

Parish Announcements

- **Blessed Pentecost and Happy Father's Day:** We will have a picnic today after Liturgy; the church will remain open until the start of Kneeling Vespers to give everyone time for fellowship.
- **Kneeling Vespers** will be held today at 3 PM. This service, in which we bow our knees for the first time since Pascha with penitential prayers, marks the end of the Paschal season.
- **Service Schedule:** On Monday, Orthros for the Holy Spirit will be held at 9:30 AM.
- **Fast-Free Week:** In honor of Pentecost, the upcoming week will have no fasting.
- **Office Closed:** Please note that the church office will be closed this week. In the event of a pastoral emergency, please contact Fr. Joel Gilliam of St. George (Upper Darby, PA) at 610-853-1171.
- **Apostles' Fast:** We will observe the Apostles' Fast from June 24-28. Traditionally, we take this time to study the lives of the Apostles and ask for their prayers before God, hoping that we might imitate them. During this fast, the traditional fasting discipline is practiced on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, with katalysis (allowance) for fish, wine, and olive oil on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays.
- **Parish Life Conference:** This year's conference will run from June 26-30 at Antiochian Village. The deadline for lodging and meal registration is June 21; see <http://registration.antiochianvillage.org/Registration/Welcome.aspx?e=541B5D758D5A1AB723DAC632B2C6BB6A> for more details.

Ways to Get Involved

- **Lord's Pantry:** The Lord's Pantry is requesting personal care items, cleaning supplies (especially laundry detergent and dish soap), and paper products for its Christmas in July program. Please bring items to the church by June 30 for distribution in July to those in need.
- **DERD Syrian Relief Program:** For details on contributing to relief efforts, see <http://antiochian.org/syrian-relief-program-introducing-derd>.
- **West Chester Food Cupboard:** We are now collecting **canned fruit, boxed pasta, and spaghetti sauce**. Please place your donations in the clear plastic bin in the library. Your contributions really help the needy in our West Chester area community! Thank you!

Sunday, June 16, 2019



HOLY ASCENSION

Orthodox Christian Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Diocese of
Charleston, Oakland, and the Mid-Atlantic

Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch
and All the East

Primate

His Eminence, the Most Rev. Metropolitan Joseph
(Al-Zehlaoui)

Diocesan Hierarchy

His Grace, the Right Rev. Bishop Thomas (Joseph)

Pastor

Rev. Fr. Daniel Meyer

Subdeacon

Vladimir Moses

Saturday Vespers - 5:00 PM

Sunday Orthros - 8:25 AM

Sunday Liturgy - 9:30 AM

Confessions - Saturday evenings,
following most divine services,
and by appointment

*For an updated service and event
schedule, visit our online calendar:*

HolyAscension.net/calendar

St. Symeon the New Theologian

It is impossible for the soul which believes in Christ to manifest a God-pleasing life if in it there will not be laid as a foundation the grace of the Holy Spirit. For fasting, and vigils, and sleeping on the floor, and prostrations, and praying, and every other suffering of evil is nothing without Divine grace.

Divine Liturgy Variables

Apolytikion of Pentecost in Tone Eight

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise, having sent upon them the Holy Spirit, and through them Thou hast fished the universe, O Lover of mankind, glory to Thee.

Kontakion of Pentecost in Tone Eight

When the High One descended, confusing tongues, He divided the nations, and when He distributed the fiery tongues, He called all to one unity – wherefore in unison we glorify the most Holy Spirit.

Prayer Requests

LIVING:

Catechumen Yiannis B.; Catechumen Amelia B.; Catechumen Laurie W.; Catechumen Roy B.; Catechumen Peter Y.; Catechumen Braden M.; Catechumen David S.; Newly Illumined Amira S.; Kathy A. (more radiation treatment); Tina D. (recovering from surgery); John D. (sick); Theodore D. (eye); Joe (Sarah B.’s uncle, recovering from surgery); Cindy (Mark R.’s sister, recent hospitalization); Seraphim B.; Jeff K. (recovering from knee surgery); Marlan A. (spine); Alexandra C.; Sue (Yiannis B.’s aunt, undergoing chemotherapy); Tom (Yiannis B.’s uncle); Fiona (Jane S.’s family friend); Elias (Lisa K.’s cousin, tumor); Mary (Jeff K.’s cousin, cancer); Vincent and Marteen (Mitri D.’s family); Bp. Alexander (undergoing chemotherapy); Christina (Lisa K.’s mother); Suad and Nasri (ill); Jack (Coleen’s dad, for continued healing); Nicholas (John C.’s friend); Daniel (Mark R.’s son); Orthodox suffering from persecution; those suffering from war and disasters

DEPARTED:

Bonnie (Jeanne K.’s friend) Gertrude (Patrick B.’s grandmother)
Arlene (Elise S.’s grandmother) Samir (Jeanne K.’s cousin)
Nita S. (one-year memorial) Those killed in recent natural disasters
Orthodox Christians and others recently murdered and killed during the fighting in the Middle East, Africa, and elsewhere in the world

Today’s Scripture Readings

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (2:1-11)

When the day of Pentecost had come, the Disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.”

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (7:37-52; 8:12)

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.’” Now this He said about the Spirit, which those who believed in Him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, many of the people said, “This is really the prophet.” Others said, “This is the Christ.” But some said, “Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?” So there was a division among the people over Him. Some of them wanted to arrest Him, but no one laid hands on Him. The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, “Why did you not bring Him?” The officers answered, “No man ever spoke like this man!” The Pharisees answered them, “Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or the Pharisees believed in Him? But this crowd, who do not know the Law, are accursed.” Nicodemus, who had gone to Him before, and who was one of them, said to them, “Does our Law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?” They replied, “Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee.” Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

