

MONTHLY BULLETIN

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MAY SERVICES

Sunday, May 4

Sunday of Myrrh Bearing Women

Orthros **8:30am**

Divine Liturgy **9:30am**

Sunday, May 11

Sunday of the Paralytic

Orthros **8:30am**

Divine Liturgy **9:30am**

Sunday, May 18

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Orthros **8:30am**

Divine Liturgy **9:30am**

Sunday, May 25

Sunday of the Blind Man

Orthros **8:30am**

Divine Liturgy **9:30am**

Thursday, May 29

Holy Ascension

Divine Liturgy **9:30am**

Bible Studies

Tuesdays **6:15pm – 7:30pm**

May 6th, 20th and 27th

Thursdays **11:15am – 12:30pm**

May 1st, 8th and 22nd

Bible Study & Jamming with Father Chris

May 15th **11:00am – 3:00pm**

Parish Family Dinners

We would like to thank the following families and Ministries for sponsoring our family dinners this past Lent.

The Sarantopoulos Family
Charles & Stella Nahatis
The Melissa Group
The Choir
Connie James

THE SAMARITAN WOMAN



One of the most ancient cities of the Promised Land was Shechem, also called Sikima, located at the foot of Mount Gerazim. There the Israelites had heard the blessings in the days of Moses and Jesus of Navi. Near to this town, Jacob, who had come from Mesopotamia in the nineteenth century before Christ, bought a piece of land where there was a well. This well, preserved even until the time of Christ, was known as Jacob's Well. Later, before he died in Egypt, he left that piece of land as a special inheritance to his son Joseph (Gen. 49:22). This town, before it was taken into possession by Samaria, was also the leading city of the kingdom of the ten tribes. In the time of the Romans, it was called Neapolis, and at present Nablus. It was the first city in Canaan visited by the Patriarch Abraham. Here also, Jesus of Navi (Joshua) addressed the tribes of Israel for the last time. Almost three hundred years later, all Israel assembled there to make Roboam (Rehoboam) king.

When our Lord Jesus Christ, then, came at midday to this city, which is also called Sychar (John 4:5), He was wearied from the journey and the heat, and He sat down at this well. After a little while the Samaritan woman mentioned in today's Gospel passage came to draw water.

THE SAMARITAN WOMAN CONTINUED..

As she conversed at some length with the Lord and heard from Him secret things concerning herself, she believed in Him; through her many other Samaritans also believed.

Concerning the Samaritans we know the following: In the year 721 before Christ, Salmanasar (Shalmaneser), King of the Assyrians, took the ten tribes of the kingdom of Israel into captivity, and relocated all these people to Babylon and the land of the Medes. From there he gathered various nations and sent them to Samaria. These nations had been idolaters from before. Although they were later instructed in the Jewish faith and believed in the one God, they worshipped the idols also.

Furthermore, they accepted only the Pentateuch of Moses, and rejected the other books of Holy Scripture. Nonetheless, they thought themselves to be descendants of Abraham and Jacob. Therefore, the pious Jews named these Judaizing and idolatrous peoples Samaritans, since they lived in Samaria, the former leading city of the Israelites, as well as in the other towns thereabout. The Jews rejected them as heathen and foreigners, and had no communion with them at all, as the Samaritan woman observed, "the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans" (John 4:9). Therefore, the name Samaritan is used derisively many times in the Gospel narrations. After the Ascension of the Lord, and the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the woman of Samaria was baptized by the holy Apostles and became a great preacher and Martyr of Christ; she was called Photine, and her feast is kept on February 26.

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THRIVING CONGREGATIONS COMMITTEE

Christ is Risen! Christos Anesti!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Much has happened since our initial TCI announcement and we're excited to share the updates with you. We've formed a committee dedicated to exploring how we can grow in faith and strengthen our community. With the generous guidance of a strategic planner from St. Nicholas Church in Lexington and the guidance of the Metropolis, we've gained valuable tools to help our parish flourish. Our meetings have not only been productive but they've also deepened our relationships and sense of shared purpose as we work to serve Christ and one another.

We recently held our first organized outing – a movie night to see *The Last Supper* and invited our friends from St. Vasilios in Peabody. It was a beautiful opportunity to enjoy fellowship and reflect deeply on Christ's journey to the Cross. The film reminded us of the power of His sacrifice and inspired us to ask: What does Christ want from us as individuals and as a church family?

We're currently working toward a mission statement that truly reflects who we are as a parish. We're also exploring new ways to encourage deeper engagement and spiritual growth within our community. That may look different for each of us—and that's okay! There's a place for everyone in this journey.

If you're interested in learning more, have ideas to share, or feel called to be a part of this mission, we warmly invite you to connect with us.

Please email me with questions, suggestions, or to get involved.

elainakberry@me.com

With love in Christ,
The Thriving Congregations Committee

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Please join us to celebrate our Graduation Day on Sunday, **May 18th**!

Upcoming news and enrollment forms for next year will be circulated to the community in June. We thank all of our devoted Sunday School teachers and parents who have contributed to making this program a success!

CHURCH NEWS

Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of the Church Council and all the parishioners of our beloved Church, I want to take this opportunity to recognize and thank Chrissy Pappas for her most generous donation that covered the cost of our new heating system installed this past winter.

Chrissy's generosity is greatly appreciated and allows our Church and its members to focus on our faith without concern for the safety and comfort for all of us during the winter season.

**Kind Regards,
Cushing Titcomb
Parish Council President**

Easter Egg Hunt Donations

Our beloved Father John initiated the Annual Easter Egg Hunt in our parish many years ago. The Annual Easter Egg Hunt is a memorable experience for the children of our parish. We wish to thank John and Kristen Govostes for spearheading this event. We thank several donors for their generosity; Jamie Costopoulos, The Govostes Family, George and Connie Markos, The Sarantopoulos Family, Jim and Janet Squires and Eleanor Todd and Family.

Easter Donations/Easter Flowers

Presvytera Kathleen Govostes
Louis Constantine
John & Christine Galanis
George & Ann Koshivas
Mary Sagris
Daniel Alexson
Jim Plasteras
Stella Spyropoulos
Dean Spyropoulos
Dr. Sideris Baer
Prudence Markos
Nancy Politis
Nancy Strisik
Anthony & Carol Nickas
Arthur & Irene Baer
Estelle Maistrellis
Brian & Denise DeFrancesco
Antonia Baer
Avgenia Rooney
Peter & Vivian Mandragouras
Peter Kolentsas
John Kolentsas
John & Christine Adams
William Carakatsane
Theodore & Catherine Bazdanis
Helen Grant
George & Stacey Kacoyanis
Andrew & Elaine Kaszuba
Jay & Mary Ann Tsoutsouras

Joseph & Diane Bourque
Harry Nahatis
Georgia Galanis
Scott & Maria Todaro
James Sagris
Michael & Pamela Carakatsane
Charles & Stella Nahatis
John Soffron
Nicholas & Ann Vontzalides
Tanya Markos
Joseph & Margot Ciccotelli
Lorayne Tsoutsouras
Peter & Joann Lampropoulos
Michael & Catherine Sarantopoulos
Virginia Zeroulis
James & Janet Squires
Papagiotas Family
Jon & Ann Waisnor
Steven & Diane Mitchell
Don & Elizabeth Swanson
Joseph & Ellen Sinkewicz
Angela Donahue
George & Eugenia Hasiotis
Connie James
George & Christyl Vlahos
Stephen & Katherine Lamson
Theodore & Ethel Galanis
Marcia & Dana Karas
Connie Lampropoulos

Viator Family
 George Gelasakis & Family
 William & Jaqueline Belezos
 Nicholas & Joan Vontzalides
 Daniel & Elaine Theriault
 Seraphino & Bette Ferriero
 Peter & Vivian Mandragouras
 Christine Sarantopoulos
 Richard Camacho
 Malcolm & Johanna Kadra
 Joseph Spaulding
 Katherine Georgeopoulos
 Stamatiki Paleopanidis
 Arthur & Nia Sotis

In Loving Memory of Peter Pappas

Marcia & Dana Karas

In Loving Memory of Stella Galanis

Pamela Scangas

In Loving Memory of Nicholas Votze

Martha Demetrion
 Paul & Janet Votze
 Bruce & Lisa Bial
 George & Connie Markos
 Maureen Woodworth
 Thomas & Katherine Themistos
 Andrew & Elaine Kaszuba

Charle & Helen Markos (In Memory of Louis G. Markos)
 George & Connie Markos
 Christine Galanis
 Joan Pohas
 Paul Gerrish
 Peter Argeropoulos
 Constance Geanakakis (In Memory of Irene Geanakakis)
 Virginia Kandris
 John Plasteras
 Aristotle & Eudokia Nikolaou
 Matthew & Alexandra Lemay
 Stanley & Robin Treantos

In Loving Memory of Stella Galanis

James Plasteras

In Loving Memory of James & Sylvia Lampropoulos

Peter & Joann Lampropoulos

In Loving Memory of Julie Pappas Burke

James & Janet Squires

General Donations

Christopher Tsoustouras
 Tina Lamson
 Daniel & Elaine Theriault

Memorial Day

On Monday, **May 26th** (Memorial Day) at **10:00 AM**, Father Chris will be at the Highland Cemetery (at the flagpole at the top of the hill) offering a Trisagion for deceased family members and friends.

Please bring a list of names for Father Chris to read at this time. Thank you.

MELISSA NEWS

On Wednesday, **May 7th**, our Melissa meeting will be held at the home of a member. Dinner will be generously provided. New members are always welcome. Please contact Chris Sarantopoulos at 978-356-3894 or at cesarantopoulos@hotmail.com to join and for more information. This group contributes so much to our church and consistently oversees projects to support others. We thank this ministry for their diligent efforts. Parishioners are appreciated for their continuous support.

Pots and Pans Project

On Sunday, May 4, the Melissa Women's Society **Pots and Pans** project will come to an end. We are honored to have Alex Manos Lemay, our parishioner, at church on this Sunday. Alex oversees this charitable endeavor. We will present the many collected items to her at this time during the coffee hour. The women of the Melissa Society wish to thank everyone who donated items to this worthwhile fundraiser to help others in need. Your generosity is always appreciated. Thank you.

May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Bible Study 11:15 – 12:30pm	2	3b
4 Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women Orthos 8:30am Liturgy 9:30am Last day of Sunday School & Graduation	5	6 Bible Study 6:15pm-7:45pm	7 Melissa Meeting 6:30pm in Church Hall	8 Bible Study 11:15-12:30pm	9	10
11 Sunday of Paralytic Orthos 8:30am Liturgy 9:30am	12 Greek School 4:00-6:00pm	13	14	15 Bible Study & Jamming with Fr. Chris 11:00am - 3:00pm	16	17
18 Sunday of the Samaritan Woman Orthros 8:30am Liturgy 9:30am	19 Greek School 4:00-6:00pm	20 Bible Study 6:15pm – 7:45pm	21	22 Bible Study 11:15-12:30pm	23	24
25 Sunday of the Blind Man Orthros 8:30am Liturgy 9:30am	26 Greek School 4:00 -6:00pm	27 Bible Study 6:15pm-7:45pm	28	29 Holy Ascension Liturgy 9:30am	30	31