

ASSUMPTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
2101 South 28th St. (corner of 28<sup>th</sup> St. & Snyder Ave.)  
Philadelphia, PA 19145 \* Church Phone: (215) 468-3535  
Website: <https://www.holyassumptionphilly.org>



Mailing Address: PO Box 20083 \* Point Breeze Station | Philadelphia PA 19145-0383

**Sunday, May 29, 2022 | Sixth Sunday of Pascha**

Tone 5 – Blind Man

Virgin-Martyr Theodosia of Tyre (307-308)

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

**V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector**

615 West 11<sup>th</sup> Street | New Castle, DE 19720-6020

Phone: Home: 302.322.0943 | Mobile: 302.547.4952

Email: [mwkoczak@gmail.com](mailto:mwkoczak@gmail.com)

Deacon – Michael McCartney

Choir Director – Nina Patterson

Subdeacon – Daniel (Ken) Kavalkovich

Reader – Mark Klus

Parish President - Matthew Andrews [Phone: 856.217.8075]

**Weekly Schedule**

This Weekend: May 29 and 30 – 118<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day Pilgrimage at Saint Tikhon's Monastery in South Canaan, PA

Monday: May 30 – Memorial Day! Please remember those Veterans who sacrificed their lives for this great country we live in.

Wednesday: June 1 – Vespers Divine Liturgy at **5:30PM** for the Ascension of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Saturday: Wedding Nuptials of Natalie Patterson and John Nedbal

Saturday: June 4 – Great Vespers is **CANCELLED!**

Sunday: June 5 – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pascha | Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council.  
Aterfeast of the Ascension  
Reading of Hours – 8:30am  
Divine Liturgy – **9:00am** **[SUMMER HOURS!!!]**  
*Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy*

## 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)

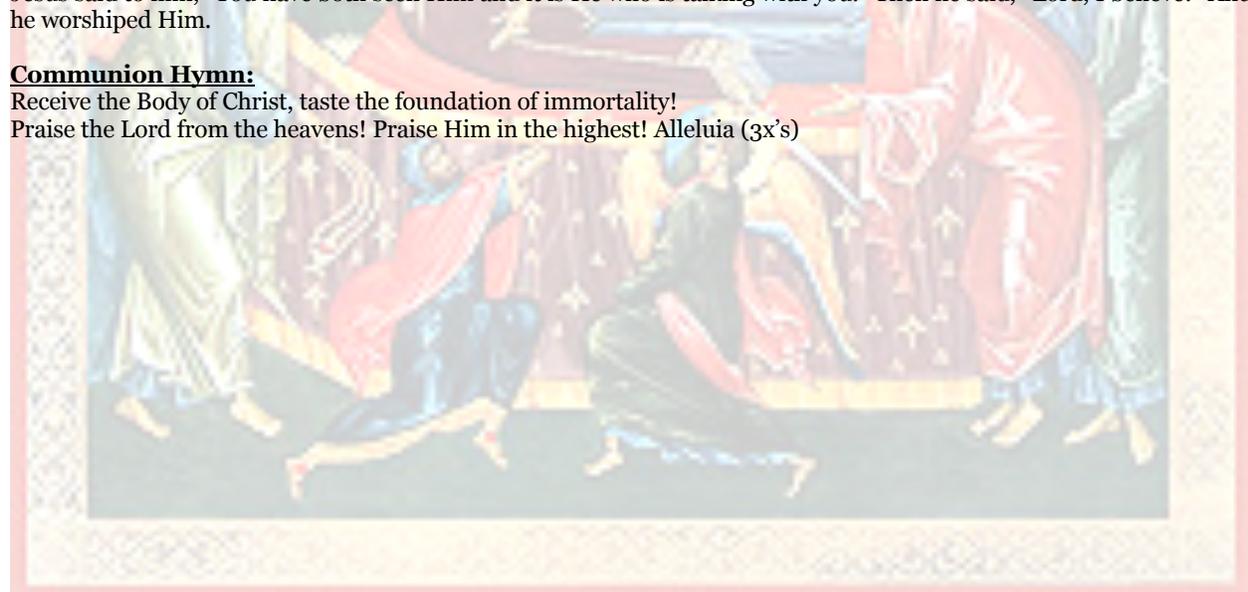
v. Look upon me and have mercy on me! Alleluia (3x's)  
v. Guide my steps according to Thy word! Alleluia (3x's)

**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.

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**Happy Birthday - Father Mark Kozak**  
who celebrated his birthday on Friday, May 27!  
May God Grant Father Mark Many Happy, Healthy, and Blessed Years!!!

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### **THANK YOU!!!**

A special **Thank You** goes out to those parishioners (you know who you are) who both spent time last Saturday, in the heat, working on the air conditioning unit and preparing for its use during church services. Hopefully with their mechanical knowledge and skills, we will not incur any problems in the A/C unit this summer. May God Grant You All Many Healthy, Blessed Years...(and a comfortable summer!!)

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### **AMAZON SMILE!**

When ordering online on Amazon.com, please make sure to click on Amazon Smile and select our church - Assumption of the Holy Virgin Russian Orthodox Church - to have a small percentage of your purchases (0.5%) to be contributed to our church. For more information on the Amazon purchase process, please speak with any member of the parish council. Thank You!

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**Vigil Cross Votive Candles:** We still have availability for the vigil cross votive candles to be lit for services on Sundays and Feast Days. As of this morning, these selected following dates and cross sizes have been reserved:

- \* **PENTECOST (June 12) = Both Large Crosses have been reserved**
- \* **Father's Day (June 19) = Both Large Crosses have been reserved**

Please see Simon Herbert for details of cross sizes and schedule cross lightings!

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Please remember in your prayers all those individuals who tragically lost their lives in the senseless attack at the Tops grocery store in Buffalo, New York.

Please remember in your prayers the children and teachers, as well as those wounded in the tragic senseless shooting at the Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas.

**Announcements** (cont.)

**Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed**

**Health for the Living:**

Family and Parishioners offered by Nina Patterson  
The Newborn Levi Jones offered by MM Herbert  
Alice Martino offered by David Pellack  
Ken and Peggy Walker offered by David Pellack  
Newborn Levi, Anastasia, Colin, Alexander, Selena, Kenneth, Patricia, Catherine, Scarlett Jo (on her birthday), Father Mark and Matushka Jan, and for Colin to pass the MCATs offered by MM K Kavalkovich

**May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!**

**Memory for the Departed:**

Anna Herbert offered by MM Herbert

**May Their Memories Be Eternal**

**Vigil Cross Candles – 5/22/22:**

2 Small Vigil Crosses – Health of Emily Gerasimoff offered by  
Deacon Michael and Matushka Janine McCartney

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**Please remember in your prayers:**

Levi Azariah Jones (newly born on May 16), his parents Anastasia and Colin Jones, his grandparents Ken and Debbie Kavalkovich, and great grandmother Catherine Kavalkovich. May God Grant Levi & family Many Blessed Years!!

+ Metropolitan Hilarion of Eastern America and New York, and the First Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia (May 18)

Metropolitan Tikon (Covid-19); Heather Parsells & her unborn child; Ronald Kavalkovich (continuous recovery); Jane Kelly (recovery); Anne (Homa) Killoran (recovery); Sheba Patton (recovery); Dr. Gale Rutan; Joseph Rabik; Peter Witiak; and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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**Sidewalk Repair Donations (Week of May 22)**

Sidewalk Repair Block Donation – \$0 from the Candy Sale

## Announcements (cont.)

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

**\*\*\*\*\*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. By the action taken at the Fall General Parish Meeting held back on Sunday, October 10, 2021, the parish body approved that the special collection for the first three Sundays of the month be earmarked towards the repairing/fixing/replacing of the roofs of both houses that the parish owns (now known as the Row House Fund).

The fourth Sunday (and fifth, when it occurs) the special collection will be earmarked towards Charity.

This new collection schedule began back on Sunday, October 17, 2021.  
Please be generous with your offering. Every little bit counts. Thank You!

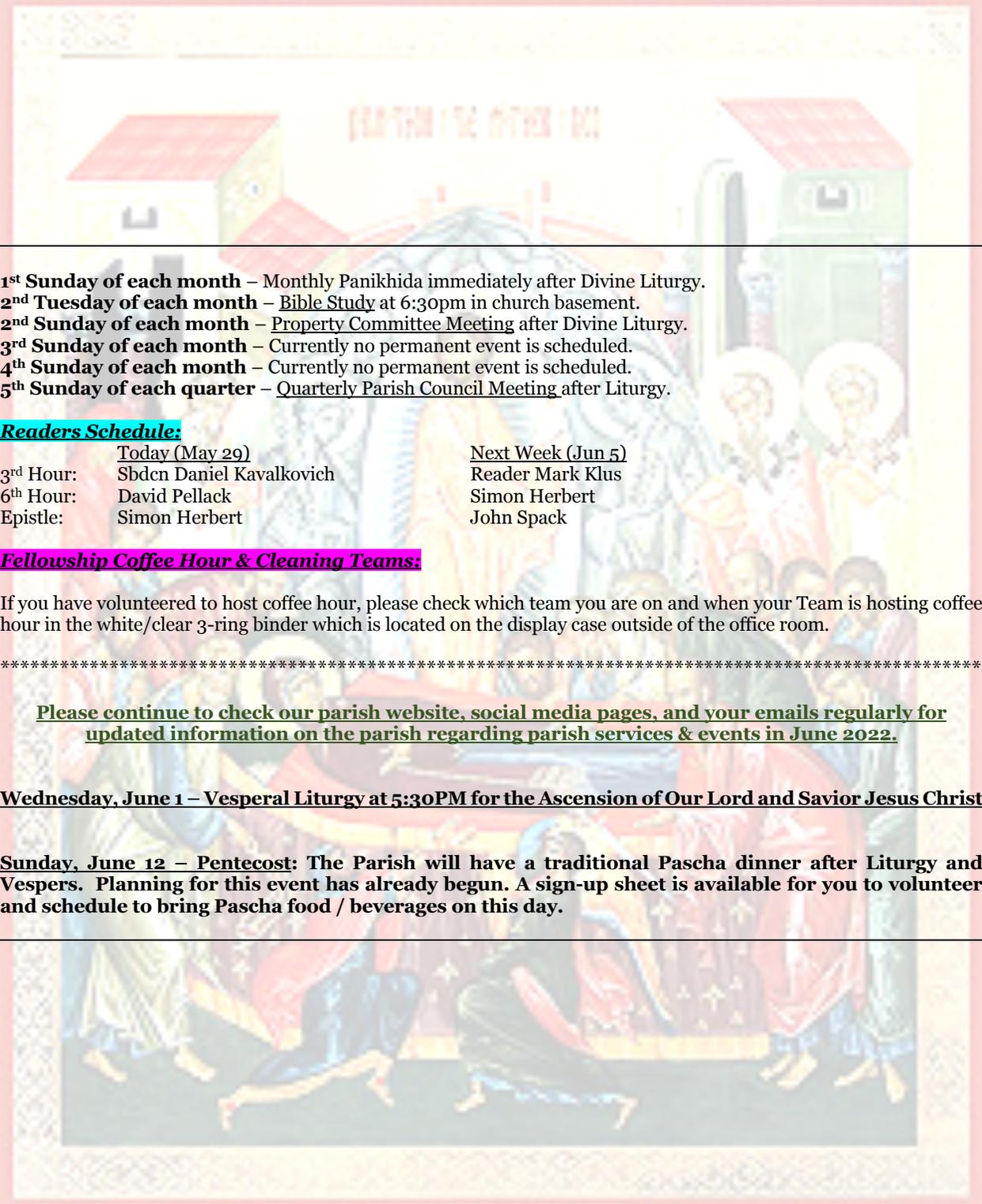
### **Cash Flow Activity (May)**

<u>Week of Sun May 15 to Sat May 21</u>	<u>May Month to Date</u>
Attendance: 22	32 (average)
Funds In: \$ 1,139.00	\$ 5,699.00
Funds Out: \$ 1,541.98	\$ 4,557.71
Net Surplus/(Deficit): (\$ 402.98)	\$ 1,141.29

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 either David Pellack or Ken Kavalkovich 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

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- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month** – Monthly Panikhida immediately after Divine Liturgy.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month** – Bible Study at 6:30pm in church basement.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month** – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy.  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month** – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month** – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each quarter** – Quarterly Parish Council Meeting after Liturgy.

### Readers Schedule:

	<u>Today (May 29)</u>	<u>Next Week (Jun 5)</u>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Hour:	Sbdcn Daniel Kavalkovich	Reader Mark Klus
6 <sup>th</sup> Hour:	David Pellack	Simon Herbert
Epistle:	Simon Herbert	John Spack

### Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

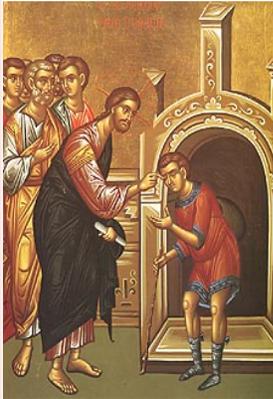
If you have volunteered to host coffee hour, please check which team you are on and when your Team is hosting coffee hour in the white/clear 3-ring binder which is located on the display case outside of the office room.

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Please continue to check our parish website, social media pages, and your emails regularly for updated information on the parish regarding parish services & events in June 2022.

**Wednesday, June 1 – Vesperal Liturgy at 5:30PM for the Ascension of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**

**Sunday, June 12 – Pentecost:** The Parish will have a traditional Pascha dinner after Liturgy and Vespers. Planning for this event has already begun. A sign-up sheet is available for you to volunteer and schedule to bring Pascha food / beverages on this day.



## Sunday of the Blind Man

[May 29<sup>th</sup>]

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).

