

Sunday of the
Paralytic
St. Alexis Toth of
Wilkes-Barre

Acts 9:32-42
John 5:1-15

Homily by
Dn. Kevin Dougherty

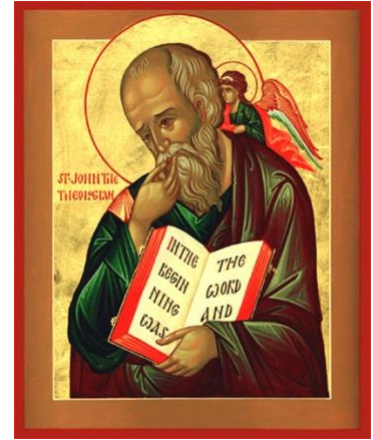
Epistle Reader:
Russell Clodfelter

Coffee Hour Hosts:
Patras / Haley

St. John Orthodox Cathedral

Weekly Bulletin

Sunday, May 7, 2023
And the Days Following



O Apostle John, speaker of Deity, the beloved of Christ our God, hasten to deliver your people powerless in speech, for He on Whose bosom you lean accepts you as an intercessor. Beseech Him, therefore, to disperse the darkness of ignorance and pray for peace and great mercies to be shown upon us.

Parish Events and News

The International Orthodox Theological Association (IOTA) is pleased to announce:
A New Series of 23 “IOTA Talks”

View these talks at on the [IOTA YouTube channel](#) or on the [Eagle River Institute Library](#) page.

- IOTA Talks are short, engaging videos in which Orthodox scholars share their work with a non-academic audience.
- Talks are offered by women and men scholars, clergy and lay, speaking on relevant topics within their expertise.
- Topics include: *The Mission-Critical Task of the Church Today* • *Understanding Secularism* • *Divine Guidance* • *The Rebel Saint: Marie of Paris* • *Honoring the Icons Within* • and more.
- One new IOTA Talk will be published each Friday, beginning April 21

Recorded in Volos, Greece at the IOTA conference in January 2023.



New IOTA Talk This Friday is: Orthodox Mission Today by Alison Ruth Kolosova (She will be one of our Eagle River Institute speakers in August.)

Click [HERE](#) for her talk.

Any High School / College Graduates This Year?

Please submit names and photos to put in the bulletin.





Coffee Hour This Sunday - May 7, 2023 Group A - First Sunday of the Month

Hosts Families: Patras / Haley

Snacks: Abel, Baker, Cook, Davis, Dozier, Gillquist Families, Haley, Hoxie, Jenkins, Justus, Lindblom, Macalino, Mellor, Northey, O'Fallon, Patras, Sorensen, Stallman, Templeton, Tysver, VanDewater, Wells, Zink

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**Next Sunday - Group B - May 14 Hosts: J & B Dunaway / Fletes**

Snacks: Agnew, Alvarez, Betson, Davison, B & D Dunaway, Dunaway, J & B, Finkler, Grasse, Hoyt, Ihde, Keener, Klatt, Komar, Lineer, Moffatt, Peters, Petyon, Potts, Ray, Schlicting, Stevens, Sturdevant, Villafana



## Catechesis of the Good Shepherd This Is the Last Week of Atrium

### An Orthodox Medical Professional Association and Website

For those interested, there is an inspiring Orthodox group of medical professional people communicating together and offering insight — in a group called “OCAMPR”. Their website is

[https://www.ancientfaith.com/specials/ocampr\\_2022\\_living\\_liturgy\\_in\\_practice\\_orthodox\\_care\\_in\\_a\\_rapidly\\_changing/ocampr\\_2022\\_liturgical\\_medicine\\_dr\\_mena\\_mesiha\\_dr\\_mena\\_mirhom](https://www.ancientfaith.com/specials/ocampr_2022_living_liturgy_in_practice_orthodox_care_in_a_rapidly_changing/ocampr_2022_liturgical_medicine_dr_mena_mesiha_dr_mena_mirhom)

## St. John's School Weekly News

**St. John's School  
Farmers Market**

**Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>  
3:00 - 3:30**

Cash & Check Only

**St. John's School Farmer's Market**  
Come to the Church Parking Lot and  
Help Support Our School

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## *Notes and Pictures from Parishioners*

### **“Checking In” with Each Other**

Is there something you'd like to share? Please email [stjohnalaska@aol.com](mailto:stjohnalaska@aol.com)

### **Bridal Shower for Megan Dougherty**

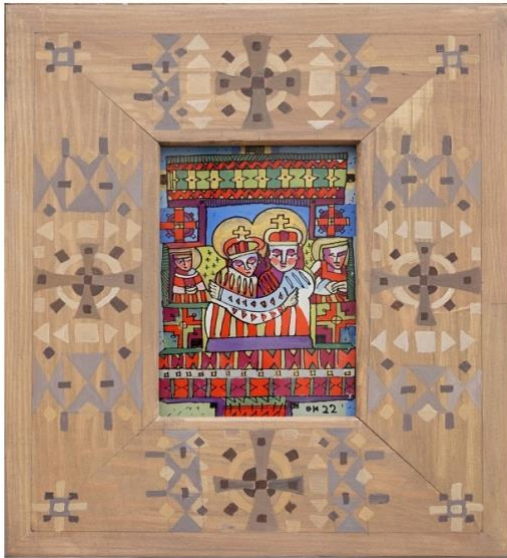
Due to living out of state, if you choose to give Megan a gift, she would appreciate gift cards, or gifts from her registry shipped to her California home address. Thank you!

-Sydney Ihde (907)854-5517



## Ukrainian “Icons”

Oksana Artz has received artwork from Ukrainian artists she is hoping to sell to raise more funds for Ukraine. She will have them at coffee hour this Sunday. Below is a description in her own words and some pictures.



*This artwork is from leading Ukrainian contemporary icon painter Yaroslava Tkachuk. She has done icons on boards that were removed from ammunition crates – real ammunition crates from real war that is going on now in Ukraine from the city of Bakhmut from Donetsk region. This city became a symbol of the incredible courage and resilience of the Ukrainian people as well as an example of the unprecedented cruelty and barbarism of the Russian invaders. The icons not only reflect on emotions of an individual witnessing the war but also represent the faith, hope, and strength to overcome this calamity as a group – one unified Ukrainian nation. We want to raise funds to be donated to the medical battalion for radios.*



## Dates to Remember

### Birthdays This Week

May 8 - Jeff Hunter

May 9 - Bethany Dunaway

May 10 - Michael Saur

May 12 - Ian Johnson

May 13 - Meghan Jones



*M A N Y Y E A R S !*

### Anniversaries This Week



Mark & Theresa - May 11, 2019

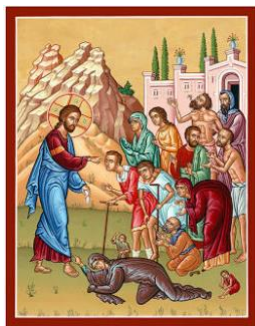
Jesse & Andrea Stiehr - May 14, 2000



### Thursday Reading Group

The Thursday Readers will meet at JoAnn Webster's home at 10am.

## Remembering in Prayer...



Janet Hawi  
Gwyn Jones  
Preston Collier  
Jan Northey  
Tisha Dunham  
Lina Curry

Al Zink  
Eloise Lamb  
Margaret Grasse  
Kh. Sally Howell  
Gordon Hoyt  
Fr. Michael Molloy

## Clare House Meal - 4th Saturday of Each Month

For the Month of **MAY** – our scheduled meal that we provide Clare House is:  
**Saturday, May 27.** Contact Cara Fletes to see how you can help.



## Remembering Those Who Have Fallen Asleep This Month



- \* Infant Lazarus Frizelle - May 1, 2008
- \* Abner Picon - May 1, 2016
- \* Presbyter Garland Peters - May 6, 1979
- \* Infant Benjamin Ray - May 12, 2022

**M E M O R Y E T E R N A L !**

## THE SYNAXARION

Alexis Toth of Wilkes-Barre and The Paralytic – 3<sup>rd</sup> Pascha



On May 7 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Appearance of the Sign of the Precious Cross in the heavens above Jerusalem (351 A.D.); Martyr Akakios the centurion at Byzantium; John of Beverly, Bishop of York; and the repose of Priest Alexis Toth of Wilkes-Barre, confessor, and defender of Orthodoxy in America.

Born on March 18, 1854 into a pious and well-educated family, the young Alexis Toth finished his preliminary education, and entered a Byzantine Catholic seminary in Slovakia where he graduated with honors. He was ordained to the holy priesthood and appointed as professor of church law and church history at the seminary and served the diocese there for nearly a decade. In November of 1889, he was assigned to St. Mary's Parish in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Upon his arrival in Minneapolis and following proper protocol, he presented himself along with his credentials to the Roman Catholic Archbishop, John Ireland. The archbishop openly and vehemently rejected Father Alexis because he was Byzantine Catholic but not Roman Catholic.

This conflict went on for many years. St. Alexis began his return to the mother church of Orthodoxy. On March 25, 1891, Fr. Alexis and 365 parishioners were formally received into the Russian Orthodox Church.

Having been sent originally to America to be a missionary to the immigrants, Father Alexis, in his new role, was to fulfill his destiny as the missionary leading his people back to the Orthodox Church. In December 1892, he evangelized the immigrants in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, preaching and enlightening them about their social and religious future in America. In 1902, he received the parish of St. John the Baptist in Mayfield, Pennsylvania, into the Orthodox fold. Elevated to the rank of Archpriest, he was in the forefront, over the years until his death, of receiving parishes into Orthodoxy. Through his efforts over 20,000 Carpatho-Russian and Galician Eastern Catholics were re-united with the Orthodox Church.

The holy confessor for Orthodoxy, St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre, reminds us that struggle is inevitable when one desires to find the Truth in Christ. One must often set aside feelings of ethnic identity as well as cultural pride in order to find real peace in Christ. The saint passed from this life into eternal life with Christ in 1909.

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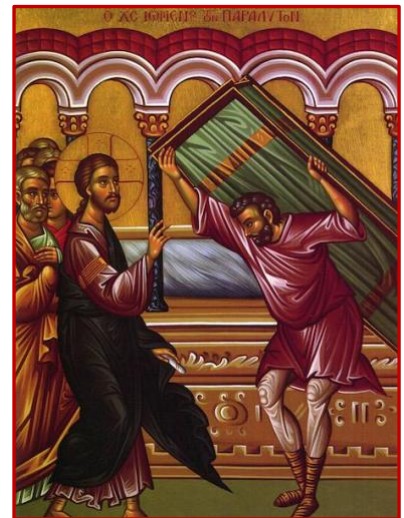
On this, the third Sunday after Pascha, we make commemoration of the Paralytic, and we rightly celebrate the miracle bestowed on him.

**Verses**

*The Word of Christ was strength for the paralytic.*

*And this Word alone was his healing.*

*Jesus healed the Paralytic* at the Sheep Pool, located near the Sheep's Gate of Jerusalem, where people sacrificed their beasts and washed their insides. The pool had five sides, with a porch and arch on each. A number of people, afflicted with various diseases, passed through them, waiting at the water for an angel to come down and stir it. Once it moved, whoever stepped into the water first was instantly healed. One poor man, whose story is recounted in today's Gospel in the Divine Liturgy, waited 38 years for someone to lower him into the water, because he was unable to move into the water himself. However, the Savior merely commanded the man to get up and walk, and he was healed.



By Your boundless mercy, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen

**Bulletin Announcement Guidelines**

Send announcements to church email address: [stjohnalaska@aol.com](mailto:stjohnalaska@aol.com). Have announcements submitted by Thursday or at very latest Friday 9am. If you have any questions regarding announcements – contact Maris Kelly at the church office. 907-696-2002.

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**Saint John Orthodox Cathedral**

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(907) 696-2002 • Fax: (907) 696-5555 • Website: [stjohnalaska.org](http://stjohnalaska.org)

• Diocesan Website: <http://www.antiochianladiocese.org>

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese

Pastor: Fr. Marc Dunaway • Assistant Priest: Fr. Robert Polson