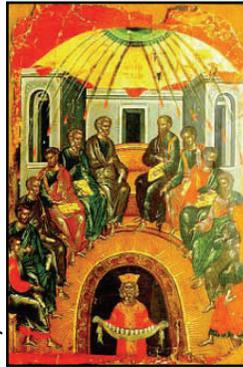


HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN ALEXIOS' MESSAGE ON PENTECOST

My dearly beloved,

"If from one burning lamp someone lights another, then another from that one, and so on in succession, he has light continuously. In the same way, through the Apostles ordaining their successors, and these successors ordaining others, and so on, the grace of the Holy Spirit is handed down through all generations and enlightens all who obey their shepherds and teachers." St. Gregory Palamas, "On How the Holy Spirit Was Manifested and Shared Out at Pentecost"

This Sunday we celebrate the true beginning of the history of the Church by its birth on the fiftieth day after Pascha. The Feast Day of Pentecost is the day of the appearance of the Spirit of God in the Church. That is why some call it "the birthday of the Church."



*Pentecost, Theophanes the Cretan,
1546, Stavronikita Monastery,
Mt. Athos.*

The Holy Spirit is the Paracletos, that the Lord promised to send to His Church, to guide and protect the Church for ages to come. But the Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles for much more than just preaching, or evangelism - the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles so that they would be inspired and strengthened to continue the work of our Lord in the world.

At His Ascension, our Lord told the Apostles that the Holy Spirit would come to them, and then they would become witnesses to Him to all the ends of the earth. They would witness to everything which Christ had done: His miracles and teaching, His crucifixion, death, resurrection, victory over sin and death and finally His Ascension into heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father in glory.

All of us have also experienced our own Pentecost – at our Chrismation, we received the “seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit.” It is by the Holy Spirit that we are spiritually awakened and understand that we now have a commission from Christ Himself. So, like the Apostles, we too receive the Holy Spirit and are sent out into the world to be witnesses to the Good News of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

May the same Holy Spirit Who filled the first apostles with the fire of God’s presence and power fill us today so that we, as faithful followers of Christ, are inspired and strengthened to participate in His great work of reconciliation and redemption.

With paternal blessings and much love in our Risen Lord,

+ALEXIOS

Metropolitan of Atlanta

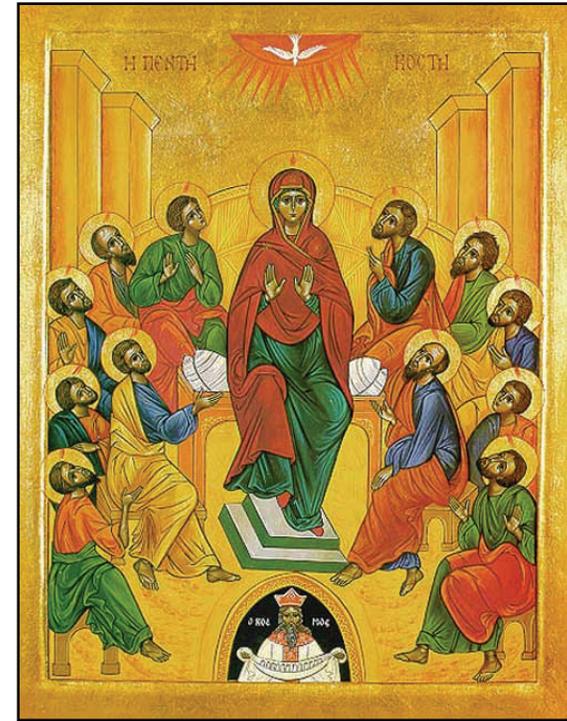
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta, Bulletin for June 19, 2013

All foods are allowed during the week following Pentecost.

HOLY PENTECOST SUNDAY

Κυριακή Η' τῆς Πεντηκοστῆς

23 JUNE (23 Ιουνίου) 2013



Pentecost

SAINT BARBARA GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

We are a Greek (Eastern) Orthodox parish,
part of the oldest Christian tradition,
dating to 33 A.D., the Day of Pentecost.

We trace our roots back to the Apostles and their teachings.

We hold fast to the moral, theological and liturgical
traditions of the Early Christian Church.

*We are pleased that you have chosen to experience the
worship of Early Christianity in a modern setting.*

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH

TO OUR SAINT BARBARA VISITORS GUIDELINES FOR RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

Thank you for visiting Saint Barbara Church. We pray your time at worship is encouraging and uplifting. The Orthodox Church has always held the Eucharist as the culmination of our spiritual relationship with Christ. Because of this, if you are not a baptized Orthodox Christian or have not been received by the Church by means of Holy Chrismation, we ask that you observe during communion this morning.

Please feel free to come up at the end of the service and receive some blessed bread from the priest. While this is not considered the Eucharist, it is our way of assuring no one leaves church 'hungry'. Should you desire to learn more about the Orthodox Church, please call the Church office to arrange an appointment with Father Stavroforos.

Note: The Communion Hymn is on page 97 in the Divine Liturgy Hymnal.

CHRISMATION NAMES & NAME DAYS

In Orthodox countries, at Baptism (or Chrismation, if an adult) you are given a Christian Saint's name. This is the name you give to the priest when receiving communion. The name is a Christian Saint's name, because God recognizes their names. Each Saint is celebrated on a particular day, the Saint's Name Day. When you receive your name, your Saint's Name Day becomes **your** Name Day. In lieu of birthdays, especially after the age of twelve, Orthodox Christians celebrate their Name Day.

*For those celebrating a Name Day this week we wish you
Chronia Polla "Many years"*

ON SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2013, WE COMMEMORATE:



St. Agrippina the Martyr of Rome (left)

Holy Martyrs Aristocleus the Priest,
Demetrius the Deacon, and
Athanasius the Reader

Holy New Martyrs Archpriest of Crete
Gerasimus, Knossos Neophyte, Xepponessos
Ioachim, Lampe Hierotheus, Seteia Zacharius,
Kisamos Melchisadek, Piopoleos Kallinicus
and Those Martyred with Them (1821-1822)

St. Mark, Bishop of Ephesus (right)



HOLY PENTECOST SUNDAY

Festal Eothinon

Divine Liturgy Hymnal (Hymn of Pentecost)

Pages 115 – 16 (Blessed Are You O Christ)

A Note about the Hymns of the Day

Because the beautiful hymns in today's Divine Liturgy, the Apolytikion and Kontakion of the day and Troparion of the Church, are frequently sung in Greek, we include them in English for your understanding. They are sung as the priest returns to the Sanctuary at the Conclusion of the Small Entrance.

Apolytikion for Holy Pentecost



Blessed are You, O Christ our God, who made fishermen all wise, sending upon them the Holy Spirit and, through them, netting the world. O Loving One, glory to You. - © Narthex Press

Εύλογητός εἶ Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν ὁ πανσόφους
τοὺς ἀλιεῖς ἀναδείξας καταπέμψας αὐτοῖς τὸ
Πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον καὶ δι' αὐτῶν τὴν οἰκουμένην σαγηνεύσας
φιλάνθρωπε δόξα Σοι. - © Greek Standard Text

Icon: Pentecost, 14th c., Coptic with Byzantine Influence, Church of Saint Barbara, Cairo, Egypt

Apolytikion for St. Barbara

"Let us honor the Holy Martyr Barbara, for as a bird she escaped the snares of the enemy, and destroyed them through the help and defense of the Cross." - Antiochian Archdiocese & OCA

Βαρβάραν τὴν Ἁγίαν τιμήσωμεν, ἐχθροῦ γὰρ τὰς παγίδας
συνέτριψε, καὶ ὡς στρουθιον ἐρρύσθη ἐξ αὐτῶν, βοήθεια καὶ
ὄπλω τοῦ Σταυροῦ ἢ Πάνσεμνος. - © Greek

Standard Text

St. Barbara, c. 1516, Lucas Cranach the Elder



Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal of the Fourth Tone

When the Most High came down and confounded tongues of men (Babel), He divided the Nations. When He dispensed the Tongues of Fire, He called all to unity, and with one voice we glorify the Most Holy Spirit. - © Narthex Press

Ὅτε καταβάς τὰς γλώσσας συνέχεε, διεμέριζεν ἔθνη ὁ Ὑψιστος· ὅτε τοῦ
πυρὸς τὰς γλώσσας διένειμεν, εἰς ἐνότητα πάντας ἐκάλεσε, καὶ συμφῶνως
δοξάζομεν τὸ πανάγιον Πνεῦμα. - © Greek Standard Text



Descent of the Holy Spirit, Novgorod, Russia, 16th c.

EPISTLE READING

The Reading is from St. Luke's
Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11

Their voice has gone out into all the earth.

Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God (Psalms 18:4, 1)

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."

Πράξεις Ἀποστόλων 2:1-11

Εἰς πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν ἐξῆλθεν ὁ φθόγγος αὐτῶν.

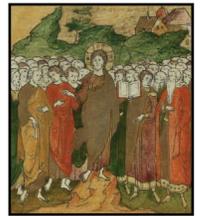
Στίχ: Οἱ οὐρανοὶ διηγούνται δόξαν Θεοῦ (ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 18:4, 1)

Ἐν τῷ συμπληροῦσθαι τὴν ἡμέραν τῆς Πεντηκοστῆς, ἦσαν ἅπαντες ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἐπὶ τὸ αὐτό. Καὶ ἐγένετο ἄφνω ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ ἦχος ὡσπερ φερομένης πνοῆς βιαίας, καὶ ἐπλήρωσεν ὅλον τὸν οἶκον οὗ ἦσαν καθήμενοι. Καὶ ὤφθησαν αὐτοῖς διαμεριζόμεναι γλῶσσαι ὡσεὶ πυρός, ἐκάθισέν τε ἐφ' ἓνα ἕκαστον αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἐπλήσθησαν ἅπαντες πνεύματος ἁγίου, καὶ ἤρξαντο λαλεῖν ἐτέραις γλώσσαις, καθὼς τὸ πνεῦμα ἐδίδου αὐτοῖς ἀποφθέγγεσθαι. Ἦσαν δὲ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ κατοικοῦντες Ἰουδαῖοι, ἄνδρες εὐλαβεῖς, ἀπὸ παντός ἔθνους τῶν ὑπὸ τὸν οὐρανόν. Γενομένης δὲ τῆς φωνῆς ταύτης, συνῆλθεν τὸ πλῆθος καὶ συνεχύθη, ὅτι ἤκουον εἰς ἕκαστος τῆ ἰδίᾳ διαλέκτῳ λαλούντων αὐτῶν. Ἐξίσταντο δὲ πάντες καὶ ἐθαύμαζον, λέγοντες πρὸς ἀλλήλους, Οὐκ ἰδοὺ πάντες οὗτοί εἰσιν οἱ λαλοῦντες Γαλιλαῖοι; Καὶ πῶς ἡμεῖς ἀκούομεν ἕκαστος τῆ ἰδίᾳ διαλέκτῳ ἡμῶν ἐν ἣ ἐγεννήθημεν; Πάρθοι καὶ Μῆδοι καὶ Ἐλαμίται, καὶ οἱ κατοικοῦντες τὴν Μεσοποταμίαν, Ἰουδαίαν τε καὶ Καππαδοκίαν, Πόντον καὶ τὴν Ἀσίαν, Φρυγίαν τε καὶ Παμφυλίαν, Αἴγυπτον καὶ τὰ μέρη τῆς Λιβύης τῆς κατὰ Κυρήνην, καὶ οἱ ἐπιδημοῦντες Ῥωμαῖοι, Ἰουδαῖοί τε καὶ προσήλυτοι, Κρηῖτες καὶ Ἄραβες, ἀκούομεν λαλούντων αὐτῶν ταῖς ἡμετέραις γλώσσαις τὰ μεγαλεῖα τοῦ Θεοῦ.

GOSPEL READING

The Reading is from the
Gospel of John 7:37-52; 8:12

HOLY PENTECOST SUNDAY



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.



Visit of Nicodemus to Christ, 1880, John La Farge, Artist

Icon above: *Christ Teaching, Manuscript, Gospel Lectionary, Walters Museum of Art*

As a means of preparation for communion, please read the "Communion Prayer of St. John Chrysostom" prior to approaching the chalice. After returning to your seat, it is appropriate to read the "Thanksgiving Prayers Following Holy Communion."

COMMUNION PRAYER OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

I believe and confess, Lord, that You are truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first. I also believe that this is truly Your pure Body, and that this is truly Your Precious Blood. Therefore, I pray to You, have mercy upon me, and forgive my transgressions, voluntary and involuntary, in word and deed, known and unknown. And make me worthy without condemnation to partake of Your Pure Mysteries for the forgiveness of sins and life eternal. Amen.

How shall I, who am unworthy, enter into the splendor of Your Saints? If I dare to enter into the Bridal Chamber, my clothing will accuse me, since it is not a wedding garment; and being bound up, I shall be cast out by the Angels. In Your love, Lord, cleanse my soul and save me.

Loving Master, Lord Jesus Christ, my God, let not these Holy Gifts be to my condemnation because of my unworthiness, but for the cleansing and sanctification of soul and body, and the pledge of the future life and kingdom. It is good for me to cling to God, and to place in Him the hope of my salvation.

Receive me today, Son of God, as a partaker of Your Mystical Supper. I will not reveal Your Mystery to Your adversaries. Nor will I give You a kiss, as did Judas. But as the thief I confess to You, "Lord, remember me in Your Kingdom."

THANKSGIVING PRAYERS FOLLOWING HOLY COMMUNION

ANONYMOUS

Glory to you, O God
Glory to you, O God
Glory to you, O God

Lord Jesus Christ, my God, let Your Sacred Body be unto me for eternal life and Your Precious Blood for forgiveness of sins. Let this Eucharist be unto me for joy, health, and gladness. And in Your awesome Second Coming make me, a sinner, worthy to stand at the right hand of Your Glory; through the intercession of Your Pure Mother, and of all Your Saints. Amen.

PRAYER OF SAINT BASIL

I thank You, Christ and Master our God, King of the ages and Creator of all things, for all the good gifts You have given me, and especially for the participation in Your pure and life-giving mysteries. I pray You, therefore, good and loving Lord, keep me under Your protection and under the shadow of Your wings. Grant that to my last breath I may with a pure conscience partake worthily of Your gifts for the forgiveness of sins and for eternal life. For You are the Bread of Life, the Source of Holiness, the Giver of All Good Things, and to You we give glory, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

ANONYMOUS

I thank You, Lord, my God, that You have not rejected me, a sinner, but have made me worthy to partake of Your holy Mysteries. I thank You that You have permitted me, although I am unworthy, to receive Your pure and heavenly gifts. O loving Master, who died and rose for our sake, and granted to us these awesome and life-giving Mysteries for the wellbeing and sanctification of our souls and bodies, let these gifts be for healing of my own soul and body, the averting of every evil, the illumination of the eyes of my heart, the peace of my spiritual powers, a faith unashamed, a love unfeigned, the fulfilling of wisdom, the observing of Your commandments, the receiving of Your divine grace, and the inheritance of Your kingdom. Preserved by them in Your Holiness, may I always be mindful of Your grace and no longer live for myself, but for You, our Master and Benefactor. May I pass from this life in the hope of eternal life, and attain to the everlasting rest, where the voices of Your saints who feast are unceasing, and their joy, beholding the ineffable beauty of Your countenance, is unending. For You, Christ our God, are the true joy and the inexpressible gladness of those who love You, and all creation praises You forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

I thank You, loving Master, benefactor of my soul, that on this day You have made me worthy once again of Your heavenly and immortal mysteries. Direct my ways on the right path, establish me firmly in Your fear, guard my life, and make my endeavors safe, through the prayers and supplications of the glorious Theotokos and ever virgin Mary and of all Your Saints. Amen.

ST. BARBARA GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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