

SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN . . .

The Church is in the midst of the glorious Resurrection season. We still sing out the inspiring hymns telling of the Lord's victory over death. Why, then, does the Gospel for today speak of the healing of the paralyzed man at the pool of Bethesda? Is there any connection between this incident and the Resurrection?

The Fathers of the Church have pointed out that in the person of the Paralytic Man raised from his bed we have a foreshadowing of our own resurrection from the grave. In a Vesper hymn the paralytic is spoken of as "like unto a dead man, unburied." He speaks of his bed becoming his grave. But then Jesus comes to raise him. Just as then an Angel came to "trouble" the waters of the pool to make possible resurrection from illness, so in the last day an Angel shall come and "trouble" the dust of the earth and the dead in Christ shall rise.

Again the Kontakion hymn speaks of an individual being "grievously paralyzed by all kinds of sin and unseemly deeds," who can then be raised from this spiritual disease to new life and virtue by the might and love of God.

The Epistle lesson also tells of restoration and resurrection. Peter the Apostle comes to Lydda and there tells a sick man, "Jesus Christ heals you! Get up and take up your bed." Thus Aeneas was restored. A short distance away was Joppa, where a pious and charitable woman, Tabitha had died. Peter was summoned there, and kneeling down in prayer, bid the dead woman to rise.

Here we see the connection between these incidents and the Resurrection of our Lord. We have been shown numerous examples of CHRIST'S miracles during His earthly ministry. His CHURCH continues to display His power to this day!

WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

May 22, 2016.

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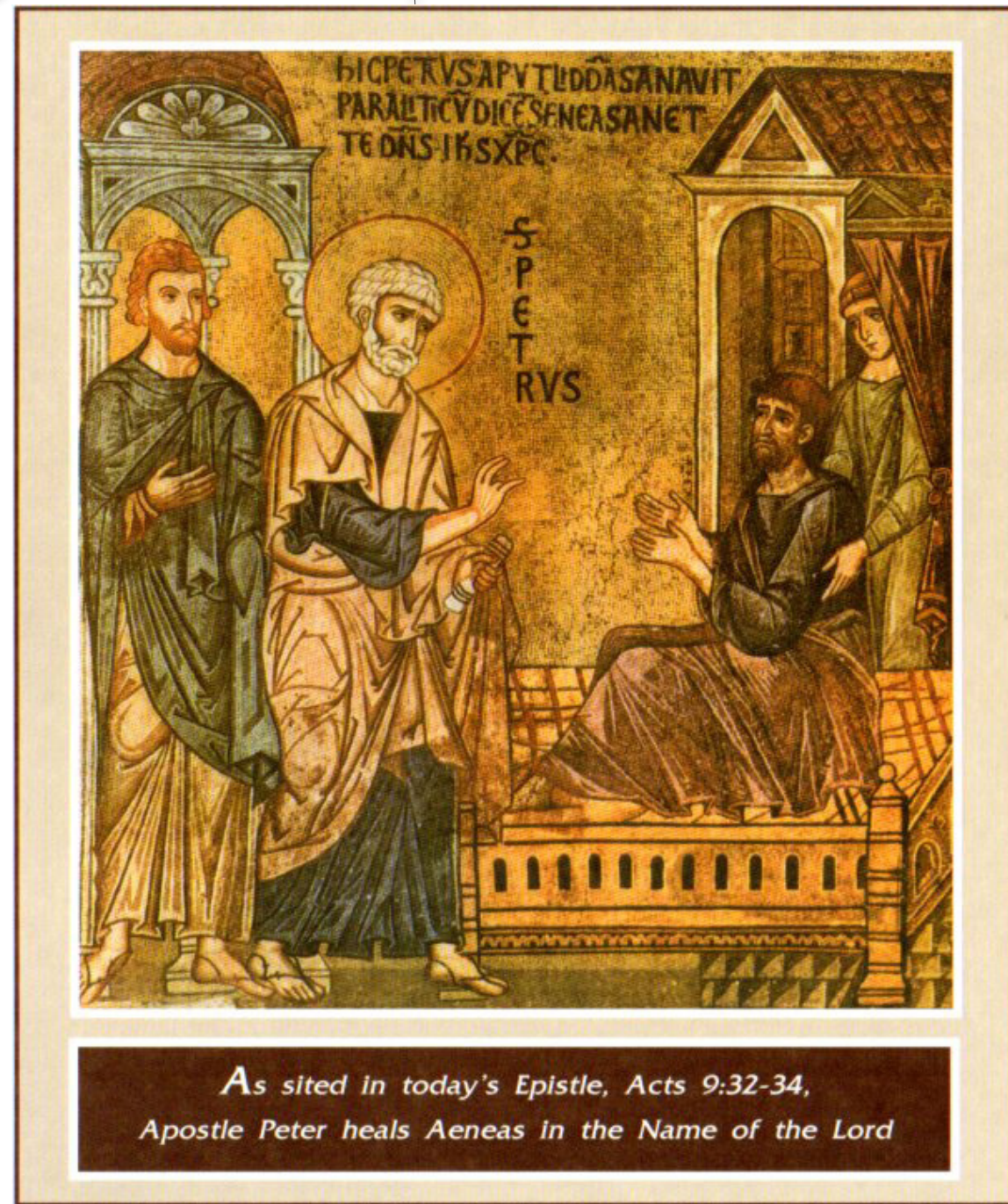


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*As sited in today's Epistle, Acts 9:32-34,
Apostle Peter heals Aeneas in the Name of the Lord*

SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC



TODAY'S READINGS

GOSPEL: John 5,1-15;

EPISTLE: Acts. 9, 32-42;

ON TUESDAY WE WILL COMMEMORATE:

SAINT CYRIL AND SAINT METHODIUS EQUAL TO THE APOSTLES

Saints Cyril and Methodius were brothers from Thessalonica of distinguished and wealthy parents, Leo and Maria. The older brother Methodius spent ten years as an officer among the Macedonian Slavs and thus learned the Slavic language. After that Methodius withdrew to Mount Olympus and dedicated himself to the monastic life of asceticism. It was here that Cyril (Constantine) later joined him. When the Khazarite king, Kagan, requested preachers of the Faith of Christ from Emperor Michael III then, by command of the emperor, these two brothers were found and sent among the Khazars. Convincing King Kagan of the Faith of Christ, they baptized him along with a great number of his chief assistants and even a greater number of the people. After a period of time, they returned to Constantinople where they compiled the Slavonic alphabet consisting of thirty-eight letters and proceeded to translate ecclesiastical books from Greek into Slavonic. At the request of Prince Rastislav, they traveled to Moravia where they spread and established the devout Faith and multiplied books and distributed them to the priests to teach the youth. At the request of the pope, Cyril traveled to Rome where he became ill and died on February 14, 867 A.D. Then Methodius returned to Moravia and labored to strengthen the Faith of Christ among the Slavs until his death. Following his death - he died in the Lord on April 6, 885 A.D. - his disciples, THE FIVE FOLLOWERS, with St. Clement, the bishop at the head, crossed the Danube River and descended to the south into Macedonia, where from Ohrid they continued their labor among the Slavs begun by Cyril and Methodius in the north.

On Tuesday, May 24th, is the Feast of Sts.Cyril and Methodius
DIVINE LITURGY WILL START AT 9:30AM.

HOMILY
About the irresistible will of God

"I say to myself, I will not mention him, I will speak in his name no more. But then it becomes like fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones; I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it"
(Jeremiah 20:9).

If anyone still doubts that God spoke through the prophets, let him read this confession of the great prophet Jeremiah and let him doubt no more. The prophet confesses that he had decided not to speak anymore in the Name of the Lord. Why? Because so few paid attention to his word. If anyone heeded his word the prophet endured "reproach and derision daily" (Jeremiah 20:8). But, when he decided to remain silent, did he, in fact, remain silent? No, he could not: "I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it!" He was so pressed by the irresistible power of the Spirit of God upon him to speak and he had to speak. It is, therefore, not the affair of the prophet whether he is going to speak or not: that is the affair of the All-powerful Spirit of God. The prophet is merely the chosen vessel of the All-powerful Spirit of God. All of Holy Scripture is written thusly - not according to the will of man but according to the will of God, and not according to the mind of man but according to the mind of God.

How does the word of God feel when it enters the prophet from the Spirit of God; this the great Jeremiah explains from his personal experience: "It becomes like fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones." That means, inspiration from the All-powerful Spirit of God. Under such irresistible internal pressure - as under the pressure of fire imprisoned in my bones - wrote the holy man of God. And many of them cried out: "I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it anymore." Who will go against the Spirit of God without punishment and destruction? Who will withstand Him when He wants to say something or to do something?
Only my brethren, the action of God the Holy Spirit is irresistible!

**DON'T PUT QUESTIONS
MARK WHERE GOD PUT
A PERIOD.**

*****PLEASE NOTE GREAT NEWS** - On Wednesday, May 25th or possibly as early as Tuesday, May 24th the Cemetery Road Project will get underway. Therefore there will be NO access to the cemetery while this work is being completed. Your co-operation will be greatly appreciated.

FOOD FESTIVAL - we would like to thank all of you who helped, donated, baked, advertised to your friends and attended our Spring Food Festival. Plans are already in the works for October 1st & 2nd so please keep these dates open!

St. Elijah Choir is sponsoring a day at APPLEBEE RESTAURANT on Wednesday, June 1, 2016 coupons are by the bulletin. All you have to do is attend between the hours of 11am until 9pm and we will receive 15% credit just for you joining us that day. Please take a few and pass them out to your friends but most of all come and join us!

Cornerstone Men's Club Picnic will be held on Saturday, June 11th gate opens at 2:00 p.m. Delicious BBQ lamb and pork will be served along with many other side items. Help is always needed and baked goods would be appreciated!

"TEA and TREASURER BASKETS" will be held on Sunday, June 26, starting at 1:00 p.m. High Tea with scones, finger sandwiches and delicious desserts. Prizes and beautiful Treasurer Baskets to be raffled off reservations have already started to come in so please join us for a great afternoon!



MAY LUNCHEON
HOSTED BY THE BRDAR FAMILY
TODAY

FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY
MENU

PORK LOIN, RICE PILAF, SERBIAN GREEN BEANS, ROLLS
CAKE
COFFEE, ICED TEA
DONATION \$12



SAVE THE DATES:

FYI -Dues are to be paid by June 1st in order to be a member in good standing. As voted on at the Annual Assembly on Sunday, December 20, 2015 the Non-member fee is now \$1500.

VISITS:

May 18th - West Hills - Joseph Mrkonja

May 19th - Beaver Meadows - Mike Kozlina, Jennie Zakovich, Sara Pesich, Smilja Milosh

May 19th - Trinity Oaks - Martha Jackson

May 20th - Villa St.Joseph - Slavka Nikolic

May 20th - Beaver Elder Care - Elizabeth Belich, Dorothy Baron

