

JESUS TEACHES IN THE TEMPLE

According to the liturgical calendar of our Holy Church, the Wednesday following the Sunday of the Paralytic falls exactly in the middle of the period between Pascha and Pentecost. For that reason, this day is referred to as the **FEAST DAY OF MID-PENTECOST**. The commemoration of this day in a festive manner is based upon the seventh chapter of St. John's Gospel, which tells us that "Now about the middle of the Feast of Tabernacles, Jesus went up into the temple and taught." The icon prescribed for this day depicts our Lord seated in the temple among the scribes and learned men, explaining His divine mission to them, and reminding them that "My doctrine is not Mine, but His Who sent Me." He points out to them in a graphic manner that "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink." Yes, it is only through our belief in Christ that we can be sustained and satisfied.



The observance of this Feast Day aims to strengthen our faith in the Risen Christ. The celebration can be traced back to the time of St. John Chrysostom. Through the years, contributions to the services for this holy day were provided by such prominent hymnologists as Andrew of Crete and John Damascene.

Having reached the half-way mark of the feast of the Lord, let us sincerely observe the commandments of God, so that we may become worthy to celebrate the Ascension and receive the coming of the Holy Spirit."



THE FEAST OF
MID-PENTECOST

SUNDAY OF SAMARITIAN WOMAN

WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

May 29, 2016.

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TODAY'S READINGS

GOSPEL: John 4, 5-42;
EPISTLE: Acts. 11, 19-26; 29-30;
TODAY WE COMMEMORATE:

**FORGIVENESS IS THE
SCENT THAT THE ROSE LEAVES
ON
THE HEEL THAT CRUSHES IT.**

On Friday, June 3rd, is the Feast of Sts. Constantine and Helen
DIVINE LITURGY WILL START AT 9:30AM.

THE VENERABLE THEODORE THE SANCTIFIED

Theodore was a disciple of St. Pachomius. He was born and raised as a pagan but as a young man came to the knowledge of the True Faith and was baptized. Learning about St. Pachomius, he secretly fled from his parent's home to Pachomius' monastery. St. Pachomius tonsured him a monk and admired him because of his unique zeal and obedience. When his mother arrived to ask him to come home, Theodore did not even want to appear before her but prayed that God would enlighten her with the truth. Indeed, not only did her son not return home, but she herself did not return home. Seeing a convent not far away which was under the spiritual direction of Pachomius' sister, she entered the convent and was tonsured a nun. After a period of time Paphnutius, Theodore's brother, also came to the monastery and was tonsured a monk. In time the bishop of Panopolis called St. Pachomius to establish a monastery for those who desired the monastic life. Pachomius took Theodore with him and entrusted him with the duty of establishing this new monastery. After the death of Pachomius, Theodore became the abbot of all Pachomius' monasteries and lived to a ripe old age. Theodore lived a life pleasing to God, directing the many monks on the road to salvation. He died peacefully and took up habitation in the kingdom of Eternal Light in the year 368 A.D.

REFLECTION

When Theodore the Sanctified was in Panopolis with St. Pachomius, his spiritual father, a philosopher came to him and offered to debate with him about the Faith. The philosopher then posed these three questions to Theodore: "Who was not born, but died?" "Who was born and did not die?" "Who died and did not decay?" To these questions, St. Theodore replied: "Adam was not born and died. Enoch was born and did not die. Lot's wife died and did not decay." And the saint added this advice to the philosopher: "Heed our sound advice; depart from these useless questions and scholastic syllogisms; draw near to Christ Whom we are serving and you will receive forgiveness of sins." The philosopher became mute from such a pointed answer and being ashamed, he departed. From this, the enormous difference is clearly seen between a pagan philosopher and a Christian saint. The one [the philosopher] loses himself in abstractions, in cleverly twisted words, in logical provocations and in thoughtful sport while the other [the saint] directed his whole mind on the Living God and on the salvation of his soul. The one is abstract and dead, while the other is practical and alive.

BAPTISMS -

Welcome to the Holy Orthodox Faith through the Holy Mysteries of Baptism and Crismation on Sunday, May 8, 2016, **TRISTYN Jacob**, son of Cera Ana Trkulja of Aliquippa, PA.

Welcome to the Holy Orthodox Faith through the Holy Mysteries of Baptism and Crismation Sunday, May 22, 2016- **PIERCE Bozidar**, son of Dusan and Cortney Milanovich of Chippewa, PA

St. Elijah Choir is sponsoring a day at **APPLEBEE RESTURANT THIS** Wednesday, June 1, 2016 coupons are by the bulletin. All you have to do is present this coupon and attend between the hours of 11am until 9pm and we will receive 15% credit just for you joining us that day. Please take a few and pass them out to your friends but most of all come and join us!

Cornerstone Men's Club Picnic will be held on Saturday, June 11th gate opens at 2:00 p.m. Delicious BBQ lamb and pork will be served along with many other side items. Help is always needed and baked goods would be appreciated!

"TEA and TREASURER BASKETS" will be held on Sunday, June 26, starting at 1:00 p.m. High Tea with scones, finger sandwiches and delicious desserts. Prizes and beautiful Treasurer Baskets to be raffled off reservations have already started to come in so please join us for a great afternoon! Please see Julie Taylor for tickets.

100TH ANNIVERSAY OF SNF "KENNYWOOD"- Please contact Cheryl Leydig after church or call the home office to purchase your tickets for Kennywood.

Thank you to the "BRDAR FAMILY" for hosting the lunch following Divine Liturgy last Sunday. We encourage other families to host one week per month for all of us to enjoy. Currently we have no one to host the rest of the year. If you and your family or kumovi would like to host a day please contact the church center office at 724-375-9894. Again thank you for the delicious meal that you prepared last week! HVALA!

Give rest O Lord to thy departed servants
STELLA LACKOVICH, BISERKA KOVACEVIC AND ZORANA JANKOVIC
may their souls rest in peace. Our deepest sympathy are extended to their family,
kumovi and friends.
VJECNAJA PAMJAT!

SAVE THE DATES:

FYI -Dues are to be paid by June 1st in order to be a member in good standing. As voted on at the Annual Assembly on Sunday, December 20, 2015 the Non-member fee is now \$1500.

VISITS:

May 25th - Friendship Ridge - - Sarah Jerich, Helen Belich, Cynthia Bratich, Ann Belich, Robin Lapcevic, Joe & Carol Kascur

May 27th - Home - LouAnn Vula

May 27th - Beaver Medical - Daniel Minich, Ronald Matich

May 28th - Trinity Oaks - Martha Jackson

