

# SUNDAY OF PENTECOST



*Icon of Pentecost*

## May 24, 2026: Pentecost Sunday

Epistle: Acts 2: 1-11

Gospel: Jn. 7: 37-52 & 8:12

<b>This Weekend</b>	4:00 pm For Our Parishioners 10:30 For All Those Buried in Our Cemetery
<b>Mon., May 25</b>	9:00 + For All Those Who Died in the Service of Our Country
<b>Tues., May 26</b>	9:00 + Irene Hermanovich (Mario & Karen Matrone)
<b>Wed., May 27</b>	9:00 + George Chmil, Jr. (Andrea Novak & Andy Marcinko)
<b>Thurs., May 28</b>	9:00 + Mary Patricia Brown (Howard Smith)
<b>Fri., May 29</b>	9:00 Health of Fr. Robert Hitchens (Father Nestor)
<b>Sat., May 30</b>	<b>No Morning Divine Liturgy</b> 2:00 pm Confessions 4:00 pm + Ron Dubiac (Sister, Marlene)
<b>Sun., May 31</b>	10:30 For Our Parishioners

### Pentecost

Heavenly King, Comforter,\* Spirit of Truth,\* You are everywhere present and fill all things.\* Treasury of blessings and Giver of life,\* come and dwell within us,\* cleanse us of all stain,\* and save our souls, O gracious Lord.

.....

### Antiphon 1

The heavens tell the glory of God, and the firmament declares the work of his hand.

*Through the prayers of the Mother of God, Savior, save us.*

Day to day pours forth the message and night proclaims this knowledge to night.

*Through the prayers of the Mother of God, Savior, save us.*

Their utterance has gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

*Through the prayers of the Mother of God, Savior, save us.*

**Antiphon 3**

*O Lord, by Your power the king shall rejoice and greatly exult in Your salvation.*  
Blessed are You, O Christ our God who revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending them the Holy Spirit; through them You caught the entire world. Loving Master, glory to You.

*You gave him his heart's desire and did not deny the request of his lips.*  
Blessed are You, O Christ our God who revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending them the Holy Spirit; through them You caught the entire world. Loving Master, glory to You.

*For You have gone before him with gracious blessings,  
you have placed upon his head a crown of precious stones.*  
Blessed are You, O Christ our God who revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending them the Holy Spirit; through them You caught the entire world. Loving Master, glory to You.

.....  
**Entrance**

*Be exalted, O Lord, in Your strength;  
we will sing and make music to Your might.*  
.....

**Instead of Holy God**

All you who have been baptized into Christ, you have put on Christ. Alleluia. (3X)  
*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen.*

You have put on Christ. Alleluia.

All you who have been baptized into Christ, you have put on Christ. Alleluia.  
.....

**Hymn to the Mother of God**

O my soul, magnify the one Divinity in three Persons. Rejoice, O Queen, boast of the virgins and mothers, for every tongue, though capable and eloquent, cannot hymn you as is your due, and every mind is confounded in seeking to comprehend the way in which you gave birth. Wherefore with one accord we glorify you.  
.....

**Communion Hymn**

Your good Spirit will lead me to the land of righteousness.  
**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## **THE FEAST OF THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

The Feast of Holy Pentecost is celebrated each year on the fiftieth day after the Great and Holy Feast of Pascha (Resurrection) 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.

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). It commemorates the giving of the Law, the Torah, to Moses on Mt. Sinai.

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 too 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).

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).

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF MEMORIAL DAY



**ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL**

Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day because it was a time set aside to honor the nation's Civil War dead by decorating their graves. It was first widely observed on May 30, 1868, to commemorate the sacrifices of Civil War soldiers, by proclamation of General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of former

sailors and soldiers. On May 5, 1868, Logan declared in General Order No. 11 that:

*The 30<sup>th</sup> of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land. In this observance no form of ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit.*

During the first celebration of Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, after which 5,000 participants helped to decorate the graves of the more

than 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried in the cemetery.

This 1868 celebration was inspired by local observances of the day in several towns throughout America that had taken place in the three years since the Civil War. In fact, several Northern and Southern cities claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day, including Columbus, Miss.; Macon, Ga.; Richmond, Va.; Boalsburg, Pa.; and Carbondale, Ill.

In 1966, the federal government, under the direction of President Lyndon Johnson, declared Waterloo, N.Y., the official birthplace of Memorial Day. They chose Waterloo - which had first celebrated the day on May 5, 1866 - because the town had made Memorial Day an annual, community-wide

event during which businesses closed and residents decorated the graves of soldiers with flowers and flags.

By the late 1800s, many communities across the country had begun to celebrate Memorial Day and, after World War I, observances also began to honor those who had died in all of America's wars. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be celebrated the last Monday in May. (In addition to Memorial Day, Veterans Day, a day set aside to honor all veterans, living and dead, is celebrated each year on November 11<sup>th</sup>. The date was chosen because of the armistice of World War I, the 11<sup>th</sup> month, the eleventh day, the eleventh hour.)

## SERVICES AT THE CEMETERY

Please be reminded that this Sunday we will gather for our annual services at the Cemetery. The Divine Liturgy will begin at 10:30 AM, followed immediately by a **Panakhya (Prayer Service for the Deceased)**. After the Panakhya, we will proceed with the blessing of individual graves.

We encourage all parishioners to join us in prayer as we remember and

honor our departed loved ones.

**Special Request:** We kindly ask our Parish photographers to share any digital photos taken at the Cemetery. These images will be submitted to the Communications Office of the Chancery for possible publication in the Archiepachial newsletter. Thank you for helping us preserve and share these meaningful moments.

May the Lord grant rest to the souls

of our faithful departed and bless all who gather in prayer.

## **ONE OF OUR OWN..... MOVING TO PITTSBURGH**

Our dearly beloved Mrs. Eileen Kushner is moving to Fombell (Pittsburgh), Pa., to live with her son, Kurt, and his wife, Linda, at the end of month. Mrs. Kushner is now in her 90's and living in Blakely.

At this time in her life, it will be an adjustment to move from her home, but she will not be alone, but living with family. (Roman passed away in 2023, Michael and Linda are in Delaware, and the grandchildren are in Florida). Her friends from the parish and community will miss her dearly, but she is only a card/letter away. (Birthday Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>). As of June 1, 2026, the address for Mrs. Eileen Kushner is 103 Short Street, Fombell, PA 16123.

Mrs. Kushner was the secretary at Ss. Cyril's and Methodius Rectory (1974 - December 2008). While at the rectory, she did the office work, plus

cooking, etc., for Msgr. Hrynuck. Mr. Roman Kushner was the Maintenance foreman for the Church, grade school, "new" kindergarten hall, cemetery, etc. Working with Monsignor Stephen Hrynuck at the rectory for 34 years was an achievement for both of them. Upon Msgr. Hrynuck's retirement (2008), the Kushners gladly opened their home. Monsignor lived with the Kushner Family until Monsignor's (his) death in March of 2014.

We are so thankful for Eileen Kushner's love and commitment to St. Cyril's Church, the parishioners, friends, and Monsignor Hrynuck. We wish her the best of health and happiness as she accepts this new stage in her life. We will miss Mrs. Kushner and will keep her in our prayers, always.  
Mnohaya Leeta

## **COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM**

The Collection Processing Team #1: Jerry Sereditch, Michaelene Davis, and Gloria Jablonski for the month of May 2026 is Team

**Sunday Collection for May 16 & 17, 2026: \$**

*Sincere thanks to all of you for your kindness and generosity.*

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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

### ***There is Life in the Church because in the Church is the Spirit***

My brothers and sisters, if you want the Holy Spirit to dwell in you, listen carefully. Our spirit, by means of which each individual lives, is called the soul. And look what the soul does in the body. It gives life to all the limbs. It sees with the eyes, hears with the ears, smells with the nose, speaks with the tongue, works with the hands, walks with the feet. It is present at one and the same time in all the limbs to make them live. It gives life to all the limbs and to each limb its function. It is not the eye that hears, not the ear that sees, not the eye or the ear that speaks. Yet they are nonetheless alive. The ear is alive, the tongue is alive. Their functions are different, the life is the same.

The Church of God is like that. By means of some believers she performs miracles, by means

of others she teaches the truth; by means of some she keeps virginity, by means of others she respects marital fidelity. The tasks are different, the life is the same. What the soul is to the body of a human being, the Holy Spirit is to the Body of Christ, the Church. The Holy Spirit does for the whole Church what the soul does for the body of the individual. Look then and see what you ought to fear and what you ought to avoid. If the body suffers an amputation (for example of a finger or a hand or a foot) does the soul go with the limb that has been cut off? While it was in the body, that limb was alive; when it is cut off it loses its life. It is like that with Christians. They are alive only while they are in the Body. If they are cut off from the Body, the Holy Spirit is no longer with them.

*St. Augustine of Hippo*