

May 3, 2015 Sunday of the Samaritan Woman
From the Desk of the Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

We live in a divided society. As of this writing, we hear daily reports in the press about the Supreme Court hearing arguments concerning Same-Sex “Marriage.” During these tumultuous times it is easy enough to find people, many of them claiming to be Christians, who magnify the moral pollution by claiming that we can’t judge, or that we can’t offend others. The difficulty becomes more confusing when they claim that Jesus would accept each person’s lifestyle. Beside this camp, there is the other side of the human heart which wants to hide from the moral filth and find a pure encampment free of the perversities in this world. Into this culture war enters the Prince of Peace, marching like a mighty warrior, and gives us a lesson in spiritual victory. This lesson was given at a well and the student was a Samaritan woman.

Take note of two things in this Gospel: the woman’s response and Jesus’s teaching. Notice how the woman’s response to Jesus changes over the course of the conversation? In verse 9 she simply calls Jesus: “you, a Jew.” As the Master speaks to her things begin to change in her heart. She then refers to Him as *sir*, then as a *prophet* in v. 19; by v. 29 she is confessing him as *Christ*, and by the end of the encounter she has called him the “**Savior of the World.**” Let’s take a look at the Teacher and see how he moved this woman from desiring ordinary water to desiring spiritual water.

First, Christ is fearless in breaking *his* culture’s taboos, putting himself in a vulnerable spot. Jewish men were not to converse with women in public, were not to drink with Samaritans, and were not to associate with recognized sinners. He did each of these with gusto. He had everything to lose by doing this. Second, Christ is fearless in smashing *our* culture’s taboos. He speaks hard truths to her face: He reminds her that she’s had five husbands and the man she’s hooked up with now isn’t her husband, that her kind don’t know what they worship, and that, by the way, salvation comes from the Jews. Today, these words would get him the attention of the Hate-Crime police. But, He spoke these necessary truths with gusto. Yet, with these two approaches combined there was something about The Man that ravished her heart. When we possess “living water” in our souls, when we make ourselves vulnerable for another, when we speak hard truths, we attract souls. Spend time today after receiving the Eucharist and ask Christ to stir up the waters of your soul into a gushing spring giving life to all around. Speak truth in our wicked culture. Go out on a limb doing so. For it is there that you will find an abundant harvest!

In Christ, Jason, priest and sinner.

New Things Happening:

- **It's back! This summer (June 29 – July 3)** our parish will have Vacation Bible School at Trinity Acres. Sign up information to come in the following week's bulletin. Set aside this time and have your kids excited for fun times come!
- **Church Directory Photo Times sheets** are in the vestibule. Sign up today to have your picture taken for the directory. The photographer will be here on the following days:

Thursday	May 14	2:30 pm – 8:45 pm
Friday	May 15	2:30 pm – 8:45 pm
Saturday	May 16	10:00 am – 4:45 pm
- **Needed for the Church Directory** are photos from the last 2 years of parish activities.
- **Mother's Day is May 10th**. In the vestibule, you will find Mother's Day Mass cards to give to your mother as well as envelopes to provide your mother's name (living and deceased) so she will be remembered during the liturgies on Mother's Day. Please turn these names into the rectory, place in the collection basket or place in the vestibule box by this Wed. May 6th.
- **The Church was a Mother to you in Life**, providing for your Spiritual Needs: Please Remember the Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma in your Last Will and Testament. The wording to do this is as follows:

"I give and bequeath to the Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of St. Josaphat in Parma, located in Parma, Ohio, _____% of the residue of my estate [or: the sum of \$_____]."
- **May 3rd First Repentance** will take place at the 11am Divine Liturgy for **Ian Joseph McChesney and Anna Lilit Medwig**.
- **The Apostleship of Prayer** will be praying a Rosary every Wednesday of May in the church at 6:30pm. Bible Study will meet at 7pm every Wednesday. Topic: "Why do we and our Protestant brothers/sisters have different Bibles?" (Exception: On May 13th. Liturgy that evening). For more information contact Karen Colaizzi.
- **Memorial Day is Monday, May 25th**. In the vestibule you will find Memorial Day Service envelopes to list the names of your deceased to be remembered during the **Memorial Day / Blessing of the Graves Service** held at *Holy Trinity*

Cemetery. Please turn these names into the rectory or place in the church collection basket by Wednesday, May 20th.

- **Needed:** Volunteers for our parish Vacation Bible School to be held this summer at Trinity Acres. Call rectory.
- **We need** three people (minimum) to receive free training in how to operate a Heart Defibrillator Machine, which has been donated to our church in memory of Catherine Sudiak. The life you save could be your loved one's.

Prayer List:

Make a point of praying for everyone on the prayer list. If you don't have a prayer list, contact the office and we'll send you one.

THE DATE has changed for our "Annual General Meeting". The meeting will now take place on **Sunday, May 17th** at 10am. This falls on the Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council. Please, write your questions down ahead of time, with your name and submit them in the box at the entrance of the church, or mail.

The 2015 UTS (Ukrainian Technological Society) Scholarship Application Form is now available on www.utspgh.org. **Due Date is July 6, 2015.** Please note that there are no paper application forms.

The 2015 Estina Franzak Perpetual Scholarship Fund is also now available for students who are attending or are planning to attend Duquesne University and who are of Ukrainian ethnicity. **Due Date is June 1, 2015. ONLY a paper application** can be submitted. Call the rectory for an application.

Pittsburgh Folk Festival will be Fri May 15th & Sat May 16th at the Monroeville Convention Center. Friday: 4pm -10pm & Sat.:11am-10pm. Volunteers are needed to work at the Ukrainian kitchen booth. Please contact Fr. Jason 412-279-4652 or call Nick Kotow at 412-835-8714. Donations of baked goods would be appreciated. Ukrainian participation is hosted by League of Ukrainian Catholics.

All Saints Camp sponsored by the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA offers a wide range of opportunities for youth and young adults for summer camping ministry. The Camp is located in Emlenton PA, just 1.5 hours north of Pittsburgh. For more information, visit www.uocyouth.org or call 412-977-2010 or uocyouth@aol.com

SAVE THE DATE - Join Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church (Akron Ohio) is celebrating 100 years of parish history! HGUCC will celebrate its centennial anniversary on Sunday, **June 21, 2015**, with a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy. We will

welcome the Patriarch of our Ukrainian Catholic Church, His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk, and our Bishop, the Most Reverend Bohdan J. Danylo. Please join us for this extraordinary occasion! Divine Liturgy will be held at 1pm, followed by a banquet at Guy's Party Centre. For more information or to receive a mailed invitation call 330.689.9072, e-mail to pastor@hgucc.org or visit www.hgucc.org.

Perennial Plant Sale will take place at Church of the Atonement (618 Washington Ave. Carnegie) on Saturday, May 16th from (10am-3pm).

Men Following Jesus Christ will be serving dinners at the Light of Life Rescue Mission next **Monday, May 11th**. We need at least 7 volunteers to serve dinners from approximately 4:45pm through 6:15pm. Thank you for serving on March 9th. Call Deacon Myron at 412-303-9086 or mjspak@verizon.net.

Reminder: Please double-check when leaving the church that the door is locked when leaving, especially the basement doors. Be sure that the door is both locked and tightly shut.

Vital Stats: \$1,616.50 was offered in the collection last weekend with another \$105 for candles \$80 for Utilities, \$244 for the Eparchy, \$225 for Easter Collection, \$5 for Seminary, \$10 for Good Friday/Holy Land, \$10 for Palm Sunday, \$5 for Annunciation, \$10 special proshpora donation, \$75 memorial donation for Helen Musiol and a \$25 special referral donation, and all for a grand total of \$2,410.50 Many blessings to all of our contributors whose sacrificial giving is known by God.

Lector Schedule:

- Saturday, May 9 at 4pm: Helen Zaletski
- Sunday, May 10 at 8:30am: Ben Ciarallo and later at 11am: Angela Honchar

What's happening in our parish this week . . .

Sat. *Our father among the saints, Anastasius the great*

5/2

4:00pm Divine Liturgy for the repose of John Medwig requested by Carol Ostaffe and Family

JC

.....also Divine Liturgy to mark the 1st anniversary of the late Clyde Stein and for the health of Barbara Stein requested by Barbara Stein and Family

IS

.....immediately followed by group pictures taken by Michael Haritan in the church for the following groups: Altar Decorating, Altar Servers, Apostleship of Prayer, St. Josaphat Society & Lectors

Sun.
5/3

Holy martyrs Timthey, and his wife Maura.

8:30am Divine Liturgy for the repose of Kathleen Pickle requested by George Honchar and Family IS

11:00am **First Repentance**
Divine Liturgy for the repose of John & Catherine Patross requested by Eleanor Patross JC

.....also Divine Liturgy for the people of the parish IS

.....immediately followed by group pictures taken by Michael Haritan in the church for the following groups: First Repentance, Altar Servers, Choir, CCD Teachers, Youth Group & Lectors

Mon.
5/4

Holy venerable martyr Pelagia of Tarsus

The pastor's day off

Tues.
5/5

Holy glorious martyr Irene

8:00am Divine Liturgy for the repose of Rudy Milonovich requested by Olga Skvarka (OLPH) JC

7:00pm *Choir practice and PAC meeting*

Wed.
5/6

Holy and just Job, the long suffering one

9:00am Divine Liturgy for the repose of Dennis S. Daniels requested by Charles & Donna Sradomski JC

Thurs. 5/7	<i>The holy martyr Acacius the centurion</i>		
	7:30am	<i>Pyrohi</i>	
	9:00am	Third Hour Prayers	JC
Fri. 5/8	<i>Holy, glorious apostle & evangelist John the Theologian</i>		
	7:30am	<i>Pyrohi</i>	
	9:00am	Third Hour Prayers	JC
Sat. 5/9	<i>Holy prophet Isaiah & holy martyr Christopher</i>		
	4:00pm	Divine Liturgy to mark the 38 th birthday of the late Tatyana Jula requested by Eleanor Patross	JC
	also Divine Liturgy for the repose of John Shiwarski requested by Jean Kincak	IS
Sun. 5/10	Mother's Day: <i>Holy apostle Simon the zealot</i>		
	8:30am	Divine Liturgy for the repose of Tanka Spinda requested by Michael & Jodi Hanczar	IS
	11:00am	Divine Liturgy for the mothers of the parish	JC
	also Divine Liturgy for the people of the parish	IS