Sunday of the Blind Man

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The Lord Jesus was coming from the Temple on the Sabbath, when, while walking in the way, He saw the blind man mentioned in today's Gospel. This man had been born thus from his mother's womb, that is, he had been born without eyes (see Saint John Chrysostom, Homily LVI on John; Saint Irenaeus, Against Heresies, Book V:15; and the Second Exorcism of Saint Basil the Great). When the disciples saw this, they asked their Teacher, "Who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?" They asked this because when the Lord had healed the paralytic at the Sheep's Pool, He had told him, "Sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee" (John 5:14); so they wondered, if sickness was caused by sin, what sin could have been the cause of his being born without eyes. But the Lord answered that this was for the glory of God. Then the God-man spat on the ground and made clay with the spittle. He anointed the eyes of the blind man and said to him, "Go, wash in the Pool of Siloam." Siloam (which means "sent") was a well-known spring in Jerusalem used by the inhabitants for its waters, which flowed to the eastern side of the city and collected in a large pool called "the Pool of Siloam."

When our Lord Jesus Christ, then, came at midday to this city, which is also called Sychar (John 4:5), He was wearied from the journey and the heat. He sat down at this well. After a little while the Samaritan woman mentioned in today's Gospel passage came to draw water. As she conversed at some length with the Lord and heard from Him secret things concerning herself, she believed in Him; through her many other Samaritans also believed.

Therefore, the Savior sent the blind man to this pool that he might wash his eyes, which had been anointed with the clay-not that the pool's water had such power, but that the faith and obedience of the one sent might be made manifest, and that the miracle might become more remarkable and known to all, and leave no room for doubt. Thus, the blind man believed in Jesus' words, obeyed His command, went and washed himself, and returned, no longer blind, but having eyes and seeing. This was the greatest miracle that our Lord had yet worked; as the man healed of his blindness himself testified, "Since time began, never was it heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind," although the Lord had already healed the blind eyes of many. Because he now had eyes, some even doubted that he was the same person (John 9:8-9); and it was still lively in their remembrance when Christ came to the tomb of Lazarus, for they said, "Could not this man, who opened the eyes of the blind man, have caused that even this man should not have died?" Saint John Chrysostom gives a thorough and brilliant exposition of our Lord's saying that even this man should not have died. When the Lord heard from Him secret things concerning herself, the Samaritan woman believed in Him; through her many other Samaritans also believed.

Venerable Styliites Simeon the Younger of the Mountain of Wonders and Nikitas of Pereyaslavl-Zalesski; Martyr Melitios the General of Galatia; Venerable Vincent of Lerins

Matins Gospel Reading: John 20:11-18

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 5):
Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

Kontakion of Pascha (Tone 8):
Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal. Thou didst destroy the pow'r of death. In victory didst Thou arise O Christ God, proclaiming rejoice to the myrrhbearing women, granting peace to thine apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

A Note to Visitors and Guests: Welcome! We are glad you have joined us today for worship! If this is your first visit to All Saints, please take a moment to fill out a visitor’s card at the greeter’s stand before you leave. The greeter also has Liturgy Books for use during the service, if you desire one. We hope you will join us for brunch following this morning’s service.
Tropanion of All Saints (Tone 4):
Adorned in the blood of Thy martyrs, throughout all the world as in purple and fine linen, Thy Church through them doth cry unto Thee, O Christ God: Send down Thy compassion upon Thy people; grant peace to Thy habitation and great mercy to our souls.

Megalynarion for Pascha:
The angel cried to the Lady full of grace: Rejoice, 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, rejoice O ye people. Shine! Shine! Shine, O new Jerusalem. The glory of the Lord has shone on you. Exult now, exult, and be glad O Zion. Be radiant, O pure Theotokos, in the resurrection, the resurrection of your Son.

Prokeimenon Psalm:
Thou, O Lord, shalt keep us and preserve us.
Save me, O Lord, for the godly man hath disappeared.

Epistle Reading: Acts 16:16-34

Gospel Reading: John 9:1-38

News and Announcements

Fasting during the Paschal season: In accordance with the custom of the Patriarchate of Antioch, we do NOT fast on Wednesdays and Fridays during the forty-day season of Pascha. We resume normal fasting practices the day after Ascension. We do still observe the normal pre-communion fasting from food and drink during this time.

Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!

Christos anesti! Ailithos anesti!
Hristos a înviat! Adevărat a înviat!
Al-Massih kam! Hakkan kam!
Christos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese!
Christus Surrexit! Surrexit vere!
Cristo ha resucitado! Verdaderamente, ha resucitado!
Christus ist auferstanden! Er ist wahrhaftig auferstanden!
Cristo è risorto! È veramente risorto!
Le Christ est ressuscité! Vraiment Il est ressuscité!
Chrystus zmartwychwstał! Prawdziwie zmartwychwstał!
Krishti u ngjall! Vërret u ngjall!
Christos harjav i merelotz! Orhniale harutjun Christosi!