

After the Ascension of Christ, the followers of the Lord gathered daily in Jerusalem, praying and fasting, waiting for the coming of the Holy Spirit which had been promised by Jesus. For nine days they waited. Then, on the tenth day, there came suddenly the sound of a rushing wind that filled the house they were in. And there appeared tongues of fire over the heads of the apostles. This is what they had been waiting for! This was the Descent of the Holy Spirit to give life to the Church.

Before they had fled from the crucifixion because they were afraid, but now they fearlessly confessed their faith in the Lord; before they locked the doors of the house in which they gathered, now they went out opening the doors of faith to thousands; before Peter had thrice denied the Lord, now he publicly preached and confessed Christ before the crowd.

The place in which they had gathered had become a house afire. The torch of faith inflamed each of the apostles and they truly became soldiers of Christ, ready to die for Him. Animated with the Holy Spirit, they were charged with His love. Filled with a passion for truth and for others, this faithful group set the world aflame with the Christian message.

## WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

June 19, 2016.

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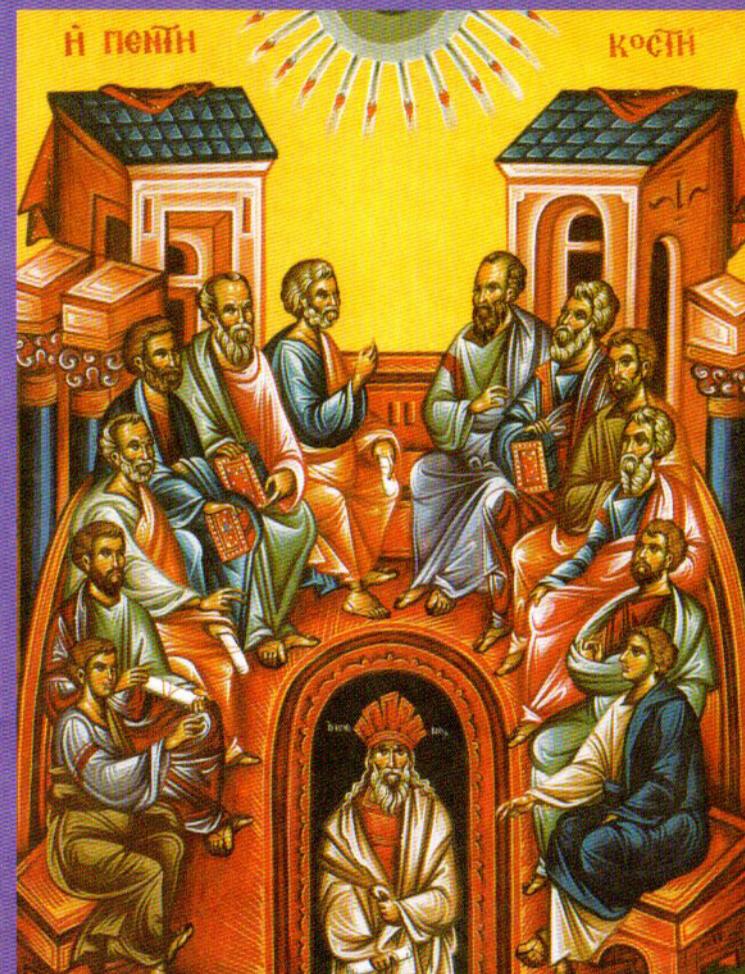
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# PENTECOST

**O**ften we take our Church for granted, seldom thinking about what it took to get this Faith to us today. On the first Pentecost Day, the Church consisted of some 120 people, mostly fishermen and common folks.



But then something unusual happened - the Holy Spirit descended upon the Church and those first Christians. By the end of that day, the Christian Church consisted not only of 120, but of some 3,000 faithful. Down through the ages, the faith has been passed on, generation to generation, and now it has come down to us.



PENTECOST - ДУХОВИ



**TODAY'S READINGS**

**GOSPEL:** John 7, 37-52; 8, 12;

**EPISTLE:** Acts. 2, 1-11;

TODAY WE COMMEMORATE:

**FEAST OF HOLY PENTECOST INTRODUCTION**

The Feast of Holy Pentecost is celebrated each year on the fiftieth day after the Great and Holy Feast of Pascha (Easter) and ten days after the Feast of the Ascension of Christ. The Feast is always celebrated on a Sunday. The Feast commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles on the day of Pentecost, a feast of the Jewish tradition. It also celebrates the establishment of the Church through the preaching of the Apostles and the baptism of the thousands who on that day believed in the Gospel message of salvation through Jesus Christ. The Feast is also seen as the culmination of the revelation of the Holy Trinity.

**BIBLICAL STORY**

The story of Pentecost is found in the book of The Acts of the Apostles. In Chapter two we are told that the Apostles of our Lord were gathered together in one place. Suddenly, a sound came from heaven like a rushing wind, filling the entire house where they were sitting. Then, tongues of fire appeared, and one sat upon each one of Apostles. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as directed by the Spirit (Acts 2:1-4).

This miraculous event occurred on the Jewish Feast of Pentecost, celebrated by the Jews on the fiftieth day after the Passover as the culmination of the Feast of Weeks (Exodus 34:22; Deuteronomy 16:10). The Feast of Weeks began on the third day after the Passover with the presentation of the first harvest sheaves to God, and it concluded on Pentecost with the offering of two loaves of unleavened bread, representing the first products of the harvest (Leviticus 23:17-20; Deuteronomy 16:9-10). Since the Jewish Feast of Pentecost was a great pilgrimage feast, many people from throughout the Roman Empire were gathered in Jerusalem on this day. When the people in Jerusalem heard the sound, they came together and heard their own languages being spoken by the Apostles (Acts 2:5-6). The people were amazed, knowing that some of those speaking were Galileans, and not men who would normally speak many different languages. They wondered what this meant, and some even thought the Apostles were drunk (Acts 2:7-13). Peter, hearing these remarks, stood up and addressed the crowd. He preached to the people regarding the Old Testament prophecies about the coming of the Holy Spirit. He spoke about Jesus Christ and His death and glorious Resurrection. Great conviction fell upon the people, and they asked the Apostles, "What shall we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38-39).

On the occasion of His Grace Bishop Mitrophan's 25 years of service to our Diocese and election as the new Bishop of the Canadian Diocese, our Diocesan Council has started planning a celebration in His honor which is scheduled to be held **on Saturday, August 13, 2016 here in Aliquippa.**

At this time **WE ARE ASKING YOU** to mark your calendars and plan to attend this important event in the life of our Eastern American Diocese. More information will be coming in the near future!

**GOD'S ALPHABET HAS ONLY FOUR LETTERS BETWEEN I AND U - L O V E.**

The Bible records that on that day about three thousand were baptized. Following, the book of Acts states that the newly baptized continued daily to hear the teaching of the Apostles, as the early Christians met together for fellowship, the breaking of bread, and for prayer. Many wonderful signs and miracles were done through the Apostles, and the Lord added to the Church daily those who were being saved (Acts 2:42-47).



**In celebration of Anne Menich's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 14<sup>th</sup>, her family is inviting all those present today to join them downstairs after liturgy for birthday cake and coffee! Zivela!**

- **Tea and Treasurer Baskets Fundraiser** will be held on Sunday, June 26, 2016 starting at 1:00 p.m. High Tea with scones, finger sandwiches and as always delicious homemade desserts will be served. Prizes will be awarded and beautiful baskets will be raffled off. If anyone would like to donate a themed basket please contact Julie Taylor. Julie will also have tickets available for sale today following Divine Liturgy. Last day to purchase tickets is **TODAY!**
- **100th Anniversary of SNF KENNYWOOD** please contact the home office by calling (412) 458-5227 to order your tickets. This year the park will celebrate a "Century of Serbdom" featuring on the main stage our SNF children dancing and playing songs of our glorious Serbian culture as well as a combined chorus directed by George Milosh which will entertain you as well. This is one year you do not want to miss!
- King Alexander lodge 23 is sponsoring bus transportation to our SNF 100th anniversary of Serbian Day at Kennywood Park. All Aliquippa SNF members pay \$5. Non-members and friends of members \$25 round trip on this charter coach bus! Enjoy a day of Serbian entertainment, dance, mass choir, the longest Kolo on American soil around the park and the great fun of Serbian fellowship on a park bench or on the cafeteria porch!
- Text or call Milana Milosh for reservations at 724 777 3590
- **SAVE THE DATE:** Our 102nd Church Slava Celebration will be held on Saturday, July 30th and Sunday, July 31st. Please make plans to attend!

**VISITS:**

- June 13<sup>th</sup> - West Hills** - Joseph Mrkonja
- June 16<sup>th</sup> - Villa St. Joseph** - Slavka Nikolic
- June 17<sup>th</sup> - Cambridge Village** - Mary Ulinski
- June 17<sup>th</sup> - Franciscan Manor** - Rudy Kosanovich, Nell Semick
- June 17<sup>th</sup> - West Hills** - Nick Bruich
- June 18<sup>th</sup> - Beaver Elder Care** - Elizabeth Belich

