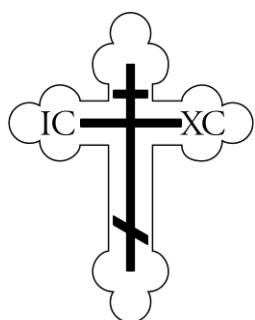


Protection of the Virgin Mary

Orthodox Church



A Parish of the
Diocese of Chicago
and the Midwest
Orthodox Church
in America



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Great Vespers: 6pm Saturdays

Divine Liturgy: 10am Sundays

Confession is available before or
after Vespers or by appointment

Welcome visitors!
Please join us in the
parish hall after Divine
Liturgy for coffee hour.

May 30, 2021

Midfeast Sunday

The Samaritan Woman

One of the most ancient cities of the Promised Land was Shechem, also called Sikima, located at the foot of Mount Gerazim. Near to this town, Jacob, who had come from Mesopotamia in the nineteenth century before Christ, bought a piece of land where there was a well. This well, preserved even until the time of Christ, was known as Jacob's Well. Later, before he died in Egypt, he left that piece of land as a special inheritance to his son Joseph (Gen. 49:22). This town, before it was taken into possession by Samaria, was also the leading city of the northern kingdom of Israel. It was the first city in Canaan visited by the Patriarch Abraham. Here also, Jesus of Navi (Joshua) addressed the tribes of Israel for the last time. Almost three hundred years later, all Israel assembled there to make Rehoboam their king.

When our Lord Jesus Christ, then, came at midday to this city, which is also called Sychar (John 4:5), He was wearied from the journey and the heat. He sat down at this well. After a little while the Samaritan woman mentioned in today's Gospel passage came to draw water. As she conversed at some length with the Lord and heard from Him secret things concerning herself, she believed in Him; through her many other Samaritans also believed.

HYMNS OF THE DAY

Tone 4 – Resurrectional Troparion

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Your resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles:

“Death is overthrown!

Christ our God is risen,//

granting the world great mercy!”

Tone 8 – Troparion of the Midfeast

In the middle of the feast, O Savior, fill my thirsting soul with the waters of piety, as You cried to all:

“If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!”//

O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to You!

Tone 8 – Kontakion for the Samaritan Woman

The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith; she saw You, the Water of wisdom and drank abundantly.// She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified!

Tone 4 – Kontakion of the Midfeast

Christ God, the Creator and Master of all, cried to all in the midst of the feast of the Law:

“Come and draw the water of immortality!”

We fall before You and faithfully cry://

“Grant us Your mercies, for You are the Fountain of our life!”

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Tone 3 – Sunday Prokeimenon (Psalm 46)

Sing praises to our God, sing praises!

Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

Epistle: Acts 11.19-26, 29-30

At that time, those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord. Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch.

When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord.

Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.

Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea. This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

Gospel: John 4.5-42

At that time, Jesus came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman of Samaria came to draw water.

Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.

Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.

Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."

The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?"

Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give

him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.”

The woman said to Him, “Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw.”

Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.”

The woman answered and said, “I have no husband.”

Jesus said to her, “You have well said, ‘I have no husband,’ for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly.”

The woman said to Him, “Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.”

Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

The woman said to Him, “I know that Messiah is coming (who is called Christ). When He comes, He will tell us all things.”

Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am He.”

And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, “What do You seek?” or, “Why are You talking with her?”

The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, “Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?” Then they went out of the city and came to Him.

In the meantime, His disciples urged Him, saying, “Rabbi, eat.”

But He said to them, “I have food to eat of which you do not know.”

Therefore, the disciples said to one another, “Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?”

Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, ‘There are still four months and then comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice

together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors."

And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all that I ever did."

So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His own word.

Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

N.Dep. Helen Korotky

Mary Weidemann

Giancarlo Alexander

Louis Milton

Cheryl Chancellor

Joseph Starkey

Ev.Mem. Stavro Saroff ('36)

Simeon Koval ('43)

Artemy Lawrick ('47)

Adam Kuratnik ('49)

Michael Pilhock ('52)

Wasil Dubinn ('74)

Anna Karakoff ('75)

Nicholas Korzow ('86)

Sandra Glagola (2015)

Bertha Cupka (2015)

Anastasia Koveck (2015)

Health & Salv.

Archpr. Peter

Mat. Margaret

Mat. Anne

Pr. Christopher

Mat. Jennifer

Andrew

Gideon

Kevin

Jon

Tanya

Jovan

Julia

Warren

Tom

Tina

Jennifer

Gail

Stacy

Jeramie

Olivia

Parker

Christine

Larry

Rollie

Joseph

Nadia

Brendan

David

Sharon

Michael

Janie

Tanya

Christopher

Nina

Renee

Carissa

Cynthia

John

Olga

Mark

Jerry

Michael

Anthony

Daryl

Diane

Carla

Susan

Timothy

William

Paul

Joseph	James	Ken
Linda	Pamela	Debbie
Claudia	Erin	Jacqueline
Elizabeth	Alexander	Dara
Snezana	Ronald	Cindy
Nathan	Theodore	Daniel
Kara	Robert	Laura
Ryan	Craig	Dorothy
Thomas	Chuck	Vasiliy
Carol	Scott	William
Christine	Mark	Wanda
Jon	Christine	Cindy
Zoey	Dale	Mary
Dominic	Pauline	Linda
Declan	Mary	Ivanka
Hudson	Timothy	Susan
Ayden	Lisa	Denise
Hyland	Lois	Valerie
Jason	Michael	Aaron
Ted	Janice	William

*If you know someone who needs prayer, please give their name to Fr Jacob

Paschal Theotokion (*Instead of "It is Truly Meet..."*)

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace:
 "Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: Rejoice,
 your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!
 With Himself He has raised all the dead."
 Rejoice, O you people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem!
 The glory of the Lord has shone on you.
 Exult now, and be glad, O Zion!
 Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,
 in the Resurrection of your Son!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For **Bible Study** this week, read 2 Kingdoms (a.k.a. 2 Samuel) 9-12.

Tomorrow we **bless graves for Memorial Day** beginning with a panikhida at St. Mary's cemetery chapel at 9am. After blessing the graves there, we move on to Calumet Park cemetery. Those with

graves at Calumet Park should gather at the entrance, where I will meet you around 11am. From there we will caravan from grave to grave until we finish. Then I will head to Calvary cemetery. Because I can't say how long we will be at Cal Park, those who wish to have graves blessed at Calvary should let me know, so that I can call you when we are wrapping up at Cal Park to head over. If anyone would like a grave blessed at another cemetery, please let me know, and we will arrange to make that happen as well.

The Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church **Jan Hughes Memorial Golf Outing** is scheduled for **Saturday, June 5**, at Summertree Golf Course in Crown Point. This is a major fundraiser for us. The proceeds will benefit the Church's building fund and be used for the continuation, support, and development of various Church projects, which reach out to the community. Hole sponsors (\$125) or other monetary or prize donations will be greatly appreciated. Those wishing to help in any way (including making desserts or appetizers), or to purchase banquet tickets (\$20 each), please see Rich or Linda Svihra or Lara Richards. Thanks in advance, The Golf Committee.

We are hosting another **Red Cross Blood Drive on June 18**. If anyone is available and would like to help man the check-in desk anytime between 12-6pm, please let Fr Jacob know.

Mark your calendars:

May 31: **Grave Blessings** starting at St. Mary's cemetery @ 6pm

June 2: **Bible Study @ 7pm**

June 3: **Faith Enrichment @ 10am**

June 5: **Annual Golf Outing:** Tee off @ 8am, lunch @ 12pm

June 12: **No Great Vespers**

June 18: **Red Cross Blood Drive @ 12pm**

June 19: **Memorial Saturday Liturgy** at St. Mary's cemetery @ 10am

Last week's gifts to the Lord: \$3,801

Show Up for Work

A reflection by His Eminence, our Archbishop Paul

The Paralytic was like an unburied corpse. He saw You 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 You, O Fountain of healing. Raise me up, that with all I may cry to You: ‘Glory to You, O almighty Lord!’”

(Lord I Call... verse, Sunday of the Paralytic)

Many of us can relate to this verse from the Vespers service. How often do we come to church year after year and see no change for the better in us? How often do we cry as in the verse, “What use is the Sheep’s Pool to me?” The paralytic had been ill with his affliction for 38 years. During that time, he continued to come to the pool hoping someone would take him to water after the angel touched that water. But others beat him to the punch. So he waited but received no healing. Then our Lord approaches him and asks, “Do you want to be healed?” The paralytic replies “I have no man to take me to the water that I might be healed.” Jesus then commands him to “rise, take up your pallet and return to your home.”

There are two thoughts I wish to convey to families. First, keep showing up for work! Even when going to church makes no sense, keep on showing up like the paralytic did in this reading from St. John. The paralytic did this for 38 years before he found healing. A time will come where our perseverance and faith will prevail.

Secondly, when the paralytic says “I have no man,” Christ becomes that man to bring the paralytic what he needs. We need as a church to be that man who is available to minister to those in need, whether a family member, a work companion, a school friend, a neighbor, a stranger, or a fellow churchgoer.

It might be a good idea to have a family conversation about how you each relate to this Vespers verse. And then, how in our lives we can be that man that comes to one who is helpless and is in need of attention and loving care.

Christ is risen!

Archbishop Paul

Christ is risen!