

**Christ is Risen!**  
**Χριστός Воскресе!**  
**Χριστός ἀνέστη!**

**St. Mary ~ Holy Protection**  
**Byzantine Catholic Church**  
**4480 Route 981 Latrobe, PA 15650**

**Indeed He is Risen!**  
**Воистину Воскресе!**  
**Ἀληθῶς ἀνέστη!**

**Administrator:** Fr. Paul-Alexander Shutt, OSB  
**Confession Schedule:** *Saturday* 16:00 – 16:30,  
*Sunday* 9:00 – 9:30, or by appointment

**Parish Office:** 724-423-3 673 **Hall:** 724-423-8838  
**Parish email:** st.marytrauger@gmail.com  
**Website:** www.stmarybyzantinecatholic.org

**17 MAY 2020 / 7528**  
**SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND**



**Epistle: Acts 16:16 – 34**

**GOSPEL: John 9:1 – 38**



**05 / 10 / 2020**

Adults: \$1645

Children: \$30

Candles: \$21

Holy Days: \$100

**COLLECTION**

Holy Week: \$20

PASCHA: \$260

Seminary: \$25

Cemetery: \$50

**TOTAL: \$2151**



**AMBON PRAYER:** O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, joy-giving Light of the eternal Father, You enlightened the man born blind by forming clay to spread on his eyes and commanding him to wash. Cleanse us of our sins by the washing of regeneration, guide our steps in the path of Your commandments, and lead us into the new heaven and the new earth of Your blessed promise. You have made us partakers of Your Mystical Supper; keep us in Your holiness, so that we may always confess You as Lord and not come to judgment. For You are a God of mercy, and are glorified together with the Father and the all-ho0ly, good and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto the Ages of Ages. Amen.

**JESUS COMPLETES HIS WORK AS CREATOR.** IRENÆUS: He healed others by a word.... But the Lord bestowed sight on the one who was blind from birth—not by a word, but by an outward action. He did this neither casually nor simply because this was how it happened. He did it this way in order to show it was the same hand of God here that had also formed man at the beginning. And therefore when His disciples asked Him why he had been born blind, whether by his own fault or his parents', Jesus said, «*Neither this man sinned, nor his parents, but that the works of God might be manifested in him.*» The work of God is, after all, the forming of man. He did this by an outward action, as Scripture says, «*And the Lord took clay from earth, and formed man.*» Notice here too how the Lord spit on the earth, and made clay and smeared it on his eyes, showing how the ancient creation was made. He was making clear to those who can understand, that this was the [same] hand of God through which man was formed from clay. For what the creating Word had neglected to form in the womb, this He supplied openly. He did this so that the works of God might be evident in him, and so that we would now seek for no other hand than that through which humanity was formed. Nor should we seek another Father, knowing that the hand of God which formed us in the beginning, and forms in the womb, has in the last times sought us lost ones out. He is gaining His own lost sheep and putting it on His shoulders and joyfully restoring it to the fold of life. *AGAINST HERESIES 5.15.2.*

Giving sight to the one who had no earthly eyes, You also enlightened the eyes of his heart; and when he recognized You as his creator, You led him to glorify the God of love Who is seen in the flesh. Enlighten the eyes of my soul, blinded by the gloom of sin, O Lord. Anoint them with humility, O Compassionate One, and wash me with tears of repentance.

The blind man walked the streets of life like one condemned to endless labor in the pits of the earth. His feet were bruised because he had a staff instead of eyes. Thus he fled for refuge to the Giver of light. He then received his sight, and the first thing he saw was his Creator Who fashioned man according to His image and likeness. He created all things: first from the dust of the earth, and now He gives light through dust and saliva, opening blind eyes to the sun because of His love for all.

The Lord ascended into heaven to send the Comforter into this world. The heavens prepared His throne and the clouds were His ladder; the angels marveled at the sight of a human being more exalted than themselves. Today, the Father receives again in His bosom the One Who was in Him from all eternity, and the Holy Spirit gives a command to all the angels: Lift up your lintels, O you gates! O you nations of the earth, clap your hands, for Christ ascends to the place where He had been from all eternity.



Christ, splendor and glory of the Father, when we behold your Ascension on the holy mountain, we sing a hymn of praise to the beauty of your countenance. We bow down to your Passion; we venerate your holy Resurrection; and we glorify your noble Ascension. O Lord, have mercy on us.

*From the Pentecostarion*



~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

- **LILLIES** are located along the sidewalk between the rectory and the church for anyone who would like to have the bulbs.
- **SEMINARY COLLECTION:** If you have not already done so, there is still time to contribute to the **Saints Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Catholic Seminary** annual appeal.

- **PURIFICATION OF THE HEART: The First Stage of the Spiritual Life** The purification of the heart is the essential starting point of the Christian life. How do we identify the presence of the passions in our own lives, and what are the means, the medicine, that the Church gives us to overcome them? This final live webinar will take place on **Wednesday, May 20 @ 8 - 9 pm EDT**. All courses are free of charge, but you must register at **EasternCatholic.org/Events**. Rev. Deacon Thomas Moses, the presenter for this series, serves as a deacon at Our Lady of the Cedars Melkite Greek Catholic Church in Manchester, NH.
- Our annual **MEMORIAL DAY PANACHIDA** will take place at 10:00 at the parish cemetery (weather permitting) followed by the blessing of veterans' graves.
- The annual **PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION** will be taken the weekend of **June 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>**. In ninth-century England, King Alfred the Great collected money, a "pence," from landowners as financial support for the pope. Today, the Peter's Pence Collection supports the pope's philanthropy by giving the holy father the means to provide emergency assistance to those in need because of natural disaster, war, oppression, and disease.

**QUARANTINE TRIVIA: WHY** do men's clothes have buttons on the right while women's clothes have buttons on the left? **BECAUSE** when buttons were invented, they were very expensive and worn primarily by the rich. Since most people are right-handed, it is easier to push buttons on the right through holes on the left. Because wealthy women were dressed by maids, dressmakers put the buttons on the maid's right! And that's where women's buttons have remained since.