

the human soul is filled with the Divine Spirit; and the laws of nature are obedient to moral laws, which govern the world. Because the Lord Jesus Christ is the fullness of the Holy Spirit and the perfection of moral law, to Him is subject all matter—the entire physical world, with all the laws of nature.

Any person, as a spirit, can be victorious in his life over a certain law of nature, with the help of another law of nature—that is, he can overcome it with his own spirit. Christ, as the God-Man, could subject the laws of nature to Himself through the law of the Spirit, which is the supreme law of the created world. However, this concept, just as any other spiritual concept, can be but partially explained by ordinary earthly conceptualizations and reasoning—and that only by examples and comparisons.

Spiritual things only become clear beyond a doubt when the spirit sees them and perceives them. In order to see and feel the manifestations of the spiritual world, long and exhausting spiritual practice is needed, after which, by God’s grace, spiritual vision may be opened in a person; this vision allows him to see what seems unbelievable and impossible to ordinary mortals. Nevertheless, a person must first believe those who have seen the unbelievable, and strengthen their faith from day to day, striving to see what is inaccessible to the common gaze.

Not in vain does the Lord say, “Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed” [John 20:29]. The Lord God rejoices in their faith just as a father on earth rejoices that his children believe his every word. All the apostles were present at the Ascension of the Lord, gathered on the hill. This was their last collective meeting. However, this was not the last appearance of Christ. Later He appeared in a vision to the Apostle Paul on the road to Damascus, to the Apostle John on the island of Patmos, and to other apostles, as well as to martyrs, holy hierarchs, and confessors, over the course of the entire history of the Christian Church.

But the day will come—and that day is not far off—when all the righteous men and women who firmly believed in Him throughout their lives will see Him. And around Him in the heaven will gather all those who were baptized on earth in His name—not only with water, but also with the Spirit and Fire. And they will enter into His joy, which the Heavenly Father has prepared for all His chosen, and will inherit a joy that they have never known before.

## Saint Andrew Orthodox Church

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**June 9, 2019**

**Sunday after Ascension**

*Graduation Sunday*

1st Sunday Church Charities/ 2nd Sunday Building Fund/3rd Sunday for the food bank

### Times of Services

Jun	09	Sun	10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy offered for the health and welfare of Ethan Daller & Samuel Ensen
	15	Sat		Soul Saturday
			09:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
Jun	16			<b>Pentecost Sunday &amp; Father’s Day</b>

Jun	16	Sun	10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy Vespers of Pentecost
	17—23			<i>FAST FREE WEEK</i>
	23	Sun	10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy Blessing of the Graves
	24			<i>APOSTLES FAST BEGINS</i>
	30	Sun	10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
	29			<i>Feast of SS Peter &amp; Paul End of Apostles Fast</i>
Jul	01	Sun	10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy

### Blessing of the Graves

Please note that the blessing of the graves will take place on June 23 in lieu of Pentecost Sunday.

### Today Parish Graduates' Sunday In Butler High School Class of 2019 Ethan Daller & Samuel Enslin

**Ethan T. Daller**, is a fourth generation member of St. Andrew Orthodox Church, Lyndora, a son of Lyndora who was born in Butler, PA, and is one of three sons and was baptised at St. Andrew's and has served continuously at the altar since he was about five years of age. As such he is a 'Gilleaindreas' - literally a servant of St. Andrew, Scotland's patron saint, the patron saint of sea farers and proto-martyr of Russia (*proto—meaning the first of their martyrs*).

**Samuel Enslin**, is a third generation member of St. Andrew Orthodox Church, a son of Butler who was born in Pittsburgh, PA, and baptised here and in his junior years served at the altar.

Many, many blessed years to Ethan and Samuel.

### Sisterhood of the Altar Meeting

Sunday, June 30, 2019, following the coffee hour.

### Change of Altar Cloths

After today's Divine Liturgy we will be changing the altar cloths from white to green and we ask your assistance in helping us.

### Parish Council Meeting

This Thursday, June 13 at 6:30 PM the parish council will meet.

### Saint Nikolai Velimirovic

#### Sermon on the Ascension of the Lord

Thus did the One ascend to Heaven Who held heaven within Himself. He who carries hell within himself will end up in hell, but he who bears heaven within his soul will ascend to heaven. And truly, no one can ascend to heaven other than those who have heaven within;



and no one can end up in hell besides those who have hell within. The familiar is drawn to what is familiar and unites with the familiar; but it rejects what is not familiar. Matter submits to the spirit to the extent that