

St. Mary's Orthodox Church
217 First Street, Coaldale Pa 18218
Phone: 570-645-2772

OUR WEBSITE: www.stmarysnativity.org

Rector: V. Rev. James Weremedic
Retired Attached: V. Rev. Paul Ropitsky
President: Dr. Ronald Berezniak

Sunday, May 3, 2026

Reader Hours: Gloria Bench
Reader Epistle: Chad Snyder



Paralytic

We welcome all our visitors today! We want to let you know that we are so glad you came to pray with us. Please come again; join us after the Divine Liturgy in the parish hall for fellowship. If you do not have a home church, we invite you to become a part of our parish family. **Only those Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through strict Fasting on the morning of the Liturgy, recent Confession and at peace with each other may approach the Chalice and receive Holy Communion.**

Services

CHOIR REHEARSALS - On Saturdays at 4:00 PM before Vespers. New members welcome.

Sunday, May 3	9:30 AM: Divine Liturgy, (Paralytic) Church School, Parish Council Meeting , Fellowship
Saturday, May 9	4:00 PM: Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, May 9	5:00 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions
Sunday, May 10	9:30 AM: Divine Liturgy, (Samaritan Woman) Church School, Fellowship
Saturday, May 16	4:00 PM: Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, May 16	5:00 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions
Sunday, May 17	9:30 AM: Divine Liturgy, (Blind Man) Church School, Chinese Auction Saturday,
Saturday, May 23	4:00 PM: Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, May 23	5:00 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions
Sunday, May 24	9:30 AM: Divine Liturgy, Church School, Fellowship
Saturday, May 30	5:00 PM: Great Vespers, Confessions
Sunday, May 31	9:30 AM: Divine Liturgy, Church School, Fellowship

Prayer List*:

Robert Boguski, Elizabeth Brennan, Bob Brunda, Jeanne Cannon, Todd Cleary, William Evetushick, Julia Forte, Nancy King, Olga Kushnir, Anna Marie Mantey, Dorothy Macenka, Paul Macenka, Olga Martsyniv, Dave Mazaika, Tom McCarthy, Ron Pierce, Millie O'Shura, Melissa Schmitt, Altheia Rosahac Shellock, Olga Sidoriak, Jolie Skelton, Amanda Skripnek, SD James Weremedic, Jr.

* Names will cycle off approximately every 30 days. You may request to have your name or the name of a loved one placed back on the list at any time by contacting Fr. James directly.

Chinese Auction, Sunday, May 17th

Gifts and Monetary Donations are needed to make our affair a success. Please see Marie Skripnek or Helen King to donate. Volunteers are always welcome.

Our Indoor/ Outdoor Spring Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, May 9th from 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Your donations would be greatly appreciated and accepted on the following dates and times: Tuesday, April 28th and Thursday, April 30th between the hours of 11:00 A.M. - 2:00P.M. Tuesday, May 5th and Thursday, May 7th from 12:00 - 3:00. Donations may also be brought to the church basement immediately following Liturgy.

If you are able to volunteer a few hours of your time on the day of the sale, we would love to have you join us. 🙏❤️

If anyone is in need of a priest, please call Father James Weremedic at 570-764-4323.

Visitation of the Sick and Infirm: If you are going into the hospital for any reason, please inform Fr. James at the Rectory. Emergency Calls: Please call (570-764-4323) anytime (day or night) in an emergency.

Candles May 3

7/Day Vigils-Altar: In memory of Michael Harb offered by Jeannie & John Cannon

Altar Candles: In memory of Dorothy Mamyrch offered by Julia Forte

Eternal Lamp: In memory of Helen & George Ostrosky offered by Martha Kinn

7/Day Tetrapod: In health of Anne Ostrosky offered by Marie Kalavritinos

Vigil Crosses: In memory Kinn family Andre, Mary, Harold, Joseph, John & Mary offered by Martha Kinn

May Birthdays: 1-Daniel Herbert, 5- Gabriel Melber, Sal Herbert, 10- Thomas Herbert, 11- Stephanie Melber, 17- Julia Forte, Russell King, 21- Lindsey Ruch,

May Anniversaries: 9- Richard & Julie McHugh

If you have any Redner receipts, please call or get them to Helen King.

Please use your Boyer's card when shopping at Boyers; if you need one call Helen King.

Financials 4/26/2026: Envelopes \$ 524, Non-Envelope \$ 28, Candles \$ 58, Donations: \$ 1,170, F.U.E.L. \$ 10, Building: \$55

How much is my tithe?!

Weekly Income	10%	5%	4%	2%
\$200	\$20	\$10	\$8	\$4
\$500	\$50	\$25	\$20	\$10
\$750	\$75	\$38	\$30	\$15
\$1,000	\$100	\$50	\$40	\$20
\$1,500	\$150	\$75	\$60	\$30
\$2,000	\$200	\$100	\$80	\$40

We are not required to bring a tenth of our income to the Church; we can bring twenty, thirty, or even one-hundred percent, as did the poor widow (*Mark 12:42-43*). But we can start with a small step. We can at least bring as much as the Old Testament Hebrews, at least the ten percent that rightly belongs to God and not us. But if we don't have as much zeal for the temple of God as the Old Testament people had, then the Lord will accept and bless even seven or five percent or any other amount offered with a pure heart. **We must begin somewhere!**

On Tithing | A Russian Orthodox Church Website (pravmir.com)

Date	Hours	Epistle	Fellowship Hour
May 3	Gloria Bench	Chad Snyder	John Evetushick
May 10	Curtis Wetzel	Michael Ropitsky	Mother's Day
May 17	May 17	Edward Pierson	Chinese Auction
May 24	May 24	Mat. Lisa	

May 3, 2026 Paralytic

(at the Divine Liturgy)

Priest: "Blessed is the Kingdom..."

Choir: "Amen."

Priest: "Christ is risen..." (2 ½ times)

Choir: "and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!"

(The Divine Liturgy is begun in this manner until the Leavetaking of Pascha.)

Tone 3 Troparion (Resurrection)

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down death by death. He has become the first born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted to the world // great mercy.

Tone 3 Kontakion (Pentecostarion)

By Your divine intercession, O Lord, as You raised up the Paralytic of old, so raise up my soul, paralyzed by sins and thoughtless acts; so that being saved I may sing to You: //

"Glory to Your power, O compassionate Christ!"

Tone 8 Kontakion (Pascha)

You descended into the tomb, O Immortal, You destroyed the power of death. In victory You arose, O Christ God, proclaiming: "Rejoice!" to the Myrrhbearing Women, // granting peace to Your Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

Tone 1 Prokeimenon (Pentecostarion)

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us /as we have set our hope on You!

V. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just!

Acts 9:32-42 (Epistle)

Now it came to pass, as Peter went through all parts of the country, that he also came down to the saints who dwelt in Lydda. There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden eight years and was paralyzed. And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Arise and make your bed." Then he arose immediately. So all who dwelt at Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord. At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated Dorcas. This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did. But it happened in those days that she became sick and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. And since Lydda was near Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him, imploring him not to delay in coming to them. Then Peter arose and went with them. When he had come, they brought him to the upper room. And all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them. But Peter put them all out, and knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. Then he gave her his hand and lifted her up; and when he had called the saints and widows, he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed on the Lord.

Tone 5 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

V. I will sing of Your mercies, O Lord, forever;

with my mouth I will proclaim Your truth from generation to generation.

V. For You have said: Mercy will be established forever; Your truth will be prepared in the heavens.

John 5:1-15 (Gospel)

After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me."

Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath. The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed." He answered them, "He who made me well said to me, 'Take up your bed and walk.'" Then they asked him, "Who is the Man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk'?" But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a multitude being in that place. Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you." The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

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 Rephidem, 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).