

SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN



Icon of the Paralytic Man

Healing the Heart

A monk, well known for his holiness, once went on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. He had the great fortune of visiting many of the places where Jesus lived and taught. One of his great privileges was to visit the Jordan River, where he immersed himself in the very water in which Jesus had been baptized. He was very eager to take some of this Jordan River water back to the monastery.

As he was journeying back to the monastery, however, he encountered a beggar. The beggar wanted nothing more than a sip of water. The monk refused the request, explaining that the only water he had left was very special water from the Jordan River, and it was not for drinking or sharing. The beggar persisted, and the monk grew angry and cursed the beggar. At that moment the monk heard the words,

“My son, you have washed your body in the Jordan River, but you have not washed your heart.” With that, the beggar vanished from his sight.

In the Gospel reading today, we hear of Jesus' cure of a paralyzed man near the pool of Bethesda. It was believed that anyone who washed in that pool, during the stirring of the water, would be cured. How wonderful it would be, we might say to ourselves, to have such a pool of healing today. Let us remember that we do not need a pool or any other means of miracles when we have Christ Himself. Our Risen Lord, Who has power over death, certainly has dominion over illness and our bodies as well. Sometimes, however, He desires for us a healing of the heart, before a healing of the body.

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Christ is Risen!
Khristos Voskres!

May 7-8, 2022
Mothers Day

ON THIS MOTHERS DAY WEEKEND, we remember with love all our Mothers, whether living or deceased, in our happy thoughts and grateful prayers. We will all pray for our Mothers today for their health in this life, for their eternal happiness in heaven. It is certainly true that our Mothers taught us the meaning of love - for our Lord Jesus and our fellow neighbors, Remember your Mother always by following her example.

AS MANY AS 15 Youngsters will receive First Solemn Eucharist Sunday at the 9 am Holy Liturgy. We congratulate these young Christians-Catholics and their caring parents on this great day. And we thank the Lord Jesus for giving us His very own Body and Blood, such that we can now sit at His Holy Table just like the Disciples at the Last Supper. We are so very thankful to Kathy Plush and Lois Paul for their love in directing these youth all year in learning about Our Blessed Lord Jesus.

WE PLAN ON LIVESTREAMING the 9 am Liturgy this Sunday, so that Mothers and their Families can sing and pray with throughout the USA. Next weekend we hope to livestream the Divine Liturgy on Saturday, the 14th, at 6 pm. Please tell all your family and friends about this schedule.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS is sponsoring a gala bingo game next Sunday, the 15th, at 12 noon at Sacred Heart Church Hall in Swedesburg. All proceeds are earmarked for Ukraine. Please spread the word and attend with your friends for this most worthy of causes!

OUR PRAYERS GO OUT TODAY To Steven and Anna (Homa) King of Lansdale, whose son Daniel, 33, died in a drowning accident off Okinawa, Japan. this past week. We pray today for this good family and their dear Son.

WE THANK our dear parish women for preparing and serving all the treats this weekend, as we celebrate Mothers' Day and First Holy Communion. Joann and Josi tell us that some terrific items are on the menu for this most special of weekends! God bless all these good women!

GOD BLESS ALL THE FOLKS who remembered Father Ronald on his Birthday this month. He will be 81 years young on May 22. And God bless his parents Peter and Martha who gave their son to serve the Faithful here in Bridgeport for some fifty years!

SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, May 7 at 6 pm	+Jackie Davis (The Strouse Fam.)
Sunday, May 8, 9 am	All our Mothers in the Parish
Saturday, May 14, 6 pm	+Theresa Samkavitz (Timbario-Francis Family)
Sunday, May 15, 9 am	+Martha Dinich (Maruszczak Fam.)

TODAY'S TROPAR: Christ is risen from the dead, conquering Death by death, and bestowing life upon those in the tombs. **GLORY TO THE FATHER...**

TODAY'S KONTAK: O Lord, with Your Divine Power, raise up my soul which is crippled with various sins. You once raised up the Paralyzed man, so today raise me up from all my infirmities in body and soul. so that I can bless Your Holy Name AMEN.

TODAY'S PROKIMEN: Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us for we have trusted in You, amen.

Glory to Ukraine!

Ronald