Christ is Risen! Indeed He Is Risen!

May 19, 2019

(Sunday of the Paralytic)

Epistle Reading:	Acts 9:32-42	**Gospel Reading:**	Mark 15:43-16:8
Next Week:	Acts 11:19-26, 29:30	***Gospel Reading:***	John 4:5-42

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

Services Sun., May 26th **Sunday of the Samaritan Woman (5th Sunday of Pascha)**

Hours **9:45 am**
Divine Liturgy **10 am**

Announcements:

Matushka Denise weekly updates our Parish website with the bulletin and prayer list, she wanted to know if you have a photo(s) from this year's Pascha you would like to share? If so, please send them to Matushka Denise at pagenealogygirl@gmail.com.

Don't forget to visit our Homebounds over this Paschal season!

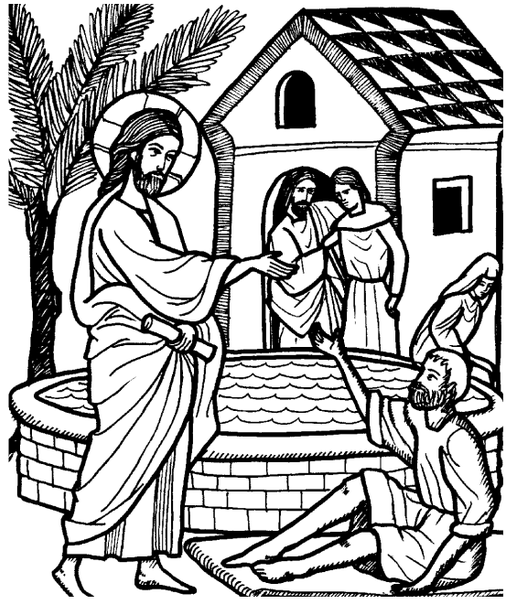
Fr. Stephan and Matushka Denise will be traveling to St. Tikhon's Monastery over the Memorial Day Weekend to attend the Annual Pilgrimage and commencement ceremony. They will be leaving Friday morning, returning late Monday evening. Fr. Peterson will be available for our pastoral needs (724/483-4441). The Saturday, May 25th Vespers are cancelled. Fr. Sam will be here Sunday to celebrate Divine Liturgy with us.

Hopefully, **TODAY,** we expect to celebrate the Memorial for our Beloved Departed at the Cross in front of the Church doors following Coffee Hour, weather permitting. A Procession will then proceed to the Belle Vernon Cemetery to bless the graves of family members and former parishioners. Otherwise, the Memorial will be re-scheduled for Sunday, June 2nd. Also, if anyone has a request for a Paschal Grave Blessing at locations other than Belle Vernon, please let Father Stephan know so arrangements can be made.

Our monthly Parish Council Meeting will be Tuesday, May 21st at 7 pm.

Collection: May 12th: $1,497

Healing of the Paralytic



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!"

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