

MARTYR BASILISCUS, BISHOP OF COMANA

The Holy Martyr Basiliscus was a nephew of the Great Martyr Theodore the Recruit; and he suffered together with his brothers Eutropius and Kleonikos during the persecution of the emperor Maximian Galerius (305-311). The holy martyrs Kleonikos and Eutropius were crucified, but Basiliscus was sent to Comana where he was imprisoned.

The governor Agrippa arrived in the city of Amasea and started persecuting Christians. St. Basiliscus, in prison, prepared himself for the impending ordeal. The Lord appeared to him in a dream, promising His help, and foretold of Basiliscus' martyric death at Comana. The saint asked the prison guards to let him go to his native village to bid his relatives farewell. They let him go, as they respected him for his holy life and working of miracles. Arriving home, Basiliscus saw his family one last time and urged them to stand firmly in the Faith.

Agrippa was enraged and chastised the prison guards. He sent a detachment of soldiers after the martyr, led by a cruel officer. Meeting St. Basiliscus, who was actually on his way back, the official placed heavy chains on him and shod him with metal sandals with nails driven into the soles, and set off to Comana.

Arriving at a village during the hot afternoon, they tied him to a tree, and the soldiers went into a house to refresh themselves. Standing in the heavy chains beneath the scorching sun, the saint prayed fervently to God. A Voice was heard, "Fear not, for I am with you." The earth shook and a spring of water came forth. The frightened soldiers rushed from the house and set the martyr free. Sick people came from the village to St. Basiliscus and received healing through his prayers.

When the saint finally stood before Agrippa, he was told to offer sacrifice to pagan gods. He replied, "I offer to God a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving every hour." They led him into a pagan temple, and fire instantly came down from heaven and burned the temple and idols to dust. In a rage, Agrippa ordered St. Basiliscus beheaded and threw his body into the river. This was the year 308.

Christians quickly gathered his remains and buried them by night in a field. Upon this spot was built a church in his honor, into which they transferred his relics. Through the prayers of the saint, healings began to occur at this site.

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CHRIST AND THE SAMARITAN WOMAN AT THE WELL

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

6822 BROADVIEW ROAD

PARMA, OHIO 44134

THE TRINITARIAN

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V. REV. ALEXANDER GARKLAVS, PASTOR

Divine Liturgy at 9:00 A.M.
Church School Every Sunday at 10:45 A.M.
(During the Months of September thru May)

Vespers - Every Saturday - 5:00 P.M.
Choir Rehearsals Every Thursday at 7:30 P.M.
Michael N. Pilat, Choir Director

RECTORY: 963 John Glenn Drive, Seven Hills, Ohio 44131 Phone 516-761-8772

BULLETIN 29 - VOLUME LIX

TONE 4

MAY 22, 2022

FOURTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA

Samaritan Woman

***Martyr Basiliscus, Bishop of Comana;
Righteous Melchizedek, King of Salem;
Commemoration of the Second Ecumenical Council;
St. Jovan, Ruler of Serbia;
Monk-Martyr Paul of the Lavra***

“At Jacob’s well, O almighty Savior, You engaged the Samaritan woman in conversation. And although of old it was You Who made water gush forth from solid rock for the Hebrews, You now asked this woman for water. And You brought her to believe in You, O Christ, so that now she enjoys the eternal Kingdom on high.”

Exapostilarion, Tone I

“You were shown to be strong and courageous in suffering; you were revealed to be a wonder-worker in miracles! You openly bore the name of Christ, putting the tyrant to shame! Therefore we honor you, most honored Basiliscus, ever crying: “Rejoice, splendid adornment of the martyrs!”

Kontakion, Tone VIII

TODAY’S EPISTLE: ACTS 11:19-26,29-30

TODAY’S GOSPEL: JOHN 4:5-42

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Saturday, May 28

5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, May 23
Tuesday, May 24
Wednesday, May 25
(Forerunner)
Thursday, May 26
Friday, May 27
Saturday, May 28

Acts 12:12-17
Acts 12:25-13:12
Acts 13:13-24
II Corinthians 4:6-15
Acts 14:20-27
Acts 15:5-34
Acts 15:35-41

John 8:42-51
John 8:51-59
John 6:5-14
Matthew 11:2-15
John 9:39-10:9
John 10:17-28
John 10:27-38

COMING EVENTS

MAY:

22, TODAY Parish Council meeting after Divine Liturgy
4:00 p.m. IOCC Anniversary Banquet

30, Monday 8:30 a.m. Grave Blessings at St. Theodosius Cemetery

JUNE:

12, Sunday Pentecost

19, Sunday Noon Luncheon in honor of Fr. Alexander at Woodside

27, Monday 11:30 a.m. St. Herman House 9th Annual Golf Classic

PARISH COUNCIL:

The Parish Council will meet today following the Divine Liturgy in the Board Room.

IOCC BANQUET:

The 30th Anniversary Banquet of the IOCC is today at St. Sava Church, 2151 W. Wallings Rd., in Broadview Hts. Doors open at 4:00, with dinner at 5:00. If you are unable to attend the dinner, your monetary support would be greatly appreciated to help families in the U.S., as well as Ukraine, Greece, Syria and Ethiopia. Make checks payable to IOCC and mail to Julie Hall; P.O. Box 560185; Macedonia, OH 44056.

MEMORIAL DAY GRAVE BLESSINGS:

Fr. Alexander will be at St. Theodosius Cemetery beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30. If you like the grave of a departed family member blessed, please sign up in the Fellowship Hall.

COFFEE HOUR:

Our refreshments today are donated by Claudia Virosteck and Marge Virosteck.
Donors are still needed for May 29 and June 5.

HONORING FR. ALEXANDER:

On Sunday, June 19, there will be a retirement luncheon for Fr. Alexander at St. Michael's Woodside, beginning at noon. The menu features your choice of Beef Tips or Champagne Chicken. Tickets are \$40, with no charge for children under 10; they are on sale today during Coffee Hour, or contact Jewelann Stefanar (216-402-8599); or Rita Bellack (330-204-9513).

GOLF OUTING:

The St. Herman House 9th Annual Gold Classic is Monday, June 27, at Tanglewood Club in Chagrin Falls. All proceeds benefit St. Herman House. Tee time is 11:30 a.m., and lunch and dinner are provided. The Individual Golfer donation is \$175; a Foursome is \$650 (\$700 after June 10). Last year more than \$75,000 was raised! To register or to support with a sponsorship, go to: www.sainthermans.org/golf

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by the Mravetz Family.

FLOWERS:

The flowers today are offered by Diane Hastings in blessed memory of James and Claudia Whitney.

*In what high holy company does the Christian find himself in the temple,
surrounded by images of angels and saints!
He is a member of that same Church to which the saints belong.
What an incitement to moral change and aspiration towards the life that never changes,
to which they too aspired and to which they actually attained.
St. John of Kronstadt*

GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION	5/7 \$ 5,325.00	5/15 \$ 475.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	185.00	
BUILDING FUND	1,730.00	
CANDLES	132.00	174.00
BASKET BLESSING		20.00
ROOF REPAIRS	350.00	170.00
COFFEE HOUR 5/1; 5/8	71.00	120.00
IN MEMORY OF SOPHIE LYNK		100.00

**JESUS CHRIST'S SIGNS OF SALVATION –
TRUE WORSHIP**

***“God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”
(John 4:24)***

Christ's miracles in the Gospel of John are “signs” because they indicate how we can change our ways of thinking and living. They are “signs of salvation” that show how through faith in Jesus Christ, we, pathetic human beings, can escape the sinful traps of this fallen world. These traps occur in the ordinary, everyday moments of life. Such moments can be occasions to see and praise God's love and grace, or they can be the times when we are overcome with various evils, becoming slaves of sins and passion. Throughout life we live in the flux between good and evil, always trying to make the right choices. This is especially true at life's important moments. That is precisely when we have to make the correct choice, whether we pursue life in holiness or in condemnation. An example is the first sign in the Gospel of John, when Jesus comes to the marriage feast in Cana of Galilee (John 2:1-12). Marriage is an event when our basic biological-psychological feelings are fulfilled. Marriage celebrates the God-given mandate for male and female to join together and continue the human race. Yet marriage can also cause tensions, anger, mistrust and resentment. As related in the Gospel of John, at the beginning of His ministry, Jesus comes to the feast in Cana to change water into wine, and this becomes the “sign” whereby His glory is revealed, “and His disciples believed in Him” (John 2:11). Christ's sign reveals the sacredness in human events. In this case the sign takes place in the context of marriage, in the experience of man and woman becoming one, in a holy life-creating union.

Such revelations take place throughout Jesus Christ's life and occur in all of the Gospels. In the Gospel of John, the revelations are striking in that they are presented as encounters between man and God in circumstances that are very ordinary human activities. Such is the encounter between the Samaritan woman and Jesus at the Well of Jacob, which is the theme today, on the Fourth Sunday of Pascha (John 4:1-42). This is not one of the “signs” as such; nothing supernatural or miraculous takes place. But in the conversation between the woman and Jesus, a notable change does take place. The change in the Samaritan woman's soul is a “sign of salvation” because the nature of true worship is revealed. Worship entails physical aspects (standing, kneeling, pilgrimages, etc.), but it is meaningless if it does not correspond to the spiritual condition of our hearts. Our hearts, like the heart of the Samaritan woman, have to be purified through honest repentance. That is what makes true worship possible.

There is one notable sign that directly impacts Christian worship, the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves (John 6:4-14). This sign reveals how people gathering in the presence of Jesus Christ become a Eucharistic community. Our Lord, who is the “Bread of Life,” nourishes our bodies and souls, and through Him we, together with our spiritual brothers and sisters, become children of God, “in spirit and in truth.”

Fr. Alexander Garklaus