

Sunday of the Paralytic

Many miracles in the Old Testament involve water. To name but a few, the water of the Nile turned to blood after Moses lifted his rod and struck the water before Pharaoh and His servants (Exodus 7:20).

In chapter 14 of Exodus, Moses divided the waters of the Red Sea, and the Hebrews passed over as if on dry land. When they were safely across, the waters came together, and their Egyptian pursuers were drowned.

On their forty year journey to the Promised Land, the Hebrews camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for them to drink. The people murmured against Moses, asking him why he had led them out of Egypt. God told Moses to strike the rock at Horeb. Then water came out of it so that everyone could drink (Exodus 17:6).

In Judges 6:36-40 we read about Gideon and the dew on the fleece. When Gideon squeezed the fleece, there was enough to fill a bowl with water.

On the Fourth Sunday of Pascha, the Church remembers the man who lay paralyzed at the Sheep Pool in Jerusalem for thirty-eight years, waiting for someone to put him into the pool. The first person to enter the pool after an Angel troubled the water would be healed of his infirmities, but someone always entered the pool before him. Seeing the man, the Lord felt compassion for him and healed him.

The Lord healed the paralytic during the days of the Passover, when He had gone to Jerusalem for the Feast, and He remained there teaching and working miracles. According to Saint John the Theologian, this miracle took place on the Sabbath.

Like some Old Testament miracles, many of Christ's miracles also involved water, and they prefigure the Church's Baptism, which cleanses us of every sin. In the Sheep Pool, once a year, only one person was healed, but Christ saves endless multitudes by divine Baptism. Sometimes, as in the case of Saint Vladimir (July 15), Baptism can also heal our bodily infirmities.

In the Canon for the Paralytic, the Angel who stirred the water in the Sheep Pool is identified as the Archangel Michael. Some of the Troparia call him "Leader of the Angels," and "Supreme Commander" (Ode 1). In Ode 3 we ask him to "protect us from falling into the passions of life." In Ode 6, we ask Saint Michael to guide us on the paths of life." In Ode 8, we ask him to pray with all the Bodiless Hosts, that we may be granted deliverance from our offenses, correction of our life, and the enjoyment of eternal blessings.

As we remember the paralytic, let us ask Christ to "raise up our souls, paralyzed by sins and thoughtless acts" (Kontakion of the paralytic).

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

2220 Reeves Road NE

Warren, OH 44483

www.stjohnswarren.org

Friend of the Bridegroom: "He must increase, but I must decrease."(John 3:30)



Sunday, May 26th, 2024

Sunday of the Paralytic

Fr. Brian Crivella, Rector.....330-372-3895 / BrianCrivella@gmail.com

Dn. John Tutoki, Hall Coordinator 330-720-3541

Sunday, May 26th 4th Sunday of Pascha / Tone 3 / Sunday of the Paralytic

9:30 am Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour

2:00 pm Blessing of the Graves

Wednesday, May 29th Holy Virgin Martyr Theodosia of Tyre

5:00 pm AA Meeting

6:00 pm Bible Study

Friday, May 31st St. Apollonios (Apollo) of the Egyptian Thebaid

4:45 pm Catechuman Class

Saturday, June 1st Martyr Justin the Philosopher and those with him at Rome

5:00 pm Great Vespers followed by Confessions

Sunday, June 2nd 5th Sunday of Pascha / Tone 4 / Samaritan Woman

9:30 am Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour

Attendance/Stewardship May 19th

Attendance: 68 Adults and 19 children	87
Weekly offering:	\$2,772.00
Candle Offering:	\$95.00
Charity of the Month: Children Services	\$40.00
YTD Budgeted Offering Amount	\$57,345.00
YTD Actual Amount Given:	\$60,059.91
YTD Budget Surplus/Deficit	\$2,714.91

Prayer Corner

Fr. Emil (Fr. Brian's friend)	Sbdcn Joseph (Clyde)
John Kornmaker	James & Eugene
Renee, Anna & Michael	Michelle Thompson
Tracey Fedak (Daria's Cousin)	Sarah Crivella
Shawn Ferry (Fr. Bri & Cheryl's Friend)	Ann (David Wood's Friend)
Patty DiGiacobbe	Pam & Laura (Des's Friends)
Barb Datish	James Scott & Bradley Dean
Greg Pappas	David (Laura Miklos' relative)
Lynn Luich (Betty-Ann's Niece)	James Livermore
Randy Stan	Rinehart Family
Sawyer Family	Ventura Family
Zoë Stan	David Campbell
Azouria	Kira (Child w/ Bone Disease)
Donna (Cheryl's Friend)	Delmas Higgins (Denise's Bro In-Law)
Sharon McGee (David's friend)	Luke Smith
Kim Butcher (Sonya's Friend)	Bob & Rachel (Randy's Friends)
Tim (Paula's friend)	George Horodnic (Jane Z's brother-in-law)
James and Tommy	Joseph Petrarca (Fickes Family Friend)
Alan Bergeron (Malacky's inlaw)	Joanna (Adrienne's Friend)
Julie Marinkovich (Mary Gearhart's friend)	George Kaschak Jr.
Greg Kornmaker (Sbdcn John's Friend)	Jeffrey Tsipis (John Miklos Friend)
Claudine & Joe (Laura Miklos' Sis & Husband)	Eleanor (Sbdcn John's In-Law)
The Faculty, Teachers, and Students of Holy Trinity Orthodox Academy	
The Suffering Christians in Ukraine, Russia, & the Middle East	

Traveling: Meredith Williams

Expecting: Elana & Nicholas Giannakos, Andrew & Kati Sawyer

Catechumens: Tom & Abigail Kirk, Lucian & Lilliana Vasil, Thomas Sacca, Kelly, Carter, Emma, & Bennett Worley, Kayla, Alexander, & Cesar Ventura, Kayla, Donald, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Robert, Timothy, Melissa, Ian, Christopher, & William Cunningham

Newly Departed: Eugenia Koutsouras (5/20) (Fr. Dcn. John's family friend) Elizabeth Pershka (5/4)

Birthdays: Jacob Kaschak & Shawn Niemi (28th), Joshua Settlemire (29th), Zachary Henry (30th), Gina Angle, Sandy Malsh, Andrew Petty, & Art Cogar (1st)

Anniversaries: Jerry & Denise Higgins (28th), Dr. Jason & Kristen Bakich (31st), Donald & Christine Bishop (1st).

Candle Commemorations

Theotokos	For the Health of The Bobosh Family
Altar	In Memory of Helen Bobosh
Christ	For the Birthday of Ted Bobosh

Announcements

Volunteer Opportunity at Warren Family Mission

Warren Family mission is looking for teens (age 12-18) to help hand out fruit to those in need on July 5th from 9am-1pm. Those interested in having their teens volunteer should see Mary Niemi.

Grave Blessings

Will start at Pineview cemetery at 2:00pm. Afterwards we will head to Oakwood cemetery, and then to Hillside cemetery. If you have graves outside of those cemeteries that you'd like blessed, please let Fr. Brian or Fr. Dcn. John know ASAP!