

THE MONASTERY OF SAINT TIKHON OF ZADONSK

175 St. Tikhon's Road, Waymart, PA 18472

Telephone: (570) 937-4067



Beloved of the Lord,

We celebrate the feast of Pentecost and the coming of the Spirit, the appointed day of the promise, the fulfillment of our hope. How majestic and great is the mystery! Therefore we cry aloud to God: "Glory to Thee, O Lord and Creator of all!"

The All-Holy Spirit is given as the greatest gift to all by our God and Father according to the words of the Lord: "I will not leave you comfortless...I will pray the Father that He send you another Comforter, the Spirit of Truth...that He may abide with you forever." It is up to us to prepare ourselves to receive this wondrous gift. How often we need to pray before our Lord, telling Him to "come and abide in us!" God will not force His way into our life but waits patiently: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock." What might we do to continue to ready ourselves to make this gift our permanent possession for eternity?

The goal of our Orthodox Christian life is to be completely united with our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. The question that we all must ask ourselves frequently is "how to retain this great and free gift of Grace which is given to us every time we enter the Church?" Let us not offend the Holy Spirit Who longs to take up His abode in us more completely and perfect that which is lacking in us. Let us venerate the tabernacle of the Holy Spirit, our neighbor, and offer to them that love which was commanded by the Lord so that we might receive the grace God gives to those who love Him and keep His commandments.

Let us give thanks to our Triune God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit for so great a blessing, the Gift of the All-Holy Spirit. Let us prepare ourselves in the upper room of prayer, anticipating the arrival of our Guest so that He may comfort us, "cleanse us from every impurity and save our souls." Asking God's blessing on you all and thanking you for your continued love and support,

With love in Christ,

Fr. Archimandrite Sergius
Abbot of St. Tikhon's Monastery