



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAY 11, 2025

TROPARION, KONTAKION & PROKEIMENON

Troparion – Tone 3

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down death by death. He has become the first born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted to the world// great mercy.

Kontakion – Tone 3

By Thy divine intercession, O Lord, as Thou didst raise up the Paralytic of old, so raise up my soul, paralyzed by sins and thoughtless acts; so that being saved I may sing to Thee:// “Glory to Thy power, O compassionate Christ!”

Kontakion – Tone 8

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, Thou didst destroy the power of death. In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, proclaiming, “Rejoice!” to the Myrrhbearing Women,// granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

Prokeimenon – Tone 1

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee!
V. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just!

LITURGICAL COMMEMORATION

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). Not only was the Nile turned to blood, but also "their rivers, their canals, their ponds, and all their pools of water, that they may become blood; and there shall be blood throughout the land of Egypt, both in vessels of wood and in vessels of stone" (Exodus 7:19).

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 40-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).

EPISTLE & GOSPEL READINGS

Epistle: 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: 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.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK, CAREGIVERS, AND DECEASED (To add a name, please email daricekeyes@gmail.com)

For the Sick / Caregiver

Betty (4/20)

Liam (4/20)

Kelly (4/20)

Alexandra (4/20)

Father Paul (4/20)

Deborah (4/20)

Connie (4/27)

Carmine (5/4)

Marianne (5/4)

Michael (5/11)

Charlotte (5/11)

Subdeacon Sergius (5/11)

Melody (5/11)

Lynne (5/11)

For the Deceased

Michael (4/27)

Lenore (4/27)

SERVICES

Service Schedule for the Week of May 11

Sunday May 11 – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by 40-day Panikhida for Matushka Mary and then Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

Saturday May 17 – 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession and Catechumen class in the church basement

Sunday May 18 – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

DONATIONS

Weekly Giving

May 4 – 80 adults, 14 youth, \$3,243

If you would like to donate on line, this QR code will take you to the Donation site where you can set up a one-time or recurring donation, or make changes to your existing account.

Thank you!



ORTHODOXY 101

Standing in Church

It is the custom of Orthodox Christians to stand throughout the services of the Church. This is because the traditional posture for prayer and worship in the Orthodox Church is standing. In “Orthodox countries” there are usually no pews in the churches. Benches and chairs are along the walls for the elderly and those who need to sit for personal reasons. If you need to sit during the Divine Liturgy, remember to stand at these times: when the Liturgy begins and the priest gives the blessing; during the Little and Great Entrances; when the priest is censuring the icons and the faithful; during the Epistle and Gospel readings; at the Anaphora (prayers converting the bread and wine to the body and blood of Jesus Christ); for Holy Communion; and at the final Blessing. Whenever a hierarch is visiting the parish, out of respect follow his example and stand and sit when he does.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Mother's Day to all mothers, Godmothers, grandmothers, and stepmothers! Memory Eternal to the mothers who have fallen asleep in the Lord.

In honor of Mother's Day, women of the church may pick up a geranium – compliments of the FOCA Club – on the way out of church today.

A Panikhida will be served for Matushka Mary Shafran today following the Divine Liturgy. May her memory be eternal!

There will be a Parish Council Meeting this Tuesday, May 13 at 7:00 PM in the church basement.

Pierogies are for sale in Daria Hall – see a member of the FOCA Club!

There will be a FOCA meeting next Sunday, May 18 during Coffee Hour.

Check out the Bookstore Sale in Daria Hall! There are many new items for sale – new books, items from Mt. Athos, and discounts on certain items. Please see Manny Montiel with any questions.

The Ladies Altar Society will have a meeting on Sunday, June 1 during Coffee Hour. Please plan on attending.

Please remember to turn in your 2025 Stewardship Pledge Card – there are still many outstanding and we are almost mid-way through the year. The cards may be turned in at the Candle Desk or to Alexander Brasowski. Thank you!

Catechumen classes will be held every Saturday after Vespers. Everyone is invited to attend the classes, but those who wish to convert to the Orthodox faith must attend.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Anne Cheslock – May 11

Nathaniel Brasowski – May 11

Alan Berck – May 16

Have a blessed birthday and may God grant you many years!

COFFEE HOUR

** If you are unable to accommodate your hosting date, please advise Darice as soon as possible so changes can be made.*

Hosts are responsible for providing and setting up the refreshments in Daria Hall at 9:00 AM and after Holy Communion, cleaning up after Coffee Hour including washing, drying and putting away dishes, taking out the trash, wiping down the tables, and cleaning up the Coffee Room including turning off and cleaning the coffee and tea pots. Hosts will be informed in advance if cream cheese, butter, or milk is needed. PLEASE NOTE: Your assigned Coffee Hour Support Person will provide guidance, however, the Support Person will leave Daria Hall at 9:55 AM to attend church services. If you have arrived late or are not finished, you will be provided the key to lock the Hall when you are leaving for church services. If you have any questions, please contact Alla Strauss.

SUGGESTED MENU:

Bagels / Breads

Donuts / Pastries

Desserts - let Alla know ahead of time if you will need desserts so they can be thawed on Saturday

Fruit

Salad

Tortilla Chips & Salsa

Hummus & Pita

Sugar-free dessert

Oreos (they are all non-dairy)

If serving pork, please provide an alternative for those who do not eat pork.

NOTE: Hosts may provide a luncheon for a specific event or holiday (Panikhida, birthday, anniversary, holiday) with advance notice to reserve the specific date to host the event. The hosts will be responsible for all food preparation for such a luncheon.

May 11 Nina Schmidt, Monia & Jim Pitra
May 18 Anne Cheslock, Darice Keyes
May 25 Inna Lebedeva, Mihaela & Tiberiu Milosav
June 1 Blake & Jessica Kilgore, Alex & Rebeca Medina
June 8 Alex Godun, Virgiliu & Gabriela Plesa
June 15 Sami Bachir, Tyler Burger, FOCA Club
June 22 **FAST** Matthew Anderson, Ramazi & Kahtuna Shubitidze
June 29 Nancy Mitsos, Ekaterina & Stanislav Uritsky
July 6 Fiyori Habtesilasse, Lemlem Woldearegay
July 13 **St. Vladimir Feast Day Celebration**
July 20 Helene Hopkins, Mary Ellen Jones
July 27 Amber Touch, Fr. Volodymyr & Matushka Oksana
Aug. 3 **FAST** Trudy Ellmore, Eleni Athanatos & Tom Sowanick
Aug. 10 **FAST** Karina Kotelnicki, Awet Tesfa
Aug. 17 **Ladies Assumption Altar Society**
Aug. 24 Olga & James Bates, Walter & Tanya Tribbey
Aug. 31 Melody Stavisky, Guy Radcliffe
Sept. 7 Luwam Tesfa, Nebiat Tesfa
Sept. 14 **FAST** Svetlana Sosedov, Natalia Kolomatskaia
Sept. 21 **Annual Church Picnic**
Sept. 28 Germain & Tahara Ortiz, Hannah Dougherty
Oct. 5 Ludwin Lopez, Nana & Matthew Barrett
Oct. 12 Melissa Braun, Sophie Dumas
Oct. 19 **110th Parish Anniversary**

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

Have a Blessed Week!

