

The Samaritan Woman:

The fifth Sunday after Easter deals with the woman of Samaria with whom Christ spoke at Jacob's Well (Jn 4). Again the theme is the "living water" and the recognition of Jesus as God's Messiah (Jn 4:10-11; 25-26). We are reminded of our new life in him, of our own drinking of the "living water," of our own true worship of God in the Christian messianic age "in Spirit and in Truth" (Jn 4:23-24). We see as well that salvation is offered to all: Jews and Gentiles, men and women, saints and sinners.

Euphrosyne Abbes of Polotsk

In our church, rest relics of the holy **Venerable Euphrosyne** (sometimes spelled **Efrasinnia**), **Abbess of Polotsk**. She is remembered by the church on **May 23**.

Saint Euphrosyne was named Predslava in the world, and was the daughter of Prince George Vseslavich. From her childhood she was noted for her love of prayer and book learning. After turning down a proposal of marriage, Predslava received monastic tonsure with the name Euphrosyne. With the blessing of Bishop Elias of Polotsk, she began to live near the Sophia cathedral, where she occupied herself by the copying of books.

Around the year 1128 Bishop Elias entrusted the nun with the task of organizing a women's monastery. Setting out for Seltso, the site of the future monastery, the ascetic took only her holy books. At the newly constructed Savior-Transfiguration monastery the saint taught the girls to copy books, singing, sewing and other handicrafts

Through her efforts, a cathedral was built in 1161, which survives to the present day. St Euphrosyne also founded a men's monastery dedicated to the Mother of God. Patriarch Luke of Constantinople sent a copy of the wonderworking Ephesus Icon of the Mother of God at her request. Shortly before her death, St Euphrosyne journeyed on pilgrimage to the Holy Places with her nephew David and sister Eupraxia

After venerating the holy things at Constantinople, she arrived in Jerusalem, where at the Russian monastery of the Most Holy Theotokos the Lord granted her a peaceful end on May 24, 1173. In 1187 the body of the saint was transferred to the Kiev Caves monastery, and the relics were transferred to Polotsk in 1910 to the monastery she founded. **St Euphrosyne of Polotsk** was glorified in the Russian Church as a patroness of women's monasticism.

Venerable Ignatius Bishop of Rostov

In our church, rest relics of the holy **St Ignatius the Bishop and Wonderworker of Rostov**. He is commemorated on by the church on **May 28**.

Saint Ignatius was Bishop of Rostov, and shepherded his flock for twenty-six years. After his death on May 28, 1288, his body was brought to the church. Some people saw him leave his coffin, and float in the air above the church. He blessed the people and the city, and then went back to his coffin.

Many miracles took place at his grave.

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E-Mail us at:

Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org

Church of the Mother of God ***"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"***

115 Hudson St.

Mays Landing, New Jersey 08330

Rev. Boris Slotsky, Rector

2B Pembroke Lane

Manchester, New Jersey 08759

(732) 350-9588



Samaritan Woman

Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

On this day the Church remembers:

5th Sunday Of Pascha - Tone 4. Samaritan Woman. Martyr Basiliscus, Bishop of Comana (ca. 308). Commemoration of the Second Ecumenical Council (381). St. John (Vladimir), Ruler of Serbia (1015). Monk Martyr Paul of the Lavra (Mt. Athos—1818).

***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!***

Kontakion - Samaritan Woman

May 22, 2011

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Tone 4 (Tone 3)

| 5th Sunday Of Pascha

| Pentecostarion Week 5

Today's Bulletin Sponsors are:**For the health of:**

Yury, grandson of Fr. Boris and Matushka Galina, on his birthday.

Adam Romanofsky, congratulations on his college graduation,
from his family.

Readings:

- Acts 11:19-26,29-30
- John 4:5-42

At that time, Jesus came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as he was with his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying 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 do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal 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 him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and he whom you now have is not your husband; this you said truly." The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; and you say that Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks 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 the Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ); when he comes, he will show us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

Just then his disciples came. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but none said, "What do you wish?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" So the woman left her water jar, and went away into the city and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" They went out of the city and were coming to him.

Meanwhile the disciples besought him, saying "Rabbi, eat." But he said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." So the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought him food?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me, and to accomplish his work. Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest. He who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that

for which you did not labor; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony. "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard ourselves, and we know that this is indeed Christ the Savior of the world."

Sunday service:

Hours - 9:40 AM

Divine Liturgy - 10:00 AM

Church School - 9:30

Coffee hour after Liturgy

We would like to welcome all parish visitors and invite you to joins us after the Liturgy, downstairs, for Coffee hour.

Announcements:

- **Visit by Bishop Michael, Saturday, June 18, 2011**
The parish is happy to announce that His Grace, Bishop Michael will visit our parish on Saturday, June 18. There will be a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy followed by a luncheon. The luncheon will cost \$10.00 per person. There will be no advanced sale of tickets to the luncheon, but **luncheon reservations should be made by using the sign up sheet at the candle stand.** Greeting and vesting of the Bishop will be at 9:30 AM with the Liturgy starting around 10:00AM.
- Remember to check out our church store for fine and reasonably priced items. We have icons, matrushka dolls, and other handcrafted items that would be perfect gifts for Feast days, birthdays, weddings or baptisms.

Special Announcements:

- Upcoming bulletins can be sponsored; this can be done with the sign up sheet at the candle stand.
- Special Announcements for the bulletin can be submitted by E-Mail to: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org
- **The next meeting of the Parish Council will be May 29**, after coffee hour.
- **The next meeting of the Sisterhood of the Protection of the Theotokos will be June 5**, after coffee hour.