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Sunday, May 3, 2026

Sunday of the Paralytic

8:45am: Orthros

10am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chryostom

Hymns of the Day

Troparion of Pascha

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

Χριστὸς ἀνέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν, θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας, καὶ τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνήμασι, ζῶν ἡμῶν χαρισάμενος.

Entrance Hymn

Bless God in the churches, the Lord from the fountains of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia.



Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Third Mode

Let the heavens sing for joy, and let everything on earth be glad. * For with His Arm the Lord has worked power. * He trampled death under foot by means of death; * and He became the firstborn from the dead. * From the maw of Hades He delivered us; * and He granted the world His great mercy.

Apolytikion of Saint Nicholas in the Fourth Mode

An example of the faith and a life of humility: * as a teacher of abstinence you did inspire and lead your flock, * and through the truthfulness of your deeds * were exalted to greatness through your humility, * uplifting all, and by poverty gaining wealth. * Father and hierarch Saint Nicholas, * intercede with Christ our God * that our souls may be saved.

Kontakion of Pascha in the Plagal Fourth Mode

Though You went down into the tomb, O Immortal One, yet You brought down the dominion of Hades; and You rose as the victor, O Christ our God; and You called out “Rejoice” to the Myrrh-bearing women, and gave peace to Your Apostles, O Lord who to the fallen grant resurrection.

Hymn to the Theotokos in the First Mode

The Angel cried aloud to the Lady full of grace: Rejoice, O pure Virgin; and again I say Rejoice. Your Son has truly risen from the grave on the third day.

O Virgin, with one voice, all we believers call you blessed.
* Metaphorical City and Gate of the Lord, rejoice! * Light of your Son's resurrection from the dead * shines on us today through you, O Lady. * And therefore we salute you: Rejoice!

Communion Verse of Pascha.

Receive the Body of Christ; taste from the immortal fount.

Σῶμα Χριστοῦ μεταλάβετε, πηγῆς ἀθανάτου γεύσασθε.

Gospel and Epistle Readings

Epistle Reading

Acts 9:32 – 42

In those days, as Peter went here and there among them all, he came down also to the saints that lived at Lydda. There he found a man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden for eight years and was paralyzed. And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed." And immediately he rose. And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord.

Now there was at Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which means gazelle. She was full of good works and acts of charity. In those days she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two

men to him entreating him, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter rose and went with them. And when he had come, they took him to the upper room.

All the widows stood beside him weeping, and showing tunics and other garments which she made while she was with them. But Peter put them all outside and knelt down and prayed; then turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, rise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. And he gave her his hand and lifted her up. Then calling the saints and widows he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

Gospel Reading

John 5:1 – 15

At that time, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Hebrew called Bethesda which has five porticoes. In these lay a multitude of invalids, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water; for an angel of the Lord went down at certain seasons into the pool, and troubled the water; whoever stepped in first after the troubling of the water was healed of whatever disease he had.

One man was there, who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled, and while I am going another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your pallet, and walk." And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked.

Now that day was the sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who was cured, "It is the sabbath, it is not lawful for you

to carry your pallet.” But he answered them, “The man who healed me said to me, ‘Take up your pallet, and walk.’” They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take up your pallet, and walk’?” Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place.

Afterward, Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse befall you.” The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.

Saints and Feasts

Sunday of the Paralytic

Close to the Sheep’s Gate in Jerusalem, there was a pool, which was called the Sheep’s Pool. It had round about it five porches, that is, five sets of pillars supporting a domed roof. Under this roof there lay very many sick people with various maladies, awaiting the moving of the water. The first to step in after the troubling of the water was healed immediately of whatever malady he had.

It was there that the paralytic of today’s Gospel was lying, tormented by his infirmity of thirty-eight years. When Christ beheld him, He asked him, “Wilt thou be made whole?” And he answered with a quiet and meek voice, “Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool.” The Lord said unto him, “Rise, take up thy bed, and walk.” And straightaway the man was made whole and took up his bed. Walking in the presence of all, he departed rejoicing to his own house.

According to the expounders of the Gospels, the Lord Jesus healed this paralytic during the days of the Passover, when

He had gone to Jerusalem for the Feast, and dwelt there teaching and working miracles. According to Saint John the Evangelist, this miracle took place on the Sabbath.

Wisdom of the Fathers

“The perseverance of the paralytic is astounding. For thirty-eight years he lay there waiting, each year hoping to be healed. But every time, those who were stronger and quicker got to the water before him. Yet he never despaired. The only purpose of the Lord’s question— *Wilt thou be made whole?* — was to reveal the paralytic’s patient and steadfast endurance. What sick man would not want to be healed? And indeed, the paralytic answers gently and humbly: “Yea, Lord, I wish to be healed, but I have no man who can put me into the water.” He does not blaspheme; he does not rebuke Christ for asking [this] question; he does not curse the day of his birth as we often do, fainthearted as we are, when subject to a much slighter affliction than his. He answers meekly, having no idea to whom he was speaking, but hoping that Jesus would help him into the water. Note well that the Lord asked, *Wilt thou be made whole?* and not, ‘*Wilt thou that I make thee whole?*’ He posed the question as He did to avoid any appearance of boastfulness. ”

- Theophylact of Ohrid, *Explanation of the Holy Gospel*
According to John p. 82

Parish Prayer List

Please remember in your God-pleasing prayers the servants of God:

Robert Tewis; Robert (Tikhon) Foster; Lance (Stylianios) Schmitt; Karen (Marie) Eagle; John Raf-topoulos; Carol (Abigail) Sherman; John Mason

If you would like for yourself or a loved one to be added to the prayer list, please contact Fr. Jeremy.

Parish Information

Church School

Church School for our children begins following Holy Communion. We have two classrooms: one for elementary-school ages, and one for middle school and up. Please allow our Church School kids and their teachers to come up for Communion first.

On Behalf of All

Funded through the Lilly Endowment, OBOA is a program aimed at ensuring that children with disabilities are able to participate fully in our parish life. We are a pilot parish in this program, and are looking for volunteers from the parish to help coordinate our participation in this ministry. If you are interested in learning more, please talk to Fr. Jeremy or Pres. Allison.

Byzantine Chant Classes

Byzantine chant classes take place on **Saturdays at 4pm**. If you are interested in learning and helping out, please feel free to attend!

Men's Breakfast

Our next Men's Breakfast will take place on Saturday, **June 6 at 8am**. Feel free to invite a friend!

Ladies' Potluck Luncheon

Our Ladies' Potluck Luncheon group meets on the second Thursday of each month! The next luncheon will take place in the Church hall on **Thursday, May 14** at 12pm.



This Week at St. Nicholas

- Wednesday, May 6 **Mid-Pentecost**: 8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy, 6pm Small Paraklesis
- Friday, May 8 **John the Theologian**: 8:30am Orthros, 9:30am Divine Liturgy
- Saturday, May 9: 4pm Byzantine Chant Class, 5pm Great Vespers