



THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

As we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost today, it is important that we note that this day is a fulfillment of a promise that Christ gave to His Apostles at the Last Supper. As they gathered for one final Passover meal, our Lord explained to them that although He would be leaving them, He would not be abandoning them—He would send them the Holy Spirit, Who would guide them in all things. When our Lord was about to return to His Heavenly Home, He instructed the Apostles to go back to Jerusalem and wait.

Obediently, they did what they were told. With the rushing of a mighty wind and the appearance of tongues of fire, the Holy Spirit entered the Upper Room where the Apostles were patiently waiting and came into their hearts. The Holy Spirit changed them instantly from timid, fearful men into fearless witnesses for Christ. They went out into the streets of Jerusalem and shared their first-hand knowledge of the Risen Lord, and 3,000 people became Christians that very day because of what they heard.

When we think of Pentecost, there is a great danger of simply viewing it as an event that happened in the life of the Apostles. The Holy Spirit did not come solely to these 12 men. The Holy Spirit came to us on the day of our baptism. When we pray fervently, the Holy Spirit comes to us. Every time we receive the Eucharist, the Holy Spirit comes to us.

We must remember that we are given a great responsibility that goes along with the gift of the Holy Spirit. We are charged to do what the Apostles were asked to do: *"Go and teach all nations!"* We know what the Apostles were able to accomplish for Christ and His Church through the Grace of the Holy Spirit. How about us? What are we doing?

Ss Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



June 4, 2017

8th Sunday of Pascha: Pentecost

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June 4, 2017

8th Sunday of Pascha– Pentecost

Commemoration of: Metrophanes, First Patriarch of Constantinople; Mary & Martha, the sisters of Lazarus

Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

Evloyitos i Hriste (Pentecost) Tone 8
Blessed are You, O Christ our God. You made the fishermen all-wise, by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit, and through them You drew the world into Your net. O Lover of mankind, glory to You.

Kontakion

Tone 8

Ote katavas tas glossas
*When the Most High God came down and confused the tongues, * He divided the nations. * When He distributed the tongues of fire, * He called all to unity. * And with one voice we glorify the all-holy Spirit.*

Epistle Reading

Acts 2:1-11

WHEN THE DAY of Pentecost had come, they 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, Pontos 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."

Gospel Reading

John 7:37-52; 8:12

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, 'Out of his heart 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, some 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 priest 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 of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, who do not know the law, are accursed." Nikodemos, 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."

Announcements

Today

- ✘ SUN, 6/4– 8th Sunday of Pascha: Pentecost; 40-day Churching of Athanasios Nicholas; Luke Pasieta receives the St. George Medal for Cub Scouts; Pentecost Kneeling Service

This Week.

- ✘ SUN, 6/11– 9th Sunday of Pascha: All Saints Sunday

Announcements

- ✘ Volunteers are needed to sign up to sponsor a coffee hour, there are many open dates left for this year.
- ✘ Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who helped plant in the Panagia Garden! It is looking really nice!

"Everyone must bear with gratitude what comes to him in the course of events. The more a person descends into humility, the more progress he makes and the more he succeeds."

~St. Ignatios

To Our Visitors:

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. Just a reminder, however: the Sacrament of Holy Communion is a manifestation of the *unity of the Body of Christ*. As such, only those who are members in spiritual good standing of the Orthodox Church – and who have prepared themselves for the Sacrament – may partake of the Holy Chalice. However, *everyone* is welcome to come up with our people at the end of the service to receive blessed bread.

Please be sure to join us at Coffee Hour following Services.