



**Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Ukrainian Catholic Church
(St. Mary's)**

**6719 Token Valley Road
Manassas, VA 20112
(703) – 791 – 6635**

www.stmarysbyz.com

Reverend Alexander Dumenko — Pastor (301) – 421 – 1739

Sunday Divine Liturgies: 8:30 a.m.

Holy Days as scheduled in the Bulletin

DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

MAY 09, 2021

Sunday, May 09, 2021 Sunday of the Man Born Blind (Mother's Day)

08:30AM – For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners & in particular

For God's Blessings & the health of the living Mothers

& in memory of deceased +Mothers (Spiritual Bouquet)

Saturday, May 15, 2021 Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

06:00PM – For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners & in particular in memory of +Harold Haier

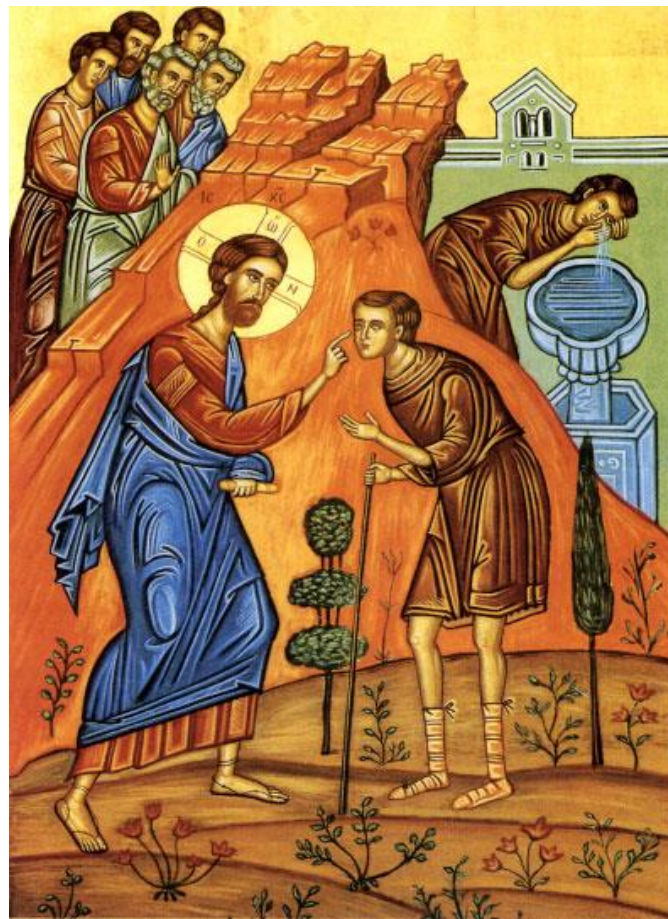
from Martha & John Stine

+++++

Sunday of the Man Born Blind

“Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him” (John9:3). These words were heard during the reading of the Gospel for this Sunday. It would seem that a great misfortune had afflicted this man: he was born blind, and he never saw the beauty of God's world. When people saw this man blind from birth, they immediately thought that God had sent him this misfortune as a severe punishment for his sins, or those of his parents, because children are often punished for their parents' sins.

And so the Apostles thought when they saw the blind man, and they asked the Savior: “Rabbi, who



sinned, this man or his parents that he was born blind?" (John 9:2). They heard the unexpected reply from his lips: "neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him" (John 9:3).

At first glance this is hard to understand: why should an innocent man be afflicted with such a misfortune? We are used to seeing God's glory and mercy in blessings that he sends us, not in misfortunes, sorrow, and afflictions; we thank the Lord when we receive His blessings and generosity, not what He sends us afflictions. When we meet with even the slightest reverse we cry out: "O Lord, why have you punished us!"

But then a joyful day came for the blind men, for the sun rose in the heavens for him, and he saw the sky and earth. What a great joy for him, who so thirsted to see God's world! "For since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind" (John 9:32), the blind man said after he was healed.

But, he saw not only simple, physical light, but his spiritual eyes were opened, and with the eyes of faith he saw the Light of Truth, the Sun of Righteousness - the Savior. Through God's mercy he who been blind, both physically and spiritually, apprehended the Fountain of Goodness - Christ. Moreover, this Eternal Light was revealed and became accessible to all. The long suffering a one blind men served to open the eyes of many to God's glory.

Have you ever noticed how people who have always enjoyed good health and are outwardly very successful, people who had little cause to suffer in life, are often insensitive, cruel, and blind to the sufferings of others? But if a misfortune befalls them, they cease to be proud and arrogant, and become kind - hearted, tender, and attentive to their brothers and sisters. Is it often the case that illness or unhappiness makes us better, and opens our minds to many things that we did not see before?

The Fathers of the church say that God sends afflictions to those whom he loves (Proverbs 3:12). He who is successful in everything and has no need of anything is forgotten by God. And indeed, all the righteous suffered, but the Glory of God shown even more brightly in them.

"Blessed is the man whom you chastise, O Lord" (Psalm 94:12). If the clay the Savior made to heal the blind man and his command to the blind man to wash his eyes in the pool of Siloam accomplished this great miracle, then the spiritual healing power of the Word of God, which opens and illumines our souls through the Light of Revelation, will act even more beneficially on us. In asking for God's mercy, let us say to the Lord in the words of the hymn: "I come to You, O Christ, blind from birth in my spiritual eyes, and call to You in repentance: You are the most radiant Light of those in darkness!"

V. Rev. Gerald Ozlanski

SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND

(Sixth Paschal Sunday)

The Transfer of the Relics (1087) of Our Holy Father Nicholas the Wonderworker from Myra to Bari and the Holy Prophet Isaiah (8th c. BC); the Holy Martyr Christopher (249-51).

Christ is risen from the dead! By death He conquered Death, and to those in the graves He granted life. (3)

Troparion and Kontakion:

Troparion (5): Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, and born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to suffer death and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

Troparion (4): The day of radiant feasting is here, the city of Bari rejoices, and the world exults with hymns and spiritual songs. For today is the sacred feast of the transfer of the precious and healing relics of the bishop and wonder-worker Nicholas. Like a never-setting sun he shines with radiant beams of light dispelling the gloom of temptations and grief from those who cry with faith: Save us great Nicholas, for you intercede for us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Kontakion (5): With eyes that are spiritually blind, I come to You, O Christ; and like the man who was blind since birth, I cry out to You with repentance: You are a shining Light to those who are in darkness.

Now and for ever and ever: Amen. Kontakion (8): Although You descended into the grave, O Immortal One, You destroyed the power of Death. You arose again as a victor, O Christ God. You announced to the women bearing ointment: Rejoice! You gave peace to Your apostles and resurrection to the fallen.

Prokimenon (8): Make vows to the Lord your God, and fulfill them.

Verse: God is made known in Judah; in Israel His name is great.

Prokimenon (8): Make vows to the Lord your God, and fulfill them.

Epistle: Reading of the Acts of the Holy Apostles. (Acts 16,16-34)

In those days, as the apostles were going to the place of prayer, they met a slave girl with an oracular spirit, who used to bring a large profit to her owners through her fortune-telling. She began to follow Paul and us, shouting, "These people are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She did this for many days.

Paul became annoyed, turned, and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." Then it came out at that moment. When her owners saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them to the public square before the local authorities. They brought them before the magistrates and said, "These people are Jews and are disturbing our city and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us Romans to adopt or practice." The crowd joined in the attack on them, and the magistrates had them stripped and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After inflicting many blows on them, they threw them into prison and instructed the jailer to guard them securely. When he received these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and secured their feet to a stake. About midnight, while Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God as the prisoners listened, there was suddenly such a severe earthquake that the foundations of the jail shook; all the doors flew open, and the chains of all pulled loose. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew [his] sword and was about to kill himself, thinking that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted out in a loud voice, "Do no harm to yourself; we are all here." He asked for a light and rushed in and, trembling with fear, he fell down before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you and your household will be saved." So they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to everyone in his house. He took them in at that hour of the night and bathed their wounds; then he and all his family were baptized at once. He brought them up into his house and provided a meal and with his household rejoiced at having come to faith in God.

Alleluia Verses: Verse: Turn to me in pity as You turn to those who love Your name. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Verse: Guide my footsteps according to Your promise, and let no iniquity rule over me. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel: (Jn 9,1-38) At that time, as Jesus was passing by, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him. We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can

work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed, and came back able to see. His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is," but others said, "No, he just looks like him." He said, "I am." So they said to him, "[So] how were your eyes opened?" He replied, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and told me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went there and washed and was able to see." And they said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I don't know." They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see." So some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, because he does not keep the sabbath." [But] others said. "How can a sinful man do such signs?" And there was a division among them. So they said to the blind man again, "What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." Now the Jews did not believe that he had been blind and gained his sight until they summoned the parents of the one who had gained his sight. They asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How does he now see?" His parents answered and said, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. We do not know how he sees now, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him, he is of age; he can speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone acknowledged him as the Messiah, he would be expelled from the synagogue. For this reason his parents said, "He is of age; question him." So a second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give God the praise! We know that this man is a sinner." He replied, "If he is a sinner, I do not know. One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see." So they said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?" They ridiculed him and said, "You are that man's disciple; we are disciples of Moses! We

know that God spoke to Moses, but we do not know where this one is from.” The man answered and said to them, “This is what is so amazing, that you do not know where he is from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if one is devout and does his will, he listens to him. It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he would not be able to do anything.” They answered and said to him, “You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?” Then they threw him out. When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered and said, “Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “I do believe, Lord,” and he worshiped him.

Instead of It is truly right... (Or the Hirmos of the Feast): The angel exclaimed to her, full of grace: Rejoice, O pure Virgin, again I say: Rejoice! Your Son is risen from the grave on the third day and has raised the dead. Let all nations rejoice. Shine in splendor, O new Jerusalem! For the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. Sing with joy and rejoice, O Zion, sing. And you, pure Mother of God, rejoice in the resurrection of your Son.

Communion Verse: Receive the Body of Christ! Drink the Source of immortality. Their utterance has gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Instead of Blessed is He Who Comes: Christ is risen from the dead! By death He conquered Death, and to those in the graves He granted life.

Instead of We have seen the true light: Christ is risen from the dead! By death He conquered Death, and to those in the graves He granted life.

Instead of May our mouths be filled: Christ is risen from the dead! By death He conquered Death, and to those in the graves He granted life. (3)

Instead of Blessed be the name of the Lord: Christ is risen from the dead! By death He conquered Death, and to those in the graves He granted life. (3)

Glory and Now: Christ is risen from the dead! By death He conquered Death, and to those in the graves He granted life. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Give the blessing

Happy Mother's Day!



The Wide Spectrum of Mothering

To those who gave birth this year to their first child—we celebrate with you.

To those who lost a child this year – we mourn with you.

To those who are in the trenches with little ones every day and wear the badge of food stains – we appreciate you.

To those who experienced loss through miscarriage, failed adoptions, or running away—we mourn with you.

To those who walk the hard path of infertility, fraught with pokes, prods, tears, and disappointment – we walk with you. Forgive us when we say foolish things. We don't mean to make this harder than it is.

To those who are foster moms, mentor moms, and spiritual moms – we need you.

To those who have warm and close relationships with your children – we celebrate with you.

To those who have disappointment, heart ache, and distance with your children – we sit with you.

To those who lost their mothers this year – we grieve with you.

To those who experienced abuse at the hands of your own mother – we acknowledge your experience.

To those who lived through driving tests, medical tests, and the overall testing of motherhood – we are better for having you in our midst.

To those who have aborted children – we remember them and you on this day.

To those who are single and long to be married and mothering your own children – we mourn that life has not turned out the way you longed for it to be.

To those who step-parent – we walk with you on these complex paths.

To those who envisioned lavishing love on grandchildren - yet that dream is not to be, we grieve with you.

To those who will have emptier nests in the upcoming year – we grieve and rejoice with you.

To those who placed children up for adoption — we commend you for your selflessness and remember how you hold that child in your heart.

And to those who are pregnant with new life, both expected and surprising –we anticipate with you.

This Mother's Day, we walk with you. Mothering is not for the faint of heart and we have real warriors in our midst. We remember you and we pray for ALL of YOU!

**On Mother's Day the prayer is offered
In Honor of:**

Behnke Family: Lisa Behnke, Mary Behnke

**Grynyk Family: Maria, Nina, Olqa, Olqa, Olqa,
Myroslava, Uliana**

Hunter Family: Mary Saupp, Elizabeth Hunter

McDonough Family: Elsie McDonough

Stine Family: Martha Stine

Troy Family: Dorothy Troy

In Memory of:

Behnke Family: Elizabeth Piel

**McDonough Family: Elizabeth Vayda, Elizabeth
Johnson, Anna Hertnick,
Julia Vayda**

**Nowicki Family: Helen Berezuk, Mary Berezuk, Marie
Nowicki**

Stine Family: Mary Louise Byrd, Mary Biggers Stine

**Troy Family: Mary Troynosky (grandmother) Mary
Troynosky (godmother)
Helen Katinowsky**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Parishioners and Friends! We welcome you to our Sunday Liturgy with the indoor service. Please keep in mind that social distancing applies and wearing a mask during the celebration of the Liturgy is mandatory to help stop the spread of coronavirus.

First Penance and Solemn Holy Communion This Sunday, May 09 at the Divine Liturgy, we will welcome Sophia Grynyk who will receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation. The day is full of faith, hope and love. Faith as we gather in Church, the great hope we have in this kid and the unconditional love she receives from her parents and family. An innocent day, I pray will be grace filled. May God bless & Thank you!

IMPORTANT! Please note that because of the Event of the First Penance & Solemn Holy Communion that will take place at the Holy Trinity Parish on Sunday, May 16th, the Divine Liturgy will be celebrated in our church on Saturday, May 15th at 6:00 PM instead of 8:30 AM on Sunday. Thank you for your understanding, and cooperation!

Support your Church In addition to caring for your neighbor and taking care of yourself, one of the most practical ways to help the Church is to continue to do what you have always done: support our parish with your financial resources. Please, continue to contribute to your parish, even during the period you are unable to attend the Liturgy, with your gifts of alms during this Great Fast. Parishioners' weekly contributions are the main source of financial support for our parish, and while some expenses may be a little lower during this time, parishes have many fixed costs that need to be attended to. You may send your donations to PO Box 2735, Manassas VA 20108

+++++

YOUR OFFERINGS Collection:

Sunday, May 01, 2021 -

Sincere thanks to all for your kindness and generosity to our Holy Church!