

Sunday of the Man Born Blind

May 14, 2023



Prayer before Liturgy

THROUGH THE PRAYERS OF OUR HOLY FATHERS, O LORD
JESUS CHRIST OUR GOD, HAVE MERCY ON US.

AMEN.

GLORY TO YOU, OUR GOD, GLORY TO YOU.

HEAVENLY KING, COMFORTER, SPIRIT OF TRUTH,

EVERYWHERE PRESENT AND FILLING ALL THINGS, TREASURY
OF

BLESSINGS AND GIVER OF LIFE, COME AND DWELL WITHIN US,
CLEANSE US OF ALL STAIN, AND SAVE OUR SOULS, O
GRACIOUS ONE.

*THROUGHOUT PASCHA, THE FOLLOWING IS SAID IN PLACE OF
"GLORY TO YOU" AND "HEAVENLY KING."*

**CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD! BY DEATH HE TRAMPLED
DEATH;**

AND TO THOSE IN THE TOMBS HE GRANTED LIFE. (THREE TIMES)

**HOLY GOD, HOLY AND MIGHTY, HOLY AND IMMORTAL, HAVE
MERCY ON US. (THREE TIMES)**

**GLORY TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE HOLY
SPIRIT, NOW AND EVER AND FOREVER. AMEN.**

**MOST HOLY TRINITY, HAVE MERCY ON US; LORD, CLEANSE US
OF OUR SINS; MASTER, FORGIVE OUR TRANSGRESSIONS;
HOLY ONE, COME TO US AND HEAL OUR INFIRMITIES FOR
YOUR NAME'S SAKE.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY. (THREE TIMES)

**GLORY TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE HOLY
SPIRIT, NOW AND EVER AND FOREVER. AMEN.**

Acts 16:

16-34

PAUL IMPRISONED AT PHILIPPI.

ON ONE OCCASION, AS WE WERE ON OUR WAY TO THE PLACE OF PRAYER, WE WERE MET BY A SLAVE GIRL WHO WAS POSSESSED BY A SPIRIT OF DIVINATION AND BROUGHT LARGE PROFITS TO HER OWNERS BY FORTUNE-TELLING. SHE BEGAN TO FOLLOW PAUL AND THE REST OF US, SHOUTING, "THESE MEN ARE SERVANTS OF THE MOST HIGH GOD, AND THEY HAVE COME TO PROCLAIM TO YOU A WAY OF SALVATION." SHE KEPT DOING THIS FOR MANY DAYS, UNTIL PAUL BECAME VERY GREATLY TROUBLED. HE TURNED AND SAID TO THE SPIRIT, "I COMMAND YOU IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST TO COME OUT OF HER." AND THE SPIRIT CAME OUT OF HER INSTANTLY.

WHEN HER OWNERS REALIZED THAT THEIR HOPE OF MAKING MONEY FROM HER WAS GONE, THEY SEIZED PAUL AND SILAS AND DRAGGED THEM INTO THE MARKETPLACE BEFORE THE AUTHORITIES. THEY BROUGHT THEM BEFORE THE MAGISTRATES AND SAID, "THESE MEN ARE CAUSING A DISTURBANCE IN OUR CITY. THEY ARE JEWS, AND THEY ARE ADVOCATING PRACTICES THAT IT IS ILLEGAL FOR US AS ROMANS TO ADOPT OR FOLLOW."

THE CROWD JOINED IN THE ATTACK AGAINST THEM, AND THE MAGISTRATES HAD THEM STRIPPED AND ORDERED THEM TO BE BEATEN. AFTER THEY HAD INFLICTED A SEVERE BEATING ON THEM, THEY THREW THEM INTO PRISON AND INSTRUCTED THE JAILER TO GUARD THEM CLOSELY. FOLLOWING THESE INSTRUCTIONS, HE PUT THEM IN THE INNERMOST CELL AND LOCKED THEIR FEET IN THE STOCKS.

PAUL SET FREE. ABOUT MIDNIGHT, PAUL AND SILAS WERE PRAYING AND SINGING HYMNS OF PRAISE TO GOD, AND THE PRISONERS WERE LISTENING TO THEM. SUDDENLY, THERE WAS SUCH A HUGE EARTHQUAKE THAT THE VERY FOUNDATIONS OF THE PRISON WERE SHAKEN. AT ONCE, ALL THE DOORS FLEW OPEN, AND EVERYONE'S CHAINS WERE LOOSENED.

WHEN THE JAILER AWAKENED AND SAW ALL THE DOORS OF THE PRISON WIDE OPEN, HE DREW HIS SWORD, INTENDING TO KILL HIMSELF, SINCE HE ASSUMED THAT THE PRISONERS HAD ESCAPED. HOWEVER, PAUL SHOUTED IN A LOUD VOICE, "DO NOT HARM YOURSELF, FOR WE ARE ALL HERE."

THE JAILER CALLED FOR LIGHTS AND, RUSHING IN, HE THREW HIMSELF BEFORE PAUL AND SILAS, TREMBLING WITH FEAR. THEN HE BROUGHT THEM OUTSIDE AND SAID, "SIRS, WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?" THEY ANSWERED, "BELIEVE IN THE LORD JESUS, AND YOU WILL BE SAVED, AND SO TOO WILL YOUR HOUSEHOLD." AFTER THIS, THEY PREACHED THE WORD OF THE LORD TO HIM AND TO EVERYONE IN HIS HOUSE.

AT THAT LATE HOUR OF THE NIGHT, THE JAILER TOOK THEM AND BATHED THEIR WOUNDS. THEN HE AND HIS ENTIRE FAMILY WERE BAPTIZED WITHOUT DELAY. AFTERWARD, HE BROUGHT THEM INTO HIS HOUSE AND SET A MEAL BEFORE THEM, AND HE AND HIS ENTIRE HOUSEHOLD REJOICED OVER THEIR BELIEF IN GOD.

John 9: 1-38

Jesus Cures a Man Born Blind. As Jesus walked along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but it happened so that the works of God might be revealed in him. We must do the works of him who sent me while it is still day. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

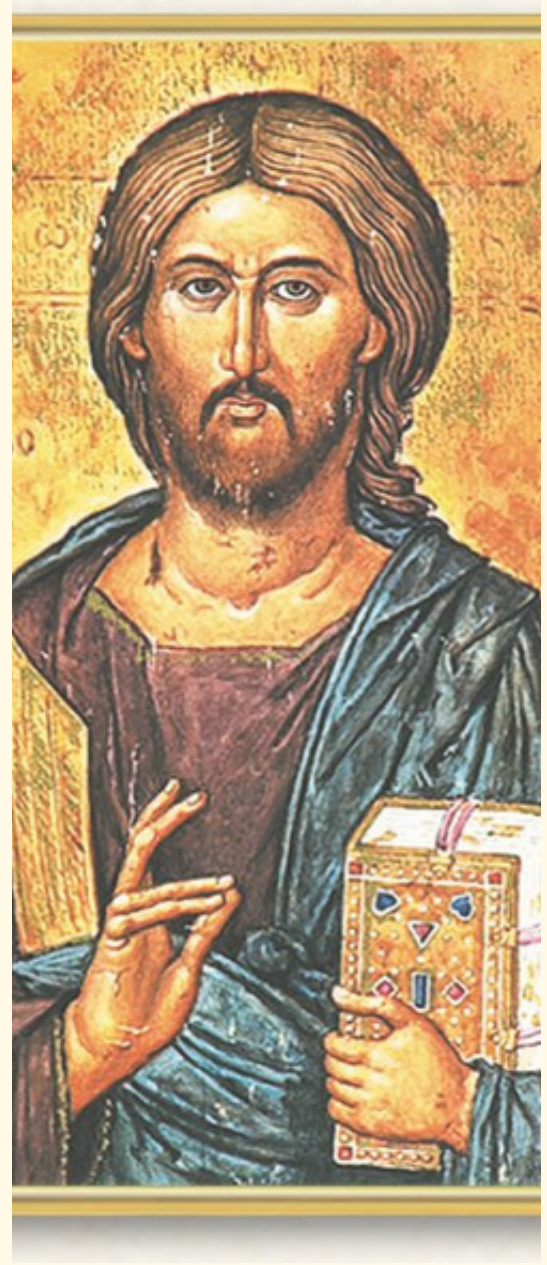
When he had said this, he spat on the ground, made a paste with the saliva, and smeared the paste on the eyes of the blind man. Then he said to him, "Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam." (The name means "Sent.") The man went forth and washed, and he returned seeing.

That Man Is a Prophet. His neighbors and those who had seen him begging asked, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "Yes, this is the same man," but others insisted, "No. It simply is someone who looks like him." He said, "I am the man." Therefore, they asked him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He replied, "The man called Jesus made a paste and smeared it over my eyes. Then he said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and then I was able to see." They asked him, "Where is he?" He replied, "I do not know." They then brought the man who had formerly been blind to the Pharisees. Now it was on a Sabbath day that Jesus had made the paste and opened his eyes. The Pharisees also asked him how he had gained his sight. He said to them, "He put a paste on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I can see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man cannot be from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" Thus, they were divided in their opinions. And so they spoke again to the blind man, asking, "What do you have to say about him? It was your eyes that he opened." He replied, "He is a prophet." However, the Jews refused to believe that the man had been blind and had received his sight until they summoned 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 is he now able to see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our

son and that he was born blind, but we do not know how he is now able to see, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him. He is of age. He can speak for himself." His parents responded in this way because they were afraid of the Jews. For the Jews had already agreed that anyone who acknowledged Jesus to be the Christ would be put out of the synagogue. This is why his parents said, "He is of age. Ask him."

That Man Is from God. And so for a second time they summoned the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. But one thing I do know: I was blind, and now I am able to see." They then asked 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 also want to become his disciples?" Then they began to taunt him, saying, "It is you who are his disciple. We are disciples of Moses. We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he is from." He answered, "That is what is so amazing. You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but that he does listen to anyone who is devout and obeys his will. "Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could not have been able to accomplish anything." They answered him, "You were born in sin and you would teach us?" Then they threw him out.

Do You Believe in the Son of Man? When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and asked, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He replied, "Who is he, sir, so that I may believe in him?" "You have seen him," said Jesus, "and he is the one who is speaking to you." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he fell down in worship before him.



What do you hear
God saying?

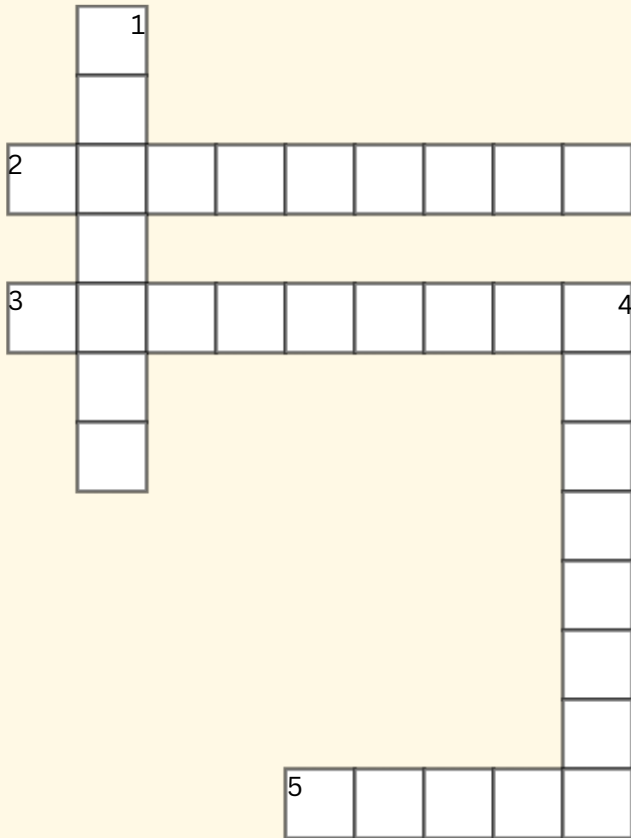
Sunday Of The Man Born Blind Crossword Puzzle

Across

- 2. A spirit controlling a person (possessed)
- 3. Jewish group, known for strict observance of the traditional and written law (pharisees)
- 5. Not able to see (blind)

Down

- 1. Person regarded as an inspired teacher or proclaimer of the will of God (prophet)
- 4. Call on someone to come to you (summoned)



Prayer before Communion

O LORD, I BELIEVE AND PROFESS THAT YOU ARE TRULY CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD, WHO CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS OF WHOM I AM THE FIRST.

ACCEPT ME TODAY AS A PARTAKER OF YOUR MYSTICAL SUPPER, O SON OF GOD, FOR I WILL NOT REVEAL YOUR MYSTERY TO YOUR ENEMIES, NOR WILL I GIVE YOU A KISS AS DID JUDAS, BUT LIKE THE THIEF I PROFESS YOU: REMEMBER ME, O LORD, WHEN YOU COME IN YOUR KINGDOM.

REMEMBER ME, O MASTER, WHEN YOU COME IN YOUR KINGDOM.

REMEMBER ME, O HOLY ONE, WHEN YOU COME IN YOUR KINGDOM.

MAY THE PARTAKING OF YOUR HOLY MYSTERIES, O LORD, BE NOT FOR MY JUDGMENT OR CONDEMNATION BUT FOR THE HEALING OF SOUL AND BODY.

O LORD, I ALSO BELIEVE AND PROFESS THAT THIS, WHICH I AM ABOUT TO RECEIVE, IS TRULY YOUR MOST PRECIOUS BODY AND YOUR LIFE-GIVING BLOOD, WHICH, I PRAY, MAKE ME WORTHY TO RECEIVE FOR THE REMISSION OF ALL MY SINS AND FOR LIFE EVERLASTING. AMEN. O GOD, BE MERCIFUL TO ME, A SINNER. O GOD, CLEANSE ME OF MY SINS AND HAVE MERCY ON ME. O LORD, FORGIVE ME FOR I HAVE SINNED WITHOUT NUMBER.

Prayer for Vocations

**O GOD, GREAT IN MIGHT AND INSCRUTABLE IN WISDOM, MARVELOUS IN COUNSEL ABOVE THE SONS OF MEN, FATHER OF ALL PERFECT GIFTS: YOU THE SAME LORD, ENLIGHTEN WITH YOUR HOLY SPIRIT THE HEARTS OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND CALL THEM TO FOLLOW YOUR ONLY BEGOTTEN SON AND OUR SAVIOUR, JESUS CHRIST, THE GOOD SHEPHERD! GIVE THEM THE COURAGE AND GENEROSITY NECESSARY TO OVERCOME ALL OBSTACLES TO THEIR VOCATION, FOR YOU COMPLETE WHAT IS LACKING! GIVE TO THE PARENTS THAT FAITH, LOVE AND SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE WHICH WILL INSPIRE THEM TO OFFER THEIR CHILDREN TO YOUR SERVICE AND REJOICE WHENEVER ONE OF THEIR CHILDREN IS CALLED TO FOLLOW CHRIST IN A SPECIAL WAY OF PRIESTHOOD OR RELIGIOUS CONSECRATION. WE IMPLORE YOU THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF THE MOST PURE THEOTOKOS AND EVER VIRGIN MARY!
AMEN!**