

SAINT GEORGE ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

HIS EMINENCE, ARCHBISHOP ALEXANDER OF TOLEDO: RECTOR

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May 24, 2020

6th Sunday after Pascha - Tone 5
Sunday of the Blind Man
Ven. Simeon the Stylite (the Younger)



From the Fathers...

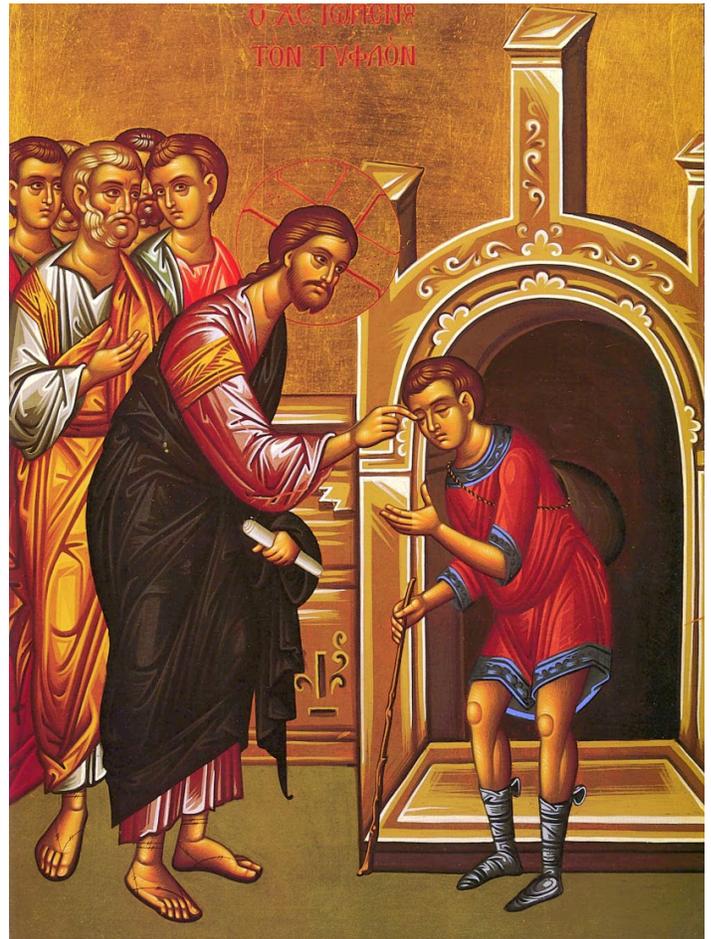
"Do not be cast down over the struggle - the Lord loves a brave warrior. The Lord loves the soul that is valiant."

- St. Silouan the Athonite



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.



Passing by the way, O Lord,/ Thou didst meet a man blind from birth./ Thy Disciples were puzzled and asked:/ "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"/ Jesus answered: "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents,/ but that the works of God might be revealed in him./ I must work the works of Him Who sent me, which no one else can do."/ As He said this, He spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle,/ and anointed the man's eyes with the clay and said to him:/ "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam!"/ He went and washed, and was made whole, crying: "Lord, I believe!"/ He worshipped Thee, and we cry: "Have mercy on us!" (*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 5

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,/ co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,/ born for our salvation from the Virgin;/ for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,/ to endure death,/ and to raise the dead// by His glorious Resurrection.

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

Pentecostarion Kontakion in Tone 4

I come to Thee, O Christ, blind from birth in my spiritual eyes,/ and call to Thee in repentance:// "Thou art the most radiant Light of those in darkness."

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 on the fallen.

Epistle: Acts 16:16-34

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.

Gospel: John 9:1-38

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

Continued...

THIS WEEK AND LIFE IN CHRIST

Sunday, May 24th

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Livestream)

6th Sunday of Pascha—Sunday of the Blind Man

Ven. Symeon the Stylite of the Wonderful Mountain

Acts 16:16-34, John 9:1-38

Monday, May 25th

Memorial Day

Third Finding of the Honorable Head of John the Baptist

Acts 17:1-15, 2 Corinthians 4:6-15

John 11:47-57, Matthew 11:2-15

Tuesday, May 26th

Apostles Carpus and Alphaeus of the Seventy

Greatmartyr George the New at Sofia

Acts 17:19-28, John 12:19-36

Wednesday, May 27th

6:00 PM Great Vespers (Livestream)

Leavetaking of Pascha

Forefeast of the Ascension

Hieromartyr Therapon, Bishop of Sardis

Acts 18:22-28, John 12:36-47

Thursday, May 28th

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Livestream)

The Ascension of Our Lord

St. Nicetas, Bishop of Chalcedon

Acts 1:1-12, Luke 24:36-53

Friday, May 29th

Afterfeast of the Ascension

Virgin-Martyr Theodosia of Tyre

Commemoration of the First Ecumenical Council

Acts 19:1-8, John 14:1-11

Saturday, May 30th

5:00 PM Great Vespers (Livestream)

Afterfeast of the Ascension

Ven. Isaac, Founder of the Dalmatian Monastery

Acts 20:7-12, John 14:10-21

Sunday, May 31st

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy (Livestream)

7th Sunday of Pascha

Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

Afterfeast of the Ascension

Apostle Hermes of the Seventy

Acts 20:16-18, 28-36, John 17:1-13

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. 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.

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

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

Guidance for COVID-19

Reopening Guidelines

At this time, we remain in Stage 3 of the re-opening process, and will remain that way until new social gathering guidelines are released.

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.

Leavetaking of Pascha

This week is the last time we will greet each other with the words "Christ is Risen!" this year. Leavetaking of Pascha is on Wednesday and we will have **Great Vespers for the feast of Ascension on Wednesday at 6:00pm and Divine Liturgy at 10:00am on Thursday**. Please join us on Facebook for the livestream of this feast!

Candles and Bulletin Sponsors

During this time of separation, if you would like a candle lit in church on your behalf or would like to sponsor the sanctuary lamp, please email Fr. Gregory. Donations can be made online 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!

Growing Young Initiative

The Parish Council supported Growing Young Initiative is meeting every **Wednesday 8:00-9:00pm** online at GoToMeeting.com, If you haven't been invited but would like to be in on the excitement let Steve or Cindy know. What are we doing? Check out St. George Facebook! Initiatives include mentoring our youth, Card Ministry, education and learning to create authentic dialogue. Join us!

We are praying for...

Departed:

Archimandrite Elias, Archpriest Paul, Popadia Marilyn, Aleksei, Bill

Health and Well-Being:

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 for Cy and Carol Yonov celebrating their 52nd wedding anniversary. May God grant you many years!



Celebrations

Birthdays:

George Thompson (5/25)
Archbishop ALEXANDER (5/27)

Anniversaries:

James & Debbie Allen (5/23)
Cyril and Carol Yonov (5/24)
Jim & Sarah Allen (5/25)