

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

Volume XVII

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9 / 22 MAY 2016

FOURTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA: HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC (*Tone 3*)
Translation of the Relics of St Nicholas from Myra to Bari

SERVICES THIS WEEK

4TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA: Healing of the Paralytic Translation of the Relics of St Nicholas

Saturday, 21 May (8 May, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 22 May (9 May, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Coffee Hour
12:30 PM Adult Study

5TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA: The Samaritan Woman

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

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

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

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Coffee Hour
12:30 PM Adult Study

NAMEDAYS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

LAST WEEK

Namedays – 21st (Apostle John the Theologian): John Morrow, Jack (John) Welsh.

Birthdays – 15th: Katharine Bibas; 19th: Innokenty (Ken) Yanovsky.

Wedding Anniversaries – 15th: James & Olga Welsh.

THIS WEEK

Namedays – 23rd (Blessed Thais of Egypt): Taisia Seneko; 28th (St Colman): Colman (Hugh) O'Beirne.

Birthdays – 28th: Johan Mladineo;

Wedding Anniversaries – 26th: Frank & Nina Fitzgerald (1996).

THE REST OF MAY

Birthdays – 31st: Valentina Babitsch.

MONTH OF JUNE

Namedays – 3rd (St Helena): Leana Brangwynne, Elena Golikov, Elena Kostin, Elena Kasimova (Vishnyakova); 14th: (St Justin Martyr): Justin Whitacre; 18th: (St Igor of Chernigov): Igor Artemov.

Birthdays – 2nd: Tatyana (Tanya) Morrow; 7th: Oleg Kostin; 10th: Gabriel O'Brien; 13th: Michael Golikov; 17th: Timothy Morrow; 18th: James Whitacre; 20th: Reader Nicolas Schidlovsky, Katharine Markevich; 22nd: Sergey Efuni, Jr., Evgeny Efuni; 23rd: Joanna Kostin; 24th: Gabrielle Komleski.

Baptism Anniversaries – 7th: Sbdcn Daniel Lieuwen (1993); 16th: Cliff Paul Brangwynne (2007).

Wedding Anniversaries – 17th: Sbdcn Philip & Jennifer Mary Hotz (1989).

Fallen Asleep in the Lord – 10th: Abraham Zimmerman (+2015).

FASTING DAYS THIS WEEK

Day of Week	Date	Commemoration and Type of Fast
<i>Wednesday</i>	25 May (12 May, o.s.)	Mid-Pentecost Fast: fish, wine, & oil permitted
<i>Friday</i>	27 May (14 May, o.s.)	Martyr Isidore of Chios 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: Luke §112 (24:1-12)</i>	
	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: (1) Micah 4:2-3, 5; 5:2-5, 8 • (2) Isaiah 55:1-3, 6-13 • (3) Proverbs 9:1-11</i>	
	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: John §63 (20:1-10)</i>	
	Acts §28 (11:19-26, 29-30)	John §12 (4:5-42)

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Many Thanks to the Darenkov family for the gifts of a beautiful hand cross for the Holy Table and a Censer! Theodore was able to bring these gifts back to St Elizabeth's on his return from a trip to Moscow at Pascha.

We will be having our Adult Study today at Trapeza. Our Study today will be a little different. We will be discussing today's Feast: the Translation of the Relics of St Nicholas the Wonderworker from Myra to Bari. Fr David and Deacon Seraphim were both privileged to go on a pilgrimage to Bari last year. The Adult Study will also be offered at the coffee hour next Sunday (the last Sunday of May) and the Sunday after that (the first Sunday of June). On these two Sundays we will resume our study of *The Law of God*.

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.* But St Alexander Nevsky Cathedral in Lakewood and St Vladimir Memorial Church in Jackson will be having services Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning for the Feast. For services times see their parish websites: <http://stalexandernevskycathedral.org> <http://www.stvladimirnj.org>

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 is 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.