

**PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR ...**

*The health and salvation of –*

|                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Abducted Bishops Paul & John | Pauline   |
| Hieroschemamonk Ambrose      | Ann       |
| Archpriest Eugene            | Stefan    |
| Priest James                 | John      |
| Priest John                  | Vivian    |
| Priest Alexander             | Jung Sook |
| Subdeacon Peter              | Thomas    |
| Reader Aleksei               | Cheyenne  |
| Monk Philaret                | Nancy     |
| Matushka Mary                | Randall   |
| Matushka Mary Sara           | Rose      |
| Matushka Tamra               | Don       |
| Andrea • Justina             | Norma     |
| Virginia • Thomas            | James     |
| John • Euphrosynos • John    |           |
| Catechumen Rebecca           |           |
| Catechumen Jennifer          |           |

*The repose and salvation of –*

*Please let Father know if there are any names you would like added to the list.*

**May – June: Temple Beautification Fund Drive**

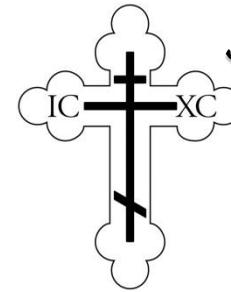
**Wednesday, May 24, 6:30 PM – Great Vespers +**

**Litya for the Ascension of our Lord**

**Thursday, May 25, 7:00 AM – Divine Liturgy**

**Saturday, June 3, 5:30 PM – Vigil for Pentecost**

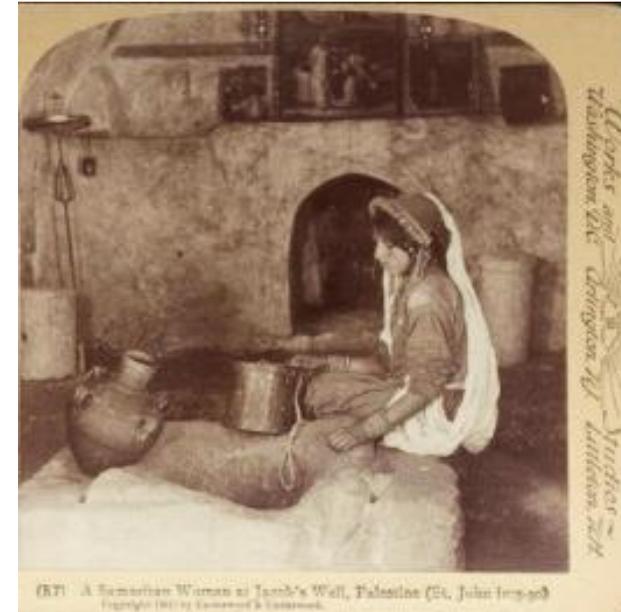
*A mission parish under the omophorion of His Eminence Benjamin,  
Archbishop of San Francisco and the Diocese of the West,  
Orthodox Church in America*



**ST TIKHON ORTHODOX  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

*Sunday, May 14, 2017*

**Sunday of the Samaritan Woman**



*Jacob's Well, c. 1900*

Sunday Hours & Divine Liturgy at 9:10 AM, followed by agape potluck  
Other services as announced

Rev. Alexander Vallens, *Rector*

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## The Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

The Holy Gospel has not given us the name of the Samaritan woman. But the Tradition of the Church remembers, and calls her in Greek - Photini, in Russian - Svetlana, in the Celtic languages - Fiona, in Western languages - Claire. And all these names speak to us of one thing - of light. Having met the Lord Jesus Christ she has become a light shining in the world, a light that enlightens those who meet her. Every Saint is offered us as an example; but we cannot always emulate the concrete ways in which a Saint lived, we cannot always repeat their way from earth to heaven. But we can learn from each of them two things. The one is that by the grace of God we can achieve what seems humanly impossible; that is, to become a person in the image and likeness of God, to be - in this world of darkness and tragedy which is in the power of lies - a word of truth, a sign of hope, the certainty that God can conquer if we only allow Him access to our souls. Because if the Kingdom of God is not established within us, if God is not enthroned in our minds and hearts, a fire that destroys everything unworthy of ourselves and of Him, we cannot spread God's light around.

And the second thing which the Saints can teach us is to understand the message which their names convey to us. And today's Samaritan woman speaks of light. Christ has said that He is the Light of the world, the light that enlightens all men; and we are called to give shelter within our souls, minds and hearts - indeed, within our whole self - to this light; so that the word spoken by Christ, "Let your light so shine before all men, that seeing your good deeds they may give glory to your Father who is in heaven", may be fulfilled and accomplished in and through us. It is only through seeing our deeds, through seeing how we live that people can believe that the light is God's light; it is not in our words, unless they are words of truth and of power like those of the Apostles, or of Christ Himself indeed. And let us reflect, each of us, on the meaning of our name and on the way in which we can become what we are called.

The Samaritan woman came to the well without any spiritual purpose; she came, as she came daily, to fetch water - and she met Christ. Each of us may meet our God at any turn in our life, when we are about our most homely tasks, if our hearts are turned in the right direction, if we are prepared to receive a message, to listen; indeed - to ask questions! Because the Samaritan woman asked a question of Christ, and what she heard transcended her question in such a way that she recognised in Him a prophet, and later - the Christ, the Saviour of the world.

|          |                                    |  |
|----------|------------------------------------|--|
| ARABIC   | <i>Al'Masiah qam</i>               | <i>Haqqan qam</i>                          |
| CHINESE  | <i>Ji-du fu-huo-le!</i>            | <i>Zhen-de Ta fu-huo-le!</i>               |
| FRENCH   | <i>Christ est Ressuscité!</i>      | <i>En Vérité, Il est Ressuscité!</i>       |
| GAELIC   | <i>Erid Krist!</i>                 | <i>G'deya! n erid she!</i>                 |
| GERMAN   | <i>Christus ist auferstanden!</i>  | <i>In Wahrheit ist Er auferstanden!!</i>   |
| GREEK    | <i>Christos Anesti!</i>            | <i>Alithos Anesti!</i>                     |
| HAWAIIAN | <i>Ua Ala Hou 'o Kristo!</i>       | <i>Ua Ala 'I 'o No 'oia!</i>               |
| KOREAN   | <i>Kristo bu-hwal ha-sho-nay!</i>  | <i>Cha-mu-ro bu-hwal ha-sho-nay!</i>       |
| LATIN    | <i>Christus resurrexit!</i>        | <i>Vere resurrexit</i>                     |
| LATVIAN  | <i>Kristus ir augsham tsalies!</i> | <i>Patiesham vinsh ir augsham tsalies!</i> |
| ROMANIAN | <i>Hristos a Inviat!</i>           | <i>Adeverat a Inviat!</i>                  |
| SLAVONIC | <i>Christos Voskrese!</i>          | <i>Voistinu Voskrese</i>                   |
| SPANISH  | <i>Cristo ha resucitado!</i>       | <i>Verdaderamente ha resucitado!</i>       |

But the light must not be pushed under a bushel. Having discovered that the Light had come into the world, that the word of divine truth was resounding now amidst men, that God was among us, she left behind all concerns and ran to share the joy, the wonder of what she had discovered with others. She brought her fellow-citizens to Christ. She told them first why she believed; and when perhaps curiosity, or the convincing power of her words, and the change that had occurred in her brought them to Christ, they saw for themselves and said to her, It is no longer because of what you say that we believe - we have seen, we have heard.

And this is what the Samaritan woman teaches all of us: be open at every moment of life, while we are busy with the simplest things, to receive the divine word, to be illumined by the divine light, to be cleansed by His purity, to receive it in the depths of our souls, receive it with all our life, so that people seeing what we have become may believe that the light has come into the world. Let us pray to the Samaritan woman to teach us, to guide us, to bring us to Christ in the way in which she came, and to serve Him in the way in which she served Him, being the salvation of all who were around her. -- Metropolitan Anthony of Sourozh

**Also this week:** Ven Pachomius the Great, founder of cenobitic monasticism (May 15); Ven Theodore the Sanctified, disciple of Ven Pachomius the Great (May 16); Apostle Andronicus of the Seventy and his fellow-laborer, Junia (May 17); Martyr Theodotus of Ancyra and with him Martyrs Peter, Dionysius, Andrew, Paul, Christina and seven virgin martyrs who suffered under Decius (May 18); Hieromartyr Patrick, Bp of Prussa and his companions; St Dunstan, Abp of Canterbury (May 19); Martyr Thalelaeus in Cilicia and his companions (May 20).

\* "regular" fasting this week; wine and oil allowed on Wednesday and Friday \*

**Epistle:** Acts 11:19-26, 29-30

**Gospel:** John 4:5-42

### Troparion – Tone 4 (Resurrection)

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel /  
The joyous message of Thy Resurrection; / They cast away the ancestral curse /  
And elatedly told the apostles: / Death is overthrown! /  
Christ God is risen, /// Granting the world great mercy.

### Troparion – Tone 8 (Midfeast)

In the middle of the feast, O Savior, /  
Fill my thirsting soul with the waters of godliness, as Thou didst cry to all: /  
"If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!" /// O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to Thee!

### Kontakion – Tone 8 (Samaritan Woman)

The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith; /  
She saw Thee, the Water of wisdom and drank abundantly. ///  
She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified!

### Kontakion – Tone 4 (Midfeast)

Christ God, the Creator and Master of all, / Cried to all in the midst of the feast of the law: /  
"Come and draw the water of immortality!" / We fall before Thee and faithfully cry: ///  
"Grant us Thy bounties, for Thou art the Fountain of our life!"