

ASSUMPTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH 2101
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Sunday, May 13, 2018 | Sixth Sunday of Pascha

Tone 5 – The Blind Man

The Virgin Martyr Glyceria at Heraclea (ca 177)

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

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Weekly Schedule

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!!

Today: Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy.

Wednesday: May 16 – Vesperal Divine Liturgy at 6:30PM
The Ascension of Our Lord!

Saturday: May 19 – Great Vespers at 5:00PM!

Sunday: May 20 – 7th Sunday of Pascha! Afterfeast of the Ascension
The Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: May 20 - Church Life Discussion Class after Divine Liturgy!
Topic: Icons, Iconography, and Iconostas. Its history and the stories displayed on them.

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 5)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, / co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, / born for our salvation from the Virgin; / for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, / to endure death, / and to raise the dead // by His glorious Resurrection.

Kontakion (Tone 4 - Pentecostarion)

I come to Thee, O Christ, blind from birth in my spiritual eyes, / and call to Thee in repentance: // Thou art the most radiant Light of those in darkness.

Kontakion (Tone 8 - Pascha)

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, / Thou didst destroy the power of death. / In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, / proclaiming, “Rejoice!” to the Myrrhbearing Women, // granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

Prokeimenon (Tone 8)

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord our God!
v. In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

Epistle Reading: Acts 16:16-34

Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, “These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation.” And this she did for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And he came out that very hour. But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to the authorities. And they brought them to the magistrates, and said, “These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city; and they teach customs which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or observe. Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded them to be beaten with rods. And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were loosed. And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, “Do yourself no harm, for we are all here.” Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. And he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” So they said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.” Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized. Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household. Alleluia (3x’s) (Tone 8)

- v. Look upon me and have mercy on me! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. Guide my steps according to Thy word! Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: John 9:1-38

Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing. Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, "Is not this he who sat and begged?" Some said, "This is he." Others said, "He is like him." He said, "I am he." Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" He answered and said, "A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and I received sight." Then they said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know." They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Therefore some of the Pharisees said, "This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. They said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight. And they asked them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself. His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed that He was Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, "Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner." He answered and said, "Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see." Then they said to him again, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" He answered them, "I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become His disciples?" Then they reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from." The man answered and said to them, "Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes! Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing." They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you." Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him.

Communion Hymn:

Receive the Body of Christ, taste the foundation of immortality!
Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! Alleluia (3x's)

Announcements

A Warm Welcome to all of our visitors & guests who worshiped with us today and who have joined us in celebrating the Divine Liturgy. Please join us in the church basement for our Fellowship and Coffee Hour.

The 114th Annual Memorial Day Pilgrimage to St Tikhon's Monastery is scheduled for May 25 through May 28, 2018 (Pentecost Weekend). Once again, Pilgrims will be especially graced by the presense of the Myrrhstreaming Hawaiian Iveron Icon of the Mother of God and by the participation and presence of numerous hierarchs, clergy, faithful, and friends from the Orthodox Church in America and other Orthodox jurisdictions from America and beyond.

Pilgrimage information and schedule for the weekend events are posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule area.

The parish had a very nice turnout last Sunday at Mount Moriah cemetery with the Blessing of the Graves. Luckily, the rain held off until after the graves were blessed. Many people complimented how well the cemetery has been cared for. Paulette Rhone, Board President of Friends of Mount Moriah Cemetery, even paid us a visit as we were picnicking. We complimented here and her organization on how everything appears. She in return thanked our parish for its contributions both financial and in assisting with the continuous clean up and maintenance of the cemetery as a whole.

Please me mindful that when you discard a styrofoam cup, a plastic bottle, or an aluminum can which still has liquid in it, the liquid eventually end up at the bottom of the trash or recycling bag. When these bags are taken outside for pick up, the liquid leaks from the bag onto the carpets in the church basement. Please, before throwing out any of these containers, empty the liquid out first in the bathroom sinks. Thank you for your understanding!

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT ST TIKHON'S SUMMER CAMP!

Saint Tikhon's Summer Camp has been cancelled for 2018 due to a volunteer shortage. The administrators will miss the kids very much this summer, but they are looking forward to re-opening the summer camp program in 2019 with all of the support required!

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Joseph Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
Daniel Herbert, Thomas Herbert offered by M/M Herbert
Sharon Orr offered by Emily Gerasimoff
Marc, Patricia, William, Catherine, Albert, Emily, Barbara, Family & Friends offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Safe Travels for Alexander & Anastasia offered by M/M K Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Helen Ostrosky offered by M/M Herbert
Anna Kapusnik, Helen Gerasimoff offered by Emily Gerasimoff
Peter Rabik offered by his brother Joseph Rabik
Anna Kapusnik offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Paul & Irene Kavcsak offered by Nina Patterson

May Their Memories Be Eternal

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Please remember in your prayers:

Helen Riley (on her one year anniversary of her passing away (5/15/17))!

Grace Corba; Ronald Kavalkovich (on his continuous recovery); Margaret Pellack; Helen Wanenchak; Father Vincent Saverino (retired); Father John Bohush (retired); and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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Father Mark will be in contact with the parents of the children who attend the parish's Saturday Sunday school program to discuss when the next Saturday is available for classes to resume. Thank you!

Please ensure that your Mobile Phone is set to Silent (or at least set on vibrate) during the Divine Liturgy! Thank You!!!

Announcements (cont.)

Coffee Hour / Cleaning and Epistle / Hours Reading Schedule.

We now have an established full rotating schedule for the Coffee Hour & Cleaning, and the Hours & Epistle Readings. The Reading schedule sheets will be posted quarterly on the bulletin board in the church basement. The Coffee Hour/Cleaning schedule is in a binder located on the display case.

Special weekly collections taken after Gospel or Sermon. In addition to our general collection, the parish takes a special collection each week to fund certain parish projects. Please be generous with your offering. Every little bit counts. The special collections are as follows:

- First Sunday of every month – Kitchen Fund Project
- Second Sunday of every month – Icon Fund (2016-18)
- Third Sunday of every month - Restoration/Maintenance Fund
- Fourth Sunday of every month – Charity Giving

Note: if there is a Fifth Sunday during a month, the special collection is earmarked for the Kitchen Fund Project, unless otherwise noted and stated by the Parish Council.

Cash Flow Activity (April/May)

	<u>Week of Apr 30 to May 6</u>	<u>April Month (Unaudited)</u>
Attendance:	32	53 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,953.91	\$ 11,593.28
Funds Out:	\$ 1,567.35	\$ 7,420.79
Net Surplus/ (Deficit) :	\$ 386.56	\$ 4,172.49

Thank you all for your continuous offerings to maintain the parish!

Shop Rite Gift Cards: If you need to purchase Shop Rite Gift Cards, please see David Pellack to secure them. Your purchase of a Shop Rite Gift Card is an additional fundraising project that helps support the church at no additional expense to the purchaser.

Calendar of Events

1st Sunday of each month – Monthly Panikhida immediately after Divine Liturgy.

2nd Tuesday of each month – Bible Study at 6:30pm in church basement.

2nd Sunday of each month – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy.

3rd Sunday of each month – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.

4th Sunday of each month – Church Life Discussion Class after Divine Liturgy.

Today – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy in the Church School Room! (2nd Sunday of each month)! All property committee members are asked to attend the meeting. Discussions will include any follow-up from the previous meeting, status of the Hall and with the tenant of the parish house, and any additional action(s) that need to be taken.

Wednesday, May 16 - The Ascension of Our Lord – Vespers at 6:30PM!

It will be announced in church and reported in all of the parish social media outlets (i.e. website, Facebook, and in this bulletin)

May 20 - Church Life Discussion class after Divine Liturgy and Fellowship Hour. (The 3rd 4th Sunday of the month)

The Topic – Icons, Iconography, and Iconostas. It's history and the stories displayed on them. *NOTE the change in date due to Pentecost on May 27!*

Annual Pentecost (Pascha) Dinner – Sunday, MAY 27 after Vespers in the church basement.

The parish will hold its annual Pentecost Dinner with Pascha food. If you wish to bring or donate Pascha food, beverages, or kitchen supplies, please see Catherine Kavalkovich to discuss what items the parish will need for our dinner. The dinner will be a free will offering and any monetary donations towards the dinner are always appreciated! Thank You!

Spring General Parish Meeting - Sunday, June 3, 2018 after Divine Liturgy in the church

basement. This is Notice #1 of 3. According to Article IV, Section 2, Subsection A. of the Parish By-Laws, notice of all Annual and General Parish Meetings shall be announced in the Parish Bulletin and read by the Parish Rector from the amvon on three consecutive Sundays preceding the date of the Meeting. Discussions will include events since the Annual Parish Meeting. The meeting should take about an hour but should not exceed past 90 minutes.

Cleaning Teams: Today (May 13): Saint Herman of Alaska (Peter & Heather Parsells, and Gale Rutan).

Next Week (May 20): Saint John of Kronstadt (Lena, Paul & William Filanowski, and Matt Andrews).



Sunday of the Blind Man

[May 13th]

After the Midfeast (John 7:14), the Lord Jesus Christ came to the Temple again and taught the people who came to Him (John 8:2). After leaving the Temple, He opened the eyes of a man “who was blind from his birth (John 9:1).

The miracle described in today’s Gospel (John 9:1-38) is even more remarkable than it might seem at first. St Basil and other Fathers tell us that this was not just a case of giving sight to a blind man born with eyes that did not function, but to someone who had no eyes at all! The second Exapostilarion for this Sunday says, “Along the way, our Savior found a man who lacked both sight and eyes...”.

The Gospel says, “Since the world began, it was not heard that any man opened the eyes of one who was born blind” (John 9:32). There are examples in the Old (Tobit 2:17) and New (Mark 8:22-26) Testaments of blind people receiving sight, but this is something completely unprecedented.

The Savior placed clay in the man’s empty sockets and told him to wash in the pool of Siloam. When he obeyed these instructions, the eyes of clay became living eyes!

In his MENAION, St Demetrius of Rostov calls the blind man St Celidonius (see his account of St Lazarus in the Synaxis of the Seventy Apostles on January 4).