

## Sunday of the Paralytic

Many miracles in the Old Testament involve water. To name but a few, the water of the Nile turned to blood after Moses lifted his rod and struck the water before Pharaoh and His servants (Exodus 7:20). Not only was the Nile turned to blood, but also "their rivers, their canals, their ponds, and all their pools of water, that they may become blood; and there shall be blood throughout the land of Egypt, both in vessels of wood and in vessels of stone" (Exodus 7:19).

In chapter 14 of Exodus, Moses divided the waters of the Red Sea, and the Hebrews passed over as if on dry land. When they were safely across, the waters came together, and their Egyptian pursuers were drowned.

On their forty year journey to the Promised Land, the Hebrews camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for them to drink. The people murmured against Moses, asking him why he had led them out of Egypt. God told Moses to strike the rock at Horeb. Then water came out of it so that everyone could drink (Exodus 17:6).

In Judges 6:36-40 we read about Gideon and the dew on the fleece. When Gideon squeezed the fleece, there was enough to fill a bowl with water.

On the Fourth Sunday of Pascha, the Church remembers the man who lay paralyzed at the Sheep Pool in Jerusalem for thirty-eight years, waiting for someone to put him into the pool. The first person to enter the pool after an Angel troubled the water would be healed of his infirmities, but someone always entered the pool before him. Seeing the man, the Lord felt compassion for him and healed him.

The Lord healed the paralytic during the days of the Passover, when He had gone to Jerusalem for the Feast, and He remained there teaching and working miracles. According to Saint John the Theologian, this miracle took place on the Sabbath.

Like some Old Testament miracles, many of Christ's miracles also involved water, and they prefigure the Church's Baptism, which cleanses us of every sin. In the Sheep Pool, once a year, only one person was healed, but Christ saves endless multitudes by divine Baptism. Sometimes, as in the case of Saint Vladimir (July 15), Baptism can also heal our bodily infirmities.

In the Canon for the Paralytic, the Angel who stirred the water in the Sheep Pool is identified as the Archangel Michael. Some of the Troparia call him "Leader of the Angels," and "Supreme Commander" (Ode 1). In Ode 3 we ask him to "protect us from falling into the passions of life." In Ode 6, we ask Saint Michael to guide us on the paths of life." In Ode 8, we ask him to pray with all the Bodiless Hosts, that we may be granted deliverance from our offenses, correction of our life, and the enjoyment of eternal blessings.

As we remember the paralytic, let us ask Christ to "raise up our souls, paralyzed by sins and thoughtless acts" (Kontakion of the paralytic).

*Text and Image <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2022/05/15/37-sunday-of-the-paralytic>*



## ST. PHILIP ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the  
Antiochian Archdiocese

*His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH*



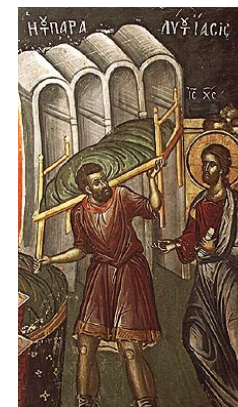
*His Grace Bishop THOMAS*



*Father Noah Bushelli, Pastor*  
215-954-9286



*Father James Thayer*  
215-692-0890



**May 14, 2022**  
**SUNDAY OF THE  
PARALYTIC**

**CHRIST IS  
RISEN!**

**Tone 3**  
Eothinon 5 St. Luke 24:12-35  
**Epistle:** Acts 9:32-42  
**Gospel:** St. John 5:1-15

**CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, TRAMPLING DOWN DEATH  
BY DEATH, AND UPON THOSE IN THE TOMBS BESTOWING LIFE.**

**RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 3 -** Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad; for the Lord hath done a mighty act with his own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of hades, granting to the world the great mercy!

### TODAY:

- ◆ Orthros, 8:45 am
- ◆ Divine Liturgy 10 am
- ◆ Coffee Hour, Sunday School, and Catechism

1970 Clearview Road, Souderton, PA 18964  
www.st-philip.net (215) 721-4947

**Emails:** office@st-philip.net nbushelli@gmail.com frjamesthayer@gmail.com

**Office Hours:** Monday through Thursday 10:00 - 3:00

Fr Noah & Fr James are available for hospital visits. If you or anyone you know is in the hospital or homebound and would like a visit, please call the church office.

## Weekly Ministries & Stewards:

	This Week:	Next Week (May 22):
PROSPHORA BREAD:	Sdn. Justin Gohl	John Child
ALTAR CANDLES:	----	----
USHERS:	Dan M. & Rdr Nick Muz	Sdn. John & Todd M.
ALTAR BOYS:	“Archangel Michael”	“Archangel Gabriel”
CLEANING TEAM:	The Moodys & Natalia M.	Todd & Kristi; Phil K.
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	Calvin; Angie; Dale	Kendra; Keiko

\* IT IS TIME TO RETURN OUR FOOD FOR HUNGRY PEOPLE OFFERINGS. Thank you for remembering the needs of others.

### Mark Your Calendar:

#### Mid-Pentecost

*Wednesday, May 18*  
Water Blessing 6:30 pm

#### Vigil for Sts. Constantine & Helen

*Friday, May 20, 6:30pm-1am*

#### Ascension

*Thursday, June 2*

#### Pentecost

*Sunday, Jun 12*

#### All Saints

*Sunday, Jun 19*

#### Apostles' Fast & Sts. Peter & Paul

*June 20-29*

#### Dormition Fast - August 1-14

Daily Paraklesis

#### Transfiguration

*August 5-6*

#### Vacation Church School

*August 8-12*

### Pray For:

Living	Departed
Newly-Illumined Timothy, Luke, John Metr. Onuphry and faithful of Ukraine	+Hieromonk Nikodemus +Tilomachos
Eugene & Family Nicole Raymond Sze-Tatiana Patrick Doris John John James James Lasha B Otari B Helen Wadieh Anna Anesia Mary Mary Claudia Gregory Alexei	(May Parish Diptychs) +Paul +Bahia +Kh. Jane +LuAnn +Lida +Donna
	<u>Catechumens</u> Christian, Taylor, Christina, Peter, Sarah, Alina, William, & Elsa Kate, Tyson, Joseph & Alana, Ryan, Zachary, Brandy, Nora, Gavinn, Lorelei, & Otto, Michael, Tina
●Priest Thomas, Jesse, Nathan and their families & all Missionaries	
●New & Expectant Mothers & their children	
●For the people of our land, our world, and their repentance, healing & unity	

## **SPECIAL APPEAL**

Three ways you can help as we are gearing up for another **Vacation Church School**, of growth in faith and love for God: 1) See Kate Gohl about volunteering; 2) Pray for Fr. Noah, leaders, and students; 3) Consider offering a financial gift to cover expenses.

### This Week:

Fr. Noah & Family on Vacation – May 12-16  
Fr. James on call

**Monday, May 16:** Church open

**Tuesday, May 17:** 6th Hour Prayers 12 Noon

**Wed, May 18:** **MID-PENTECOST**  
Water Blessing, 6:30 p.m.

**Thursday, May 19:** Church open

**Friday, May 20:** Vigil for Sts. Constantine & Helen 6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, May 21:** Altar Boy Meeting 5:30 p.m.  
**VESPERS at 6:30 p.m.**  
Confession 7:30 p.m.  
Men's Fellowship 8 p.m.

**Sunday, May 22:** **SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN**  
**ORTHROS, Baptism Prep. 8:30 a.m.**  
**Baptismal LITURGY (Zampino) 9:45 a.m.**  
Coffee Hour, Sunday School, Catechism  
Parish Council 12:45 p.m.

### OUTREACH COLLECTION:

Skin Care Products

### CHALLENGE FOR 2022:

"You are the Light of the World"

**OFFERINGS:** Candles, \$268.20. Collections, \$116. Youth, \$1. Book Shelf Ministry, \$100. Classical School Fund, \$150. Food for Hungry, \$256.40. Mission Chapel, \$71. Stewardship, \$2,240. Total received: \$3,203.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch (Acts II:26)