



+St. John the Evangelist Orthodox Church

Antiochian Archdiocese of North America
Metropolitan Saba of New York and all North America
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SUNDAY, MAY 07, 2023

TONE 3 / EOTHINON 5; FOURTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA

SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC

APPEARANCE OF THE SIGN OF THE PRECIOUS CROSS IN THE HEAVENS ABOVE JERUSALEM (351 A.D.);
MARTYR AKAKIOS THE CENTURION AT BYZANTIUM

Christ is Risen / Χριστός Ανέστη / المسيح قام



The Sunday of the Paralytic

On May 7 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Appearance of the Sign of the Precious Cross in the heavens above Jerusalem (351 AD); and Martyr Akakios the centurion at Byzantium.

On this day, the fourth Sunday of Pascha, we commemorate the Paralytic and, as is right, we celebrate the miracle wrought for him.

Jesus healed the Paralytic at the Sheep's Pool, located near the Sheep's Gate of Jerusalem, where people sacrificed their beasts and washed their insides. The pool had five sides, with a porch and arch on each. A number of people, afflicted with various diseases, passed through them, waiting at the water for an angel to come down and stir it. Once it moved, whoever stepped into the water first was instantly healed. One poor

man, whose story is recounted in today's Gospel lection in the Divine Liturgy, waited 38 years for someone to lower him into the water, because he was unable to move into the water himself. However, the Savior merely commanded the man to get up and walk, and he was healed.

THE EPISTLE (For the Sunday of the Paralytic)

O chant unto our God, chant ye.

Clap your hands, all ye nations.

The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (9:32-42)

In those days, as Peter went throughout all regions, he came down also to the saints who dwelt at Lydda. There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who was bedridden for eight years and paralyzed. And Peter said to him: "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; arise and make your bed." And immediately he arose. And all who dwelt at Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned back to the Lord. Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha (which means Gazelle). She was full of good works and of charitable deeds which she did. And it came to pass in those days that she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her, they placed her in an upper chamber. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him entreating him: "Come to us without delay!" So Peter arose and went with them. And when he arrived, they took him into the upper chamber. All the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and other garments which Tabitha made while she was with them. But Peter put them all outside and knelt down and prayed; then turning to the body, he said: "Tabitha, arise!" And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. And he gave her his hand, and raised her up. Then he called the saints and widows and presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

الرسالة (الأحد المُخَلَّع)

رَتِّلُوا لِإِلَهِنَا رَتِّلُوا. يَا جَمِيعَ الْأُمَّمِ صَفِّقُوا بِالْأَيْدِي.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ أَعْمَالِ الرُّسُلِ الْقَدِيسِينَ الْأَطْهَارِ. (9:32-42)

في تلك الأيام، فيما كان بُطْرُسُ يَطُوفُ في جميع الأماكن، نَزَلَ أيضاً إلى القديسين الساكنين في لُدَّة. فَوَجَدَ هُنَاكَ إنساناً اسْمُهُ أَيْنِاسُ، مُضْطَجِعاً على سَرِيرٍ مِنْذُ ثَمَانِي سِنِينَ، وَهُوَ مُخَلَّعٌ. فَقَالَ لَهُ بُطْرُسُ: "يا أَيْنِاسُ، يَشْفِيكَ يَسُوعُ الْمَسِيحُ؛ فَمُ وافْتَرِشْ لِنَفْسِكَ." فَقَامَ لِلوَفْتِ. وَرَأَى جَمِيعَ السَّاكِنِينَ فِي لُدَّةِ وَسَارُونَ فَرَجَعُوا إِلَى الرَّبِّ. وَكَانَتْ فِي يَافَا تَلْمِيذَةً اسْمُهَا طَابِيَّتَا، الَّذِي تَفْسِيرُهُ ظَبِيَّةٌ، وَكَانَتْ هَذِهِ مُمْتَلِئَةً أَعْمَالاً صَالِحَةً وَصَدَقَاتٍ كَانَتْ تَعْمَلُهَا. فَحَدَّثَتْ فِي تِلْكَ الْأَيَّامِ أَنَّهَا مَرِضَتْ وَمَاتَتْ. فَعَسَلُوهَا وَوَضَعُوهَا فِي الْعُلْيَةِ. وَإِذْ كَانَتْ لُدَّةُ بِقُرْبِ يَافَا، وَسَمِعَ التَّلَامِيذُ أَنَّ بُطْرُسَ فِيهَا، أَرْسَلُوا إِلَيْهِ رَجُلَيْنِ يَسْأَلَانِهِ أَنْ لَا يُبْطِئَ عَنِ الْقُدُومِ إِلَيْهِمْ. فَقَامَ بُطْرُسُ وَأَتَى مَعَهُمَا. فَلَمَّا وَصَلَ، صَعِدُوا بِهِ إِلَى الْعُلْيَةِ، وَوَقَّفَ لَدَيْهِ جَمِيعَ الْأَرَامِلِ يَبْكِينَ، وَيُرِينَهُ أَقْمِصَةً وَثِيَاباً كَانَتْ تَصْنَعُهَا ظَبِيَّةٌ مَعَهُنَّ. فَأَخْرَجَ بُطْرُسُ الْجَمِيعَ خَارِجاً، وَجَثَا عَلَى رُكْبَتَيْهِ وَصَلَّى. ثُمَّ التَّقَّتْ إِلَى الْجَسَدِ وَقَالَ: "يا طَابِيَّتَا قُومِي". فَفَتَحَتْ عَيْنَيْهَا. وَلَمَّا أَبْصَرَتْ بُطْرُسَ جَلَسَتْ. فَتَنَاوَلَهَا يَدَهُ وَأَنْهَضَهَا. ثُمَّ دَعَا الْقَدِيسِينَ وَالْأَرَامِلَ، وَأَقَامَهَا لَدَيْهِمْ حَيَّةً. فَشَاعَ هَذَا الْخَبْرُ فِي يَافَا كُلِّهَا، فَأَمَّنَ كَثِيرُونَ بِالرَّبِّ.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Sunday of the Paralytic)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (5:1-15)

At that time, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Hebrew called Bethesda, which has five porticoes. In these lay a multitude of invalids, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel of the Lord went down at certain seasons into the pool and troubled the water; whoever stepped in first, after the troubling of the water was healed of whatever disease he had. One man was there, who had been ill for 38 years. When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled, and while I am going another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your pallet, and walk." And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who was cured, "It is the Sabbath, it is not lawful for you to carry your pallet." But he answered them, "The man who healed me said to me, 'Take up your pallet, and walk.'" They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take up your pallet, and walk?'" Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. Afterward, Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse befalls you." The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus Who had healed him.

الإنجيل (لأحد المُخَلَّع)

فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارَةِ القديسِ يوحنا الإنجيليِّ البشيرِ والتلميذِ الطاهرِ. (5:1-15)

في ذلك الزمان، صعدَ يسوعُ إلى أُورشليمَ. وإنَّ في أُورشليمَ عندَ بابِ الغنمِ بركةً، تُسمَّى بالعبرانيَّةِ بيتَ حنذا، لها خمسةُ أروقةٍ. كانَ مُضطجِعاً فيها جُمهورٌ كثيرٌ مِنَ المَرَضَى مِنْ عُميانٍ وعُرجٍ ويابسِي الأَعْضاءِ، يَنْتَظِرُونَ تَحريكَ الماءِ. لأنَّ ملاكاً كانَ يَنْزِلُ أحياناً في البركةِ ويُحرِّكُ الماءَ. والذي كانَ يَنْزِلُ أولاً مِنْ بَعْدِ تَحريكِ الماءِ، كانَ يُبرَأُ مِنْ أيِّ مَرَضٍ اعتراه. وكانَ هُنَاكَ إنسانٌ بِهِ مَرَضٌ مُنذُ ثَمانِ وثَلاثينَ سَنَةً. هذا إذْ رآهُ يَسوعُ مُلقىً، وَعَلِمَ أَنَّ لَهُ زماناً كثيراً، قالَ لَهُ: "أتريدُ أَنْ تَبْرَأَ؟" فأجابَهُ المَريضُ: "يا سَيِّدُ، لَيْسَ لي إنسانٌ مَتى حُرِّكَ الماءُ يُلقيني في البركةِ، بَلْ بَيْنَما أَكونُ آتياً، يَنْزِلُ قَبلي آخَرٌ." فقالَ لَهُ يسوعُ: "قُمْ، احمِلِ سَريركَ وامشِ." فَلِلوَفَتِ بَرِيَّ الرَّجُلِ، وَحَمَلَ سَريزَهُ ومَشى. وكانَ في ذلكَ اليَومِ سَبَبَتْ. فقالَ اليَهُودُ لِلَّذي شَفِيَ: "إنَّهُ سَبَبَتْ، فلا يَحِلُّ لَكَ أَنْ تَحْمِلَ السَريِرَ." فأجابَهُمُ: "إنَّ الذي أُبْرأني هُوَ قالَ لي "احمِلِ سَريركَ وامشِ". فسألوه مَنْ هُوَ الإنسانُ الذي قالَ لَكَ "احمِلِ سَريركَ وامشِ؟" أما الذي شَفِيَ فَلَمْ يَكُنْ يَعْلَمُ مَنْ هُوَ. لأنَّ يسوعَ اعْتَزَلَ، إذْ كانَ في المَوْضِعِ جَمْعاً. وبعَدَ ذلكَ وَجَدَهُ يسوعُ في الهيكلِ، فقالَ لَهُ: "ها قَدْ عَوفيتَ، فلا تَعُدْ تُحطِئُ لئلاً يُصيبَكَ أَشْرٌ." فذهَبَ ذلكَ الإنسانُ، وأخبرَ اليَهُودَ أَنَّ يسوعَ هُوَ الذي أُبرأه.

Love your Neighbor

May- Project Mexico/ St. Innocent Orphanage

Project Mexico is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that performs works of mercy in the name of Jesus Christ, building homes for the poor in Mexico and by providing education and shelter for orphaned boys through St. Innocent Orphanage.

Young Adults/Young Families Gathering

Dear Young Adults/ young families,
Christ is Risen!

We will gather again, after stopping for more than 4 years, at the Jon and Larissa Geleris' house on Sunday, May 7 from 3-6 pm. The address is 110 Caminar Way, Walnut Creek CA 94596. Please RSVP to lkgeleris@gmail.com or (925)323-4924.

We will have a BBQ meal, fellowship and Bible study.

Sunday School Graduation

Dear Parents,
Christ is Risen!

I want to make you aware of a couple of important dates. We are approaching the last few Sundays of Sunday School and Sunday School Graduation.

- **May 14, 2023:** Last Day of Sunday School
- **May 21, 2023:** Sunday School Graduation. **No Sunday School**

We look forward to seeing you these next few Sundays of the school year and celebrating with a pizza party after our Sunday School Graduation.

Information about Donating Stock

Dear Parishioners,

One of our parishioners who has donated stocks to the building fund sent us some helpful information:

If a person holds stock that has appreciated in value and that has been held for at least a year, the benefits that can be gained by donating the stock – as opposed to selling it and donating the cash directly – are:

1. The person does not pay tax on the capital gains. For example, if they acquired the stock for \$10,000 and it is now worth \$15,000, then by donating the shares, they don't have to pay tax on the \$5,000 capital gains.
2. The person gets to claim a charitable deduction for the full \$15,000 value (subject to a certain percentage of the person's adjusted gross income.)

Here's some info: <https://www.investopedia.com/ask/answers/07/donatestock.asp>

Coffee Hours

May 7th	Pre Mother's Day Luncheon: a delicious luncheon is offered by Nelly Nassif, Mona Thayer, Hala Yowakeem and special dessert by Fadwa Samara. \$15 donations per adult is appreciated. Children 12 years and under are free
May 14th	Rihani and Nesheiwat families for Fadi's birthday and for the good health of both families.
May 21st	Sponsor Needed

Holy Oblations

This week, Holy Oblations are offered by:

- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Khalid Haddad** (Fairouz Freij's nephew), **Nick Nicola, Nadia Frangieh, Souhila Swies, Noha Schulze, George Messih** and **Aida Youakeem**. Many years!
- † Also, for the good health of their family!
- † St. John Parish Family for the good health of **Nick Nicola**. Many years!
- † Fuad and Nadia Swiess in memory of **Mounir Haddad**. May his memory be eternal!
- † Issa and Alexandra Samara for the good health of their newly born baby **Carmela** on the day of her entering the Church. Many years!

Candles for the altar table and in front of the icons of Christ and the Theotokos offered by:

- † Ibrahim Fasheh in memory of Hanada Fasheh for one full year. May her memory be eternal!



- † Altar Servers: Nathan Sweis, Clayton Morgan, Elias Freij, Angelo Freij, Andrew Freij, Mazyn Haddadin, James Dudum and John Dudum

St. John Orthodox Church
501 Moraga Way
Orinda, CA 94563

You could use this QR code for your donation





*Rocco's Ristorante
Pizzeria*

ST. JOHN'S PIZZA DAY

Mention St. John and 25%
of proceeds will benefit
our building fund

JUNE 1ST, 2023

**LUNCH AND DINNER
TAKE-OUT OR DINE- IN**

2909 Ygnacio Valley Rd,
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

URGENT APPEAL ON BEHALF OF CRAIG BROWN

Dear Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,
Glory to Jesus Christ!

Our parishioner Craig Brown has end-stage renal disease. He seemed to be a perfectly healthy person a year ago when suddenly in December of 2021 he almost lost his life. An autoimmune disease severely damaged his kidneys. His options are now limited to lifelong dialysis or a kidney transplant. Unfortunately, dialysis is a stop-gap measure to keep him alive.

Craig's life has changed completely over the last year. He suffers from terrible pain, exhaustion, and discouragement. He had to quit his job and many other activities that made him happy and healthy. He can't participate in the life of his Church, family, or community. At this point, only a transplant can offer him the ability to live a longer, healthier, more human life. Craig is at the end of a long line of 100,000+ people on the waiting list for a deceased kidney donor. He may not stay healthy enough to even be eligible for a transplant after so many years on dialysis. A much better option is to receive a kidney from a living donor!

Craig needs a new kidney, and I hope you will pray to our All-Merciful God, through the prayers of His Most-Holy Mother, and consider helping him! If you can't, please be his advocate by sharing this story with your family, friends, and fellow parishioners. If donating a kidney is something you would like to consider, please call me any time to talk or to get more information.

Yours in Christ,
Archpriest Basil Rhodes
Rector, St Nicholas Orthodox Church
Saratoga, CA 95070
(408) 867-0628



Fellowship Hall Construction Photos

