

## Gospel Lesson for the Day

### Gospel Lesson: Gospel According to St. John 5:1-15

At that time, Jesus came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as he was with his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered him, "I have no husband."

Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and he whom you now have is not your husband; this you said truly." The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; and you say that Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ); when he comes, he will show us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

Just then his disciples came. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but none said, "What do you wish?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" So the woman left her water jar, and went away into the city and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" They went out of the city and were coming to him.

Meanwhile the disciples besought him, saying "Rabbi, eat." But he said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." So the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought him food?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me, and to accomplish his work. Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest. He who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony. "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days.

And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard ourselves, and we know that this is indeed Christ the Savior of the world."

*Devote yourself to stillness and know that I am God - Psalm 45:10 (LXX)*

## Traverse City Orthodox Mission Church

*Traditional Worship for Modern Life*

Volume III Number 20- Sunday, 17 May 2009

### PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, 17 May

**5th Sunday of Pascha.  
The Samaritan Woman.**  
10 AM Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos  
11:15 AM Church School  
11:30 AM Fellowship Hour  
11 AM - 4 PM NMC Barbecue Outting

Monday, 18 May

**St. Julian the Martyr.**

Tuesday, 19 May

**St. Patrick, Hieromartyr and Bishop of Proussia.**

Wednesday, 20 May

**St. Thalasio the Martyr and Companions.**  
Fast Day  
Wine and Oil Allowed.

Thursday, 21 May

**SS. Constantinos and Eleni, Equals-to-the-Apostles.**  
8:00 AM Orthros and Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos

Friday, 22 May

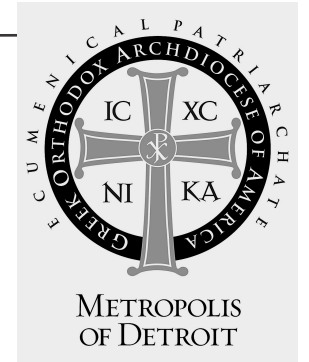
**St. Vasilikos, Bishop and Martyr.**  
Fast Day  
Wine and Oil Allowed

Saturday, 23 May

**St. Michael the Confessor, Bishop of Smyrna.**  
4:30 PM 9th Hour and Vespers

Sunday, 24 May

**6th Sunday of Pascha. The Man Born Blind.**  
9 AM Orthros and Liturgy of St. Chrysostomos  
11:15 AM Church School  
11:30 AM Fellowship Hour



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Christ is Risen! Χριστος Воскресе! Al-Masih qam! Χριστος Ανεστη!

**Monthly Parish Council Meeting Report.** Our council held its regular monthly meeting this past Tuesday. Present for the meeting were: Karen Kain, president; Stephanie Long, vice-president; Doug Partlo, treasurer; Judy Weston, secretary; John Batsakis, Ray Ealy, Helen Knapp, Theresa Patterson and Bob Underwood. The board heard reports from various subcommittees. Doug Partlo reported on the parish finances. His report indicates that there was a net deficit for the month of April amounting to \$2,008.59. A year to date report was not available at the time of the meeting but will be made available as soon as possible. Our balance sheet as of April 30 reports assets of \$212,089.93 which includes monies in our building fund. Mr. Partlo also reported on the building projects that are underway and will be meeting with the landlord to review a punch list of items yet to be completed. It was reported that \$855 has been donated to date toward the purchase of our new seating. Also authorisation was granted for the purchase of appliances to fit up our kitchen in the community center. John Batsakis will make arrangements to secure a range, microwave and dishwasher as well as sinks for our use. In other news, Helen Dalbo reports that stewardship continues to keep pace with a total of \$31,056 received in pledges for the year through April. While April's performance is less than what was realised in March there is still reason to be optimistic. Stewards are asked to try and keep their pledges current so as to facilitate the cash flow of the parish.

Holly Olszewski reported on the various education programmes being made available. Students are enjoying their new classroom and icon corner and are looking forward to the installation of some new flooring in that space to help tidy things up. Additionally, the committee reported on the Graduation Recognition Sunday which will be in two weeks' time. An altar boys' outing and retreat has been scheduled for Monday, 15th June. On that day our altar boys will be treated to a round of put-put golf with Father Iakovos and lunch. Following lunch there will be a practice and some in-service on serving in the altar to round out the day. The date was set for our Vacation Church School which will take place during the first week of August. It will culminate with the Liturgy in commemoration of the Transfiguration of the Lord on 6 August.

Karen Kain reported on our web site traffic showing 234 visits for the month with 2,845 page views. Of our visitors, the majority are located in the United States.

Father Iakovos reported that our Philoptochos has finally received their charter from the national organisation in New York. A meeting will be scheduled with Martha Ealy, current president, in order to schedule a parish-wide meeting and launch the group. In other news, Father reported on the upcoming Metropolis Clergy-Laity Conference which will take place in Westland, MI at SS. Constantine and Helen Church there. The dates of the programme will be from Wednesday 7 October thru Sunday, 11 October. Our parish can send up to four delegates including the priest. Anyone that would like to serve as a delegate is asked to contact Karen Kain or Father Iakovos for more information.

The council gave authorisation to refurbish the wooden furniture that was received as a donation from the Greek Orthodox Church in the Bronx, NY recently. Additionally, Judy Weston was authorised to begin the

work on refurbishing the Resurrection and Transfiguration banner that was received from SS. Constantine and Helen Church in Detroit.

Bob Underwood and John Batsakis reported on plans for the Taste of Greece Dinner which is scheduled for Thursday, 24 July at St. Francis Traverse City High School. More information will be forthcoming.

Finally there was a short discussion of the strategic planning process which will have a parish-wide meeting on Sunday, 31 May to finalise work on the vision and mission statements of the parish. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 9 June.

**Donations Requested to Underwrite Purchase of New Seating.** We are still collecting to cover the cost of this purchase without using general fund monies. Persons are invited to help underwrite the purchase of these new chairs by "buying" one. The cost of a chair is \$35. Persons that would like to buy a chair can do so by submitting a check for \$35 and writing into the memo section "Church Seating Project."

**High School Graduation Recognition.** As far as is known, two students from our congregation will be graduating from High School next month. If you know of any students that should be recognized for their accomplishments please contact Father Iakovos to discuss names and details.

**Northwestern Michigan College BBQ.** Our neighbors at NMC will be sponsoring their annual bbq today on the campus of the school. Everyone is encouraged to help support this local educational institution by participating in this important fund raiser. Highlight will be a drawing for a scholarship to the school which will take place at 5 PM. Tickets are \$6 at the gate.

**Epistle Lesson: Acts of the Apostles 11:19-30**

IN THOSE DAYS, those apostles who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to none except Jews. But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number that believed turned to the Lord. News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose; for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a large company was added to the Lord. So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul; and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church, and taught a large company of people; and in Antioch the disciples were for the first time called Christians. Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world; and this took place in the days of Claudius. And the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brethren who lived in Judea, and they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.