



Church website: [www.hrocbv.org](http://www.hrocbv.org)

Church Social Hall: (724) 929-7448

*Holy Resurrection  
Orthodox Church*

222 Mary Street, Rostraver Township, PA  
(Serving the faithful of Belle Vernon and surrounding areas)

Reverend Father Stephan Gresh

Cell Phone: (937) 869-8037

Rectory Phone: (724) 929-9194

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

Ordained Reader

& Choir Master: Peter Merella: (724) 787-2031

**May 30, 2021**

**Sunday of  
St. Photini,  
the Samaritan Woman**

*Christ Is Risen! Indeed He Is Risen!*

<b>Services</b>	Sat., Jun. 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Hieromartyr Dorotheus, Bishop of Tyre</b>	
		Hours	<b>8:45 am</b>
		Divine Liturgy	<b>9 am</b>
		Great Vespers with Confession	<b>7 pm</b>
	Sun., Jun. 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Sunday of the Blindman</b>	
		Hours	<b>9:45 am</b>
		Divine Liturgy	<b>10 am</b>

**Epistle (*Resurrection*) (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 (*Resurrection*)** (*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 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."

\*Take time to read the scriptures to prepare your heart and mind  
for Sunday's Liturgy.

***Next Week -- Epistle:*** Acts 16:16-34

***Gospel Reading:*** John 9:1-38

## **Announcements:**

**Please remember to extend your Paschal greetings to everyone!**

Memorial Day commemorates the men and women who died while in the military service of their country, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle. Take a moment on **Monday** to honor the men and women who made the *ultimate sacrifice* for their country so that we have the luxury and freedom that we enjoy today.

This month's council meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.**

One update from Fr. Stephan: He plans to cut back to just Sunday Liturgies starting the week of June 27, 2021.

The 2021 Graduation season is upon us. Please submit names of any graduates to either Fr. Stephan or Mary Merella so the Parish can congratulate our graduates and wish them God's Blessings on their next venture!

### ***Class of 2021:***

**Zoey Martin, Belle Vernon Area  
Austin Pierce, California Area**

There will be a special coffee hour honoring our graduates on **Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>**. Please stop by to grab a piece of cake and a cup of coffee and wish them well.

Fr. Stephan had a chance to visit with the family that we are helping out through the Angel Bowl and various donations by parishioners themselves. They are most appreciative, and the father was excited and busy preparing for a job interview. Continue to keep them in your prayers!

### **Path to a New Normal:**

In March, Archbishop Melchizedek gave parishes the opportunity to reopen as each parish is able to with regards to the health of the parish while still adhering to State and local restrictions.

#### ***Continuing on the Path to a New Normal: [Additional Updates to Come]***

- a. Parish Council agreed to remove the tape from one side of the pews. The other side will have the tape up so that people will have the option to maintain social distancing.
- b. Parish Council also agreed that coffee hour should be able to restart again on Sunday, May 30.
- c. The Synod is meeting this week and we should receive additional directions for getting back to normal.

## **From Fr. Stephan:**

Recently, parishioners, as well as friends, neighbors, and even strangers who recognize me as a member of the clergy express their concerns in regards to the civil/political unrest as well as the corona virus situation.

Now, more than ever, we need to come together as the “Body of Christ” and let the “Light of Christ” shine through us. I am going to ask that everyone in the parish add these special petitions to their daily prayers.

Again, we pray, O Lord, that You come to our aid now during the global spread of the Coronavirus and be with the families of those who are sick and who have died. May the sick regain their strength and health, and as they worry and grieve, defend them from further illness and despair. Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another. Give wisdom and strength to our federal government, our state governments, together with the leaders of all nations, and give them foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they serve. Give them the added wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for and prevent future outbreaks. O Lord hear us and have mercy.

Again, we pray, O Lord, that You be with the doctors, nurses, researchers, and all medical professionals who seek to heal those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders. We pray that You stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow. Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, we pray that You stay with us as we endure and mourn, prepare, and persist. O Lord hear us and have mercy.

### **Petitions at the Augmented Litany in a Time of Civil Unrest**

Again we pray for this country and for all its cities, towns, and countrysides that are riven by strife; for all those who are victims of violence, of hatred and injustice, of disorder and unrest, and especially for those who have been killed, that they might find their repose in thee; for all who are beset by anger and fear; for those in civil authority and all who enforce the law; and for all the people of this land: for justice, godly liberty, mercy, a peaceful life, and remission of our sins. O Lord hear us and have mercy.

Again we pray that all people of this land, its rulers and authorities, its citizens and all who reside here, might be enlightened with the light of thy Gospel and thy commandments, unto peace and good order and love for one another, so that we might easily and safely pass from our temporary homeland here to, our true homeland with thee in heaven. O Lord hear us and have mercy.