

May 17, 2020
Fifth Sunday of Pascha

Acts: 11: 19-26, 29-30
John 4:5-42

Upcoming Services:

All services are cancelled (see notice on next page)

The Samaritan Woman (St. Photina)

It was around noon one day when Jesus' followers stopped on the way to Galilee in Samaria to buy food, leaving Him to rest at the well outside the city called "Jacob's well", frequented by locals and visitors. It was there he encountered a Samaritan woman approaching the well with her water jar to draw water, when the Lord Jesus interrupted her, saying, "Give me a drink." This struck the woman as odd, and she remarked, "You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" For Jews did not associate with Samaritans, not alone female ones.

Jesus answered, "If you recognized the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him for a drink, and he would have given you living water." In response, "Sir," she teased, "you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where can you get this *living* water? Are you greater than our father Jacob who provided this well?"

"Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again," Jesus replied. "But whoever drinks of the water I give him will never thirst. For the water I give will become a spring of water, welling up to eternal life." In jest she replied, "Give me some of this water, that I mightn't get thirsty and have to keep coming to this well." Jesus rebuked, "Go call your husband and come back." And she countered, "I have no husband." Jesus responded, "Indeed you are right to say you have no husband; for you've had five husbands, and the one you're living with now you aren't married to."

"Sir, I can see you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim the place for worship is Jerusalem." Jesus answered, "Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem, for God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit." To this she said, "I know that the Messiah is coming. When he comes he will explain everything to us. That is when Jesus told her, "I who speak to you am he."

Hearing this, the woman hurried off, abandoning her water jar, heading back into town, telling everybody, "Come and see a man who told me everything I ever did! Could this be the Christ?" On account of the Samaritan woman's testimony many Samaritans came out of town that day to approach Jesus, and having heard for themselves, they knew truly that this man was the savior of the world.

<p><u>Reader Schedule:</u> Sun. May 17 - Kurtis Lauser Sun. May 24 - Jim Hamer Sun. May 31 - Wesley Hatch Sun. June 7 - Greg Kuzmenchuk</p>

Birthdays:

May 19 - Sherry Estes
May 20 - Fr. Anthony Ugolnik

Upcoming Events:

May 19, Tues- 7:00 pm Executive Board

Notices:

Covid-19 Virus Shut Down

Based on this information the following would have to be achieved in order to reopen churches:

1. Chester County would have to enter into the Yellow Phase before reopening church can even be considered.
2. The City of Coatesville would have to end its restriction on "gatherings of 4 or more unrelated persons in public places."
3. We would need the blessing of our Hierarchs

These are the stipulations we are required to follow, without all three of these occurring we will not be able to reopen our church. We can be reassured that Father Nick is serving Divine Liturgy every Sunday on our behalf. One server and the choir director are the only people allowed to be upstairs in the church. At this point no one else is permitted upstairs in the church proper. Limited persons are permitted in the church hall for food sales, paying of bills, maintenance, getting mail, or other absolutely necessary reasons. We will continue to provide updates via phone chain, bulletin, facebook and our website for any new information.

Church President, Tabitha Bentley

Anniversaries:

None this week.

Notices:

Veterans Memorial Service

The annual memorial service scheduled for Sunday May 17th at the Cemetery is canceled.

Church Finances

The church is closed but the bills don't stop. The executive board of Holy Ghost urges that tithes continue to be contributed to the church, they should be mailed to 392 Charles St.

Foods Available For Sale

Pierogies, (Potato/Cheese, Sauerkraut, Mushroom, Sweet Potato), Paska breads (with or no raisins), Kielbasa, Haluski & Pumpkin or Nut Rolls and soups.

2020 National Activities

UOC of USA Church camp and Convention are canceled this year.

Church Directory

Continue to send any Directory updates to Ambrose and Tabitha.

May Charity

Parishioner Care Fund

Prayer Corner:

For the Health of: Avelino Tejaro, Carol Bentley, Nancy, Toby Seip, Erin Bove, & Richard Ziegler