

## THE SAMARITAN WOMAN



**SUNDAY, MAY 2<sup>ND</sup>**

### SAMARITAN WOMAN SUNDAY

8:40a.m. Hours  
9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy  
Coffee Hour

**MONDAY, MAY 3<sup>RD</sup>**

7:00p.m. Orthodox Movie Night

**SATURDAY, MAY 8<sup>TH</sup>**

6:00p.m. Great Vespers

**SUNDAY, MAY 9<sup>TH</sup>**

### SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN

8:40a.m. Hours  
9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy  
Coffee Hour



Leave all human injustices to the Lord, for God is the Judge, but as for yourself, be diligent in loving everyone with a pure heart, and remember that you yourself are a sinner and in need of God's mercy.

*St. John of Kronstadt*

#### READER SCHEDULE

**Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup>**

Jodi McElwee

**Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>**

Bruce Eckerd



## CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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**BULLETIN OF MAY 2, 2010**

**CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!**

#### Please Remember in Prayer

Irene Clenney, Nada McFarland, Gabriela Jones, Roman Szwec, Constantina, Melvin, Mat. Dunia, Patti Lease, Peg Feeser, Anna Varone, Jerrie Rife, Michelle Wilson, Bill & Kathy Parrish, Frs Michael & Andrew, Monk Christian, Jane Koshutko, Robert Evanusa, Nicholas & Linda, Nicholas, Anna, Steven, Yvonne, Todd & Olga, Nina Gordon, Constantina & Christos, Mirela & Chris, Jaroslav, Troy Duker, Frank & Mary Miranda, Kathy T. Requests? See Fr. John.

#### The Outreach Committee

will meet very briefly today during the coffee hour to set a date and time for its first official meeting. All committee members are asked to please stay so we can select the best time for everyone.



#### About Holy Water

The water that will be blessed on Mid-Pentecost, may be used for drinking (health of soul and body) and for blessing (homes, cars, gardens, etc.). Holy Water is grace-filled and offers health, protection, and sanctification. Often a bottle of Holy Water is kept in the refrigerator for frequent use throughout the year.

#### Orthodox Movie Night

On Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be a film at our church. The title has not yet been selected. Come and see!



#### Consecration of Bishop-Elect Michael

On Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, there will be no Orthodoxy 101 as Fr. John and his family will be in New Jersey for the consecration of Archimandrite Michael Dahulich to the episcopacy. Fr. Michael was Fr. John's Dean at St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary. Great Vespers will be served at the usual, 6:00pm.

#### Can You Offer a Ride to Church?

Please see Fr. John. Why not fill your empty seat with a fellow traveler to the Kingdom of God?

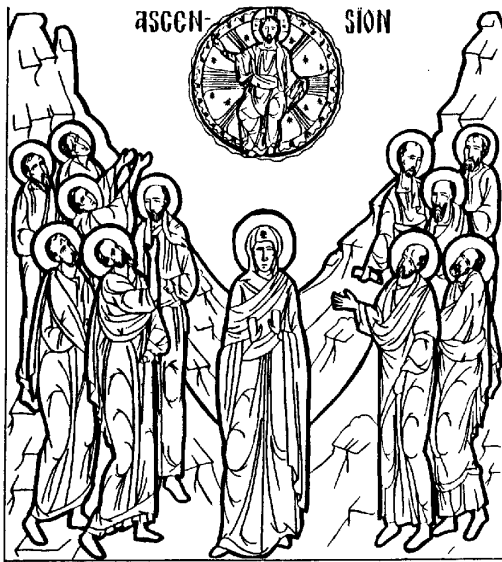


#### Contemplate the Risen Lord

- ❖ How during the 40 days after the Resurrection He showed Himself to the disciples, confirming them in the Faith;
- ❖ How His Resurrection brought great joy to those who loved Him, but unspeakable bitterness to those who hated Him;
- ❖ How His 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming, in glory and power, will evoke different feelings among different people – either joy or bitterness.
- ❖ How by His Resurrection, He destroyed the fear of death in the faithful, confirming their hope in everlasting life.

#### The May Calendar

is available on page 4. Please check the weekly bulletin for changes.



## ABOUT THE FACT OF CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

*From NewAdvent.org*

The fact of Christ's Resurrection is attested by more than 500 eyewitnesses, whose experience, simplicity, and uprightness of life rendered them incapable of inventing such a fable, who lived at a time when any attempt to deceive could have been easily discovered, who had nothing in this life to gain, but everything to lose by their testimony, whose moral courage exhibited in their apostolic life can be explained only by their intimate conviction of the objective truth of their message. Again the fact of Christ's Resurrection is attested by the eloquent silence of the Synagogue which had done everything to prevent deception, which could have easily discovered deception, if there had been any, which opposed only sleeping witnesses to the testimony of the Apostles, which did not punish the alleged carelessness of the official guard, and which could not

answer the testimony of the Apostles except by threatening them "that they speak no more in this name to any man" (Acts 4:17). Finally the thousands and millions, both Jews and Gentiles, who believed the testimony of the Apostles in spite of all the disadvantages following from such a belief, in short the origin of the Church, requires for its explanation the reality of Christ's Resurrection, for the rise of the Church without the Resurrection would have been a greater miracle than the Resurrection itself.

## 92-YEAR-OLD LONG ISLAND WOMAN FULFILLS HER DREAM OF BECOMING AN ORTHODOX NUN

*From DirectionsToOrthodoxy.org*

[Associated Press] A Suffolk County, Long Island New York woman who says she's wanted to be a nun her entire life finally got her wish — at 92. Chrystalla Petropoulou officially became a nun Saturday with the Greek Orthodox Church at a monastery in Calverton. Petropoulou contributed to the building of the monastery, which was finished in 2005. She lives there with a few other woman, all in their 20s.



## SAINT ALEXIS OF WILKES-BARRE

*Commemorated on May 7<sup>th</sup>*

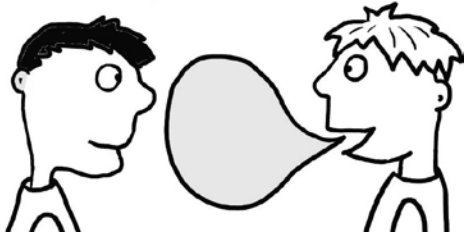
Saint Alexis (Toth) was born in Austro-Hungary on March 18, 1854, to a poor Carpatho-Russian family. He was married and they had a child. He was ordained to the priesthood in the Uniate (Eastern Rite Catholic) Church on April 18, 1878. His wife and child died shortly after that, while he was serving as a parish priest. In October 1889, Alexis was appointed as priest of a Uniate parish in Minneapolis, Minnesota. When he presented his credentials to the American Catholic archbishop, he was treated with open hostility. He knew his rights under canon law, so he convened a meeting of eight of the ten Unia priests in America at Wilkes-Barre who petitioned the bishops of Eastern Europe to aid them, but they would not. He feared deportation and told his congregation that he should just return to Europe. They said "No". They had been under foreign domination long enough. They told Father Alexis to go to the Russian Orthodox bishop for help. Bishop Vladimir came to Minneapolis and on March 25, 1891, received Father Toth and 361 parishioners into the Orthodox Church of their ancestors. The parishioners regarded this event as a new Triumph of Orthodoxy, crying out with joy: "Glory to God for His great mercy!" That is St. Mary's OCA. The Saint went on to form or lead back to Orthodoxy 16 additional communities. He traveled to southern New Jersey to try to regain his health in late 1908. Then he returned to Wilkes-Barre where he was confined to bed for his last months. He reposed on Friday, May 7, 1909. His relics were laid to rest at St. Tikhon's Monastery in South Canaan, Pennsylvania. His tablet reads: "This is your Faith. Hold to it."

## ASK FATHER: 3 QUESTIONS / 3 ANSWERS

### Question: How should I respond to people's questions about the Faith?

**Answer:** It is always good to remember the words of Scripture. The Apostle Peter says: "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and be ready always to give an answer to everyone who asks you a reason of the hope in you, with meekness and fear; having a good conscience..." (1Pe 3:15-16)

St. Peter gives us three practical things to do: 1) to seek the Lord's help; praying fervently to Him from the heart that He might inspire both us and those we are speaking with; 2) to have the courage to share the reasons why we believe; and 3) to speak, "with meekness and fear; having a good conscience".



Why meekness, fear, and a good conscience? Meekness because the Lord Himself is humble and doesn't force anything on anyone. Fear because we ourselves are mere human beings and the things of God are mysterious and beyond our full comprehension. And a good conscience because we ourselves must be seeking to do what is right, seeking to follow the way of the Lord, if we are going to lead others in the same. If we can pass along the spirit of meekness,

fear, and a good conscience, to the person we are speaking with, then they will have all the necessary prerequisites to learning the true Faith. Without this spirit, even the most perfect teaching from the most perfect Teacher will not be enough. We recall how some even departed from the Christ because they lacked meekness, fear of God, and a good conscience.

### Question: But how can I help the person, if I don't really know what to say?

**Answer:** Even if we can't fully answer every question (and really, who can?), we can still help people by referring them to someone who might know a little more than us or to some profitable book on the subject. By so doing, they will be assured that what we are telling them is not our own personal belief but the universal teaching of the Church. And even if they never speak with the person we referred them to or never open the book we suggested, at the very least they will know that Orthodox Christianity is not about personal opinions but instead a common and universal witness to the Truth.

### Question: But what if the conversation starts to turn argumentative?

**Answer:** Arguments about the Faith seldom bear fruit; the Christian life is communicated better by example than by argument. And so, if the conversation seems to turn argumentative, it might be best to follow the above advice and humbly refer the person to someone else or to some pertinent material on the subject in question.

By humbly removing ourselves from the conversation, we can actually help the person more than if we continued to debate them. This is because the person will more easily accept the answer to their question if they don't have to swallow their pride by "giving in". We all know how once a conversation turns into an argument, it can be less about the question and its answer than about who is going to "win" the debate. We should try to avoid this at all costs. Even if we might full well know the answer to the question, it could be that the person needs to hear the answer from someone other than us. Humbling taking ourselves out of an argument is not losing; it is giving a chance for the other person to be won over by the Lord.

### MAY CONGRATULATIONS!

#### Anniversaries:

5/12 Donna Anderson

#### Birthdays:

5/26 Elisabeth Parsells

5/29 Irene Clenney

5/30 J. Michael McFarland

#### Namesdays:

5/2 *Fourth Sunday of Pascha*  
Fr. Christian (Lesinsky)

5/5 *St. Irene the Great Martyr*  
Irene Clenney

5/8 *St. Emilia*  
Mat. Emily Parsells  
Jodi McElwee

5/21 *Ss. Constantine & Helen*  
Ellen Gunderson  
Constantine Cook  
Constantine Mitsopolous

5/23 *St. Alexander Nevsky*  
Alexander Royal  
Robert Dodge

*Mistakes? Omissions? Please see Fr. John.*