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His Eminence
Metropolitan JOSEPH, Primate

His Grace, Bishop JOHN,
Auxiliary Bishop for Worcester
and New England

Rev. Fr. Milad Selim, Dean

Rev. Arch Dn. Seraphim Solof

Rev. Dn. Anthony Payne



June Reflection

Our Physical and Spiritual Growth - A Testament of Our Faith

by Fr. Milad Selim

The word "growth" often reminds us of progress and achievements. It refers to physical growth, an increase in finances, spiritual understanding and other accomplishments. When it comes to Church growth, we consider the number of committed families, continuous financial stability through faithful stewardship, increase in useful/active ministries, open line of communication, deeper and more personal spiritual life, just to name a few. This type of growth becomes possible when members of the community share a common mission and vision. This is also true when referring to a Diocese or an Archdiocese. For example, as the Cathedral of the Diocese of Worcester and New England, we are one of 11 growing churches who serve the Antiochian Orthodox faithful and those seeking God through ancient Faith, rich Tradition and Apostolic preaching.

As a way to strengthen our Churches, Diocese and Archdiocese, we gather around His Grace, Bishop JOHN, once a year through the Parish Life Conference (PLC) and His Eminence, Metropolitan JOSEPH, every other year through the National Archdiocesan Convention. During these gatherings, the laity along with Clergy, learn from one another and grow closer to the Kingdom of God. Recently, Bishop JOHN shared a short letter with all of His churches regarding our upcoming PLC hosted by our Cathedral, which I have included below. I ask that you read His message to us carefully and with great joy. I am proud to be your host pastor and look forward to you joining me and others for this exciting conference.

5/25/2017

Dear to Christ Presbyters and Deacons of the Diocese, Archdiocesan Leaders, Parish Council Members, Members of the Order of St. Ignatius, Parish and Diocese Organization Leaders and Church Leaders within the Diocese of Worcester and New England,

The Parish Life Conference this year will be held on June 17 and June 23-25. Fr. Milad and the parishioners of the Cathedral have been very attentive to the needs and requests of the

Diocesan Conference goers and have planned a very affordable and productive conference. They deserve our cooperation and support. Please see the schedule and register early.

Following the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, on June 24th we will have our Annual Diocesan Assembly where we will review the work of the Diocesan Mission Council, dream together of what we can do to further our Christian Mission within the Diocese and hear reports of all of our Diocesan Organizations. For you to exercise your stewardship responsibility of building up the Church within our Diocese, it is imperative that you understand what others in the Diocese are doing and that we receive your input concerning our common mission opportunities. This meeting will be followed with our Conference Keynote speaker, the Order of St. Ignatius Meeting, the Bible Bowl, Vespers and a Hafli.

Please register on line for the PLC as soon as possible. Registration, schedules and Conference Sponsorships are all available at <http://antiochianevents.com/worcester.html>

We have invited Fr. George Eber from Tulsa Oklahoma to offer the keynote address and workshop leaders to help us discuss practical ways to responsibly raise our families and meet the needs of our society through prayer. Fr. George has developed methods to help Vietnam Vets cope which can be applied to spiritual growth. This topic is timely and of great importance. Please use your leadership positions to promote the PLC events to be held at the Cathedral.

We are doing all that we can to meet the real needs of the faithful of this diocese and build up the Church in our region. We rely on your support to work with us in this ministry. I thank you in advance for your efforts and good works maintaining and furthering our common mission.

Christ is Risen!

+JOHN
Bishop of Worcester and New England



FEAST OF THE HOLY, GLORIOUS APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL + JUNE 29

Verily, the all-solemn Feast of the two Apostles hath arrived, bringing us salvation. Wherefore, let us mystically exult, crying unto them:

Rejoice, O ye who have become luminaries to those in darkness, two rays of the Sun! Rejoice, O Peter and Paul, adamant pillars of the divine doctrines, ye friends of Christ and two honored vessels! Be ye present among us in an invisible manner, and grant immaterial gifts to those who extol your feast with songs.

--Doxasticon of the Feast, Tone 6





Archdeacon Seraphim's

Fun Fact

Pascha is such a great and glorious celebration – the “feast of feasts, holy day of holy days” as we sing in the Paschal Canon – sometimes we forget that it's not the last chapter of the story, but, rather, a critical step on a journey that continues one step beyond. Or better, two.

St. Luke tells us that Jesus “presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by [His disciples] during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.” (Acts 1:3) So we keep the feast of Pascha for 40 days, celebrating the last day – the “leave-taking” of the feast – with great solemnity. And then we take the next step. St. Luke continues, with Jesus telling His disciples: “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.” Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.” (Acts 1:8-9)

The “point” of all this is that Jesus, the Word of God who took on human nature in His incarnation, does not leave that nature behind when He “ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of the Father.” In His ascension, He enthrones that nature – our nature, now perfected and glorified – at the right hand of God Himself, to dwell with Him, beside Him, for all eternity.

Ten days later, we take the final step. St. Luke continues: “When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all

CONGRATULATIONS to our Graduating Students!

High School:

Jack Casey, Wachusett Regional High School,
Sydney Joyce, Hopkinton High School,
Ciara Haddad, Tantasqua Regional High School,
Karim Abeddy, St. Mary's Worcester,

Wentworth
Ithaca College
Becker College
Suffolk University

College:

Sarah Bourisk graduated from University of New Haven with a degree in Forensic Science and a double major in Pre-Med, she will be attending grad school in the fall at the University of New Haven for Forensic Technology

Maxwell Joyce graduated from UMASS Amherst with a degree in Computer Engineering.

Jamil Samara graduated from Holy Cross School of Theology with a Masters of Divinity

UPDATE: Feed My Starving Children

The Feed My Starving Children Planning Team has been busy fundraising for and promoting year 3 of the MobilePack. We recently held our 2nd Annual Meal of Hope, a night of awareness and fellowship. It was a successful event with an amazing speaker from the Feed My Starving Children Organization! Our upcoming events include Adult Paint Night sponsored by ArtReach on June 8th from 7-9 pm where we will be painting 2 wine glasses for \$25. We also have a month-long raffle in July with prizes drawn everyday of the month. All proceeds go to our FMSC event. If you are interested in attending paint night or would like to purchase raffle tickets, please see the team on Sundays or call or email the Cathedral



Our 2017 Stewardship Theme

“As the Father Has Sent Me, So I Send You.”

(John 20:210)

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REMINDER

**27th Annual CHARLES M. DOWD
Memorial Golf Tournament
MONDAY, JUNE 5**

*We welcome all of our
parishioners and friends
to join us on June 5, 2017
for Golf or Dinner.*

St. George Orthodox Cathedral Mission Statement:

*The mission of St. George Orthodox Cathedral
is to preserve and proclaim the Gospel
of our Lord, God, and Saviour Jesus Christ, and
grow in our Christian faith by joyfully serving and
uniting all people through love, charity, education,
and worship.*

Continued from previous page

with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." (Acts 2:1-4)

Pentecost – the Jewish feast of the giving of the law on Mt. Sinai 50 days after the Passover – is fulfilled in our Pentecost, the feast of the giving of the Holy Spirit to the church 50 days after Pascha. And Pentecost changes everything. As we sing in the troparion of the feast, "Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit. Through them, Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. O Lover of man, Glory to Thee!" The Holy Spirit transforms simple fishermen into the most wise Apostles, and the church is born. The possibility of true union with God is offered to us – only in the free gift of the Holy Spirit, poured out upon the church at Pentecost, poured out on us in our christening. "The seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit": that is the great and glorious final chapter of the awesome story of our salvation.

79th Annual Parish Life Conference

Hosted by
Saint George
Orthodox Cathedral

*My house will be
called a house
of prayer for all nations.*

–Mark 11:17

Pre-Conference June 17, Conference June 23–25

Diocese of Worcester and New England



The Women's Club

*Front row:
Marion Busada
and Helen Hayeck.*

*Back row:
Violet Massad
and Beatrice Haddad*

Our Women's Club May Meeting and dinner took place at Southgate in Shrewsbury, MA. In the past 3 years, four of our women have moved to Southgate in Shrewsbury. We would like to extend a special thank-you to Marion Busada, Beatrice Haddad, Helen Hayeck, and Violet Massad, for having us at Southgate. We had a wonderful time visiting with them and enjoyed a delicious meal, great company and especially our time together. May God Bless and protect you.



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Something to think about...

The Lord does not show Himself to a proud soul. The proud soul, no matter how many books it reads, will never know God, since by its pride it does not give place for the grace of the Holy Spirit, while God is known only by the humble soul.

(St. Silouan the Athonite, Writings, III.11)

The Light

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SAVE THE DATE...

Contact the Cathedral Office or organization members for more details or refer to the weekly online bulletin for updates and more information.

Reservations may be required for some events!

Golf Tournament • June 5

Women's Club Meeting • June 6

**Adult Paint Night • June 8
to benefit FMSC**

**Diocesan Retreat:
Orthodox Parenting Skills • June 10**

Parish Life Conference • June 17 and 23-25

Men's Club Meeting • June 29

**Feed My Starving Children
MobilePack Event • August 12**

**Holy Trinity's 11th Annual
Food and Wine Fest • October 19**



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HOLY SACRAMENTS of the Orthodox Church

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Ronald James Caldwell, Jr.
Virginia Elsie Haddad

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• FUNERALS •

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LIGHT

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June 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Vespers 5 pm
4 Holy Pentacost Orthros: 9 am Divine Liturgy: 10 am	5 Golf Tournament	6 Women's Club 6 pm	7	8 Paint Nite for Adults 7-9 pm	9	10 Diocesan Retreat on Orthodox Parenting Skills 9 AM - 3 PM Vespers 3:30 pm
11 Orthros: 9 am Divine Liturgy: 10 am	12 Apostles Fast Begins Until June 29th Parish Council Meeting 7 pm	13	14	15	16	17 Parish Life Pre- Conference Vespers 4 pm
18 Orthros: 9 am Divine Liturgy: 10 am	19	20	21	22	23 Parish Life Conference	24 Parish Life Conference Divine Liturgy 10 pm Vespers 6 pm
25 Parish Life Conference Orthros: 9 am Divine Liturgy: 10 am	26	27	28 Vesperal Diving Liturgy 6:00 PM	29 Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul Men's Club 6 pm	30	