia. Just as the Holy Spirit descended upon the Blessed Virgin Mary and the twelve Apostles and granted them the grace to spread the joyful news of the Gospel of Christ to the world, we ask that the Holy Spirit come upon us and grant our young men and women the grace to respond to His call to be faithful stewards of His Holy Church. Please be sure to pray for an increase of vocations to the priest-

hood, diaconate, and religious life on this day.

If there is someone in your family, or you have a friend (or even yourself!), whom you think God might be calling to a challenging, but extremely rewarding and fulfilling, life as a Ukrainian Catholic priest, deacon, or religious monk or nun, be sure to pray for them. Have your priest talk with them and pray with them over their call. For more information, be sure to check out our new vocations website at [www.ukrainiancatholicvocations.com](http://www.ukrainiancatholicvocations.com).

## May Devotions

The month of May is devoted to our heavenly Mother, Mary. A Moleben service will be offered on Fridays in May, at 6:30

p.m. Come to church, join us in honoring her, who God first honored, by choosing her to be the Mother of His Son.

## Pentecost Sunday Collection For Missions

**“Go and Make Disciples of All Nations” (Mt. 28:19).** Our Ukrainian Catholic Church is responding to Christ’s command to “go and make disciples of all nations”.(Mt28:19) Patriarch Sviatoslav and the Bishops of our Church endeavor to provide ministry to people residing in developing missions in eastern Ukraine, in Europe, in areas of the Middle East and Africa, and North America. Your generous assistance is needed to support clergy and religious to serve these missions and to

aid in the development of these new missions. The annual collection for this purpose will be taken up at all Divine Liturgies on Pentecost Sunday weekend May 14-15 in all of our parishes. You may also send your gift to the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, 827 N Franklin Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123. Tax receipts will be issued. Please be generous in your offerings and may God bless you for caring for the spiritual needs of your brothers and sisters in Christ!

## From the L.U.C...

Reminder - on Saturday, May 21st the New York City bound LUC chartered Mar-tz bus departs promptly from Scranton’s St. Vladimir Church at 9:15am.

As a courtesy to the St. Vladimir’s parishioners who will attend the Saturday 4:00pm Liturgy, we are asked to leave them adequate parking spaces in St. Vladimir parking lot. Permission has been given by Penn East Credit Union to use their park-

ing lot at the corner of North Seventh Avenue and West Linden Street. We are asked to park in the far rear area away from their building as staff and customers will be using the parking lot from 9:00am to 1:00pm on Saturday. Upon our return from New York City, we will ask the bus driver to drive us to the Credit Union lot for easy access to our cars.

## Babushkas of Chornobyl

On Sunday, May 22, 2016 at 2 p.m. at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 700 N. Cedar Road, Jenkintown, Pa.,

the documentary film The Babushkas of Chornobyl will be shown. Ms. Holly Morris, the director/producer will also be pres-

ent at the screening. The award winning documentary film tells the beautiful story of three “babushkas” age 80, 72 and 85 who refused to leave their ancestral homes after

the Chornobyl nuclear disaster in 1986. It is considered a masterpiece on the tragedy of the Chornobyl disaster. All are encouraged to attend.

### **Queen City Days**

The Annual “Queen City Days” Carnival, sponsored by the Eureka Hose Co. No. 4, 717 E. Grant St. in Olyphant, will be held June 2 - 4 at the Fern Hill Park. Several adult and children’s rides will be featured. Local vendors will offer food

and refreshments. Music will be provided each evening. Firemen’s Parade on Friday and giant Fireworks Display on Saturday. Any questions or to secure a spot on the midway, contact Mayor John Sedlak, Jr. at 570-383-1406.

### **Bingo At Queen City Days!**

Once again, St. Cyril’s is an active participant in the Olyphant Queen City Days Picnic with “Bingo.” All parishioner are welcomed to volunteer. Please plan to come and play a few Bingo games at the Fernhill Picnic. The Church raffle tickets

ARE AVAILABLE in the Church Vestibule and the winners will be drawn at the Olyphant Queen City Nights in July 2016. Please help to keep our Church open with these fund-raisers!

### **Collection Processing Team...**

The Collection Processing Team for the month of May 2016 is Team #1: William

Vervan, Sr., Roger Barren, and Jerry Seditch.

### **Sunday Collection for May 7 & 8, 2016:**

#### **Altar Boy and Lector Schedule for May 21 & 22, 2016**

	<b>Altar Boys</b>	<b>Lectors</b>
4:00 pm	Samuel Sczesniak -- Patrick Marcinko	Bill Vervan
9:00 am	Michael Roberts -- John Nasevich	Pat Marcinko
11:30 am	Brian Radle -- Thomas Radle	Frank Lesnefsky

## Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

135 River St., Olyphant, PA 18447-1435

Telephone: 570-489-2271 Fax: 570-489-6918

Web Site: [stcyrils.weconnect.com](http://stcyrils.weconnect.com)

E-Mail: [sscyrilandmethodius@comcast.net](mailto:sscyrilandmethodius@comcast.net)



Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

### *Be Counted Worthy of the Holy Spirit*

According to the Apostle, Lord, your Holy Spirit fully understands and penetrates your inmost depths. He also intercedes on my behalf, saying to you things for which I cannot find the words. Nothing can penetrate your being but what is divine already; nor can the depths of your immense majesty be measured by any power which itself is alien or extrinsic to you. So, whatever enters into you is yours already, nor can anything which has the power to search your very depths ever have been other than your own.

I beg you therefore, Father, to preserve in me that pure and reverent faith and to grant that to my last breath I may testify to my

conviction. May I always hold fast to what I publicly professed in the creed when I was baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. May I worship you, the Father of us all, and your Son together with you, and may I be counted worthy to receive your Holy Spirit . . . For me there is sufficient evidence for this faith in the words: "Father, all that I have is yours, and all that is yours is mine," spoken by Jesus Christ my Lord who remains, in and from and with you, the God who is blessed for endless ages. Amen.

*St. Hilary of Poitiers*

For more information on Eastern spirituality, visit  
[www.ecpubs.com](http://www.ecpubs.com)