



SICKNESS COMES IN MANY FORMS

The **SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC** seems almost out of place in the Paschal cycle of services. This day is dedicated to commemorating a miracle which, historically and chronologically, took place quite early in Christ's ministry. At first glance, it appears to have no correlation with the joyful theme of the Resurrection, which we continue to celebrate. Careful study, however, shows that a subtle, but wonderful connection can be made between this miraculous event and our Saviour's rising from the dead.

The power of Jesus to **HEAL** is intimately linked to His Resurrection. It proclaims to us that He Who can overcome death in His **OWN** body certainly has power over **ALL** human flesh. Simply put, our Lord can heal the paralytic because He Himself can rise from the dead.

Today's Gospel lesson is a touching story of a man waiting for 38 years for someone to help him into the healing waters of the pool of Bethesda. How heart-breaking are his words to Christ: ***"I have no one to put me into the pool."*** With compassion for the lonely paralytic, Jesus commands the man to do something that he must have longed to do for nearly four decades: ***"Rise, take up your bed and walk!"***

So caught up in the joy of this miracle, it is easy for us to overlook the stern admonition given to the paralytic by Christ after curing him: ***"Sin no more, lest something worse happens to you."*** Sickness and affliction come in many forms. While physical pain and suffering seem to be the greatest obstacles to a happy life, we must remember that **SPIRITUAL ILLNESSES** have consequences that are much more severe. Remember how Christ once condemned those who have eyes ***"but do not see"*** and who have ears ***"but do not hear."*** Fortunately, our Saviour is always there to provide relief from any ***"sickness of the soul."*** Truly, He is the **"Physician"** of our bodies and souls.

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SAINT NEKTARIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

SUNDAY MISSAL FOR MAY 15, 2022

View all services online: <https://dcs.goarch.org/goa/dcs/dcs.html> OR SCAN THE QR CODE

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM



Χριστὸς ἀνέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν, θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας, καὶ τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνήμασι, ζῶν ἡγαρισάμενος.

The First Antiphon

The Second Antiphon

Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia.

The Third Antiphon

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

The Small Entrance

Bless God in the churches, the Lord from the fountains of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia.

Hymns After the Small Entrance.

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

Resurrectional Apolytikion.

Let the heavens sing for joy, and let everything on earth be glad. For with His arm the Lord has worked power. He trampled death under foot by means of death; and He became the firstborn from the dead. From the maw of Hades He delivered us; and He granted the world His great mercy.

For St. Nektarios.

As we joyfully commemorate the welcome arrival of your sacred Relics, holy Hierarch Nektarios, we call upon the grace of God in you, which sanctifies our bodies and our souls. You alleviate our suffering and you cure the illnesses afflicting us. Glory to Christ, who glorified you! Glory to Him for your miracles! Glory to Him for all the cures that He works through you.

Kontakion of Pascha

Though You went down into the tomb, O Immortal One, yet You brought down the

dominion of Hades; and You rose as the victor, O Christ our God; and You called out "Rejoice" to the Myrrh-bearing women, and

4 gave peace to Your Apostles, O Lord who to the

5 fallen grant resurrection.

Trisagion Hymn

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The Readings

Epistle: Acts 9:32-42

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In those days, as Peter went here and there among them all, he came down also to the saints that lived at Lydda. There he found a man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden for eight years and was paralyzed. And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed." And immediately he rose. And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord. Now there was at Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which means Dorcas. She was full of good works and acts of charity. In those days she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him entreating him, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter rose and went with them. And when he had come, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping, and showing tunics and other garments which Dorcas made while she was with them. But Peter put them all outside and knelt down and prayed; then turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, rise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. And he gave her his hand and lifted her up. Then calling the saints and widows he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

Gospel: Jn. 5:1-15

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At that time, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in

Hebrew called Bethesda which has five porticoes. In these lay a multitude of invalids, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water; for an angel of the Lord went down at certain seasons into the pool, and troubled the water; whoever stepped in first after the troubling of the water was healed of whatever disease he had. One man was there, who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled, and while I am going another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your pallet, and walk." And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked. Now that day was the sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who was cured, "It is the sabbath, it is not lawful for you to carry your pallet." But he answered them, "The man who healed me said to me, 'Take up your pallet, and walk.' " They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take up your pallet, and walk?'" Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. Afterward, Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse befall you." The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.

The Great Entrance

The Creed

Hymn to the Theotokos

O Virgin, with one voice, all we believers call you blessed. * Metaphorical City and Gate of the Lord, rejoice! * Light of your Son's resurrection from the dead * shines on us today through you, O Lady. * And therefore we salute you: Rejoice!

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Prayers

(Read aloud by the Congregation)

I believe and confess, Lord, that You are truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, Who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first. I also believe that this is truly Your pure Body and that this is truly Your precious Blood. Therefore, I pray to You,

have mercy upon me, and forgive my transgressions, voluntary and involuntary, in word and deed, known and unknown and make me worthy, without condemnation, to partake of Your pure Mysteries for the forgiveness of sins and for life eternal. Amen. How shall I, who am unworthy, enter into the splendor of Your saints? If I dare to enter into the bridal chamber, my clothing will accuse me, since it is not a wedding garment; and being bound up, I shall be cast out by the angels. In Your love, Lord, cleanse my soul and save me. Loving Master, Lord Jesus Christ, my God, let not these Holy Gifts be to my condemnation because of my unworthiness, but for the cleansing and sanctification of soul and body and the pledge of future life and Kingdom. It is good for me to cling to God and to place in Him the hope of my salvation. Receive me today, Son of God, as a partaker of Your mystical supper. I will not reveal your mystery to Your adversaries. Nor will I give You a kiss as did Judas. But as the thief, I confess to You: Lord, Remember me in Your Kingdom.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. Alleluia.

Holy Communion: *Orthodox Christians prepared to receive Holy Communion come forward quietly and reverently at the direction of the ushers.*

Prayers of Thanksgiving after Holy Communion can be found on pages 40--42.

12 Hymn after Holy Communion

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

Homily

The Dismissal

26 **C**hrist is risen from the dead, by death trampling
29 down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.