

DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday of the Man Born Blind, May 17, 2020

9:00 AM - Lit. God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

9:00 AM - Lit. + John Adamshick r/by Kimberly Mansour

Wednesday, May 20, 2020

9:00 AM - Lit. + Ronald Hutnick r/by M/M Joseph Breznack

6:00 PM - May Devotions to the Mother of God

Thursday, May 21, 2020**Ascension of Our Lord**

9:00 AM - Lit. For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

Friday, May 22, 2020

9:00 AM - Lit. + Anna Baralecki r/by Anna Makar

Saturday, May 23, 20209:00 AM - Lit. and Pan. + Vasiliy, Magdalena, John
r/by Nicholas & Olga Tulnev

5:00 PM - Lit. + Mary Clements r/by Joyce Adamshick

Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council, May 24, 2020

Epistle - Acts 20:16-18 & 28-38; Gospel - Jn 17:1-13

9:00 AM - Lit. God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

Pan. + Deceased Veterans of the Parish

Pastor's Corner.

Please note, the suspension of public services at our parishes continues. Meanwhile, we will continue with LIVESTREAMED LITURGIES. Join our live streamed Sunday services at 9:00 a.m. on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ivan.turyk>

Remember to Support Our Parish.

Jesus asks us to commit ourselves to be good stewards of the gifts entrusted to us, to share our time, our talent and our treasure as an outward sign of the love and gratitude we have for Him.

We all are going through an exceptional time in our world and our Parish. As we still need to keep the church running, please consider your support for the church and send your tax-deductible donations to us by mail or drop them off at the office. **Last week we received \$1,707 in donations to support our parish.** I pray I will see you soon. Until we meet again, let us keep praying for each other.

Fr. Ivan

Moleben to Mary (Most Holy Theotokos)

During the month of May our Church honors Mary the Mother of God in special *moleben* services.

Every Wednesday at 6:00 pm, we will celebrate Moleben Service and pray for Our Lady's continued protection of all those who face the effects of the corona pandemic.

Our Lady of Fatima Feast Day.

Between May 13 and October 13, 1917, three Portuguese children, Francisco and Jacinta Marto and their cousin Lucia dos Santos, received apparitions of Our Lady at Cova da Iria near Fatima, a city 110 miles north of Lisbon. Mary asked the children to pray the rosary for world peace, for the end of World War I, for sinners, and for the conversion of Russia. Mary gave the children three secrets. Following the deaths of Francisco and Jacinta in 1919 and 1920 respectively, Lucia revealed the first secret in 1927. It concerned devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The second secret was a vision of hell. When Lucia grew up she became a Carmelite nun and died in 2005 at the age of 97. Pope John Paul II directed the Holy See's Secretary of State to reveal the third secret in 2000; it spoke of a "bishop in white" who was shot by a group of soldiers who fired bullets and arrows into him. Many people linked this vision to the assassination attempt against Pope John Paul II in St. Peter's Square on May 13, 1981. The feast of Our Lady of Fatima was approved by the local bishop in 1930; it was added to the Church's worldwide calendar in 2002.

TODAY: Sunday of the Blind Man.

The miracle described in today's Gospel (John 9:1-38) is even more remarkable than it might seem at first. Saint Basil and other Fathers tell us that this was not just a case of giving sight to a blind man born with eyes that did not function, but to someone who had no eyes at all.

The Gospel says, "Since the world began, it was not heard that any man opened the eyes of one who was born blind" (John 9:32). There are examples in the Old (Tobit 2:17) and New (Mark 8:22-26) Testaments of blind people receiving sight, but this is something completely unprecedented. The Savior placed clay in the man's empty sockets and told him to wash in the pool of Siloam. When he obeyed these instructions, the eyes of clay became living eyes!

Feast of the Ascension of our Lord:

This week we observe the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord on Thursday 21st. *"In his human body, the Lord returned to the glory he has at the right hand of his Father on high. In this way, he lifts our human nature to deification and is enthroned as the High Priest who has suffered human death, yet is risen for the sake of human life. We glorify the Lord and await his coming again in glory."*

Where did Mary live after the Resurrection?

It is generally accepted that at the time of Jesus' death, his foster-father Joseph had already passed away from this life to the next. This would leave Jesus as the family member primarily in charge of his aging mother. When he was about to die on the cross Jesus appointed one of his disciples to take care of her.

When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. (John 19:26-27)

Most scripture scholars agree with a tradition that the "beloved disciple" was St. John the Evangelist. Initially it appears that John took care of her in **Jerusalem**, as it is mentioned in the book of Acts.

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away; and when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. All these with one accord devoted themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren. (Acts 1:12-14)

This means that at least following the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus, Mary lived with the apostles in Jerusalem. According to one tradition, this is where Mary lived the rest of her life, walking the "way of the cross" every day, retracing the steps of her son. In this tradition Mary's assumption took place in Jerusalem and was witnessed by the apostles.

To this day there exists a church built near the Mount of Olives that is said to be place of Mary's burial and is venerated by the Eastern Orthodox Church. There is also another location in Jerusalem called the Church of the Dormition, which is maintained by Benedictine monks. Both sites claim to be the site of Mary's assumption into Heaven.

On the other hand, there is a tradition that places John the Evangelist in the city of Ephesus. Many believe that since John lived in this city that the Virgin Mary lived with him and her assumption took place there as well. This was later reinforced by certain private revelations of Blessed Anne Catherine Emmerich in the 19th century, which placed the Virgin Mary's house in Ephesus.

In the end, wherever Mary lived during those final days of her life, when she was assumed into Heaven, she became our mother and remains the Mother of the Church, always interceding for us before her son.