

Mike Shuster, Greg Starr, Florence Kunder, Ed Kunder, Jim Bacigalupi, Katherine Sikoryak, Margaret Hospodar.

**Prayers for our Parishioners.** The particular law of the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolitan Church directs that the pastor is to celebrate the Divine Liturgy for the people of the parish entrusted to him on Sundays and days of precept [holydays of obligation]" (canon 294). This liturgy intention for all parishioners is "For the Intention of Parishioners." The faithful who attend the Divine Liturgy for the parishioners who participate, according to their state, in praying for that intention. We can continue this prayer for one another during the week by remembering several parishioners and families each week. Please remember this week: Mary and Frederick Goodspeed, Michael Graham and Paul Poskon, Gary and Emily Green, Sally Green, Edward and Carol Gubanich, John and Kristine Gubanich, Danielle Hakun & family, and from the Mission, Vincent and Joni Kovalick.

**Suspension of Public Services.** In his decree of April 28<sup>th</sup>, Bishop Kurt Burnette extended the suspension of public services in the Eparchy of Passaic through May 13<sup>th</sup> for those states of the Eparchy where stay at home orders remain. In his decree the bishop stated the following: "The suspension of public services includes all activities at a church (property) that involve a physical gathering of parishioners or interaction with the public." Bishop Kurt Burnette has dispensed all the people of the Eparchy of Passaic from the legal obligation to attend church services, and also from the "Easter duty" for 2020. Please keep in mind that Divine Law still requires us to keep the Lord's Day holy by prayer and by refraining from unnecessary work. The bishop cannot dispense Divine Law. Further, the

Bishop encourages all to make a good confession later in the year when it is safe.

**Live Streaming.** In response to the spiritual needs the Faithful of Epiphany, the Divine Liturgy of the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman today will be live streamed at 10:30 AM, visit <https://eolbcc.org/live/>. We offer thanks to Brian Jessee, the Epiphany website builder and webmaster as well as parishioner, for all his work for our parish.

**Praying at home together.** Although we are unable to pray together in church, we might consider praying these prayers in our homes so that we can be united in praying the same prayers. These are available on the web site of the Metropolitan Cantor Institute of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, <https://mci.archpitt.org>. On Sunday, in place of the Divine Liturgy, The Typica, arranged as a Reader Service, is available on the web site of the Metropolitan Cantor Institute. Also available is the entire People's Molitvennik under Publications tab to use when participating in the live streaming Liturgy.

**Messages from the Pastor.** Father John has been sending email messages to the parishioners whose email addresses we have on our roster. If you have not been receiving these email messages, it might be because we do not have your email address, or you have changed it and we do not have it. We would like to have your email address to keep contact with you during this time when the physical locations of churches are closed. Simply email the parish office [epiphanyoffourlord@verizon.net](mailto:epiphanyoffourlord@verizon.net).

**Liturgy Intentions to be Rescheduled.** If you have offered a Divine Liturgy for an intention to be celebrated during the suspension, you will be contacted to reschedule when the suspension is lifted. The liturgies that are celebrated in

private on Sundays will be for the intention of parishioners. The particular law of the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolitan Church directs pastors to celebrate the Divine Liturgy for the people of the parish entrusted to him on Sundays and days of precept [holydays of obligation]" (canon 294).

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS.

**Suspension of Public Services.** In his decree of April 28<sup>th</sup>, Bishop Kurt Burnette extended the suspension of public services in the Eparchy of Passaic through Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> in those states where the civil authorities continue to have stay at home orders and orders limiting or prohibiting assemblies of people. This would include Virginia and Maryland. In other states of the Eparchy allowing limited activities, the bishop allows pastors to conduct services in conformity with local health directives and the orders of state governments.

**Executive Order.** Governor Ralph Northam issued Executive Order #55 on March 30<sup>th</sup>. This stay at home order allowed exception to visit one's house of worship, but only ten persons or less can be in the house of worship at any time. Previously, the Governor allowed the possibility of drive-through or drive-in worship. However, with this Executive Order 55 these now are prohibited. The Order is in effect until June 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Parish Office Schedule and Safety Protocols.** In accordance with Bishop Kurt Burnette's and Governor Northam's most recent Order, the office hours for Epiphany of our Lord have been amended to the following: Monday through Friday - 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Jamie, the administrative assistant, will cover the office during those hours from home. All office calls will be forwarded to

her cell phone. She will be teleworking Tuesday -Thursday. She will be physically in the parish office Monday and Friday only. Lucie, the financial assistant, has elected to work from home Tuesday through Thursday and the parish office only on Monday and Friday. Given that response to this crisis is so fluid and schedules can change so quickly, please call the office phone number before venturing out. Parish staff has established safety and health protocols at the parish office, as well. If you have business at the office, please use the new doorbell. We will respond through the intercom after verifying your presence at the door. Jamie is able to respond to the door from home as well. No one will come into the office from outside. If your visit includes an exchange of goods, please leave them on the door step. We will attend to them. We ask this because there is not enough room in the office to observe the mandate to practice social distancing.

**Financial Report.** The yearly financial report has been prepared and is available in the parish office if anyone would like a copy. In addition, it will be included in the first bulletin that is produced when the churches are reopened.

**Book Store.** The parish book store will be closed throughout the suspension of all activity through Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. The Governor of the Commonwealth and Bishop Burbidge, bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Arlington have extended the stay at home and safe distancing protocols until June 10<sup>th</sup>; reassessment will be made then. After May 13<sup>th</sup> Bishop Kurt will determine whether the church and its activities remain closed or will reopen if it is deemed safe by the civil authorities in conjunction with their medical advisors. In keeping with the civil authorities of the Commonwealth, the restrictions extend until June 10<sup>th</sup>. As deadlines are changing

rapidly, please attend to the advice of civil and medical authorities.

**Conferencing Catechesis.** In his decree March 16<sup>th</sup>, Bishop Kurt Burnette suspended religious education classes for adults and children except for classes held on line by using a conference calling service such as Zoom for each classes. Catechists are asked to please check with parents for their approval.

## EPARCHIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Bishop's Appeal.** The 2019 Bishop's Appeal goal for Epiphany church remains the same, \$19,800. Our parishioners have pledged \$20,415.18. Sixty-nine households bought Epiphany church to our goal and above. And Epiphany Ladies Guild has given a donation of \$3,000. The present total is \$20,415.18. Montgomery County Mission parishioners have pledged \$6,800.08, exceeding their goal of \$6,000. Epiphany parish will receive a check for 40 % of our total. These checks usually arrive sometime during the summer and are not mailed until all pledges are satisfied. Epiphany of our Lord parish in Annandale has an outstanding pledge total of \$133.

**Contributions On Line.** The Eparchy of Passaic accepts offertory and donations made for the parishes of the eparchy. If you want to make a contribution to Epiphany of our Lord, Annandale or Epiphany Mission, Gaithersburg, MD, online, please go to the link on our church web site [www.eolbcc.org](http://www.eolbcc.org) On the home page click on Epiphany of our Lord online giving. You will then be at a secure site of VANCO, the donation service used by the Eparchy of Passaic. You will be asked which parish you want the donation to be credited.

**Springs in the Desert.** Springs in the Desert is a Catholic apostolate founded by Kimberly Henkel, PhD and Ann Koshute, MTS, graduates of the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family. Their shared experience of infertility led them to found Springs in the Desert to provide spiritual and emotional support and accompaniment to those carrying infertility's heavy burden. As part of their mission they also aim to support pastors, parish ministers and diocesan offices with resources to make them aware of the particular spiritual needs of couples in this struggle, and to assist them in accompanying these couples. The apostolate will be offering their first "virtual" retreat called Springs of Hope. The retreat is free and conducted online, so that individuals and couples may view it at their leisure, from the comfort of home. Topics included are grief, strengthening our relationship with God and with our spouse, praying through the "desert" of infertility, infertility and miscarriage, fostering and adoption, and more. Participants can register and find out more at their website, [www.springsinthedesert.org](http://www.springsinthedesert.org).

**Free MCI Classes.** The following MCI classes are FREE to all members of our church, through July 1 so, all registration fees for the following MCI Online classes for any member of our church:  
-Introduction to the Divine Liturgy  
-Introduction to the Eight Tones  
-The Divine Liturgy (like the Intro course, but tests all melodies in the green book)  
-The Office of Vespers  
-Mastering the Eight Tones  
-Services for the Living (baptism, wedding)  
Registrants must first complete the free Introduction to Church Singing class first, if they haven't done so already. Register at [mci@archpitt.org](mailto:mci@archpitt.org).

## Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

### COMING EVENTS

- Byzantine Spirituality
- Parish Office New Schedule
- Scheduled Liturgy Intentions
- Financial Report
- Book store sales Suspended
- EMC Bingo - Suspended through 5/13
- Bishop's Appeal – Over goal!
- Contributions Online

#### EMC BINGO

05/05/20 - Team B - No Bingo  
05/12/20 – Team C - No Bingo  
05/19/20 - Team D - No Bingo  
05/26/20 – Team A – No Bingo

<http://EMCBINGO.com>

May 10, 2020

### TITHING & GIVING

Adults	\$6,660.00
Building Fund	\$1,917.00
Holy Days	\$165.00
Candles	\$180.50
BCY	\$50.00
Easter	\$485.00
School of Religion	\$57.00
Holy Water Bottles	\$9.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$197.00
St. Nicholas Fund	\$1,090.00
Retired Nuns	\$30.00
Retired Priests	\$5.00
<u>Online Donation</u>	<u>\$</u>
TOTAL	\$10,843.50

**Tithing & Giving.** "Online Donation" represents donations for Epiphany contributed by parishioners online and sent to Epiphany from the chancery earlier. We have been informed that a second check representing online contributions is coming and will be noted next week. Thank you for sending your weekly envelope donations by mail or online.

*"Remember then, it is the Lord, your God, who gives you the power to acquire wealth." (Dt. 8:18)*

### LITURGY AND LIFE

**Prayer Intentions.** Please remember in prayer: Msgr. George Dobes, Michael Mikulak, David Sayen, Mary McDonnell, Justine Ferrari, Louis Shanks, Caroline Zurun, Mary Beth Vieira, Irene Markovich, Mary Gaydos, Betty Markovchick, John Vernoski, Marge Rusnak, and Paul Vrabel. Please pray for these friends and relatives of parishioners: Shirley Anne Markham, Jeffrey Mikulak, Francine O'Leary, Russell Plasha, Patricia Delfine, Rev. Joseph Jugan, Steven Goula, Eileen Gray, James Seman, Fr. Lee Gross, Eileen Gray, James Seman,



# EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Byzantine Catholic Church  
3410 Woodburn Road, Annandale, VA 22003  
Phone: 703-573-3986 --- Fax: 703-573-0344  
Very Rev. John G. Basarab - Pastor

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!	May 10, 2020	Christos voskres! Voistinnu voskres!
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## DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

### SUNDAY OF THE SAMRITAN WOMAN

May 10 Sun. 10:30 AM Intention of Parishioners

*Fifth Week After Pascha*

*Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Apostles to the Slavs*

May 11 Mon. 10:00 AM +Ronald Padula by Anthony & Mary Fazio

### SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND

May 17 Sun. 10:30 AM Intention of Parishioners

#### ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE – May 17, 2020

May 17 Sun. 8:00 AM  
10:30 AM

#### USHER SCHEDULE – May 17, 2020

May 17 Sun. 8:00 AM  
10:30 AM

All public services have been suspended through May 13, 2020. Services include Sunday of the Samaritan Woman.

# EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD Byzantine Catholic Church

## The Sacraments – Our Life in Christ

**Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation** - (Baptism, Chrismation, Holy Eucharist). We follow the command of the Lord to baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19). Chrismation (Confirmation) and Holy Eucharist (First Holy Communion) is imparted at the same time immediately following baptism

**Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation of Infants** – is scheduled at the Divine Liturgy on Saturdays or Sundays during the year except certain fast periods. Sponsors must be Catholics in good standing and supply a sponsor card attesting to that from their parish. While two Catholics in good standing is usual, one baptized non-Catholic can function as a Christian Witness with the Catholic sponsor. Both must be at least sixteen years of age. Details are available at the parish office.

**Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation of Adults** – follows a period of catechumenate. This is a period of spiritual formation. Please see the priest or deacon.

**Mystery (Sacrament) of Crowning in Marriage** – According to the Pastoral Policy and Guidelines for Marriage Preparation for the Catholic Church in New Jersey, couples wishing to marry must inform the pastor one year before the date of the wedding and be free to marry in the Catholic Church. Couples will meet with the priest and deacon in four sessions – to begin the pre-nuptial investigation, to take FOCCUS, a communications, values and religious inventory approved for use in the Catholic dioceses/eparchies, to complete the pre-nuptial investigation and for a session on the theology of the mystery (sacrament). They are also required to attend Pre-Cana or Engaged Encounter.

**Mystery (Sacrament) of Repentance** – The Mystery (Sacrament) of Repentance is regularly available each Saturday 11:30 AM – 12:00 Noon. In addition, confessions are heard during the Christmas Fast (Advent) and the Great Fast (Lent) at other scheduled times. Visiting confessors are also scheduled at special times during the Great Fast. Confessions are also heard on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Great and Holy Parishioners who are seriously ill and those with life endangering medical conditions as well as those who are to undergo surgery should avail themselves Week to prepare for the observance of the Lord’s Resurrection.

**Anointing of the Sick** – Parishioners who are seriously ill and those with life-threatening medical conditions as well as those who are to undergo surgery should avail themselves of the sacrament of penance and anointing of the sick. If surgery is scheduled, please consider confession and anointing at the church before entering the hospital since there is more privacy for confession and less chance of interruption for confession and anointing. If you are unable to come to church, please call the rectory. Families of parishioners who have a medical emergency should contact the rectory office so one of the priests can go the hospital.

**Holy Communion and Visitation of the Sick** – Holy Communion is brought to our parishioners who are ill at the hospital or at home by the deacon on Sundays and at other times by arrangement. Please contact the deacon or the rectory office by Friday prior to the Sunday communion visitation.

**Funeral Services** – The Office of Christian Burial is offered in ways to accommodate the needs of the family. The Epiphany Ladies Guild as part of their charity offers a Mercy Meal for families at the Parish Center following the interment. Epiphany of our Lord cemetery is a portion of Fairfax Memorial Park. Parishioners who are interested in purchasing cemetery plots should see the deacon.

**Byzantine Catholic Mission of Montgomery County** - Divine Liturgy: Sunday 10:00 AM; Religious Education & Social Hour 11:15-12:15: 20501 Goshen Road, Gaithersburg, MD; (301) 482-0282.

### Parish Administration

*"The Church is not an organization with sacraments but a sacrament with organization."*

#### Parish Clergy

Very Rev. John G. Basarab, Pastor  
Deacon Elmer Pekarik, Deacon Peter Turko

#### Parish Office Staff

Jamie Bacigalupi, Administrative Assistant  
Lucie Cantsilieris, Financial Assistant

#### Parish Council of Administration

Emil Koval, Greg Puhak, Sally Green

**Parish Office Hours:** 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM Monday- Friday  
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Sunday

**School of Religion** - School of Religion classes meet on Sundays between Liturgies (9:20 AM - 10:20 AM) throughout the school year (September - June). Classes are offered for children grades Preschool & Kindergarten - High School

Announcements may be dropped off in the Parish Office, faxed to the office (703-573-1088) or email to [epiphanyofourlord@verizon.net](mailto:epiphanyofourlord@verizon.net).

**Registration** - Individuals who wish to register in the Parish should stop by the Parish Office and complete a census form.

**Epiphany of our Lord Church, Annandale, VA**

<http://www.eolbcc.org>

Epiphany of our Lord does not conduct pastoral business on the website email.

PARISH USTAV

The Order for the Divine Liturgy  
for

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Holy Apostle Simon the Zealot

**PLACE RIBBONS AT:**

- BLUE p. 11 Mark and Follow Ordinary Parts of the Divine Liturgy  
RED p. 186 Sunday of the Samaritan Woman  
GREEN p. 368 Apostle Simon the Zealot

**ALL MELODIES FOR THIS SUNDAY ARE: Festal Tones**

**EXCEPT:** Cherubic Hymn

We Praise You

Communion Hymn p. 177 **ALL D**

Our Father Paschal melody p. 167

1. Hymns during Incensation - Christ is Risen, p. 171
2. The Divine Liturgy begins on p. 11 BLUE
3. Sunday Antiphons and Entrance Hymn p. 14-15, 22-25
4. At the Troparia:
  - Troparion of Resurrection Tone 4 p. 186 RED
  - Troparion of the Apostle Simon the Zealot p. 368 GREEN
  - Kontakion of the Samaritan Woman Tone 8 p. 187 RED
5. Scripture readings:
  - Prokeimenon of Samaritan Woman Tone 3 p. 188 RED
  - Epistle: Acts 11:19-26 & 29-30
  - Alleluia of Samaritan Woman Tone 4 p. 188 RED
  - Gospel: John 4:5-42
6. Cherubic Hymn D and Church Slavonic on reverse of this sheet
7. Instead of “*It is truly proper...*”, “Anhel Vopijašče” on reverse of this sheet
8. At Dismissal Christ is Risen p. 170 RED

Slava Otcu i Synu i Svjatomu Duchu, i nyňi i 4n a4i, 4n a v'iki v'ikov. Amiň. Jednorodnyj Syne, i 4n a4 Božij, bezsmerten syj, i izvolivyj spasenija našeho radi voplotitisja ot svjatyja Bohorodicy i 4n a4i-d'ivy Mariji, nepreložno vočelov'ičivysja, raspnysja že, Christe Bože, smertiju smert' popravj, jedin syj Svjatyja Trojcy, sproslavl'ajemyj Otcu i Svjatomu Duchu, spasi nas.

**HOLY GOD – SVJATYJ BOZE**

Svjatyj Bože, svjatyj kr'ipkij, svjatyj bezsmertnyj, pomiluj nas. Slava Otcu i Synu, i Svjatomu Duchu, i nyňi i 4n a4i, 4n a v'iki v'ikov. Amin. Svjatyj bezsmertnyj, pomiluj nas.

**IŽE CHERUVIMY – LET US WHO MYSTICALLY**

Iže Cheruvimy tajno obrazujušče, i životvorjasšcej Trojc'i trisvjatuju p'isň prinosjasšče, vsjakuju nyňi zitejskoje otveržim pečal'.

Amiň. Jako da Carja vs'ich podimem, anhel'skimi nevidimo dorinosima činmi. Allilua. Allilua. Allilua.

**SVJAT, SVJAT, SVJAT – HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Svjat, svjat, svjat, Hospod' savaoth, ispolň 4n a4i zeml'a slavy Tvojeja: osanna vo vyšnich, blahosloven hrjadyj vo imja Hospodne, osanna vo vyšnich.

**TEBE POJEM – WE PRAISE YOU**

Tebe pojem, Tebe blahoslovim, Teb'i blahodarim, Hospodi, i molimtisja Bože naš.

**ANHEL VOPIJAŠE – THE ANGEL EXCLAIMED**

Anhel vopijaše blahodatnyj: čistaja D'ivo radusja, i paki reku radusja: tvoj Syn voskrese tridneven ot hroba. I mertvyja vzdvihnuvyj, l'udije veselitesja.

Sv'itisja, sv'itisja, novy Jeruslime: slava bo Hospodňa na Teb'i vozsija: likuj nyňi i veselisja Sione, ty že čistaja krasusja Bohorodice, o vostoniji Roždestva tvojeho.

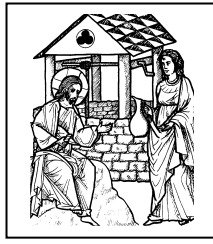
**OTČE NAŠ – OUR FATHER**

Otče naš, iže jesi na nebes'ich, da svjatitsja imja Tvoje. Da prijdet carstvije Tvoje, da budet vol'a Tvoja, jako na nebesi, 4n a zemli. Chl'ib naš nasuščnyj dažd nam dnes'. I ostavi nam dolhi naša, jakože i my ostavl'ajem dolžnikom našim. I ne vvedi nas vo iskušeniye, no izbavi nas ot lukavaho.

**DA ISPOLŇATSJA – MAY OUR MOUTH BE FILLED**

Da ispolňatsja usta naša chvalenija tvojeho Hospodi, jako da pojem slavu tvoju, jako spodobil jesi nas pričastisja svjatym tvojim, božestvennym, bezsmertnym, i životvor'ascim Tajnam; utverdi nas Bože vo Tvojej svjatyni vsja dni poučatisja pravd'i Tvojej. Alliluja.





## Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Jesus said to her, *‘I AM HE,\* the one who is speaking with you.’* John 4:26.

During the fifty day of Pascha from Easter Sunday to Pentecost the holy fathers have appointed the gospel according to John to be read at the Sunday and weekday Divine Liturgies except one Sunday. During the second and third Sundays a resurrection account, one Sunday with women, one with men, are appointed to show the resurrection applies to men and women. On the remaining Paschal Sundays, each account is about baptism because

it is through the Sacrament of Baptism that humans can access the benefits or grace of the death and resurrection of Jesus. This theme of the universality of salvation, that is, that the effects of the death and resurrection apply to all, continues to be emphasized by alternating Sundays about men and women, namely, the Paralytic Man, the Samaritan Women, and then the Man Born Blind.

The link with baptism is clear. Jesus sits by Jacob’s well and invites the woman to the “Living Water” that is baptism. She misunderstands Him because her thoughts are still on everyday matters, those of day to day living. Jesus gently lifts her thoughts to eschatological, ultimate, needs. He implies that her heart is restless, shown by the reality that she has had five husbands, because her needs for answers to the deep questions about life are not being met. Just as water is necessary for biological human life so water in baptism is necessary for everlasting human life. Baptism cannot be accomplished unless there is a profession of belief in God, a Creed. She first calls him a Jewish man, then the title sir, then prophet (and for Samaritans that means the Messiah or Christ), then when she pronounces her Creed, God. Remarkably, it is to this woman with her many husbands and irregular present marriage, that Jesus reveals who He is, for this encounter is a divine Theophany, culminating in Jesus saying that He is God when He pronounces the divine name I AM. It is a challenge to translate this in English. It would be “I AM [WHO AM] who is speaking to you”. She believes immediately and goes to tell her neighbors. Evangelization is the effect of baptism and duty that follows baptism. Just as Jesus evangelizes in the heat of Noon as He is exhausted at the well, so the woman leaves the chores needed for daily life, getting water, to evangelize. The lesson is clear to every baptized man or woman.

This Theophany is remarkable. Father Jack Custer points out that in the sentence “Jews do not have relations with Samaritans” the word Samaritan is in the feminine case so it should be translated “Jewish men do not have relations with Samaritan women.” That is because Jewish heritage is given not through the father but the mother so if a Jewish man wants his children to be Jewish he marries only a Jewess. The meeting place of Jesus and the woman is at the well where the marriages of Isaac, Jacob and the great prophet Moses were arranged showing that this meeting is a ritual courtship. God the Son is courting even those who are the most distant from His Father because he deeply loves them and wants to marry them in baptism. Jesus is repairing the relationship between God and every human to overcome the separation of Original Sin and actual sins and to reunite them by the marriage of the Messiah so that all humans might participate in the Marriage Feast of the Son that is the Divine Liturgy and eventually in heaven. Father Jack Custer further notes that there is a play on words when Jesus says “Call your husband” since it can also mean “Invoke your god.” Then the answer of the woman is also, “I have no god.” After the courtship with Jesus her status is changed. The reference of food by the conversation of Jesus and the apostles and remembering that the first of the signs of Jesus as recorded by John was at the marriage feast of Cana shows why the apostles handed on that the importance of eating and drinking the Body and Blood of Jesus with great frequency was of most importance in life.

*There were some Cypriots and Cyrenians among them, however, who came to Antioch and began speaking to the Greeks as well...and it was at Antioch that the disciples were called Christians for the first time.* Acts 11:19-30

During the fifty days of Pascha the Acts of the Apostles composed by Saint Luke is read in place of an epistle since the Acts tells what happened after Jesus is risen, ascended to the Father, and the Holy Spirit descended on the apostles and the Church.

The account from the Acts of the Apostles is selected to reflect the gospel. In the gospel the Lord Jesus was seeking the Samaritan woman to invite her to repentance and new life even though observant Jews did not associate with Samaritans. The Acts of the Apostles narrates that certain Cypriot and Cyrenian disciples went to Antioch and began sharing the gospel with Gentiles who previously had been excluded.

The readings appointed for this Sunday emphasize that Jesus was sent by the Father and the apostles were sent by Jesus on the Great Mission because “God our Savior...desires everyone be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Timothy 2:4) because God loves His human beings.

The principle agent of the missionary work of the apostles and the one, holy, Catholic and apostolic Church is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit who descended on the Lord Jesus at His baptism and who descends on each person at their baptism into Christ shares the love of God for the human race with those who are baptized and who receive Chrismation-Confirmation empowering them with the gifts of the Holy Spirit to evangelize, to be a missionary, to have a share in the apostolate, the work of the apostles, under the supportive and guiding hand of the *episcopos*, the bishop.

The mission to call people to baptism is the basis of the mission of evangelization. So, in the gospel appointed today Jesus sits next to the water in Jacob’s well and instructs her to ask Him for water. After she reflects on what He told her she recognizes He is God and she becomes a missionary. The signs of effective evangelization are: (1) regularly bringing yourself to Christ present in the sacraments; (2) also reading the Word of God; (3) for parents, teaching the gospel to their children by example; (4) also for parents, teaching and bringing their children to the sacraments; and (5) for Christ’s lay faithful, witnessing Christ in all circumstances and in the very heart of the human community. What a dignity. “The love of Christ impels us...so we are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us” (2 Corinthians 5:14, 20).

### Children’s Corner

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From *Ignatius Study Bible: John, The Navarre Bible: John, and Fr. John S. Custer The Holy Gospel: A Byzantine Perspective.*



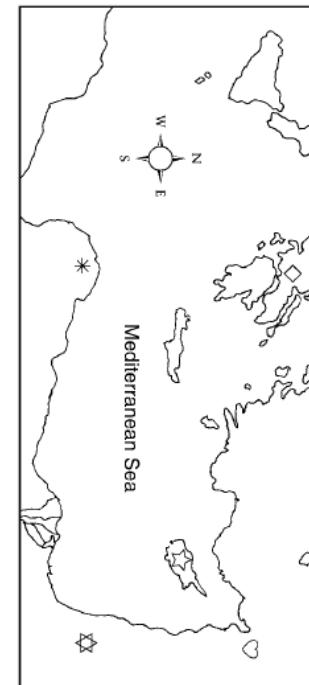
Ages 7+

May 10, 2020 • Acts 11:19-30

The Good News Preached in Antioch

Believers traveled far from Jerusalem because of the persecution they experienced there.

Circle the symbol which matches the places described.



- Greece is a country across the Mediterranean Sea, northwest of Jerusalem. It is marked with a \* ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ on the map.
- Cyprus is an island northwest of Jerusalem. It is marked with a \* ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ on the map.
- Antioch was a city north of Jerusalem. It is marked with a \* ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ on the map.
- Cyrene was a Greek settlement in North Africa, far west of Jerusalem. It is marked with a \* ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ on the map.
- Phoenicia was a territory along the sea shore north of Jerusalem and south of Antioch. Mark it with an X on the map.