

# SAINT GEORGE ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

HIS EMINENCE, ARCHBISHOP ALEXANDER OF TOLEDO: RECTOR

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**May 10, 2020**

4th Sunday after Pascha - Tone 3

Sunday of the Paralytic

Apostle Simeon the Zealot



## From the Fathers...

"You are pleased when people help you when you are in need. Therefore strive yourself, as much as you can, to help your neighbor in all of his needs."

- Metropolitan Gregory of St. Petersburg



## Welcome Visitors!

We are delighted to have visitors worship with us, and we pray that you will be blessed through your participation with us. In the Orthodox Church, the reception of Holy Communion is a mark of membership in the Church. Only those who have been united to the Orthodox Church through Baptism or Chrismation, and have prepared themselves through regular Confession, prayer and fasting are permitted to partake of Holy Communion. We encourage visitors to participate in our prayers and hymns and to join us in venerating the Cross and receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. Literature about the Orthodox faith and this parish can be found in the vestibule. Please feel free to ask questions before or after the service, as well as join us in the Parish Hall for refreshments and fellowship after the Liturgy.



With Thy pure hand, Thou didst create man,/ and Thou didst come to heal the sick, O compassionate Christ./ By Thy word Thou didst raise the paralytic at the Sheep's Pool,/ and didst cure the pain of the woman with the issue of blood./ Thou hadst mercy on the daughter of the Canaanite woman,/ and didst not reject the request of the centurion./ Therefore we cry to Thee:// Glory to Thee, O Almighty Lord!

The Paralytic was like an unburied corpse./ He saw Thee and shouted: "Lord, have mercy on me!/ My bed has become my grave! Why should I live?/ What use is the Sheep's Pool to me?/ I have no one to put me into the pool when the waters are stirred,/ but I come to Thee, O Fountain of healing./ Raise me up, that with all I may cry to Thee:// 'Glory to Thee, O Almighty Lord!'" (*Stichera of Lord, I Call*)

A PARISH OF THE BULGARIAN DIOCESE OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

## TODAY'S WORSHIP - HYMNS AND SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Resurrection Troparion in 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.

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.*

### Pentecostarion Kontakion in 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!”

*Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

### Pascha Kontakion in Tone 8

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

### 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.

## THIS WEEK AND LIFE IN CHRIST

**Sunday, May 10th**

**10:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Livestream)**

**4th Sunday of Pascha—Sunday of the Paralytic**

*Apostle Simeon the Zealot*

1 Corinthians 4:9-16, Acts 9:32-42

Matthew 13:54-58, John 5:1-15

**Monday, May 11th**

*Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Cyril and Methodius*

*Hieromartyr Mocius, Presbyter, in Macedonia*

Hebrews 7:26-8:2, Matthew 5:14-19

**Tuesday, May 12th**

*St. Epiphanius, Bishop of Cyprus*

*St. Germanus, Patriarch of Constantinople*

Acts 10:1-16, Acts 10:21-33

John 6:56-59, John 7:1-13

**Wednesday, May 13th**

**Midfeast of Pentecost**

*Virgin Martyr Glyceria at Heraclea*

Acts 14:6-18, Hebrews 2:11-18

John 7:14-30, John 5:1-4

**Thursday, May 14th**

*Martyr Isidore of Chios*

*Ven. Isidore, Fool-for-Christ, Wonderworker of Rostov*

Acts 10:34-43, John 8:12-20

**Friday, May 15th**

*Ven. Isaiah, Wonderworker of the Kiev Caves*

*Pachomius the Great, Founder of Coenobitic Monasticism*

Acts 10:44-11:10, John 8:21-30

**Saturday, May 16th**

**5:00 PM Great Vespers (Livestream)**

*Ven. Theodore the Sanctified, disciple of Ven. Pachomius*

*St. Alexander, Archbishop of Jerusalem*

Acts 12:1-11, John 8:31-42

**Sunday, May 17th**

**10:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Livestream)**

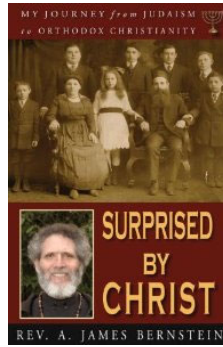
**5th Sunday of Pascha—Sunday of the Samaritan Woman**

*St. Euphrosyne of Moscow*

Acts 11:19-26, 29-30, John 4:5-42



### Finding Christ Through the Centuries



**Saint Epiphanius, Bishop of Cyprus, was born into a Jewish family in Judea early in the fourth century.**

Well-educated, Epiphanius always looked deeply into the great questions of life. So when, as a Jew, he heard about Jesus Christ, he pondered the possible truth of Christ's teachings. He was powerfully affected by the example of an elderly monk named Lucian, who gave anything he gathered or received as a gift to the poor. Lucian encouraged the younger man to study the Christian faith.

Epiphanius was drawn to the compassion of Jesus Christ as shown in the Gospels and reflected in Lucian and others. But he also had to consider the validity of Christ's claim to be the divine Messiah, since this was blasphemy in the Jewish faith. He may well have worked through the same questions that a 21st-century Jewish convert to Orthodoxy, Father James Bernstein, ponders in his thoughtful book, "Surprised by Christ."

Father James writes that as a young man studying the New Testament he, too, was attracted to the Man who "conducted Himself with what appeared to be truly supernatural grace, wisdom and love" even when attacked. So Father James also had to confront the claim of divinity that this Man made.

Seeing that Jesus Christ forgave sins, accepted to be worshipped, and claimed the great title of "I AM" convinced Father James of Christ's divinity. This led him to the understanding that the Incarnation was the greatest love God could show. As he writes, God showed that love by "manifesting Himself as a creature and speaking to us directly, rather than in sending a creature of His [such as an angel] to do the 'dirty work' for Him."

Once Saint Epiphanius was baptized and became a monk, he carried on Lucian's example, drawing others to the faith by the way he lived. But fearful of the praise he was receiving, he withdrew to the remote desert to pray intensely. As sometimes happened in that wild area, he was accosted and held captive by robbers for several months. He used the time to offer them the Gospel. When the robbers finally released him, one of them left the others and followed him to the monastery. The man was baptized with the name John, and became Epiphanius' close companion.

Epiphanius could be curt and abrasive; some people disliked him. He had disagreements with others, possibly including Saint John Chrysostom. But he defended the faith bravely, and his writings are still appealing. For example, he wrote that the Church "admires and praises virginity with humility, praises widowhood, and honors and accepts the chaste bond of marriage." All these kinds of life, in other words, can equally be paths to the Kingdom.

Perhaps it was this welcoming vision of Christ's Church that enabled Epiphanius to spread the faith, despite his human failings. He himself was welcomed by Christ in the fourth century, just as we are in the twenty-first.

**HAVE A QUESTION OR NEED TO CHAT? CALL OR EMAIL FR. GREGORY.**



### CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

#### Guidance for COVID-19

##### New Guidelines

New guidelines have been released by the Holy Synod of Bishops and by Archbishop Alexander regarding the Bulgarian Diocese. These guidelines are currently being reviewed and any changes to our current practices will be announced.

##### Livestream Services

All services will be **live streamed on Facebook** and finished recordings will be **uploaded to YouTube**. **Like, Share, Subscribe** to both to be notified when new postings are available. The schedule is also available online at our website.

##### Confessions and Visitations

Confessions will be available by appointment only. Please contact Fr. Gregory directly to schedule. Hospital visitations remain limited to end-of-life only. Personal visitations by appointment with proper social-distancing may be available. Please contact Fr. Gregory to discuss.

##### Bulletin Sponsors

Bulletin sponsorships are still available, even in our current digital world. Sponsorships can be emailed directly to Fr. Gregory and can be paid online through titheless on our website.

##### Stewardship

We encourage you to continue giving your regular offerings during this time. Please review our new online giving option now available on our website!

##### Parish Council

Parish Council meeting by teleconference will be **Tuesday, May 12th at 6:30pm**. Committee Reports and Council requests to be submitted by Sunday. Please email the reports to Cindy Hopper. Parish council meetings are open to all members as guests with permission to speak as granted by Parish Council. Anyone interested in attending the virtual meeting please let Steve Timofeev or Cindy Hopper know.

##### Growing Young Initiative

The Parish Council is supporting The Growing Young Initiative, strategies to help young people discover and love the Church. Phase I is completed with the church survey results. Phase II involves developing an action plan with current plans including Facebook activities and leadership opportunities. If you would like to be a part of the conversation in growing our community young please let Cindy Hopper or Steve Timofeev know. We are meeting via teleconference on **Wednesday evenings 8:00-9:00 pm**.

### We are praying for...

#### Newly Departed:

Archpriest Paul, Popadia Marilyn, Aleksei

#### Departed:

Archimandrite Aimilianos (1 year)

#### Health and Well-Being:

Bill, Maria, Tanya, Lawrence, Kathleen, Karen, Panka, Barb, and the kidnapped hierarchs Metropolitan Boulos and Archbishop Yohanna of Aleppo; and those being persecuted for their faith in the Middle East.

#### Catechumens:

Tim, Laura, Ethan, Naomi, Olivia, Daniel, Phoebe, Ezekiel, and Jachin.



### Sanctuary Lamp

The sanctuary lamp is lit today in honor of all mothers, godmothers, grandmothers, spiritual mothers, and mother figures. Happy Mother's Day!



### Celebrations

#### Birthdays:

Daniel Barton (5/11)  
Andrew Ghareeb (5/12)  
Vladimir Edelman (5/13)  
Tyson Geib (5/14)

#### Name's Days:

Simon Pappas (5/10)  
Marilla Geib (5/10)  
Cy Costoff (5/11)  
Cyril Yonov (5/11)  
Shari Timofeev (5/13)