

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

24 MAY 2026 / 7534 PENTECOST SUNDAY



LITURGY SCHEDULE:

Sat. May 23 17:00 Vigil: **PENTECOST**, 5th All Souls. w/ Mirovanije

Sun. May 24 10:30 **PENTECOST** Suffrages *pro populo*, w/ Mirovanije
MEMORIAL DAY PANACHIDA

Sat. May 30 17:00 **SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS**
Suffrages for **+John Dusecina, Sr.** – Fr. Regis Dusecina

Sun. May 31 10:30 **SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS** Suffrages *pro populo*

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05 / 17 / 2026 Adult: \$830 Candles: \$85 Holy Day: \$145

COLLECTION Seminary: \$65 **TOTAL: \$1125**

ATTENDANCE: Sat. 12 Sun. 30



From a homily on the Song of Songs by Saint Gregory of Nyssa, bishop The glory You gave to Me, I have given to them!

When love has entirely cast out fear, and fear has been transformed into love, then the unity brought us by our Savior will be fully realized, for all men will be united with one another through their union with the one supreme Good. They will possess the perfection ascribed to the dove, according to our interpretation of the text: *One alone is my dove, my perfect one. She is the only child of her mother, her chosen one.* Our Lord's words in the gospel bring out the meaning of this text more clearly.



After having conferred all power on His disciples by His blessing, He obtained many other gifts for them by His prayer to the Father. Among these was included the greatest gift of all, which was that they were no longer to be divided in their judgement of what was right and good, for they were all to be united to the one supreme Good. As the Apostle says, they were to be bound together with the bonds of peace in the unity that comes from the Holy Spirit. They were to be made one body and one spirit by the one hope to which they were all called. We shall do better, however, to quote the sacred words of the gospel itself. *I pray, the Lord says, that they all may be one; that as You, Father, are in Me and I am in You, so they also may be one in Us.*

Now the bond that creates this unity is GLORY. That the Holy Spirit is called GLORY no one can deny if he thinks carefully about the Lord's words: *The glory You gave to Me, I have given to them.* In fact, He gave this glory to His disciples when He said to them: *Receive the Holy Spirit.* Although He had always possessed it, even before the world existed, He Himself received this glory when He put on human nature. Then, when His human nature had been glorified by the Spirit, the glory of the Spirit was passed on to all His kin, beginning with His disciples. This is why He said: *The glory You gave to Me, I have given to them, so that they may be one as We are One. With Me in them and You in Me, I want them to be perfectly one.*

Whoever has grown from infancy to manhood and attained to spiritual maturity possesses the mastery over his passions and the purity that makes it possible for him to receive the glory of the Spirit. He is that perfect dove upon whom the eyes of the bridegroom rest when he says: *One alone is my dove, my perfect one.*



The Festival of Weeks

«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 the Festival of the First Fruits. **Historically**, it celebrates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai, and is also known as 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 homes synagogues with greens and flowers (a tradition still observed in the Byzantine Churches from Constantinople, both 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 ~

- **CONGRATULATIONS TO THOMAS and to his parents Arthur and Kathleen.** Thomas graduated last Sunday from Case-Western School of Medicine in Cleveland and will be doing his residency at the Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, PA. *«May God grant to His servant Thomas peace, health, and happiness for many blessed years!» ad multos annos! εἰς πολλὰ ἔτη!*
- **GCU** in conjunction with **Eastern Christian Bulletin Service** is now offering to our parish the weekly bulletin covers for the second half of 2026. Since we are a part of the GCU Byzantine Parish Coordinator program these covers will be offered free of charge. The parish is most appreciative for this generous offer. **THANK YOU GCU!!!**

