SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND



Icon of the Gospel of the Man Born Blind

A Link to Baptism

The cure of the blind man also symbolizes mankind's means for its recovery from its blindness. It symbolizes the Sacrament of Baptism. Baptism is called holy enlightenment. Those who have been recently baptized are called the newly enlightened. This gospel from Saint John was read in the ancient Church on Holy Saturday when Catechumens were baptized. As this man is cured of his blindness when he washes in the waters of the pool of Siloam, as Jesus tells him to do, so are we brought out of darkness into a new life when we are baptized as Christ instructed us to be. Jesus restores His creation, mankind, with the potential to become what it was meant to be before the fall of Adam.

We also hear in the reading that after this man was cured many of those who knew him before did not recognize him. He is still the same man

but something has significantly changed about him. He is no longer blind. So when we are illuminated we are also new persons, though our outward appearance might be the same. To symbolize this newness a white garment is put on us to show the purity with which we start this new existence. We must, however, become different and unrecognizable in our inward and outward actions also. We must manifest our new existence to those around us through these actions. We must radiate this new found light to others by the way we live our lives. We must say to the world, "I am he who was blind but now my eyes are opened." Credit must be given to Him who has cured us of our darkness by living our lives according to the lessons of the illumination we have received and the continued guidance we get with the reception of the Holy Spirit.

Saints Peter & Paul Akrainian Catholic Church

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"Slava Isusu Khristoo! Bridgeport, Pennsylvania 19405
"Glory to Jesus Christ! Www.sspeterpaulukrchurch.us

May 8-9, 2021 Mothers Day

TODAY WE SEND OUT pur love to all the mothers in our parish, as well as our prayers, on this Mothers Day of 2021. We ask the Lord to watch over our dear mothers (and grandmothers) and grant them good health, much joy and peace in their lives. This weekend we will share some token gifts with all our mothers and ladies, and sing our special hymn "Many Good Years" (Mnohaya Leeta) for our mothers.

THIS WEEKEND we will livestream our Holy Liturgy Saturday evening at 6 pm for all our faithful near and far. Please inform all your friends and relatives, both those elderly in this area, as well as those at a distance to tune in on YOUTUBE, so that they can sing and pray with us. Next weekend we will livestream the sacred Liturgy on Sunday, the 16th at 9 am. This service is all free, all for you unto the Glory of the Lord.

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL BE IN SESSION THIS Sunday morning at 11 am so be sure that all your children tune in on Google Meet at 11 am. The current spring semester will conclude next Sunday, the 16th, at 11 am, the final day of school.

FATHER RONALD WILL celebrate his 80th birthday May 22-23, as well as his 49th year at the Parish. We will mark this double anniversary at both the Liturgies that weekend. Be sure to be with us in two weeks to celebrate with Father Pastor and encourage him to continue his service here in Bridgeport with good health and great joy.

WE PLAN TO CELEBRATE Monday, Memorial Day, at the Cemetery this year. We will sing our reguiem Panachyda at the Altar at 10 am and then visit the gravesites of our beloved deceased. Of course, we will all wear masks and, hopefully, have been vacinated. There will be no services in the Church on Memorial Day.

OUR LOVING GRATITUDE goes out today to all our benefactors who have kept our church afloat this difficult period in our lives. We thank our dear parishioners for their in-person donations, as well as all the YOUTUBERS who have mailed in their kind gifts to our parish. May the Lord Jesus bless all of you for their love for Him and His Holy Church.

IF YOU ARE HESITANT about getting the vacine shots, by all means check with your doctor. Father Pastor has received both Moderna shots with no side-effects. One thing is certain - this virus is a killer.

DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, May 8, 6 pm Sunday, May 9, 9 am

+Dr. Howard Leyboldt (Wife Joanne)
+Bruce Wagner (Joanna Franzone)

WE INVITED OUR GOOD PARISHIONER Russell Chomiak to give a slide presentation on the state of affairs in Ukraine next Sunday, the 16th, 10 am. in Church. We will have more on this from the Pulpit this weekend.

Saturday, May 15, 6 pm Sunday, May 16, 9 am

+John Berkizchuk (Wife Jeannie) +Philip and Eva Zolondek (Bill and Bridget

TODAY'S TROPAR:

O Faithful, let us adore the Word. Who with the
Father and the Sporit has no beginning and was born
of a Virgin for our Salvation. He rose from the dead on the 3rd day, amen.

GLORY TO THE FATHER AND...

TODAY'S KONTAK:

O Christ, I am spirithally blind come to you today just as the man-born-blind did, crying out "You

are a radiant light to those who live in darkness."

TODAY"S PROKIMEN:

Pray and give glory to the Lord our God.

Dr. Lonald