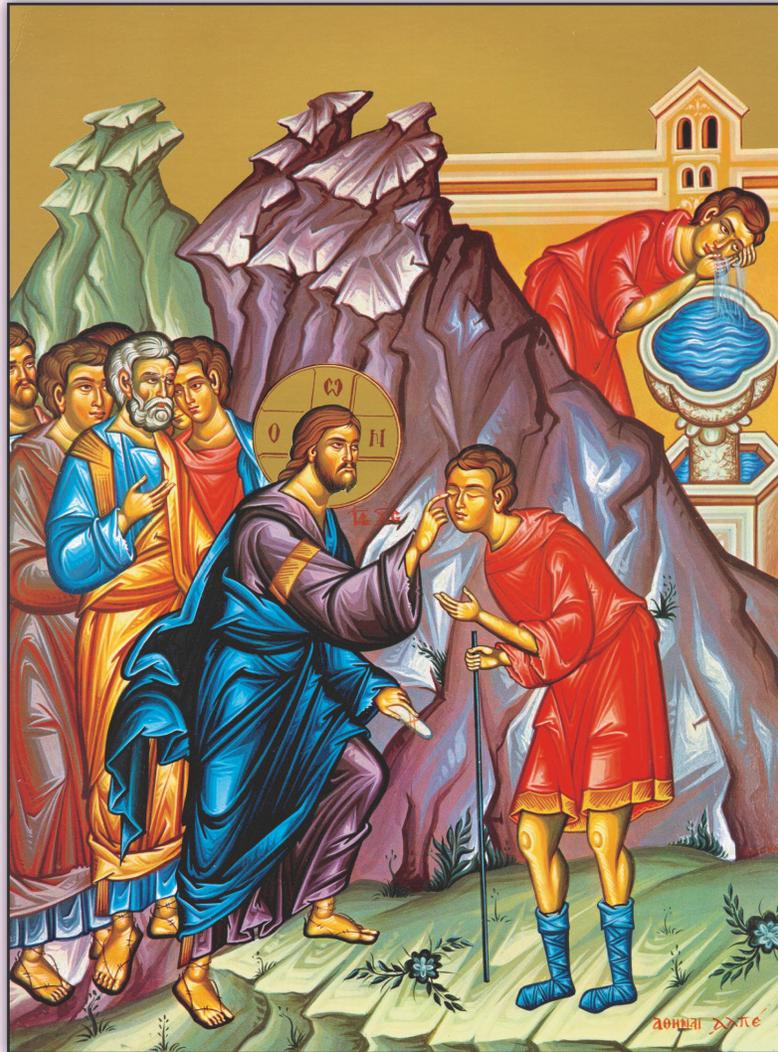


SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND



Icon of the Gospel of the Man Born Blind

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.

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St. Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church

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"The Byzz Line"



"Living the Word of Christ Together"

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May 13: *The Ascension of Jesus*

The Feast of the Ascension marks the completion of Christ's work of salvation. Having accomplished his mission on earth, Jesus returns to his rightful place at the side of the Father. Even though he no longer lives with us, the work of God continues in the world with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles which we celebrate next weekend. You might think that there is something a bit peculiar about the Ascension—something a bit strange about the image of Christ rising vertically to the heavens. The words used in the Acts of the Apostles are that Jesus "was lifted up while they looked on until a cloud took him from their sight."

Even though during his life on earth we know that Jesus could perform miracles, and seemingly, after the resurrection, could even appear and disappear at will, the idea of him rising vertically up into the sky is hard to understand.

There are many rustic sculptures and paintings amusingly showing a pair of feet poking out of a cloud in an effort to depict the Ascension. However it is portrayed, the Ascension of Jesus is a historical fact. Whether Jesus actually made a sort of vertical take-off, or whether he disappeared in some other way, he had to return to his rightful place with the Father in heaven. Once his work was accomplished—and this included a few post-resurrection appearances so that there was no mistake that he had actually risen, and some last-minute farewell words—Jesus had to return to the Father. He wasn't going to die again and so there had to be a mechanism which would permit him to return to heaven; and rising through the clouds is as good a way as any.



The important thing for us is that Jesus has accomplished the work of salvation and it is now our role to get on with making that salvation a reality for everyone in the world. If we think of the Nativity as marking the beginning of Jesus' work, then the Ascension marks its completion.

Thursday is a Holyday of Obligation. For your convenience, the liturgy will be offered at 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. We will have both Communion stations operative. The evening liturgy will be live-streamed.

May 9, 2021

Christ is Risen!

Liturgy Schedule

Monday	May 10	8:00 a.m.	Intention of Jerry Petrus by Paula Cepelnik
Tuesday	May 11	8:00 a.m.	† John Hanigosky by Matthew Hanson
Wednesday	May 12	8:00 a.m.	† John Trompak by Eric/Linda Primuth
Thursday	May 13		Ascension of Our Lord (Holyday of Obligation)
		8:00 a.m.	Intention of the Parishioners
		7:00 p.m.	† John Shirilla by John/Debi Shirilla
Friday	May 14	8:00 a.m.	† Jeanne Luckhaupt by Dr. Bogomir Kuhar
Saturday	May 15	4:00 p.m.	† John/Irene Trompak by Trompak Family
Sunday	May 16	10:30 a.m.	Intention of the Parishioners

		Altar Servers	Lectors
May 13	7:00 p.m.	B. & J. Hallis	
May 15	4:00 p.m.	D. Kattler & J. Bremner	B. Fortlage
May 16	10:30 a.m.	M. Masters & L. Tinter	S. Jaroscak

Sooner or later we all quote our mothers.

From the Pastor's Desk

We had our largest crowd last Sunday since the reopening. One hundred seventy-seven people were in attendance—that included about fifty outdoors in front of the church. I know we were celebrating the First Solemn Communion of four of our youngsters, (which meant there were numerous family and friends present) but it was nice to have that “crowded” feel once again for liturgy. Fortunately, the weather cooperated with mild temps.

Speaking of crowds, we had close to fifty people in attendance on April 30 for the Akathist to St. Joseph. About a dozen from here and the rest were our guests from Assumption Church in Broadview Hts. The people I talked with afterwards truly enjoyed the experience and Father Justin (pastor) and Father Louis (parochial vicar) echoed those sentiments. They both concelebrated. We'll be offering this service outdoors at the St. John Paul II Chapel on a monthly basis. (Next week's Byzline will announce the date for this month.)



Michele was on vacation this week which resulted in a bulletin deadline that preceded Tuesday's Advisory Board Meeting. Thus, the newly formulated Parish Mission Statement will be published in next weeks Byzline.

The Paschal Season ends on Thursday, so the for the final time until next year I'll close by saying “Christ is Risen!”

(Nora Tinter, Nolan Prandi, Reese Surso and Austin Misconish renewing their baptismal promises prior to the start of liturgy...photo courtesy of Dawn Tinter)

Post Resurrection

The tomb will be taken down on Wednesday and the Resurrection hymns packed away for another year. The shroud will be removed from the altar in time for the morning liturgy on Thursday.

“Be exalted above the heavens O Lord, and let Your glory be over all the earth” will be our hymn of praise!

A-OK Club

The A-OK Club will meet on **Monday at 7:00** in the hall.

Men’s Club

The Men’s Club will meet on **Tuesday at 7:00** in the hall.

Catholic Home Missions Collection

Next weekend the chancery has asked that all parishes join with Catholic Churches around the U.S. for the “Catholic Home Missions” collection. Our Eparchy receives support for this (**St. Louis, Omaha and Iowa outreaches**). If you are inclined to donate, mark an envelope as such and drop it in the offering basket. (Make checks out to “St. Joseph Church.” We will send a lump sum to the Diocese.)

Memorial Day

GCU Lodge 302 will once again sponsor Memorial Day Prayers immediately following the Divine Liturgy on **May 30** (on the oval). Anyone in attendance is welcome to remain. All veterans are encouraged to participate in uniform. A “Kick-off to Summer” luncheon will be held in the hall following the service. For more information contact **Jean Karaffa at 216-513-3854**.

ByzanTEEN Gathering

All **ByzanTEENS** are invited to the pavilion tonight at **5:00**. **Fr. Cyril Pinchak SJ and Fr. Lukas Mitro** will moderate what always is an interesting session. (Pick-up is 7:00.) The final gathering will be **May 23**.



Men’s Club Workday

The **Men’s Club** is organizing a **work-day** in the **pavilion area** on **May 15th** from **9:00-noon**. Specific attention will be given to the Stations of the Cross along the trail in the woods. If you can lend a hand that day, sign the list posted on the vestibule bulletin board. (Lunch will be provided at the close of the session.)

Your Weekly Offering

Sunday:	\$5240.00
e-giving:	245.00
Student Envelopes:	15.00
Cash:	50.00
Candles:	286.00
Holy Days:	262.00
Initial Envelope Offering:	8.00
Fuel:	10.00
Building Fund:	120.00
Good Friday:	10.00
Holy Saturday:	10.00
Easter:	30.00
Total:	6286.00

**Have you remembered St. Joseph Church
in your Will and/or Trust?**

Stewardship Update

We received an updated stewardship amount from the Diocese last week just after our bulletin deadline. We’ve made our goal! Thanks so much to everyone who participated. (Everything over the goal is returned to the parish. Pledges are still being accepted until the month of June.)

Goal...\$23,000.00

Pledged...\$28,079.00

Donors...82



Please remember all the sick/suffering in your prayers, especially **Natalie Santa Maria** (Marymount); **Bea Chruslic** (home); **Diane Balasz** (home) and **Lory Jaryga** (home).

Thank you!

Thanks to the **Men’s Club** for providing the nice gift to all mothers in attendance this weekend.



St. Joseph
“Worker” of the Week

“I did laundry for someone in need.”



Retrospect

By Glorianne M. Swenson

Today, I left the small fingerprints on the windowpane. I left the toy in the corner, and the dishes undone. I rocked her extra long as she lay peacefully on my breast.

Today, I held her hand as we walked the soon-to-be familiar path to her first day at school. She smiled and waved goodbye. She didn't see the tear in my eye or feel the lump in my throat. Later, I showed her the way home and listened to every little thing that excited her heart.

Today she met her first young love. He held her hand in his while his eyes spoke a thousand words of love. His future intertwined with hers as their hearts beat as one. I shared her joy. She couldn't see the tear in my eye or feel the lump in my throat.

Today was her day. A cap, a gown, a tassel! A celebration of all she had become and all she had to offer. A day of promise, new beginnings, and dreams. Where had my little girl gone? I wanted to hold her against my breast and rock her extra long.

Today was their day. The white gown, the music, the roses, the lilies, and the love. I let go of her hand. Yet, my arms remained open. This day of joy! She didn't see the tear in my eye or feel the lump in my throat.

Today was our day. God's gift to them. Their gift to each other. Their gift to us. So small, so sleepy, so perfect, so beautiful. I took her in my arms. Her little fingers curled around mine. I was older now—a grandmother! I held her against my breast and rocked her extra long.

Today was my day. She held me against her breast and rocked me extra long. I had left fingerprints in her life. She listened as I told her of my pain. Today, she was there to help me home. Today, I couldn't see the tear in her eye or feel the lump in her throat.

Today, she placed a rose in my hand. She remembered the fragrance of life and the bond we shared. Today, she placed a white lily on my grave while she held a small hand in hers.

Today, she held her against her breast and rocked her extra long. God saw the tears in their eyes and felt the lumps in their throats. He wrapped his loving arms around them and rocked them extra long.

PARISH INFORMATION

ACTIVITY CENTER & HALL RESERVATIONS: 440-526-0016

CONFESSIONS: One half hour before liturgies for fifteen minutes and by request

MEN'S CLUB: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

LADIES' AUXILIARY: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

A-OK CLUB: 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

COFFEE SOCIAL: Every Sunday after liturgy

EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION (ECF) CLASSES: Sundays 9:00 a.m.–10:20 a.m.

BULLETIN INFORMATION DEADLINE: Tuesday noon

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