

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Schedule of Divine Services

Saturday, May 6 **5:00 PM +George & Anna Danscak by Danscak Family**
Sunday, May 7 **9:00 AM Health & Welfare of Father Thomas Dansak**

Pages for Sunday’s Divine Liturgy: Pages 186 - 188

Web Liturgy for Week of May 7 2023 sponsored by
Father Thomas Dansak

Sanctuary Candle is lit from May 7 – May 20
+George Havrilcsak by Ann Havrilcsak

SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND – MOTHER’S DAY

Saturday, May 13 **5:00 PM Our Living & Deceased Mothers**
Sunday, May 14 **9:00 AM Our Living & Deceased Mothers**

OUR RETURN TO THE LORD FOR ALL HE HAS GIVEN ME:

Regular Offertory	\$1,635.00
Maintenance Fund	536.00
Holy Day	50.00
Candles	93.00
TOTAL	\$2,314.00

Special Donation

\$30 In Memory of +Donald Bajus by Steve & Lorraine Dumblosky

Parking Lot: \$35

*During these challenging times we thank you for your kindness and generosity.
Please consider remembering St. John Cathedral in your will
as a lasting legacy for future generations!*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-INS

AT HOME: *Richard Lesko, Ronald & Arletta Lutka, Margie Seman, Teri Phares, Raymond Petro, Jr., Luke Pasternak, Marissa Stout, Tara Seman, Michael Matus, Patrick Singer, Joan Bodnar, Mary Ann Urban, Carole Srsic, Pauline Johnson, Ann Havrilscak, Aaron Spang, Janet Ducar, Mary Pavasko, Suzie (Wargo) Bodziach, Betty Martin, Patty Schneider, Jeannie Pasternak, Janet Myers, Ethel Wahal.*

Italicized names indicate Parish Shut-ins. Other names are submitted prayer requests.

NURSING HOMES/REHABILITATION CENTERS/ASSISTED LIVING

Elsie Urban, Eleanor Chekan, Sue Goda

MAY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

- 7 Ellen Krysinski
- 9 Michael B. & Helen Koval (Anniversary)
- 10 Janet Myers
- 10 John Varhola
- 11 Mary Pavasko
- 11 Felicia Simko
- 11 Jessica Sinclair
- 12 Lorraine Havrilla
- 12 Chris & Melissa Neri (Anniversary)
- 13 Michael Hilzendeger
- 13 Steve Tima

In person Attendance: *Saturday, April 29: 49; Sunday, April 30: 63*

Live Stream Viewing: *Saturday, April 29: 25 (WS); 21 (FB)*
Sunday, April 30: 61 (WS); 52 (FB)

ETERNAL MEMORY

+**Donald Bajus** passed from this life to the next on April 27, 2023. May he rest in the bosom of Abraham, in the abode of the saints, where there is no pain, sorrow, nor mourning. *May the Lord God remember his departed servant Donald in His Kingdom forever!*

MANY YEARS

Our Parish Family extends its prayerful best wishes to **Fr. Thomas Dansak** as he celebrates his 50th anniversary to the Priesthood. *May God grant to His priestly servant Thomas, peace, health and happiness for many years!*

BREADED CHICKEN DINNER

Our parish will serve a take-out only Breaded Chicken dinner on **Saturday, May 20 from 3 – 6 PM and on Sunday, May 21 from 10 AM – 1 PM. Price is \$12.00 per dinner.** The dinner includes: Breaded Chicken breast, stuffing, veggie, roll and butter. In addition we will be selling quarts of haluski, quarts of soup, our kolache, and various baked goods.

SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS LECTURE

The 23rd Annual Saints Cyril & Methodius Lecture will be presented online, via the Seminary website at www.bcs.edu on **Wednesday, May 10 at 7:00 PM.** *Fr. John Baldovin, S.J.,* Professor of Historical and Liturgical Theology at the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, is this year's esteemed lecturer and has selected as his topic: "Making the City a Church." The lecture can be accessed live or at a later time from archives on the B.C.S. YouTube channel.

“KATHEDRAL KITCHEN”

We have Stuffed Cabbage: ½ dozen: \$18; dozen: \$30; quarts of *Halushki, Chili & Beef Vegetable, Beef Noodle, Chicken noodle, Turkey, Stuffed Cabbage, **Meatless: Mushroom, Vegetarian Vegetable soups*** for \$7. Pirohi \$10/dozen. If you would like to buy any please see Patty Bovee, Diane Pochron or Fr. Andrew. **Bold denotes meatless.**

CATHEDRAL COOKBOOK

It has been suggested, and people have volunteered to organize, another Cathedral Cookbook. We are looking for submission of recipes to publish in our cookbook. Please consider sharing some of your favorite recipes. We would prefer electronic submissions, but paper copies will also be accepted and formatted. If you would like to be a part of this project, please inform Fr. Andrew.

UPCOMING CATHEDRAL EVENTS

June 2/3	Rummage Sale
August 13	Parish Picnic
August 13	Outdoor concert by East Winds Symphonic Band at the Cathedral

RUMMAGE SALE ITEMS

We will be holding another Rummage Sale on June 3 & 4, 2023. Please put aside any items you no longer want or need for our flea market.

As in the past, we cannot accept TV's, computers, shoes and clothes. Small boxes may be left in the church vestibules. Arrangements can be made to pick up larger items. Please consider also helping to mark and sell the items in May/June. Thanks for your donations.



Attentive to the Word

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Acts 11: 19-26 & 29-30

John 4: 5-42

One of the most awesome and chilling statements in the English language is that which comes from the foreman of a jury when he or she stands to say, "We find the defendant guilty!" What is "guilt"? It is both a fact and a feeling. The dictionary says that guilt is "the fact or state of having done wrong." It is also "a feeling of being to blame." When the fact of guilt is proved in a court of law, and the guilty person pays his or her debt to society for the wrong done, then in the sight of the law that person is no longer guilty. Payment or restitution has been made, and for all practical purposes the "fact of guilt" is gone. But the feeling of guilt isn't always so easily resolved. Sometimes it attaches itself to us like a malignancy. It distorts our emotions; it affects our attitudes; it sours our relationships with others. Sometimes it can drive a person to self-destruction. Then there are some who compensate for these feelings of guilt in other ways. They withdraw; they build fences around themselves, barriers that they allow no one to penetrate. And they live out their lives in loneliness and rejection. As we continue our study of the way in which Jesus dealt with individuals, adapting his approach to meet them at the points of their unique and particular needs, we find a woman who was cursed by guilt. We shall attempt to discover how Jesus dealt with her overwhelming guilt.

It was never as easy for Jesus to minister in the southern part of Palestine - in Judea, in Jerusalem - as it was in Galilee in the north. Politics and prejudice found their focus in the city of Jerusalem and in the temple precincts where the Pharisees had their headquarters. The Sanhedrin held court there. Naturally, in that concentration of scribes and Pharisees, there were always those watching Jesus for the express purpose of discrediting him before the people who were eager to hear him preach and teach. This brings us to a cryptic but significant statement in verse 4: "Now he had to go through Samaria" (NN). This did not mean that, geographically, that was the only route available to Galilee. Rather, it was God's will for him to travel this road. This was not the regular route the Jews traveled from Judea to Galilee. Because of their hatred of the Samaritans, they would cross the Jordan River and travel through Transjordan and then cross back over the Jordan River into Galilee in the north. Presently Jesus and his disciples reached a famous and beloved landmark for every Israelite-Jacob's well-about a half-mile from the town of Sychar; most likely the modern Israeli town of Shechem. It was high noon and doubtlessly a hot day. Jesus chose to sit on the well curbing while the disciples went to Sychar to purchase food. So the stage was set. In God's sovereign planning, an appointment had been made. Jesus was right on time.

Who were the Samaritans? They were descendants of two groups, one being the remnant of the Israelites who were members of the tribes that formed the northern kingdom of Israel. In

722 BC the northern kingdom fell to the Assyrians, and all but a remnant of Israelites were carried away captive. Then the Assyrians brought in foreign colonists from Babylonia and Media. Eventually and inevitably, these Israelites who remained in northern Palestine intermarried with the foreigners, thus losing the purity of their Israelite nationality. The Jews considered them unclean, and any association with them would render a Jew "unclean" and thus unfit to worship in the temple. Understandably, the Samaritans hated the Jews because of this bigotry and prejudice expressed toward them. Not only did this woman's nationality pose a problem, but her gender did as well. The Jewish custom forbade a rabbi to greet a woman in public. Yet Jesus spoke to her. Because he knew what was in the hearts of people, he was fully aware of her moral character. Thus we have an amazing picture: the Son of God in conversation with an immoral woman! Jesus was breaking through the barriers of nationality and orthodox Jewish custom. Here is the beginning of the gospel for the whole world, not just for the Jews. Here is God "so loving the world," not just in theory, but in action.

Can you see the subtle way Jesus approached this woman? Here was a woman who had long since lost all self-respect; she was a "nobody." Her immoral life had isolated her even from her own Samaritan people. That is the reason she came to draw water in the heat of the noonday sun. The women of the village came in the cool of the early morning to draw their water. Jesus began his approach by asking the woman for something. Nobody ever asked her for anything! There is nothing more devastating to the human personality than to feel unneeded. So, in spite of her initial reply to Jesus, we can't imagine what it meant to this woman for someone, even this Jew whose motives she did not yet understand, to ask her for some legitimate favor. After the woman had brought up the obvious problem that existed between Jews and Samaritans, Jesus dropped his bombshell. Already she was confused about this whole incident. And Jesus countered with the offer to give her a drink. Of course, she thought that he referred to the water in Jacob's well, and she saw that he had nothing to draw with. Jesus had her attention.

Jesus' reference to her husbands was the last thing she expected to hear. This was the "sore spot" in her life. Night and day she lived with this burning guilt. Jesus had brought her sin out into the open. Her natural response was to change the subject. 176 Wednesday Evening, June 15 She brought up an entirely unrelated subject-she asked about the proper place to worship. Jesus took care of that question in quick order. Then he revealed himself to her. In response to her remark about the coming Messiah, Jesus said, "I who speak to you am he" (v. 26 NIV).

How much was said after Jesus revealed himself to the woman we do not know. Somewhere after this point the miracle of salvation took place. The woman proved her newfound faith by her compelling desire to go and tell someone. She, like every other person, had to discover the reality of the Lord Jesus for herself; thus the people of Sychar came to see and hear.

Perhaps the Samaritan woman became the "resident missionary" of Sychar. God took an individual who was cursed by guilt and led her through the dark tunnel of her guilt into the light of eternal life. He is still doing that today.

Mission Statement

Saint John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Cathedral is a member of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh who through the Holy Spirit is called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As a community and family, we grow in faith and in the image and likeness of God by dedicating ourselves to welcoming, celebrating and caring for all of God's people.

Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism, Chrismation & Eucharist): Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish family. Pre-baptism instructions are required. Contact Fr. Andrew to schedule.

Mystery of Crowning: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish family. Must meet with Fr. Andrew before setting date and reserving your banquet hall. Pre-Cana program is required and three sessions with Fr. Andrew. The ceremony will be celebrated according to the prescription of the liturgical book of the Byzantine rite.

Mystery of Reconciliation: Celebrated Saturdays, 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM and upon request.

Mystery of Anointing: Celebrated upon request. Ideally celebrated in Church the Sunday before undergoing any surgical or other medical procedure.

Visitation of the Sick: The parishioners confined to their homes or nursing homes due to health reasons are visited monthly. Also, persons who are hospitalized are visited when Fr. Andrew is notified. It especially is important that a family member contact Fr. Andrew whenever a loved-one is hospitalized.

Funerals: Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Fr. Andrew before setting and publishing the day and time of the funeral.

Parish Membership: We welcome anyone to become a parishioner of St. John the Baptist Cathedral Parish. Only those who are registered are considered members of the Parish. When one registers to become a parish member they assume the responsibility of rendering stewardship of time, talent and treasure to this parish family. Worship at this parish is always expected. Registration is done only through the pastor by appointment. The Parish Office should be notified as soon as possible of any change of address within the Parish as well as one's leaving.

Godparent/Sponsor Letters: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish.

Rectory Office Hours: Judy is in the parish office Monday – Friday from 9:00 AM – 2 PM. Father Andrew is available on other days and times by appointment.