

Parish Prayer List (Living)

(Parish)

Evangelos	Carolyn	Robert	Sharon
John	Maria	Anamay	Ron
Lawrence	Dianna	Efthalia	Denny
Anthony	Paula	Kathleen	John L.
Beverly	David	Michael	Anastasia
Nina	Walter	Nathan	Mary
Joseph	Duncan	Thecla	Michael
Reader Mark	Jason	Silouan	Susan Mary
Maximus	Emilia	Clint	George
Magdalini	Connie	Emil	John H.
Barbara	John	Pam	Gracie
Olga	Marina	Seraphim	Maria
Sophia	Danny	Katina	Jeffery
Andrea	Subdn. Gregory	Nicholas	Mary
Rachel	Katherine	Lilly	Joyce

(non-Parish)

Alexandra	Rachael	Seraphim	Evdokia
Christopher	Fr. Michael	Paige and Paul	Sean
James	Nicholas B.	Karin	Meg
Barry Pierce	Rick P.	Susan K	Penny
Anna	Brian	Hugh	Raymond
Lane	Megan	Alma	Charles Kahn
Peter	Maria	Michael	Timothy
Petrese	Mary	Thomas Pappas	Lillian Pappas
Pietra & Piero	Michael	Grover	Valentina
Mike	Ron	Brian	John Howard

Parish Prayer List (Fallen Asleep)

Michael Pilja (+4/7)

Fr. Michael Rosco (+5/15)

Michael Urban (+6/21)

Robert Beall (+6/24)

Thoughts from the Fathers

Christ told those who believed in Him ... “When the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, He shall testify of me” (Jn. 15:26), and “He will guide you into all truth” (Jn. 16:13). The promise was now fulfilled and the Holy Spirit, given and sent by both the Father and the Son, descended. He shone round about the holy disciples and with divine power kindled them all like lamps or, rather, He revealed them as heavenly lights set above the whole world, who had the word of eternal life, and through them He

illuminated all the earth. If from the one burning lamp someone lights another, then another from that one, and so on in succession, he has light continuously. In the same way, through the Apostles ordaining their successors, and these successors ordaining others, and so on, the grace of the Holy Spirit is handed down through all generations and enlightens all who obey their spiritual shepherds and teachers.

Saint Gregory Palamas

Without the Holy Spirit nothing moves. Nothing is done. Nothing exists. Nothing is enlightened. The Holy Spirit is the Breath that God blew into Man. We have the Holy Spirit, His Seal, through our Baptism (p. 229). The gifts of the Holy Spirit are certainly not our own individual achievements (p. 358).

The Nun Gavriilia, The Ascetic of Love

Acquire the grace of the Holy Spirit also by practicing all the other virtues for Christ's sake. Trade spiritually with them; trade with those which give you the greatest profit. Accumulate capital from the superabundance of God's grace, deposit it in God's eternal bank which will bring you immaterial interest, not four or six percent, but one hundred percent for one spiritual ruble, and even infinitely more than that. For example, if prayer and watching gives you more of God's grace, watch and pray; if fasting gives you much of the Spirit of God, fast; if almsgiving gives you more, give alms. Weigh every virtue done for Christ's sake in this manner.

Saint Seraphim of Sarov, "The Acquisition of the Holy Spirit"

Ancient monks read the 'Divine Scriptures', that is, the books of the Bible. Over the centuries, however, we must point out, the term 'Divine Scriptures' acquired a much broader meaning in the spiritual literature of the East. It referred not only to Scripture, but still more to the writings of the Fathers and also to everything that could be read, once pagan books had been eliminated. In Byzantium, patristic writings that had perceptibly defeated heresies shared the authority of inspired books. Theodore the Studite, for example, singles out Saint Basil for special praise because 'Christ spoke through his

mouth’, and because someone who follows him, ‘follows the guidance of the Holy Spirit.’

Tomas Spidlik

+++++

Synaxarion For the Sunday of Pentecost

By Nikephoros Kallistos Xanthopoulos

SUNDAY of Pentecost

On this day, the eighth Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate Holy Pentecost.

Verses

In a mighty wind doth Christ distribute the Divine Spirit
In the form of fiery tongues unto the Apostles.

In one great day, the Spirit was poured forth upon the
Fishermen.

Synaxarion

We celebrate this Feast of Holy Pentecost today in commemoration of the coming of the All-Holy Spirit into the world, which took place fifty days after the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead.

We have received this Feast from the Hebrew Bible; for, just as the Hebrews celebrate their own Pentecost, honoring the number seven, and because they received the Law fifty days after the Passover, so also do we, celebrating fifty days after Pascha, receive, instead of the Law, the All-Holy Spirit, Who gives us laws, guides us into all truth, and decrees what is pleasing to God.

It should be known that among the Hebrews there were three

great Feasts: Passover, Pentecost, and Tabernacles. They observed Passover in commemoration of their deliverance from Egypt and their passage across the Red Sea; for “Pascha,” in the Hebrew language, means “passage.” This Feast signifies our own passage and return from the darkness of sin to Paradise.

They celebrated Pentecost in commemoration of the hardships they endured in the desert, where they received the Law, and of the way in which they were brought through many afflictions into the Promised Land, for then it was that they enjoyed fruit, wheat, and wine. It also signifies the hardship that we suffer from unbelief and our entry into the Church; for then it is that we partake of the Body and Blood of the Master.

The third Feast is that of Tabernacles, celebrated after the harvesting of fruits, that is, five months after the Feast of Passover. This Feast was celebrated in memory of the day on which Moses first pitched the Tabernacle that he saw on Mount Sinai in the cloud and which was constructed by the architect Beseleel. Fashioning tabernacles themselves, the Hebrews would celebrate the same Feast: living in the fields and giving thanks to God, they would reap the fruits of their labors. This Feast is a type of our resurrection from the dead, when, after our bodily tabernacles have been dissolved and reconstituted, we will enjoy the fruits of our labors, keeping festival in the eternal tabernacles.

It should be known that on this same day of Pentecost that we are celebrating, the Holy Spirit descended upon the Disciples. Since the Holy Fathers decided to divide up the Feast on account of the majesty of the All-Holy and Life-Creating Spirit, because He is One of the Holy and Life-Originating Trinity, we will speak tomorrow about the Descent of the Holy Spirit.

By the intercessions of Thy Holy Apostles, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.