

Swahili:

Kristo amefufukka!
Kweli amefufukka!

Hawaiian:

Ua ala hou 'o Kristo
Ua ala 'I 'o no 'oia!

Hebrew:

Ha Masheeha houh
quam! Be emet

Romanian:

Hristos a inviat!
Adevărat a înviat!

Italian:

Cristo e' risorto!
Veramente e' risorto!

Korean:

Kristo gesso!
Buhar ha sho nay!

Japanese:

Harisutos Fukkatsu!
Jitsu ni Fukkatsu!

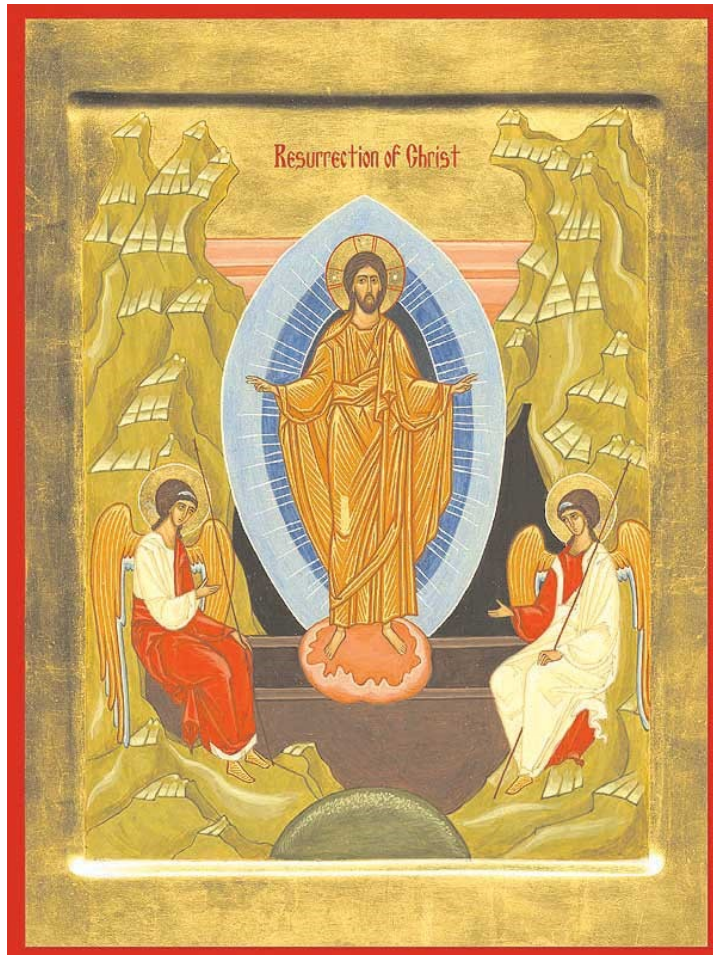
Portuguese:

Cristo ressuscitou
Em verdade ressuscitou!

Ibo (Nigeria):

Jesu Kristi ebiliwo!
Ezia o' biliwo!

**CHRIST IS RISEN!
INDEED HE IS RISEN!**



Lugandan:

Kristo ajukkide!
Amajim ajukkide!

Welsh:

Atgyfododd Crist!
Atgyfododd yn wir!

Zulu:

UKristu uvukile!
Ngempela uvukile!

Ugandan:

Kristo ajukkide!
Kweli ajukkide!

Greek:

Christos anesti!
Alithos anesti!

Coptic:

Pchristos aftooun!
Alethos aftooun!

Hungarian:

Krisztus feltamadt!
Valoban feltamadt!

Bulgarian:

Hristos voskrese!
Vo istina voskrese!

**Khristos Voskrese!
Voistinu Voskrese!**

Russian

Albanian:

Krishti U Ngjall!
Vertet U Ngjall!



The Forerunner

OCA - Diocese of the Midwest

V. Rev. Archpriest Andrew Bartek - Rector



MAY BULLETIN SPONSORS

In Honor of the V.R. Andrew Bartek on the occasion of his anniversary to the Holy Priesthood

Liturgical and Events Schedule

Sunday, May 21

9:55 AM: Paschal Hours
10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy / Monthly
Panachida / Social

Monday, May 22

10:30 AM: Gregory Puskas funeral @ Wasko
Funeral Home
6:30 PM: Orthodoxy 101 Class

Wednesday, May 24

6:00 PM: Great Vespers

Thursday, May 25

9:00 AM: Divine Liturgy

Saturday, May 27

4:00 PM: Bible Study
6:00 PM: Great Vespers

Sunday, May 28

9:35 AM: Hours
10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy / Panachida for
Military / Social

Rectory Open House & Picnic

Saturday, June 10 @ 1:30 PM

Vespers followed by Open House & Picnic

Please come to pray, fellowship and see the beautiful renovations in the rectory,

- Fr. Andrew will supply meats & drinks
- Sign-up to attend (not necessary but helpful for food preparation)
- Sign-up to bring side dishes or dessert

If it rains, we will reschedule.

Thank You. *Fr. Andrew*

SIGN-UP TO SPONSOR SOCIALS

Right now the Sponsorship Schedule for the social is:

- 1st Sunday of the month: the "O" Club
- 3rd Sunday of the month: the Sisterhood
- 4th Sunday of the month: the Council

Still needed: 2nd & 5th (when needed) Sunday.

Won't you please help?

You can also give the other organizations a break by sponsoring those Sundays. Something simple, like cookies & coffee is fine! Want to be more elaborate? That's okay too.. It is up to you.

Please see Fr. Andrew so you can be sched-

FINANCIALS FOR MAY

Expenses	\$3,314.85
Income	\$2,569.00
TOTAL	-\$745.85

Weekly Tithe	\$2,301
Assessment	\$30
Weekly Candles	\$113
Monthly Flowers.....	\$75
Wine.....	\$50

OTHER INCOME:

Fall Social	\$10
Unneeded Gifts	\$100

PLEASE KEEP OUR SHUT-INS IN YOUR PRAYERS

Send a "Thinking of You" card or remember their Birthday with a card. If anyone needs to be added, please contact Fr. Andrew.

Mrs. Mary Fredericks
648 Dumont Ave
Campbell, OH 44405

Mrs. Mary Jane Puskas
Maplecrest Nursing Home
400 Sexton St
Struthers, OH 44471

Mrs. Dorothy Shirilla
8362 Van Dr.
Poland, OH 44514

Joan Cross
18 Fruitland Drive
New Castle, PA 16105

Mrs. Audrey Chengelis
6210 Catawba Drive
Canfield, OH 44406

Emilia Yannitto
8017 Salinas Tr.
Boardman, OH 44512-5402

Mrs. Pauline Fesz
488 Harmony Lane
Campbell, OH 44405

Irene & Al Mazanek
1285 Fairfax-Manor Dr
Carmel, IN 46032

Mrs. Julia Simko
Inn At Poland Way
6501 Poland Way / Rm 122
Poland OH, 44514

Matushka Helen Psinka
1040 State St / Rm 1015
Concordia Villa St Joseph
Baden, PA 15005

Mrs. Marion Zwinski
526 Hyatt Ave
Campbell, OH 44405

His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon attends enthronement of His Eminence Metropolitan Saba

On Saturday, May 13, 2023, His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon attended the enthronement of His Eminence Metropolitan Saba as the new metropolitan of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America. After the Enthronement Service, His Beatitude greeted His Eminence on behalf of the Holy Synod, clergy, and laity of the Orthodox Church in America. His Beatitude mentioned the close relationship between the OCA and the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese and asked for God's continued blessing on His Eminence's ministry. His Beatitude presented His Eminence with an icon of Saint Herman of Alaska as a gift on the occasion of his enthronement.

Remarks at the enthronement of His Eminence Metropolitan Saba

Your Eminence,

Christ is risen!

I greet you with joy, my beloved brother and

concelebrant, on this luminous occasion, the day of your enthronement as Metropolitan of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America. As I exult in this fraternal joy, I recall the words of the Psalmist:

"Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

How apt are David's words, and not just for this august occasion. In fact, this psalm verse encapsulates the close relationship between the Antiochian Archdiocese and the Orthodox Church in America. Across the decades, our Church has worked together with the occupants of Your Eminence's sacred see, its clergy and its faithful, collaborating in innumerable areas, all to bear witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to send up glory to his holy Name. For truly, we are united in Christ the Lord, and he is himself our Unity, the one who tears down the dividing wall, uniting all the faithful in himself, and in his own person uniting mankind with everlasting God.

I was blessed to enjoy personal good relations in Christ with your two predecessors, and I look forward to our hierarchical cooperation in many areas of shared interest and concern. **Con't next Pg**

PRAYER LIST– Updated 5-17-23

PARISHIONERS: Eli Arvan / Audrey Chengelis / George Horodnic / Irene Horodnic / Victoria Elash / Pauline Fesz / Mary Fredericks / Paula Kennedy / George Kolesar / Barbara Kolesar / Kim Konik / Thomas Kristian / Mary Jane Puskas / Kenny Ruff / Dorothy Shirilla / Julia Simko / Nancy Tusinac / Marion Zwinski / Erica & her unborn baby / Mary and her unborn child

FAMILY & FRIENDS: Archbishop Benjamin / Bishop Matthias / Fr. James Gleason (Fr.) / Fr. Michael Rustick (Fr.) / Fr. Emil Hutnyan / Fr David Lis. (Fr.) / sub-deacon Wylie Meath (Fr) / Dominic Centofanti) / Ellen (Clark) / Katie (Garrity) / Claudia (Gemmel) / Kathy Jacob (Fr.) / Ellen (Kessler) / Eleanor Marie (Kidder) / Paul (Kolesar) / Kathy (Kolesar) / Malakai (Kolesar) / Joe Kollar (Fr.) / Andrew LaChard (Jesko) / Walter Litzie (Fr.) / Mea (Mahan) / Mary (Mahan) / Pauline Meath (Fr.) / Karen Muzyka (Fr.) / Tracy Nelson (Fr.) / Matushka Raissa (Nicoloff) / Eugene (Pallai) / Ksenia and her unborn child (Petrochko) / Matushka Helen (Psinka) / Chris Quotap (Fr.) / Kristianna & infant Mary Louise (Robinson) / William Romanchak (Fr.) / Julia Shirilla) / Katherine (Steffaro) / Johanna (Tusinac) / Richard (Tusinac) / Brian (Shirilla) / (Joseph (Vansuch) / Eleanor Marie (Vansuch) / Paula (Voytilla) / Mary Ann Vozichovich (Kennedy) / Sarah and her unborn baby / Drew (Willison) / Emilia (Yannitto) / Zoland Zile, (Fr.) / Baby Olivia (Yannitto)

MILITARY FAMILY & FRIENDS: Cory Deaton (Fr.) / Alena Grabavoy (Fr.) / Liam Garrity (Zelinsky)

MISCELLANEOUS: Metropolitan Paul (Orthodox Diocese of Aleppo) & Archbishop John (Archdiocese of Aleppo) still being held captive / The UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers around the world / Those suffering persecution in Syria, Iraq, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and around the world.

Metro. Tikhon's remarks con't from previous pg

But, more importantly, I look forward to the ways in which Your Eminence will doubtless contribute to the ongoing shared work of the Orthodox Church in America and the Antiochian Archdiocese as well as the continuing dialogue among canonical Orthodox Christian jurisdictions in the North America.

I pray that God grant might Your Eminence the vision of Moses to lead your flock aright and the voice of Aaron to tell them the way they ought to go, as again the Psalmist says: "He led his people like sheep by the hand of Moses and Aaron." I assure you of my brotherly intercessions as well as the intercessions and support of all the clergy and faithful of the Orthodox Church in America as you assume your throne and take up the yoke and cross to which the Lord has called you.

May God always richly bless Your Eminence's ministry, and may his right hand strengthen our fraternity for the sake of the upbuilding of the holy Church in the American land, until he comes again in glory to judge all men by their works. At that time, may he in his mercy find that our work

withstands the test.

Once again, please accept my prayers and congratulations and the hearty prayers and congratulations of the clergy and faithful of the Orthodox Church in America. May the Lord grant Your Eminence many blessed and fruitful years as the Metropolitan of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America.

Christ is risen!

40 DAY REMEMBRANCE

June 4: Tim Nolder

June 25: Greg Puskas

BIBLE ORDERS

If anyone would like to purchase an Orthodox Study Bible (Old & New Testament), please see Fr. Andrew.

Cost: \$40 which includes shipping.

We will be making the order the first week in June.

May - Liturgical Attendance

Day	Vespers	Divine Liturgy	Communicants
Saturday, May 6	8		
Sunday, May 7		55	38
Saturday, May 13	10		
Sunday, May 14		76	50

Group(s) Attendance

Day	Orthodoxy 101	Book Club	Bible Study
Monday, May 1	7		
Tuesday, May 2		2	
Saturday, May 6			6
Monday, May 15	7		

ORTHODOXY 101 CLASS PARTICIPANTS

Tracy Zenko Andy Zenko
 David Dionisio Joann Sirilla
 Nadine Sabo Maureen Koval
 George Horodnic, Jr

All are welcome to join @ anytime.
 We meet Mondays @ 6:30pm.

St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary Announces Online School of Theology

Saint Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary (SVOTS) announces the creation of Saint Vladimir's Online School of Theology, an accessible extension of the Seminary offering quality online Orthodox education to the general public, taught by SVOTS faculty. This new initiative is supported by a grant awarded in 2022 by Lilly Endowment Inc., propelling the Seminary's entrance into online education.

The initial offerings from Saint Vladimir's Online School of Theology are two non-degree courses, with plans to expand into certifications, potentially adding M.A. degree programs in the future.

The first course, Preparing to Read the Fathers, will be taught by the Rev. Dr. Bogdan G. Bucur, Associate Professor of Patristics, starting June 6, 2023. In this lecture series, Father Bogdan will discuss four historical lenses for properly approaching the Church Fathers, giving participants valuable tools for learning to understand "the mind of the Fathers."

Associate Professor of Old Testament Dr. Michael Legaspi will teach the second course, Orthodoxy and the Old Testament, starting July 11, 2023. Dr. Legaspi will explore the essential role and purpose of the Old Testament in Church Tradition and worship, and challenge participants to adopt an Orthodox orientation to the Scriptures.

Both courses are four weeks long and will take place via Zoom live-stream on Tuesday evenings from 8:00 to 9:15 PM (EDT). Each lecture will accompany recommended readings, a Q&A session, and weekly email communications from faculty.

Arpi Nakashian, Director of Online Education, described the intended audience for the new online courses, saying, "We hope these courses can benefit a wide array of participants, including inquirers who are just beginning to learn about Orthodox Christianity; Orthodox laypeople who seek to enrich their understanding and practice of the Orthodox Faith; and ordained and lay ministers who wish to continue their study of theology."

SVOTS President, the Very Rev. Dr. Chad Hatfield related his enthusiasm regarding the launch of Saint Vladimir's Online School of Theology, commenting, "In the increasingly digital world we live in today, it is essential that Saint Vladimir's Seminary continues to find new ways to share the Gospel and proclaim the Orthodox Faith to all who seek to know truth."

Enrollment is now open for the two inaugural online courses at Saint Vladimir's Online School of Theology; early registration is encouraged to secure a seat. To learn more and register for the courses, visit online.svots.edu or contact us at online@svots.edu.

MAY SPONSORSHIPS

WINE: (\$50 for the month) In honor of our son Michael Arvan on the occasion of his 50th birthday & good health & for Arcilrs & Lidija Arvan on the occasion of their 53rd Wedding Anniversary.

INCENSE: (\$25 for the month) In memory of Nadine Pal-lai - given by Marion Zwinski & Karen Phillips.

BULLETIN: (\$50 for the month) In honor of my Anniversary to the Holy Priesthood

ICONOSTASIS CANDLES & ETERNAL LIGHT: (\$50 for the month) In honor of my granddaughter Katharyn James on occasion of her birthday—given by Nancy Tusinac

ALTAR CANDLES: (\$50 for the month) In honor of George & Irene H. on occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary / George & Michelle H. on the occasion of their 27th wedding anniversary / Robert Paul & Cynthia on the occasion of their 25th wedding anniversary

TETRAPOD CANDLES: (\$50 for the month) In honor of Nancy Tusinac on the occasion of her birthday

CANDLES @ ST JOHN THE BAPTIST ICON IN BACK OF CHURCH: (\$30 for month or \$20 for 1 week) In honor of Matthew & Deena Vansuch & Josh & Sarah Wilson on the occasion of their Wedding Anniversary

CANDLES @ PROTECTION ICON IN BACK OF CHURCH: (\$30 for month or \$20 for 1 week) In memory of his Grace Bishop Innocent, my family & friends – given by V.R. Andrew Bartek

CANDLES @ ST. PANTELEIMON ICON IN FRONT OF CHURCH: (\$30 for month or \$20 for 1 week) For health of my brother Joseph Rusnak– Given by Sub-deacon Walter Rusnak

CANDLES @ ICON OF CHRIST IN FRONT OF CHURCH: (\$30 for month or \$20 for 1 week) In memory of father-in-law Eugene Kennedy on the occasion of his birthday – Given by Sue Kennedy & The Centofanti family.

CANDLES @ ICON OF MARY IN FRONT OF CHURCH: (\$30 for month or \$20 for 1 week) For the health of Stacy Donofrio– Given by Joann Sirilla & the family

Flowers: (\$75) In honor of daughter Paula Kennedy & granddaughter Jena Debiec on the occasion of their birthdays – Given by Sue Kennedy & the Centofanti family

Candles @ St. Herman in front of Church: (\$30 for month or \$20 for 1 week) For the health of my sister Mary Jane Puskas. –Given by sub-deacon Walter Rusnak

John 9:1-38 (Gospel)

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. **Con’t Pg 9**

MAY CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

- 2- Sub-deacon Wylie Meath
- 3- Marcus Kubancsek
- 4- Isabelle Willison
- 4- Fr. Matthew Stagon
- 5- Joseph Schutt
- 6- Michael Polewan
- 8- Nancy (Anastasia) Tusinac
- 12- Marco Kubancsek
- 12- Proto. Bob Northrup
- 14- Steven Smiko
- 15-Holly Gast
- 17- Brian Turner
- 18- Mary Margaret James (Tusinac)
- 20- Philip Ellmore
- 21- Irene Horodnic
- 24- Avzi Dardovski
- 29- Carol Krochta
- 30- Joseph Mico
- 30-Stacy Donofrio



Anniversary

- 1-2004- AB Benjamin of San Francisco
- 2- Fr. Andrew's Priestly Ordination
- 3- George & Irene Horodnic, Sr
- 5-2012- AB Alexander of Dallas
- 6- Eli & Lidija Arvan
- 8-2010- AB Michael of NY & NJ
- 11- Reader George & Michele Horodnic, Jr
- 28-2005- AB Alejo of Mexico
- 29- Thomas & Claudia Moore
- 29- Reader Matthew & Deena Vansuch

Acts 16:16-34 (Epistle)

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.

Spanish:

Cristo ha resucitado!

En verdad ha resucitado!

REPOSED LIST FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Melaine Michaels (2019) 2- Anton Stanoff (1974) © 2- Stephen Kalas (1952) © 3- Naume Evanoff (1984) © 3- Frank Carandonis (1955) © 4- Mary Fischer (2007) © 4- Mary Graban (1963) © 6- Bishop Innocent (2002) 6- Joseph Leschinsky (1983) © 6- Robert Puskas (2014) © 6- M. Krut (1923) © (no name) 7- Anna Holowatyk (1977) © 7- Samuel Zelina (1994) © 7- Emilian Graban (2016) © 8- John Bilas (2015) © 8- Mary Fesz (2002) © 8- Still Born Lazich (1923) © 8- Satalarius Tsagaris (1949) © 8- Infant Diamantes (1957) © 9- Stanley Gozur (1960) © 10- Olga Sveda (2008) © 10- Tom Mahinis (1931) © 10- Joseph Slatsky (1943) © 11- George KInnich (1975) © 11- Sub-deacon Maurice Garman (2011) © 11- Steve Kraynak (1950) © 11- Helen Kirtos (1953) © 12- Stephen Timikovich (1977) © 12- Elaine Whitham (2012) 12- Proto. George Hutnyan (2020) 12- Mary Knight (2011) © 12- Albert Lisko (1925) © 13- Sevasti Papantonokis (1928) © | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14- Stanley Lis (2019) 14- Nicholas Zoppia (1984) © 14- William Petroff (2000) © 14- E. Mastoridis (1922) © 14- Steve Lisko (1928) © 15- Fr. Michael Rosco (2013) 15- George Krupchak (1952) © 15- Michael Shevetz (1962) © 16- Simon Vojtilla (1920) © 16- Anna Petro (1949) © 16- Charles Tsagares (1959) © 18- Vasil Vilich (1926) © 19- Betty Billy (2020) 19- Mary Kiddin (1993) © 19- Still born John Caleris (1928) © 19- Sava Talaban (1945) © 20- Helen Bickley (1974) © 20- Michael Leschinsky (1982) © 20- Anna Laricharoff (1964) © 21- Harry Levonyak (2205) © 21- Katherine Slatsky (1961) © 23- Mary Nosik (1978) © 23- Kenneth Libertyn (1998) © 23- Dimitri Livoniak (1940) © 24- Damian Leskovatz (1925) © 25- Michael Liba (1940) © 25- Michael Volchko (1944) © 26- Vasili Kovach (1945) © 28- Catherine Harvischak (2009) © 29- Milka Cukovich (1932) © 29- Nicholas Haralampbis (1961) © 30- Anna Toth (1997) © 30- George Andras (1999) © |
|---|--|

Participants in Book Club

Sonia Harvischak	Nadine Sabol
Heidi Kuzemchak	Monica Vansuch
David Dionisio	Mary Fredericks
Helen Colaluca	Sherrie Fredericks
Sue Kennedy	

Please join us on Thursday mornings @ 11:00.

Help for Puskas Family

A GoFundMe page has been set up for Gregory Puskas to help defray the cost of the funeral. Please go onto the Facebook page for further information

Anglo-Saxon:
Crist aras! Crist sodhlice aras!

JUNE SPONSORSHIPS

WINE: \$50 (for the month) In memory of my brother Stephan Elash on his 1 year anniversary; In memory of Steve & Eileen Elash, Eileen Nolder, and all members of the Elash & Graban families - Given by Cindy Ferrick

INCENSE: \$25 (for the month) For the health of all the members of the Elash & Graban Families- Given by Cindy Ferrick

BULLETIN: \$50 (For the month) *Available*

ICONOSTASIS CANDLES & ETERNAL LIGHT: \$50 (for the month) *Available*

ALTAR CANDLES \$50 (for the month) In honor of Sue Kennedy on the occasion of her 90th birthday- Given by Debeic & Kennedy family

TETRAPOD CANDLES: \$50 (for the month) *Available*

CANDLES @ ST JOHN THE BAPTIST ICON \$30 for month or \$20 for a week *Available*

CANDLES @ PROTECTION Icon \$30 for month or \$20 for a week *Available*

CANDLES @ ST. PANTELEIMON Icon \$30 for month or \$20 for a week *Available*

CANDLES @ ICON OF CHRIST \$30 for month or \$20 for a week *Available*

CANDLES @ ICON OF MARY \$30 for month or \$20 for a week *Available*

CANDLES @ ST. HERMAN \$30 for month or \$20 for a week *Available*

FLOWERS: \$75 in memory of my family & friends- Given by V.R. Andrew Bartek

Gaelic:

Taw creest ereen!

Taw shay ereen guhdyne!

Gospel con't from Pg 6

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.

Sunday of the Blind Man Commemorated on May 21

At the end of Chapter 8 in Gospel of Saint John, the Savior was disputing with the Pharisees in the Temple during the Feast of Tabernacles. He told them, "Your father Abraham was glad that he should see my day; and he saw it and rejoiced" (John 8:56). The Jews said that Jesus was not even fifty years old, so how could He claim to have seen Abraham? The Lord replied, "Before Abraham was, I am." I am, of course, is the name that God revealed to Moses in the Burning Bush. When the Jews picked up stones to throw at Him, He hid Himself and went out of the Temple.

We read in Saint John's Gospel (9:1-38): "As He passed by, he saw a man who was blind from birth." It might appear that Jesus was on His way to something or someone else, but in his Commentary on the Gospel of Saint John, the ever-memorable Archbishop Dmitri of Dallas, quotes from Homily LVI of Saint John Chrysostom: "that on going out of the Temple, He proceeded intentionally to the work, is clear from this: it was He who saw the blind man, and not the blind man who came to Him...."

Christ's disciples asked Him who had sinned, the blind man or his parents that he had been born blind. Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God might be manifested in him" (John 9:3). It was thought that a person who had some affliction must have sinned (or his parents did) to deserve such punishment. In the Book of Exodus (20:5), God said that he would visit "the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation." This, however, applied to the sin of idolatry, if the children emulated their parents' behavior.

The blind man was not born blind just so the miracle could be performed, but seeing the man in such a condition, the Lord decided to use him in a way that would manifest God's glory. He Who is the Light of the world healed the blind man and enlightened him. Giving sight to the blind was one of the signs which would identify the Messiah (Matthew 11:4-6).

The Lord made clay when He spat on the ground, and placed it in the man's empty eye sockets and sent him to the pool of Siloam to wash. Most versions of the Gospels translate the word *επεθηκεν* as "anointed," but it can also mean "to spread on," or "to smear." Siloam means "sent," and in Saint John's Gospel Christ says about forty times that He Himself had been sent by the Father."

This manner of healing reminds us of the way God created man by fashioning him from the dust of the earth. In the Old Testament God created man from the dust of the earth, now Christ, the same God, fashions eyes from the clay and places them in the blind man's empty sockets. Here are some quotes from the Pentecostarion:

At the Oikos of Matins: "He receives physical eyes as well as those of the soul."

In the Verses of the Synaxarion: O Bestower of light. Who are Light coming forth from Light; You gave eyes to the man who was blind from birth, O Word."

In the second exapostilarion: "Along the way, the Savior found a man who lacked both sight and eyes."

At Monday Vespers (stikheron of the Feast) we sing, "With his whole soul, and mind, and his tongue, the man who in times not long passed had been blind, confessed Him Who had fashioned eyes for him out of spittle and clay..."

Saint Theophylaktos says in his Commentary that "Jesus our Lord fashioned all the members of the blind man's body except for the eyes, which He omitted. By healing them now, he completes the divine act of creating and demonstrates that He is the Creator."

Jesus tests the faith of the blind man by sending him to the Pool of Siloam (which means "sent"). He respects the man's freedom, but asks for his voluntary and free participation in the miracle. The blind man, with faith, obeys God's command. He goes and washes in the pool, and he returns seeing. **Con't next page**

Blind man con't from previous page

The former blind man's life was not made easier, however. He becomes the object of the Scribes' and Pharisees' evil and hatred, those who believed in God and in the observance of His Law. They themselves were blind, yet they were suspicious of the formerly blind man, imagining that he only pretended to be blind and now was able to see. "They willingly were made blind by the dark letter of the Law, in which Christ, the resplendent Sun shines."¹

They questioned the man who was blind, but when they see the miracle before their eyes, instead of believing, they shut the eyes of their souls. Then the man's parents were questioned. They were afraid to confirm the miracle that happened to their son who was born blind, because they did not want to be expelled from the synagogue. They tried to avoid trouble by concealing the truth. Therefore, they said, "He is of age, ask him!"

We who receive benefits from God every day are ashamed or afraid to confess God because of our lack of trust. We put our own interests above God, knowing that He will understand us! He will understand us, but He will also see our faith and what priorities we have in our lives. Christ will see what "gods" we have put in His place, but He will not cease to remind us that He is the light of the world.

The blind man was healed, not only in the eyes of his body but eventually in his soul as well. He recognizes Jesus as God, and does not hesitate to confess it before the religious rulers with courage that many of us would envy. Faith alone is not enough, we also need to confess our faith in order to become genuine children of God. When we confess Christ before men, He will confess us before His Father, as the Lord has promised us: "Everyone who shall confess me before men, I also shall confess him before my Father who is in Heaven; and whoever denies me before men I also will deny him before my Father who is in Heaven" (Matthew 10:32).

1 Sunday of the Blind man, at Vespers, fourth stikheron on "Lord, I Call."

"Preaching in the Areopagus" Annual Clergy Convocation Concludes

The annual Clergy Convocation of the Diocese of the Midwest concluded its three day gathering at the Carmelite Spiritual Retreat Center in Darien, IL. This yearly spiritual retreat brings together priests and deacon from all over the Midwest.

On Monday, May 8, the clergy gathered with His Eminence Archbishop Daniel for Vespers and opening remarks by His Eminence. That evening also saw guest speaker, Priest Paul Abernathy, give the first part of his presentation. Fr. Paul, a priest of the Antiochian Archdiocese, is the pastor of St Moses the Black Church in Pittsburgh's Hill District, and the founder and CEO of the Neighborhood Resiliency Project, an Orthodox Christian nonprofit focusing on building healing and healthy communities through trauma-informed community development. Father gave three talks centered around a common theme: "Preaching in the Areopagus: Witnessing to 21st Century America as Orthodox Christian Priests".

An Akathist before the Tikhvin Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos was celebrated by Archbishop Daniel on Tuesday morning. Fr. Paul continued to focus on his theme in two more sessions that were scattered throughout the day's schedule. At the end of the day, Great Vespers was celebrated for the feast of Mid-Pentecost. Following dinner, a Special Diocesan Assembly was held in person and via Zoom. The meeting concluded with the assembly voting to sell the former Archangel Michael Church, Burbank property. Archbishop Daniel then met with the deacons of the diocese to close of the evening.

The retreat concluded with the celebration of Divine Liturgy for the Mid-Pentecost Feast at St. Peter and St. Paul Church, Burr Ridge. His Eminence served with the Deans of the diocese and Fr. Paul offered the sermon. Priest Gregory Ealy directed the clergy choir. A meal was held in the parish hall following the service.

In the final hours of the convocation, the Archbishop gathered his priests to share his thoughts and vision for the diocese. His Eminence took questions and conveyed his pleasure in being able to serve the liturgy and pray with his clergy.