

*Now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.*

*Pascha*  
**ZONE 8**

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, Thou didst destroy the power of death. In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, proclaiming "Rejoice" to the Myrrhbearing women, granting peace to Thy apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

*Prokeimenon*

**ZONE 1:** Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee.  
vs. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the just!

The Reading is from The Acts of the Pure and Saintly Apostles 9:32 - 43

*Epistle*

Now *In those days:* it came to pass, as Peter went through all parts of the country,, that he also came down to the saints who dwelt in Lydda. There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who had been bed ridden eight years and was paralyzed. And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Arise and make your bed." Then he arose immediately. So all who dwelt at Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord. At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated Dorcas. This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did. But it happened in those days that she became sick and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. And since Lydda was near Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him, imploring him not to delay in coming to them. Then Peter arose and went with them. When he had come, they brought him to the upper room. And all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them. But Peter put them all out, and knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. Then he gave her his hand and lifted her up; and when he had called the saints and widows, he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed on the Lord. So it was that he stayed many days in Joppa with Simon, a tanner.

*Alleluia*

*I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation.  
v: For Thou hast said: Mercy will be established forever; Thy truth will be prepared in the heavens.*

The Gospel Reading is according to St. John 5:1-15

*Gospel*

*At that time:* there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, but while I am coming, another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath. The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed." He answered them, "He who made me well said to me, 'Take up your bed and walk.'" Then they asked him, "Who is the Man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk?'" But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a multitude being in that place. Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you." The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.



Nativity of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church  
416 Ewing Avenue, Madison, IL 62060

*Sunday, May 11, 2025*

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pascha: Paralytic; Holy Equal to the Apostles  
Ss. Cyril & Methodius*

<http://www.nativityofthevirgin.com/>

*Schedule*

Saturday, May 17, 2025

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, May 18, 2025

*Samaritan Woman*

9:15 A.M. Church School

9:30 A.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

11:30 A.M. Blessing of Motor

Vehicles

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

8:30 A.M. Sauerkraut Peroghies

Saturday, May 24, 2025

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, May 25, 2025

*Blind Man*

9:30 A.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, May 28, 2025

7:00 P.M. Vespers

Thursday, May 29, 2025

*Ascension*

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Saturday, May 31, 2025

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, June 1, 2025

*Sunday of the Fathers*

9:00 A.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Friday, June 6, 2025

7:00 P.M. Vespers

Saturday, June 7, 2025

*Soul Saturday*

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

*"By opening unto others the gates into the kingdom of heaven through baptism, shall we not enter in ourselves? By cleansing others through penitence and absolving them from their sins, shall we not obtain remission of our sins? By uniting others with Christ in the Sacrament of the Holy Communion, shall we not ourselves be most truly united with Him "on the nightless day of Christ's kingdom"? By bestowing upon others in the Sacrament of Christ the strengthening and generative grace of the Holy Ghost, shall we not obtain strength and power ourselves from the most Holy Spirit, and shall we not ourselves grow in spiritual gifts? Truly we firmly hope to receive the promised blessings by the grace, bountifulness, and love to men of God our Savior. God grant that we may all receive them! Only do not let us become slothful, despondent; do not let us "make provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof (Romans 8:14)"; but let us hold "the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience (1 Timothy 13:9)," and let us progress in love for God and our neighbor. When you doubt in the accomplishment or fulfilment of any word of prayer, remember that the nature of the word is accomplishment, realization, and that the Holy Ghost, teaching us to pray for anything as we ought (Romans 8:26), is Himself called the Accomplisher. It is He also Who accomplishes our prayer (accomplished by the Spirit). Remember that the word is power. "With God," it is said, "nothing shall be impossible (St. Luke 1:37)." The word of the Lord "shall not return unto Him void (Isaiah 55:11)," but, like rain or snow, it shall water the earth of our hearts, and shall give seed (the fulfilment) to the sower. Even of men people say: "His word has extraordinary power." You see, therefore, that the word is power, spirit, life. When you pronounce the powerful commanding, creative words of the Lord Himself, then consider their fulfilment as easy and usual a"*

**Prayer Requests**

**Those in this earthly life**

Subdeacon Paul  
Judith  
Peter  
Rebecca  
Raegan  
Helen  
Trent  
Faith  
Michelle  
Janet  
David  
Archpriest James  
Kristine  
George  
Jake  
Cecelia  
Gabriella & CTBB  
Shawn  
Reader Simeon  
Anna  
Andrew  
Briget

Elizabeth  
Edmund  
Reader Stephen  
Priest Andrew  
Popadija Joan  
Eva  
Catechumen Athanasius  
Alex  
Julia  
Martha  
Kendra  
David  
Adina  
Catechumen Mary  
Alexandra  
Mary Magdalene  
Catechumen David  
Subdeacon Jason  
Justin  
Dymphna  
Hope  
Theodora

Evangeline  
Diana  
Barbara  
Anastasia  
Maria  
Elaine  
Wilma  
Mark  
Angela  
Elijah  
Sophia  
Matushka Tanya  
Mary  
Archpriest John  
Matushka Margaret  
Matthew  
Priest Josef  
Archpriest Michael  
Reader Peter  
Patricia  
Matushka Virginia

"matter as it is easy and usual for you to breathe, or to take, as easy and usual as it is for an infant to be formed in its mother's womb, and even incomparably easier. In order that you should have steadfast assurance during prayer, of receiving every spiritual blessing from the Lord, believe that by uniting yourself unto the Lord during your prayer you become one spirit with Him (1 Corinthians 6:17), and that God is most gracious, almighty, and most wise. He is all -perfect perfection, therefore you, too, according to your receptivity, according to your faith and love, will become a partaker of His Divine perfections. In the union of your soul with God, do not consider anything impossible or difficult of fulfilment, "for with God all things are possible (St. Mark 10:27)" - not only the things which you can think of, or are thinking of, but also those which you cannot think of, or which you think of as impossible, for God is an infinite Being, and all His perfections are infinite. If you doubt of obtaining the blessings you ask of God, then remember at least that even you, being evil and avaricious, and not rich, not almighty, give to those in want who ask of you, and sometimes even before they ask you, when you only know of their need. "How much more shall your Father Which is in heaven," who is most gracious, most rich, most wise and almighty, "give good things to them that ask Him (St. Matthew 8:11)." The greater the number of persons for whom one asks blessings of the Lord, and the higher are these blessings, the more violently the Devil opposes the priest praying, in order that God should not grant these blessings at his earnest, fervent prayers; for, "According to your faith," it is said, "be it unto you (St. Matthe 4:29)," and "all things are possible to him that believeth (St. Mark9:23)." However, where the snares of the Devil abound, there also the grace of God abounds. He who prays should remember that if God spared not even His own Only Begotten Son for us sinners, but gave Him for us all, then how will He not give us everything, every imaginable blessing? For if the infinite greatest blessing has been given to us, then will not lesser blessings be also granted unto us? Our Heavenly Father gives us every blessing in Christ. "His Divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him (2 Peter 1:3)." During prayer, when the Devil violently tempts you, cast all your care upon the Lord, "for He careth for you (1 Peter 5:7)." During prayer only have faith in the Lord, Who is at your right hand, and all things shall be possible unto you. " My Life in Christ, by St. John of Kronstadt

**Troparia**

*Resurrection*

**TONE 3**

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down death by death. He has become the First-Born from the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted the world great mercy!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

*Feast*

**TONE 3**

By Thy divine authority, O Lord, as Thou didst raise up the paralytic of old, so raise up my soul, paralyzed by sundry sins and unseemly acts; so that being saved I may cry: "Glory to Thy power, O compassionate Christ!"

**Those in the life to come**

Alfred  
Anastasia  
Dorothy  
Matushka Olga  
Archpriest Thomas  
Metropolitan THEODOSIUS  
Archpriest Vladimir  
Archbishop PAUL  
Archimandrite Innocent  
Edward

Francis  
Jean  
Olga  
Cheryl  
Nancy  
Magdalene  
John  
Victor