

Welcome to St. Athanasius the Great Byzantine Catholic Church "Christ Is Risen! Christos Voskrese!" "Indeed He Is Risen! Voistunu Voskrese!"

We welcome all to the Divine Services at our parish. Our restrooms are in the Dormition Hall behind the Rectory next door. On Sundays, after Divine Liturgy, our potluck luncheon is open to everyone, especially our guests. Come join us for fellowship.

In the Byzantine tradition, the Fourth Sunday of Pascha commemorates the Sunday of the Paralytic. On it we remember when Jesus healed a paralytic man at the Sheep Gate pool. When we reflect upon the story, not only are there moral lessons to be learned, it also can be seen as a representation of how Jesus comes and heals us from our own spiritual infirmity.

Need to request an appointment with Father?

Father is available for confession or spiritual direction by appointment, and he welcomes you to contact him whenever you need him.

Prayers for the sick or other intentions:

If you have a special intention for the sick, birthdays, deceased, need to request a Liturgy or other service to be offered for someone please give a note, text or call Father at 216-532-6364.

Opportunities to Help with Fundraising....we are called into service

At this time, our parish is unable to exist without fundraising initiatives. Our most successful venture over the years has proved to be the traditional pierogi and European baked goods made in our commercial kitchen and sold at the various local Farmers' Market venues. Volunteers are always needed to help with the baking and selling. Cleaning the work areas and equipment are also welcomed opportunities to serve (can be an evening after work). You are always needed, even if it is for a couple of hours.

There will be no Carmel Market during the month of April. Bakery activities will continue however, for Market Wagon twice a week and to build inventory for the Summer Market, which begins in May. Please contact John Danovich, (317) 538-7444, to schedule a workable day and time (Tuesday through Saturday) for you and/or your family.

Opportunities For Service At St. Athanasius

- The Summer Farmer's Market in Carmel runs on Saturday mornings beginning in May and lasts through September. Volunteers are needed to bring products to the market and sell them to free up those who spend their days preparing the products Tuesday through Friday.
- Pierogi pinchers and bakers are always needed (Tues through Friday).
- Our worship space needs to be kept maintained; plants watered, candles filled, carpet vacuumed.
- Our social space needs to be kept clean and organized, including bathrooms. Please clean up chairs as well as tables in the hall.
- Items for the food pantry are always needed; (food, cans with poptops, toiletries), Toothbrushes also are almost out.
- Bags for the food pantry need to be assembled.
- In the garden: weed around garlic, prep soil for planting.
- Preparation for hosting after the liturgies during the upcoming Eucharist Congress.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

Please consider making a sacrificial gift to this year's Appeal that reflects the importance of the Church in your life and in the lives of those close to you. The Eparchy needs your support. Your gift will make a positive difference, such as: Development of Parishes, Vocations and Seminarian Education, The Works of the Apostolate and Retired Priests of the Eparchy.

2024 ByzanTEEN Rally

The Rally will take place in San Diego on **June 27-30**, **2024**. Registration for the event will be open on Jan 20th, and we are thrilled to invite all teens in your parish ages 13-17. The price for the event weekend is \$380.

10th NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS JULY 17-21, 2024

For the first time in a generation, the Church in the United States will gather for a National Eucharistic Congress. The Congress will be held in Indianapolis and those interested in attending need to register https://www.eucharisticcongress.org/
St Athanasius will host the Divine Liturgy on Thursday and Friday (July 18 and 19) at 4:00 PM for registered Congress participants interested in experiencing worship in the Byzantine Rite. 100-200 people are expected on each of the days.

We will have, available for purchase, the products we sell at the Farmers' Market venues throughout the year. To maximize this opportunity for fundraising, help is needed NOW from many volunteers to generate an inventory of products.

There is also opportunity, after the liturgies on July 18 and 19, to sell ethnic food (ala carte) to be eaten on site or taken away. If we offer this, we will need many people involved in the preparation before and delivery during the events. A planning meeting, relatively soon, is needed to discuss the details. Anyone interested, willing and able to take the leadership in managing this opportunity to not only provide hospitality to our guests but also maximize fundraising, please contact John Danovich as soon as possible.

Each week we go through lots of bottled water and coffee. For those using them please help us replenish our supply by **bringing replacements or use the donation jar** on the Dormition Hall serving table. Thank you.

The Knights of Columbus are meeting next week after the luncheon.

	Services for the W	eek of April 2	1 – April 28, 2024	
Day		Time	Service	Readings
Sunday	April 21 Sunday of the Paralytic Man	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM 12:30 PM	Matins Divine Liturgy Luncheon ECF	Acts 9:32-42 Jn 5:1-15
Monday	April 22 Theodore Sykiot Venerable		No services	Acts 10:1-16 Jn 6:56-69
Tuesday Simple Holy Day	April 23 The Holy Great Martyr George	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy	Acts 12:1-11 Jn 15:17-16:2
Wednesday	April 24 Mid-Pentecost	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy	Acts 14:6-18 Jn 7:14-30
Thursday	April 25 Mark Apostle	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy	1 Pet 5:6-14 Mk 6:7-11
Friday	April 26 Basil of Amasea Bishop-Martyr		No services	Acts 10:44-11:10 Jn 8:21-30
Saturday	April 27 Simeon Bishop-Martyr	5:00 PM	Vespers Confessions	Acts 12:1-11 Jn 8:31-42
Sunday	April 28 Sunday of the Samaritan Woman	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM 12:30 PM	Matins Divine Liturgy Luncheon ECF & K of C	Acts 11:19-26 & 29-30 Jn 4:5-42

Financial Report 4/14/2024

Date	Bakery Sales	Building Fund	Candle	Holy Day	Sunday Tithes	Weekly Total
4/14	\$379.82		\$35.00	\$7.00	\$1,194.03	\$1,615.85

Sunday of the Paralytic Man

Acts 9:32-42

Aeneas and Dorcas ³² As Peter traveled about the country, he went to visit the Lord's people who lived in Lydda. 33 There he found a man named Aeneas, who was paralyzed and had been bedridden for eight years. 34 "Aeneas," Peter said to him, "Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and roll up your mat." Immediately Aeneas got up. 35 All those who lived in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord. 36 In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. ³⁷ About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. 38 Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!" 39 Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them. 40 Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. 41 He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. ⁴² This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord.

John 5:1-15

The Healing at the Pool Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals. ² Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. ³ Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. ⁵ One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?" 7 "Sir," the invalid replied, "I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me." Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." 9 At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. The day on which this took place was a Sabbath, 10 and so the Jewish leaders said to the man who had been healed, "It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat." ¹¹ But he replied, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Pick up your mat and walk.' " ¹² So they asked him, "Who is this fellow who told you to pick it up and walk?" ¹³ The man who was healed had no idea who it was, for Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there. ¹⁴ Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, "See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you." 15 The man went away and told the Jewish leaders that it was Jesus who had made him well.

In the Gospel story, we are told of the pool of Bethzatha in which an angel is said to come and disturb the waters; it was believed that the first person to enter that pool when the angel comes would be healed of whatever ailments they had. The paralytic man had long wanted to enter into the pool and be healed, but he could not do it by himself. He had been able to get near the pool, but not into it at the right time: When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled, and while I am going, another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your pallet, and walk." And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked. Now that day was the sabbath. In this story, we see that the paralyzed man was routinely ignored by his peers; he needed help in order to get healed, and yet no one was willing to give him that help. We do not know why everyone would pass him by. Certainly, some did out of selfishness, wanting into the pool themselves. But others would have seen him there in need, without any need themselves; instead of helping him get healed, they ignored him. If we think about it, we can find something very similar going on today, as many ignore the plight of the poor and needy.

Perhaps the responses we hear today to the poor are the kinds of responses the paralytic heard in his day. "I'm not my brother's keeper." "I am needed somewhere else." "If he wanted it bad enough, he would find a way." "Someone else deserves it more." "Why should I help him, when it is obvious that he is being punished for his sins?" "I don't have the time." "Who cares?" Likewise, there are many people today, many people sick with illnesses which could be cured, who do not have the resources to get that cure. They are also like the paralytic. Their needs are neglected and ignored as they lie down sick and, in much pain, and distress. Many needlessly die due to lack of money or insurance. We are expected to be good neighbors, to see their needs are met like the Good Samaritan in Jesus' parables. The way we do this might differ from the Good Samaritan or Jesus himself, but the means are there, if only we would promote them: we must look after those who could be healed, who could get what was needed, and make sure they get it. If we do not personally have the means to do so (as many of us do not), we can still do something about it, such as arguing for a better health care system in which their needs are not neglected. Promotion of social justice with health care reform is a way for many of us to make sure we do not pass by analogues to the paralytic man in our lives: instead of passing them by, ignoring them, we should do what we can to lift them up, and that includes demanding the government to follow its dictates to create a just society.

Likewise, spiritually, we are often like the paralytic, finding ourselves stuck in a place all so near and yet all so far from spiritual healing. Like the paralytic man, Jesus offers us the means by which we can be healed. Jesus, as he did with the paralytic man, tells us we must get up and walk. That is, though we have been taken down by our struggles, we must not use that as an excuse to think Jesus will heal us without any effort of our own. We must get up and walk: we must get up and act as Jesus has told us to act. We must do more than sit lie down, hoping that his grace will save us without any cooperation with that grace on our part. How do we do that? We do what Jesus told us to do. We get up and walk, we get up and do things. We obey Christ. We embrace the core of the law, the law of love, and treat others through the dictates of love. ... HENRY KARLSON https://www.patheos.com/blogs/henrykarlson/2019/05/take-up-your-bed-and-walk-a-reflection-for-the-sunday-of-the-paralytic-man/



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Weekend Divine Services

Saturday: 5 PM Vespers
Sunday: 8:15 AM Matins
10 AM Divine Liturgy

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