



## **Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church Bulletin**

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### **HOLY MYSTERIES**

**VISITATIONS OF THE SICK AND INFIRM** - If you are going into the hospital for any reason, please inform Father Stephen at the Rectory. Our hospitalization code for Christiana and Wilmington Hospitals is **UKR**.

**EMERGENCY CALLS** - Please call the Rectory anytime (day or night) in an Emergency!

**BAPTISMS** - Celebrated by appointment.

**CROWNING IN MARRIAGE** - Please discuss timing with Father prior to setting a date. At least six months notice is needed. There are three 2-hour courses that must be attended prior to the Wedding.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE** - The deadline for getting information printed in the Weekly Bulletin is Wednesday.

**SUNDAY COLLECTIONS** - For the Needs of the Parish; 2<sup>nd</sup> Youth Ministry

**May 19, 2019**  
**Volume 55: Number 20**  
**Schedule of Services and Activities**  
**Week of May 19 - 26, 2019**  
**Celebrating our 92<sup>nd</sup> year of Service to the Lord**

Sunday, May 19 - Sunday of the Paralytic

8:30 – 9:00 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Panakhya: +Father Bazyl Zawierucha (1 Yr. An.)

Panakhya: +Peter Melnik

Coffee Hour

Monday, May 20 – Apparition of the Precious Cross over Jerusalem (351 A.D.)

8:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

Thursday, May 23 – Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood Meeting Here

10:00 AM – Akathist to the Resurrection

10:30 AM – Meeting

Sunday, May 26 - Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

8:30 – 9:00 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Special Coffee Hour – Dogs for Diapers

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## SCRIPTURAL READINGS

**Sunday of the Paralyzed Man** – Matins: Luke 24:1-12; Liturgy: Acts 9:32-42; John 5:1-15

**Monday – Cross:** 1 Corinthians 1:18-24; John 19:6-11, 13-20,25-28,30-35; Day: Acts of the Apostles 10:1-16; John 6:56-69

**Tuesday- Holy Apostle and Evangelist John:** Matins: John 21:15-25; Liturgy: 1 John 1:1-7; Luke 6:17-23; Day: Acts of the Apostles 10:21-33

**Wednesday- Mid Pentecost:** Matins: John 10:1-9; Liturgy: Acts of the Apostles 14:6-18; John 7:14-30

**Thursday – Apostle Simon the Zealot** – Matins: John 21:15-25; Liturgy: 1 Corinthians 4:9-16; Matthew 13:54-58; Day: Acts of the Apostles 10:34-43; John 8:12-20

**Friday – Holy Equal to the Apostles Cyril and Methodius** – Matins: John 10:1-9; Hebrews 7:26-8:2; Matthew 5:14-19; Day: Acts of the Apostles 10:44-11:10; John 8:21-30

**Saturday** – Acts of the Apostles 12:1-11; John 8:31-42

**Sunday of the Samaritan Woman** – Matins: John 20:1-10; Liturgy: Acts of the Apostles 11:19-26, 29-30; John 4:5-42

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### **Paralytic Man: But Do You Want To Be Healed?**

The Scriptural lessons for the Fourth Sunday of Pascha present a series of miracles performed by Jesus or by His Apostles in His name. In Acts 9, we see St. Peter healing Aeneas the paralytic, and raising Dorcas, an exemplary "church lady" from the dead. The Gospel (John 5, 15) recounts how Jesus healed a paralyzed man at the pool of Bethesda in Jerusalem. Why this emphasis on paralysis now, during Pascha? The cure of the paralytic recounted on the Second Sunday of Great Lent (Mark 2, 1-12) urged us to shake off the paralysis of our sinfulness by prayer and fasting. Is there a different message behind these Paschal healings?

In the Lenten Gospel of the healing of the paralyzed man, the emphasis is on effort and on forgiveness. It takes extraordinary effort to get the man to Jesus: the four friends who carry him, haul his dead weight up to the roof and lower him - imagine with what difficulty - down on ropes. They come to Jesus. Jesus first forgives the man's sins and only then heals him.

The healing of the paralytic on this Paschal Sunday is rather different. Jesus comes to the paralyzed man; the man asks for nothing. When Jesus asks him, "Do you want to be well?" the man offers excuses: "Sir, I have no one to put me

down into the pool when the water is stirred up. While I am on the way, someone else gets down there before me" (John 5, 6-7).

What is wrong with this picture? For 38 Years, this man, unable to move, has been relying on his own ability to crawl to the pool (how?) To be the first one there at the rare and magical moments when its waters were stirred up and cures were granted. He has no help, he wants magic, he has grown bitter at his own failure and, at this point, he seems not to expect or even to desire healing, although he is willing to complain about it. Jesus' question is quite to the point: "Do you want to be well?...because if you do, you're going about it all wrong?"

The complaining old cripple seems to have surrendered any responsibility for himself, seems content to do nothing, nursing his frustrations and resentments and blaming God for making rules that put him at a disadvantage. Jesus' reaction corresponds perfectly to this situation. As True God, he confronts the man directly, personally, without the miracle-magic of the angel and the pool. He poses the question about healing directly and ignores the excuses and complaints He gets in return. The man never says, "Yes, I do want to be healed." Jesus simply challenges him, "Rise, take up your mat and walk" (John 5,8). If the man had not tried, there would have been no healing. Christ's word was enough to supply the power, but only the man's response could claim it and use it. Had he whined, "But I can't! He would have remained on that mat until death. Only once the man is on his feet, healed, does Jesus mention sin. In fact, He reminds the man to take responsibility for God's gift of life to him. "Look, you are well, do not sin any more so that nothing worse may happen to you" (John 5,14).

If Lent has been therapy of conversion, out of old life, if we have encountered the risen Lord at Pascha, then we should feel the effects of New Life radiating throughout our lives. If we do not, today's Gospel challenges us to ask if maybe we don't want certain areas of our lives to be healed. We can grow accustomed to our own sinfulness and mediocrity. There is a certain self-righteous satisfaction in playing victim and blaming others for what is wrong in our lives. Pride can made us refuse the help God sends us in other persons. Sin can keep us lazy and it is easy to substitute fatalism ("whatever happens is God's will!" or superstition (expect miracles to do for you magically what you won't try to do for yourself with the earthly means God has given you) for true religion ("repent and believe the Gospel").

The New Life of the Resurrection confronts us in every sacrament we receive. Even purified by the Lenten fast, we still need to claim that power to grow in

Christ and make those first, faith-filled steps into New Life and spiritual growth. Christ must respect our freedom to choose to do nothing, to lie on our mats and grumble while His New Life passes us by unclaimed.

Let us meditate on the Propers from the Sunday of the Paralytic:

### **Sunday of the Paralytic**

O ineffable goodness Who created the human form \* You came to heal those who are ill. \* O Christ by Your word You raised the Paralytic at the Sheep Pool \* You healed the suffering of the woman with the flow of blood \* You showed mercy to the tormented daughter of the Canaanite woman \* and You did not disdain the prayer of the Centurion. Because of this we cry out in praise: \* O Almighty Lord, glory to You!

Jesus went up to Jerusalem to the Sheep Pool \* which in Hebrew was called Bethesda \* And there lay a great multitude of sick people in its five porticoes \* for the angel of the Lord went down at certain times and stirred the waters \* granting healing to those who approached in faith. \* The Lord saw there a man with a chronic illness \* and He asked him: Do you want to be healed? \* The sick man replied: \* I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred. \* I have spent my money on physicians \* and received no help from anyone. \* The Physician of soul and body said to him: \* Take up your pallet and walk \* proclaim to the whole world \* the greatness of My mercy and My mighty deeds.

### **CELEBRATION OF MID-PENTECOST**

On the Wednesday after the Sunday of the Paralytic, our Church celebrates the "half way" mark between the feast of the Radiant Resurrection and the Feast of Pentecost. The Synaxarion of that day explains the reason for this Feast: "On the Wednesday of the Paralytic we celebrate the feast of Mid-Pentecost for the sake of honoring the two great feastdays - Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ and the Feast of Pentecost.

The Feast of Mid-Pentecost unites and joins these two feasts. The reason for this feast is based on the Gospel of St John: "When, however, the feast was already half over, Jesus went up into the temple and began to teach" (John 7:14) There he spoke of His divine mission and of the miraculous water: "If anyone thirst, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture says, from within him there shall flow rivers of living waters." (John 7:37-38).

Here we meet both the Pentecostal theme of the Spirit and the theme of living water. The troparion for mid-Pentecost explains: When the Paschal Feast is half completed, quench my thirsty soul with the waters of devotion; for You, O Savior, have announced to all: "Let him who is thirsty come to Me and drink." O Christ our God, Source of Our Life, glory be to You.

The Kontakion for the day continues (the theme of living water: O Christ God, Creator and Lord of all, when the Pascha Feast was half completed, You told those present, "Come and draw the water of immortality." Let us, therefore, adore You and cry out with faith:" Grant us Your goodness for You are the Source of Our Life."

There is a new allusion to the meeting with the Samaritan woman, which is celebrated on the 'Fifth Sunday' or the Sunday after mid-Pentecost. Jesus announces to the woman of Samaria the doctrine of water and of the spirit. Jesus asks the Samaritan woman for a drink. He himself could have given this woman living water.

The water that Jesus gives to drink, however, is life - life in its fullness. "The water that I shall give shall be a well of water springing up into everlasting life."

The Kontakion for the Sunday of the Samaritan woman says: "When the Samaritan woman came to the well with faith, she beheld You, O Water of Wisdom. You allowed her to drink in abundance and glorified her eternally, for she inherited the heavenly kingdom."

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### **Paralytic Man** **By Metropolitan Anothony of Sourozh**

This is a question that we should all ask ourselves. Yes, I am asking for healing; yes, I would like it if some miracle happened to me... And yet, am I ready for a miracle? Am I ready to receive it and to answer for it? A passage from the Confessions of St Augustine comes to mind. In the Confessions he says of himself that though he knew he was living a sinful life, that he was perishing, that he was disgusting, nevertheless for a long time he prayed: 'Lord, give me chastity - but not now!' And do we not, when we pray to God that we may be true to the Gospel, truly alive, truly God's own people, do we not constantly express this same desire: Do this, God -but give me more time to live according to my will, against Thy will, in my sinfulness, paying no attention to Thy Cross and Resurrection ...

And so Christ asks each of us the question: 'Do you wish to be healed? You who are blind, deaf, withered - do you want life?' And if we are able to reply, Yes, I do!', then Christ doesn't say to us: Wait now for the waters to begin to bubble, for power to descend'. He says to us: 'In that case, get up and walk! Get up, and go wherever grace leads you. Stand up by yourself. Stand with faith. Stand with conviction, impetuously. And don't wait for others to lift you up ...'

How often it happens that we feel we could do what we have prayed for -but we don't. Let God do it for us! But God does not do it, because whatever strength he gives, he gives so that we may bring to completion our life's journey on this earth. He cannot live our lives for us. He was only able to die for us!

And so the man who believed in Christ's word - who believed that it is not enough to pray, but that one must oneself come to life - gets up and walks. Yet around him the crowd reproach him that he has not been forgiven. Sadly, this happens so often in our spiritual life: so-and-so did not arrive at the right time, did not behave as he should. We don't see that the power of God has raised a man up. We only see that he is walking about at the wrong time, is not behaving as he should, and looks unusual.

Let us reflect on the various aspects of this story and apply them to our-selves. Let us ask God for strength, for help, for grace. But let us remember that though it will be given, we ourselves must live. God died for us, and now, with his life, with the life of the Risen Lord, we can live. Let us gather our strength and begin to live in the Name of the Lord. For truly, in the words of the Apostle, 'all things are possible' for us in our Lord Jesus Christ, who strengthens us. Amen.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY** - is expressed to the following: Sarah Hutnick, 5/19 & Andrew Hamilton, 5/20. May God grant them a very happy birthday and keep them for many, happy and blessed years!

**A SPECIAL COFFEE HOUR** – will be held on Sunday, May 26 to raise money for diapers for the orphanages in Ukraine. Hot dogs will be served, as Linda calls it, “Dogs for Diapers” Please plan to attend and help in this worthy cause.

#### **MEETINGS - MINISTRIES**

**PARISH BOARD MEETING** – Tuesday, June 11 @ 6:30 PM

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**SPECIAL THANKS: MOTHER'S DAY** - On behalf of our Parish Family, we would like to thank all the men who helped cook this year's dinner: Mark Andreas, Paul Andreas, Richard Bringle, Thomas Bringle, David Lazaration, Ivan Otamas and John Plachuta. Also we would like to thank Alexander Smith who helped serve the meal. Everyone enjoyed the food and I think that Chef Barry would be proud. May God reward your kindness a hundred fold!

**OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES** – are offered to Elizabeth Melnik and Vladimir Melnik and the family on the falling asleep in the Lord of her husband and Vlad's father, +Peter Melnik this past week. Funeral services were held yesterday at St. Michael Parish. Let us pray asking God to place the soul of the newly departed servant of God, +Peter, in the abode of the Saints where there is no pain, sorrow, nor mourning but only life everlasting. May his memory be eternal. Let us also pray for the family that God may give them His strength in this, their hour of need.

### **TRUSTEES MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

(Please find a substitute if you cannot make a given week)

May 19 – Ann Duncan and Thomas Bringle

May 26 – Ann Duncan and Thomas Bringle

June 2 – Linda Hnatow and Lorraine Neff

June 9 – Linda Hnatow and Lorraine Neff

June 16 – Victor Kaliakin and Ann Duncan

June 23 - Victor Kaliakin and Ann Duncan

### **READER MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

May 19 - Jean Roeth

May 26 - Thomas Kasprzak

June 2 - John Plachuta

June 9 - Irene Maskaly

June 16 - Andrew Duncan

June 23 - Jean Roeth

June 30 - Linda Hnatow

July 7 - Pani Elizabeth Hutnick

### **GREETER MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

May 19 - David & Eve Lazaration

May 26 - Lorraine Neff, Sonya Patronik & Alexander Smith

June 2 - Nancy Tur, Zina Twardus

June 9 - John and Sandy Cramer

**DO YOU SHOP ON AMAZON?** – Did you know that if you would get on Smile Amazon and choose our Parish as your beneficiary that Amazon would donate a percentage of your purchase to us? Search on Orthodox Wilmington and choose SS Peter & Paul Ukrainian (yes it is misspelled and we've tried to correct it). Try it and help our Parish Family benefit from your shopping experience!

**THE POWER OF PRAYER** – Please remember your daily prayer for our country. Today, we begin Day 25.

### **Tentative 2019 Schedule**

Sunday, May 26 – Special Coffee Hour – Hot Dogs – Diapers for Orphanages  
Saturday, June 15 – Visit by Weeping Icon from Taylor, PA  
Sunday, June 16 – Father's Day Dinner  
Saturday, June 22 – Religious Book Sale  
Monday, June 24 – First Day of the Apostle's Fast  
Sunday, July 14 – Patronal Feast Dinner  
Monday, July 15 – 19 – Summer Camp  
Saturday, August 3 – UOL Flea Market  
Saturday, October 12 – UOL Retreat  
Wednesday, October 16 – Saturday, October 19 – XXII SOBOR  
Saturday, November 2 – Fall Bazaar  
Tuesday, November 26 – Community Thanksgiving Service (Holy Rosary)  
Sunday, December 15 – UOL Cookie Sale

### **CLEANING OF THE CHURCH MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

Week of May 20 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson  
Week of May 27 - Nancy Hlywiak, Jean Roeth, Zina Twardus  
Week of June 3 - Michael Tilson & Linda Hnatow, Irene Maskaly  
Week of June 10 - Dawn Daniels, David Duncan & Kathy Duncan  
Week of June 17 - John Plachuta and David Lazaration  
Week of June 24 - Mark & Laura Andreas, Paul Andreas  
Week of July 1 - John Cramer, Sandy Cramer, Victor Melnychenko & Joseph Thurstlic

### **HALL RENTALS**

Saturday, June 1 – Karen Humphreys  
Friday, June 7 – 8 – Boy Scout Lock In  
Sunday, June 9 – Hamilton Family

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL** – Metropolitan Antony, Archimandrite Raphael, Father Vasili Andrejuk, Father Paul Bigelow, Father John Bohush, Father Oleh Hucul, Father Nestor Kowal, Father Andrew Molewski, Father John Nakonechney, Father James Norton, Father Victor Wronskyj, father Volodymyr Wronskyj, Pani Dobrodyka Lisa Weremedic, Mykola, Brennan, Deborah, Charles, Galina, Dolores, Krystyna, Julian, Madison, Mykola, Rita, Ryan, Randy Allen, Carolyn Angelo, Colby Atkinson, Shannon Austin, Stephania Bacha, Joyce Belles, Neil Belles, Ethel Bernhard, Yaroslav Bilinsky, Betty Bosland, Becky Bosley, Angie Brengle, Paul Brengle, Patricia Bringle, Richard Bringle, John Brick, Fedir Bukacz, George Burns, Christine Cain, Mark Cello, Betty Charney, Mildred (Myrophora) Christo, Erik Colazo, Mary Crystal, Patricia Crystal, Alex Czernik, Sharon Dalaski, Stephen Dalecki, David Dalldorf, Peter DiVirgilio, John Dmytryk, James Dudrick, David Duncan, Rose Eldridge, Thomas Fagan, Stephen Farrell, James Garrett, Peter Glenn, Ivan Golovniiov, Kathleen Gortva, Staci Gray, Charles Gunther, David Hamilton, Mary Eleanor Hamilton, Rick Hastings, Dolores Helms, Victoria Herrschaft, Carla Hitchings, Greg Hitchings, Anthony Hnatow, Betty Hnatow, Daniel Holoviak, Caroline Humphrey, Richard Humphrey, Sally Hutnick, Joette Jago, Stephen Johnson, Linda Josepinson, Rosalie Ann Kane, Josephine Kapelus, Sandra Kasch, Thomas Kasprzak, Charles Kaszytski, Julia Kaszytski, Diane Keyser, Barbara Kirylic, Wendy Klinedinst, Judith Kocinski, Ludmyla Krawchenko, Mykola Krawchenko, Emma Krasnopera, Volodymyr Krasnopera, Sue Kreisa-Christian, Marlene Kuhar, Karen Livick, Charles Lontor, Alla Lysenko, Andrew Makolynyk, Paul Markow, Natalia McDonough, Ronald Michel, Lisa Miller, Matthew Miller, Mary Elizabeth Moran, Barry Morris, Elsie Moroz, Michael Moroz, Karen Needham, Julie Neff, Ann Nester, Laurie Newman, Betty Painter, Anastasios Pantelopulos, Linda Phillips, Joseph Pierson, Barry Pinkowicz, Bernice Pinkowicz, Ryan Pinkowicz, Valentina Plachuta, Joseph Porini, Robert Powers, Joanne Procak, Lynn Procak, Joseph Ptak, Carol Purse, Sharon Reigh, Christopher Riehl, Arlene Roginski, Wyatt Roland, Andrea Roman, Fred Royer, Alla Rudawsky, John Ruczhak, Glenn Runyan, Carol Rusk, Maria Russak, Dana Sargent, Charles Scully, Doris Scully, Joella Seale, Clay Seman, Larissa Serth, Dawn Sheets, Justin Sheets, Emily Smitheman, Georgie Smolyar, Rich Steinman, Joseph Stevens, Charles Joseph Sweeney, Evelyn Synczyszyn, Wasyl Szeremeta, Tatiana Szewc, Pavlo Tabak, Nicholas Taylor, Sue Taylor, Elenora Thomas, Lydia Thomas, Brysen Tomei, Dominic Tomei, Mark Tomei, Violet Tomei, Aria Tonner, Anna Tur, Charles Tyrawsky, Richard Twardus, Martha Vignali, Jack Vognetz, Margaret Vognetz, Marilyn Wagner, John Wardigo, Olena Wasylevska, James Watts, Chris Way, Leah Way, Barbara Weeks, Peter Weremedic, Stephen Wienkowitz, Laura Worley, & James Zook.

## ICON FOR THE DAY OF MID-PENTECOST

**T**he unusual icon of our bulletin is termed the “Mid-Pentecost” image. Strangely enough, the idea of observing a Mid-Pentecost day is not new in the Church. There are traces of a festival that comes midway between Resurrection & Pentecost as far back as the 5th century.

We have here a rather unique picture of Christ as the GREAT TEACHER of mankind. The Gospel for the day tells of Jesus “going up into the temple” in the midst of the feast, and teaching. And so the icon shows a young Christ teaching a group of obviously mature and learned men, who seem somewhat surprised at the wisdom of their Mentor. The Lord is depicted with one hand in a gesture of making a point, while the other hand clutches a scroll.

Yes, the entire scene makes one think of a twelve-year-old Jesus in Jerusalem, without the Holy Virgin and Joseph. St. Luke tells of the incident: “After three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them & answering their questions.” What we have then, is a composite setting of Christ, Divine Wisdom, of deed and word, a profound teaching for every generation.

There is a need today for us to gather about the feet of Our Lord, as did Mary, the sister of Lazarus, “choosing the best part,” and listening to the instruction of the Master. Let this be our task as we await the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the feast of Pentecost, coming 50 days after the Lord’s Resurrection.