



# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese, Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople



Father Dave Urban, *Pastor*  
Very Reverend Father John Brancho, *Pastor Emeritus*  
Timothy Martin, *Reader*  
Subdeacon Ryan Ferko  
Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, *Cantors*  
Lawrence Martin, *Parish Council President*  
[www.facebook.com/pg/St-John-the-Baptist-Orthodox-Church-of-Northside-Pittsburgh-169297619784149](http://www.facebook.com/pg/St-John-the-Baptist-Orthodox-Church-of-Northside-Pittsburgh-169297619784149)

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## SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

*please wear masks following the CDC guidelines*

### SUNDAY, JUNE 20 – FEAST OF PENTECOST, THE

#### DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT; “RUSALJA”

9:15 – Icon procession and Litiya Prayers

9:30 am Divine Liturgy

Epistle: Acts 2:1-11;

Gospel: John 7:37-52; 8:12

Panachida for our departed Fathers and Godfathers, and +Michael Urban (25-yr)

Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost (from Sunday evening’s vespers) following Liturgy

A FAST FREE WEEK

### MONDAY, JUNE 14

9:30 am Divine Liturgy with Gospel Procession

### SUNDAY, JUNE 27

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday of All Saints

9:30 am Divine Liturgy w/ Fr. Robert Prepelka

Epistle: Hebrews 11:33-12:2

Gospel: Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30

Tone 8; Liturgical Color: **Green**

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**Live-Broadcast** – If you are unable to attend church on Sunday morning, please pray along with our Cathedral’s services online at **9:00 am**.

[www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/](http://www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/)

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**Future Services** – Our online “Parish Calendar” is continually updated on our website at:

[www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar](http://www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar)

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## BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Please have submissions to Fr. Dave by Wed.)*

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**This Week** we return to adding “O Heavenly King” to our prayers. This is also a Fast Free Week.

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**Coffee Social** – Please feel free to bring in individually packaged items for our parish family to enjoy during our coffee socials.

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**Curator Stewards** – As we look for more curators to be stewards of their time and help “at the door”, please consider coming early one Sunday just to see what happens. Please contact Theresa Sharpless for more information.

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**Church Picnic** – The Parish Council is looking for an “activity coordinator” for our upcoming parish picnic on **July 18** at The Cabin in North Park. Please contact Larry Martin if you are interested.

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**Church School** – As we prepare for *Church School* to return this fall, we are looking for additional teachers to participate with the stewardship of their time and talents. Please contact Gina Fall if you are interested.

### *Monday’s Spiritual Vitamin:*

“If the Holy Spirit is peace of soul, as He is said to be, and as He is in reality, and if anger is disturbance of heart, as it actually is and as it is said to be, then nothing so prevents His presence in us as anger.”

+St. John Climacus

## A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

Glory be to Jesus Christ!

*(responded with: **Glory be forever!**)*

**Slava Isusu Christu! (Slava na viki!)**

We are happy that you have joined us today! It is our pleasure to have you in our presence this morning and we wish God’s Blessings to all who visit with us today and hope you stop again soon! If you have any questions in regards to our worship or Orthodoxy, please see Fr. Dave.

## **BULLETIN IS OFFERED:**

For the health of Fathers and Godfathers of our parish.

*Many Years!*

And in memory of our departed Fathers and Godfathers of our parish.

*May their memory be eternal!*



We will have our Garage Sale on **August 13-15** (Friday and Saturday from 9am to 3pm and, *new this year*, Sunday from 12-noon to 3pm). Tax-deductible donations for the sale (that are clean and with all of their parts) are being accepted now through **July 23** (*no TV’s or clothing please*). WHEN YOU BRING YOUR ITEMS IN, PLACE THEM DIRECTLY ON THE TABLES AS WE CONTINUOUSLY SET UP AS A COMMUNITY FOR THE COMMUNITY EVENT. If you are not able to bring your items in on a Sunday, please contact Fr Dave (412-748-0148 or OrthodoxPittsburgh1932@gmail.com) to arrange dropping them off. Your extra items will be a treasure to someone else!

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**Stewards needed for each day** – whether you can offer your time all day or even just for 2 hours, please sign up on the sheet in the hall as we prepare for the return of our garage sale.

### *Tuesday’s Spiritual Vitamin:*

“Through the Holy Spirit comes our restoration to paradise, our ascension into the kingdom of heaven, our return to the adoption of sons, our liberty to call God our Father, our being made partakers of the grace of Christ, our being called children of light, our sharing in eternal glory, and, in a word, our being brought into a state of all “fulness of blessing,” both in this world and in the world to come, of all the good gifts that are in store for us, by promise hereof, through faith, beholding the reflection of their grace as though they were already present, we await the full enjoyment.”  
+ St. Basil the Great, “On the Holy Spirit”

## OUR STEWARDSHIP GIFTS TO GOD

Stewardship: \$ 1175  
*(\$1000 in honor of Melanie Shuster’s birthday)*  
Candles/Eternal Lamp Offerings: \$ 202  
Envelope Stewardship: \$ 914  
Parish House Offering: \$ 300

**Total Collections: \$ 2611**

**Capital Improvement Fund: \$ 85**

**Relocation Fund: \$ 50**

*We must give in trust that God will use it to produce fruit: “He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your sowing (resources) and increase the harvest of your righteousness (benevolence).” - 2 Cor. 9:10*

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**Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials** were offered last week by Nelson Family; Tim Martin; Lawrence Martin; Melanie Shuster; Mary Jane Hudak; Eleanor Sanger; Patty Watson; Cindy Pavilonis

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**“I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” - John 8:12**

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**The Eternal Lamp** was offered last week by Matt Peifer, in Memory of Mother, +Viola; and John Gaydos, Jr., in Memory of Mother, +Catherine. May Their Memory Be Eternal! Vičnaya Pamyat!

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**Weekly Offerings to God** – During this time, if you are not yet coming to the church, we request that weekly donations be mailed to Tim Martin (2225 McAleer Rd., Sewickley, PA 15143)



**On-Line Giving** is now available from our parish website! The best option is to come to church and give your offering to God in His Temple (2<sup>nd</sup> best is to mail it in). Now you can also donate from your home and set up a recurring donation to the:

- ✘ General Stewardship Fund,
- ✘ Capital Improvement Fund, or
- ✘ Relocation Fund.

If you miss coming to church for a week, this allows you another option to “catch up” on your weekly stewardship. For our parish to continue it’s ministries, outreach, and general bill paying, we need your generosity to continue.

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### ORTHODOXY AROUND THE ‘BURGH AND OUR DIOCESE

#### VISIT OUR DIOCESE ON-LINE

Diocesan Website: [www.acrod.org](http://www.acrod.org)  
 Camp Nazareth: [www.campnazareth.org](http://www.campnazareth.org)  
 FB: [www.facebook.com/acroddioocese](https://www.facebook.com/acroddioocese)  
 Twitter: [twitter.com/acrodnews](https://twitter.com/acrodnews)  
 YouTube: [youtube.com/acroddioocese](https://youtube.com/acroddioocese)

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### SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

*Epistle: Acts 2: 1– 11*

#### The Coming of the Holy Spirit

2 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven.

6 And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one

heard them speaking in his own language. 7 And they were amazed and wondered, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?” 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? 9 Parthians and Medes and E’lamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.”

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*Gospel: John 7: 37– 52; 8: 12*

#### Rivers of Living Water

37 On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, “If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink. 38 He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.’” 39 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.

#### Division among the People

40 When they heard these words, some of the people said, “This is really the prophet.” 41 Others said, “This is the Christ.” But some said, “Is the Christ to come from Galilee?” 42 Has not the scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?” 43 So there was a division among the people over him. 44 Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.

#### The Unbelief of Those in Authority

45 The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, “Why did you not bring him?” 46 The officers answered, “No man ever spoke like this man!” 47 The Pharisees answered them, “Are you led astray, you also?” 48 Have any of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? 49 But this crowd, who do not know the law, are accursed.” 50 Nicodemus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, 51 “Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning

what he does?” 52 They replied, “Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee.”

#### Jesus the Light of the World

12 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.”

*Wednesday’s Spiritual Vitamin:*

“Filled with love, the holy Apostles went into the world, preaching salvation to mankind and fearing nothing, for the Spirit of God was their strength. When St. Andrew was threatened with death upon the cross if he did not stay his preaching he answered: ‘If I feared the cross I should not be preaching the Cross.’ In this manner all the other Apostles, and after them the martyrs and holy men who wrestled against evil, went forward with joy to meet pain and suffering. For the Holy Spirit, sweet and gracious, draws the soul to love the Lord, and in the sweetness of the Holy Spirit the soul loses her fear of suffering.”

+ St. Silouan the Athonite

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### FEAST DAY FEATURE

#### Pentecost (also called Trinity Day or Descent of the Holy Spirit)

The Orthodox Church sees Pentecost as the final fulfillment of the mission of Jesus Christ and the first beginning of the messianic age of the Kingdom of God, mystically present in His Church. It is traditionally called the beginning of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

Besides celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit, the feast also celebrates the full revelation of the divine Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Hymns of the Church, celebrate the sign of the final act of God’s self-disclosure to the world of His creation.

To Orthodox Christians, the feast of Pentecost is not just a celebration of an event in history. It also is a celebration of their membership in the Church. They have lived Pentecost and received “the seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit” in the sacrament of chrismation.

### LIVES OF THE SAINTS

#### The Holy Martyr Theodotos

*Commemorated on June 20/7*

The Holy Martyr Theodotos lived in Galatian Ancyra in the III Century. He was distinguished by an especial kindness and concern. At the height of the persecution under Diocletian (284-305) he provided Christians all the necessities and gave them shelter in his home, where secretly they made Divine-services. Saint Theodotos visited the Christian captives in prison, paid their bail, and reverently gave burial to the bodies of martyrs thrown for devouring by wild beasts. One time he dragged out of the water and gave burial to the bodies of seven holy martyresses, drowned in the sea (Comm. 18 May). They reported about this to the governor. Having refused to offer sacrifice to idols and having denounced the pagan folly, Saint Theodotos confessed the true faith in Christ, for which they subjected him to terrible tortures and beheaded him with the sword (+ 303). They wanted to burn up the body of the holy martyr, but a storm having arisen made it futile to attempt this, and they gave him over to a Christian for burial.

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### LIVING ORTHODOXY

#### WAYS TO CELEBRATE PENTECOST

##### 1. Attend Divine Liturgy and Learn the Tropar

Attending Divine Liturgy on Pentecost is far easier than for many other feasts, as Pentecost is always celebrated on a Sunday. The service is a particularly joyful one where we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is also the first time that we kneel after the Paschal period. Many churches include the prayers known as the Kneeling Prayers in the Divine Liturgy. Other churches may have a separate Vespers service. If possible, try to participate in the Kneeling prayers and enter into the spirit of repentance, forgiveness, and strength for our journey.

The tropar (*in tone 8*) for the feast is:  
“Blessed are You, O Christ our God! \* You filled the fishermen with wisdom, \* sending down upon them the Holy Spirit. \* Through them You have caught the whole world in Your net. \* O Lover of Mankind, glory to You!”

### 2. Wear Green to Liturgy and this week

The liturgical color of Pentecost is green. You can dress your family in green to help your children notice this change, and point out the new life found when the Holy Spirit comes upon us. (*The leavetaking for the feast is Saturday – so wear green all week.*)

### 3. Decorate the House with Greenery

In keeping with the theme, you can also decorate your house with greenery. These may include potted herbs that you can later plant in an herb garden. We had a lovely bouquet of fresh basil, parsley, and rosemary that we placed in a vase before our festal icon last year. The fragrance filled the house and reminded us of the birth of the Church all week.

### 4. Learn to Say “Hello” in Different Languages

The story of Pentecost is filled with many interesting and exciting things (tongues of fire, a rushing wind—how cool is that to a child?!). **One of these is the fact that the Apostles were able to speak in languages they hadn’t learned before.** The Holy Spirit gave them a gift so that they could preach the Gospel to people of all languages visiting Jerusalem at the time.

**Parents can help children understand this concept of different languages by teaching children how to say “hello” in multiple languages.** Look online to find out how to greet others in Spanish, Russian, Greek, Arabic, and Japanese. You can teach them to say “hello” in languages that people in their area might use. Is there a large Korean population in your town? Do you have people from Bulgaria in your church? Do you live by a Native American reservation? Have fun learning new languages!

### 5. Fill the House with Candles and Tell the Story

In remembrance of the tongues of fire that descended upon the apostles, fill your house

with candles. Then, tell, read, or listen to the story of Pentecost.

### 6. Orthodoxy Around the World Activity

Finally, help children appreciate the diversity of the Church by learning about churches around the world. See if you can find websites for churches on all seven continents. Or, look for and print out pictures of churches from every continent. You can make a collage by pasting the pictures, church names, and locations on a posterboard.

### On the Feast of Pentecost, let us rejoice because God Himself is with us in his Church!

[www.orthodoxmotherhood.com/ways-celebrate-pentecost/](http://www.orthodoxmotherhood.com/ways-celebrate-pentecost/)

#### Thursday’s Spiritual Vitamin:

“Everything that breathes, breathes by air and cannot live without air; similarly all reasonable free creatures live by the Holy Spirit, as though by air, and cannot live without Him. “Every soul is quickened by the Holy Spirit.” Recognize that the Holy Spirit stands in the same relation to your soul as air stands in relation to your body.”  
+ St. John of Kronstadt

### PRAYER CORNER

Our Parish Prayer List for  
Special Intentions and Other Needs  
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**A Prayer For The Sick:** O Christ, You alone are prompt to defend us; quickly visit Your suffering servant *name(s)*. Through the prayers of the Theotokos, deliver *him/her/them* from sickness and bitter pain. Heal *him/her/them* so that *he/she/they* may sing to You and always praise You for You alone love us. Amen.

#### Friday’s Spiritual Vitamin:

“From the very beginning of the dispensation of salvation, the Holy Spirit has made Himself a part of the foundation of the Church, the foundation of the Body of Christ, by “bringing about the incarnation of the Eternal Word in the Virgin.” In fact, every holy mystery and holy virtue is a little Pentecost; in them, the Holy Spirit descends upon us, into us.” +St. Justin Popovich

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**For the Health of...** Frederick, Fr. Patrick, Joseph, Gary, Joanne, Barbara, Mary Jane M., Dale, Brian, Kristina, Fr. George L., Sean, Julia, Susan, John, Juliana, Fredrick, Kenneth, Michael, Roberta, and for all those battling viruses ...*through the prayers of St. Nectarios the Wonderworker; St. Luke, the Surgeon; and St. Panteleimon, the Healer.*

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**For the Special Intentions of...** Metropolitan Gregory, Fr. Photios, Fr. Theodore, Deacon Charles, Carlene, Georgia, Eleanora, Mark, Michaleana, Dorell, Elizabeth, Donald, Susan, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Nancy, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, Ameer, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Rose, Charles, Justin *our seminarians:* Dylan, Thomas, Nicholas, and Aydin *and our Church Council, Curators, and Relocation Committee:* Lawrence, Matthew, Timothy, Theresa, Rich, Gina, Robert, Jane, Anthony, Mary Jane, Steven, Kenneth, Jillian, John, Wendy, John, Margaret, John, John, Todd *and for those who labor towards our Community Outreaches ...through the prayers of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker; St. John the Baptist; the Archangels Michael & Gabriel; and the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary.*

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**Patronal Feast Days (Name’s Day):**  
(*contact Fr. Dave with your Patron Saint*)

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**Birthday Prayers for...** Katherine Chow, Donna (Lanick) Staub, Pañi Melissa Chendorain, Mary Jane Hudak, Margaret Spirnak ...*May God allow them to grow in peace and love all the days of their lives and may He grant them many and blessed years!*

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**For our Catechumens & Inquirers...**  
Susan, Marilyn, John ...*through the prayers of St. Paul the Apostle, St. Mary Magdalene, and St. John Maximovitch.*

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**For those serving in the Armed Forces & Civil Authorities...** Thomas R. Dzadovsky and Trevor Meegan ...*through the prayers of St. George, the Great-Martyr & Wonderworker.*

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**For those preparing for Marriage...** Lexi & Patrick, Lauren & Corey ...*through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.*

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**Anniversary Prayers for...** Danielle & Shane Yakemawiz (6/26) ...*May God fill them with His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!*

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**For Pregnant Mothers...** Carley (*due in July*), Lindsay (*July*), Theresa (*August*), Pañi Davina (*September*) ...*through the prayers of St. Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, and St. Irene Chrysovalantou.*

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**For the souls of the newly departed...**  
+Stephen Hall, the Deacon and those who have passed from the coronavirus ...*May the Lord God grant them blessed repose where there is no pain sorrow or mourning. May their Memory in God be Eternal*

### DEVOTIONAL PRAYER OF THE WEEK

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**Return to Kneeling in Prayer** – At the Vespers service Sunday evening on Pentecost, the kneeling prayers are recited. (*We started them this morning after the Divine Liturgy.*) The Orthodox community now returns to kneeling in prayer (*except on Sundays*) and reciting O Heavenly King.

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### O Heavenly King (Carju Nebesnyj)

O heavenly King, the Comforter; the Spirit of Truth, Who are in all places and fill all things; Treasury of blessings and Giver of life, come and dwell within us and cleanse us from every blemish and save our souls, O blessed One.  
Amen.

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**BONUS ONLINE MATERIAL:**

**A prayer for our Neighborhoods**

*by Archbishop Demetrios of America*

I pray to you, God, for the families of my neighborhood. Visit them. Throw their troubles out of them and bring hope. Make the daily cares that devour the heart disappear.

Present solutions to life's problems. Settle the disturbed relationships among members of different families whom I know or do not know. O Lord, remind the people of our area that You exist, that You are a strong and loving Protector.

Keep away, Lord, anything that causes the disappearance of peace from souls, and the escape of sleep from our eyes.

Stay a little while more tonight in our neighborhood. Spread peace along with the night. Let the harshness of the day and its struggles not spread over the night.

Amen.

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\* This is to be used for the special intentions of our brothers and sisters in Christ and can be inserted as a prayer itself into our daily prayers. Please let Fr. Dave know if you wish to make additions or subtractions (in the case of answered prayers) to our Parish List. The words of the Gospel are true: **it is good to pray for one another.** Let this be a place where we lay out our concerns and beg the help of our brothers & sisters in Christ. *This prayer list is NOT limited to only Orthodox Christians.*

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*Saturday's Spiritual Vitamin:*

The One, Indivisible Trinity ever remains the Trinity. The Father always remains the Father, the Son remains the Son, the Holy Spirit remains the Holy Spirit. Besides Their personal Properties, They all share all in common and in unity. That is why the Holy Trinity is One God.

+ St. John Maximovich of Shanghai and San Francisco

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“The Comforter, the Holy Spirit, who fills the whole universe, passes through all believing, meek, humble, good, and simple human souls, dwelling in them, vivifying and strengthening them. He becomes one spirit with them and everything to them – light, strength, peace, joy, success in their undertakings, especially in a pious life, and everything good – “going through all understanding, pure and most subtle spirits” (Wisdom of Solomon vii, 23). “We have been all made to drink into one Spirit” (I Cor. xii.13). All pious people are filled with the Spirit of God similarly as a sponge is filled with water.”

+ St. John of Kronstadt