

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

Volume XIX

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA: The Healing of the Paralytic (*Tone 3*)

SERVICES THIS WEEK

4TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA: The Paralytic (*Tone 3*)

Saturday, 28 April (15 April, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 29 April (16 April, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Coffee Hour
12:30 PM Annual Parish Meeting

5TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA: Samaritan Woman (*Tn 4*)

Great-Martyr George the Trophy-bearer

Saturday, 5 May (22 April, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

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

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Coffee Hour
12:30 PM Annual Parish Meeting

SCRIPTURE READINGS Week of 29 April

FOURTH WEEK OF PASCHA	
Su	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)
M	Acts §24 (10:1-16) John §24 (6:56-69)
Tu	Acts §25 (10:21-33) John §25 (7:1-13)
W	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)
Th	Acts §26 (10:34-43) John §29 (8:12-20)
F	Acts §27 (10:44-11:10) John §30 (8:21-30)
Sa	Acts §29 (12:1-11) John §31 (8:31-42a)
FIFTH WEEK OF PASCHA	
Su	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)



FASTING DAYS Week of 29 April

Day	Date	Commemoration & Type of Fast
<i>Wednesday</i>	2 May (19 April, o.s.)	Feast of Mid-Pentecost Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
<i>Friday</i>	4 May (21 April, o.s.)	HM Januarius, Bp of Benevento Fast: wine, & oil permitted

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.

There will be no services for Mid-Pentecost at St Elizabeth's this year due to scheduling difficulties. There are services for the Feast at both St Alexander Nevsky Cathedral in Howell and St Vladimir's Memorial Church in Jackson.

St Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, Howell:

- Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. - Vespers & Matins
- Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. - Divine Liturgy

St Vladimir's Memorial Church, Jackson:

- Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. - Vespers & Matins
- Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. - Divine Liturgy

The Feast of Mid-Pentecost is celebrated for eight days, from this Wednesday through the Apodosis (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.

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.

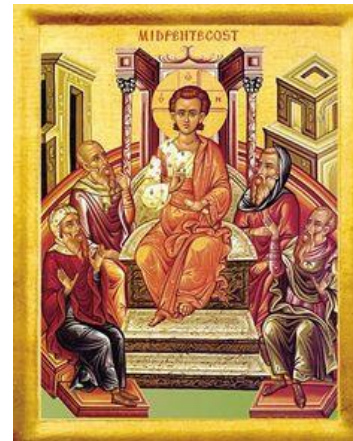
Pascha is not celebrated for merely one day, or even a week like other Great Feasts of the Church, but it a 40 day Feast. Throughout the entire period of 40 days, from the Sunday of Pascha until the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord, we celebrate the Feast in the following manner:

- 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.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Summer School of Liturgical Music at Holy Trinity Seminary, founded in 1992 with the blessing of Metropolitan Laurus of blessed memory, will take place this year from 15-28 July 2018. SSLM was established originally as part of a broader effort by the Synodal Liturgical Music Advisory Board of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia to raise the quality of church singing within ROCOR parishes across the Russian Diaspora, but almost immediately, the School expanded its mandate to welcome students from across all Orthodox jurisdictions, from all corners of the globe, as well as non-Orthodox students who wish to acquaint themselves with the unique tradition of Russian Orthodox liturgical singing. The two week summer sessions take place in the spiritually enlightening setting of the Holy Trinity Monastery in Jordanville, New York, where the students have the opportunity to attend services and to interact with the monastic brotherhood, whose support for the School has historically been deeply appreciated. SSLM is part of the Holy Trinity Seminary, and as such is accredited by the Board of Regents of the State University of New York. Classes take place in the Seminary’s classrooms. For complete information see SSLM’s website: <http://sslm.hts.edu>

The May Parish Council Meeting will be held on the 3rd Sunday of the month rather than the 2nd Sunday, in order not to conflict with Mother’s Day. All parish council members asked to make a note of this and are asked to try to attend, despite the change of Sundays.



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.