

“Let us celebrate Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit,  
The appointed day of promise, and the fulfillment of hope,  
The mystery which is as great as it is precious.”



## Upcoming Events >>> June 2024

[Check website for updates!](#)

Sat, June 1 - 4pm: Family Vespers  
Sun, June 2 - 10:30am: Divine Liturgy,  
Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Sat, June 8 - 6pm: Great Vespers  
Sun, June 9 – 10:30am: Divine Liturgy,  
Sunday of the Blind Man

Wed, June 12 – 6pm: Vespers with Litya  
for Ascension  
Th, June 13 – Divine Liturgy of the  
Ascension of our Lord

Sat, June 15 – 10am – 12noon: Men’s  
Coffee Hour  
- 6pm: Great Vespers  
Sun, June 16 – 10:30am: Divine Liturgy,  
Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of  
the 1<sup>st</sup> Ecumenical Council

Sat, June 22 – 6pm: Great Vespers with  
Litya for Pentecost  
Sun, June 23 – 10:30am: Divine Liturgy,  
Holy Pentecost, with kneeling prayers  
\*\*bring greenery to decorate the church

Trinity Week – a Fast Free week

Sat, June 29 – 6pm: Great Vespers  
– Apostles Peter and Paul  
Sun, June 30 – 10:30am: Divine Liturgy,  
The Synaxis of All the Saints

\*\*No Apostles Fast this year because of  
this year’s Paschal cycle

## Father’s Desk: Pentecost

June 23<sup>rd</sup> is the great feast of Pentecost!  
We once again invoke the Holy Spirit by  
praying “O Heavenly King...”

We stopped this prayer at Pascha and  
have hungered in anticipation. We begin  
every Liturgy – apart from this 50-day  
period – with this prayer. We specifically  
pray to the Holy Spirit in every Liturgy.  
Including the 25 times we pray in the  
name of the Father and the Son and the  
Holy Spirit, we pray to Him 45 times in  
each Liturgy.

St. Peter quotes in Acts Chapter 2, at the  
very beginning of his homily to the crowd  
at Pentecost: “But this is what was spoken  
by the prophet Joel” and he then quotes  
from Joel: “And it shall come to pass in  
the last days, says God, That I will pour  
out of My Spirit on all flesh...upon My  
menservants and on My maidservants, I  
will pour out My Spirit in those days...and  
whoever calls on the name of the Lord  
shall be saved.”

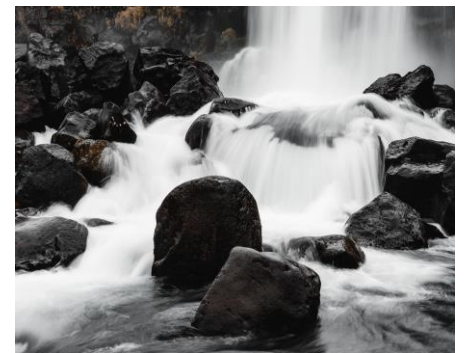
We are called to create a wonderful  
dwelling place within our hearts where  
He will be pleased to dwell! St. Seraphim  
of Sarov famously said, “the acquisition  
of the Holy Spirit is the goal of the  
Christian life.” Christ sent us the Holy  
Spirit, who proceeds from the Father and  
is everywhere present and filling all  
things.

How do we attract the Holy Spirit into our  
hearts and make a home for Him to abide  
within us? Repentance, accepting the  
forgiveness of God, forgiving others,  
squashing pride, and learning humility,  
and above all loving each other, these are  
the requirements that God asks of us.

The Holy Spirit can not dwell in a heart  
that harbours unforgiveness, so it is  
especially important that we search our  
hearts to make sure we are clean in this  
area.

How do we recognize the presence of the  
Holy Spirit in our lives? It is by the very  
gentle fruits of the Spirit; (Gal:  
5:22,23) “But the fruit of the Spirit is  
love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness,  
goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-  
control;” not by elevated spiritual  
feelings or great spiritual insights. We all  
need love and acceptance in far greater  
measure than correction.

Christ tells us in the Gospel reading: “If  
anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and  
drink. He who believes in Me, as the  
scripture has said, out of his heart shall  
flow rivers of living water.”



May God bless, and may we be a  
welcome home for the Holy Spirit; that  
these living waters may flow abundantly  
to the thirsting world around us. There is  
no water rationing in the kingdom of  
heaven. Let us share with all and drink to  
saturation!

With the Feast!



**The Spirit of the Rockies**  
**Festival, 2024**

**Thursday, June 13:**

**Kick-Off BBQ @ Public Library,  
11:30 am – 2pm**

**Carnival @ Community Connections,  
11am – 3pm**

**Family Movie Night @ Curling Rink,  
7pm – 9pm**

**Saturday, June 15:**

**Parade @ Baker St., 10:30am**

**Fair @ Western Financial Place,  
11am – 5pm**



# Spirit and Truth

This month we have the Gospel reading from St. John of the Samaritan woman (St. Photini, who went on to be a great evangelist and came to be called ‘equal to the Apostles’) at the well.

The Samaritans came from the “other” 10 tribes of Israel. When the tribe of Judah along with the tribe of Benjamin returned from the Babylonian captivity (about 6<sup>th</sup> Cent. BC), and began rebuilding the Temple in Jerusalem, the Samaritans’ offer of help was scornfully rejected. The Samaritans built their own temple, but the Jews destroyed it. So we see there was some serious bad blood between the two nations.

It is remarkable that Christ being a Jew, is even here in Samaria. The first thing the woman at the well says to Him is “...*Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.*” Quite the understatement. Christ points out the Samaritan woman’s past multiple husbands and her present “not married” situation to her. But rather than defending herself, the woman reveals her great thirst for spiritual truth. “*Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet.*” She then asks the question burning in her soul. “*Who is right, the Jews or the Samaritans? Where does God want to be worshipped? How do we do it right?*”

Christ’s humanity is descended directly from the Jew’s, and He is of course the source of all salvation, so He answers, “...*salvation is of the Jew’s.*”

*“But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.”*

Everything has now changed as Christ has come. Through the prayers of St. Photini, may we answer the call of Him who seeks all to worship Him in spirit and in truth.

When spirit and truth unite, it is like a great fireplace which warms all who come close. The good solid dry wood stacked in the safety of the fireplace is the truth, the solid doctrine which has been carefully passed down to us through all the ages, from the Apostles through all the saints. The flame is the spirit. Truth however remains dead and lifeless or even worse, cruel and judgemental without the flame of the Spirit!



But spirit running enthusiastically outside of the fireplace, the boundaries of the truth, produces either a flash in the pan which quickly goes out, or worse, ignites anything in its path, having no discretion for the type of material (truth) it consumes. This produces a frenzied destructive fire that eventually crashes and burns out, taking along friends and family as casualties.

Only Christ is the way, the truth and the life, and only as we unite with Him in communion and in spirit and truth are we brought to life and able to truly find life!

## CHURCH SCHOOL – The Ascension of our Lord

If one read the four Gospels as if they were four separate biographies of Jesus, one might be forgiven for thinking that the Ascension narrated the end of the story. We have read narratives of Christ's birth, His baptism, His temptation in the wilderness, His ministry, His crucifixion, His resurrection, and now at the last we come the narrative of His ascension, concluding the story of His life with a heavenly happy ending. Everyone loves a happy ending, and this one rounds out the story of Jesus by saying in effect, "And He lived happily ever after at the right hand of God."

But the ascension was not the ending of a story, it was the beginning of one, not the conclusion of Christ's life so much as the beginning of the life of the Church.

The temptation is to regard the Holy Ascension as if Christ has gone away. It is not so. While He walked the earth, the apostles could be with Him, but there were times when they were not with Him. When He was not physically in Judea, for example, Mary and Martha could not be with Him. Now that He has been exalted to the Father's right hand and has sent His Spirit, we can be near Him always, for His presence is no longer conditioned by time and space. Everyone can now be close to Jesus and by the power of the Spirit can be with Him every waking hour and even every sleeping hour. The ascension and the sending of the Spirit means that we now have more of Jesus, not less of Him. The challenge for us now is to live as children of the ascension, and as children of the Spirit. Our Lord's presence and power are always available to us. The question is: how often do we avail ourselves of them?

- Excerpts of Fr. Lawrence Farley's article on [oca.org](http://oca.org)

### Questions Answered >>>

#### Q: What does the word Pentecost mean?

Pentecost is simply the Greek word for fifty. Pentecost comes 50 days after Easter. The significance of this is that even in the Old Testament (Leviticus 25), the number 50 was special. This is because seven is the number of fullness or completion (God rested on the seventh day, after the six days of Creation).  $7 \times 7$  is therefore a particular sign of fullness and 50 is of course  $7 \times 7 + 1$ . By adding one to seven, we reach eight. Eight is seen as the number of what is beyond the fullness of this world, beyond Creation, beyond created time and space, what is part of the age to come, 'the eighth day'. The Descent of the Holy Spirit from heaven is the sign of the other world, the age to come, 'the eighth day', penetrating into this world. That is why baptisteries were, and still are, octagonal. They symbolize the person baptized entering into the other world, becoming a citizen of the Kingdom to come, 'the eighth day'. (read the answers to more questions at [orthodoxengland.org.uk](http://orthodoxengland.org.uk))

## Church Youth

### Father's Day

Some lessons our fathers teach us:

Fatherhood means taking responsibility for your household and loving your children by providing for them, caring for them, and teaching them to be law-abiding and responsible adults.

Daughters need their dad's love. Sons need their dad's love. It's what enables daughters and sons to find a husband or wife to love. The way a dad loves a child will become a template for that child as they seek to find another relationship.

It takes monumental effort to raise a child well. We all benefit from the social and communal good of their daily sacrifices, and the world becomes a better place as they pursue the attainment of the virtues of fatherhood and continue to grow up into their roles, young and old.

Father's Day is not always a happy day – some people have lost their children, some have lost their fathers. Some people wish to be fathers but are not given the chance. Some fathers have left emotional and physical scars on their children, some have been absent from their child's life. Some fathers and children grieve broken connections that exist between them, despite their willingness to forgive.

If you know someone who is hurting on this day, reach out to them. Love is love, no matter who it is shared with.

God took the strength of a mountain,  
The majesty of a tree,  
The warmth of a summer sun,  
The calm of a quiet sea,  
The generous soul of nature,  
The comforting arm of night,  
The wisdom of the ages,  
The power of the eagle's flight,  
The joy of a morning in spring,  
The faith of a mustard seed,  
The patience of eternity,  
The depth of a family need,  
Then God combined these qualities,  
When there was nothing more to add,  
He knew his masterpiece was complete,  
And so, he called it Dad

-anonymous

# Outreach Ministry Updates ...

## Family Vespers

JUNE 1<sup>st</sup>

See You at Family Vespers at 4pm, then pizza and games!

## Garden Committee

JUNE 2<sup>nd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>



We are having an initial gardening committee meeting for anyone interested in helping after lunch this Sunday June 2 and then a garden weeding clean up bee for the whole Church on Saturday June 8th at 10:00am

We are also in the process of installing a patio and more garden boxes on the front east side next to the fence along the church.

## Perogy Pinching Nights

\*\*Cancelled during June\*\*

## Men's Coffee Hour

June 15<sup>th</sup> at 10am – 12pm.

Come on out to the church once a month and bring any of your bros that may wish to partake in a time of who knows what conversations??? May it be blessed!

## Summer Camp

August 16 – 19, 2024!



Take a look at your calendars and let us know if you are coming to our annual summer camp at The Harbour in nearby Riondel!

## John Behr Seminar

June 17-21, 8:30am-5:00pm (M-F)

“Early Christian Theological Anthropology”: A study of what it means to be a human being in the theology of Saints Irenaeus, Gregory of Nyssa, and Maximus the Confessor.

Ambrose University, Calgary, Alberta

## The Lighter side of Orthodoxy

God delights in our laughter and receives it as an act of worship.



What's the Holy Spirit's favorite art form? Divine inspiration – painting the canvas of life with grace!

How does the Holy Spirit send messages? Through “pray-mail” – the holiest form of communication!

What's the Holy Spirit's favorite game? “Hide and seek” – it's great at being everywhere!

What's the Holy Spirit's favorite sport? Soul searching!



## Social Media Links

[saintaidan.ca](http://saintaidan.ca) , [Facebook](#)

[Facebook Group](#) , [Instagram](#)

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Donations to our church can be made with an e-transfer to:

[saintaidan201@gmail.com](mailto:saintaidan201@gmail.com)

or with a [credit card](#)