Although we usually hear about Christ’s encounters with large groups of people, the setting for Sunday’s Gospel is markedly different. Today, we find the Lord engaged in a one-on-one conversation with an unlikely individual. More than a few eyebrows must have been raised when Jesus enters into a lengthy dialogue with a SAMARITAN WOMAN. At that time, Jews and Samaritans were bitter enemies, and women were not considered important enough to participate in intellectual discussions!

The conversation begins innocently enough. Weary from a tiring journey, Christ sits down near a well in the town of Sichar and asks the Samaritan woman for a drink of water. After satisfying His PHYSICAL needs, Jesus proceeds to teach the woman about “living water,” which can forever quench all of her SPIRITUAL longings. He patiently instructs her concerning how to worship God, and Who God really is. “God is spirit,” Christ tells her, “And those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth.”

The Samaritan woman is impressed with the wisdom Christ possesses, and she comments that she is aware that a Messiah is coming. “. . . Who will tell us all things?” It is then that the Lord shares the greatest of truths with her: HE IS THE MESSIAH!

The Gospel concludes with a wonderful lesson for all of us. Many others from the village come out to meet Christ, and they recognize Him as the Saviour, not because of the woman’s testimony, but because of what they heard for themselves. We ALL must come to know Jesus on our own.
May 30, 2021
Sunday of the Samaritan Woman
Orthros 8:30am / Divine Liturgy 9:30am

MEMORIALS
Anthy Angelos +1 Year
Ernest Spear +17 Years

FLOWERS & CANDLES
Donated by their Loving Family

YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING: Our Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America has mandated that all individuals who interact with our youth must participate in online abuse prevention training and a screening program through Presidium. Online training is done using the Armatu® Learn to Protect System. The training sessions need to be completed annually and the background check every two years. You will be receiving reminder emails from them indicating that you are due to renew your training certification. Log in at http://praesidiuminc.com/login to see your updated requirements. If you cannot remember your password, please click the link on the login screen to reset your password. The Praesidium Support Team is also available to help you log in: support@praesidiuminc.com. Thank you for your continued dedication and commitment to maintaining a safe environment for our children!

PARISH PROCESSES AND DIRECTIVES UPDATED BY OUR METROPOLIS: Please visit the church’s website for the updated parish procedures and directives as provided by the Metropolis of Detroit. www.stnicholastroy.org

BOOKSTORE: Christos Anesti/Christ is Risen/Χριστός Ανέστη!

New book title now in stock: Hymn of Entry by author Archimandrite Vasileios, $18.00, the book selected for the upcoming Book Club, see flyer for more details. For other book or icon inquiries, contact Maria at bookstore@stnicholastroy.org or 248-362-9575. The bookstore opens immediately after and not during Divine Liturgy until 12:30 p.m. and also, weekdays during regular office hours.

OPA! FEST DRIVE-THROUGH: This year on Saturday June 19 and Sunday June 20 from noon-8:00 p.m. we will be hosting a drive-through OPA! Fest. Starting June 1 you can Pre-order delicious Greek food and pastries. Please visit our website for more details: https://www.stnicholastroy.org/opafestdrive-through

OPA! RAFFLE: “Raffle Tickets for great cash prizes were mailed to your home, please purchase or sell them and return the ticket stubs and payment as soon as possible. We would be happy to send you more tickets if needed. The drawing will be on June 20th during our Mini OPA! Fest, WE HOPE YOU GET LUCKY! If you have any questions please call the office: 248-362-9575

OPA! DANCING: Hi All, We have received approval from the Metropolis of Detroit that we can move forward with an abbreviated OPA! Dance Program for 2021 with all health and safety protocols in place. (See flyer for the protocols, please review them in their entirety, as they are also posted on the registration webpage). Along with an abbreviated dance program, we will be hosting a limited dance recital at our drive thru Opa! FEST on June 19. We are still working on the logistics of the event, and will post more details as available! If you are interested in participating, please take a moment to register at (https://events.membersolutions.com/opadance/ event_register.asp?content_id=78265) and once you receive all the communication, please let us know if you have any further questions. As we are still working on finalizing all the details and will do our best to keep you informed.

OPA! DANCING 2021 COVID Safety Plan Our goal is to have limited dance practice and an abbreviated dance recital during our OPA! FEST Drive Thru! OPA! FEST June 19th (Stay tuned for more details!!)

ROAD TO GREECE AUTHENTIC GREEK FOOD SATURDAY 8:30AM / DINE-THRU Saturday, June 19th 2021 & Sunday, June 20th, 2021 Noon-5:00pm St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, 760 W. Wattle Rd, Troy, MI

Help us celebrate the spirit of OPA! Fest by taking advantage of our drive-thru!

We will follow all CDC-safety guidelines
Pre-Order delicious Greek food and portion suggestions, June 9th - Pick-up your designated time from the convenience of your car.
On-line order by June 10th
Details coming soon to our website (www.stnicholastroy.org)
Y.A.L: We will also be holding our next meeting in-person (and on Zoom for those who cannot attend) on June 6 at St. Nicholas! If you or someone you know may be interested in joining the group or attending our next meeting, please reach out to YAL@stnicholastroy.org for more details or to sign up for the email list!

CAREFUL IN THE NARTHEX! Though we might be all tired of COVID-19 safety measures, it is still important ESPECIALLY IN THE NARTHEX that we maintain social distancing, wear our masks correctly, and keep our conversation to a minimum. Please arrange to socialize outside of the church whether in the parking lot or your homes, but in church please respect safety measures that are in place. For more information related to our COVID-19 protocols and procedures please visit our website: www.stnicholastroy.org

~Thank you for your support and cooperation.

2021 ST. NICHOLAS ENDOWMENT FUND—Grant Applications Being Taken! The 2021 St. Nicholas Endowment Fund Grant Application process has started. Endowment Fund Grants are available to all ministries of our St. Nicholas Church. Grant Application Forms are available for download via the Church’s Website at: https://www.stnicholastroy.org/ministries_and_organizations/st_endowment_fund/index.php or via email by contacting Stephen Karniotis at: EndowmentFund@StNicholasTroy.org. Applications must be submitted by October 31.

METROPOLIS OF DETROIT SUMMER CAMP (MDSC): Camper registration opened on March 15! We are moving forward with hope and a mission to gather safely in Rose City for the 2021 camp season, but also working on a backup plan should our circumstances change. We welcome registration for campers entering grades 3-11 for Weeks 1-5 and entering grade 12 or first year of college for Week Zero. Note, our capacity will be adjusted this season, so don’t wait to register! Staff positions are also available for ages 17 and older. Please visit www.gomdsc.org to register and learn more about our camp programs or call us at 248-909-6372 for more information.

ECHO DEADLINE THE 10TH OF EVERY MONTH: All Echo items must be submitted NO LATER than the 10th of every month. Please e-mail your flyers or announcements to Maggie at echo@stnicholastroy.org. Make certain all submissions have been spell-checked, grammar-checked and reviewed before submitting them.

KOLIVA and COVID-19: Koliva that will be distributed after Divine Liturgy must have already been placed in individual sealed plastic bags and placed in a basket for distribution. Koliva will not be served from a tray in church until further notice. If you should bring Koliva on a tray, you may not serve it yourself, you must take it home.

FAITH SCHOLARSHIP: Each year since its inception in 2004, FAITH celebrates the academic achievements of young leaders within the Greek and Hellenic American community by awarding merit-based scholarships to some of the community’s most promising graduating high school seniors from across the country. Recipients of the FAITH Scholarship for Academic Excellence join a network of more than 600 existing FAITH Scholars who display the exceptional scholarly intellect lauded by our Hellenic ancestors and also, a magnificent spirit of charity, community service and good citizenship which is at the very core of our Orthodox Christian values. ELIGIBILITY—Applicants must be graduating a public, private, or parochial high school in the United States and embarking to study in an undergraduate degree program at a 4-year accredited U.S. college or university. Applicants must be of Greek Orthodox faith and member of a parish. To apply please visit: https://www.thefaithendowment.org/scholarships/ Deadline is June 21! For questions, please call 212-803-9363 or email info@thefaithendowment.org.
**SMALL ENTRANCE**

(WITH THE BOOK OF THE HOLY GOSPELS)

Bless God in the churches, the Lord from the fountains of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, who arose from the dead.

**APOLYTIAKIA**

When the women Disciples of the Lord had learned from the Angel the joyful message of the Resurrection and rejected the ancestral decision, they cried aloud to the Apostles triumphantly: Death has been despoiled, Christ God has risen, granting His great mercy to the world.

O Lord, midway through the feast, give drink to my thirsty soul from the living waters of right belief. You, O Savior, proclaimed to everyone, “Let whoever is thirsty come to Me and drink.” You are the fountain of life, O Christ our God. Glory to You!

O Illustrious leaders and shepherds of Byzantium, you have been regarded throughout different ages as wise Hierarchs, Wherefore, the Church of Christ praises the manner of your life. Through her, as eminent luminaries, you glowed to those who cry out, “Glory to her who aided you, glory to Him who crowned you, glory to Him who, through you, affirmed the Orthodox faith.”

A Standard of firm belief and an icon of gentleness, of self-control an instructor, you were revealed to your sacred flock, by the reality of your deeds, for this reason you acquired, by humility, heaven’s heights, and by poverty riches, Father and Great Hierarch Nicholas, intercede with Christ our God, to sanctify and save our souls.

Τὸ φαινόμενον τῆς ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθήθη αἰτὶ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθητριῶν, καὶ τὴν προφονήσειν ἀπόρριψες, τοῖς Αποστόλοις καυχώμενον ἔλεγον· Ἐκσκόλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἡγείρεται Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τὸν κόσμον τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Μεσούσας τῆς ἐρήμου, δυσφαίρω μου τὴν ψυχήν, εὐσεβείς πότιον νάματα· ὃ πᾶσι Εὐστόρ ἐβόρας· ὁ δύις, ἐρέχθεσθαι πρὸς καὶ πινεῖ τὸν. Η πηγὴ τῆς ζωῆς, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, δόξα σοι.

Βυζαντίου ποιμένος καὶ περίποδοι προέδρου, ὧσπερ σωρῷ Ιεράρχη διαφόρων ἐν ἑπετεῖ ἡ ἐκκλησία τοῦ Χριστοῦ, ἱμᾶς τὴν ποιμενίαν εὐμετάβαλε Διὸς γιαρ ὁ πατρὶς περιπολεύει, παρασκευάσθης κράζοντας δόξα ἐναγάγοντας ὦμας, δόξα τὸ στεφανάσαντός, δόξα τῷ βασιλεύων Διόνυσος, τῷ θρόδους.

Κανόνα πίστεως καὶ εὐκόνα προάστους, ἐγκαρτοβείας Διδάσκαλον, ἀνέκδεικτι καὶ ἐπὶ τὴν ποίμνη σου, ἢ τῶν πραγμάτων ἀληθείας· διὰ τοῦτο ἐκκύλθη τῇ τεπεινώθῃ τῇ υψηλή, τῇ ποιμείᾳ τὰ πλούσια, Πάτερ Ιεράρχη Νικόλαες πρεσβύτῳ Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, συμβιβάζη τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

**KONTAKION**

Though You went down into the tomb, O Immortal One, yet You brought down the dominion of Hades; and You rose as the victor, O Christ our God; and You called out “Rejoice” to the Myrrh-bearing women, and gave peace to Your Apostles, O Lord who to the fallen grant resurrection.

Εἰ καὶ ἐν τῶρῳ κατηθῆσαι Ἀθάνατε, ἀλλὰ τῷ ὀδῷ καθηζης τῆς δύναμιν καὶ ἀνέστης ὡς μάτης Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, γυναικὶ Μυροφόρῳ φευγέμενος. Χαιρέτη, καὶ ταῖς σοις Ἀποστόλοις εἰρήνην δωρούμενος, ὁ τοῖς πεσόσα παρέχεις ἀνάστασιν.

**Sunday of the Samaritan Woman**

**The Gospel According to John**

At that time, Jesus came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as he was with His journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to Him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.

Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and Who it is that is saying 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 do You get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?”

Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal 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 Him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; for you have had five husbands, and he whom you now have is not your husband; this you said truly.” The woman said to Him, “Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; and You say that Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks 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 the Messiah is coming (He who is called Christ); when he comes, He will show us all things.” Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am He.”

Just then His disciples came. They marvelled that He was talking with a woman, but none said, “What do you wish?” or, “Why are you talking with her?” So the woman left her water jar, and went away into the city and said to the people, “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?” They went out of the city and were coming to Him.

Meanwhile the disciples besought Him, saying, “Rabbi, eat.” But He said to them, “I have food to eat of which you do not know.” So the disciples said to one another, “Has anyone brought Him food?” Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent me, and to accomplish His work. Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, then comes the harvest’? I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest. He who reapeth receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

Many Samaritans from that city believed in Him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me all that I ever did.” So when the Samaritans came to Him, they asked Him to stay with them; and He stayed there three days. And many more believed because of His said the woman. He said to them, “It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard ourselves, and we know that this is indeed Christ the Savior of the world.”

John 4:5-42
Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

The Gospel According to John

In those days, those apostles who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to none except Jews. But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them; and a great number that believed turned to the Lord. News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose; for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a large company was added to the Lord. So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, and when he found him, he brought him back to Antioch. For a whole year they met together in the church, and taught a large company of people; and in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians. Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world; and this took place in the days of Claudius. And the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brethren who lived in Judea; and they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

Apostles 11:19-30

Epistle Reading

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

O Lord, how manifold are your works. You have made all things in wisdom.

Verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul.

In these epistles, we find the story of the Samaritan woman, a narrative that has been interpreted in various ways. The Gospel of John tells the story of a woman at a well, who interacts with Jesus, leading to a profound conversion. This interaction is pivotal in the Gospel, as it highlights Jesus’ ministry to the marginalized and challenges traditional expectations of what constituted proper worship.

The Epistle Reading provides a historical context, mentioning the apostles’ ability to send relief to the brethren in Judea. This is a testament to the early Christian community’s commitment to care for one another, despite the challenges they faced.

The reading from Paul’s letter to Galatians reflects on the nature of faith and the freedom found in Christ. It underscores the idea that faith is not merely about legal righteousness but about being rooted in Christ, who is the true foundation of all divine righteousness.

These texts, taken together, offer a rich tapestry of theological insights and practical implications for Christian living. They remind us of the importance of faithfulness, generosity, and the power of Christ’s love to bring about change and unity within the community of believers.
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<td>7  <strong>Sunday of the Blind Man</strong>&lt;br&gt;Orthros 8:30 a.m.&lt;br&gt;Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.</td>
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