

SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND



Icon of the Gospel of the Man Born Blind

May 10, 2026: Sunday of the Man Born Blind

Epistle: Acts 16: 16-34

Gospel: Jn. 9: 1-38

This Weekend	4:00 pm For Our Parishioners 10:30 For Our Mothers
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Mon., May 11	10:00 Funeral: + Mark Sawicki 6:00 pm Moleben to the Mother of God
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Tues., May 12	9:00 + Gene Turko, Jr. (Family)
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Wed., May 13	9:00 + Irene Hermanovich (Donna Hajos)
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Thurs., May 14	9:00 + Frank Evanitsky (Daughter, Michaelene)
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Fri., May 15	9:00 Health & God's Blessings on Eileen Kushner
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Sat., May 16	No Morning Divine Liturgy 2:00 pm Confessions 4:00 pm + Roman Kushner (Wife, Eileen)
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Sun., May 17	10:30 For Our Parishioners
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A REFLECTION ON MOTHERS' DAY

Today, we give thanks to our mothers for their gift of life and nurture by remembering them especially in our prayers, and with acts of affection and goodness. We fondly and gratefully recall their living as bearers of light in our earthly life. Mothers give special witness as active bearers of the light of faith to their children, to their spouses, and to the entire family.

Jesus said that a person does not light a candle and then put it under a basket for no one to see. The gift of our faith, the

light of our faith is meant to shine brightly. It is meant to be a source of rekindling the faith in others around us who may be struggling. Mothers seem to be blessed with a compelling grace to actively teach and model their life-giving faith to their children and to others. They plant the early seeds of faith in Jesus Christ and nurture it throughout their lifetimes. They do not surrender to being passive in the celebration of their faith for which all of us are so grateful. They are steadfast in their faith as witnessed by their stead-



fast participation in the Church.

The best testimony you and I can give to the gift of our mothers is to ourselves become bright bearers of the light of faith. Choose to nurture the seed of faith planted within you by your mother by learning more about your faith, your Church. Choose to actively share your faith with those whom you have been given to love and nurture in

your life. Celebrate your faith energetically and enthusiastically, and without reservation, in imitation of your mother's gift to you. Choose to put aside your passivity! It only limits and constrains the gift so freely given to you by your mother.

The Blessed Mother of God gave her passionate and unconditional 'yes' to celebrate God's plan through her. It led to a gift for all of us beyond our comprehension – God's saving plan for all of us in Jesus Christ, our Savior. The love and unconditional commitment of our earthly mother has given you and me opportunity to celebrate life and all its

wonders as recipients of God's love. In testimony to our loving mothers, let us live as bright bearers of light!

God bless all of our mothers in ways only He can for many blessed and happy years! May the souls of our loving departed mothers be granted eternal peace with Jesus Christ!

-- Archbishop-Emeritus Stefan Soroka

THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

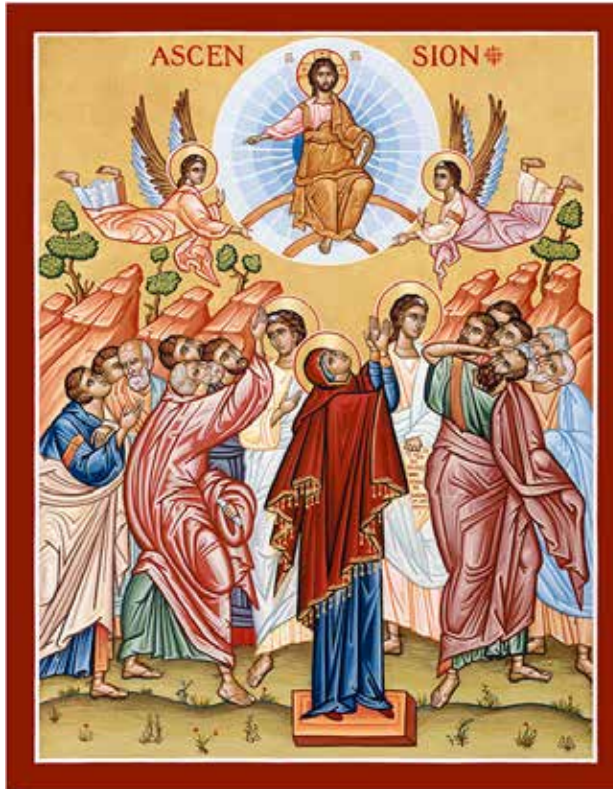
The Acts of the Apostles records the Ascension of Christ in a very simple narrative. *“He was lifted up before their eyes in a cloud which took Him from their sight.”* (1:9). Our Church celebrates this event of Christ’s glorification. It celebrates all that Christ has done and accomplished for us. The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

LITURGICAL NOTES ABOUT THE PASCHAL SEASON

This period of great festivity and joy finds its liturgical expression in the following manner:

Easter Greeting - we greet each other with the Paschal salutation, "Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!" for 40 days, until Ascension Day.

No Kneeling - Please remember that here is NO kneeling during the en-

tire Easter Season. Kneeling has been our position of prayer during the Holy Season of the Great Fast (Lent) as the expression of our humility and our repentance.

The Paschal Troparion - "Christ is risen from the dead" is sung or said at the beginning or end of all prayers until the Eve of Ascension.

MAY DEVOTIONS

The month of May is devoted to our heavenly Mother, Mary. A Moleben service will be offered on Mondays, at 6:00 pm. Come to Church, join us in

honoring her, who God first honored, by choosing her to be the Mother of His Son.

OUR CONDOLENCES

In your Christian Charity, please remember the soul of + **Mark Sawicki** who fell asleep in the Lord on Wednesday, May 6th. + Mark will

be buried from St. Cyril's on Monday, May 11th. May his memory be eternal. Vichnaya Pamyat!

PIGS IN THE BLANKET DINNER

Shopa-Davey VFW Post 6082 will be sponsoring a "Pigs in the blanket dinner" (Halupki) at 123 Electric Street, Peckville, PA, on Sunday, May 17, 2028. Open to the Public. Starts at 11:00 a.m. and runs until 3:00 pm (or until sold out). You can "sit in" at the Post House or "

Take Out." Free Parking. Each dinner ticket is \$15.00. Raffle tickets will be available for purchase.

Veterans interested in joining the VFW Peckville Post #6082, Contact Commander Puhulla. at 570-383=0501

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

We warmly invite you to join us for the celebration of the 10:30 Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 24th at the Cemetery Chapel, as we observe both Pentecost Sunday and Memorial Day Weekend. This is a special opportunity for our community to come together in prayer and to honor the

memory of our departed loved ones.

Following the Divine Liturgy, a Panakhyda (memorial service) will be celebrated, after which we will proceed to bless individual graves. We encourage you and your families to attend as we remember and pray for those who have gone before us.

RUN4LIFE

Registration is open for the 3rd Annual Run4Life 5K Run & 1.5-Mile Fun Walk!

Join Pennsylvanians for Human Life, Scranton Chapter, on Saturday,

May 30, at Nay Aug Park in Scranton for a morning of community, purpose, and support for the dignity of every human life.

Whether you are a runner, walker,

parent, grandparent, student, or friend of the mission, we would love to have you with us.

Event Details:

Date: Saturday, May 30

Location: Nay Aug Park, Schimelfenig Pavilion

Packet Pickup/Race-Day

Registration: 8:00–9:15 AM

Race/Walk Begins: 9:30 AM

Cost: \$25 pre-registration / \$30 race

day

Children 12 and under: Free

Online registration closes Thursday, May 28 at 11:59 PM.

Register here: <https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Scranton/Pennsylvanians-forHumanLifeRun4Life>

Thank you for helping us stand together for life.

BUS TRIP TO ATLANTIC CITY

On Saturday, June 13, the Friends of the Valley Community Library will be hosting a bus trip to Atlantic City! The bus will be leaving the library at 7:30 a.m., will be dropping attendees off at Resorts Casino at about 11:00 a.m., and will return to the library at approximately 10:30 p.m. that night.

Tickets are \$60 a person (\$63 for credit) and payment is needed to reserve your space on the bus. The tick-

et cost includes the bus and driver's tip. No rebates. Signup is available at the Library at 739 River Street, Peckville. For more information, please contact Ann at 570-479-0806 or valleylibraryfriends@outlook.com.

The Valley Community Library, a member of the Lackawanna County Library System, is located at 739 River St., Peckville, and serves residents in the valley area.

COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM

The Collection Processing Team for the month of May 2026 is Team

#1: Jerry Sereditch, Michaelene Davis, and Gloria Jablonski.

Sunday Collection for May 2 & 3, 2026: \$

Sincere thanks to all of you for your kindness and generosity.

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

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Web Site: stcyrils.weconnect.com

E-Mail: olyphant@ukrcatholic.org

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.