



The Sunday Messenger

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH - WILKES BARRE, PA

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen! + Sunday of THE SAMARITAN WOMAN + Sun, May 14th, 2023



Hymns for Today's Service

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!"

In the middle of the feast, O Savior, fill my thirsting soul with the waters of piety, as Thou didst cry to all: "If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!" O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to Thee!

The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith; she saw Thee, the Water of wisdom and drank abundantly. She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified!

Christ God, the Creator and Master of all, cried to all in the midst of the feast of the Law: "Come and draw the water of immortality!" We fall before Thee and faithfully

cry: "Grant us Thy mercies, for Thou art the Fountain of our life!"

Please Sing Along!

Singing the hymns and responses to the litanies along with the choir throughout the Divine Liturgy is encouraged!

Epistle Reading - Acts 11:19-26, 29-30

Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord. Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea. This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

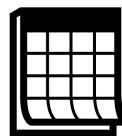
Gospel Reading - John 4:5-42

So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Then

DEAR GUESTS AND FRIENDS: A most sincere and heartfelt welcome to you from our community. According to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared to receive the Holy Sacrament through prayer and fasting. If you have questions please let us know!

the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life." The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband,' for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly." The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He." And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why are You talking with her?" The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ? Then they went out of the city and came to Him. In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." Therefore the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, 'There are still four

months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors." And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His own word. Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."



This Week's Schedule

Doly Trinity Orthodox Church

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THIS WEEKEND – Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Saturday, May 13th

8 AM – 1 PM: Spring Clean-up Day

5 PM: Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, May 14th

8:40 AM: 3rd & 6th Hours, 9 AM: Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour, Church School

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THIS WEEK

WED 11 AM – 1:30 PM: Private Prayer in Church

6:30 PM: Akathist Service

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NEXT WEEKEND – Sunday of the Blind Man

Saturday, May 20th

1 PM: Community Game Day

5 PM: Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, May 21st

8:40 AM: 3rd & 6th Hours, 9 AM: Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour, Church School, Parish Council

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Parastas May 21st @ 10:30 AM

In Memory of

Bernard Golubiewski

Offered by Dave Golubiewski & Family

Peter Holoviak

Offered by Brian Hutz



ANNOUNCEMENTS

& Upcoming Parish Events

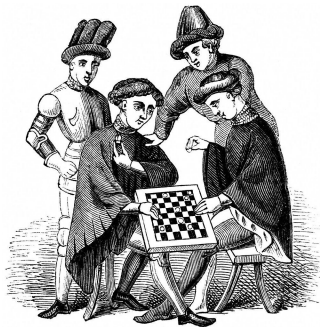
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PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: May 21st @ 11:30 AM

ELECTION DAY FOOD DAY: May 16, 9AM – 6PM or until food is gone. Soups – Cabbage & Kielbasa Soup or Piggie Soup. Bowl (12oz) – \$6; Quart (32oz) – \$13. Porchetta Sandwiches– \$8 each. **Volunteer sign-up sheets in the vestibule**

NEXT PEROGIE PROJECT MAY 19/20: May 19 & 20, Fri & Sat: Work Sch: Fri (1 pm–4 pm), Sat (8 am–3 pm). Volunteer sign-up sheet and perogie order sheets are in the vestibule. Volunteers are needed to make the project a success. Perogies: \$13 a dz., 5dz. Limit. Preorder call 570-822-5975, May 15 – 18, (10:am–4:00 pm). Pick up date: May 20 (Sat) (1:pm–3:00 pm)

+ MAY COMMUNITY DAY + Board Games, Snacks, Fun



Saturday, May 20th, 1 PM–5 PM

Join us monthly downstairs in the Church Hall for games, snacks, fellowship and fun followed by Great Vespers at 5 PM. Bring a snack!

EVERYONE is Welcome

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

May Birthdays: Joann Salazar (5/3), Alexandria Rubino (5/7), Jeremy Haugh (5/18), Paul Meck (5/18), Becky Leonori (5/20), Zach Harvey (5/24), Jack Willis (5/24), Elaine Benczkowski (5/26), Eva King (5/30), Martha

Tumavitch (5/30) **Anniversaries:** Matthew & Aimee Austin (5/15)

This Week's Birthday/Anniversaries: Jeremy Haugh (5/18), Paul Meck (5/18), Becky Leonori (5/20), Matthew & Aimee Austin (5/15)



Words of Wisdom From the Saints & Teachers

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Homily on the Samaritan Woman

Met. Anthony Bloom

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost

The Holy Gospel has not given us the name of the Samaritan woman. But the Tradition of the Church remembers, and calls her in Greek – Photini, in Russian – Svetlana, in the Celtic languages – Fiona, in Western languages – Claire. And all these names speak to us of one thing – of light.

Having met the Lord Jesus Christ she has become a light shining in the world, a light that enlightens those who meet her. Every Saint is offered us as an example; but we cannot always emulate the concrete ways in which a Saint lived, we cannot always repeat their way from earth to heaven. But we can learn from each of them two things. The one is that by the grace of God we can achieve what seems humanly impossible; that is, to become a person in the image and likeness of God, to be – in this world of darkness and tragedy which is in the power of lies – a word of truth, a sign of hope, the certainty that God can conquer if we only allow Him access to our souls. Because if the Kingdom of God is not established within us, if God is not enthroned in our minds and hearts, a fire that destroys everything unworthy of ourselves and of Him, we cannot spread God's light around.

And the second thing which the Saints can teach us is to understand the message which their names convey to us. And today's Samaritan woman speaks of light. Christ has said that He is the Light of the world, the light that enlightens all men; and we are called to give shelter within our souls, minds and hearts – indeed, within our whole self – to this light; so that the word spoken by Christ, "Let your light so shine before all men, that

PARISH PRAYER LIST Living: Cynthia Dulsky, Nadine Breisch, Holoviyak Family, Evelyn Kosmiski, Mat. Elizabeth, Jeri Basarab, Fr. Theodore Orzolek, Mary Ann Lepa, Mat. Delores Donlick, Vladimir & Marie Dutko, Alan, Cathy & Paul, Archpriest Vladimir, Tom & Joan Austin, Lilly, David, Elizabeth, George Krill, Lydia, Melanie Bishop, Hannah Selick, Naren Mansharamani, Dave Hamilton, Kathy & Michael Bufalino **Departed:** John C. Metz

seeing your good deeds they may give glory to your Father who is in heaven", may be fulfilled and accomplished in and through us.

It is only through seeing our deeds, through seeing how we live that people can believe that the light is God's light; it is not in our words, unless they are words of truth and of power like those of the Apostles, or of Christ Himself indeed. And let us reflect, each of us, on the meaning of our name and on the way in which we can become what we are called.

The Samaritan woman came to the well without any spiritual purpose; she came, as she came daily, to fetch water – and she met Christ. Each of us may meet our God at any turn in our life, when we are about our most homely tasks, if our hearts are turned in the right direction, if we are prepared to receive a message, to listen; indeed – to ask questions! Because the Samaritan woman asked a question of Christ, and what she heard transcended her question in such a way that she recognised in Him a prophet, and later – the Christ, the Saviour of the world.

But the light must not be pushed under a bushel. Having discovered that the Light had come into the world, that the word of divine truth was resounding now amidst men, that God was among us, she left behind all concerns and ran to share the joy, the wonder of what she had discovered with others. She brought her fellow-citizens to Christ. She told them first why she believed; and when perhaps curiosity, or the convincing power of her words, and the change that had occurred in her brought them to Christ, they saw for themselves and said to her, It is no longer because of what you say that we believe – we have seen, we have heard.

And this is what the Samaritan woman teaches all of us: be open at every moment of life, while we are busy with the simplest things, to receive the divine word, to be illumined by the divine light, to be cleansed by His purity, to receive it in the depths of our souls, receive it with all our life, so that people seeing what we have become may believe that the light has come into the world.

Let us pray to the Samaritan woman to teach us, to guide us, to bring us to Christ in the way in which she came, and to serve Him in the way in which she served Him, being the salvation of all who were around her. And may the blessing of God be upon you, the Father and the Son

and the Holy Ghost, now and forever and world without end! Amen.

Happy
Mother's
Day

*In honor of all the
Mothers,
God-Mothers, Aunts and
hard-working women of the
church, Geraniums are given
to each one of you!*

May God Grant you Many Years!
**ALL WOMEN please receive your Mother's Day
flower on the way out of church!**
