

**Today's Bulletin Sponsors are:**

**For the health, of:**

**Gabrielle Stefy** on her birthday, granddaughter of Lore Stefy

**For eternal memory of:**

Our father **Risley**, offered by Linda and Richard Dantinne.

**Marianna Stefy**, mother-in-law of Lore Stefy

**Nick Taran Jr.**, Brother of Holly Dawson

Our parish is also praying for: Archpriest Vincent, Matushka Patricia and Kira

- |                         |                                     |                        |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b><u>Readings:</u></b> | • 2 Corinthians 4:6-15 (Forerunner) | • <b>Acts 16:16-34</b> |
|                         | • Matthew 11:2-15 (Forerunner)      | • <b>John 9:1-38</b>   |

**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 worshiped him.

<b><u>Saturday service: Vespers – 6:30 PM</u></b>	
<b><u>Sunday service:</u></b>	
<b>Hours – 9:40 AM</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM</b>
<b>Private Confession – Half hour before any service.</b>	
See Fr Matthew for other times.	
<b>General Confession – 9:45 AM on the first Sunday of each month</b>	
<b>Pannikhidas – after Divine Liturgy 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month</b>	

**This Wednesday May 28 at 6:30 PM. - Vesperal Liturgy - Ascension**

**Coffee hour – after Liturgy, downstairs in the Community Room**

**Church School - Sunday 9:30 AM (no classes 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month)**

**We would like to welcome all parish visitors and invite you to join us after the Liturgy for Coffee hour.**

**Announcements:**

- The **next meeting of the Parish Council** will be **today**, after coffee hour.
- We will celebrate the **Holy Day of the Ascension of Our Lord on Wednesday evening, May 28, at 6:30 PM.** If you wish to receive Holy Communion at the Liturgy, you need to fast after Lunch that day.
- The **next meeting of the Sisterhood of the Protection of the Mother of God** will be **next Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>** after coffee hour.
- **Reader Charles** has accepted the call to serve with an **OCMC Youth Outreach Mission Team** going to Albania June 16 to July 1, 2014. Please remember him in your prayers in his many preparations. If your heart is moved to support him financially, please speak to him for information on how to do so. Every dollar donated over the cost of the trip will be given to the orphanage (Children's Home of Hope on the grounds of the Shen Vlash Monastery and Resurrection of Christ Theological Academy in Durres, Albania).

**Special Announcements:**

- Special Announcements for the bulletin can be submitted by E-Mail to: [Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org](mailto:Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org)
- Upcoming bulletins can be sponsored; this can be done with the signup sheet at the candle stand.

**Third Finding:**

**The Third Discovery of the Head of John the Baptist** is commemorated today, May 25.

The Third Discovery of the Venerable Head of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John occurred in about the year 850 (see the account of the First and Second Discoveries on February 24). The head of St John the Forerunner was found in the city of Emesia during a time of unrest at Constantinople connected with the exile of St John Chrysostom (November 13).

It was transferred to Komana during the Saracen raids (about 820-820) and it was hidden in the ground during a period of iconoclastic persecution. When the veneration of icons was restored, Patriarch Ignatius (847-857) saw in a vision the place where the head of St John the Forerunner was hidden. The patriarch communicated this to the emperor, who sent a delegation to Komana. There the head was found a third time around the year 850.

Afterwards the head was again transferred to Constantinople, and here on May 25 it was placed in a church at the court. Part of the head is on Mt. Athos.

**St. Maximus says** "The one who throws off self love, the mother of all passions, will very easily, with God's help' put aside the others such as anger, grief, grudges and so on".

See us on the web at: [ChurchMotherOfGod.org/bulletin](http://ChurchMotherOfGod.org/bulletin)  
E-Mail us at: [Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org](mailto:Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org)

# Orthodox Church of the Mother of God

*"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"*

*Founded 1966*

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Sunday of the Blind Man

Christ is Risen!

Христос  
Воскресе!

Indeed, He is Risen!

Воистину  
Воскресе!

*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!*

Kontakion

**Today the Church remembers:**

**6th SUNDAY OF PASCHA • Blind Man**

- **Third Finding of the Honorable Head of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John** (ca. 850) • Hieromartyr Therapon, Bishop of Cyprus (14th c.) • Hieromartyr Urban, Pope of Rome (230)

**May 25, 2014**

**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pascha**

Pentecostarion Week 6  
Tone 5.