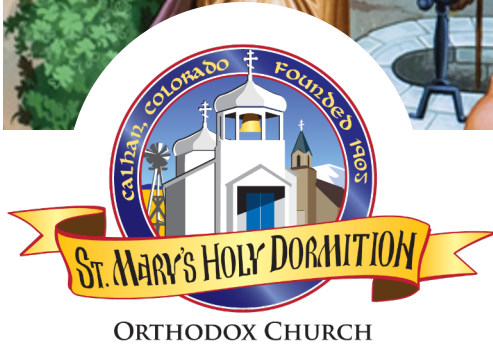


CHRIST SPEAKING WITH THE SAMARITAN WOMAN



MAY 18TH, 2025

5th Sunday of Pascha

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Scripture Readings

Acts 11:19-26, 29-30 (Epistle)

Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord. Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea. This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

John 4:5-42 (Gospel)

So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life." The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband,' for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly." The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He." And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why are You talking with her?" The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did.

Many Years!

anniversaries

3rd - Jeb & Jennifer Billmire
10th - Ben & Linda Hendrix
16th - Butch & Helen Sakala
25th - Bill & Colleen Hendrix
27th - Josh & Lacie Leithead
29th - Matt & Libbie Dawson

birthdays

2nd - Leonard Volosin
5th - Austin Jackson
5th - Colleen Hendrix
7th - Vickie Tipton
8th - Victor Volosin
8th - Nadia Sisneros
10th - Makenzie Schulte
11th - Lauren Nelson
13th - Madeleine Hlatki
14th - Joshua Sisneros
18th - Dee Eurich
19th - Abigail Bourge
24th - Rachel Stevens
26th - Betty Eurich
27th - Harry Mikita
28th - Tori Jackson
29th - Kaleb Ritter
30th - Brock Burnside

graduations

Bodie Glover - 8th Grade
Evie Stevens - 8th Grade
Nicole Fischer - 12th Grade
Stone Stevens - 12th Grade

Service Schedule

May 25th Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM
— Fr. Constantine Blizzard

May 31st (Saturday) Divine Liturgy
— Fr. Anthony Machnee

June 1st (Sunday) No Services

June 8th Pentecost (TBA)

Scripture Readings — continued

John 4:5-42 - continued

Could this be the Christ? Then they went out of the city and came to Him. In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat."

But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." Therefore the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors.'" And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His own word. Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."

The Samaritan Woman

The Holy Martyr Photina (Svetlana) the Samaritan Woman, her sons Victor (renamed Photinus) and Josés, her sisters Anatola, Phota, Photis, Paraskevĕ, and Kyriake, along with Nero's daughter Domnina and the Martyr Sebastian, suffered for Christ under Emperor Nero (54–68 AD).

Saint Photina is the Samaritan Woman who spoke with Christ at Jacob's Well (John 4:5–42). After her conversion, she lived in Carthage with her younger son Josés, boldly preaching the Gospel. Her elder son, Victor, served in the Roman army and was appointed military commander in Attalia (Asia Minor). Summoned by Nero to arrest Christians, Victor refused. An official named Sebastian tried to persuade him to betray fellow believers, but Victor remained steadfast. When Sebastian was suddenly struck blind, he realized the truth of the Christian faith and was baptized by Victor, immediately regaining his sight. His household was also baptized.

Reports of the conversions reached Nero, who ordered all the Christians to be brought to Rome. The Lord appeared to the confessors, telling Victor, "From this day forward, your name will be Photinus, for through you many will be enlightened." Saint Photina left Carthage and joined them.

In Rome, Nero questioned the saints. When they refused to deny Christ, he ordered their finger joints smashed, but they felt no pain and remained unharmed. Sebastian, Photinus, and Josés were blinded and imprisoned. Photina and her sisters were sent to Nero's daughter Domnina, whom Photina converted, along with her servants and even a sorcerer sent to poison her.

After three years, Nero learned that the imprisoned saints had regained their sight and that the prison was transformed by their preaching. Furious, he had them crucified and scourged. On the fourth day, servants sent to check on them were struck blind, but the saints, freed by an angel, healed them through prayer. The healed servants also believed and were baptized.

In a rage, Nero ordered Saint Photina flayed and thrown down a well. Photinus, Josés, and Sebastian had their legs severed and were flayed before being thrown to wild dogs. Photina's sisters endured brutal tortures: breasts and skin cut off, and in Saint Photis's case, she was torn apart by bent trees released to snap upright. Others were beheaded.

Photina, still alive, was removed from the well and imprisoned for 20 days. When brought before Nero again and urged to sacrifice to idols, she spat in his face and said, "O most impious of the blind, do you think I would renounce my Lord Christ and sacrifice to blind idols?" Enraged, Nero had her thrown once more into the well, where she gave her soul to God around 66 AD.

Kontakion

tone 8

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!

Prayer List living

Met. Tikhon, Abp. Benjamin, Archim. Vasily, Fr. Andreas, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Dennis, Meryl, Harold, Tammy, Litsa, Lilliana, Carl, Christina, Lindy, John, Alicia, Patricia, Danny, Jerry, Roberta, Wendy, Judy, Michael, Jill, Beverly, Lily with child, Infant Dominic, Tayla with child, Joseph, Alisha with child, Jackie, Amber with child, Anna with child, Joan, Trisha, Stella, Lee, Carol, Ethan, infant AdaLynn, Nauvlet, Leilah, Austin, Brian, Josh, Mother Magdalena, Kodiak, Miriham, Cheri, infant Gus, April, Madalyn, Cheri, infant Gus, April, Madalyn, McKenzie, MaKiya, Hannah, Haylee, Keith, Samantha, Christina, Jake, Ashton, infant Sophie, Jeanie, Jetlyn, Lauren, Bob, Taylee with child, Georgianna, Clint, Murl, Carolyn, Millie, Earnie, child Charlotte, Cathy, Michael, Abigail and the infant Gwendolyn

Those who are confined: Casey, Basil, Mark, Johnny, Hannah, Theodore

departed

Milt, Dave, Lonnie, Paul, infant Dorthy, Vladimir, James, Larry, Vontae, Carol

Youth Events

summer youth camp

I am very excited to finally announce that our registration for summer camp 2025 is open! We have a new website where you can find all the information you need. On the registration page you will find forms that you can download, sign, and then upload into the registration form right on the website. Payment will also be made through the registration form. The website can be found here: rmoyc.org

July 7th - 10th, 2025
1st - 12th Grade | \$240 per camper

Camp is an important and fun part of the formation of the youth of our communities, and hope that you will support us by sending campers, considering volunteering as staff and sharing this information widely!

In Christ,

Fr Anthony Machnee

Director

Rocky Mountain Orthodox Youth Camp

director@rmoyc.org | RMOYC.org

719-323-5353

