

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

Orthodox Church of America
A Parish of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey

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June 20, 2021

Holy Pentecost, Feast of the Holy Trinity

- 9:10 am - Hours
- 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy followed by **Kneeling Prayers**
Acts 2:1-11 John 7:37-52; 8:12

Schedule of Services

Monday, June 21

Holy Spirit

- 9:10 am - Hours
- 9:30 am - Hierarchical Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, June 23

- 5:00 pm - Great Vespers, Litiya with His Eminence, Archbishop Michael

Thursday, June 24

- 9:10 am - Hours
- 9:30 am - Hierarchical Divine Liturgy

Saturday, June 26

- 5:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sunday, June 27

- 9:10 am - Hours
- 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy followed by **Coffee Hour** - Church Hall

WEEKLY BIBLE MESSAGE

Holy Pentecost



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—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.

Always Thankful To God :

Arthur Ashe - the legendary Wimbledon player - was dying of AIDS.

From world over, he received letters from his fans, one of which conveyed... "Why does GOD have to select you for such a bad disease?"

To this Arthur Ashe replied...The world over

5 Crore children start playing tennis,

50 Lakh learn to play tennis,

5 Lakh learn professional tennis,

50,000 come to the circuit,

5000 reach the grand slam,

50 reach Wimbledon,

4 to semi final,

2 to the finals,

when I was holding a cup I never asked GOD "Why me?"

And today in pain I should not be asking GOD "Why me?" Be thankful to GOD for 98% of good things in life.

Intercessory Prayers

We pray for all our fellow parishioners, and we pray especially for those who are incapable of being with us in church. Please keep in your prayers our Brothers and Sisters in Christ: Genevieve Bobenko, Barbara Bogart, Michael Bzik, Mary Ann Dolak, Barbara Kary, Margaret Kovalycsik, Kathleen Lazorczyk, Dennis Maixner, Marian Nagel, Helen Rahnefeld, Anna Rozanovich, Maryann Stagen, Patricia Galley.

Birthday Greeting

Happy Birthday go out this week to **Mary Ann Dolak** - June 22. May God continue to enrich her life with the fullness of joy and happiness for many years - Mnogaya Lyeta!

Announcement

♦ **HAPPY FATHERS DAY!** Blessed is the father who shares His heart, lives, His faith, gives His time, and loves His family. (*Proverbs 20:7*).

♦ **The flowers** adorning the icon of the feast of the Holy Pentecost on the center tetrapod were given by **Maryann Stagen**. We sincerely thank her with prayers for God's blessings always.

♦ **St. Andrew's Camp. Help us to reach our Goal!** We need to raise \$300,000 for the new kitchen, dining hall and activity center... . And right now, we need **only \$33,000 more** to reach that goal! As God has blessed you, will you prayerfully consider making a donation - in any amount you are able - to help build a foundation of Faith for our children? With love in Christ, Archbishop Michael. More information on Diocesan website at: www.nyjoca.org

♦ With open arms and hearts, we welcome all of our visitors and guests; we are delighted you have joined us to worship the Lord this day. Contact Father Maryan or either one will gladly provide you with any info. Thanks for being here; we look forward to seeing you again. Until then, may Christ bless you always.

