



Saint Mary Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

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Church Office Hours : Monday - Friday 10:00am-3:00pm

Sunday, May 31st, 2026

Divine Liturgy Variables on the Fiftieth Day after Pascha The Great Feast of Pentecost

First Antiphon

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaimeth the work of His hands. Day unto day poureth forth speech, and night unto night proclaimeth knowledge.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

There are neither tongues nor words in which their voices are not heard. Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

السَّمَاوَاتُ تُذَيِّعُ مَجْدَ اللَّهِ، وَالْقَلْبُ يُخَبِّرُ بِأَعْمَالِ يَدَيْهِ. يَوْمٌ إِلَى يَوْمٍ يُبْدِي كَلِمَةً، وَلَيْلٌ إِلَى لَيْلٍ يُخَبِّرُ عِلْمًا.
بِشَفَاعَاتِ وَالِدَةِ الْإِلَهِيِّ يَا مُخَلِّصُ خَلصَنَا.

أَلَيْسَتْ أَصْوَاتُهَا وَأَقْوَالُهَا أَصْوَاتًا وَأَقْوَالًا؟ أَلَيْسَ صَدَاها يُبْلَغُ الْأَذَانُ؟ إِلَى كُلِّ الْأَرْضِ خَرَجَ صَوْتُهُمْ، وَفِي
أَقْطَارِ الْمَسْكُونَةِ انْبَثَّ كَلَامُهُمْ.

بِشَفَاعَاتِ وَالِدَةِ الْإِلَهِيِّ يَا مُخَلِّصُ خَلصَنَا.

المجد للآبِ وَالِابْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ الْآنَ وَكُلِّ أَوَانٍ وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَّاهِرِينَ آمِينَ.
بِشَفَاعَاتِ وَالِدَةِ الْإِلَهِيِّ يَا مُخَلِّصُ خَلصَنَا.

Second Antiphon

The Lord hear thee in the day of affliction; the Name of the God of Jacob defend thee. Let Him send forth unto thee help from His sanctuary, and out of Zion let Him help thee..

Save us, O Good Comforter, who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Let Him remember every sacrifice of thine, and thy whole-burnt offering let Him fatten..

Save us, O Good Comforter, who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

The Lord grant thee according to thy heart, and fulfill all thy purposes.

Save us, O Good Comforter, who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O only-begotten Son, etc.

لَيْسَتْحِبْ لَكَ الرَّبُّ فِي يَوْمِ الصِّيقِ. لِيَرْفَعَكَ اسْمُ إِلَهِي يَعْقُوبَ. لِيُرْسِلَ لَكَ عَوْنًا مِنْ قُدْسِهِ، وَمِنْ صِهْيُونَ
لِيَعْضُدَكَ.

خَلِّصْنَا أَيُّهَا الْمُعْزِي الصَّالِح، لِنُرْتَلَّ لَكَ. هَلْلُوبِيَا.

لِيَذْكَرَ كُلَّ تَقْدِمَاتِكَ، وَيَسْتَسْمِنَ مُحْرَقَاتِكَ.

خَلِّصْنَا أَيُّهَا الْمُعْزِي الصَّالِح، لِنُرْتَلَّ لَكَ. هَلْلُوبِيَا.

لِيُعْطِكَ حَسَبَ قَلْبِكَ، وَيُنْتَمَّ كُلَّ رَأْيِكَ.

خَلِّصْنَا أَيُّهَا الْمُعْزِي الصَّالِح، لِنُرْتَلَّ لَكَ. هَلْلُوبِيَا.

المجد للآب والابن والروح القدس، الآن وكلَّ أوانٍ وإلى دهرِ الداهرين. آمين.
يا كلمة الله الابن الوحيد...

Third Antiphon

O Lord, in Thy strength the king shall be glad, and in Thy salvation shall he rejoice exceedingly. The desire of his heart hast Thou granted unto him, and hast not denied him the request of his lips. Thou wentest before him with blessings of goodness, Thou hast set upon his head a crown of precious stones. He asked life of Thee, and Thou gavest him length of days unto ages of ages.

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise, having sent upon them the Holy Spirit, and through them Thou hast fished the universe, O Lover of mankind, glory to Thee.

يَا رَبُّ، بِقُوَّتِكَ يَفْرَحُ الْمَلِكُ، وَبِخَلَاصِكَ يَبْتَهِجُ جِدًّا! شَهْوَةٌ قَلْبِهِ قَدْ أُعْطِيَتْهُ، وَمَشِيئَةٌ شَفَقْتِهِ لَمْ تُعْذَمْهُ. إِنَّكَ قَدْ
بَدَأْتَهُ بِبَرَكَاتِ الصَّلَاحِ. وَضَعْتَ عَلَى رَأْسِهِ إِكْلِيلًا مِنْ حَجَرٍ كَرِيمٍ. حَيَاةً سَأَلْتَهُ فَأَعْطَيْتَهُ طُولَ الْأَيَّامِ وَإِلَى
دَهْرِ الدَاهِرِينَ.

مُبَارَكٌ أَنْتَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْهَيْئَا، يَا مَنْ أَظْهَرْتَ الصَّيَّادِينَ غَزِيرِي الْحِكْمَةِ، إِذْ سَكَبْتَ عَلَيْهِمُ الرُّوحَ الْقُدُسَ، وَبِهِمْ اصْطَدْتِ
الْمَسْكُونَةَ، يَا مُحِبَّ النَّبَشْرِ، الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

Entrance Hymn

Be Thou exalted, O Lord, in Thy strength; we shall praise and sing of Thy mighty acts. Save us, O Good Comforter, who sing to Thee. Alleluia!

ارْتَفِعْ يَا رَبُّ بِقُوَّتِكَ، نُسَبِّحُ وَنُرْتَلُّ لِعِرَّتِكَ. خَلِّصْنَا أَيُّهَا الْمُعْزِي الصَّالِح، لِنُرْتَلَّ لَكَ. هَلْلُوبِيَا!

Troparion of Pentecost (Tone Eight)

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise, having sent upon them the Holy Spirit, and through them Thou hast fished the universe, O Lover of mankind, glory to Thee.

مُبَارَكٌ أَنْتَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ الْهَيْئَا، يَا مَنْ أَظْهَرْتَ الصَّيَّادِينَ غَزِيرِي الْحِكْمَةِ، إِذْ سَكَبْتَ عَلَيْهِمُ الرُّوحَ الْقُدُسَ، وَبِهِمْ
اصْطَدْتِ الْمَسْكُونَةَ، يَا مُحِبَّ النَّبَشْرِ، الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

Kontakion of Pentecost (Tone Eight)

When the High One descended, confusing tongues, He divided the nations. And when He distributed the fiery tongues He called all to one unity. Wherefore, in unison we glorify the most Holy Spirit.

عِنْدَمَا نَزَلَ الْعَلِيِّ مُبْلِلاً الْأَلْسِنَةَ، كَانَ لِلْأُمَّمِ مَقْسِماً. وَلَمَّا وَزَعِ الْأَلْسِنَةَ النَّارِيَّةَ، دَعَا الْكُلَّ إِلَى اتِّحَادٍ وَاحِدٍ، لِذَلِكَ بِاتِّفَاقِ الْأَصْوَاتِ، نُمَجِّدُ الرُّوحَ الْكَلْبِيَّ قُدْسُهُ.

The Anti-Trisagion Hymn

As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia. (THRICE)
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Have put on Christ. Alleluia.

Dynamis!

As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia. .

أَنْتُمْ الَّذِينَ بِالْمَسِيحِ اعْتَمَدْتُمْ، الْمَسِيحَ قَدْ لَبِسْتُمْ. هَلْلُويَا. (ثلاثاً)
الْمَجْدُ لِلآبِ وَالْإِبْنِ وَالرُّوحِ الْقُدْسِ؛ الْآنَ وَكُلَّ أَوَانٍ وَإِلَى دَهْرِ الدَاهِرِينَ. آمِينَ.
الْمَسِيحَ قَدْ لَبِسْتُمْ. هَلْلُويَا.
قُوَّةً!
أَنْتُمْ الَّذِينَ بِالْمَسِيحِ اعْتَمَدْتُمْ، الْمَسِيحَ قَدْ لَبِسْتُمْ. هَلْلُويَا.

The Epistle of Pentecost

*Their voice has gone out into all the earth.
The heavens declare the glory of God.*

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (2:1-11)

When the day of Pentecost had come, the apostles were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and were bewildered, because each one heard

إِلَى كُلِّ الْأَرْضِ خَرَجَ صَوْتُهُمْ.
السَّمَاوَاتُ تَذِيغُ مَجْدَ اللَّهِ.

فَصَلُّ مِنْ أَعْمَالِ الرُّسُلِ الْقَدِيسِينَ الْأَطْهَارِ
لَمَّا حَلَّ يَوْمَ الْخَمْسِينَ، كَانَ الرُّسُلُ كُلُّهُمْ مَعاً فِي مَكَانٍ
وَاحِدٍ. فَحَدَّثَتْ بَعْتَهُ صَوْتٌ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ، كَصَوْتِ رِيحٍ
شَدِيدَةٍ تَعْصِفُ، وَمَلَأَ كُلَّ الْبَيْتِ الَّذِي كَانُوا جَالِسِينَ
فِيهِ. وَظَهَرَتْ لَهُمْ أَلْسِنَةٌ مُنْقَسِمَةٌ كَأَنَّهَا مِنْ نَارٍ،
فَاسْتَقَرَّتْ عَلَى كُلِّ وَاحِدٍ مِنْهُمْ فَامْتَلَأُوا كُلُّهُمْ مِنَ الرُّوحِ
الْقُدْسِ، وَطَفَفُوا يَتَكَلَّمُونَ بِلُغَاتٍ أُخْرَى، كَمَا أَعْطَاهُمُ
الرُّوحُ أَنْ يَنْطِقُوا. وَكَانَ فِي أُورَشَلِيمَ رِجَالٌ

them speaking in his own language. And they were all amazed and marveled, saying: "Behold, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in our own language where we were born? Párthians and Medes and Elamites and the residents of Mesopotamia, Judæa and Cappadocía, Pontus and Asia, Phrygía and Pamphylía, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs, we hear them speaking in our own tongues the mighty works of God."

يَهُودٌ أَتَقِيَاءُ، مِنْ كُلِّ أُمَّةٍ تَحْتَ السَّمَاءِ. فَلَمَّا صَارَ هَذَا الصَّوْتُ، اجْتَمَعَ الْجُمُهورُ، فَتَحَيَّرُوا، لِأَنَّ كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ كَانَ يَسْمَعُهُمْ يَنْطِقُونَ بِلُغَتِهِ. فَدَهَشُوا جَمِيعُهُمْ، وَتَعَجَّبُوا قَائِلِينَ بَعْضُهُمْ لِبَعْضٍ: أَلَيْسَ هَؤُلَاءِ الْمُتَكَلِّمُونَ كُلُّهُمْ جَلِيلِيِّينَ؟ فَكَيْفَ نَسْمَعُ كُلُّ مِنَّا لُغَتَهُ الَّتِي وُلِدَ فِيهَا؟ نَحْنُ الْفِرْتِيِّينَ، وَالْمَادِيِّينَ، وَالْعِيلَامِيِّينَ، وَسُكَّانَ مَا بَيْنَ النَّهْرَيْنِ، وَالْيَهُودِيَّةِ، وَكِبَادُوكِيَّةِ، وَبُنْتُسَ وَأَسِيَّةَ وَفَرِيجِيَّةَ، وَبِمَفِيلِيَّةَ، وَمِصْرَ، وَنَوَاحِي لِيبِيَّةَ عِنْدَ الْقَيْرَوَانِ، وَالرُّومَانِيِّينَ الْمُسْتَوْطِنِينَ، وَالْيَهُودَ، وَالذُّخْلَاءَ، وَالْكِرِيْتِيِّينَ، وَالْعَرَبَ، نَسْمَعُهُمْ يَنْطِقُونَ بِأَلْسِنَتِنَا بِعُظَائِمِ اللَّهِ.

The Gospel for Sunday of the Holy Fathers

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (7:37-52; 8:12)

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now this He said about the Spirit, which those who believed in Him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, many of the people said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So there was a division among the people over Him. Some of them wanted to arrest Him, but no one laid hands on Him. The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring Him?" The

فَصَلَّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ يُوْحَنَّا الْإِنْجِيلِيِّ الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيزِ الطَّاهِرِ فِي الْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ الْعَظِيمِ مِنَ الْعِيدِ، كَانَ يَسُوعُ وَاقْفَاءً، فَصَاحَ قَائِلًا: إِنْ عَطِشَ أَحَدٌ فَلْيَأْتِ إِلَيَّ وَيَشْرَبْ. مَنْ آمَنَ بِي، كَمَا قَالَ الْكِتَابُ، سَتَجْرِي مِنْ بَطْنِهِ أَنْهَارُ مَاءٍ حَيٍّ (إِنَّمَا قَالَ هَذَا عَنِ الرُّوحِ الَّذِي كَانَ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ بِهِ مُزْمِعِينَ أَنْ يَقْبَلُوهُ إِذْ لَمْ يَكُنِ الرُّوحُ الْقُدْسَ بَعْدُ. لِأَنَّ يَسُوعَ لَمْ يَكُنْ بَعْدَ قَدْ مُجِدِّدًا) فَكَثِيرُونَ مِنَ الْجَمْعِ لَمَّا سَمِعُوا كَلَامَهُ، قَالُوا: هَذَا بِالْحَقِيقَةِ هُوَ النَّبِيُّ. وَقَالَ آخَرُونَ: هَذَا هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ وَآخَرُونَ قَالُوا: أَلَعَلَّ الْمَسِيحَ مِنَ الْجَلِيلِ يَأْتِي؟ أَلَمْ يَقُلِ الْكِتَابُ إِنَّهُ مِنْ نَسْلِ دَاوُدَ، مِنْ بَيْتِ لَحْمَ، الْقَرْيَةِ حَيْثُ كَانَ دَاوُدُ، يَأْتِي الْمَسِيحُ؟ فَحَدَّثَ شِقَاقٌ بَيْنَ الْجَمْعِ مِنْ أَجْلِهِ وَكَانَ قَوْمٌ مِنْهُمْ يُرِيدُونَ أَنْ يُمَسِكُوهُ، وَلَكِنْ لَمْ يُلْقِ أَحَدٌ عَلَيْهِ يَدًا فَجَاءَ الْخُدَّامُ إِلَى رُؤَسَاءِ الْكَهَنَةِ وَالْفَرِيسِيِّينَ، فَقَالَ هَؤُلَاءِ لَهُمْ: لِمَ لَمْ

officers answered, “No man ever spoke like this man!” The Pharisees answered them, “Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, who do not know the Law, are accursed.” Nicodemus, who had gone to Him before, and who was one of them, said to them, “Does our Law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?” They replied, “Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee.” Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

تأتوا به؟ فأجاب الخدام: لم يتكلم قط إنسان هكذا مثل هذا الإنسان! فأجابهم الفريسيون: أعلَّكم أنتم أيضاً قد ضللتُم هل أحد من الرؤساء أو من الفريسيين آمن به؟ أمّا هؤلاء الجمع، الذين لا يعرفون الناموس، فهم ملعونون. فقال لهم نيقوديمس، الذي كان قد جاء إليه ليلاً، وهو واحد منهم: أعلَّ ناموسنا يدين إنساناً إن لم يسمع منه أولاً، ويعلم ما فعل؟ أجابوا وقالوا له: أعلَّك أنت أيضاً من الجليل؟ إنَّه لم يقم نبي من الجليل. ثمَّ كلَّمهم أيضاً يسوع قائلاً: أنا هو نور العالم، من يتبعني فلا يمشي في الظلام، بل يكون له نور الحياة.

Megalynarion for the Feast (Tone Seven)

O Thou who without experience of corruption wast found to be with child, and didst lend flesh unto the Word Who devised all things, O thou Mother who hast not known wedlock, O Virgin Theotokos, vessel of the Uncontainable One, dwelling place of thy boundless Fashioner, thee do we magnify.

لَقَدْ حَبَلْتِ وَلَمْ تُمَارِسِي خُبْرَةَ فَسَادٍ، وَأَقْرَضْتِ جَسَداً لِلْكَلِمَةِ الْبَارِي الْكَلِّ، أَيَّتْهَا الْأُمُّ الَّتِي لَمْ تَعْرِفِ رَجُلًا، الصَّائِرَةَ خِرَانَةً لَخَالِقِكَ الَّذِي لَا يُطَاقُ، وَمَسَكِنًا لِمُبْدِعِكَ الَّذِي لَا يُدْرِكُ. لِذَلِكَ يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ الْعَذْرَاءِ لَكَ نُعْظِمُ.

Koinonikon (Communion Hymn) for Pentecost (Tone Eight)

Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness. Alleluia.

روحك الصالح يهديني في أرضٍ مُستقيمة. هَللوييا.



Baptism

Vincent

Parents: Peter & Amaya Moreno

Congratulations!

Upcoming Services & Events

Date	Time	Event
5/31/2026	8:25am	Prayers before Holy Communion
	8:45am	Orthros
	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
	10:00am	Last Day of Sunday School
	5:00pm	Vespers with Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost
6/1/2026	10:00am	Liturgy for the Day of the Holy Spirit
6/2/2026	9:00am	Orthros
	5:40pm	Prayers before Holy Communion
	6:00pm	Divine Liturgy for St. Kevin
	7:30pm	Choir Practice
6/3/2026	10:00am	Arabic Bible Study
	6:00pm	Liturgy for Sts Mary & Martha
6/4/2026	9:00am	No Orthros
	4:00pm	Seniors Ministry Backgammon Tournament
6/5/2026	9:00am	Orthros
6/6/2026	5:00pm	Great Vespers
	6:00pm	Compline with Canon for Holy Communion

YOU ARE INVITED TO

ST. MARY SOYO

End of School Year

CELEBRATION

Join us as we celebrate our teens! We will recognize our seniors and announce the winners of the Divine Score. All SOYO families are welcome!

SUNDAY, MAY 31ST

AFTER LITURGY

IN THE NADI

"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth." 3 John 1:4

SAINT MARY
ORTHODOX CHURCH
PALOS HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS

ST. MARY'S SUMMER FEST

June 4th - 7th 2026

6330 W. 127th St., Palos Heights, IL

\$5 ENTRY
KIDS
5 & UNDER
FREE

Live Bands
Carnival
Games
Food
Byzantine Concert
Church Tours



SCAN HERE
FOR ALL
THE
DETAILS!



FOR THOSE WE'VE LOST TO CANCER
FOR THOSE THAT CONTINUE THE FIGHT
AND FOR THOSE WHO ARE SURVIVORS

5TH ANNUAL EVENT HOSTED BY
ST. SPYRIDON PHILOPTOCHOS



LET'S WALK AS ONE IN
THE FIGHT AGAINST
CANCER

SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2026
ALL AGES WELCOMED!

10 AM · PARAKLESIS
TO ST. NEKTARIOS

for those currently fighting cancer

11 AM · ONE MILE WALK
AGAINST CANCER

in memory for those we've lost to cancer

We will walk the sidewalk from
St. Spyridon to St. Mary Orthodox Church
(127th & Ridgeland) for a
Memorial Service within their church and
walk back to St. Spyridon.

12:30 PM · FILOTIMO
LUNCHEON

St. Spyridon
Community Center

honoring the survivors of cancer

Hosted by
St. Spyridon Philoptochos

Scan the QR Code to register for the walk and make a donation.



DIocese OF TOLEDO AND THE MIDWEST

PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE 2026

JUNE 17-21, 2026

BEST WESTERN PLUS STRONGSVILLE/CLEVELAND

15471 ROYALTON RD, STRONGSVILLE, OH 44136

**JOIN US FOR WORSHIP,
WORKSHOPS,
FELLOWSHIP AND
FUN!**

**GROUP RATE:
\$119.00
(DEADLINE MAY 18TH)**

PLUS:
- BIBLE BOWL
- VBS
- TEEN EVENTS
- YOUNG ADULT
GROUP W/ FR.
ANTHONY YAZGE



**REGISTER
HERE:**



**HOSTED BY:
ST. MATTHEW CHURCH
(NORTH ROYALTON, OH)**



FR. JEREMY DAVIS
ARCH. VICAR OF THE
DIOCESE OF TOLEDO
& THE MIDWEST



FR. PAUL ABERNATHY
KEYNOTE SPEAKER



KRIS HOWARD
DIRECTOR OF
SACRED MUSIC



ROBERT SNYDER
DIRECTOR OF
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

*The Antiochian Orthodox
Deanery of Chicago Presents*

Deanery **SUMMER** *Picnic*

*Enjoy a summer cookout with your
extended church family, filled with food,
sports, and activities for all ages!*

12:00 PM - 06:00 PM
SATURDAY, JULY 11

Great Vespers at 5:00 PM in the park!

Entry is free, but bring cash/card for food to support the event & deanery! Bring the whole family & chairs/blankets to enjoy the park!

**Brezina Woods (Grove #2),
N La Grange Rd, La Grange Park, IL 60526**

Sign up to
Volunteer!





ST. MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH presents

2nd ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Green Garden Country Club — Frankfort, IL

SEPTEMBER 19, 2026 **8AM – 5PM**

Sponsorship opportunities and registration information to follow.

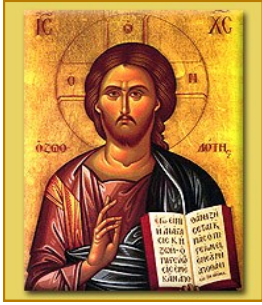
Please join us in making this a successful event!

A PORTION OF PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT:



LA RABIDA
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

SAVE THE DATE!



Weekly Synaxarion



On this day, the eighth Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate Holy Pentecost. On this day—the fiftieth after Great and Holy Pascha—we commemorate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the holy Disciples and Apostles in the form of tongues of fire. Numbering about 120, they who followed the Master gathered in Jerusalem in the upper room of a house to await the Lord’s promise to send the Holy Spirit. At about the third hour of the day, there came a sound from Heaven as of a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the house. Cloven tongues immediately appeared, like as of fire, and sat upon the head of each of them. The Apostles began to speak, not with the languages of their ancestors, but with other languages with which the Holy Spirit supplied them, as He inspired them. After the Apostle Peter explained what had happened, 3,000 people joined the Church on the inauguration of the priesthood of grace. The objectives of Pentecost are, namely, the coming of the Holy Spirit into the world, the fulfillment of the promise of Jesus Christ, and the completion of the undefiled hope of the Apostles. By the intercessions of the Holy Apostles, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.