

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.

The **fifth Sunday of Holy Pascha** is observed in the Byzantine tradition as the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman. The day commemorates the encounter of Christ with the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well. The biblical story of this event and the dialog between Christ and the woman is found in the Gospel of Saint John 4:5-42.

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 (Tuesday 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 every week.
- In the garden: weed around garlic, prep soil for planting.
- Preparation for hosting after the liturgies during the upcoming Eucharist Congress.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

STEWARDSHIP APPEAL – last chance

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 (e.g. Bishops, clergy, laity) 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 today after the luncheon.

	Services for the W	eek of April 2	28 – May 5, 2024		
Day		Time Service		Readings	
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	
Monday	April 29 The Nine Holy Martyrs of Cyzice		No services	Acts 12:12-17 Jn 8:42-51	
Tuesday	April 30 James the Greater Apostle		No services	Acts 12:1-11 Lk 5:1-11	
Wednesday	May 1 Jeremiah Prophet	6:00 PM	Vespers	Acts 13:13-24 Jn 6:5-14	
Thursday	May 2 Athanasius the Great Patriarch – patronal feast day	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy	Acts 14:21-27 Jn 9:39-10:9	
Friday	May 3 Passing of Theodosius of the Caves	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy	Heb 13:7-16 Lk 6:17-23	
Saturday	May 4 Pelagia - Martyr	5:00 PM	Vespers Confessions	Acts 15:35-41 Jn 10:27-38	
Sunday	May 5 Sunday of the Man Born Blind	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM 12:30 PM 1:00 PM	Matins Divine Liturgy Luncheon ECF Ukrainian DL	Acts 16:16-34 Jn 9:1-38	

Financial Report 4/21/2024

Date	Bakery Sales	GCU grant	Candles	Holy Day	Sunday Tithes	Weekly Total
4/21	\$515.13	\$1000.00	\$20.00		\$483.03	\$1,973.16

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Acts 11:19-26 & 29-30

The Church in Antioch ¹⁹ Now those who had been scattered by the persecution that broke out when Stephen was killed traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, spreading the word only among Jews. ²⁰ Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. ²¹ The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord. ²² News of this reached the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. ²³ When he arrived and saw what the grace of God had done, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. ²⁴ He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord. ²⁵ Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, ²⁶ and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch. ²⁹ The disciples, as each one was able, decided to provide help for the brothers and sisters living in Judea. ³⁰ This they did, sending their gift to the elders by Barnabas and Saul.

John 4:5-42

⁵ So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. ⁷ When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" 8 (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" 10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." 11 "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? ¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?" 13 Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." 15 The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water." ¹⁶ He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back." ¹⁷ "I have no husband," she replied. Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. ¹⁸ The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true." 19 "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹ "Woman," Jesus replied, "believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth." ²⁵ The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." ²⁶ Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you— I am he" The Disciples Rejoin Jesus ²⁷ Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?" ²⁸ Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, ²⁹ "Come, see a man

who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?" ³⁰ They came out of the town and made their way toward him. ³¹ Meanwhile his disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat something." ³² But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about." ³³ Then his disciples said to each other, "Could someone have brought him food?" ³⁴ "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. ³⁵ Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. ³⁶ Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. ³⁷ Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. ³⁸ I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor."

Many Samaritans Believe ³⁹ Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. ⁴¹ And because of his words many more became believers. ⁴² They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world."

......In today's Gospel – the second of the three Sundays of the Pentecostarion that speak of the mystery of Baptism, because of the water references – we see the enthusiasm of a town of outsiders, the Samaritans, for the Lord. And this woman, whom Tradition reveals as Photini, "the enlightened one," was an "outsider's outsider" to the Lord. She was a Samaritan; He was a Jew. She was a woman: He was a man. She was five times married, well beyond the moral limit in her culture, and living with a man who was not her husband! The Lord was known to be a Rabbi, with whom such a woman as the Samaritan Woman would never associate, or even engage in the slightest way. In fact, when the Disciples returned from their errand to find food, and found the Lord speaking with her, they were scandalized and even shocked. The Gospel says: They were surprised that Jesus was speaking to a woman. (However, nobody said, "What were you looking for?" or "Why were **you speaking with her?")** But in their encounter at the Well of Jacob, our Lord did not reject her, or avoid her, or condemn her. Instead, he dialogued with her; He accepted her as she was; and He allowed her to grow in self-knowledge, to the point where she even forgot the water that she had come to Jacob's well to draw. And then she wanted to share her experience of Christ with others. This, my beloved brother and sisters, is the effect that acceptance, listening, truth and love have on people – even when their lives have become based on lies. And this is how we are called to live in the light of the Resurrection. The Lord Jesus violated many social norms to have this encounter with the Samaritan Woman. By reaching out beyond the conventions of society, He led her – with patience and understanding - to come to her own conclusions about her life. And what did she do? She went to her fellow townspeople and told them: "Come on! See a man who told me everything I have ever done! Is it possible that this man is the Christ?"

She was transformed from a town pariah to the town preacher – even the town Evangelist! See the gentleness in how she approaches others without demands; for she wants them to see for themselves. What a wonderful example for every Christian and for every parish to follow! Listen compassionately to one another, with patience and understanding, without judgment or condemnation. And make room for conversation about the faith, that is open and accepting of others, just as we all want to be accepted before God. For when we live our faith like this – like the Samaritan Woman – we will see what the Disciples themselves saw: *How people were running out of the town, and were coming to Jesus.* https://www.goarch.org/-/samaritan-woman-homily



Pastor: Rev. Mykhaylo Shkyndya Cantors: Brian Goshorn, John Danovich, Suzanne Goshorn **Business Manager:** John Danovich 317-538-7444 **Phones:** Office: 317-632-4157; Cell Phone (Fr. Mykhaylo): 216-532-6364

<u>Weekend Divine Services</u> **Saturday:** 5 PM Vespers Sunday: 8:15 AM Matins 10 AM Divine Liturgy

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