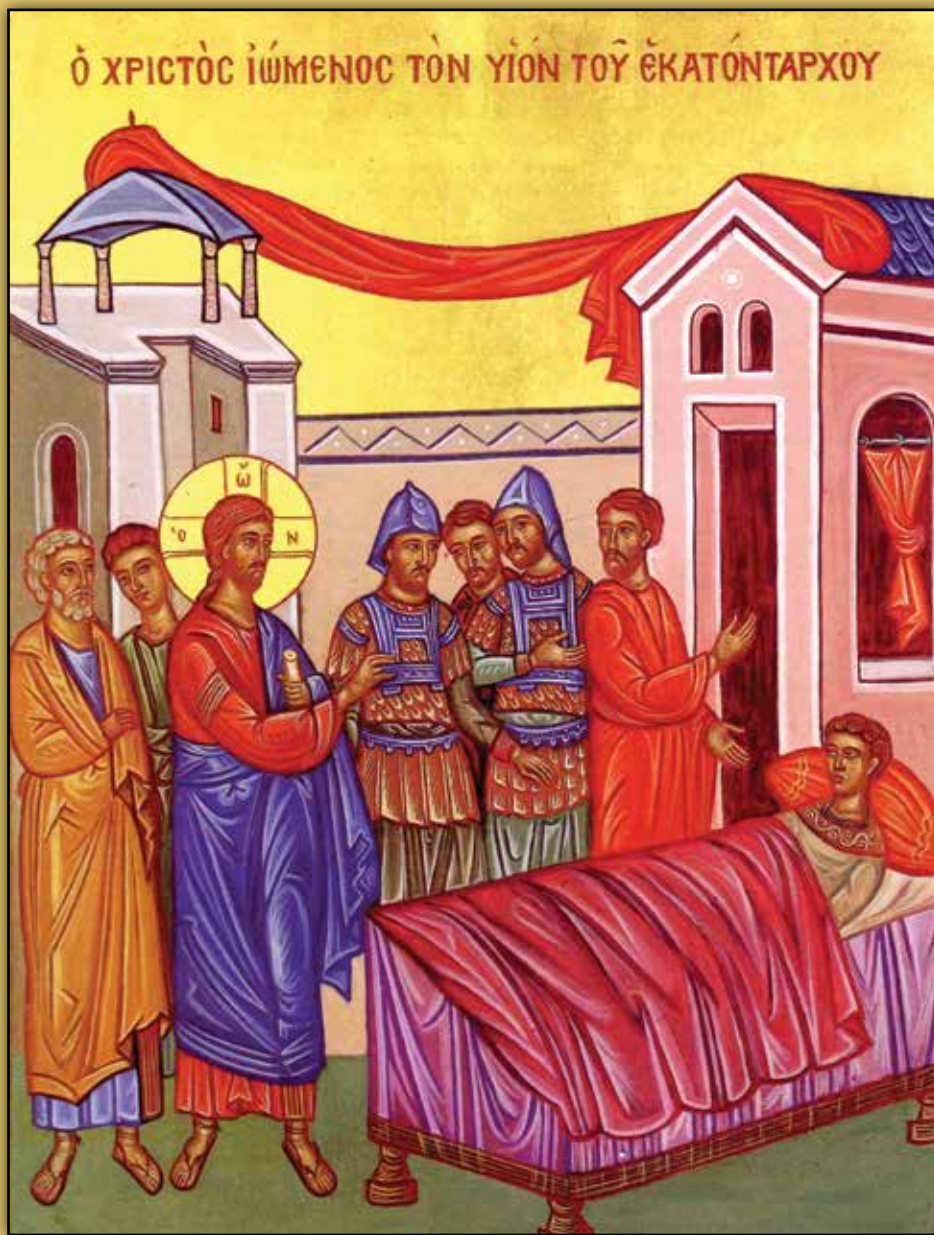


FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
FOURTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW



Icon of Healing the Centurion's Servant

June 28, 2020: Fourth Sunday After Pentecost		
Epistle: Rom. 6: 18-23		Gospel: Mt. 8: 5-13
Mon., June 29	Ss. Peter & Paul	
	9:00	+ Patrick Marcinko Jr. (Martynuk Family)
Tues., June 30	9:00	+ Rose Stine (Lauren Telep)
Wed., July 1	9:00	+ Evelyn Cheplick (Mildred Gogliewski)
Thurs. July 2	9:00	+ Fred Jacobs (Muchisky Family)
Fri., July 3	9:00	+ John Sereditch (Frank & Susan Lesnefsky)
Sat., July 4	1:00	Confessions.
	3:00	For Our Parishioners
Sun., July 5	10:00	+ Jacob & Ann Jablonski (Gloria Jablonski)

GUIDELINES FOR OPERATING PARISH CHURCHES FOR PUBLIC SERVICES ON SUNDAYS, HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION AND WEEKDAYS IN GREEN COUNTIES IN THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

1. The church should be cleaned/sanitized once a week when the public may be present, especially those areas and surfaces that are commonly used and touched (bathrooms, railings, doors, backs of pews, etc.);
 - A. While sitting or standing in the pews - between non-family members;
 - B. While standing or moving in the aisles in line for Communion and returning to the pews;
2. In GREEN counties of the state of Pennsylvania, there is no limit to the number of participants at the services as long as norms of social distancing are maintained;
3. Social distancing of 6 feet must be maintained:
4. Wearing masks is recommended for laity. Priests are obliged to wear masks while distributing Holy Communion;
5. Veneration of icons, crosses, etc. should be done without touching or kissing them. The Holy Water fountains must be emptied;

6. There should be no social gatherings after the services. People should leave the church promptly upon the completion of services;
 7. Please remind parishioners that if they are not feeling well that they should stay at home;
 8. Please remind parishioners that they are not bound by the Sunday obligation if they are ill, at high risk to contract the virus, or if for health reasons they are afraid to attend the services. Dispensation from Sunday Liturgy obligation remains valid until further notice;
 9. When distributing Holy Communion with a golden spoon, please instruct those who choose to receive to open their mouths wide, not touch the spoon, and not cough or sneeze upon it. The spoon must be sanitized immediately after each communicant by wiping it with a cloth soaked in antiseptic or pure alcohol (at least 65-70%) and with a dry cloth afterwards. In the absence of a deacon or servers the tetrapod or other table can be used to place upon it the articles for disinfection.
 10. Celebrations of weddings, baptisms and funerals are allowed if all precautions listed above are observed. Water is considered to be safe since the virus spreads from person to person via air droplets;
 11. While hearing confessions, please observe social distancing;
 12. Collection baskets are to be left in designated places so that parishioners may leave their offerings without passing around baskets;
 13. Please refrain from choir singing due to closeness and danger of possible infections. Instead, please encourage the faithful to recite or sing responses.
 14. Live streaming of Divine Liturgies and other services from your church is recommended;
 15. Please keep the church well ventilated by opening windows or by turning on air-conditioning;
- Please consider other precautionary measures to ensure that our churches are safe and everyone's good health is maintained.

**THE PRAYERFUL WORDS OF A CENTURION AND A
PUBLICAN: A REFLECTION FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST—ALL SAINTS OF RUS' UKRAINE**

On the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, our Ukrainian Catholic Church remembers

All Saints of Rus' Ukraine.

In the tropar of All Saints, we learn that these were virtuous men and women “who glorified Christ: princes and bishops, monastics and martyrs, and steadfast confessors of Christian Ukraine throughout all times.” They lived the beatitudes taught to us by Jesus Christ in His Sermon on the Mount.

The saints “shine as bright beacons. . . . By their encouraging example, they serve communities of faithful throughout the Christian world.” (Kondak of All Saints)

The saints are ordinary people who led extraordinary, virtuous and holy lives, who are honored by the church. They are exemplars for us to follow and emulate and they also serve as intercessors for us in heaven.

In his three year public ministry, Jesus encountered many ordinary people from all walks of life—fishermen, Pharisees, adulterers, tax collectors, centurions—and all nationalities—Jews, Gentiles, Samaritans. He also cited ordinary people in the many parables He used to illustrate lessons as He taught His audiences and His disciples.

In the Gospel for today, the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, a centurion approaches Jesus with a request to heal his servant. The centurion, a person who had 100 soldiers under him, hence the name

centurion, was a military officer in the Roman legion that occupied the territory of the Jews. Yet he approaches this Jewish Teacher for help. When Jesus replies, “I will come and cure him” the centurion, in his humility says, “Lord, I am not worthy to have you enter under my roof; only say the word and my servant will be healed.” (Mt. 8:8)

And how does Jesus respond? He comments on the quality of the centurion’s faith. When Jesus heard this, He was amazed and said to those following Him, “Amen, I say to you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith.” (Mt. 8:10)

Jesus often comments on the quality of one’s faith, even if one’s faith is only the size of a mustard seed.

In one of the preparatory Sundays before the Great Fast, we recall Jesus’ parable of the Publican and the Pharisee which tells the story of two men going up to the temple to pray. The Pharisee was a religious leader; the publican was a tax collector for the officials of the Roman Empire. What does Jesus emphasize? The humility and prayerful attitude of the Publican, whose simple prayer was “O God, be merciful to me a sinner.” (Lk 8:13)

Let each of us ask ourselves, if we would encounter Jesus today, how would He evaluate the quality of our faith and the humility of our prayer? In the Gospels, He emphasized these aspects

of faith to the many people he countered and in His teaching parables. Would we be comfortable with Jesus's assessment of the quality of our faith?

The words of both the Centurion and the Publican have been immortalized in the liturgical prayer of the church.

In the Roman Eucharistic Liturgy, before the reception of Holy Communion, the faithful recite the words of the Centurion: "Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only

say the word and my soul shall be healed."

In our Divine Liturgy, we remember the words of the Publican when we recite the Prayer before receiving the Holy Mysteries, which includes, "O God, be merciful to me a sinner."

Two ordinary people, a Centurion and a Publican, whose humble and sincere expressions of faith, articulated through simple words, have become prayers of the Church.

BLM ACTIVIST CALLS FOR DESTRUCTION OF JESUS, MARY & SAINT STATUES, PRIEST & EXORCIST RESPOND

Over the last several weeks, activists destroyed numerous statues across the country in response to the killing of George Floyd. Activists also tore down two statues of St. Junípero Serra in California over the weekend.

Black Lives Matter activist Shaun King calls for the destruction of all white statues of Jesus, Mary, and the saints. He said in a series of tweets to "tear them down" because they represent "white supremacy."

King's first tweet reads, "Yes, I think the statues of the white European they claim is Jesus should also come down. / They are a form of white supremacy. /

Always have been. / In the Bible, when the family of Jesus wanted to hide, and blend in, guess where they went? / EGYPT! / Not Denmark. / Tear them down."

Fr. Bill Peckman of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Boonville, Mo. responded to the issue, explaining that "Jesus, Mary, and the apostles appear in various levels of melanin throughout the ages."

"God is not concerned about what divisions we human beings like to foster. I am pretty sure that the God who made us with various levels of melanin in our skin never assigned a moral value or level of ability/intelligence to those levels of melanin.

“...Images of Jesus, Mary, and the apostles appear in various levels of melanin throughout the ages.

“Mary, in her various apparitions, looks like a native to the place where she appeared (for example Our Lady of Akita, Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of Kibeho).”

Exorcist and psychologist Msgr. Stephen Rossi also commented on the country’s unrest.

On his blog, he explains that “America needs deliverance.”

Rossi works with the St. Michael Center for Spiritual Renewal. The organization developed the “Catholic Exorcism” app, which includes deliverance prayers for the laity.

“There are signs in our country of a demonic mentality infecting our communities. One of the first signs of the demonic is discord,” he says. “Outbursts of rage, anger and violence often accompany demonic activity; one sign of this in our country is a steady increase in terrorism.

“Finally, Satan and his minions think of themselves as victims and this mentality is increasingly pervasive in the USA.”

“Nevertheless, I believe our country is becoming increasingly demonically oppressed (not fully possessed!).”

“If our country is demonically

oppressed, then what must be done? As with any client who is oppressed, we start with closing the doors to the demonic. Stop sinning; stop practicing the occult; start practicing the Faith.”

“Love God and love the people... completely. Judge no one—left or right, republican or democrat, black or white.”

“Pray constantly. Invoke the Blessed Virgin. Pray that our little prayers and sacrifices be filled with the Spirit and share in the redemptive action of Jesus.”

Msgr. Rossi also responded to the violent protests.

“It’s important to distinguish between the right to peaceful protest and violence,” Msgr. Rossi said. “It is also important to distinguish between the important movement to end racism and senseless acts of violence.

“Historic monuments are typically government or other organizations’ property. No one has the right to tear them down without proper due process.

“While we can understand people’s outrage at the killing of George Floyd, mob violence is never condoned; One act of violence does not justify another.”

“Didn’t Martin Luther King say, ‘Hate cannot drive out hate; Only love can do that.’”

“If people want to change the world for the better, they must love, not hate.”

“The hatred and violence we are

experiencing cannot bring about a good end. Martin Luther King said, 'Hate begets hate; violence begets violence.'"

Our Lady, please pray for and protect the United States!

--*catholicpop.com*

SUMMER RAFFLE

The drawing for the Summer Raffle will be next Sunday, July 5th after the 10:00 Divine Liturgy . For those who have not yet made your returns, please

do so IMMEDIATELY. Remember, you cannot win if you do not turn in your tickets on time.

BAKED FISH DINNER REFUNDS

Anyone who purchased a "Baked Fish Dinner ticket, and desires to get a refund, is asked to see the person who

sold them the ticket. The money will be returned.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

During June, our Archeparchy will takes up the Peter's Pence Collection, which provides Pope Francis with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world. The proceeds benefit the most disadvantaged: victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Join

our Holy Father as a witness of charity to those who are suffering. Please use the special "Peter's Pence" envelope in your donation envelope packet box to make your offering. It is not too early to already submit your offering.

COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM...

The Collection Processing Team for the month of June 2020 is Team #2: Eugene Zinsky, John Turko,

Jr., Leonard Mitchko, and Michael Shumek.

Sunday Collection for June 20 & 21, 2020: \$2,400.00

THANK YOU to all the Parishioners who supported our Parish during the recent COVID-19 Quarantine. Your thoughtfulness and generosity is greatly appreciated. May God Bless all of you!

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

Nowhere in Israel Have I Found as Much Faith

In the Gospel we heard our own faith extolled as it was manifested by humility. The Lord Jesus agreed to go to the centurion's house to cure his servant, but he replied: I am not worthy to have you under my roof; only say the word and my servant will be healed. In protesting his unworthiness the centurion showed himself worthy to have Christ enter not his house but his heart. Yet he could not have said this with such faith and humility unless he already bore within his heart the One he was too overawed to have within his house.

In any case, there would have been no great happiness at the entry of the Lord Jesus within his walls if He were not present in his heart. ... The centurion's house He did not in fact enter, but He took possession of his heart. The centu-

rion said: I am not worthy to have you under my roof. The Lord praised the faith shown by his humility, replying: I tell you, not even in Israel have I found faith like this. He meant Israel in a physical sense, for the centurion was already an Israelite in spirit.

The Lord had come to the people of Israel, that is to the Jews, to seek out the lost sheep first among that people in whom and from whom he had taken flesh; but not even there, He says, did He find such faith. We can only judge a person's faith from a human viewpoint; but He who sees the heart and whom no one ever deceives testified to the state of this man's heart: on hearing the centurion's humble words He pronounced His assurance of healing.

St. Augustine of Hippo