

St. George the Trophy Bearer

Sunday School Bulletin

MAY 2022

Mother's Day is on Sunday, May 8th.

Mary, the Mother of God, accepted to become Christ's Mother and to care for Him during His time on earth. Your mothers, too, have taken on the joyful responsibility of caring for you!

Here is a prayer that your mothers can pray for you:

"O All Hymned Mother of our Sweetest Jesus! Accept this small hymn of supplication for my children as a sweet fragrance and take them under Your compassionate protection. Grant them to think, know, hear, say and do only that which brings them close to You and Your Son, and helps them attain eternal salvation. And send them in this present life all that is profitable for the salvation of their souls, that they may cry to God: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia."

How can you draw close to Jesus and His blessed Mother through what you ...

Think: _____

Know: _____

Hear: _____

Say: _____

Do: _____

Mothers are known for their compassion and care for others. Three of the Sundays in May celebrate Christ's compassion toward others:

The **Sunday of St. Thomas** reminds us of the day when Christ appeared to His disciples after He rose from the dead, showing his nail-scarred hands and feet to Thomas.

The **Sunday of the paralytic** commemorates the miracle of Christ healing a man who had been paralyzed for thirty-eight years.

The **Sunday of the blind man** reminds us of the moment Christ healed a man who was blind since birth.

Sunday of the Myrrhbearing Women

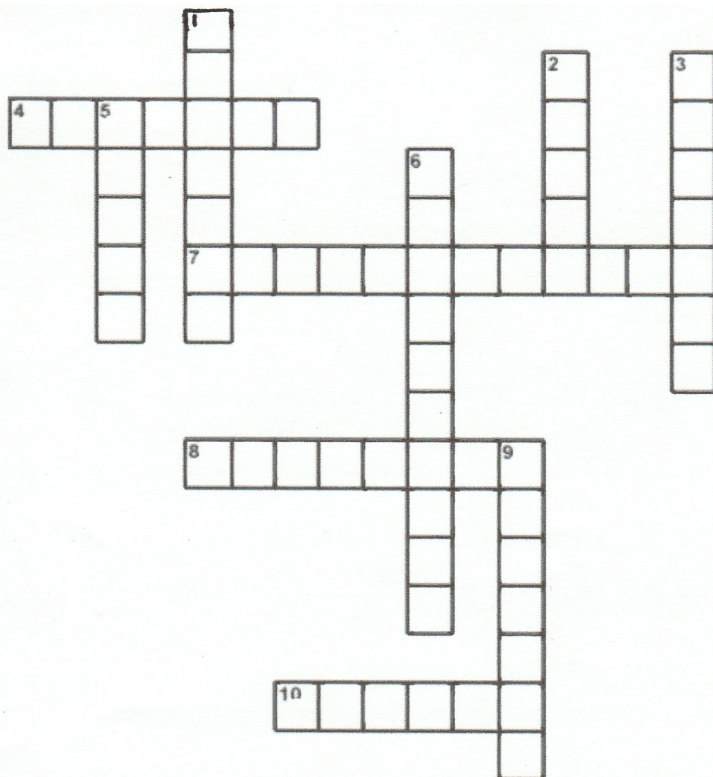
On May 8th, we remember eight women who loved, served, and followed Jesus. We call these women the Myrrh-bearing women because they brought sweet smelling myrrh and spices to the grave where Jesus was laid. These women followed Christ while he was alive and loved to hear him teaching. They are examples for us of how to be Christians and how to love God.

The three women that came to the tomb on the third day are Mary Magdalene, Mary the Theotokos, and Saint Salome. These women were the first to learn that Christ was Risen from the dead. The angel clothed in white met them at the tomb and asked them why they were seeking the living among the dead. The angel told them that Christ had gone before them to Galilee. The other faithful women that comforted Christ and visited His tomb are Saint Mary of Cleopas, Saint Suzanna, Saint Joanna, Saint Mary of Bethany, and Saint Martha of Bethany. This year we celebrate these wonderful saints on the same day as Mother's Day!

O holy Myrrh-bearers, help us to love and follow Jesus as you did!

ACROSS

4. The myrrhbearing women came to _____ and pray for Jesus as He was dying. 7. These women were the first to learn of the _____. 8. They followed Christ everywhere so they could hear Him _____ the people how to love God. 10. There were three women that came to the tomb that morning: St Mary Magdalene, Mary the Theotokos, and St. _____.



DOWN

1. Myrrh is a kind of oil that smells like beautiful _____. 2. There are _____ myrrhbearing women who loved and served Jesus. 3. The names of the eight women are: Mary Cleopas, Joanna, Mary of Bethany, Martha of Bethany, Mary Magdalene, Mary the Theotokos, Salome, and _____. 5. What did the three women bring to Christ's tomb? 6. The myrrhbearing women are examples for us of how to be good _____. 9. At the tomb on the third day, the angel clothed in white told the myrrhbearing women that Christ had gone before them to this town.

Feast of St. Constantine and St. Helen

On May 21st, we celebrate two saints that loved the Holy Cross very much. St. Helen was the loving mother of St. Constantine. Helen was a Christian of humble birth, and she was married to Caesar Constantius Chlorus. St. Helen gave birth to Constantine in the year 247 AD and she raised him to be a Christian. When Constantine's father died, Constantine became the ruler of part of the Roman Empire and because he was raised to respect Christians, he allowed freedom of religion in his lands. In the other parts of the Empire, Christians were being persecuted and killed and the other rulers plotted against Constantine. He would have to go to war to defend his rule, and he prayed to God to give him a sign of victory. Do you remember what the sign was? Constantine looked up to the heavens and saw the sign of the cross with the inscription "In this sign, conquer." Constantine went to battle with the sign of the cross on his banner and led his army to victory! He battled until he became the leader of the entire Roman Empire, and he gave Christians the freedom to practice their faith and to build churches without fear. St. Constantine never forgot the Holy Cross and he sent his mother St. Helen to search for the true cross of Christ. The tradition tells us that Helen finally found the spot where Christ was crucified and over the spot there grew the fragrant herb called Basil.



Kontakion: Third Tone

Today, Constantine with his mother Helen present the Cross, the most precious wood. It shames unbelievers. It is a weapon of faithful kings against their adversaries. A great sign has come forth for us which is awesome in battle.

Plant some Basil

Now is a great time to start some basil from seed indoors or you can purchase a Basil plant from a greenhouse. Your Basil plant will be fully grown by September so you can bring some sprigs to church in September for the Exaltation of the Cross!



Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

On May 22, we remember Christ speaking with the Samaritan woman at the well. Christ explains to St. Photini that He is the living water, "whoever drinks of this water from the well will be thirsty again later. But whoever drinks of the water I give him will never be thirsty again. The water I give will be like a well inside him with water always springing up into everlasting life."

Saint Emilia

St. Emilia, who we celebrate on May 30th, is an incredible example to all mothers. She instilled the Orthodox faith in her children, teaching them to pray and devote their lives to the service of the Church. Five of her children are commemorated as saints on the Church calendar: Sts. Macrina, Basil, Peter of Sebaste, Gregory of Nyssa, and Theosebia, a deaconess. Therefore, Saint Emilia is often called “the mother of saints.”



Sunday School Gathering

On April 9th, the children from our Sunday School learned different techniques and traditions about Easter egg coloring. This fun activity was followed by a potluck lunch together with the volunteers from the church spring cleaning. Thank you to all who participated.



May birthdays:

GEORGE
MAY 10



ANA
MAY 14



ANNIKA
MAY 23



HAPPY BIRTHDAY FROM YOUR CHURCH FAMILY!