

**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  
Choir Director: Wash King

**Sunday, May 30, 2021**

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pascha  
Samaritan Woman

<i>Christ is Risen!</i>	<i>Indeed, He is Risen!</i>
<i>Khristos 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>
<i>Cristo ha resucitado!</i>	<i>Verda-deramente, ha resucitado!</i>
<i>Christ est Ressuscite!</i>	<i>En Verite, Il est Ressuscite!</i>
<i>Christus ist auferstanden!</i>	<i>Wahrlich Er ist auferstanden!</i>

Sunday, May 30 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – followed by Parastas

Parastas: In memory of William Faenza offered by Barbara Faenza & Family

In memory of Jennie Harb offered by Jeanne & John Cannon

In memory of Michael Harb offered by Jeanne & John Cannon

In memory of Helen Suda offered by Her Loving Family

In memory of Mary Harahuess offered by Gloria Bench

In memory of Nicholas Jr. & Helen Macenka offered by Shelly Macenka & Elaine (Macenka) Andrews

In memory of those who gave their lives that American Ideas might live: Stephen Polansky, John

Katchak, Wash Shaffran, Victor Windus, John Evetushick, Anthony Sachon, John Karawulan,

Michael Teeno, Walter Danchak, Paul Martin, Michael Fadorchak, John Fedora, Nicholas

Skirchak,, Stephen Yurchak.

Sunday, June 6 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

Thursday, June 10 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Sunday, June 13 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – followed by Parish Council Meeting

Sunday, June 20 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – Pentecost and kneeling prayers

**Candles (May 30):**

7-Day Vigils/Altar... In memory of the deceased members of Scarloss & Chmel Families

offered by Stephanie Chmel

Altar Candles... For the Health of Aunt Olga Hebda offered by Raymond & Mary Jo Danchak

Eternal Lamp... In memory of Mother, Mary Lutash offered by Raymond & Mary Jo Danchak

Vigil Crosses ... For the Health of Mary Maholick offered by Ted Bogosh

7-Day Vigils/Tetrapod... For the Health of Martha Teno offered by Ted Bogosh

Decorated Candles/Tetrapod... In memory of all Deceased Veterans & For the Health of All the Living Veterans offered by a Veteran

## CONFESSION

Confessions have resumed with minor modifications. Please call the rectory at 570-645-2772 and talk to Father James for a reservation. Call between 9:30 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Individual schedule times will be spread out during the week. Husband and wife can be scheduled together. Anyone wanting to have a confession, but has concerns of COVID-19, should contact Father James to make the appropriate accommodations.

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.

*Prayer List: Physician of our souls and bodies, Who has sent your only begotten Son to heal every sickness and infirmity, visit us and heal us, Your servants, from all physical and spiritual ailments through the grace of Your Son Jesus Christ; grant to us patience in this sickness, strength of body and spirit, and recovery of health. Lord, You have taught us through Your word to pray for each other that we may be healed. You are the source of healing and to You, we give glory; to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Matushka Lovey Ropitsky, Matushka Lisa Weremedic, Andrew Balliet, Michael Birocik, Clark Bogosh, Theodore Bogosh, Cecil Buchanan, Emmalyn Naomi Buchanan, Evanna Jane Buchanan, Stephanie Chmel, Irene Davis, Ilene Devine, Julia Forte, Olga Hebda, Peter Holoziak, John King, Claire Kononchuk, Michael Kulick, John Kushnir, Nancy Lorchak, MaryAnn Macenka, Mary Maholick, Mildred O'Shura, Anna Pisko, Melissa Schmitt, Althea Shellock, Olga Sidoriak, Martha Stafiniak, Joseph Tosca, Martha Teno, Michael Teno, Nancy Vanno, Elizabeth Warcholak, Russell Wishousky, Russell Yallas, Marie Yurchak, & Richard York.

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

June Birthdays: 5- Dorothy Macenka

May Wedding Anniversaries: 9- Julie & Richard McHugh, 16- V. Rev Paul & Mat Lovey Ropitsky

June Wedding Anniversaries: 1- V. Rev James & Mat Lisa Weremedic, 9- Michael & Julia Harahus, 9- John & Peggy Lampman

Financials 5/17-23/21: *Operating Acct:* Candles 51 - Altar Candles 300 - Offerings 719 - Non-Envelope 150 - Donations 800 = Total \$2,020.00

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

## “COULD THIS BE THE CHRIST?”

**A**lthough we usually hear about Christ's encounters with large groups of people, the setting for Sunday's Gospel is markedly different. Today, we find the Lord engaged in a one-on-one conversation with an unlikely individual. More than a few eyebrows must have been raised when Jesus enters into a lengthy dialogue with a SAMARITAN WOMAN. At that time, Jews and Samaritans were bitter enemies, and women were not considered important enough to participate in intellectual discussions!

The conversation begins innocently enough. Weary from a tiring journey, Christ sits down near a well in the town of Sichar and asks the Samaritan woman for a drink of water. After satisfying His PHYSICAL needs, Jesus proceeds to teach the woman about “living water,” which can forever quench all of her SPIRITUAL longings. He patiently instructs her concerning how to worship God, and Who God really is. “God is spirit,” Christ tells her, “And those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth.”

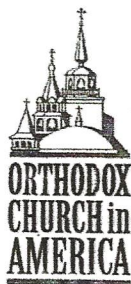
The Samaritan woman is impressed with the wisdom Christ possesses, and she comments that she is aware that a Messiah is coming, “. . . Who will tell us all things.” It is then that the Lord shares the greatest of truths with her: HE IS THE MESSIAH!

The Gospel concludes with a wonderful lesson for all of us. Many others from the village come out to meet Christ, and they recognize Him as the Saviour, not because of the woman's testimony, but because of what they heard for themselves. We ALL must come to know Jesus on our own.

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

JESUS AND THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

# THE EUCCHARIST



## THE EUCCHARIST

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The Holy Eucharist, or Holy Communion, stands at the very heart of the life of God's People. Everything in the Church leads to and finds its source in the Eucharist, the fulfillment of all of the Church's sacraments.

### A NECESSITY

Just as a healthy lifestyle requires adequate and wholesome food, a Christian lifestyle must also be nourished and fed with spiritual food. In the sixth chapter of the Gospel of Saint John, Jesus Christ comments on the necessity of the Eucharist in no uncertain terms:

*Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink of His blood, you have no life in you (Jn 6:53).*

### PARTICIPATION

The Eucharist is, in essence, a meal. As such, it was not "invented" by Jesus Christ. In Old Testament times, ritual meals existed.

The Christian Eucharist is a meal specifically connected with the Old Testament Passover meal, which commemorated the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. On the eve of His death, Jesus Christ shared the Passover meal with His disciples:

*Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My Body." And He took the cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; for this is My Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins" (Mt 26:26-28).*

Christ transformed the Passover meal into the center of the Christian life, the experience of the

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presence of the risen Christ in the midst of His People. The Eucharist is not a mere remembrance of a past event; rather, it is our participation in the ongoing life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ and the affirmation of our hope that He shall come again in glory:

*The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not a participation in the Blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not a participation in the Body of Christ? (1 Cor 10:16).*

Jesus Christ is the new and eternal Passover Lamb who liberates us from the slavery of evil, ignorance, and death and leads us into the everlasting life of the Kingdom of God.

### **THANKSGIVING**

As a word, the term Eucharist is derived from the Greek *eucharistia*, which means gratitude or thanksgiving. This name is given to the sacred meal—the entire action of gathering, praying, reading the Holy Scriptures, and proclaiming God’s Word. The word Eucharist is used because the all-embracing meaning of the Lord’s Banquet is that of offering thanks to God for all that He has done in creating, saving, and sanctifying the world.

The Eucharist is also called Holy Communion as it brings us into a common union with God, with each other, and with God’s People throughout the ages.

### **CHRIST’S VERY BODY AND BLOOD**

Orthodox Christians strictly understand the Eucharist as the very presence of Christ. That which the faithful receive is the real Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, which is offered to the Father in Jesus’ Name and changed by the action and descent of the

Holy Spirit. This is proclaimed in the prayer recited before the reception of the Eucharist:

*I believe, O Lord, and I confess that Thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the Living God, who camest into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first. I believe also that this is truly Thine own most pure Body, and that this is truly Thine own precious Blood.*

In the history of Christian thought, a number of attempts were made to explain how the bread and the wine are changed into the Body and Blood of Christ. Such attempts were characterized by the desire to explain philosophically or scientifically that which can only be understood by a deep and abiding Faith. Orthodox Christianity makes no attempt to “rationalize” that which is beyond human understanding. On the contrary, Orthodox Christians believe that the Eucharist is truly the Body and Blood of Christ because

- ✧ Jesus Christ clearly says it is: “This is My Body...This is My Blood.” Faith prompts us to accept Our Lord’s words;
- ✧ the Holy Spirit—the Spirit of Truth who “fills all things with Himself”—changes our gifts of bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ; and
- ✧ our faith leads us to believe that this is indeed reasonable and true. God’s mysteries cannot be explained or rationalized in limited, exclusively human terms.

## THE RECEPTION OF THE EUCHARIST

We would never accept a dinner invitation and then refuse to partake of the meal. In the same way, we should strive to partake of the Eucharistic meal whenever it is offered. The priest's exclamation, "in the fear of God and with faith and love, draw near!" is Christ's invitation to "receive the Body of Christ" and "taste the fountain of immortality."

The frequent reception of the Eucharist, however, requires careful preparation. Prior to our reception of the Eucharist, we should

- ✧ acknowledge our sinfulness and sincerely seek God's forgiveness;
- ✧ desire to enter into communion with the Father through Jesus Christ, His Son, in the Holy Spirit;
- ✧ see the Lord's guidance and will in redirecting our lives; and
- ✧ observe a period of prayer, fasting, and reflection, allowing our thoughts to be guided and directed by the "mind of Christ" in the Holy Spirit.

## WHAT IS THE EUCHARIST?

For Orthodox Christians, the Eucharist is

- ✧ the Sacrament of sacraments;
- ✧ the very Body and Blood of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, "shed for the life of the world" and "given as food for the faithful";
- ✧ the source of our spiritual life;
- ✧ that which brings us into a common union with Christ;
- ✧ the most perfect way by which we show our love for God while rendering thanks for all He has done for us; and
- ✧ the real and visible sign that we are truly members of Christ's Body, the Church.

By receiving the Eucharist on a regular and frequent basis, we are spiritually nourished while being nurtured to "grow in life and Faith and spiritual understanding."

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
PLEASE CONTACT:**

**5th SUNDAY OF PASCHA — Tone 4. Samaritan Woman. Ven. Isaac, Founder of the Dalmatian Monastery at Constantinople (383).**

### **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.

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.

### **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.”

## 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, Paraskeva, 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.



**COMMEMORATION OF DEPARTED SOULS  
PENTECOST SUNDAY – JUNE 2021**

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

Hometown Mausoleum – Saturday, June 19 at 2:00 PM

Parish Cemetery-Summit Hill – Sun., June 20 at 1:00 PM

Please check or circle which cemetery

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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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Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

Offering \_\_\_\_\_

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