



Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Church

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



Reverend Dave Urban, *Pastor*
Very Reverend John Brancho, *Pastor Emeritus*
Timothy Martin, *Reader*
Matthew Peifer, Stephen Brancho, & John Radick, *Cantors*
Matthew Peifer, *Church Council President*
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CHRIST IS RISEN!
*Christ is Risen From The Dead, Trampling
Down Death By Death and To Those In The
Tomb Bestowing Life!*
INDEED HE IS RISEN!

May 13, 2018

Volume III

6th Sunday of Pascha: The Blind Man

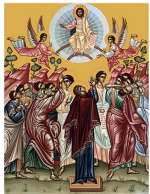
9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

Tone 5

Liturgical Color: **White**

Epistle: Acts 16: 16– 34; Gospel: John 9: 1– 38

*Add'l collection for our capital improvement fund / Panachida for +Bishop Methodios, +Bishop Peter, and
deceased mothers of our parish & family / ACRY Meeting & Basket Raffle Set Up*



SERVICES, SAINTS, AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Thursday, May 17 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord

Friday, May 18 – 9:30am Akathist to the “Inexhaustible Cup”

of the Theotokos with holy anointing



The Holy Mystery of Confession is available following every service.

Monday	Venerable Paphnutius, abbot of Borovsk (1477)	Acts 17:1–15	John 11:47–57
Tuesday	St. Athanasius the Great, archbishop of Alexandria (373)	Acts 17:19–28	John 12:19–36
* Wednesday	Martyr Timothy the Reader of Antioch in Egypt (286)	Acts 18:22–28	John 12:36–47
Thursday	Virgin-martyr Pelagia of Tarsus in Asia Minor (287)	Acts 1:1–12	Luke 24:36–53
* Friday	Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos, "Inexhaustible Cup" (1878)	Acts 19:1–8	John 14:1–11
Saturday	Righteous Job the Long-suffering	Acts 20:7–12	John 14:10–21

** Let us Imitate Christ and the Saints and Fast as they did!*

No Kneeling in Prayer for 50 Days – Replace “O Heavenly King” with the Paschal Tropar

Sunday, May 20 – 7th Sunday of Pascha: The Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

9:30 am – Divine Liturgy

Tone 6

Liturgical Color: **White**

Epistle: Acts 20: 16– 18, 28– 36; Gospel: John 17: 1– 13

YOUTH Sunday / Blessing of newly donated Green Clergy Vestments

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Paschal Greeting (used instead of ‘hello’, before ‘good morning’, et cetera...)

Christ is risen! (Indeed He is risen!)

Christos Voskrese! (Voistinu Voskrese!)

Khristós Anésti! (Alithós Anésti!)

Hristos a înviat! (Adevărat a înviat!)

If greeted in a language you are unfamiliar with, translate and respond in English (then learn the response)

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A Warm Welcome To Our Visitors!

Christ is Risen! (Indeed He Is Risen!)

Christos Voskrese! (Voistinu Voskrese!)

We are happy that you have joined us today! **Please join us downstairs** for coffee and a bite to eat. 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 in again soon!

If you have any questions in regards to our worship or Orthodoxy, please see Fr.

Dave and he will gladly answer any of your questions to the best of his ability. He looks forward to meeting you!

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LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY



Saturday, May 19 – 4pm Italian Feast and Basket Raffle

Thursday, May 24 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of Sts. Cyril and Methodius

Saturday, May 26 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy and Panachida for the 5th All Soul Saturday

Sunday, May 27 – Feast of Pentecost (*Rusalja*) / “Green Sunday” / Trinity Sunday /

additional collection for our Community Outreach

Pentecost Monday, May 28 – 9:30am Divine Liturgy for *Holy Spirit Day* with Gospel Procession

Tuesday, May 29 – 9:30am Akathist in times of sorrow and depression

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This Bulletin Is Offered:

In memory of
+Catherine Gaydos.
May her memory
be eternal!
Christ is Risen!



SUNDAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: Acts 16: 16– 34

Paul and Silas in Prison

¹⁶ As we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. ¹⁷ She followed Paul and us, crying, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation.” ¹⁸ And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, “I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour.

¹⁹ But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; ²⁰ and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, “These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. ²¹ They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice.” ²² The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. ²³ And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. ²⁴ Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

²⁵ But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, ²⁶ and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one’s fetters were unfastened. ²⁷ When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul cried with a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.” ²⁹ And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, ³⁰ and brought them out and said, “Men, what must I do to be saved?” ³¹ And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” ³² And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. ³³ And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. ³⁴ Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

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Gospel: John 9: 1– 38

A Man Born Blind Receives Sight

⁹ As he passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. ² And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³ Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶ As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man’s eyes with the clay, ⁷ saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Silo’am” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, “Is not this the man who used to sit and

beg?” ⁹ Some said, “It is he”; others said, “No, but he is like him.” He said, “I am the man.” ¹⁰ They said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹ He answered, “The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to Silo’am and wash’; so I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹² They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

The Pharisees Investigate the Healing

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” There was a division among them. ¹⁷ So they again said to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, ¹⁹ and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰ His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹ but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself.” ²² His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if any one should confess him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, “He is of age, ask him.”

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, “Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵ He answered, “Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶ They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷ He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?” ²⁸ And they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰ The man answered, “Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if any one is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that any one opened the eyes of a man born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴ They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.

Spiritual Blindness

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of man?” ³⁶ He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” ³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you.” ³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe”; and he worshiped him.

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

Source: www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar/orthodox-calendar © 1996-2001 by translator Fr. S. Janos

The Holy Apostle James, Son of Zebedee

Commemorated on May 13/April 30

The Holy Apostle James, Son of Zebedee, one of the 12 Apostles, was called by our Lord Jesus Christ for apostolic service together with his brother, the Apostle John the Theologian. It was to them and to the holy Apostle Peter pre-eminently over the other Apostles that Jesus Christ revealed His Divine Mysteries: at the Resuscitation of the Daughter of Jairus, on Mount Tabor (at the Transfiguration), and in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Saint James, after the Descent of the Holy Spirit, preached in Spain and in other lands, and then he returned to Jerusalem. He openly and boldly taught about Jesus Christ as the Saviour of the world, and with the words of Holy Scripture he denounced the Pharisees and the Scribes [scholars], reproaching them with malice of heart and unbelief. The Jews had not the ability to refute the apostolic discourse and for money they hired the pseudo-philosopher and sorcerer Hermogenes, so that he would enter into a disputation with the apostle and confute his



arguments about Christ as the Promised Messiah having come into the world. The sorcerer sent to the apostle his student Philip, who was converted to belief in Christ. Then Hermogenes himself became persuaded of the power of God, he burnt his books on magic, accepted holy Baptism and became a true follower of Christ.

The unbelieving among the Jews persuaded Herod Agrippa (40-44) to arrest the Apostle James and sentence him to death. Saint James calmly heard out the death sentence and continued to bear witness about Christ. One of the false-witnesses against the apostle by the name of Josiah was struck by the courage of Saint James. He came to believe in the truth of the words about the coming of Christ the Messiah. When they led forth the apostle for execution, Josiah fell at his feet, repenting his sin and asking forgiveness. The apostle hugged him, gave him a kiss and said: "Peace and forgiveness be unto thee". Then Josiah confessed before everyone his faith in Christ, and he was beheaded together with Saint James in the year 44 at Jerusalem.

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SPIRITUAL VITAMINS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY

With eyes that are spiritually blind I come to You, O Christ; and like the man who was blind since birth I cry out to You with repentance: "You are a shining Light to those who are in darkness." – *Kondak of The Blind Man*

MONDAY

"Ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds of the air, and they will tell you; or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish of the sea inform you. Which of these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind." – *Job 12:7-10*

TUESDAY

"Never confuse the person, formed in the image of God, with the evil that is in him, because evil is but a chance misfortune, illness, a devilish reverie. But the very essence of the person is the image of God, and this remains in him despite every disfigurement." +St. *John of Kronstadt*

WEDNESDAY

"In all your ways acknowledge Him [God], and He shall direct your paths." - *Proverbs 3:6*

THURSDAY

When You fulfilled the plan of salvation for us and united all things on earth to those in heaven, O Christ our God You ascended in glory, never leaving us, but remaining ever-present. For You proclaimed to those who love You: "I am with you and no one else has power over you." – *Kondak of Ascension*

FRIDAY

"Pray without ceasing, calling upon the name of the life-giving Trinity in order that your soul should not be suddenly overwhelmed by any passion. Let the eyes of your heart be on guard every hour, every minute. Let your heart be watchful, not only during the day, but also during the night." +St. *John of Kronstadt*

SATURDAY

"A fish that is alive swims against the flow of water. One that is dead floats down with the water. A true Christian goes against the current of sinful age. A false one is swept away by its swiftness." +St. *Philaret of Moscow*

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LIVING ORTHODOXY

Do You Focus on Fitness #4Mind4Body?

Mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being, and mental illnesses are common and treatable. So much of what we do physically impacts us mentally – it's important to pay attention to our spiritual health, physical health, and our mental health, which can help you achieve overall wellness and set you on a path to recovery.



This May is Mental Health Month; we are raising awareness about the connection between spiritual health, physical health, and mental health, through the theme *Fitness #4Mind4Body*. The campaign is meant to educate and inform individuals about how eating healthy foods, gut health, managing stress, exercising, and getting enough sleep can go a long way in making you healthy all around.

A healthy lifestyle can help to prevent the onset or worsening of mental health conditions like depression and anxiety, as well as heart disease, diabetes, obesity and other chronic health problems. It can also play a big role in helping people recover from these conditions. Taking good care of your body is part of a before Stage Four approach to mental health.

Getting the appropriate amount of exercise can help control weight, improve mental health, and help you live longer and healthier. Recent research is also connecting your nutrition and gut health with your mental health. Sleep also plays a critical role in all aspects of our life and overall

health. Getting a good night's sleep is important to having enough physical and mental energy to take on daily responsibilities. And we all know that stress can have a huge impact on all aspects of our health, so it's important to take time to focus on stress-reducing activities like prayer.

We want everyone to know that mental illnesses are real, and recovery is always the goal. Living a healthy lifestyle may not be easy, but by looking at your overall health every day – spiritually, physically, and mentally – you can go a long way in ensuring that you focus on your *Fitness #4Mind4Body*.

For more information, visit www.mentalhealthamerica.net/may

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The Importance Of Lighting Your Candle In Church

Upon entering an Orthodox church it is customary to light candles and offer prayers for one's personal needs or that of a family member or friend. Candles are lit before icons as a sign of one's faith and hope in God's help that is always sent to all who turn to



Him and His Saints with faith and prayers. In practice, when lighting a candle in Church the faithful usually make a small offering to the Church. By lighting a candle and offering a prayer, one enters into closer contact with the Church and her ministry to the faithful, invisibly warming the soul by the visible light of the candle.

Source: www.goarch.org/chapel/lightacandle

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PRAYER CORNER

*Our Parish Prayer List for Special Intentions and Other Needs **

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

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For the Health of... Mildred, Anna Mae, Andrew, Julie, Jane, Eleanor D., Viola, Juliana, Fredrick, Katie, Kenneth, Michael, Roberta, Wendy, Gary, Barbara, Matthew, Patricia, Lino, David, Edward, Melissa, Louis, Marjorie, Jonathan, Pañi Magdeline Baschak, Fr John Baranik, Fr. Thomas Blaschak, Fr James Dutko, Fr James Gleason, Fr Lawrence Barriger, Fr Luke Mihaly, Fr Michael Psenechnuk, Fr John Zboyovski ...*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... Bishop Gregory, Stephen, David, Anastasia, Nicholas, Cassandra, Alexander, Nancy, Andrea, Jason, Tyrone, Sarah, John S., Amee, Joshua, John, Kathryn, Ashley, John, and Noella, *our seminarians:* Nathaniel, Vince, Michael, and Daniel, *and our Church Council, Curators, and Relocation Committee:* Matthew, John, Timothy, Patricia, Theresa, Lawrence, Donald, Jane, Cynthia, Katherine, Eleanor, Kenneth, Gina, Robert, Jillian, Wendy, Olga, John, Melanie, Michael, John, Richard, John, Margaret, Sarah, Patricia, *and for those working towards our Community Outreach, Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC) ...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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Birthday Prayers for... Jillian Gaydos (5/14), Robert Mozes (5/16), Pañi Alexandra Urban (5/16), Patrick Wertz (5/19) ...*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! Na Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!*

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Anniversary Prayers for... Father's sister Melissa & Christopher Ditmore (5/17/98) ...*May God fill them with His grace that they may continue to live in unity with Him!*

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For those preparing for Marriage... Kristyn & Seminarian Vince and Nicole & Jeffrey ...*through the prayers of Sts. Adrian & Natalia and all Holy Martyrs.*

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For Expectant Mothers... Brittany, Harmonie, Aimee, and Lindsay ...*through the prayers of St Anna, the mother of the Virgin Mary, and St Irene Chrysovalantou.*

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

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DEVOTIONAL PRAYER OF THE WEEK:

A Prayer For Lighting A Candle

Set our hearts on fire with love for You, O Christ our God, so that in its flame we may love You with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our soul and with all our strength, and our neighbors as ourselves, so that by keeping Your commandments we may glorify You, the giver of all good gifts. Amen.