

Bulletin sponsors this week are for:

Health of:

Alexandru on his birthday, from his daughter Iana and granddaughters Cecelia and Joanna.

Readings:

Acts 16:16-34 (6th Sunday after Pascha)

John 9:1-38 (6th Sunday after Pascha)

IN THOSE DAYS, as we apostles were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by soothsaying. She followed Paul and us, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she did for many days. But Paul was annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the rulers; and when they had brought them to the magistrates they said, "These men are Jews and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs which it is not lawful for us Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

At that time, as Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if

anyone should confess him to be Christ he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe": and he worshipped him.

Sunday Services:

Hours - 9:40 AM

Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM (except Pascha Sunday)

General Confession – 9:45 AM on the first Sunday of each month

Private Confession - by appointment, contact Father Matthew

Pannikhidas – after Divine Liturgy, 3rd Sunday of each month

Coffee hour - after Divine Liturgy.

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

Sunday school classes meet every Sunday.

Sunday school classes for this school year will end on Sunday, May 31st.

Announcements:

- There will be a **meeting** of the **Sisterhood** of the Protection of The Mother of God today, Sunday **May 17th**, after coffee hour.
- **The Holy Day of the Ascension** of our Lord Jesus Christ is Thursday, May 21. We will celebrate the Holy Day at **6:30 pm on Wednesday, May 20th** with an evening Liturgy.
- **Sisterhood dues** are now being collected for 2026. The yearly amount is **\$15**. Please make your payments to Linda Dantine.

Reminders:

- **The Sisterhood's food drive is ongoing.** Please be generous with your donations. Collection bins are located both downstairs and in the back of the church. Thank you!
- **Please remember the citizens of Ukraine in your prayers.** And please continue to pray for peace in the Middle East.
- Thank you to everyone who has been donating to our parish. There is a basket at the candle stand to accept donations. Also, a **Venmo account** can be used for donations. It is at <https://venmo.com/u/Hala-Dawson>.

Sunday of the Blind Man:

The sixth Sunday of commemorates the miracle of Jesus Christ healing a man who was born blind, an event chronicled in the Gospel of Saint John.

We are identified with that man who came to see and to believe in Jesus as the Son of God. The Lord has anointed our eyes with his own divine hands and washed them with the waters of our baptism (John 9:6-11).

To read about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2026/05/17>

The Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ is celebrated by the Holy Orthodox Church as one of the Great Feasts on the fortieth day after Pascha. We will celebrate the Holy Day this **Wednesday evening, May 20th at 6:30 pm.**

Please check the website of our Diocese: nvnjoca.org/.
and the website of the Orthodox Church in America: www.oca.org/
See our Website at: ChurchMotherOfGod.org
See our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/mayslandingmog
Email us at: bulletin@churchmotherofgod.org

Orthodox Church of the Mother of God

"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"

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The Most Reverend Michael

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Christ is Risen!

Indeed, He is Risen!

Sunday of the Blind Man

*I come to You, O Christ,
blind from birth in my spiritual eyes
and I call to You in repentance:*

You are the most radiant light of those in darkness!

Tone 8 – Troparion

May 17, 2026

Today the Church remembers:

Blind Man • Icon of the Mother of God “of the Passion” • Apostle Andronicus of the Seventy and his fellow-laborer, Junia (1st c.) • Saint Euphrosynē, Great Princess of Moscow (1407) • Martyrs Solochon, Pamphamer, and Pamphalon, at Chalcedon (284-305) • St. Stephen, Archbishop of Constantinople (893)

6th SUNDAY OF PASCHA
Pentecostarion

Tone 5