

ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH
OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA
SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN

6th SUNDAY OF PASCHA *MAY 20, 2012* Martyr Thalelæus at Aegæ in Cilicia, and his companions (c 284).

CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!

John 9:1-38 (*Gospel*): Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world. When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing. Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, "Is not this he who sat and begged?" Some said, "This is he." Others said, "He is like him." He said, "I am he." Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" He answered and said, "A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and I received sight." Then they said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know." They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Therefore some of the Pharisees said, "This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. They said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight. And they asked them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself. His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed that He was Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, "Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner." He answered and said, "Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see." Then they said to him again, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" He answered them, "I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become His disciples?" Then they reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from. The man answered and said to them, "Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes! Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing. They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you." Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him.

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Services & Activities:

Sunday, May 20

Sunday of the Blind Man.

9:00 am Divine Liturgy

**LAST SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS UNTIL
FALL**

Wednesday, May 23
RISEN!

3:00 pm Akathist (last CHRIST IS

7:00 pm Great Vespers/Litiya for the

Ascension

Thursday, May 24
Ascension of the Lord

9:00 am Divine Liturgy for the

Saturday, May 19

5:30 pm Confession

6:00 pm Great Vespers

Sunday, May 27
Ecumenical Council

Sunday of the Fathers of First

9:00 am Divine Liturgy

**Sunday School Ice Cream Social during
coffee hour.**

Thursday, June 7

7:00 pm talk by Prof. Paul Witek

Sunday, June 10

ALL SAINTS: OUR PATRONAL FEAST DAY!

FEAST DAY LUNCHEON AFTER DIVINE

LITURGY

Tuesday, June 19
Meeting

7:00 pm Next Parish Council

ANNOUNCEMENTS: *CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!*

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS! Please join us downstairs for Coffee Hour!

THANK YOU TO THE SENIOR "O" CLUB FOR PROVIDING THE MOTHERS DAY FLOWERS!

MISSION TRIP TO MONGOLIA: JOHN & ELIZABETH HUDANISH'S DAUGHTER THOMAIDA WAS ACCEPTED FOR A TWO WEEK MISSION TRIP TO MONGOLIA IN JUNE FOR CATECHETICAL & BIBLE STUDY IN THE ONE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN ULAN BATOR THE CAPITOL. COUNTRY IS ANIMIST, MUSLIM & BUDDHIST. ANY DONATIONS WILL BE CONSOLIDATED AND SENT ON TO OCMC BY ELIZABETH HUDANISH. Thank you.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS all of the parishioners of All Saints, their families, neighbors, and friends, especially Martha, Conor, Laura, Michael, Justin, Liam, Andrew, Allen, Cory Joseph, Michael, George, Gregory, Patricia, Matushka Martha, Vera, Joseph, Andrew, all those serving in the Armed Forces, (Michael & Loreen), all missionaries (Christina), all clergy, monastics, and seminarians, the sick and suffering, those in nursing homes, hospitals and prisons, especially for those for whom we have been asked to pray, **and all the departed members and family members and friends of All Saints, the newly departed:** (among them: Stephen Paulishak, Lawrence, Cynthia, Sharon Scochin). If you would like Fr. Gabriel to remember the living or the departed at the Divine Liturgy, please give the names to Fr. Gabriel to remember at the [Proskomedia](#).

ALTAR COVERS NEEDED. Please give your donations to Joni Rezanka.

PLEASE HELP WITH THE COFFEE HOUR! PLEASE FORM A NEW COFFEE HOUR TEAM OR JOIN A COFFEE HOUR TEAM!

This is an important part of our parish outreach. See Julie Cohen. Thank you to the Cohen, Witek & Stuchlak Families for today's coffee hour and to the Scochin & Skorupa families for next week's coffee hour.

T SHIRTS (ALL SAINTS) AVAILABLE \$8 EACH &

RECONSECRATION ORNAMENTS AVAILABLE \$3 OR 2 FOR \$5.

ST. TIKHON'S MONASTERY MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

PILGRIMAGE, FRIDAY MAY 25-MONDAY, MAY 28: The Myrrh-streaming

Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos from Hawaii will again visit the Monastery this Memorial Day from Friday May 25th at 4 p.m. to Monday May 28th at 4:00 p.m. Healings from cancer, demon possession and blindness have been attributed to the intercessions of the Mother of God through this Miraculous Myrrh-streaming Icon. This event is open to the general public. Seminary Graduation Saturday, May 26: 1:00 p.m., Monday, May 28: 7:30 a.m. Early Divine Liturgy; 10:00 a.m. Hierarchal Divine Liturgy, Metropolitan Jonah presiding accompanied by other hierarchs; 2 p.m. Healing Service.

COOKBOOKS: HANYA'S KITCHEN: THE ORTHODOX HERALD RECIPE COLLECTION, FIFTY YEARS OF RECIPES, INCLUDING FEASTS & FASTS OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH; PUBLISHED BY ST. TIKHON'S ORTHODOX THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY CENTURY ASSOCIATION. \$20.00 See Nancy Mazur to purchase a copy.

LOTTERY DRAWING every 2 weeks: \$100 to church, \$50 each Friday & Saturday.

PLEASE GIVE IN NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF COLLEGE STUDENTS AND FAMILY MEMBERS YOU WOULD LIKE ADDED TO OUR MONTHLY BULLETIN MAILING LIST OUTREACH

LOOKING FOR ALL 2012 HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES: *PLEASE GIVE NAMES TO JONI REZANKA.*

SPONSORSHIPS: Bulletin (\$30); Web-Site (\$25); & Shut-in mailings (\$25): in memory of John Gima—Thank you to all of our Donors and Sponsors!

SAMPLE PLEDGE CARDS: Please prayerfully consider handing in your pledge card as soon as possible to help us with budgeting for 2012.

WEEKLY COLLECTION: 5/13/12: \$876.00; Loose Collection: \$16.17; Second Collection (Church Supplies): \$53.50

REMINDER: PLEASE INCLUDE AN EXTRA \$2.00 IN THE DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT ENVELOPE for the increase that was passed at the Diocesan Assembly. The envelopes were already printed and do not reflect the \$2.00 increase.

Acts 16:16-34 (*Epistle*): Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out that very hour. But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to the authorities. And they brought them to the magistrates, and said, "These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city; and they teach customs which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or observe. Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded them to be beaten with rods. And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed. And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here." Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized. Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.

SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN: The Lord Jesus was coming from the Temple on the Sabbath, when, while walking in the way, He saw the blind man mentioned in today's Gospel. This man had been born thus from his mother's womb, that is, he had been born without eyes (see Saint John Chrysostom, Homily LVI on Matthew; Saint Irenaeus, Against Heresies, Book V:15; and the second Exorcism of Saint Basil the Great). When the disciples saw this, they asked their Teacher, "Who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?" They asked this because when the Lord had healed the paralytic at the Sheep's Pool, He had told him, "Sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee" (John 5:14); so they wondered, if sickness was caused by sin, what sin could have been the cause of his being born without eyes. But the Lord answered that this was for the glory of God. Then the God-man spat on the ground and made clay with the spittle. He anointed the eyes of the blind man and said to him, "Go, wash in the Pool of Siloam." Siloam (which means "sent") was a well-known spring in Jerusalem used by the inhabitants for its waters, which flowed to the eastern side of the city and collected in a large pool called "the Pool of Siloam." Therefore, the Saviour sent the blind man to this pool that he might wash his eyes, which had been anointed with the clay—not that the pool's water had such power, but that the faith and obedience of the one sent might be made manifest, and that the miracle might become more remarkable and known to all, and leave no room for doubt. Thus, the blind man believed in Jesus' words, obeyed His command, went and washed himself, and returned, no longer blind, but having eyes and seeing. This was the greatest miracle that our Lord had yet worked; as the man healed of his blindness himself testified, "Since time began, never was it heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind," although the Lord had already healed the blind eyes of many. Because he now had eyes, some even doubted that he was the same person (John 9:8-9); and it was still lively in their remembrance when Christ came to the tomb of Lazarus, for they said, "Could not this man, who opened the eyes of the blind man, have caused that even this man should not have died?" Saint John Chrysostom gives a thorough and brilliant exposition of our Lord's meeting with the woman of Samaria, the healing of the paralytic, and the miracle of the blind man in his commentaries on the Gospel of Saint John. (www.goarch.org)

I come to You, O Christ, as the man blind from birth. With the eyes of my soul blinded, I cry out to You in repentance, "You are the resplendent Light of those in darkness." **Kontakion in the Fourth Tone**

NORMAL FASTING WEEK: FASTING ON WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY.