



Church website: www.hrocby.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

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Ordained Reader

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

**May 15, 2022
Sunday of the
Paralytic**

Christ Is Risen! Indeed He Is Risen!

Services Sat., May 21st **NO VESPERS**

Sun., May 22nd **Sunday of St. Photini, the Samaritan Woman**

Church School **9:15 am**

Hours **9:45 am**

Divine Liturgy **10 am**

Grave Blessings at:

West Newton Cemetery **1 pm**

Monongahela Cemetery **1:45 pm**

Sacred Heart, Monongahela **3 pm**

Mon Valley Memorial Park, Donora **3:30 pm**

Grandview Cemetery, Monessen **4 pm**

*(Weather Permitting ~~ Please note: **The above times are only approximations**)*

Epistle (*Resurrection*)

(Acts 9:32-42)

Now it came to pass, as Peter went through all *parts of the country*, that he also came down to the saints who dwelt in Lydda.

There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden eight years and was paralyzed.

And Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Arise and make your bed.” Then he arose immediately.

So all who dwelt at Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.

At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated Dorcas. This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did.

But it happened in those days that she became sick and died. When they had washed her, they laid *her* in an upper room.

And since Lydda was near Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him, imploring *him* not to delay in coming to them.

Then Peter arose and went with them. When he had come, they brought *him* to the upper room. And all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them.

But Peter put them all out, and knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body he said, “Tabitha, arise.” And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up.

Then he gave her *his* hand and lifted her up; and when he had called the saints and widows, he presented her alive.

And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed on the Lord.

Gospel (Resurrection)

(John 5:1-15)

After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep *Gate* a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches.

In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water.

For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had.

Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years.

When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been *in that condition* a long time, He said to him, **“Do you want to be made well?”**

The sick man answered Him, “Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me.”

Jesus said to him, **“Rise, take up your bed and walk.”**

And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath.

The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, “It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed.”

He answered them, “He who made me well said to me, **‘Take up your bed and walk.’**”

Then they asked him, “Who is the Man who said to you, **‘Take up your bed and walk?’**”

But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a multitude being in *that* place.

Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, **“See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you.”**

The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

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

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

Gospel Reading: John 4:5-42

Announcements:

WEDDING BANNERS Announcement # 3 ~~

Jocelyn Marie Niro and Christopher Michael Nelson will be united in Sacrament of Holy Matrimony on Saturday, May 21.

Please keep them in your prayers for "Many Blessed Years".

Please remember to extend your Paschal greetings to everyone!

Contingent on the weather – blessing of the graves will begin **TODAY** after coffee hour. We will begin with a brief service at the cross outside the church then onward to bless the graves in Belle Vernon cemetery. Fr. Stephan will continue grave blessings on Sunday, May 22nd (*weather permitting*). A schedule of other cemeteries with *approximate times* is listed above. Please contact Fr. Stephan to make arrangements to bless the graves of loved ones at other cemeteries.

A Note from Parish Council There will a ***SPECIAL*** Parish Meeting on June 5, 2022 at Coffee Hour.

Due to an increase in the cost of candles, the 6 day candles are now **\$4.00**.

Please Note: Vespers will be cancelled for Saturday, May 21st.

Reminder: Please have the courtesy to inform others if you have potentially exposed them to Covid. It is still imperative that we remain vigilant to keep safe and healthy.

2022 Sacraments of First Confession and Holy Communion ~~ ***Emilia Lofink, Danika Shaporka, and Lia Zimmerman*** will be making their First Confession to Father Stephan then taking the sacrament of Holy Communion on **Sunday, May 29th**. Please keep Emilia, Danika and Lia in your prayers as they take their sacraments.

Last day of Church School is Sunday, May 29th – see you in September!

A special thank you to those who started the weeding/mulching activity around the church.

Also, a special thank you to those who helped out during the funeral for Dr. Joseph Jani from St. Nicholas in Donora.

Please keep in your **PRAYERS** three of our diocesan priests who have been dealing with health issues during the past several months - Fr. Andrew Matychak, Igumen David Lewis, and Igumen Patrick Carpenter.

The Fourth Sunday after Pascha:

Sunday of the Paralytic

By Very Rev. Fr. Lawrence Farley

The story of the healing of the paralytic is one of the series of stories in John's Gospel that center on water. Pascha is the baptismal festival par excellence, and the Paschal season thus features these baptismal gospel stories.

In this story, a man long languishing in lameness waited by the pool of water near the Sheep Gate in Jerusalem, beneath five porticoes, for it was thought that when an angel stirred the water, the first one into the pool would find healing from any affliction. His attention was all on that pool, so that when Jesus found him and asked him if he really wanted to be healed, all he could think to ask was that He might help him into the pool the next time the angel stirred the waters.

In John's Gospel, the water here is an image of the Law (given by angels, having five books to parallel the five porticoes). The man is an image of the Jews, depending on the Law for their salvation. Christ redirects the man's attention to Himself and His word. He tells the man he doesn't need the pool anymore. Let him arise, take up his pallet, and walk home. And the man does -- showing that healing and salvation come only from Christ. We also, whose souls are paralyzed by sins and thoughtless acts, can find the same salvation. We also can sing to Him, "Glory to Your majesty, O bountiful Christ!"