



# Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church



45 Ideal Street, Buffalo, NY 14206

A Parish of the ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

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## June 2022



### Pentecost

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

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 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 New Testament 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).

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## METZ PARISH FAMILY PICNIC

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**SATURDAY, JULY 16**

**2:30pm**

**Dinner 3:30pm or so**

Please notify Chris Metz if you can attend and bring a dish to pass. (Meat will be provided.)

805 Center Street, East Aurora  
716.652.6994

Hope to see you there!  
NO VESPERS, NO CHOIR  
PRACTICE ON THIS DAY!

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## NO KNEELING IN THE ORTHODOX CHURCH

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There is no kneeling in the Orthodox Church or at home with our prayers until Pentecost, Sunday, June 12. This standing position signifies that we too, will rise with Christ. Special kneeling prayers are taken on the Feast of Pentecost which is 50 days after Pascha.

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## WE WELCOME VISITORS & GUESTS

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We hope you enjoy praying with us at Liturgy. Please feel free to speak with Fr. John after the service and introduce yourself. Want to learn about the Orthodox Faith? – Let Father John know!

*(Pentecost continued)* The icon of the Feast of Pentecost is known as "The Descent of the Holy Spirit". It is an icon of bold colors of red and gold signifying that this is a great event. The movement of the icon is from the top to the bottom. At the top of the icon is a semicircle with rays coming from it. The rays are pointing toward the Apostles, and the tongues of fire are seen descending upon each one of them signifying the descent of the Holy Spirit.

The building in the background of the icon represents the upper room where the Disciples of Christ gathered after the Ascension. The Apostles are shown seated in a semicircle which shows the unity of the Church. Included in the group of the Apostles is Saint Paul, who, though not present with the others on the day of Pentecost, became an Apostle of the Church and the greatest missionary. Also included are the four Evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, holding books of the Gospel, while the other Apostles are holding scrolls that represent the teaching authority given to them by Christ.

In the center of the icon below the Apostles, a royal figure is seen against a dark background. This is a symbolic figure, Cosmos, representing the people of the world living in darkness and sin, and involved in pagan worship. However, the figure carries in his hands a cloth containing scrolls which represent the teaching of the Apostles. The tradition of the Church holds that the Apostles carried the message of the Gospel to all parts of the world.

In the icon of Pentecost we see the fulfillment of the promise of the Holy Spirit, sent down upon the Apostles who will teach the nations and baptize them in the name of the Holy Trinity. Here we see that the Church is brought together and sustained in unity through the presence and work of the Holy Spirit, that the Spirit guides the Church in the missionary endeavor throughout the world, and that the Spirit nurtures the Body of Christ, the Church, in truth and love.

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## *Sincere Thanks*

We cannot thank everyone enough for your display of love and kindness the weekend of my Elevation to Archpriest. It was such a spiritual Liturgy with Archbishop Michael, the choir sang beautifully, the Fellowship Hall looked amazing, the food was delicious and it was a lot of fun! I saw and know how much hard work was done in the many weeks of preparation. Thank you for your presence both days, for your dedicated work, for your kindness and for the many cards and gifts. We truly feel loved. God bless you all.

*Father John and Matushka Nancy & Family*

## APOSTLES' FAST JUNE 20 - 28, 2022

### OUR HOMEBOUND & NURSING FACILITY MEMBERS

A few of our members listed here greatly wish they could be in church every Sunday. Maybe you would like to send them a card to let them know you are thinking of them.

Nancy Krull  
Carolyn Krafchak  
Nancy Zaika  
Irene Zinter  
Ija Demjanenko  
Mary Denis  
Nina Kirkland  
Katherine Mazyrka  
George Benkow

**Addresses are posted on the church bulletin board, or you may call Father John for their addresses.**

### YOUNG ADULT GET-TOGETHER

At St. George's North  
1073 Saunders Settlement Rd.  
Niagara Falls, NY.

**JUNE 14 – 5:30pm**

Join us for an evening to connect with your fellow 17-30 year old Orthodox Christians!

PIZZA, OUTDOOR GAMES,  
BONFIRE!

RSVP by June 12 or if you have any questions...

Fr. Raphael: 716.277.8805  
Danielle Lia: 716.930.0228

The Bible contains 4 lists of the names of the 12 apostles: Matt 10:12, Mark 3:13, Luke 6:14 and Acts 1:13. They vary slightly as well as the sequence although they list Peter first, even though it was Andrew (his brother) who was called first by the Lord. It is believed that Christ selected only 12 which was the number of the twelve sons of Jacob who later became the leaders of the 12 tribes of Israel. After Pentecost, Christ's 12 disciples became the leaders of the "new Israel." The number 12 was considered so important that very shortly after the falling of Judas Iscariot, the remaining 11 voted in a new Apostle by the name Matthias, so that there would be 12 once again.

These apostles followed Christ as He traveled and were eye witnesses to His numerous wonders. After the Ascension of Jesus back to heaven they continued His work of redeeming mankind from sin. In fact at the Ascension Jesus commanded the apostles to go out and make disciples of all nations through baptism and to teach nations all that they had observed and all that He commanded of them. He enabled them to succeed in that he bestowed the Holy Spirit upon them (at Pentecost) as they traveled to far away lands.

The authority of the Apostles in the Church was unquestionable from the very beginning. Their powers were derived from Christ Himself. They preached boldly and acted as His representatives, teaching and speaking "in the Holy Spirit." The place of honor accorded to them by the Church has no equal except for that of the Theotokos. They each have their own separate date of commemoration and they have a joint commemoration on June 30th, a feast whose importance is shown by the fact that it is preceded by a period of fasting.

The Lenten season in honor of the 12 Apostles is a bit confusing at times for it is a "flexible season" in that it always ends on a fixed date (that being June 29) but begins on the Monday that follows All Saints Day, which is a moveable date each year based on the date of Easter. When Easter is normally in mid to late April, the Apostles Lent is only a few days in length. When Easter is in early April, then the Apostles Lent is longer. When Easter is late, there is no Apostles Lent at all.

The faithful are urged to observe the usual food abstinence, expanded prayer and alms giving guidelines as with the other fasting seasons of the year. Let us rejoice in the ministry of these 12 great men that began the spread of Christianity to the far corners of the earth. Let us remember their sacrifice by our own sacrifice and discipline during the preparatory days ahead in which we are called upon to focus on their commitment and devotion to the Lord's commandments.

### SUNDAY of ALL SAINTS ~ June 19, 2022

The Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been saints at all times, and they have come from every corner of the earth. They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous; yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit.

The descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God's directive to "be holy, for I am holy" (Lev, 11:44; 1 Peter 1:16, etc). Therefore it is fitting to commemorate "All Saints" on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

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## YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

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Please continue to give generously to Saints Peter and Paul Church. Times have been tough, especially since COVID. Prices are much higher and our weekly expenses are higher.

If you can, please consider making your financial offerings higher. God bless you for your generosity to His Church.

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## WEEK AFTER PENTECOST

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There is NO FASTING in the Orthodox Church the week after Pentecost Sunday, namely June 13 - 17, 2022.

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## “GOT SNEAKERS”

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Our church has started a fundraising project called “GOT SNEAKERS”. We are collecting old, used sneakers which will be recycled and made into playground surfaces. The company will provide us with prepaid postage bags and we just drop them off to be shipped. A box will be provided in the Fellowship Hall. Profits will go to church repairs.



## COFFEE/LUNCH HOUR on SUNDAYS

We all enjoy our fellowship time after Liturgy on Sundays. We need more people to get involved to donate food items.

It can be as simple as rolls with butter, bagels with cream cheese assortments, or just a dessert to have with our coffee or tea.

Or it can be lunch foods... soup, salad, a meat entree and a vegetable. Order a couple of pizzas or subs, or chicken wings. Make some finger sandwiches or dips with pita. Anything is fine and we do not need a full meal! Please volunteer if you can.

If you make a dish that needs heated, someone can inform you how to turn on the ovens (very easy). The ovens can be warmed at a low temp for heating during Liturgy. The ladies in the choir cannot leave Liturgy early to work in the kitchen. We would appreciate knowing what date and what you are bringing, so we don't have duplicates or too much food.

There's a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall! We all appreciate your delicious foods and generosity.

## SOME THINGS WE SHOULD KNOW WHILE IN CHURCH

**LIGHTING CANDLES** — Lighting candles is an important part of the Orthodox Church. We light them as we pray, making an offering to accompany our prayers. We should light our candles when coming into church, after venerating (kissing) the icons, and that is the best time to light them. But, there are specific times when candles should not be lit. It is **not** proper to light candles during the Epistle reading or the Gospel reading, during the Little Entrance or the Great Entrance, and during the sermon.

**ENTERING the CHURCH (LATE)** — The time to arrive at church is before the service starts, but of course there are circumstances, at times, that we cannot control. If you arrive late, try to enter the church quietly and use the side aisles to find a seat. The center aisle should remain undisturbed as much as possible during the Liturgy. If the Epistle or Gospel is being read, or the Little Entrance or Great Entrance is occurring, remain in the vestibule until they are finished and then find a seat.

**TALKING BEFORE OR DURING LITURGY** — It is great to come to church and see our family and friends, but please wait until the Liturgy dismissal or coffee hour to talk and visit. Believe it or not, there are people praying before the start of the service, and they would like to pray in silence. And people do like to concentrate and pray during the Liturgy also.

**TO CROSS OR NOT TO CROSS** — Anyone who has looked around on a Sunday morning will notice that different people cross themselves at different times. To a certain extent, when to cross oneself is according to personal piety and not an issue of dogma. But there are times when it is specifically proper to cross yourself, and times when you should not.

*(Continued)*

*("Some things we should know while in Church" continued)*

Here is a brief list of when to make the sign of the cross and when not to cross.

Cross yourself:

- ✦ When you hear one of the variations of the phrase, "Father, Son, and Holy Spirit"
- ✦ When you hear reference to the Theotokos
- ✦ At the beginning and end of the liturgical service or your private prayers
- ✦ Entering or exiting the church
- ✦ When passing in front of the Holy Altar
- ✦ Before venerating an icon, the cross, or Gospel book

Do NOT cross yourself:

- ✦ At the chalice before or after receiving Holy Communion (you might hit the chalice with your hand)
- ✦ When the priest or bishop blesses the congregation saying, "Peace be to all" — but instead bow slightly and receive the blessing
- ✦ When receiving a personal blessing from a priest or bishop — kissing the right hand of the priest or bishop is appropriate, but not making the sign of the cross

**HANDLING THE HOLY BREAD** — After receiving Holy Communion, it is tradition in the Orthodox Church in America to take antidoron (blessed bread) and a small cup of wine back to your seat to consume. Waste baskets are available in the back of the church to dispose of your cups when exiting the church. While antidoron is not Holy Communion, it is blessed bread and should be eaten carefully so that crumbs do not fall on the floor. Monitor your children as they take the blessed bread and teach them to eat it respectfully.

**A FINAL THOUGHT** — North American Society is rather casual in its approach to life these days. Don't allow this prevailing attitude to enter into your Orthodox Christian piety. Much of church etiquette is based on common sense and showing respect for God and for others.

Our children are very smart... train them from a young age how to act in church. You'll be amazed at how quickly they will learn proper church behavior. And we love our children and babies... they are the future of our parish.

The priest says, "With the fear of God and with faith and love draw near." Let this be the way you approach all parts of worship.

**Someone once said: "IF YOU DON'T WANT TO GO TO LITURGY ON SUNDAYS, THEN WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO GO TO HEAVEN??"**

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## Father's Day

Fathers should remember one day his son will follow his example, not his advice. ~ *Charles Kettering*

A girl's father is the first man in her life, and probably the most influential. ~ *David Jeremiah*

It is only when you grow up and step back from him — or leave him for your own home — it is only then that you can measure your father's greatness and fully appreciate it. ~ *Margaret Truman*

A father is someone you look up to no matter how tall you grow. ~ *Unknown*

Sometimes the poorest man leaves his children the richest inheritance. ~ *Ruth E. Renkle*

## (Father's Day continued)

To a father growing old, nothing is dearer than a daughter. ~ *Unknown*

The only thing better than having you for a husband is our children having you for a father. ~ *Unknown*

The quality of a father can be seen in the goals, dreams, and aspirations he sets not only for himself, but for his family. ~ *Reed Markham*

I believe my father would do anything for his family and would work hard at any job to support his family. Nothing is below him. ~ *Unknown*

To the world you are a dad. To our family you are the world. ~ *Unknown*

### **NATIVITY of ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST — June 24**

He that was greater than all who are born of women, the Prophet who received God's testimony that he surpassed all the Prophets, was born of the aged and barren Elizabeth (Luke 1:7) and filled all his kinsmen, and those that lived round about, with gladness and wonder. But even more wondrous was that which followed on the eighth day when he was circumcised, that is, the day on which a male child receives his name. Those present called him Zacharias, the name of his father. But the mother said, "Not so, but he shall be called John." Since the child's father was unable to speak, he was asked, by means of a sign, to indicate the child's name. He then asked for a tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And immediately Zacharias' mouth was opened, his tongue was loosed from its silence of nine months, and filled with the Holy Spirit, he blessed the God of Israel, Who had fulfilled the promises made to their fathers, and had visited them that were sitting in darkness and the shadow of death, and had sent to them the light of salvation.

Zacharias prophesied concerning the child also, saying that he would be a Prophet of the Most High and Forerunner of Jesus Christ. And the child John, who was filled with grace, grew and waxed strong in the Spirit; and he was in the wilderness until the day of his showing to Israel (Luke 1:57-80). His name is a variation of the Hebrew "Johanan," which means "Yahweh is gracious."

#### **GENERAL SERVICE SCHEDULE**

**Saturday:** 6:00pm Vespers

**Sunday:** 9:30am 3rd & 6th Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy

**1st Sunday of Month:** 9:25am General Confession Service

**CHURCH WEBSITE:** [www.peterandpauloca.org](http://www.peterandpauloca.org)

**CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE:**

[www.facebook.com/SaintsPeterAndPaulBuffalo](https://www.facebook.com/SaintsPeterAndPaulBuffalo)

**RECTOR:** Archpriest John P. Hutnyan

**PARISH COUNCIL:** Martin Napierski, President

**READERS:** Reader Ryan Galazka; Reader Tim Harper

#### **THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA**

**The Most Blessed Tikhon (Mollard)**

Archbishop of Washington,  
Metropolitan of All America and Canada

**The Most Reverend Michael (Dahulich)**

Archbishop of New York, and New York and New Jersey

*The Mission of the Orthodox Church in America, the local autocephalous Orthodox Christian Church, is to be faithful in fulfilling the commandment of Christ to "Go into all the world and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..."*



SAINTS PETER and PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH  
45 Ideal Street, Buffalo, New York 14206  
(phone) 716-681-0302



**JUNE 2022**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 29 <b>SUNDAY of MAN BORN BLIND</b>  9:30am Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy	May 30 <b>MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVED</b>	May 31	1   6:00pm Vesperal Divine Liturgy for Ascension <b>Fast</b>	2   <b>ASCENSION OF THE LORD</b>	3   <b>Fast</b>	4   5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Vespers
5  <b>FATHERS of 1st ECUMENICAL COUNCIL</b> 9:25am General Confession / Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy <b>PARISH COUNCIL MEETING</b>	6	7	8   <b>Fast</b>	9	10   <b>Fast</b>	11   5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Vespers with All Souls Memorial Service
12  <b>PENTECOST</b>  9:30am Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy with Kneeling Prayers	13   <b>Fast free</b>	14   5:30pm Pan Orthodox Young Adult Get-together @ St. George North <b>Fast free</b>	15   <b>Fast free</b>	16   <b>Fast free</b>	17   <b>Fast free</b>	18   5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Vespers <b>Fast free</b>
19  <b>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</b>  9:30am Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy	20   <b>Apostles Fast</b>	21   <b>Apostles Fast</b>	22   <b>Apostles Fast</b>	23   6:00pm Vesperal Liturgy/Nativity of St John the Baptist <b>Apostles Fast</b>	24   <b>NATIVITY of ST JOHN the BAPTIST</b>  <b>Apostles Fast</b>	25   5:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Vespers <b>Apostles Fast</b>
26  <b>ALL SAINTS of NORTH AMERICA &amp; RUSSIA</b> 9:30am Hours 10:00am Divine Liturgy  <b>Apostles Fast</b>	27   <b>Apostles Fast</b>	28   6:00pm Vesperal Divine Liturgy for Ss Peter & Paul <b>Apostles Fast</b>	29   <b>SS. PETER &amp; PAUL</b>  <b>Fast</b>	30   <b>Fast</b>	Jul 1   <b>Fast</b>	Jul 2   <b>FR. JOHN in SYRACUSE for CONFERENCE</b>  <b>NO CHOIR PRACTICE</b> <b>NO VESPERS</b>