



## THE MONASTERY OF SAINT TIKHON OF ZADONSK

175 ST TIKHONS R.D. WAYMART PA 18472  
570.937.4390 [WWW.STTIKHONSMONASTERY.ORG](http://WWW.STTIKHONSMONASTERY.ORG)

Pentecost/Summer 2012

Beloved of the Lord,

We greet you on the Feast of Holy Pentecost and with the joy of the coming of the Holy Spirit. Indeed, as Orthodox Christians we are reminded at this feast that we all have been called to become living Temples of God. In the Old Testament, the day of Pentecost commemorated the day on which God gave Moses the Ten Commandments. Now, on the Day of the Descent of the Holy Spirit, we commemorate the writing of the commandments of God not on tablets of stone but on the heart of each and every human being.

It is through the presence of the Holy Spirit dwelling within our hearts that we are enabled to see the reality of sin and by this same Spirit are given power to overcome it. However, we must strive through humble repentance to become worthy of so great a gift. We may seek for peace and fulfillment in the world, but the Church reminds us that we ourselves can only have peace if the Spirit of Peace dwells in us. If we do not strive to become a living House of God, we will fail to fulfill the purpose for which we were created, which is to be united with God forever.

Therefore let us not put off our spiritual life and waste the precious time that has been given to us to acquire eternal life. Let us awaken by the power of the Spirit and recommit ourselves to repentance and to a life lived for the Lord Who created us. Let us unhesitatingly commit ourselves, each other and *all* our life to Christ our God.

On behalf of the entire brotherhood, we wish you all a blessed summer, Sts. Peter and Paul Fast and a glorious Transfiguration and Dormition. Be certain of our love and prayers for you all and our deep gratitude for your continued love and support of St. Tikhon's Monastery. We invoke God's blessing upon you all and may the Grace of the All-Holy Spirit abide with us all forever.

With love in Christ,

Fr. Ighumen Sergius  
Abbot of St. Tikhon's Monastery  
and the Monastery Brotherhood