

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

Volume XVIII

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24 April / 7 May 2017

FOURTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA ((Tone 3) Commemoration of the Healing of the Paralytic

SERVICES THIS WEEK

4TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA (Tone 3)

Sunday of the Paralytic

Saturday, 6 May (23 April, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 7 May (24 April, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza (coffee hour)
12:30 PM Annual Parish Meeting

FEAST OF MID-PENTECOST

Tuesday, 9 May (26 April, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vespers, Matins & First Hour
Confessions

Wednesday, 10 May (27 April, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Lesser Blessing of Water

5TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA (Tone 4)

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Saturday, 13 May (30 April, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 14 May (1 May, o.s.)

8:40 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza (coffee hour)
3:00 PM Wedding of A. Straut & J. Neidig

NAMEDAYS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Week of 30 April

Namedays – May 6th (Great-Martyr George): Noah George Hotz; George Seneko.

Birthdays – 1st: Maximos Bibas.

Fallen Asleep in the Lord – 2nd: Euphrosyne Carris (+2012).

Week of 7 May

Namedays – 7th (St Elizabeth of Constantinople): Elizaveta Efuni.

Birthdays – 12th: Olga Welsh.

Wedding Anniversaries – 8th: Reader Gregory & Claudia Maxey (1988), Deacon Stephanos & Mat. Juliana Bibas (2005).

THE REST OF MAY

Namedays – 21st (Apostle John the Theologian): John Morrow, John (Jack) Welsh; 23rd (Blessed Thais of Egypt): Taisia Seneko; 28th (St Colman of Oughaval): Colman (Hugh) O’Beirne.

Birthdays – 15th: Katharine Bibas, Olga Chemodakov; 19th: Innokenty (Ken) Yanovsky; 24th: Gabriel Chemodakov; 28th: Johan Mladineo; 31st: Valentina Babitsch.

Wedding Anniversaries – 15th: James & Olga Welsh; 26th: Frank & Nina Fitzgerald (1996).

FASTING DAYS THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Commemoration & Type of Fast
<i>Wednesday</i>	10 May (27 April, o.s.)	Feast of Mid-Pentecost Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
<i>Friday</i>	12 May (29 April, o.s.)	9 MM of Cyzicus; St Memnon Fast: wine, & oil permitted

SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS WEEK

FOURTH WEEK OF PASCHA		
<i>Su</i>	Fourth Sunday of Pascha: The Paralytic	
	<i>4th Resurrectional Matins Gospel:</i> Luke §112 (24:1-12)	
	Acts §23 (9:32-42)	John §14 (5:1-15)
<i>M</i>	Acts §24 (10:1-16)	John §24 (6:56-69)
<i>Tu</i>	Acts §25 (10:21-33)	John §25 (7:1-13)
<i>W</i>	Feast of Mid-Pentecost	
	<i>Vespers Paramia:</i> (1) Micah 4:2-3, 5; 5:2-5, 8 • (2) Isaiah 55:1-3, 6-13 • (3) Proverbs 9:1-11	
	Acts §34 (14:6b-18)	John §26 (7:14-30)
<i>Th</i>	Acts §26 (10:34-43)	John §29 (8:12-20)
<i>F</i>	Acts §27 (10:44-11:10)	John §30 (8:21-30)
<i>Sa</i>	Acts §29 (12:1-11)	John §31 (8:31-42a)
FIFTH WEEK OF PASCHA		
<i>Su</i>	Fifth Sunday of Pascha: The Samaritan Woman	
	<i>7th Resurrectional Matins Gospel:</i> John §63 (20:1-10)	
	Acts §28 (11:19-26, 29-30)	John §12 (4:5-42)

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

We will have a meal today right after the Liturgy and before the Annual Meeting begins. All are invited to come to the meal and parishioners to remain after the meal for the Annual Meeting.

St Elizabeth's Annual Meeting will be held today Year-in-review reports for the past year are to be presented by the Rector, Church Warden, Treasurer, Auditing Committee, and Building Committee. Planning for the current year will also take place. Parishioner concerns will be heard, and Parish Council members for the coming year elected. All voting members of the Parish are asked to attend.

On Wednesday, the Feast of Mid-Pentecost, the fast is mitigated, with fish, wine and oil being permitted. On Friday, as on all the fast days of the Paschal season, wine and oil are allowed.

Wednesday is the Feast of Mid-Pentecost. It is twenty-five days after the Sunday of Pascha, the midpoint of the fifty days between Pascha and the Sunday of Pentecost. The services of Vespers and Matins for the Feast will be served in our church on Tuesday evening at 6 o'clock. On Wednesday morning, the Divine Liturgy will be served at 9:30, followed immediately by the Lesser Blessing of Water.

The Feast of Mid-Pentecost is celebrated for eight days, from this Wednesday through the Apodosia (Leave-taking) of the Feast on the following Wednesday. The troparion and kontakion of Mid-Pentecost are chanted or read at all the services of the Church during this period. The texts of these hymns can be found in *The Jordanville Prayer Book*. It is most appropriate that we add the troparion and kontakion of the Feast to our morning and evening prayers at home also.

Services next Sunday will be served a half hour earlier: 8:40 a.m. Hours and 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy. This is being done to allow the Straut and Neidig families to attend services before preparing for Anna and Justin's Wedding later that afternoon at St Elizabeth's.

Anna Straut and Justin Neidig will be wed next Sunday at 3 o'clock in the afternoon at St Elizabeth's Church. All parishioners are invited to attend the Wedding ceremony.

Orthopraxis During the Paschal Season

The Paschal time of 50 Days (Pentecost) is a period of festive joy. Throughout the entire period of 50 days, from the Sunday of Pascha until the Day of Pentecost, this joy is expressed liturgically in the following manner:

- The Prayer 'O Heavenly King...' is omitted during the entire period of 50 days.
- We do not kneel or make prostrations during the entire period of 50 days.

Pascha is not celebrated for merely one day, or even a week like other Great Feasts of the Church, but it a 40 day

Feast. Throughout the entire period of 40 days, from the Sunday of Pascha until the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord, we celebrate the Feast in the following manner:

- We use the greeting 'Christ is risen!' and the response 'Truly He is risen' throughout the entire 40 days of Pascha.
- The Paschal Troparion, 'Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and on those in the tombs bestowing life' is sung or said three times at the beginning of all Services and personal prayers for the entire 40 days of Pascha.

The Feast of Mid-Pentecost

Mid-Pentecost celebrates the midpoint between the Feasts of Pascha and Pentecost, falling on the 25th day of Pascha.

Mid-Pentecost is a one-week feast which begins on the Fourth Wednesday of Pascha, and continues until the following Wednesday. Throughout these eight days (including the day of the feast) hymns of Mid-Pentecost are joined to those of the Paschal season.

The theme of the feast is Christ as Teacher, based upon the words from the Gospel of the day (St John 7:14-30): "Now about the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and taught... Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me. If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself."

The icon of the feast depicts the young Jesus in the Temple in Jerusalem speaking with the Elders (St Luke 2:46-47), the first biblical example of Jesus as teacher (Rabbi). In traditional Orthodox icons of this subject, the figure of Jesus is depicted larger than those of the Elders, showing his superior spiritual status.

The Troparion of the Feast hints at the encounter of Jesus with the Samaritan Woman, which will be celebrated on the following Sunday:

In the midst of the Feast, give Thou my thirsty soul to drink of the waters of piety; for Thou, O Saviour, didst cry out to all: Whosoever is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Wherefore, O Well-spring of life, Christ, our God, Glory be to Thee.

The scripture verse from St John 7:37, quoted by the Troparion, will be read on the day of Pentecost.

