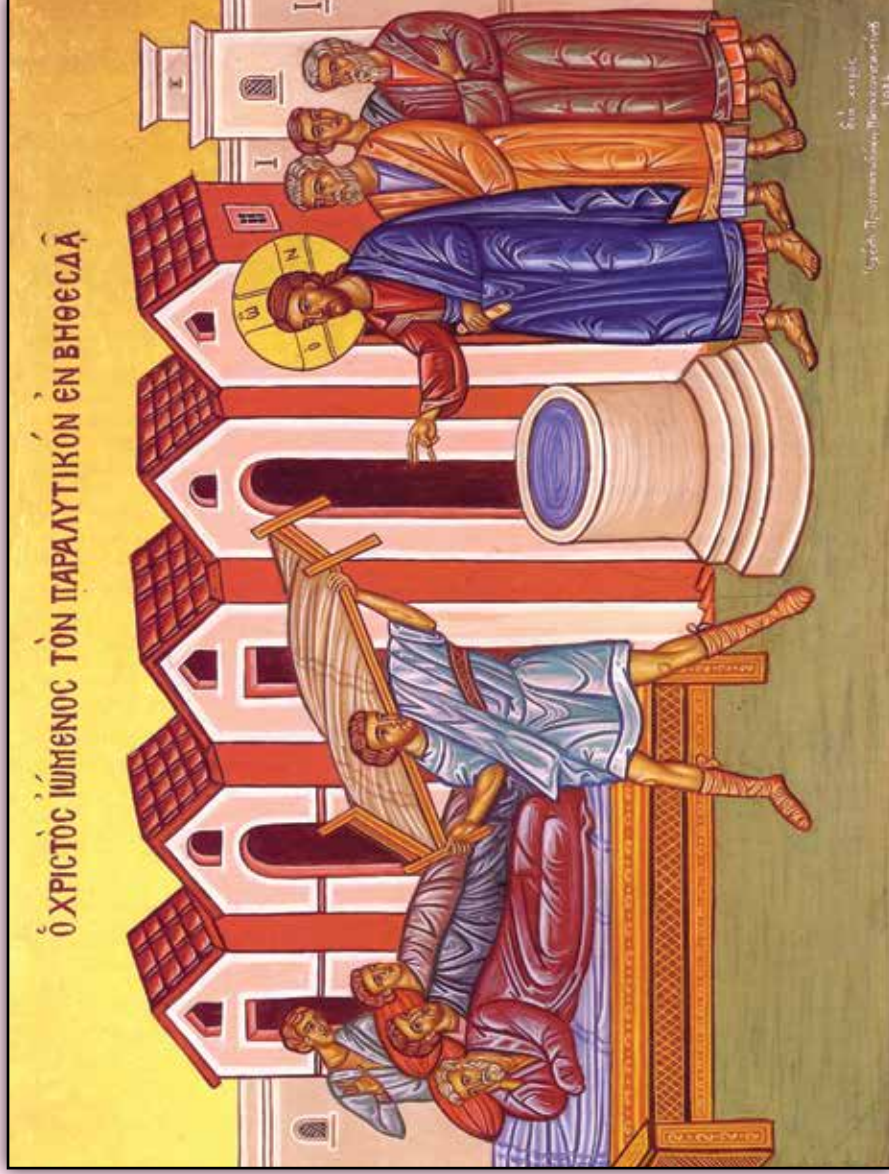


SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
SIXTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW



*Icon of the Healing a Paralytic*

<b>July 12, 2020: Sixth Sunday After Pentecost</b>		
Epistle: Rom. 12: 6-14		Gospel: Mt. 9: 1-8
<b>Mon., July 13</b>	9:00	+ Leo & Christine Danylak (Leo Danylak)
<b>Tues., July 14</b>	9:00	+ Eugenia Barkofsky (Jeanne & Joseph Seklecki)
<b>Wed., July 15</b>	9:00	+ Diann Yuhnick (Ray & Sandy Lill)
<b>Thurs. July 16</b>	9:00	+ Marge & Frank Evanitsky (Michaelene)
<b>Fri., July 17</b>	9:00	+ Evelyn Trently (Matt Beckage)
<b>Sat., July 18</b>	1:00	Confessions.
	3:00	For Our Parishioners
<b>Sun., July 19</b>	10:00	+ Gloria & Eugene Hughes (John & Mary Ann Turko)

## **LETTER FROM THE ARCHBISHOP...**

### **Glory be to Jesus Christ!**

Dear Reverend Fathers, Venerable Monastics and Beloved Faithful of the Philadelphia Archeparchy!

As you may already know, parts of western Ukraine are under water due to strong torrential rains that have been falling for several days earlier this week. Two regions, Ivano-Frankivsk and Chernivtsi, were affected the most. In the Ivano-Frankivsk region, over 4600 houses are lost or flooded, 550 kilometers of roads are damaged or washed away and 90 bridges are gone. In addition, at least three people lost their lives. Thousands of people had to be

evacuated leaving their homes and properties behind. Many have lost their belongings and savings.

This is the time when our brothers and sisters in Ukraine need help. Patriarch Sviatoslav has sent a letter of appeal asking us, “to show Christian solidarity and social service, so that those who are suffering might receive assistance as soon as possible. Therefore, I call upon our church institutions: eparchies, religious communities, and especially our network of the charitable organizations “Caritas” to organize collections for those who cry for help. I appeal to all communities of

our Church in Ukraine and throughout the world, to act in the spirit of the Good Samaritan of the Gospel, to support those who are deprived of their homes and have come face-to-face with misfortune.”

In response to our Patriarch’s request and in the spirit of Christian love and fellowship, we are announcing a campaign to raise funds for people who lost everything due to the floods and now need food and basic necessities. We ask you, dear Fathers, that every parish have a special collection. Please remit the funds as soon as possible, so that we can wire them to “Caritas” organizations in the Archeparchy of Ivano-Frankivsk and Eparchy of Chernivtsi. They will be purchasing and distributing food, clothing and other necessary items. Please act now since time is of the essence.

If you would like to make a donation, you may do so

- by making a check out to “Ukrainian Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia” and send it to the chancery office of our Archeparchy

located at 810 North Franklin Street, Philadelphia PA 19123. Please mark your check “Flood in Ukraine”;

- by leaving your donation in your parish collection basket, which will be sent to the chancery office along with other donations;

- you may donate on the Archeparchial FACEBOOK page, where a special fundraising campaign will be set up.

No donation is too small or too large. However, your donation will change someone’s life and God will repay a cheerful giver hundredfold. Please keep people of the affected areas in your prayers!

May God bless you always!

Sincerely Yours, in Christ,

/s/ Most Rev. Borys Gudziak

/s/ Most Rev. Andriy Raby

***We will be taking up this special collection next weekend. Please remember to put your name on the envelope so that you can get credit for your donation.***

## **ASK THE PASTOR**

**QUESTION:** *Did Mary the mother of Jesus Christ, have other*

*children after Jesus?*

**ANSWER:** The short answer to

this question is “No.” But let’s explore further. Most likely you are asking this question because some Scripture passages seem to suggest that Jesus had brothers and sisters. For example, here are two such passages: Mark 6:3 – Is he not the carpenter, the son of Mary, and the brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?” Matthew 13:55-56 – Is he not the carpenter’s son? Is not his mother named Mary and his brothers James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas? Are not his sisters all with us?

So should we conclude from these passages that Jesus had brothers and sisters in a literal way, meaning Mary and Joseph had other children in addition to Jesus? Certainly not. Scripture is quite clear that Mary conceived Jesus in a virginal way – by the Holy Spirit. Additionally, it is the constant teaching of the Church that she always retained her virginity. She had no other children and never engaged in the marital act with Joseph. Sometimes this is confusing since there are references in the Scriptures to Jesus’ brothers and sisters. But this language was commonly used in reference to cousins. So this shouldn’t confuse us if we understand the

language of the time. In fact this is still a common practice in other cultures of our day. For example, those from various African countries commonly refer to those within their own village as their brother or sister when they are with them outside of that village. It was God’s plan that Mary only have one Son for various reasons. It was especially so because of the fact that we are all called to become brothers and sisters of Christ through spiritual adoption. Therefore, if Jesus had blood brothers or sisters it would have undermined his spiritual brotherhood with them. It would have made their relationship with Jesus different. But God desires this deeper spiritual relationship with all people. Mary is the only blood relation to Jesus, thus, she shares a special bond with Him that no one else does. But it had to be that way if God was to become true man. Interestingly, though, even Mary’s deepest bond with Jesus does not come as a result of her physical blood relationship. It comes, first and foremost, by her spiritual motherhood. She is united with her Son primarily by her perfect faith and obedience. It is this bond that surpasses the natural one.

## **LOVE MATTERS MORE THAN MATERIAL ITEMS**

Some time ago, a man punished his young daughter for wasting a roll of gold wrapping paper. Money was tight and he became angry when the child tried to decorate a box with gold wrapping. Nevertheless, the girl brought the gift to her father on his Birthday and said, 'This is for you, daddy.' The man became embarrassed by his overreaction a few days before, but his rage continued when he saw that the box was empty. He yelled at her, 'Don't you know, when you give someone a gift, there's supposed to be something inside?' The little girl

looked up at her dad with tears in her eyes and cried; 'Oh, daddy, it's not empty at all. I blew kisses into the box. They're all for you, daddy.'

The father was devastated. He put his arms around his daughter, and begged for her forgiveness.

A little while later, the girl died in an accident. Her father kept the gold box by his bed for many years and, whenever he was feeling down, he would take out an imaginary kiss and remember the love of the child who had put it there."

## **RAFFLE REPORT**

THANK YOU to everyone who helped make our Summer Raffle a success. The Net Profit from the raffle was \$2,564.00. Total receipts were \$3,325 and there were expenses of \$161 for

postage and \$600 for the prizes. The raffle winners were: First Prize (\$300)- Ronald Srebro; Second Prize ( \$200) - Ann Cuff and Third Prize(\$100)- Darlene Lucas.

## **NEW FUNDRAISER: FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL**

Our first "FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL" will be held in the parish parking lot on Saturday, July 25 from 11:00 to 8:00 and Sunday, July 26 from 11:00 to 6:00. So far, we have six food trucks participating, each donating a percentage of sales to the parish. This will be an "order and take home" event,

with masks and social distancing required. There will also, be a "Food Truck Festival Raffle." First prize: 50 percent of ticket sales. Second prize: \$300 crystal bowl. Third prize: Gift Basket. We ask your assistance in selling tickets.

Because of the pandemic, most

summer events have been cancelled and people are reluctant to go to restaurants. The food truck business has suffered. This event will help our local businesses as well as benefit our parish. If successful, we could schedule a few more throughout the summer.

Volunteers will be needed for the event to assist with traffic and crowd control, set up, raffle ticket sales, clean up, etc. A sign-up sheet is located at the back of the church. Please donate some hours of your time to this exciting new event.

### **A NOTE FROM FATHER NESTOR**

It has been brought to my attention that a few parishioners have received a text (a scam) from me. It requested money via gift cards. They are requesting money for a sick women with cancer or need a kidney transplant. This is a scam! Be aware of the phone number and the name requesting the money. Never send money or gift cards to any

phone number, especially 570-397-7941. Please notify the police, if this happens. As one Parishioner texted back to the scam phone number... "The best number to reach me is 570-383-1820." If the scammer calls this phone number, it is the Olyphant Police Station.

## **Furniture Sale 2020 OUTSIDE, Update as of 7/12/2020**

It is only 25 days until the start of the fundraiser, the Furniture Sale, being held OUTSIDE on August 7 and 8th 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The week of August 2nd will be the week to receive last minute furniture donations. WE DO NEED YOUR CLEAN, SALEABLE, SWEET SMELLING: COUCHES, L.R. CHAIRS, KITCHEN TABLES AND CHAIR, outdoor patio furniture, BEDROOM DRESSERS, BED FRAMES, OFFICE DESK, ANTIQUES FURNITURE, (which may need to be re-upholstered) LAMPS etc... Call Lauren regarding, if the furniture will be dropped off. Because we have limited "pick-up" manpower and trucks. Networking is great in getting the word out to neighbors and friends, that we could use their unwanted furniture.

We need men for moving out the furniture and home decor from the school gym to the driveway. We do have dolly's, but could always use more. Hopefully, it will not

rain as we plan on doing this August 3-4-5-6. We need a lot of tarps to cover items at night or in case of rain. Please let us borrow them, label them with your name, and they will be returned.

We are planning on having 2 people at the checkout table, (no bagging) a few people to help the customers with the transaction of their sale. (They can't carry a couch to the check out table!!!) Volunteers to be by the back gate, and ensure everything is paid for. Call Lauren (cell 646-241-9443) or (570-383-0319) to help at this event, to be sure we have enough "volunteers" throughout the 2-day sale. Volunteers are also needed for Pre- furniture sale ticketing, merchandising and to just lend a helping hand. Family friends, neighbors are all welcomed to help and make this sale successful. Just come and help for the benefit of the Church. The schedule will be in the future Sunday's bulletin. Parishioners with pick up trucks will be needed to help out, contact Father Nestor.

We understand everyone's concern about this Health Crisis. We will follow all directives. We need to wear a face mask and we have limited face shields, available. We need to respect social distancing.

Customers can enter from 135 River Street (between the school and the rectory) or from West Grant Street (back driveway gates).

All the furniture and home decor have been donated by estates, moving or downsizing homes. The kitchen will be closed for this outdoor sale. We are planning on having a "Food Truck Convoy " available on River Street for the customers to purchase food and drinks. We will be compensated, by the food trucks for being at our furniture sale.

The school gym will be closed. The non-furniture donations will be held, for, if and when we will have our 10th annual Rummage Sale in the future. Father Nestor and Lauren thank you for all your donations, help, and time volunteering for this fundraiser. Any questions or suggestions please contact Lauren (cell 646-241-9443)

## **COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM...**

The Collection Processing Team Cheryl Matuszewski, and Dorothy for the month of July 2020 is Team Zinsky.

#3: Helen Pagnotti, Marlene Zelno,

**Sunday Collection for July 4 & 5, 2020: \$1,968.76**



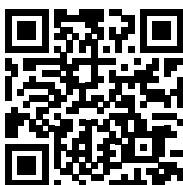
## Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

135 River St., Olyphant, PA 18447-1435

Telephone: 570-291-4451 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

### *Rise and Walk*

It is easier said than done. Whether the sins of the paralytic were forgiven, only He who forgave them knew for sure. "Arise and walk." Both he who arose and those who saw him arise were able to vouch for this. Hence there is a bodily sign in order to demonstrate a spiritual sign, though its impact is to curb the imperfections of body and soul. And we are given an understanding of sin and many bodily weaknesses to come. Perhaps, too, sins are forgiven first, so that with the causes of infirmity removed health may be restored.

*St. Jerome*

Furthermore, so it could be understood that He was in a body and that He could forgive sins and restore health to bodies, Jesus said,

"That you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins," then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your pallet." He could have simply said "Arise," but since the reason for doing every work had to be explained, He added, "Take up your pallet and go home." First He granted remission of sins; next He showed His ability to restore health. Then, with the taking up of the pallet, He made it clear that bodies would be free from infirmity and suffering; lastly, with the paralytic's return to his home, He showed that believers are being given back the way to paradise from which Adam, the parent of all, who became profligate from the stain of sin, had proceeded.

*St. Hilary of Poitiers*