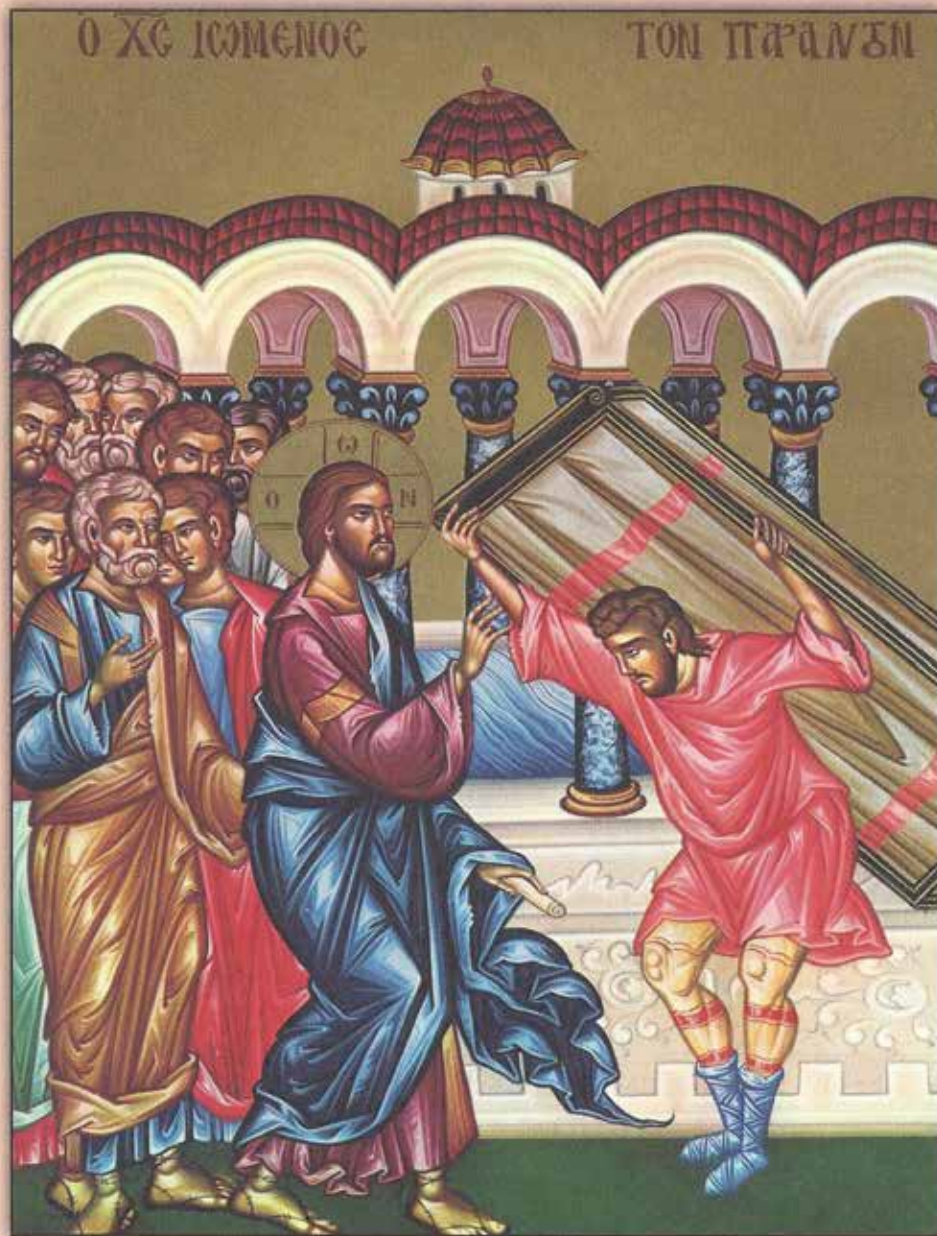


SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC



*Icon of Christ and the Paralytic Man*

## **April 17, 2016: Sunday of the Paralytic**

Epistle: Acts 9: 32-42

Gospel: Jn. 5: 1-15

<b>Mon., April 18</b>	8:00	+ Anna Chaykosky (Matt Beckage & Family)
<b>Tues., April 19</b>	<b>No Divine Liturgy Today: Clergy Conference</b>	
<b>Wed., April 20</b>	<b>No Divine Liturgy Today: Clergy Conference</b>	
<b>Thurs., April 21</b>	8:00	+ Harry & Mary Roman (Legate)
<b>Fri., April 22</b>	8:00	+ Petra Sedlak (John Sedlak)
<b>Sat., April 23</b>	<b>No Morning Divine Liturgy</b> 10:30 Confessions. 2:00 pm Confessions 4:00 pm + Andrea Turko Mitchell (Bob Mitchell & Family)	
<b>Sun., April 24</b>	9:00	For Our Parishioners 11:30 + Dorothy Pompey (Family)

## **Sunday of the Paralytic**

The third Sunday after the Feast of Holy Pascha is observed by the Eastern Church as the Sunday of the Paralytic. The day commemorates the miracle of Christ healing a man who had been paralyzed for thirty-eight years. The biblical story of the event is found in the Gospel of John 5:1-15.

Close to the Sheep's Gate in Jerusalem, there was a pool, which was called the Sheep's Pool. It had five porches, that is, five sets of pillars supporting a domed roof. Under this roof there lay very many sick people with various maladies awaiting the moving of the water.

The first person to step in after the troubling of the water was healed immediately of whatever malady he had.

It was there that the paralytic of today's Gospel was lying, tormented by his infirmity of thirty-eight years. When Christ beheld him, He asked him, "Will you be made whole?" And he answered with a quiet and meek voice, "Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool." The Lord said unto him, "Rise, take up your bed, and walk." And straightaway the man was made whole and took up his bed. Walking in the presence of all, he departed re-

joining to his own house. According to the expounders of the Gospels, the Lord Jesus healed this paralytic during the days of the Passover, when He had gone

to Jerusalem for the Feast, and dwelt there teaching and working miracles. According to Saint John the Evangelist, this miracle took place on the Sabbath.

## **Kneeling in Our Church**

The Pastoral Guide of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States (the official rule book for our Parishes in all four Eparchies), states in article 464: "Because kneeling is a sign of pen-

ance in the Eastern tradition, the faithful should be discouraged from kneeling during the Paschal [Easter] Season and all Sundays of the year.

## **How to be a Good Godparent**

Pray for your godchild on his/her names day, their birthday, and on all major feast days of the Church, as well as in your daily prayers. Give spiritual gifts to your godchild (icons, religious books, etc.), let others give the clothes or toys. Be an example of piety for your godchild. Receive Holy Communion at every opportunity, participate in the Holy Mystery of Confession, read and study the Holy Scriptures and the writ-

ings of the Church Fathers, and observe the fasts. Make a commitment to see your godchild regularly, at least once a month. Telephone your godchild to talk with him/her about what he/she is learning in school. Sunday Religious Education Classes as well as regular school. If your godchild's parents are unable to take him/her to the Divine Liturgy, or other activity, offer your assistance.

## **Examination of Conscience: How is My Daily Struggle?**

1. Did I fail to love God...to pray? Have I doubted or denied my Faith? Was I careless in saying my prayers? Read books against the Catholic Faith?
2. Did I curse or swear? Did I use God's Name in vain: lightly... carelessly? Do I use profane language? Have I insulted a sacred person?
3. Have I missed the Divine Liturgy through my own fault? On Sundays? Holy Days? Was I late for the Divine Liturgy or did I leave early without a good reason? Allow my children to miss the Divine Liturgy? Was I easily distracted at the Divine Liturgy? Did I do unnecessary servile work on

Sunday?

4. Did I honor and obey my parents? Others with lawful authority? Have I talked back? Failed to help at home? Neglected my children's religious education? Failed to take them to the Divine Liturgy? Failed to spend time with my family?
5. Was I angry... resentful... kept hatred in my heart? Did I fight... give bad example or scandal? Permitted or encouraged an abortion or mutilation to avoid children?
6. Was I immodest in dress or behavior? Did I read impure books or magazines? Am I guilty of fornication (pre-marital sex), adultery (sex with a married person) or birth control?
7. Did I steal? What or how much? Did I return it or make equal restitution? Did I waste time at work, in school, at home? Am I stingy? Do I gamble excessively? Neglect to pay my debts promptly? Have I supported my Church regularly?
8. Have I lied, gossiped? Talked about another behind his/her back? Do I always tell the truth? Am I sincere? Did I reveal secrets that should have been kept confidential? Am I critical, negative or uncharitable in my talk?
9. Have I consented to impure thoughts? Have I caused them by stares, bad reading, curiosity or impure conversations?
10. Is my heart greedy? Am I jealous of what another has? Am I envious of him/her because I don't have what they have? Is my heart set on earthly possessions or on the true treasures in Heaven?

## **The Lesson of the Coffee Bean**

A daughter complained to her father about how hard things were for her." As soon as I solve one problem," she said, "another one comes up. I'm tired of struggling."

Her father, a chef, took her to the kitchen where he filled three pots with water and placed each on a high fire. Soon the pots came to a boil. In one he placed carrots, in the second, eggs, and in the last, ground coffee beans. He let

them sit and boil, without saying a word.

The daughter impatiently waited, wondering what he was doing. After a while, he went over and turned off the burners. He fished out the carrots and placed them in a bowl. He pulled the eggs out and placed them a bowl. He poured the coffee into a bowl. Turning to her he asked, "Darling, what do you see?" "Carrots, eggs, and coffee," she replied.

He brought her closer and asked her to feel the carrots. She did and noted that they were soft. He then asked her to take an egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hard-boiled egg. Finally, he asked her to sip the coffee. She smiled, as she tasted its rich flavor.

She asked, "What does it mean, Father?" He explained that each of them had faced the same adversity – boiling water – but each reacted differently. The

carrot went in strong, hard, and unrelenting, but after being subjected to the boiling water, it softened and became weak. The egg was fragile. Its thin outer shell had protected its liquid interior, but after sitting through the boiling water, its inside hardened. The ground coffee beans were unique, however. By being in the boiling water, they changed the water.

He asked his daughter, "When adversity knocks on your door, which are you?"

## **Remembering Ss. Cyril and Methodius**

Our Parish has been serving Ukrainian Greek Catholics and so many others for over one hundred years now. By including Ss. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Olyphant as one of the beneficiaries in your Last Will and Testament, you will help our parish continue its sacred duty of serving the needs of present and future generations of its parishioners. There is no amount that is too small - it all helps! And remember, whatever your own fi-

nancial situation may be, you should prepare a Last Will and Testament, to be sure that your estate and possessions will be handled according to your wishes. When making a bequest to our parish, please make sure you use the full name and address: Ss. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church, 135 River St., Olyphant, PA 18447-1435. Thank you, and may God bless and repay you!

## **St. Joseph Breakfast**

St. Joseph Melkite Church on North St. Francis Cabrini Avenue, West Scranton, is holding their annual St. Joseph Breakfast, Sunday, April 17, 2016 in the church hall. Adults are \$8.00, \$4.00 children 6-10 and free under 6. Breakfast, consisting of eggs, ham, olives, hash

browns, pancakes, bread, juice and hot beverages will be served from 8:00am to 1:00pm. Take-outs are available during that time. Our special St. Joseph bread will be available in two-loaf packages. Come early for the bread, it is a best seller! Tickets will be available at the door.

## **“Pray for Ukraine” Commemorative Concert and Religious Service**

“Pray for Ukraine” will be the focus of a commemorative religious service and concert on Sunday, April 17, 2016, beginning at 3 p.m. in the golden-domed Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 830 North Franklin Street, Philadelphia, Pa. “Pray for Ukraine” will commemorate the 30th

anniversary of the nuclear disaster at Chernobyl, Ukraine and will be a day of prayer for an end to the war in eastern Ukraine. All are invited and encouraged to participate in this solemn event of prayer, music, reflections and hope for peace in Ukraine.

## **2016 Women’s Day of Prayer: Women as Caregivers: Spiritual, Pastoral and Practical Matters**

The Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, in partnership with the Sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great, the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate, and the Missionary Sisters of the Mother of God, will sponsor the *Women’s Day of Prayer* at the following location:

St. Vladimir’s Ukrainian Catholic Church, 430 North Seventh Avenue, Scranton, PA on Sunday, April 24, 2016.

The *Day* begins with Divine Liturgy at 10:30 am followed by lunch. The program *Women as caregivers: Spiritual,*

*Pastoral and Practical Matters* begins after lunch and focuses upon the pastoral and practical aspects of caring for family members with special physical, mental and emotional needs. The presentations are structured within the framework of Sacred Scripture and the values and ideals of Eastern Christian Spirituality. Additionally, suggestions as to how caregivers may provide spiritual, pastoral and practical “self-care” will be offered.

To register, please use the flyers in the vestibule of the Church.

## **Roast Pork Loin and Holubki Dinner**

ROAST PORK LOIN AND HOLUBKI DINNER - Sunday, April 24 at St. John’s Church, 306 Susquehanna Street

in Forest City with Take-outs from 11:00 a.m. to noon and serving in the church hall from 12:00 noon through 2:30 p.m.

Menu includes Pork Loin, Holubki, (Real) Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Vegetable, Rolls/Spread, Dessert and Refreshments. Donations is \$11.00. Tickets

available by calling 570 489 2353 or 570 785 5145 or at the door. Also featured is a gas-card raffle and five \$50.00 cash prizes. ALL WELCOME!

## St. Cyril's Rummage Sale 2016

The Grade school is in the process of being sold. We still have the time and plan to have our 6<sup>th</sup> annual fundraiser Rummage Sale in September 2016 in the school gym. Last year, we reached a profit of \$16,000.00 which was far beyond our expectations. In summary, furniture was the largest area of interest along with antiques and new items. We will gladly accept the items, with our discretion (mainly furniture) anytime over the next 6 months from estate sales, moving, re-decoration or downsizing

a home. We can store the furniture (in good condition for re-sale) in the school gym. (no TV's, no old computers, no baby cribs, no mattresses, because they don't sell, and then we are responsible for getting them to the recycle area or garbage) Contact Lauren Telep at 570-383-0319 or Father Nestor at 570-489-2271 for additional information. As stated in the past years, other donated items (no clothes or shoes) will be accepted 4-6 weeks before the sale in September 2016.

## Collection Processing Team...

The Collection Processing Team for the month of April 2016 is Team #4: Tom

Matkosky, Ed Stecco, and Joe Smagula.

## Sunday Collection for April 9 & 10, 2016: \$

### Altar Boy and Lector Schedule for April 23 & 24, 2016

	Altar Boys	Lectors
4:00 pm	Daniel Chylak -- Michael Roberts	Bill Vervan
9:00 am	John Nasevich -- Patrick Marcinko	Pat Marcinko
11:30 am	Samuel Szczesniak -- Nicholas Muchisky	Frank Lesnefsky

## Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

135 River St., Olyphant, PA 18447-1435

Telephone: 570-489-2271 Fax: 570-489-6918

Web Site: [stcyrils.weconnect.com](http://stcyrils.weconnect.com)

E-Mail: [sscyrilandmethodius@comcast.net](mailto:sscyrilandmethodius@comcast.net)



Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

### *The Mercy Jesus Proclaimed*

What tongue can describe the heart of the divine mercy? What mind is not amazed by the riches of such great love? The psalmist was thinking of these riches of divine love when he said: My helper, I will sing a psalm to you. It is you, O God, who are my protector, my God, my mercy. Carefully weighing the labors surrounding our humanity, he called God his helper. He calls his "protector" the one who protects us in the midst of our present distress until we come to eternal rest. But bearing in mind that God sees our evil deeds and bears with them, that He puts up with our sins and still preserves us for His rewards because of repentance, he could not just speak of God

as being merciful but called him mercy itself, saying: My God, my mercy.

Let us then recall before our eyes the evil deeds we have done, let us consider with how much goodness God puts up with us, let us bear in mind the depth of His love. He is not only lenient toward our sins, but He even promises the heavenly kingdom to those who repent after sinning. Let each of us say from the very depths of our hearts, let us all say, My God, my mercy.

*St. Gregory the Great*

For more information on Eastern spirituality, visit  
[www.ecpubs.com](http://www.ecpubs.com)