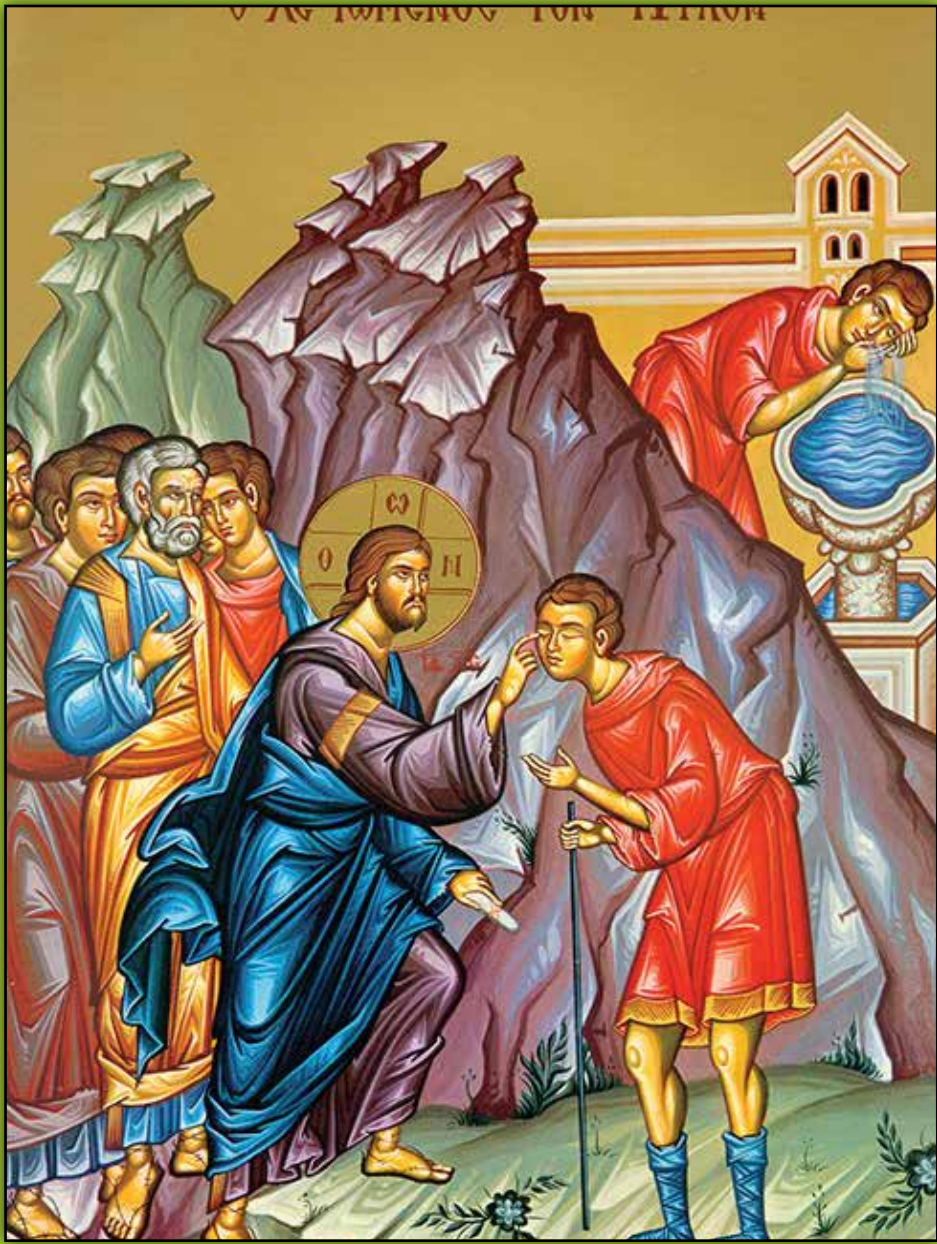
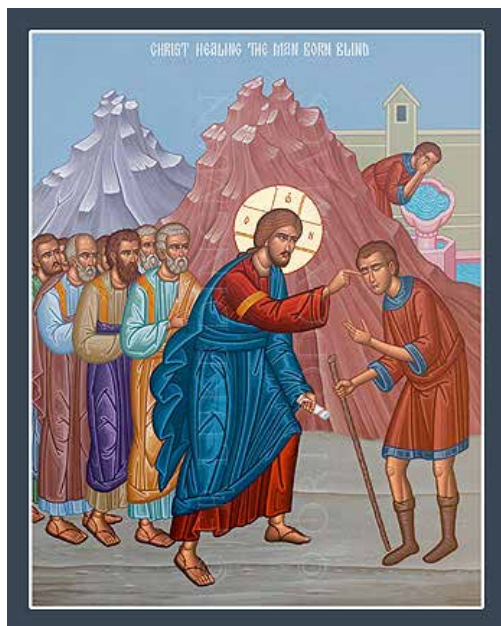


SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND



Icon of Christ and the Man born Blind

| May 22, 2022: Sunday of the Man Born Blind | | |
|---|---|---|
| Epistle: Acts 16: 16-34 | | Gospel: Jn. 9: 1-38 |
| Mon., May 23 | 10:00 | Funeral: + Victor Minajew |
| Tues., May 24 | 10:00 | Funeral: + Mary Nadrotowicz |
| Wed., May 25 | 9:00 | + Gabriel Drakes (Wife, Rosemary & Son, Tom) |
| Thurs., May 26 | Ascension of Our Lord (Holy Day of Obligation) | |
| | 9:00 | + William & Cecilia Granza (Bill & Jane Granza) |
| Fri., May 27 | 9:00 | + Victor Minajew (Andre Marcinko) |
| Sat., May 28 | No Morning Divine Liturgy | |
| | 2:00 | Confessions |
| | 4:00 pm | For Our Parishioners |
| Sun., May 29 | <i>At the Cemetery Chapel (Weather Permitting):</i> | |
| | 10:30 | + For Those Buried in Our Cemetery |



SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND

Today the Church celebrates the Sunday of the Healing of the Blind Man. This man, who had been “born blind,” encountered Jesus when the Lord was leaving the Temple in Jerusalem. The man was, apparently, begging for money or food at the gate of the Temple and when Jesus spoke to him he listened and was obedient to the Lord’s command. Unlike the other figures in the Gospel account, this man alone had never seen the miraculous works of Christ, and yet, trusted in his word. We too, who have “not seen and yet believe” trust in the word of the

Lord and follow in his ways. In this way, we, who were formerly blinded by sin, have begun to see through faith.

But, how do we trust in the Lord and follow in his ways? In the Epistle today, we are reminded on the conversion of Saul who, blinded by anger and his persecution of the Church, discovers that he is persecuting Christ himself and is called to join in the healing ministry of the Lord. We too, those who have been baptized into Christ and have received the vision of faith, are called to do “work[s]

befitting [our] repentance.”

And what are those works which we are called to do if not to follow in the ways of Christ and Saint Paul, to bring healing to those who are spiritually blind through ignorance of Christ? To help those to whom God has called us to minister “to open their eyes that they may turn from darkness to light, and from the dominion of Satan to God; that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those sanctified by faith in me.”

THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

The Acts of the Apostles records the Ascension of Christ in a very simple narrative. “*He was lifted up before their eyes in a cloud which took Him from their sight.*” (1:9). Our Church celebrates this event of Christ’s glorification. It celebrates all that Christ has done and accomplished for us. The Kontakion of the Feast summarizes all of Christ’s work:

When You fulfilled the plan of salvation for us and united all things on earth to those in heaven, O Christ our God, you ascended in glory, never leaving us but remaining ever-present. For You proclaimed to those who love You; “I am with you and no one else has power over you.”



The Icon of the Ascension is an icon of joy. It celebrates the meaning of this event for the Church and the world. The Ascension took place on the Mount of Olives. Thus, the mountainous background of the panel, dotted with images of scattered olive trees. The figure of Christ ascending in glory is surrounded by a circular nimbus composed of various bands of color, symbolic of the heavens. This nimbus itself is supported by angels whose presence is yet another indication of the glory and divinity of Christ. It recalls the Old Testament image of God enthroned upon the Cherubim.

In the foreground of the Icon, the image of the Mother of God is seen surrounded by two groups of apostles. Of prime importance is her position--directly below Christ. This entire grouping, the Mother of God and the Apostles, stands as an expression of the establishment and

role of the Church. The Icon includes not only those who actually witnessed the Ascension. It also includes the Apostle Paul, in the Icon at the head of the group on the right, who historically could not have been there. What is intended is that the Church witnesses to this event.

The Mother of God, she who had once carried the Christ within herself and was therefore the temple of the Incarnate Son of God, stands here as a personification of the Church, the body of Christ, whose head is the ascending Savior. The gesture of her hands, uplifted in faith and prayer, expresses the role of the Church, ceaselessly interceding for the salvation of the world. The direction of movement of this whole group, their gestures, the focus of their eyes and postures, everything is directed upward: toward the Source of Life of the Church, its head Who abides in heaven.

A THOUGHT FOR THE SUMMER ON CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Do we apply the same standards of faithfulness to our Church activities that we expect in other areas of life? If your car starts one out of three times, do you think it's faithful? If the paper boy skips the Monday and Thursday editions, aren't they missed? If you fail to come to work four or five times a month — does

your employer call you faithful? If your refrigerator quits for a day now and then, do you excuse it by saying, "Oh, it works most of the time." If you miss two out of twelve mortgage payments a year, does the bank say, "Well, ten out of twelve isn't bad?" PUNCH LINE: If you fail to worship God in Church, one, two or

more Sundays a month, can you be called faithful? If we expect faithfulness from other people and things... does not God

expect the same — and more — from us, His people?

OUR CONDOLENCES

We are saddened to announce that Victor Minajew, our Maintenance Man at St. Cyril's for over 15 years, passed away on Saturday, May 14, 2022, at the age of 64. We express our sympathy to his family and close friends. Victor's Funeral will

be held on Monday, May 23, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Sympathy cards can be sent to Victor's Wife Henryka at 635 Pine Street, Olyphant, PA. 18447. May his memory be eternal! Vichnaya Pamyat!

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE

Heavenly Father, Your Son taught us "Blessed are the Peacemakers for they shall be called Children of God."

In this time of great worry, we fervently pray that Your Holy Spirit sustain all the people of Ukraine to be vigilant and dedicated to peace and justice. Grant their leaders wisdom and prudence. Yet, may they also have the strength and perseverance to defend their land from all adversity and foreign attacks. Help us all to live according to your Divine Will.

O God, our Father, in the days to come, we beseech you to comfort the suffering, heal the wounded, and accept the souls of the faithful departed into Your Heavenly Kingdom. We ask also that the Most Holy Mother of God extend her blessed mantle of protection over our Ukraine.

Amen.

JON LEONETTI MISSION

St. John Vianney Parish invites all to join them for their Parish Mission featuring Catholic speaker, best-selling author and radio host, Jon Leonetti for a two night life changing event! Sunday, May 22, 6:30-8p WHO IS GOD AND WHY

THAT MATTERS. Monday, May 23, 6:30-8p GOD'S DREAM FOR YOUR LIFE. Held at Corpus Christi Church, 704 Montdale Road, Scott Twp., PA 18447. Read reviews of Jon Leonetti Missions at www.jonleonetti.com

MEMORIAL SERVICES AT OUR CEMETERY

As is the custom in our Parish, we will be having Memorial Services at our Cemetery. Weather permitting, THE MEMORIAL SERVICES AT OUR CEMETERY WILL TAKE PLACE THIS YEAR ON SUNDAY, MAY 29TH. BEGINNING AT

10:30 AM. THERE WILL ONLY BE ONE DIVINE LITURGY ON THAT SUNDAY. Following the Divine Liturgy, a Panachyda Service will be held to pray for all those buried at our Cemetery, after which, individual graves will be blessed.

OUR THANKS

The Food Truck Festival Committee would like to THANK ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS who helped to make our first Food Truck Festival of 2022 a huge success!! A financial report will be forthcoming in the near future.

We are very pleased to report that the BASKET RAFFLE for the benefit of the Humanitarian Aid Fund for Ukraine raised \$3,460.00! A BIG THANK YOU to all who solicited or donated baskets. The basket winners are as follows:

#6 Carolann Graziano
#8 Jacquie Edelbaum
#15 Maryann Pickerilla
#22 Dawn Foley
#26 Barb Halloran
#27 Leni Piasky – 2 baskets
#30 Leslie Kotcho - 2 baskets
#31 Allan Bayout
#52 Shirley Morgan – 2 baskets
#59 Nicole Schultz
#61 Rebecca Miscavage
#72 Karyn Mason
#76 Koryn Schwambach

#86 Daniel Wolf
#89 Jeanette Jones
#91 Karen Badyrka
#97 Anne Becker
#98 Sandy Krisler
#113 Carol Zadarosni
#115 Gary Bobrowsky
#118 Mary Keklak
#129 Dauna Mays
#133 Jo Ann Berta
#136 Deb D'Amico
#138 Joe Levine
#139 Elena Fauerbach
#147 Tracey Cutler – 2 baskets
#156 Paula Barkovsky
#179 Jule Harris
#180 Leslie Zadarosni
#188 Peggy Durkin
#191 Walter Demian
#193 Angela Bilski
#202 Carrie William
#214 Lisa Hannick
#217 Betty Jean Green
#234 Lou Ruspi

St. Cyril's 12th annual Rummage Sale is set for June 10th and 11th, 2022

We need your Newspapers and Boxes!!! Drop off at the school gym during scheduled times or after the Divine Liturgy on Saturday and Sunday, during May. Bring a few boxes or

a truck load!!! Check with the local liquor stores (Peckville, Dunmore) usually Tuesday or Wednesday when they get their deliveries, plus Aldis and grocery stores. We have “Flyers” for you, in the school gym, to drop off at your favorite restaurant, doctor’s office, post office etc .

Note: Flyers have been ripped off at various windows in our parish buildings. This is free publicity for our fundraisers, and we pay for these flyers to be printed. Please respect the volunteer’s work and accomplishments for the success of St. Cyrils Fundraisers. All flyers will be replaced, as they are ripped down.

St. Cyril Church (Olyphant) 2-DAY Sale, with a savings of 50% off ticket prices on furniture and thousands of rummage sale items. Plus specific pricing on certain merchandise: all books at .25 cents each (soft and hardcover: cookbooks, popular authors, sports, business, etc) all Album records .50 cents each, glasses* listed as .25 cents each, will be “2 glasses for .25 cents” and stuff animals* are .25 cents each (*few exceptions in the Vintage area), Untencils will be, 2 pcs. for.25 cents.

Volunteers are always needed. This week, Tuesday, May 24 from 9:45 a.m until 1:00 p.m and in the evening on Wednesday, May 25 starting at 4:30 p.m. until 7: 00 p.m. We need men to help out!!! Come for a while All your help is appreciated. Contact Father Nestor at 570-291-4451 or Lauren, Cell 646-241-9443.

The week of the sale, (for June 10-11) we are planning on setting up and bringing items from the school gym outside on June 8th and June 9th. Items will be covered with tarps and need men to help with the setup in the back of the Rectory, Garage, and School. Hours will be listed in the next bulletin.

Volunteers, family, and friends are needed for June 10th and 11th. We will have 4 cash registers open for the sale: The main checkout, the jewelry table, the express table, and the outside furniture check-out table. Volunteers are needed, especially for the morning shift when we open at 9:00 a.m (Arrive by 8:15 a.m.) Cashiers, wrappers, and baggers!!! We will be selling tickets for St. Cyrils Raffle slated to be picked on July 17, 2022. We will have lunch, on both days, for all volunteers.

“Customer Service” Help is also needed to hand out boxes to customers and help to carry them to their cars, etc...crowd control and security at the doors, direction to the portable toilets, refreshments, straightening of the merchandise on the tables, info on 50% off sale, and special priced items etc... A variety of positions for everyone!!! to lend a helping hand as we all work together for this major fundraiser for our church, as we all did for the St. Cyrils Food Trucks. Contact Lauren or Father Nestor for additional information. A momentary donation box will be available for Donations for Ukraine via the Philadelphia Archdiocese during the sale.

COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM...

The Collection Processing Team for the month of May 2022 is Team #1: Jerry Sereditch, Michaelene Davis, and Gloria Jablonski.

Sunday Collection for May 14 & 15, 2022: \$

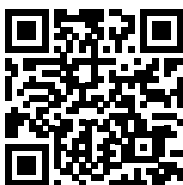
Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

135 River St., Olyphant, PA 18447-1435

Telephone: 570-291-4451 Fax: 570-489-6918

Web Site: stcyrils.weconnect.com

E-Mail: sscyrilandmethodius@comcast.net



Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

A Link to Baptism

The cure of the blind man also symbolizes mankind's means for its recovery from its blindness. It symbolizes the Sacrament of Baptism. Baptism is called holy enlightenment. Those who have been recently baptized are called the newly enlightened. This gospel from Saint John was read in the ancient Church on Holy Saturday when Catechumens were baptized. As this man is cured of his blindness when he washes in the waters of the pool of Siloam, as Jesus tells him to do, so are we brought out of darkness into a new life when we are baptized as Christ instructed us to be. Jesus restores His creation, mankind, with the potential to become what it was meant to be before the fall of Adam.

We also hear in the reading that after this man was cured many of those who knew him before did not recognize him. He is still the same man

but something has significantly changed about him. He is no longer blind. So when we are illuminated we are also new persons, though our outward appearance might be the same. To symbolize this newness a white garment is put on us to show the purity with which we start this new existence. We must, however, become different and unrecognizable in our inward and outward actions also. We must manifest our new existence to those around us through these actions. We must radiate this new found light to others by the way we live our lives. We must say to the world, "I am he who was blind but now my eyes are opened." Credit must be given to Him who has cured us of our darkness by living our lives according to the lessons of the illumination we have received and the continued guidance we get with the reception of the Holy Spirit.