Holy Pentecost (June 8)

In the Church's liturgical year, Pentecost is called "the last and great day." It marks both an end and a beginning—the fulfillment of salvation history and the birth of the Church through the coming of the Holy Spirit. With the Spirit's descent, the new life in Christ begins: a life of grace, adoption, and holiness.

The very name of the feast reveals this dual meaning. Pentecost means "fifty" in Greek, signifying the fullness of time (7 x 7 = 49) plus one—symbolizing the "eighth day," the eternal day of the Kingdom. With Pentecost, salvation is accomplished. All gifts are given; it now belongs to us to receive them, becoming what we are in Christ: citizens of His Kingdom.

The Vigil of Pentecost opens with joy: "Let us celebrate Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit… the fulfillment of hope, the mystery which is as great as it is precious."
In hymns and Old Testament readings (Numbers, Joel, Ezekiel), the Church proclaims the Spirit's long-foretold coming. For the first time since Pascha, we sing the prayer: "O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth…" — marking the Spirit's presence as the life-breath of the Church.

The Vigil reaches its climax in joy and light, as we hear in the Gospel (John 20:19–23) Christ's sending of the apostles. The Liturgy follows with antiphons declaring the Spirit's sanctifying presence throughout the world—the true manifestation of God's Kingdom.

After the Liturgy, the unique Pentecost Vespers are served. Flowers in hand, symbolizing eternal spring, we sing: "Who is so great a God as our God?"
Then we kneel—for the first time since Pascha—marking our return to the pilgrimage of time. The three kneeling prayers express repentance, supplication for divine help, and remembrance of the departed. Pentecost completes the joy of Easter. Though we re-enter time and its struggles, the Spirit's presence abides. God is with us.

Every Sunday hereafter is named "after Pentecost," reminding us that all time flows from the power of this feast. Our churches are adorned with green, for the Church never grows old. It is ever-living, ever-renewed by the Holy Spirit—the Giver of Life, who abides in us, cleanses us, and fills us with love, faith, and hope.

—Fr. Alexander Schmemann (1974)

(Text and image from oca.org)

The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch (Acts 11:26)

ST. PHILIP ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Antiochian Archdiocese

His Eminence Metropolitan SABA

◇◇◇

His Grace Bishop THOMAS

◇◇◇

Father Noah Bushelli, Pastor
215-954-9286

◇◇◇

Father James Thayer
215-692-0890

June 8, 2025
HOLY PENTECOST

Old Testament Readings:
Num. 11: 16-17, 24-29
Joel 2: 23-32
Ezek. 36: 24-28

Orthros Gospel: St. John 20:19-23
Epistle: Acts 2:1-11
Gospel: St. John 7:32-52, 8:12

PENTECOST TROPARION - Tone 8 - Most blessed art thou, O Christ our God, who when thou hadst made the fishermen most wise, did send down upon them the Holy Spirit, and by them didst draw the world into thy net! O Lord of mercy, glory to thee!

PENTECOST KONTAKION - Tone 8 - When coming down He brought confusion on mortal tongues, God Most High brought disunion to nations, and again when He apportioned the tongues of fire, He summoned all mankind to unite once more; and with one accord we glorify the All-Holy Spirit.

TODAY: *Liturgy at Fort Washington Mission 9am*
Orthros, 8:15 a.m.
Divine Liturgy, 9:30 a.m.
Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m.
Pentecost Kneeling Vespers,1:00 p.m.

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Fr Noah & Fr James are available for hospital visits. If you or anyone you know is in the hospital or homebound and would like a visit, please call the church office.

Weekly Ministries & Stewards:

	This Week:	Next Week (June 15):
COFFEE HOUR:	Tyshko Family (Valerie's Graduation)	Women of St. Philip (Father's Day)
PROSPHORA BREAD:	Gabriela Plesa	Macrina Layton
ALTAR CANDLES:	----	----
USHERS:	Steve K. & Chris H.	Nick M. & Bill H.
CLEANING TEAM:	Radu C., Mary T., Daniel F., Tony M.	Catechumens
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	Mike l., Dave & Darby, Steven M.	Kendra, Mark, Morgan

* **IT IS TIME TO RETURN OUR FOOD FOR HUNGRY PEOPLE OFFERINGS.** Thank you for remembering the needs of others.

This Week:

NO FASTING OR ABSTINENCE THIS WEEK

Mon, June 9: ***HOLY SPIRIT MONDAY***
Divine Liturgy 7:00 a.m.

Tues, June 10: Divine Liturgy, 9:30 a.m.
Matushka Olga Sewing Club 1 p.m.

Wed, June 11: Divine Liturgy, 7:00 a.m.
Akathist: Holy Spirit, 6:30 p.m.
Patristic Reading 7:00 p.m.
FOCUS Philadelphia (Norristown), 7:00 pm

Thurs, June 12: Divine Liturgy, 9:30 a.m.
FOCUS Philadelphia (Aviator), 8:00 p.m.

Friday, June 13: Divine Liturgy, 7:00 a.m.
Confessions, 6:00 p.m.
Paraklesis, 6:30 p.m.

Sat, June 14: Divine Liturgy, 8:00 a.m.
Wedding (Bushelli), 2:00 p.m.
Great **VESPERS, 6:00 p.m.**

Sun, June 15: SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS
ORTHROS, 8:15 a.m.
Ft. Washington Mission Chapel, 9:00 a.m.
Divine LITURGY, 9:30 a.m.
Coffee Hour, 11:15 a.m.

ATTENDANCE: Vespers 5/31: Divine Liturgy (6/1):
Mission Chapel (6/1): 31

OFFERINGS 6/16: Candles, $859. Collections, $429. Book Shelf Ministry, $126. Hospitality, $24.01. Mission Chapel, $150. Pastoral Discretion, $146.03. Refund, $12,527.31. Stewardship, $5,037.02. Total received: $19,298.37.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

SPECIAL APPEAL

Three ways you can help as we are gearing up for another **Vacation Church School**, of growth in faith and love for God:

1) See Kate Gohl about volunteering
2) Pray for Fr. Noah, leaders, and students
3) Consider offering a financial gift to cover expenses

Mark Your Calendar:

Apostles' Fast
June 16-28

2025 Parish Life Conference
June 25-28, 2025

VCS 2025
July 28-Aug 1

Dormition Fast
Begins August 1

Holy Transfiguration
August 6

Dormition of the Theotokos
August 15

International Food Festival
September 19-20

JUNE OUTREACH COLLECTION:

Bath & Shower Products

Pray For:

Living

Our Patriarch John and Faithful of Syria and all the holy land
Met. Onuphry and faithful of Ukraine

N.I. Matthew, Catherine, and Rose
N.C. Stephen and Josephine
Archpriest Joel
Nun Sergeia
John
Doris
James
Steven
Paraskevi
Elizabeth
Michaela
Elias
Mary
Alexander

Jesse, Nathan, Hannah, Elizabeth, Mary, Michael, Xenia, & all Missionaries

Dn Nathan, John, Samuel & all seminarians

Those searching for housing, jobs and spouses

Engaged Couples
Families trying to conceive
Expectant mothers
New mothers and their babies

Those in mourning
The people of our land, and for their repentance, healing & unity

Departed

Newly Departed

+ Jaroslav

(June Parish Diptychs)
+Nicholas
+Maria
+Marion
Betty
+Victoria
+Anna
+Gail
+Sophia
+Mat. Linda
+John

Catechumens

Ryan
Kassandra
Jasper
Matthew
Mary
Martin
Photini
John
Steven
Robert
Liara
Asher
Sarah
Andrew
Carolyn
Martin
James
Anthony
Slawomir
Josiah
Casie
Ray