

## Metropolitan Anthony Bloom on Paralysis

We are surrounded by people who are in need. It is not only people who are physically paralysed who need help. There are so many people who are paralysed in themselves, and need to meet someone who would help them. Paralysed in themselves are those who are terrified of life, because life has been an object of terror for them since they were born: insensitive parents, heartless, brutal surroundings. How many are those who hoped, when they were still small, that there would be something for them in life. But no. There wasn't. There was no compassion. There was no friendliness. There was *nothing*. And when they tried to receive comfort and support, they did not receive it. Whenever they thought they could do something they were told, 'Don't try. Don't you understand that you are incapable of this?' And they felt lower and lower. How many were unable to fulfil their lives because they were physically ill, and not sufficiently strong... But did they find someone to give them a supporting hand? Did they find anyone who felt so deeply for them and about them that they went out of their way to help? And how many those who are terrified of life, lived in circumstances of fear, of violence, of brutality... But all this could not have taken them if there had been someone who have stood by them and not abandoned them.

And all of us, *all of us* were responsible for each of them. We are responsible, mutually, for one another; because when we look right and left at the people who stand by us, what do we know about them? Do we know how broken they are? How much pain there is in their hearts? How much agony there has been in their lives?

*“Let us Attend!”*



*“Do you want to be made whole?...”*

A PARISH BULLETIN OF  
ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH

Olyphant, Pennsylvania

Rev. Paul J. Witek, Ph.D., Rector

201.315.5722

3 May 2026

**Sunday of the Paralytic**

**Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!**

**4th SUNDAY OF PASCHA — Tone 3. Paralytic. Ven. Theodosius, Abbot of the Kiev Caves Monastery and Founder of Cœnobitic Monasticism in Russia (1074).** Martyrs Timothy the Reader and his wife Maura of Antinoë in Egypt (ca. 286). St. Peter the Wonderworker, Bishop of Argolis (10th c.). “Svena” Icon of the Mother of God (1288). Holy Great Martyr Xenia of Kalamata (291).

**Epistle:** Acts 9:32-42

**Gospel:** John 5:1-15

*Our souls and minds are strengthened and fortified by the regular reading of the Holy Scriptures. Daily readings can be found on the parish’s wall calendar, or online by visiting the OCA’s daily reading page <https://www.oca.org/readings>.*

**Schedule**

- **Wednesday, 6 May 2026. 9AM Akathist to St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre**
- **Thursday, 7 May 2026. 9AM Divine liturgy for St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre, at Holy Trinity Church, Wilkes-Barre**
- **Saturday, 9 May 2026. 5-5:45PM Fr. Paul available for Confession. 6PM Great Vespers.**
- **Sunday 10 May 2026, Sunday of the Samaritan Woman. Honoring Parish Mothers. 9:30AM Divine Liturgy, Followed by Agape Coffee Hour Fellowship.**

**Announcements**

~ We welcome all those who join us today. Please come downstairs and enjoy fellowship together. We have place waiting for you.

~ The parish will have a educational three part educational series in May entitled: “Being and Making Disciples”. The dates for the series will be Wednesday 6,13, and 27 May at 6PM. We will discuss such questions as “What does it mean to be a disciple?”, “How can I be a good disciple of Christ?”, “How possibly can I be a disciple maker? The Fall and winter series were very successful, and we hope to that you will come and the continued success of our educational programming with this series.

~ A festive Liturgy for St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre will be held on his feast day, Thursday, 7 May 2026 at 9AM at Holy Trinity Church in Wilkes-Barre. All St. Tikhon’s Seminary students who took part in parish placement throughout the year will come together to help celebrate the Liturgy. Please joins us in this celebration of St. Alexis.

~ On May 17, Archbishop Mark will be celebrating Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas Parish at 9:30. As is our custom the faithful of All Saints will travel up the hill to join our Archpastor.