

SAINT GEORGE ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

HIS EMINENCE, ARCHBISHOP ALEXANDER OF TOLEDO: RECTOR

REV. FR. GREGORY BRUNER: DEAN

(779) 875-1084 | FRGBRUNER@GMAIL.COM

738 GLENWOOD ROAD, ROSSFORD, OHIO 43460 | [HTTP://WWW.STGEORGEROSSFORD.ORG](http://www.stgeorgerossford.org)

June 7, 2020

8th Sunday after Pascha - Tone 7
Holy Pentecost, Feast of the Holy Trinity
Hieromartyr Theodotus, Bisop of Ancyra



From the Fathers...

"Our life depends on the kind of thoughts we nurture. If our thoughts are peaceful, calm, meek, and kind, then that is what our life is like. If our attention is turned to the circumstances in which we live, we are drawn into a whirlpool of thoughts and can have neither peace nor tranquility."

- Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica



Welcome Visitors!

We are delighted to have visitors worship with us, and we pray that you will be blessed through your participation with us. In the Orthodox Church, the reception of Holy Communion is a mark of membership in the Church. Only those who have been united to the Orthodox Church through Baptism or Chrismation, and have prepared themselves through regular Confession, prayer and fasting are permitted to partake of Holy Communion. We encourage visitors to participate in our prayers and hymns and to join us in venerating the Cross and receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. Literature about the Orthodox faith and this parish can be found in the vestibule. Please feel free to ask questions before or after the service, as well as join us in the Parish Hall for refreshments and fellowship after the Liturgy.



We celebrate the feast of Pentecost/ and the coming of the Spirit,/ the appointed day of the promise, the fulfillment of hope./ How majestic and great is the mystery!// Therefore we cry aloud to Thee:// "Glory to Thee, O Lord and Creator of all!"

The Holy Spirit provides all things:/ He pours forth prophecies,/ He leads priests to perfection,/ He teaches unschooled people wisdom,/ He reveals fishermen as theologians,/ He confirms the Church.// O Comforter, one in essence and enthroned with the Father and the Son, glory to Thee!

Let us praise in song the consubstantial Trinity:/ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.// For this was the preaching of all the Prophets, Apostles, and Martyrs. (*Stichera of Lord, I Call*)

A PARISH OF THE BULGARIAN DIOCESE OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

TODAY'S WORSHIP - HYMNS AND SCRIPTURE READINGS

Pentecost Troparion in Tone 8

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God,/ Who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise/ by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit,/ and through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net.// O Lover of Man, glory to Thee!

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Pentecost Kontakion in Tone 8

When the Most High came down and confused the tongues,/ He divided the nations;/ but when He distributed the tongues of fire, He called all to unity.// Therefore, with one voice we glorify the All-holy Spirit.

Epistle: Acts 2:1-11

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs – we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God."

Gospel: John 7:37-52, 8:12

On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke

concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Therefore many from the crowd, when they heard this saying, said, "Truly this is the Prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Will the Christ come out of Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the seed of David and from the town of Bethlehem, where David was?" So there was a division among the people because of Him. Now some of them wanted to take Him, but no one laid hands on Him.

Then the officers came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why have you not brought Him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this Man!" Then the Pharisees answered them, "Are you also deceived? Have any of the rulers or the Pharisees believed in Him? But this crowd that does not know the law is accursed."

Nicodemus (he who came to Jesus by night, being one of them) said to them, "Does our law judge a man before it hears him and knows what he is doing?" They answered and said to him, "Are you also from Galilee? Search and look, for no prophet has arisen out of Galilee."

Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

Sunday, June 7th

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Livestream and In Person)
11:30 AM Kneeling Vespers (Livestream and In Person)
8th Sunday of Pascha
Holy Pentecost. Feast of the Holy Trinity
Hieromartyr Theodotus, Bishop of Ancyra
Acts 2:1-11, John 7:37-52, 8:12

Monday, June 8th

Day of the Holy Spirit
Translation of the Relics of Greatmartyr Theodore
St. Ephraim, Patriarch of Antioch
Ephesians 5:9-19, Matthew 18:10-20

Tuesday, June 9th

6:30 PM Parish Council (Online)
Third Day of the Trinity
St. Cyril, Archbishop of Alexandria
Romans 1:1-7, 13-17, Matthew 4:25-5:13

Wednesday, June 10th

8:00 PM Growing Young (Online)
Afterfeast of Pentecost
Hieromartyr Timothy, Bishop of Prussa
Romans 1:18-27, Matthew 5:20-26

Thursday, June 11th

Afterfeast of Pentecost
Holy Apostles Bartholomew and Barnabas
St. Luke of Simferopol and Crimea
Romans 1:28-2:8, Acts 11:19-26, 29-30
Matthew 5:27-32, Luke 10:16-21

Friday, June 12th

Afterfeast of Pentecost
Ven. Onuphrius the Great
Romans 2:14-29, Matthew 5:33-41

Saturday, June 13th

5:00 PM Great Vespers (Livestream and In Person)
Leavetaking of Pentecost
Martyr Aquilina of Byblos in Syria
Ven. Nun Alexandra of Diveyevo
Romans 1:7-12, Matthew 5:42-48

Sunday, June 14th

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Livestream and In Person)
Sunday of All Saints
Prophet Elisha
Hebrews 11:33-12:2, Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30

The Trinity



Pentecost is also the Feast of the Holy Trinity. It's a good day to consider this question: How can God be One and Undivided, as Christians claim, and at the same time be three distinct Persons, as Christians also claim?

Part of the answer is that this is how God has shown Himself to be in Scripture, both the Old and New Testaments. The Book of Genesis is one example. The second verse of the book says that "the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters" at the time of creation.

Then, in 1:26, God says, "Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness." This verse with its plural "our" is what the Gospel writer John is referring to when he writes, "All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made" (1:3). John is describing Jesus Christ, the Word of God, as co-creator with the Father.

So the Bible clearly establishes the Father, Son and Holy Spirit as the three Persons of the Trinity. Yet some Biblical commentators contend that when God speaks in Genesis about making man "in our image" He is addressing not Christ, but the beings who surround Him in heaven, the members of the heavenly court.

This contention doesn't really make sense. The angels and the beings around God are still created by Him. They can bear His image, but they cannot share it as His equals by nature any more than we can. They too are creatures, even though they are privileged to stand before their Maker in heaven.

Father Alexander Schmemmann, writing about the Creed in "Celebration of Faith" Volume I, gives the other part of the answer. He says that God MUST be a Trinity of Persons:

"We believe in one God, but not in a God who is alone, not in a God who is self-centered, not in a God who lives in and for Himself. God is love, Christianity says. But to love is to be turned towards the Other, and at its most exalted, to love is to surrender to Him. The Father, says the Gospel, loves the Son and gives everything to Him. The Son, says the Gospel, loves the Father and gives Himself totally to Him. Finally, the Holy Spirit is this gift of love itself, this love itself as gift, joy, fullness, existence, thirst and quenching of thirst, giving and receiving.

And through this love, through this giving, God creates the world, calls each of us into life, makes each of us beloved and bestows His love, His Spirit, so that each can partake of divine Life. Thus we pray to the Spirit: 'Come and abide in us'...And in answer He comes to abide in us, to lead us, as Christ promised, into all truth...to give us eternal life.

This then is the radiant mystery of Christian faith, the mystery of God who is Trinity, the God who is Love."

Guidance for COVID-19

Reopening Guidelines

The Cathedral has moved to Stage 4 of the Reopening Process. Welcome back to those able to attend this weekend!

The process of signing up was emailed and posted to Facebook. Please visit the website at StGeorgeRossford.org and follow the links in the calendar for the sign up sheet and a video explaining the process.

The sign up sheet will be posted on Monday morning each week for the following weekend. Please help those who do not have access to the internet with the sign up process. We want everyone to be able to attend.

In order to maximize the number of people who attend, please limit your sign ups to one Divine Liturgy per month.

Livestream Services

All services will continue to be **livestreamed on Facebook** and finished recordings will be **uploaded to YouTube**. **Like, Share, Subscribe** to both to be notified when new postings are available. The schedule is also available online at our website.

Confessions and Visitations

Confessions now available on Saturday evenings and by appointment. Please contact Fr. Gregory directly to schedule. Hospital visitations remain limited by local hospitals. Personal visitations by appointment with proper social-distancing are available. Please contact Fr. Gregory to discuss.

Online Adult Education Coming in June

Fr. Gregory will be offering online adult education coming in June. We will be examining some well-known and less-known women saints of the Church. More details will be coming soon!

Candles and Bulletin Sponsors

During this time of separation, if you would like a candle lit in church on your behalf or would like to sponsor the sanctuary lamp, please email Fr. Gregory. Donations can be made online on our website.

Stewardship

We encourage you to continue giving your regular offerings during this time. Please review our new online giving option now available on our website!

Growing Young Initiative

The Parish Council supported Growing Young Initiative is meeting every **Wednesday 8:00-9:00pm** online at GoToMeeting.com, If you haven't been invited but would like to be in on the excitement let Steve or Cindy know. What are we doing? Initiatives include mentoring our youth, Card Ministry, education and learning to create authentic dialogue. Join us!

We are praying for...

Departed:

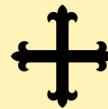
Archimandrite Elias, Archpriest Paul, Popadia Marilyn, Aleksei, Bill

Health and Well-Being:

Maria, Tanya, Lawrence, Kathleen, Karen, Panka, Barb, and the kidnapped hierarchs Metropolitan Boulos and Archbishop Yohanna of Aleppo; and those being persecuted for their faith in the Middle East.

Catechumens:

Tim, Laura, Ethan, Naomi, Olivia, Daniel, Phoebe, Ezekiel, and Jachin.



Sanctuary Lamp

Sanctuary Lamp sponsorships are available. Please contact Fr. Gregory.



Celebrations

Birthdays:

Stan Pentsos (6/12)
Maria Pappas (6/13)

