

SUNDAY BULLETIN

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SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC

Transfer of the Relics of St. Sava of Serbia

(May 10th, 2020)



HRISTOS VOSKRESE – VAISTINU VOSKRESE!

CHRIST IS RISEN – INDEED, HE IS RISEN!

Liturgical Readings:

Epistle (Acts 9, 32-42); Gospel (Jn. 5, 1-15)

This Gospel lesson about the paralytic being healed after an illness lasting thirty-eight years is a message of hope for all long sufferers. The Church wisely places this reading in the Paschal period of celebration.

The Risen Lord removed the confines of death and demonstrated that Christ is Life. When Jesus healed the paralytic, the man was reborn in Christ with full mobility.

Jesus Christ offers freedom from the paralysis of sin. Jesus told the man made whole to sin no more. Daily decisions determine whether our lives become paralyzed in sin.

Sins accumulating over a long period time have a devastating effect on the mind, body and soul. Jesus Christ offers freedom from the paralysis of sin for believers honestly repenting and being renewed in Christ.

Renewal in Christ is accompanied by the responsibility to live in ways pleasing to Christ. Too often individuals turn to Christ for help in times of illness but fail to follow Christ after being healed.

The paralytic was able to take up his bed and walk as directed by Jesus. The remaining days of his life, the paralytic was expected to refrain from sin. Many believers have participated in Great Lent, have repented and confessed their sins.

Following confession and being healed of the paralysis of sin, believers are to do their best and live in the Risen Lord. The Church provides nourishment and direction for living in Christ and encourages repentance when sin occurs.

The Church rejoices in Christ's healing of the paralytic. The healing of the paralytic is in keeping with the Paschal theme of joy. Jesus Christ radically changes gloomy situations into the greatest joy.

Serious believers savor the present Gospel and all messages in the Holy Gospel. Learning about Jesus Christ and being strengthened and renewed in Jesus Christ is a life-long journey for believers.

Serious believers never fully satisfy the appetite of the soul for nourishment from the Holy Gospel. Christ's words and life are the life of the serious believer.

The Gospel and serious believers' lives are always inseparable.

Each Divine Liturgy the Gospel is proclaimed with benefit. Attentive listeners draw strength from each proclamation of the Gospel. Lives change when the Gospel is proclaimed.

The current Gospel reading has been preserved in the Church for centuries. The benefits to attentive listeners through the years are beyond measure. Sufferers depressed with longstanding conditions hear this Gospel and have hope again.

Hope makes a difference in life. Life is transformed when the belief exists afflictions and illness can be overcome in Christ. With hope, a life sentence of despair changes into the possibility of health in Jesus Christ.

Christ rising from the Tomb brings enduring hope. Christ healing the paralytic solidifies hope. Each celebration of Pascha strengthens the conviction of hope in believers.

The world changes when hope is present. Personal demeanor and interaction improve with the presence of hope. The world is suffering from the darkness of a virus at this time.

Centering life in the Risen Christ enables believers to experience a newness unimpaired by the current virus. The Risen Christ will guide believers through the days of the virus to a joyous outcome.

The brightness of the Resurrection will outshine the darkness of any virus.

Search deep within the self and recall the devastation, plagues and afflictions of past centuries.

A search of history reveals the joy of the Risen Christ eventually is manifested and changes life for the better. Observe the church celebrations and festal processions in former Communist countries as proof of the Risen Lord!

Rejoice with the Church today in the news of the healing of the paralytic.

Rejoice in the news "Christ is Risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

Fr Rodney Torbic

DONATIONS RECEIVED ON MAY 3RD

Due to this pandemic, not only have we modified the schedule for services but we have suspended all fund raising activities including fish fries until further notice. The fish fries have provided great financial support to our church treasury over the years and this loss of income plus not having a weekly collection puts a strain on the finances. Even though we may not be attending services, we continue to incur operating expenses that need to be paid. ***WE ARE ASKING YOU TO PLEASE CONTINUE WITH YOUR WEEKLY OFFERINGS BY MAILING THEM TO THE CHURCH. YOUR COOPERATION WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED!***

Offering \$885.00; Candles \$75.00; Donations \$100.00.

Donations to the Building Fund in memory of Mark Stokrp for \$100 from Edward & Jeanne Danko; \$100 from Ronald & Carol Carr, \$20 from Patricia Niel, \$500 from Michael Hester

BELL TOWER FUND - Total to date \$44,964.14/\$ 32,500.00

\$100 from Nicholas & Karen Szmyd

Large candle donations – Patricia Niel in memory of Buncich family (Milos, Milica, Radovan, Milos Jr, Kristine)

WE ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR THE LARGE CANDLES (\$25)
THANK YOU!

BOOK OF THE MONTH APRIL

"THIRTY STEPS TO HEAVEN: THE LADDER OF DIVINE ASCENT FOR ALL WALKS OF LIFE" (Archimandrite Vassilios Papavassiliou)

UPCOMING EVENTS

EVERY DAY at 7:45 PM – Evening prayer through the Conference call (339) 207-6529

TUESDAY (May 12th) – Saint Basil of Ostrog, the Wonderworker

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

WEDNESDAY (May 13th) – Mid-Pentecost

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

SATURDAY (May 16th)

6:00 PM – Great Vespers (Live streamed)

SUNDAY (May 17th) – Sunday of the Samaritan Women

10.00 AM – Divine Liturgy (Live streamed)

Liturgical Readings: Epistle (Acts 11, 19-26 & 29-30); Gospel (Jn. 4, 5-42)

Dear ones,

Please, keep in your hearted prayers our beloved brothers and sisters in Christ

- who suffer of cancer: Jenifer, Linda, Sandy (Simko)
- who pray the God for the restoration of health: Irine (Martinovich), Grace (Vuckovich), Ranka (Banda), Edward (Gartell), George (Momcilovic)