

IC XC NI KA HOLY ASSUMPTION Orthodox Church In America

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Tone 4 Troparion (*Resurrection*)

When the women Disciples of the Lord learned from the Angel the joyous message of the Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the Apostles: “Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, // granting the world great mercy!”

Tone 8 Troparion (*Midfeast*)

In the middle of the feast, O Savior, fill my thirsting soul with the waters of piety as You cried to all: “If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!” // O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to You!

Tone 8 Kontakion (*Pentecostarion*)

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

Tone 4 Kontakion

(*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 You and faithfully cry: // “Grant us Your mercies, for You are the Fountain of our life!”

Tone 3 Prokeimenon

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing

praises! (Ps 46/47:6)
v: Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!
(Ps 46/47:1)

Epistle Acts 11:19-26, 29-30

Tone 4 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth! (Ps 44/45:5)

v: For You love righteousness, and hate



Today's commemorated feasts and saints

5th SUNDAY OF PASCHA — **Tone 4. Samaritan Woman.** Martyr Theodotus of Ancyra, and with him Martyrs Peter, Dionysius, Andrew, Paul, Christina, and the seven Virgin Martyrs: Alexandra, Tecusa, Claudia, Phaina, Euphrais, Matrona, and Julia, who suffered under Decius (303). Martyrs Simeon, Isaac and Bachtisius, of Persia (4th c.). Martyrs Heraclius, Paulinus, and Benedimus. Martyrs David and Tarechan of Georgia (693).

iniquity. (Ps 44/45:8)

Gospel John 4:5-42

(*Instead of “It is truly meet ...,” we sing:*)

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace:

“Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: ‘Rejoice, your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb! With Himself He has raised all the dead.’”

Rejoice, O ye people!
Shine, shine, O New Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you! Exult now, and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymns

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality!

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest!
(Ps 148:1)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



Announcements:

From the Holy Assumption Parish Garden Facebook Group :



Alright, 4 boxes are installed and 4 to go. Then we can get the fill dirt, soil, and mulch. After that we can hook up the irrigation system and plant some veggies. I'll let everyone know when the next work day will be.

Fun Fact: There is an foundation of a old house and possible a garage (1920's) underneath the east parking lot.

Special thanks to Jeff, Steven, Aaron, and Andy. We couldn't have finished today's work without you guys.

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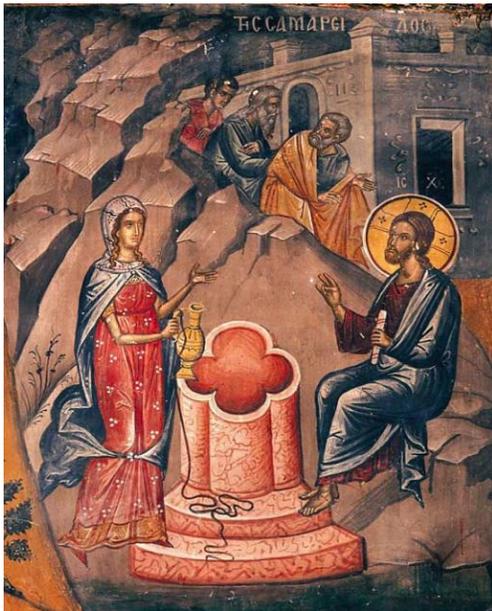
Donald Wescott, Paula Romano and Alissa Gates like this. Seen by 7

Donald Wescott Awesome Matthew , any photos?
13 hours ago · Like

Matthew Brandon Gonna get some tomorrow. Lots of rain and mud today.
12 hours ago · Like

Aaron Lee Wagster So much rain. So much mud.
11 hrs · Like

Andrew Dole All the rain and mud. But at least I got to sledgehammer lots of old house foundation!
6 hrs · Unlike · ?



The Samaritan woman—the holy, glorious Great-martyr Photeini—met Jesus at midday at Jacob’s Well, which was located in the city of Sychar. And being tired from travel and the heat, Jesus sat at Jacob’s Well. A little after, the Samaritan woman came to draw water, and had a long conversation with Him (it is the longest recorded discourse between Christ and

a human in the entire Bible). Photeini did not want to talk to Jesus, because the Samaritans did not have any dealings with Jews; Jews considered her people heretics because Samaritans kept only the first five books of the Old Testament. However, the Lord talked with her anyway, read her heart, revealed her secrets and gave her the “Living Water”—the grace of the Holy Spirit that leads to eternal life and flows to all humanity—to drink. Photeini immediately ran throughout the city to proclaim Christ. Through her, many other Samaritans believed in Jesus.

By the intercessions of Thy Martyr, Photeini, O Christ God, have mercy on us. Amen.

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are delighted to have visitors worship with us, and we pray that you will be blessed in your time with us! Regarding participation in the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion is treated with the utmost respect and reverence in the Orthodox Church, and it is the rule that only practicing Orthodox Christians may receive it. Our non-Orthodox guests are welcome, however, to participate with us in any other way they may desire, and are welcome to join us in venerating the Cross and receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy.

Please Join us for Coffee Hour after Divine Liturgy in the Social Hall!



If this is your first visit to our parish, we welcome you and invite you to return as often as you are able. For those interested in learning more about Orthodox Christianity please ask any of our church community – or feel free to contact Fr Stacey. Our parish library is available for your reading interests. Children are welcome to join church school classes after liturgy.

CONFESSIONS

Fr Stacey can usually hear confessions after any weekday service or after Saturday Vespers. He is also available by appointment, or during his regular office hours.

Our Vision:

To know and love Christ, sharing His love with others

Mission Statement:

Bringing the love of Christ to our community through prayer, worship, fellowship, discipleship, service, and outreach within the tradition of historic Orthodox Christianity.

This Week:

Today	
Hours	9:10 AM
Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
Coffee Hour	11:15 AM
Church School	11:30 AM

Wednesday	
Daily Vespers	6:30 PM

Saturday	
Great Vespers	5:00 PM

Next Sunday	
Hours	9:10 AM
Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
Coffee Hour	11:15 AM
Church School	11:45 AM

Upcoming

Ascension	May 29
Pentecost	June 8
Children's Festival	Aug 17

Going to miss a service? Listen online to our Divine Liturgy and other Orthodox Christian Teachings INBN.net

Coffee Hour Schedule

MAY 25 HUBA , FEDORKO , MUDRAK
 JUNE 1 VORKAPICH , WESCOTT , POWELL
 JUNE 8 HAYWOOD , CROSTON , FRISCHKORN , TAPYRIK
 JUNE 15 KRAJCI , BLANCHARD , BYRNES , LEWIS
 JUNE 22 CONDO , MATHEWSON , RICHTER
 JUNE 29 ROMANO , KOSITA



WISDOM FROM THE 12 STEPS

One of the great blessings of my life has been my privilege of spending some years actively attending meetings of various 12 Step groups. I have personally found these very helpful, and they have strongly challenged my growth in Christ. In particular, I have always been struck by their commitment to being “rigorously honest” in all aspects of their lives, and most especially with oneself. This commitment often resulted in the religious members admitting to themselves that their faith wasn’t working! This highlights a unique aspect of the 12 Step groups, which is the seeking of a faith that works, a faith for example, that can deliver a person from alcoholism, or from compulsive overeating, or destructive relationship patterns. The truth is that if some of us are truly honest with ourselves, our faith isn’t working either! Being Orthodox is no guarantee at all.

This then begs the question, why? Why is our faith not working for us? The twelve step movement provides some good answers to this question. Here is what Alcoholics Anonymous found out through the experience of their members:

“For just so long as we were convinced that we could live exclusively by our own individual strength and intelligence, for just that long was a working faith in a Higher Power impossible. This was true even when we believed that God existed. We could actually have earnest religious beliefs which remained barren because we were still trying to play God ourselves. As long as we placed self-reliance first, a genuine reliance upon a Higher Power was out of the question. That basic ingredient of all humility, a desire to seek and do God’s will, was missing....

“During the process of learning more about humility, the most profound result of all was the change in our attitude toward God. And this was true whether we had been believers or unbelievers. We began to get over the idea that the Higher Power was a sort of bush-league pinch hitter, to be called upon only in an emergency. The notion that we would still live our own lives, God helping a little now and then, began to evaporate. Many of us who had thought ourselves religious awoke to the limitations of this attitude. Refusing to place God first, we had deprived ourselves of His help.” (*Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, Alcoholics Anonymous World

Services Inc. p.72, 75.)

Brothers and sisters, we can learn from this! In my experience, both personally, and with many parishioners through the years, this testimony is absolutely true. By not truly surrendering and “letting go and letting God,” by not truly allowing God His rightful place in our lives (the first place), we cut ourselves off from His blessing in our lives, and we wonder why everything is going wrong for us! Worse yet, we may get angry at God and blame Him for not helping us. But in reality we are simply harvesting what we planted!

I have lived as a non-Christian (as a former Atheist), I have lived as a Christian without God first, and finally I have lived as a Christian surrendered to God, with God number one in my life. Just like those in AA and other 12 step groups, I have found that the latter is the only way that actually works, and it is much, much better! It is the only life blessed by God.

There is no such thing as luck. What there is – is God’s blessing (often called “good luck”) or the lack of it (often called “bad luck”). Though God’s blessing is not exactly the same as what is commonly called luck, it is similar enough for my purposes in writing. Since I have committed myself to following God wholeheartedly, even my atheist family members have commented on what they called “good luck” seeming to follow me wherever I go. Now certainly, this doesn’t mean that a person with God first will not have struggles or trials, or that things won’t ever go wrong – but even in this it seems like the trials eventually turn to gold. With God first, we get his strength to go through any trial. “A righteous man may have many troubles, but the LORD delivers him from them all.” (Psalm 34:19)

The other aspect is that when God has His rightful place in your life, you feel like you are living how you were made to live. You will be much happier! The joy of the Lord, His peace, His love will begin to fill you.

To begin to surrender to God and put him first is really quite simple. It really is a decision of the will. Just ask yourself; “If following God was the top priority in my life, what would my life look like?” And then begin to live your life in that way. In my next article I will give more advice on how to put God first in your life.

Fr Stacey