

**WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS: Sunday, May 20, 2012**

**THE SUNDAY SCHOOL SHOWDOWN and PICNIC IS TODAY!**

Please join us for hamburgers after the Liturgy and a fun-filled "Showdown" between the different class levels. The MCs of this event are Fr. Vasileios and Fr. Jordan! Let's see which class will earn the trophy this year!

We want to thank Elissa Bjeletich, and all of the teachers for their dedication and hard work! We wish all of the students a "happy and safe summer"!

**Volunteers are needed for the Capital of Texas Triathlon - Monday, May 28 (Memorial Day)**

Specifically, the paratriathlon portion for handicapped racers (athletes who might be paraplegic, have amputated limbs, or who are blind). Many of these triathlon participants are professional athletes.

Volunteers would assist them with transitioning between the portions of the race and ensuring they have everything they need to continue throughout the event.

Please email [austin.oya@gmail.com](mailto:austin.oya@gmail.com) for more information. To learn more, visit: <http://www.captextri.com>

**USHER MINISTRY MEETING**

The Usher Ministry will have a planning and idea exchange meeting next Sunday, May 27th after the coffee hour. We will meet in the conference room. If you are interested in being a part of this fabulous ministry, please attend!

**Philotochos may be taking a short summer break; BUT we will still be selling our gift cards!**

Walmart/Sams cards are increasing their non-profit contributions from 2% to 2.5%! You can get the cards in denominations of \$25, \$100, and now, \$250!

Great Lakes Scrip Center is thrilled to announce that **Coldwater Creek** has joined our list of retailers! Their Gift Cards are available in a \$25 denomination with an 8% non-profit contribution. The card is redeemable at participating Coldwater Creek locations, for catalog orders and online at [coldwatercreek.com](http://coldwatercreek.com).

AMC movie theaters have increased, for a limited time, their non-profit contributions to 8%! Summer is a great time for movies!

Stop by the Philotochos table to purchase your gift cards; or come by the office during the week to pick some up from Liz.

**Gala Planning Committee**

We are making headway for the 2012 Gala!

The next meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m on Thursday, June 14th at the home of Gala committee chair Judith Kountoupis, 14909 Spillman Ranch Loop, Austin, 78738.

Contact Judy at [judy@kountoupis.com](mailto:judy@kountoupis.com), or 512-983-5839 for more details.

**Thank you to Elissa and Marko Bjeletich and the Sunday School leaders for today's picnic!**

**Thank you to last week's Mother's Day luncheon:**

**The Men's Fellowship Group**

**Next Week's Coffee Hour Sponsors:**

**Strong, Romberg, Romell, Romine, Scattergood**

**Thank you to today's ushers:**

*Stuart Yoder, Chrissie Spiropoulos, Allen Wynn*

**Thank you to last week's ushers:**

*Ioannis Ousaklidis, Maria Miller and Julie Wynn*

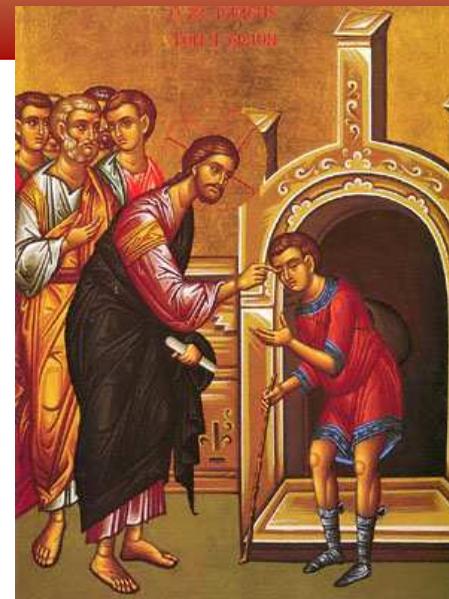
**Next week's ushers are:**

*John Chronis, David Horwedel and Mary Beth Gradziel*

SUNDAY BULLETIN

MAY 20, 2012

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA  
SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN**



**TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD**

**GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

414 ST. STEPHEN'S SCHOOL ROAD

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78746

(512) 329-6363 WEBSITE - [WWW.TRANSFIGURATION.ORG](http://WWW.TRANSFIGURATION.ORG)

SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

ORTHROS 8:45AM; DIVINE LITURGY 10:00AM

**Reverend Fr. Vasileios Flegas, Proistamenos**

574-1972

**Resurrection Pascha Hymn**

Χριστὸς ἀνέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν, θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας, καὶ τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνήμασι ζωὴν χαρισάμενος.

*Christós anésti ek nekrón, thanáto thánaton patisas, ke tis en tis mnimasi zoin harisámenos.*

*Christ is risen from the dead trampling down death by death, and to those in the tombs He has granted Life.*

**Special Entrance Hymn for the Pascha Season**

*In the congregations bless God, the Lord, from the springs of Israel.*

*Save us O Son God who did Rise from the dead. We sing to You Alleluia.*

**Resurrection Hymn (1st Plagal Tone)**

*“Eternal with the Father and the Spirit is the Word, Who of a Virgin was begotten for our salvation.*

*As the faithful we both praise and worship Him,*

*for in the flesh did He consent to ascend unto the Cross,*

*and death did He endure and He raised unto life the dead through His all glorious resurrection.”*

**Apolytikion of the Transfiguration of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**

*Metemorphosis en to ori, Christe o Theos, dixas tis mathites Sou tin doxan Sou,*

*kathos i dynando. Lampson ke imin tis amartolis to fos Sou to aidion,*

*presvies tis Theotokou Fotodota doxa Si.*

*When O Christ our God Thou wast Transfigured on the mountain*

*Thou didst reveal Thy glory to Thy disciples in proportion as they could bear it.*

*Let Thine everlasting light also enlighten us sinners.*

*By the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Thou Bestower of light, glory to Thee.*

**Kontakion of the Pascha Season**

*Though Thou did descend into the grave, O Immortal One,*

*yet did Thou destroy the power of Hades, and did arise as victor, O Christ God,*

*calling to the myrrh-bearing women, Rejoice, and giving peace unto Thine Apostles,*

*O Thou Who grants resurrection to the fallen.*

**Hymn in place of “Axion estin...”**

*The angel cried to her who is full of grace, O Pure Virgin rejoice and again I say rejoice for your Son has risen from the grave on the third day. Shine, shine O new Jerusalem for the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. Dance now and be glad O Zion and do you exalt O pure Theotokos*

*in the arising of Him Whom you did bear.*

**Special Communion Hymn**

*Soma Christu metalavete pigis athanatu gevsasthe. Alleluia.*

*Body of Christ receive, the fountain of life, taste the source of immortal life.*



Welcome, Fr. Jordan!

We are blessed to have Fr. Jordan with us today.

Thank you for being with us this weekend, Fr. Jordan!

**Services for this week**

*Feast of Saints Constantine and Helen:* Monday, May 21, *Orthros-* 9:00am; *Liturgy-* 10:00am

*Apodosis of Pascha:* Wednesday, May 23, *Orthros-* 9:00am; *Liturgy-* 10:00am

*Holy Ascension:* Thursday, May 24, *Orthros-* 9:00am; *Liturgy-* 10:00am

**SUMMER HOURS!**

Remember that our summer hours will begin NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 27TH.

Orthros will begin at 8:15am; and the Divine Liturgy will begin at 9:30.

**Memorial Day Celebration**

Fr. Vasileios is planning a special service honoring all of the men and women in our community who have or are presently serving in any branch of the military. This service will happen as part of the Liturgy on Sunday, May 27th. If you still have your uniform (or any part of it!), please wear that to church on May 27th!

**YAL**

Bible Study will continue our study on Tuesday, May 22; and will be meeting every other Tuesday with Fr. Vasileios. Please arrive a little early to grab a snack so the study can begin at 6:30 pm.

**Young Women's Study with Presbyteria Vasiliki**

Please plan to attend our next meeting on Wednesday, May 23 at 7pm.

**“Growing in our Orthodox Faith”: A New Discussion Series**

A new discussion series led by Presbyteria Vasiliki Eckley on the topic “The Cosmic Vision of St. Maximus the Confessor,” and its relevance for our lives today. Everyone is invited to attend. We will meet every Wednesday in June following the Paraklesis at 6:00 p.m. and then begin our study.

The topic for the first discussion will be:

“Introducing the vision from our Uncreated God to our created life on earth today.”

**GOLF**

The ladies’ study group will take a short break for the rest of May, then continue in June to finish up their study of *God’s Path To Sanity*. We will begin at **9:30am** so that we can possibly meet outside!

We then will take a break for the rest of the summer and start up again in September.

All women are encouraged to attend, and children are welcome!



### Sunday of the Blind Man

The Lord Jesus was coming from the Temple on the Sabbath, when, while walking in the way, He saw the blind man mentioned in today's Gospel. This man had been born thus from his mother's womb, that is, he had been born without eyes (see Saint John Chrysostom, Homily LVI on Matthew; Saint Irenaeus, Against Heresies, Book V:15; and the second Exorcism of Saint Basil the Great). When the disciples saw this, they asked their Teacher, "Who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?" They asked this because when the Lord had healed the paralytic at the

Sheep's Pool, He had told him, "Sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee" (John 5:14); so they wondered, if sickness was caused by sin, what sin could have been the cause of his being born without eyes. But the Lord answered that this was for the glory of God. Then the God-man spat on the ground and made clay with the spittle. He anointed the eyes of the blind man and said to him, "Go, wash in the Pool of Siloam." Siloam (which means "sent") was a well-known spring in Jerusalem used by the inhabitants for its waters, which flowed to the eastern side of the city and collected in a large pool called "the Pool of Siloam." Therefore, the Saviour sent the blind man to this pool that he might wash his eyes, which had been anointed with the clay-not that the pool's water had such power, but that the faith and obedience of the one sent might be made manifest, and that the miracle might become more remarkable and known to all, and leave no room for doubt. Thus, the blind man believed in Jesus' words, obeyed His command, went and washed himself, and returned, no longer blind, but having eyes and seeing. This was the greatest miracle that our Lord had yet worked; as the man healed of his blindness himself testified, "Since time began, never was it heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind," although the Lord had already healed the blind eyes of many. Because he now had eyes, some even doubted that he was the same person (John 9:8-9); and it was still lively in their remembrance when Christ came to the tomb of Lazarus, for they said, "Could not this man, who opened the eyes of the blind man, have caused that even this man should not have died?" Saint John Chrysostom gives a thorough and brilliant exposition of our Lord's meeting with the woman of Samaria, the healing of the paralytic, and the miracle of the blind man in his commentaries on the Gospel of Saint John.

### IOCC AUSTIN PENTECOST DINNER

Please join us for a Pan-Orthodox fundraiser to benefit IOCC!  
Sunday, June 3, 2012- 5:00pm - 9:00pm in the Mt. Tabor Hall

There will be Live Music • A Silent Auction • And a Mediterranean Meal

GUESTSPEAKER: Mark Ohanian, IOCC Program Director

Tickets: \$40 per adult/ \$50 if registered after May 27 • \$20 per child under 12

REGISTER ONLINE AT IOCC.ORG/AUSTIN Questions: austinmet@iocc.org or 512-476-2314

All proceeds from this event will benefit IOCC's humanitarian relief fund

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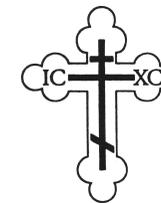
**Imad Zaccak is the chair of the IOCC Metropolitan Committee in Austin, and is seeking our help to assist with this event. Volunteer opportunities include assisting with setup/cleanup, the Silent Auction, publicity, reaching out to the other Orthodox and ethnic communities, and serving food/beverages to tables.**

Please email Imad at [iz2000ca@yahoo.ca](mailto:iz2000ca@yahoo.ca) if you are able to help out!

May 20, 2012 - Sunday of the Blind Man

Epistle - Acts 16: 16-34

And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, that a certain young girl, possessing a spirit of Python, met us, who was producing much business for her masters by divining. She followed after Paul and us, and cried out, saying, "These men are slaves of God, the Most High, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." And she kept doing this for many days. But Paul was worn out, and turned around to the spirit, and said, "I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out from her." And he came out the same hour. And after her masters saw that the hope of their business was gone, they laid hold of Paul and Silas, and dragged them into the marketplace before the rulers. And they brought them to the magistrates, and said, "These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city, "and declare customs, which are not allowed for us to receive, nor to do, being Romans." And the crowd rose together against them; and the magistrates tore off their garments, and kept on commanding to beat them with rods. And after they laid on them many stripes, they cast them into prison, ordering the jailer to guard them securely, who, having received such an order, cast them into the inner prison and secured their feet in the stocks. And at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God; and the prisoners were listening to them. And suddenly there occurred a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and the bonds of all were loosed. The jailer, having been awakened out of sleep and seeing the doors of the prison opened, drew a sword, and was about to kill himself, believing the prisoners to have escaped. But Paul cried out with a loud voice, saying, "By no means begin to do any evil to thyself; for we are all here." And after he asked for lights, he leaped in and became tremulous, falling down before Paul and Silas. And having brought them forth outside, he said, "Sirs, what is necessary for me to do in order that I might be saved?" And they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, thou and thy house." And they spoke to him the word of the Lord, and to all those in his house. And having taken them in that hour of the night, he washed their wounds. And he was baptized, he and all his, immediately. And having brought them into his house, he set a table before them, and rejoiced, having believed in God, with all his house.



May 20, 2012 - Sunday of the Blind Man

Gospel - St. John 9: 1-38

At that time, as Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. We must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess him to be Christ he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become his disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe": and he worshiped him.

### Pascha Greetings

During the forty-day period from Pascha to Ascension, Orthodox Christians throughout the world greet one another with the Paschal Greeting:

**English** - Christ is Risen / Truly He is Risen or Indeed He is Risen

**Greek** - Christos Anesti / Alithos Anesti

**Spanish** - Christo ha resucitado / En verdad ha resucitado

**Ukrainian** - Khristos Voskres / Voistynu Voskres

**Romanian** - Hristos a Inviat / Adevarat a Inviat

**Arabic** - Al masi h qam / Hakan qam

**Slavonic** - Khrystos Voskrese / Voistyne Voskrese

**Swahili** - Kristo Amefufukka / Kweli amefufukka

### *Receiving Holy Communion*

*The sacrament of Holy Communion is reserved for only baptized and/or Chrismated Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared by fasting, prayer and confession. The Orthodox Church is not in sacramental communion with any other church outside the Orthodox Christian Faith. If you are not Orthodox, you are invited with everyone to receive the Antidoron (blessed bread) at the end of service. If you would like information about the Orthodox Church and becoming an Orthodox Christian, please see Father Vasileios after services.*

### *PRAYERS FOR HEALTH*

*Dolly, Betty, Arlena, Sophie, Archie, Lou, Thomas, Kathy, Suzanne, Pat, Steve, Nina, Katheryn, Panayioti, Anna, Margaret, Sami, Ibrahim, Mary, George, Susan, Matthew, Ellen, Katina, Nelda, Nick, Elaine, Malone, Tracy, Richard, Lilly, Kimberly, Jamil, Dimitrios, Lisa, Maggie, Mindy, Joan, Nakis, Micky, Kiane, Lari, Ed, Sally, Mariana, Brian, Kaeley, Tristan, Matt, Jeff, Sophia, Angela, Jennifer, Romeo, Konstandinos, Elia, Rose Marie, Bilyana, Maria, Susan, Jane, Clara, Costa, Cindy, Philip, Barbara, Evangia, Michael, Jeffrey, Victoria, Nicole, Anastasia, Katie, Suzanne, Katie, Stella, Michael, Nicole, George, Katherine, Fr. Peter, Venton, Nick, Sandy, Caleb, Pete, Wendy, Lorraine, Tina, Anna, Michael, Anna, Pamela, Shawn, Megan, Leo, Christy, Glenn, Philip, Katelyn, Joshua, Jason, John, Julia, Nick, Maria, Carolyn, Betty, Ruth, Nicholas, Joyce, Connie, Deacon George, Ralph, Vana, Andreas, the Nun Elizabeth, Alexandra, Arsinoi, Sultana, Boyd, Argyre, Carol, Susie, Sultana, John, Eliana, John, Dimitrios, John, Nick, Cecilia, George, Ricky, Mackenzie, Leah, Cynthia, Georgia, Eudoxia, Mark, infant James, Ben, Michael, Rod, Nici, Phyllis, George, Helena, Kinley, Shiloh, Lili, Jacob, Bill, Albina, Allison, Nina, Kimberly, Madeleine, Michael, Dion, Harry, Vero, Trey, Paul*

### *PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR ARMED FORCES:*

*SGT Jennifer D. Atkinson, SSG John Atkinson, COL Dave Romine, CPT James Alfaro, SSG Deane Anderson, CPT William Willett, MAJ Timothy Ullman, MAJ Chris Chase, Cadet Mindy Keys, SPC Andrew Bentzel*