



Weekly Bulletin

Orthodox Church of the Annunciation

The Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Troparion of Midfeast, Tone 8

In the middle of the feast, O Savior, fill my thirsting soul with the waters of piety, as Thou didst cry to all: "If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!" O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to Thee!

Troparion of the Samaritan Woman, Tone 8

The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith; she saw Thee, the Water of wisdom and drank abundantly.// She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified!

Sentenced to Immortality

Man sentenced God to death; by His Resurrection, He sentenced Man to immortality. In return for a beating, He gives an embrace; for abuse, a blessing; for death, immortality. Man never showed so much hate for God as when he crucified Him; and God never showed more love for man than when he arose. Man even wanted to reduce God to a mortal, but God by His Resurrection made man immortal. The crucified God is Risen and has killed death. Death is no more. Immortality has surrounded man and all the worlds.

— Blessed Justin (Popovich)



PASCHA CHRIST IS RISEN

Deus rescucitore
 ☩ Cristo está recusitado
 حضرت عیسیٰ اظہار ہیں
 Christos ist auferstanden
 Jezus Chrystus Zmatwychwstal
 Christos prisihele
 Hristos a Inviat
 Cristo Resorto
 Христос кyxвyты
 CHRISTUS RESURREXIT
 ԻՐԻՍՈՍՆ ՅԱՐԵԱԻ Ի ՄԵՐԵԼՈՑ

Krisztus Föltámadt
 Christ est ressuscité
 Christii Ungia
 Kristur er upstiginn
 المسيح قام
 Χριστός 'Ανέστη
 CHRYSTI RAIGAS
 耶穌基督已復活
 基督已復活
 耶穌基督已復活
 耶穌基督已復活

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΕΓΓΕΝΕΤΑΙ
BOCKPEE!

Christ is risen

基督
 复活
 了

耶穌基督
 已復活

Announcements and Activities

Great Vespers—Saturday, at 5:30 PM.

Divine Liturgy – Sunday, at 10AM

Coffee Hours— This week's Coffee Hour will be pizza. Next week's Coffee Hour will be sponsored by Luci F. and Linda D.

Episcopal Visit— What a joy it was to welcome Vladyka after years without an episcopal visit. Thanks to all to cooked, set-up and cleaned. I know His Eminence enjoyed the visit. It was truly wonderful to have the chance to introduce the new members of the parish to their Archbishop.

Website— Some of our folks noticed that our use of the google search resulted in being taken elsewhere than to our site. We are in the process of changing domains, AND of switching webmasters. We'll keep you posted, but if you encounter problems connecting, we are on top of it and it will not be long before we are back up and running.

Pray for... Hierarch Nikolai (Soraich)—battling cancer. Samir's friend, **Johnny, who has been improving in the battle to save his sight.** **Brian,** Sunday's brother. **George and Alex,** health problems. **Reposed Darrel,** Kyle's father. **Diane F. recovering from Surgery.** **Erika and Family.** **All those who have lost their lives or are suffering as a result of the current Pandemic .** **Archimandrite Alexander**— Fr. Lawrence's long-time father confessor, who reposed. **Kerrie Photine**— recent surgery, **Karen and Scott** — battling health issues. **Mitered Archpriest Basil**— a longtime friend of Father's, newly reposed. **Newly reposed Emiliana (Janie G.) and reposed Vadim.** **Maria S. hospitalized.** **Our Vladyka Benjamin**— battling on-set parkinsons. **Tsige Roman and Abraham**— I know we are always mindful of Tsige, but please continue to pray for the work and for Ethiopia, torn by civil war, with all the problems that go with a regional terror.

Concerning The Sunday of the Samaritan Woman:

In order to meet the Samaritan woman, Jesus chose a place which is particularly associated with the national tradition and religion of Samaria. The Samaritans liked to be connected with the patriarch Joseph. Now the land on which Sychar stands is near the portion that Joseph's father, Jacob, gave him, and it is Jacob himself who dug the well. Jesus, in his relationship with us, places himself willingly along the line of our origins, our traditions and our habits. And this, a disciple of his must also do, if he wishes to practice his discipleship. A common ground, a common language, with the person one is speaking to must first of all be found. Then dialogue becomes possible.

Jesus knows that the Samaritan woman will come to draw water at this well. A material human need can be a starting point for dialogue. The material will lead to the spiritual. Often, in order to intervene in my life, Jesus waits for some need on the material level to give him that opportunity. In the same way, if I wish to meet another man on the spiritual level, it helps to meet him first on the material level of everyday life and its humble needs and labors.

Jesus asks the Samaritan woman for a drink. He himself could have given this woman living water. But he, who could have been the giver, puts himself in the position of one who asks. Letting oneself be indebted to someone is often an effective way of opening the other one's heart. It makes one smaller than them. Humility and charity call reciprocally to each other.

'Give me to drink . . .'. The water that Jesus gives men to drink is the life of the soul carried to its highest potential. We all desire a certain intensity or fullness of life. But Jesus asks us to give him something of our own life. He wants us to seek in him that intensity to which we aspire. If to live is to love, he is thirsty for our human love. He is so close to us, and so humble, that he asks us to love him — 'Give me to drink . . .'.

He will respond to our love, which is so poor, with love that is infinite: 'If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water'. We seek to quench ourselves, to satisfy our thirst for love and intensity, our desire to live, by multiplying the objects we desire and that we possess. We run, gasping for breath, after sensations, after emotions, thoughts, beauty — and yet, ever and again, our thirst is unassuaged. 'Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again . . .'. But he to whom Jesus communicates his life stops being tortured by thirst — 'shall never thirst' — and even finds, O miracle! that this water in him becomes a living source: 'The water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life'. Not only does he drink at the source, but he becomes a source to others.

(Taken from *The Year of Grace of the Lord*, by a Monk of the Eastern Church)

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"There do not exist many or few, nor small or great problems. The only problem is the absence of Christ from our lives" (From the life and teachings of Elder Epiphanius Theodoropoulos)