

St. Mary's Orthodox Church
217 First Street – Coaldale Pa 18218-1602
Phone.....570-645-2772
OUR WEBSITE...www.stmarysnativity.org

Rector: V. Rev. James Weremedic
Retired Attached: V. Rev Paul Ropitsky

Sunday, May 22, 2022
Choir Director: Wash King

SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

<i>Christ is Risen!</i>	<i>Indeed, He is Risen!</i>
<i>Christos Voskrese!</i>	<i>Voistinu Voskrese!</i>
<i>Christos Anesti!</i>	<i>Alithos Anesti!</i>
<i>El Messieh Kahm!</i>	<i>Hakken Kahm!</i>
<i>Cristos a Inviat!</i>	<i>Adevarat a Inviat!</i>

Services:

Sunday, May 22	9:00 AM – Holy Chrismation, Thomas Paul Shanosky, Jr.
Sunday, May 22	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – followed by Luncheon
Saturday, May 28	4:00 PM – Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday, May 29	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship-Coffee Hour
Monday, May 30	Memorial Day Pilgrimage to St. Tikhon's Monastery re-opens

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 Church Hall for Coffee Hour.

If you do not have a home church, we invite you to become a part of our Church Family.

Please Note: Only those Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared themselves may approach the Chalice and receive Holy Communion.

Prayer List:

Matushka Lovey Ropitsky, Matushka Lisa Weremedic, Andrew Balliet, Michael Birosik, Clark Andrew Bogosh, Theodore Bogosh, Emmalyn Naomi Buchanan, Evanna Jane Buchanan, Stephanie Chmel, Irene Davis, Ilene Devine, Julia Forte, Karen and Rose Harkins, Nancy King, Russell King, Michael Kulick, John & Olga Kushnir, Paul Macenka, Mary Maholick, Anna Marie Mantey, Mildred O'Shura, Melissa Schmitt, Althea Shellock, Olga Sidoriak, Mary Simone, Martha Stafiniak, Martha Teno, Michael Teno, Nancy Vanno, Elizabeth Warcholak, Russell Wishousky, Russell Yallas, & Marie Yurchak.

If anyone is in need of a priest, please call Father James Weremedic at 570-645-2772.

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 the Rectory (570-645-2772) anytime (day or night) in an emergency.

Candles (May 22)

7-Day Vigils/Altar... In memory of **John King, Sr.** offered by Julia Forte
Altar Candles... For the Health of **Fr. James Weremedic** offered by Paul & MaryAnn Macenka
Eternal Lamp... In memory of **John King, Sr.** offered by Wash & Helen King
Vigil Crosses... For the Health of **Mat. Lisa Weremedic** offered by Paul & MaryAnn Macenka
7-Day Vigils/Tetrapod... In memory of **Justin King** offered by David & Chrissy King & Family
Decorated Candles/Tetrapod- In memory of **Andrew & Mary Bybel Family** offered by Family Members

We express our deepest sympathy to the family of

MaryAnn Macenka

Who fell asleep in the Lord 5/14/2022 - Memory Eternal!

The forms for the **Memorial (Pentecost) Service 2022** are available in the vestibule.

Fellowship Hour Hosts:

May 29 Lena Marie Berezniak
June 5 John Evetushick
June 12 Russ King

There is a sign-up sheet for **Coffee Hour** in the vestibule if you would like to host.

May Birthdays:

2- Lynn Sharpe, 17- Russell King, 17- Julia Forte, 21- Lindsey Ruch, 31- Marie Skripnek.

We celebrate the Illumination of Thomas Paul Shanosky, Jr.!
May God Grant Thomas (Tommy), his Mother Anastasia and
his Sponsors Odess and Claire Remington Many Years!

Financials 5/15/22:

Operating Acct: Candles 52 - Altar Candles 20 - Offerings 266 - Non-Envelope 205
Holy Days 20 - Donations 265 = Total \$828.00.

Please continue to keep filling your church envelopes. Thank you!

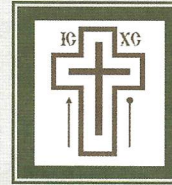
A Big Thank you for a very successful Chinese Auction
To all who donated, worked, supported, and bought – Thank you.

A profit of \$1,277.54 was turned over to the church.

Next Event: Yard Sale on Saturday, June 4, 2022

To Volunteer or Donate Items – See Helen King

CHRIST SATISFIES THE THIRST OF OUR SOULS



In biblical times, the center of activity in any town or village was the well. The women came here daily to draw the water needed for their cooking, washing and other household chores. They would pause at the well to exchange the latest news with their friends. It would not be unusual for Christ to choose such a spot to rest while passing through the Samaritan town of Sychar. The conversation He was, however, and with whom he has it with, proves to be one of the most extraordinary events recorded in the Gospels!

While His disciples had gone into the city to buy food, Jesus begins talking with a Samaritan woman. She is puzzled that Christ would speak to her, for Jews and Samaritans were bitter enemies. But our Lord came to “seek and save” everyone, and He uses this encounter to reveal to the woman Who He is and what He has to offer her. “Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again,” Jesus points out, “but whoever drinks of the water I shall give him will never thirst.” As their dialogue continues, the woman expresses her belief that the Messiah will come one day and “tell us all things.” To her astonishment, Christ dramatically proclaims to her: “I who speak to you am He.”

According to the tradition of the Orthodox Church, the Samaritan woman was baptized after Christ’s Resurrection, and given the name PHOTINI, which means “the enlightened one.” After years of spreading the gospel, she was martyred for Christ by being thrown in a well. She died, however, knowing that the “living water of eternal life” had sprung up within her!

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

RECEIVE THE GIFT
OF THE LIVING WATER

John 4:5-42 (Gospel)

So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.

Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."

The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?"

Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."

The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here."

The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband,' for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly."

The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship."

Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He." And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why are You talking with her?"

The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ? Then they went out of the city and came to Him. In the meantime, His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat."

But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know."

Therefore, the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?"

Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors."

And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all that I ever did." So, when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His own word.

Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."

5th SUNDAY OF PASCHA Tone 4. Samaritan Woman.

Commemoration of the Second Ecumenical Council. St. John (Vladimir), Ruler of Serbia.

Kontakion — Tone 8 - The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith; / she saw You, the Water of Wisdom, and drank abundantly / she inherited the Kingdom on High and is ever glorified!

Acts 11:19-26, 29-30 (Epistle)

Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus.

And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord.

Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord.

For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul.

And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea. This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

The Holy Martyr Photina (Svetlana) the Samaritan Woman, her sons Victor (named Photinus) and Joses; and her sisters Anatola, Phota, Photis, Paraskevė, Kyriake; Nero's daughter Domnina; and the Martyr Sebastian: The holy Martyr Photina was the Samaritan Woman, with whom the Savior conversed at Jacob's Well (John. 4:5-42).

During the time of the emperor Nero (54-68), who displayed excessive cruelty against Christians, Saint Photina lived in Carthage with her younger son Joses and fearlessly preached the Gospel there. Her eldest son Victor fought bravely in the Roman army against barbarians, and was appointed military commander in the city of Attalia (Asia Minor). Later, Nero called him to Italy to arrest and punish Christians.

Sebastian, an official in Italy, said to Saint Victor, "I know that you, your mother and your brother, are followers of Christ. As a friend I advise you to submit to the will of the emperor. If you inform on any Christians, you will receive their wealth. I shall write to your mother and brother, asking them not to preach Christ in public. Let them practice their faith in secret."

Saint Victor replied, "I want to be a preacher of Christianity like my mother and brother." Sebastian said, "O Victor, we all know what woes await you, your mother and brother." Then Sebastian suddenly felt a sharp pain in his eyes. He was dumbfounded, and his face was somber. For three days he lay there blind, without uttering a word. On the fourth day he declared, "The God of the Christians is the only true God." Saint Victor asked why Sebastian had suddenly changed his mind. Sebastian replied, "Because Christ is calling me." Soon he was baptized, and immediately regained his sight. Saint Sebastian's servants, after witnessing the miracle, were also baptized. Reports of this reached Nero, and he commanded that the Christians be brought to him at Rome. Then the Lord Himself appeared to the confessors and said, "Fear not, for I am with you. Nero, and all who serve him, will be vanquished." The Lord said to Saint Victor, "From this day forward, your name will be Photinus, because through you, many will be enlightened and will believe in Me." The Lord then told the Christians to strengthen and encourage Saint Sebastian to persevere until the end. All these things, and even future events, were revealed to Saint Photina. She left Carthage in the company of several Christians and joined the confessors in Rome. At Rome the emperor ordered the saints to be brought before him and he asked them whether they truly believed in Christ. All the confessors refused to renounce the Savior. Then the emperor gave orders to smash the martyrs' finger joints. During the torments, the confessors felt no pain, and their hands remained unharmed.

Nero ordered that Saints Sebastian, Photinus and Joses be blinded and locked up in prison, and Saint Photina and her five sisters Anatola, Phota, Photis, Paraskev  and Kyriake were sent to the imperial court under the supervision of Nero's daughter Domnina. Saint Photina converted both Domnina and all her servants to Christ. She also converted a sorcerer, who had brought her poisoned food to kill her.

Three years passed, and Nero sent to the prison for one of his servants, who had been locked up. The messengers reported to him that Saints Sebastian, Photinus and Joses, who had been blinded, had completely recovered, and that people were visiting them to hear their preaching, and indeed the whole prison had been transformed into a bright and fragrant place where God was glorified.

Nero then gave orders to crucify the saints, and to beat their naked bodies with straps. On the fourth day the emperor sent servants to see whether the martyrs were still alive. But, approaching the place of the tortures, the servants fell blind. An angel of the Lord freed the martyrs from their crosses and healed them. The saints took pity on the blinded servants, and restored their sight by their prayers to the Lord. Those who were healed came to believe in Christ and were soon baptized.

In an impotent rage Nero gave orders to flay the skin from Saint Photina and to throw the martyr down a well. Sebastian, Photinus and Joses had their legs cut off, and they were thrown to dogs, and then had their skin flayed off. The sisters of Saint Photina also suffered terrible torments. Nero gave orders to cut off their breasts and then to flay their skin. An expert in cruelty, the emperor readied the fiercest execution for Saint Photis: they tied her by the feet to the tops of two bent-over trees. When the ropes were cut the trees sprang upright and tore the martyr apart. The emperor ordered the others beheaded. Saint Photina was removed from the well and locked up in prison for twenty days. After this Nero had her brought to him and asked if she would now relent and offer sacrifice to the idols. Saint Photina spit in the face of the emperor, and laughing at him, said, "O most impious of the blind, you profligate and stupid man! Do you think me so deluded that I would consent to renounce my Lord Christ and instead offer sacrifice to idols as blind as you?"

Hearing such words, Nero gave orders to again throw the martyr down the well, where she surrendered her soul to God (ca. 66).

On the Greek Calendar, Saint Photina is commemorated on February 26.

**COMMEMORATION OF DEPARTED SOULS
PENTECOST SUNDAY - JUNE 2022**

Dear Father,

Kindly include the following names of the beloved souls
To be remembered in the Pentecost Memorial Services

Family Name: _____

_____ Hometown Mausoleum - Saturday, June 11 at 2:00 PM

_____ Parish Cemetary-Summit Hill - Sun., June 12 at 1:00 PM

Please check or circle which cemetery

First Names:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Submitted by _____

Offering _____

Please send your list and offering made payable to:

V. Rev. James Weremedic
c/o St. Mary's Orthodox Church
217 First Street, Coaldale, PA 18218

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