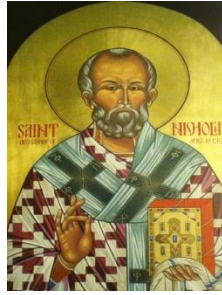


The Saint Nicholas Chronicle



ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

505 Jefferson Avenue, Scranton, PA, 18510

Fr. Daniel Vaskalis, Pastor
Rectory: 621 Vine St., Scranton PA, 18510
Rectory: (570) 344-5917
Parish Hall: (570) 344-1522
Church Website:
www.stnicholasorthoxscranton.org
***Fr. Daniel Cell: (570) 861-2712 ← PLEASE USE
Fr. Daniel Email: frdvaskalis@gmail.com

Jane Togher, Board President
(570) 842-3311
jctogher@gmail.com
Diocesan Website: <http://www.acrod.org>
Camp Nazareth: <http://www.campnazareth.org>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/acrodnews>
Youtube: <https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

SUNDAY MAY 7, 2017 – THE PARALYTIC

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, May 7 – Sunday of the Paralytic (The Fourth Sunday of Pascha)

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy
Blue Pew Book – hymns pp. 202-203
Epistle: Acts 9:32-42 **Gospel:** John 5:1-15
Panachida for Father Ronald Hazuda and Father William George.
Panachida for Anna Rodino given by Family.

Wednesday, May 10 – Mid-Pentecost Wednesday

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy
Blue Pew Book – hymns pp. 203-204
Epistle: Acts 14:6-8 **Gospel:** John 7:14-30

Sunday, May 14 – Sunday of the Samaritan Woman (The Fifth Sunday of Pascha) MOTHER'S DAY!

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy
Blue Pew Book – hymns pp. 205-206
Epistle: Acts 11: 19-30 **Gospel:** John 4:5-42
Panachida for all of our departed Mothers and Grandmothers.

Confessions: (30 minutes) *Prior to as well as following scheduled services.* When you come for Confession, please be prepared and sitting in the front pew. If you cannot make it for the scheduled service times, please let me know and we can set up a time that is convenient for you. Thank you!

Please Keep in Your Prayers

Living: Fr. Lawrence Barriger. Fr. Michael Polanichka. Fr. John Gido. Fr. George Hutnyan. Fr. James Gleason. Fr. Tom Kadlec. Fr. George Dursa. Fr. Donald Valasek. Fr. Jonathan Tobias. Fr. Michael Rustick. Fr. Nicholas Wyborski. Fr. John Zboyovski. Fr. Robert E. Lucas. Deacon James Phifer. Pani Donna Smoley. Pani Linda Barriger. Pani Peggy Teklinski. Reese: Eric, Tamsen, James, Gineva, Benjamin, and Thomas. Ann Richardson. Joseph Kacaba. Lorraine Kacaba. Lovie Swingle. Stephanie Bonk. Bill Wassel. Owen Bonn. Gloria Bracey. Susan Danchak. Michael Danchak. Jada Eiden. Madelyn Hodanich. Margaret Skotleski. Johnny Huniyack. Anna Mae Kuklis. Rose Markiewicz. Mary Phillips. John Polanichka. Karen Rolka. JoyAnn Scarnato. Amy Shimo. Faye Snell. Russell Spilka. Jeff Thomas. Janet Pugh. AnnMarie Tigie. Gary Wassel. Mary Kay Wroblewsky. Eugene Vaskalis.

At home: Michael Andreosky. Elizabeth Basalyga. Anna Senich.

Assisted Living: Julie Roberts. Marion Sosnowski. Delores Naglak. Mary Kneiss. Susan Danchak.

Eternal light: In memory of Patricia Snell given by Bill and Beverly Thomas.

Parish Life

FILL UP THE BREADBASKETS OF NEPA!

Please remember those families who rely upon food donations to help make ends meet! We have a food donation container in the Church Hall, and ***we need your help*** to fill this container with non-perishable food items: cans, dry goods, etc.

UPDATE: Five boxes of food were delivered to the Bread Basket this past Wednesday. They are truly grateful for the donation. Let us keep up the support, especially during the summer season!

“Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food...’”

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND OUR CHURCH:

April 30, 2017

\$665.00	General Collection
\$59.00	7 Day Light
\$16.00	Holy Days
\$93.00	Church Dues
\$10.00	Vigil Light
\$7.00	Eternal Light
\$11.00	<u>Taper Candles</u>
\$861.00	Total Collection

Altar Society Easter Bake Sale:
Profits: \$568.00

Parish News

- **Sunday School** will meet **Sunday May 21** immediately following Divine Liturgy.
- The **Church Board** will meet **Sunday May 21** immediately following Divine Liturgy.
- The **Men's Club** will meet **Sunday May 28** immediately following Divine Liturgy.
- **Please note:** The customary blessing of graves will take place this coming Memorial Day (Monday the 29th of May). Father Daniel will be going to each cemetery (there are four). There will first be a Panachida at each cemetery. Then for all those who wish to have the graves of their family members blessed, please let Father Daniel know which graves and where at the cemetery. *Thank you!*

Congratulations to **Courtney Elaine Cole**, the newest member of the Church! She was Baptized and Chrismated on Thomas Sunday. May God grant her many happy and blessed years! Christ is Risen!

Eternal Memory! Christ is Risen!

The Very Reverend Protopresbyter Ronald Hazuda reposed in the Lord this past Thursday evening (5/4/17). Along with being an esteemed member and treasurer of the Diocesan Consistory, he faithfully served the parishes of Sts. Peter and Paul in Newark, NJ, and St. Nicholas in Erie, PA. Kindly keep the newly departed Protopresbyter Ronald Hazuda and his family in your thoughts and prayers! May his memory be eternal! Christos Voskrese!

Father William George, pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Rockaway, NJ, fell asleep in the Lord this past Friday evening (5/5/17) from injuries sustained in a car accident. Father William was a wonderful, pious priest, a true servant of God, and a great friend of mine. Kindly keep the newly departed Father William, as well as Pani Amy and his entire family in your thoughts and prayers! May his memory be eternal! Christos Anesti!

Patricia Snell, sister of Mary Brizinski and Carol Wassel, passed away on Good Friday (4/14/17). She was buried at St. Nicholas Cemetery on Bright Wednesday. Please keep Patricia and her entire family in your thoughts and prayers. May her memory be eternal! Christ is Risen!

NEWS AROUND THE DIOCESE

(for more info, or to register, please go to www.acrod.org or www.campnazareth.org)

Camp Nazareth Alumni Reunion! - 40th Anniversary Alumni Day – May 20 2017

Fifth Annual Diocesan Family Camp! - Our Diocese is pleased to announce its fifth annual Family Camp at Camp Nazareth this year in conjunction with Family Day. The event is exactly what it sounds like. Families “camping” together in the Camp cabins and participating in a weekend of services, games, discussions, activities and challenges that are all designed to help families deepen their relationship with God and with one another.

This year's theme – “Your Family's Sacred Story”. Jesus and His family fled to Egypt. Noah and his family entered the ark. Abraham and his family left their home. Lot and his family fled Sodom. Stories of faith and God's mercy are part of every family's Sacred Story. Come learn about families of great faith in the Scriptures and be inspired. Share your own “Sacred Story” and help other families be inspired.

Family Camp is scheduled for Friday, June 9 – Sunday, June 11, 2017.

Each year we have a wonderful time together and we are looking forward to being together again this year. A variety of events and activities have been planned that will allow families to learn, have fun and pray together, and simply be together in the peaceful environment of the Camp. With the newly renovated and expanded cabins, together with the new High and Low Ropes Course the Camp has even more to offer our families this year.

Don't miss out on this opportunity for you and your family. Space is limited to the first 10 families, so register soon. Registration closes after Friday, June 2.

Young Women's Encounter! REGISTER NOW! – Plans have been announced for the Fourth Annual Diocesan Young Women's Encounter which will take place **from Sunday, June 25th to Wednesday, June 28, 2017** at Sts Peter and Paul Church in Windber, PA which is open to young women in our Diocese ages 12-18.

This engaging experience will include spiritual discussions and special events. Participants will explore the role of women in the church and develop and strengthen friendships with other Orthodox young women. The YWE will highlight ways young women can live our Orthodox Faith and serve the Church with their own unique gifts.

Registration information is forthcoming. Please watch www.acrod.org for the latest information.

Questions about the event may be directed to Pani Eleni Stagon at acrodywe@gmail.com or by calling 304-296-4319.

2017 Diocesan Summer Camp! Johnstown, Pocono, Southern Tier, Youngstown and Chicago Deaneries – Week of July 16-22. Register online now! Register at https://www.campnetwork.com/Register/Register.php?camp_id=396857

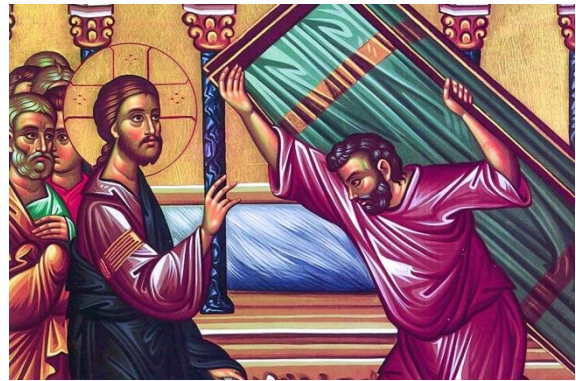
“THE PARALYTIC”

IMAGE from <https://www.goarch.org>

TEXT from:

The Church Year: The Celebration of Faith, Vol. 2

by Father Alexander Schmemmann



“ On the Fourth Sunday of Pascha (the Third Sunday after Easter) the reading from the Gospel of Saint John recounts Christ's healing of a paralytic. Having heard this account, many will respond that it's just another miracle, another unbelievable event that has nothing whatsoever in common with our life, interests, needs, questions... But we listen carefully and reflect: the gospel is so simple, and its stories so short, that a person of today is easily fooled by this brevity and simplicity. It seems to him or her that the truth about themselves and about their life must be complicated and cumbersome, because they themselves are complicated. But perhaps the gospel's ageless power resides in its reduction of everything to the most essential, elementary, fundamental: good and evil, light and darkness, man and God, life and death. And indeed, any focused and deep thought that involves not merely the mind, but one's entire being, in the end always concerns what is most essential. For all of life's complexity balances on the simplicity of eternal questions: good and evil, life and death, God and man. ”

“ So, in this particular account, what is eternal and enduring? At its center, very clearly, are the paralytic's words to Christ, 'I have no man.' This truly is the cry of someone who has come to know the terrible power of human selfishness, narcissism. Every man for himself. Looking out for number one. All of them, all that great multitude of blind, sick, paralyzed, are all 'waiting for the troubling of the waters,' in other words, waiting for help,

concern, healing, comfort. But...each waits by himself, for himself. And when the waters are troubled, each throws himself forward and forgets about the others... From the gospel's point of view, this pool is of course an image of the world, an image of human society, a symbol of the very organization of human consciousness. ”

“ Oh, of course, within the world one can find many examples of people who overcome egoism, examples of goodness and self-sacrifice. But even when someone has apparently overcome personal selfishness, he is still held prisoner by the category 'his.' He may have overcome bondage to himself as an individual, but then it is 'his' family, and for 'his' family, since 'charity begins at home.' If not family, then 'his' ethnic group or country. If not this, then 'his' social class, 'his' political party – his, always his! And this 'his' is invariably opposed to someone else's, which by definition becomes alien and hostile. We're told that this is how the world works, what can you do? But is this really true, is this really the ultimate, objective, and scientific truth about the person and human life? ”

“ Is it really true that everything in this world boils down to personal or collective self-interest, and that everyone lives by this? We are told that capitalism is wrong because it is self-serving and must, therefore, be destroyed in the name of communism. But self-serving is exactly what communism has been, constantly trumpeting its own worldview, its own class, its own party and so forth: its own against not-its-own, the other... And there is no escape whatsoever from this vicious cycle. ”

“ Unknown to us, however, we no longer feel suffocated by this world so totally drunk on all-consuming ego. We have become accustomed to blood, hatred, violence and at best, indifference. Sometime in the 1920s a young man, practically a boy, left a note and then committed suicide: 'I do not want to live in a world where everyone is playing a con game...' All of this was suffocating him, he could not stand it any longer. But we are gradually harassed into accepting this as normal, and the horror of self-centeredness we cease experiencing as horrible... This is what the gospel story of the paralytic is about. All these sick, helpless, paralyzed people are sick first and foremost with incurable narcissism. This is what brings a person to cry: 'I have no man!' There is no one! And this means that a person comes into being when narcissism is overcome; it means that human beings, above all, are a face turned toward the other person, eyes looking intently with concern and love into the eyes of the other person. It is love, co-suffering and care. The gospel also tells us that this new and authentic human being has been revealed to us, has come to us in Christ. In Him, the One who comes to the lonely and long-suffering paralytic is no stranger, but 'his own;' He comes in order to take up the sick man's sufferings as His own, his life as His own, to help and to heal. ”

“ ‘Do you want to be healed?’ This is not the question of someone intent on forcing, convincing or subduing others. It is the question of genuine love, and therefore, genuine, concern. Religion, alas, can also become narcissism, exclusively busy with itself and its own. But it is important to understand that this kind of religion, in spite of whatever Christian cloak it might be wearing, is in reality not Christianity... For the whole of Christianity consists of breaking through the terrible walls of self-centeredness, breaking through to that love which, in the words of Saint Paul, God has ‘poured into our hearts’ (Romans 5:5). That is Christianity’s new, eternal commandment, and the content of the entire gospel and all our faith...”

ALTAR BOY RETREAT 2017

When

Sunday, June 25, 2017 at 6:00
PM EDT
-to-
Wednesday, June 28, 2017 at
11:00 AM EDT

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

Registration is now open for this year's Altar Boy
Retreat. The dates are June 25-28.

As always, this promises to be a very enjoyable and
spiritually uplifting time for the Altar Servers of our
Diocese.

Where

Christ the Savior Seminary
225 Chandler Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15906

Please use the link below to get more information and to
register for the event.

[Register Now!](#)

Thank you for your continued support of the Altar Boy
Retreat and we hope to see your Altar Server there!

Sincerely,

Fr. David Cochran

American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese of North
America

pauldcochran@gmail.com

[203-339-1913](tel:203-339-1913)

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=oblwu7zab&oeidk=a07edvuj77d52f7b0a2>