

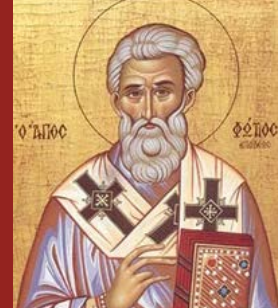


VOLUME 10 NO. 6 ISSUE: 93

OCTOBER 2026

A Good Word - Λόγον Αγαθόν

NEWSLETTER OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH



**YOUR NEW
METROPOLIS
CENTER**

We invite you to join our mission
pittsburgh.goarch.org/pledge

2026 GOYA FALL RETREAT
November 20-22, 2026

Camper
registration opens
October 1st
@ 7pm!

Questions? Contact Sophia at
camp@pittsburgh.goarch.org

GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

WONDERFULLY MADE RETREAT

Open to all youth and young adults with disabilities.

**OCTOBER 17, 2026
AT HOLY CROSS G.O.C.**
123 GILKESON RD, PITTSBURGH, PA

"LET'S TELL EVERYONE ABOUT JESUS!"

Based off of our summer camp theme, participants will learn about the disciples and their mission by learning songs, acting in plays, and so much more!

LEARN MORE & REGISTER USING THE QR CODE!

Questions? Contact Alyssa Kyritsis at akyritsis@pittsburgh.goarch.org

Young Adult Fall Retreat

at Camp Nazareth

October 23-25, 2026
Open to those 18-35 years of age from all jurisdictions!

Physicians of the Soul: Spiritual Fathers and the Mystery of Confession

With Keynote Speaker:
Rev. Fr. Stephen Loposky
Chancellor of the American Carpatho-Russian
Orthodox Diocese of North America

Register Here:  **or** tinyurl.com/smxbprp

Questions? youngadultretreats@gmail.com

2026 Metropolis of Pittsburgh St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival

Senior Division Essay Finalist

Christos H. Firoglanis - Annunciation, Lancaster

Why is the feast of Pentecost important and what does the story of Pentecost teach us about the Holy Spirit?

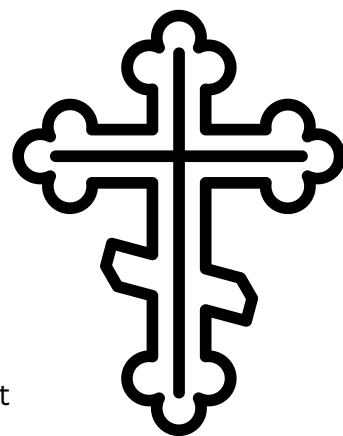
“You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8). This promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit from our Lord Jesus Christ, just before His Ascension into Heaven, was fulfilled ten days later on the day of Pentecost, described in the Book of Acts as *tongues of fire* coming down from Heaven upon the Apostles and filling them with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-4). Our life in the Church today is a continuation of the Pentecost miracle in the Book of Acts, as we are called to receive the Holy Spirit, to cultivate the grace of the Spirit within us, and to share this gift with the world around us.

Just as the Apostles received the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, we receive the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church through the Sacrament of Chrismation, which is our personal Pentecost. Jesus prepared the Apostles to receive the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Similarly, adults who are received into the Church through Baptism and/or Chrismation must first be prepared through a period of catechism. For us who were Baptized and Chrismated as babies, however, we receive the Holy Spirit early on as a gift that must be cultivated throughout our lives.

After we receive the Holy Spirit through Chrismation, we are called as Orthodox Christians to cultivate this “treasury of blessings” within us through a sacramental life of prayer in obedience to God’s commandments. The transformation of Saint Peter before and after Pentecost is one of the clearest examples in Scripture of what the Holy Spirit does in a person’s life. In Peter’s life we see a spiritual transformation from fear to courage, from confusion to clarity, and from denial to faithfulness and martyrdom. We see this same transformation in all the Apostles and Saints throughout history, and it is a change we can strive for in our own lives as well.

After receiving and cultivating the gift of the Holy Spirit within us, we are called by God to share that gift with the world around us. St. Peter and the Apostles did so through their powerful preaching and miracles described throughout the book of Acts. Even though I’m not able to do the miracles of the Saints, I did have the opportunity during the summer of 2025 to go on a mission trip with my church to Project Mexico to build a home for a homeless family in Tijuana. Seeing the joy on the faces of the family we built the modest home for, I was reminded of the words of our Lord: *“By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another”* (John 13:35). Love is one of the main *fruits of the Spirit* (Galatians 5:22) which helps us to share the Holy Spirit with others.

The feast of Pentecost is important in the life of the Church, for it is through Pentecost that we receive, cultivate, and share the gift of the Holy Spirit with the world. As we sing in the hymn of Pentecost, Christ sent the Holy Spirit upon the fishermen, and through them He drew the whole world into His net. As Orthodox Christians we are all blessed to be a part of the Church, to receive the Holy Spirit, and to participate in the miracle of Pentecost.



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR METROPOLIS MINISTRIES!

It costs approximately \$1,000 per day to operate our Metropolis - including Metropolitan Savas’ Archpastoral visitations, preparations for summer camp and GOYA retreats, our vital registry, and more.

Please consider sponsoring a day in the life of the Metropolis:

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh, 5201 Ellsworth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15232

412-621-5529 (Main) 412-465-0460 (Camp) 412-621-8543 (Youth)

pittsburgh.goarch.org info@pittsburgh.goarch.org

