

Glory to Jesus Christ!
Слава Иисусу Христу!

St. Mary ~ Holy Protection
Byzantine Catholic Church
4480 Route 981 Latrobe, PA 15650

Glory Forever!
Слава на вики!

Administrator: Fr. Paul-Alexander Shutt, OSB
Confession Schedule: *Saturday* 16:00 – 16:30,
Parish email: st.marytrauger@gmail.com

Parish Office: 724-423-3 673 **Hall:** 724-423-8838
Sunday 9:00 – 9:30, or by appointment
Website: www.stmarybyzantinecatholic.org

28 MAY 2023 / 7531 PENTECOST SUNDAY



LITURGY SCHEDULE:

Sat. May 27 **10:00 FIFTH ALL SOULS SATURDAY & Panachida**

17:00 VIGIL OF PENTECOST w/ Mirovanije

Suffrages for +Daniel Trepia - Daniel Mihalko

Sun. May 28 **10:30 PENTECOST SUNDAY** w/ Mirovanije

Sat. June 03 **17:00 VIGIL OF ALL SAINTS** *Suffrages pro populo*

Sun. June 04 **10:30 SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS** *Baptism, Chrismation,
and 1st Eucharist of Luca Alexander Ciganko*

✠	✠	✠	✠	✠	✠
05 / 21 / 2023	Adults: \$1706	Candles: \$64	Holy Days: \$190		
COLLECTION	Seminary: \$175	TOTAL: \$2135			

PENTECOST WEEK, MAY 29 – JUNE 2, IS FREE FROM ALL FASTING!

THE FEAST OF PENTECOST: On this, the last and greatest day of the feast, the Lord pours forth the Holy Spirit in a form like tongues of fire upon His followers. On this day we are reminded of our baptism in fire and the Spirit; we are anointed with the manifold gifts of the Spirit, and we receive the courage and wisdom to proclaim the gospel of the Lord.

«This was why the Lord promised to send the Advocate: He was to prepare us as an offering to God. Like dry flour, which cannot become one lump of dough, one loaf of bread, without moisture, we who are many could not become one in Christ Jesus without the water that comes down from heaven. And like parched ground, which yields no harvest unless it receives moisture, we who were once like a waterless tree could never have lived and borne fruit without this abundant rainfall from above. Through the Baptism that liberates us from change and decay we have become one in body; through the Spirit we have become one in soul. If we are not to be scorched and made unfruitful, we need the dew of God. Since we have our Accuser [Satan], we need an Advocate as well. And so the Lord in His pity for man, who had fallen into the hands of brigands, having Himself bound up his wounds and left for his care two coins bearing the royal image, entrusted him to the Holy Spirit. Now, through the Spirit, the image and inscription of the Father and the Son have been given to us, and it is our duty to use the coin committed to our charge and make it yield a rich profit for the Lord.»

St. Irenæus of Lyon, (a.D. 130 – 202)



Festival of Weeks ~ Chag Shavu'ot

«You shall count seven full weeks from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering. You shall count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath. Then you shall present a grain offering of new grain to the Lord. [...] And you shall make a proclamation on the same day. You shall hold a holy convocation. You shall not do any ordinary work. It is a statute forever in all your dwelling places throughout your generations»

Leviticus 23:15-16, 21

Shavu'ot, The Festival of Weeks, The Festival of the Harvest, The Closing of Passover is the second of the three major festivals with both historical and agricultural significance (the other two are **Passover** and **Sukkoth – Festival of Booths**). **Agriculturally**, it commemorates the time when the first fruits were harvested and brought to the Temple, and is known as **Chag ha-Bikkurim** (the Festival of the First Fruits). **Historically**, it celebrates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai, and is also known as **Chag Matan Torateinu** (the Festival of the Giving of Our Torah).

The period from Passover to Shavu'ot is a time of great anticipation. One counts each of the days from the second day of Passover to the day before Shavu'ot, 49 days or 7 full weeks, hence the name of the festival. The counting is a reminder of the important connection between Passover and Shavu'ot: Passover freed the Jews physically from bondage, but the giving of the Torah on Shavu'ot redeemed them spiritually from their bondage to idolatry and immorality. Shavu'ot is also known as Pentecost because it falls on the 50th day. Today the emphasis of the feast is on the giving of Torah and overshadows **the agricultural aspect of the feast** which **has survived in the custom of decorating the synagogue with greens and flowers** (a tradition still observed in the Byzantine Churches, Catholic and Orthodox).



It is noteworthy that the holiday is called the time of the ***giving*** of the Torah, rather than the time of the ***receiving*** of the Torah. The sages point out that one is constantly in the process of receiving the Torah that one receives it every day, but it was first given at this time. Thus it is the giving, not the receiving, that makes this holiday significant. Among Reform Jews this feast was fittingly chosen for the ceremony of confirmation, at which time the pledge of Sinai is renewed.



~ Announcements ~

- ✠ The parish is very grateful to the **GREEK CATHOLIC UNION** for their most generous donation to our parish and to all the parishes of the Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Church. Please see the announcement of this donation posted in the Narthex and note that **a parish coordinator must be named by each parish** in order to receive additional financial support from the GCU, *e.g.*, matching funds donation of up to \$3000 for fundraising events and a \$500 donation (debit card) for events held within the parish. Anyone parishioner interested in serving as this coordinator is asked to contact Father.
- ✠ The **ANNUAL SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY COLLECTION** will be taken throughout the month of May. There is a special envelope for this in your box. Please give generously for the formation of the future deacons and priests of our church and remember to **PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!**
- ✠ **ON MEMORIAL DAY – MAY 29th – A PANACHIDA** will be served at **10:00** at the parish cemetery in remembrance of all those parishioners who died in service to our country; following the Panachida there will be the blessing of veterans' graves. In the event of inclement weather, the Memorial Service will take place at the church.
- ✠ **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** The next **parish sponsored bingo** will be held on **FRIDAY, JUNE 9th**. Doors open at 5:00 pm; games begin at 6:30 pm.
- ✠ The annual **PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION** will be taken the weekend of **June 10 – 11**. In ninth-century England, King Alfred the Great collected money, a "pence," from landowners as financial support for the pope. Today, the Peter's Pence Collection supports the Holy Father's philanthropy by giving him the means to provide emergency assistance to those in need because of natural disaster, war, oppression, and disease.