

St. Basil Catholic Church

A Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Church of the Eparchy of Passaic
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Served by:

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**SLAVA ISUSU CHRISTU! SLAVA NA VIKI!
GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST! GLORY FOREVER!**

~ LITURGY SCHEDULE ~

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

EPISTLE Romans 12: 6-14
GOSPEL Matthew 9: 1-8

Saturday, July 4, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

For the Faithful of the Parish

Happy 250th Birthday, America!

Sanctuary Candle:

Health & Blessing of the Parish Family

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

EPISTLE Romans 15: 1-7
GOSPEL Matthew 9: 27-35

Saturday, July 11, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

For the Faithful of the Parish

Sanctuary Candle:

Health & Blessing of the Parish Family

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Fr. Martin is available to hear confession immediately following each Divine Liturgy, or by appointment.

~ REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS ~

Please continue to remember in our prayers all the needs of the parish family, the sick and suffering, those who have asked for our prayers, especially Frantisek Vavrak, Helena Huk, Danny Leckliter, Lillian Weir and George Stojkovic. Let us remember the priests and bishops of the Catholic Church, those people who have been denied their basic human rights and dignity, the oppressed, the lonely, the homeless and those who suffer, and those who have no peace of mind or heart.

~ PASTORAL MESSAGE ~

Dear faithful parishioners, and you who have come to our church for the first time – welcome!

It seems far easier to say to a paraplegic “Your sins are forgiven you” than to say “Rise up and walk.” Since we overlook the offenses of other people all the time, it is easy to think that Jesus was just overlooking the offenses of the paralyzed man. And this oversight by Jesus seems to be no great thing. But to answer the question honestly, given the magnitude of the One doing the forgiving and the heinousness of sins before God, everything suddenly changes. “Rise up and walk” is seemingly a far easier task than saying “Your sins are forgiven you” if we are talking about the forgiveness of sins before God. For this kind of forgiveness would have to contain an unearthly power, a power that no one on earth possesses for themselves, let alone for someone else.

It’s no wonder the Pharisees became angry at Jesus. Claiming the power to forgive sins was blasphemy and only God could make the claim to forgive sins. Yet here was an obscure rabbi who had come from a remote, poor village on the outskirts of the country claiming to remove sins. To the religious elite it was an outrage. To back up his claims, Jesus answered his incisive question with a miracle. The lame man was healed, the witnesses marveled and God displayed his power and grace.

It was probably a spectacular sight to see the paralytic man’s atrophied leg muscles suddenly explode into shape at Jesus’ command. But however the scene unfolded, what unfolded made even Jesus’ accusers suddenly praise God for the miracle. In their astonishment, their accusations were suddenly dropped and everyone was forced to take note of the power that they had just witnessed.

But the greater miracle had taken place well before Jesus healed the man. When Jesus first noticed his faith he told the man to “take heart, son; your sins are forgiven.” Christ had given the man eternal life on account of his faith. So the use of the man’s legs was a temporal gift, but the forgiveness of sins by the Lord of the Universe is an eternal gift that will never perish or fade. The lame man’s new legs may have allowed him to leap up for joy that day that he was lowered before Jesus, but the greater gift, the forgiveness of his sins, ensured that this man will be leaping forever.

Rev. Martin Vavrak

Administrator

~ PARISHIONER CORNER ~

Do you have a note or announcement you would like to share with your fellow parishioners?

*If so, the bulletin is great place to do so! If you would like to have something posted,
please email Fred by the preceding Wednesday.*