

PENTECOST – COME, HOLY SPIRIT, COME!

The Feast Day of the Descent of the Holy Spirit, commonly referred to as PENTECOST, is celebrated by our Holy Church fifty days after PASCHA. This time of great rejoicing marks the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, giving these simple fishermen the strength, courage, and wisdom necessary for them to spread Christ’s Gospel and establish His Church throughout the world. Listen to what some of the famous Church Fathers had to say about this major feast day.

“Through the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, our return to Paradise is achieved, for we are now elevated to the Heavenly Kingdom, once more becoming children of God. Through the HOLY SPIRIT, we are able to call God our Father, as we become partakers of the grace of Jesus Christ, His Divine Son.” (St. Basil the Great)

“This day the earth became Heaven for us. Not because the stars descended to earth, but because the Apostles ascended to Heaven by the grace of the Holy Spirit, which transformed the entire world. Human nature was not changed by the coming of the Holy Spirit, but rather the direction of man’s will was changed, seeking goals now of a loftier nature.” (St John Chrysostom)

“Come, O Powerful One, who fulfills, transforms, and changes all things by Your will Alone! Come, fill us with God’s presence! Come, fill us with the power to overcome! Come, restore the image of God in us! Come, empower us to speak and work for You in the world! Come, breathe the life of God into us, immortal and everlasting! Come, Holy Spirit, Come!”