

SS. PETER & PAUL

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Rev. Joseph McCartney, Rector

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Gospel Reading ~ John 4:5-42
Epistle Reading ~ Acts 11:19-26, 29-30
St. Photini - the Samaritan Woman

This Week at a Glance

Thurs, May 18th

9:30 am - Moleben for
Those Suffering from
Drug & Alcohol
Addiction

Sat, May 20th

4:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sun, May 21st

9:00 am - 3rd & 6th
Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy
SUNDAY SCHOOL

Mother's Day
Gifts

Were donated by
Olga Sivinski and Tina
Casey in memory of Zina
Kazimirow

Weekly Collection

Last week's collection
was \$2397. Our budget
requires a weekly
collection of \$3000 to
meet our approved
budget.

Gospel Meditation

In today's Gospel reading we hear of Christ meeting the Samaritan woman at the well, and speaking to her of "living water". He approached her in the heat of midday, and asked her for a drink on His way to Galilee. She was amazed that He, a Jew, would speak to her, a Samaritan.

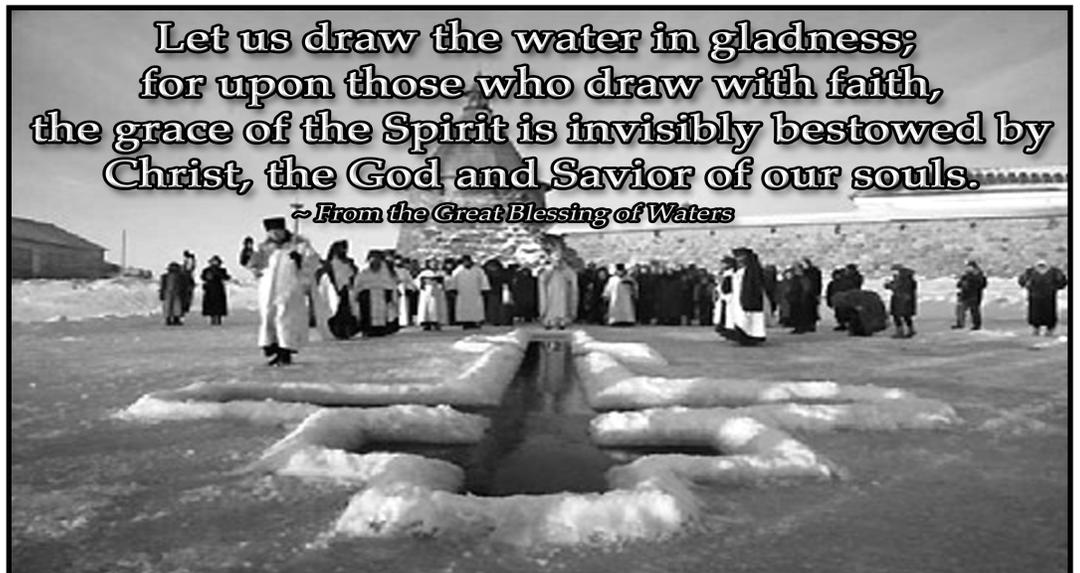
This living water that Jesus offers quenches thirst, but not in the same manner that regular water does. Jesus says that whoever drinks the water the He gives will never again thirst, and later He says if you are thirsty, come to Him and drink (John 7:37). This water that he gives is none other than the Holy Spirit. In many ways the Holy Spirit quenches our spiritual thirst such as our need for the love of God, the need to mortify our flesh, the need to abound in hope, and for inner strength.

When we receive the water of the Holy Spirit He abides within us. Our bodies become the temple of God. How the Holy Spirit dwells within us is a mystery, but there is no doubt that He does.

While this living water that Jesus offers pertains to salvation, it also has particular reference to the gift of the Spirit in the life of the Christian. Today let us look into ourselves and see if we are enjoying the benefits of this gift of living water. Let us imitate the attitude of the Samaritan woman and cry, "Lord, give me this water!"

**Let us draw the water in gladness;
for upon those who draw with faith,
the grace of the Spirit is invisibly bestowed by
Christ, the God and Savior of our souls.**

~ From the Great Blessing of Waters



Happy Mother's Day

Happy Mother's Day to all of the mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, and spiritual mothers of our parish. May God grant them peace, health and many many years!

Food Festival Fundraiser

Food festival donations on Sunday, May 7—\$40.00 That brings the total to date to \$1185.00

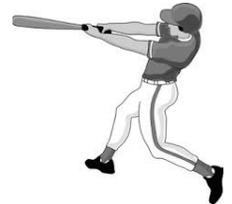
Summer Camp Fundraiser

Next Sunday, May 21st, our coffee hour will feature a hot dog lunch with all the fixings. There is no cost, but a free will donation will be accepted. The proceeds will help our parish youth attend Orthodox Summer Camps. Summer camps are an important part in the spiritual growth of our young people. Your support will be appreciated.



Baseball Game Outing

On Sunday, June 11th following the Divine Liturgy, we will have a parish-wide outing to a Lake Erie Crusher's baseball game versus the Gateway Grizzlies. The game starts at 2:05pm. The cost per person is \$15, which includes a box seat behind home plate and an \$8 concession voucher that can be used at the park snack bar. Last year we had a fantastic time. You won't want to miss out. Kids will have a blast as it will be a celebration of team mascot, Stomper's birthday with a Candy Drop presented by B.A. Sweetie's Candy Co. A sign-up list is downstairs on the Bulletin Board.



St Photini, the Apostle to the Samaritans

The holy Martyr Photini was the Samaritan Woman, with whom the Savior conversed at Jacob's Well (John. 4:5-42).

During the time of the emperor Nero (54-68), who displayed excessive cruelty against Christians, Saint Photini lived in Carthage with her younger son Joses and fearlessly preached the Gospel there. Her eldest son Victor fought bravely in the Roman army against barbarians, and was appointed military commander in the city of Attalia (Asia Minor). Later, Nero called him to Italy to arrest and punish Christians.

In an impotent rage Nero gave orders to flay the skin from Saint Photini and her family and to throw the martyr down a well. Her sons Sebastian, Photinus and Joses had their legs cut off, and they were thrown to dogs, and then had their skin flayed off. The sisters of Saint Photini also suffered terrible torments. Nero gave orders to cut off their breasts and then to flay their skin. An expert in cruelty, the emperor readied the fiercest execution for Saint Photis: they tied her by the feet to the tops of two bent-over trees. When the ropes were cut the trees sprang upright and tore the martyr apart. The emperor ordered the others beheaded. Saint Photini was removed from the well and locked up in prison for twenty days.

After this Nero had her brought to him and asked if she would now relent and offer sacrifice to the idols. Saint Photini spit in the face of the emperor, and laughing at him, said, "O most impious of the blind, you profligate and stupid man! Do you think me so deluded that I would consent to renounce my Lord Christ and instead offer sacrifice to idols as blind as you?"

Hearing such words, Nero gave orders to again throw the martyr down the well, where she surrendered her soul to God (ca. 66).

