

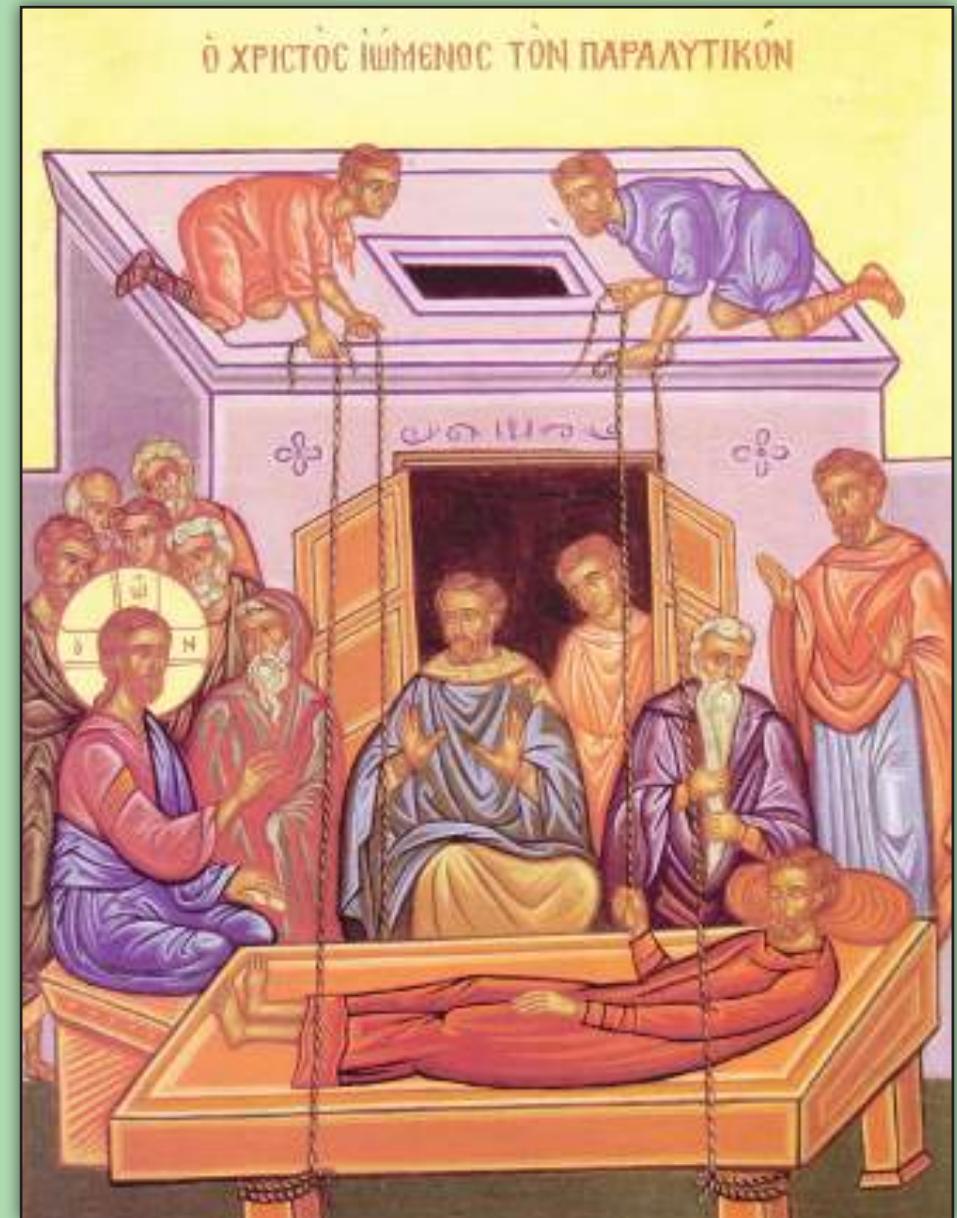
### *You are Forgiven and Healed*

In Capernaum Jesus is surrounded by great numbers of people. As He preaches to the crowd, four friends of a paralyzed man lower him on his mat through the roof so that he can be close enough for Jesus to see him and cure him. Jesus responds to this act of faith, not by healing the man immediately, but by touching off the first of a series of controversial dialogues with the Scribes and Pharisees. When Jesus says, "Child, your sins are forgiven," He is as much as saying, "It is God whom you approach." In the Old Testament, only God is capable of forgiving sins; and it was expected that He would do so only at the end of time. It becomes clear why the Scribes murmur "he is blaspheming" and why Jesus brings it all out in the open. His claim to be able to forgive sins better reveals His identity as Son of God than do the miracles He performs.

Aware of the silent censure His forgiving word has caused in the crowd, Jesus proceeds to prove that "the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth" by commanding the man to rise and walk in the sight of everyone. In concluding this miracle, Mark asks his readers to praise God for His presence in their midst as the forgiver-healer, just as the crowd did, even in the face of those who did not believe.

It is significant that Mark has chosen to present this miracle and teaching about Jesus' power to forgive sins so early in his Gospel drama. It shows that the need for the experience of God's forgiveness was as important to first-century Christians as it is today. Mark's readers praise God for saying clearly, and even today, "My sons, my daughters, I absolve you from your sins."

## SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST



*Icon of Healing the Paralytic*



Українська Греко-Католицька Церква Парафія Святих Йоакима і Анни

## SAINTS JOACHIM AND ANNA UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

*A Mission Parish of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia. All are welcome!*

1396 Linden St, Front Royal, VA 22630 • www.ssjoachimandanna.org • Facebook live-streams: fb.me/ssjoachimandanna  
ssjoachimandannaucc@gmail.com • (540) 551-3591 • In case of emergency: (202) 262-5040

Fr Robert Hitchens, Administrator    Fr Mykola Dziurakh, Parochial Vicar  
Subdeacon Kyle Hayes                      Subdeacon David Wallace

**Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever! Слава Ісусу Христу! Слава навіки!**

Reader Great Vespers: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays, 5:00pm

**Divine Liturgy in English, Sundays 10:30am**

**Holy Mystery of Repentance (Confession): Sundays, 9:45am**

**MARCH 1, 2026 – 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST (TONE 5)**

**GIVING REPORT** – The in-pew collection for Sunday, February 22 was \$472.53. E-giving through tithe.ly for the month of February 2026 was \$8,549. Thank you for supporting our parish!



**Lenten Regulations.** *The Great Fast is a gentle invitation to slow down, pray more deeply, and renew our hearts. Each of us is called to walk this journey according to our strength and circumstances. During the Great Fast, we abstain from meat on all Fridays and on Holy Saturday; it is also our tradition to abstain from meat on Wednesdays. The Church does not bind these rules on those 60 years and older, the poor or the sick, pregnant or nursing women, children under 14, and those who do physically demanding work. If you are able, you are encouraged to observe fasting and abstinence in a way that*

*is realistic and life-giving. All the faithful are encouraged to receive the Holy Mysteries of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist at least once between the beginning of the Great Fast and the Wednesday before Ascension Thursday. No matter your age or situation, enter the Great Fast with sincerity and trust. The Lord receives every small effort offered with love.* (source: www.facebook.com/archeparchyphilly)

**Weekly Catholic Moms Meetup** – Join us each Thursday 9:15-11:15am in the parish hall to connect, share, and find encouragement in this beautiful yet challenging season of motherhood. Led by a local Catholic doula

and mom, we'll grow in faith, fellowship, and practical support together. Come as you are – babies and children of all ages welcome! Questions? Contact Gabrielle Dixon, 240-285-0347 or gabriellemarie.dixon@gmail.com

**Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts** – To sustain the faithful in the spiritual effort of fasting during Lent, the Church celebrates the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts. At this Liturgy, the faithful partake of the Holy Gifts that were consecrated the previous Sunday. No Divine Liturgy is celebrated on the weekdays of Great Lent, but we celebrate the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts on the Wednesdays and Fridays. The Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays of Lent are called *non-liturgical*. *The Church maintains the practice of non-liturgical days in order to remind us that we are only approaching the fullness of the kingdom of God, and in order that the Eucharist not become for us just a habit, but that it may always be a dynamic event.* At SS Joachim and Anna, we will celebrate the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts on all the Wednesdays and Fridays of Great Lent. This week, join us on **Wednesday, March 4, at 6:00pm and on Friday, March 6, at 6:00pm.** On the Fridays of Great Lent, we'll serve the Panakhyda for the Deceased and remember all our beloved dead.

All parishioners are urged to resolve to make their best effort to attend *at least 5* of these sacred services during the Great Fast, especially those in which we remember our deceased loved ones.

**Parish Lenten Mission with Fr Volodymyr Radko** – On Friday, March 6, and Sunday, March 9, we will be joined by Fr Volodymyr Radko, Vocations Director of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia. He will be available for confessions each day and will preach at the services.

**Next Adult Catechesis:** Wed, March 11, 7pm • **Next Reader Great Vespers:** Sat, March 14, 5pm

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** Nancy & Jon Anderson, Julie, Lisa Behnke, Alison Bernhoft, Yevhenia Borys, Robert Matthew, Carrie Chuff, Arthur Dhanagom, Elizabeth Deegan, Clara Anne Duda, Fr Michael Duesterhaus, Robert Dulaine, Pat Fagan, Danylo (Neyko) Fedoryka, Fr Mark Fesniak, Emma Flournoy, Katie Flynn, Lilian Garland, Jerry Gawron, CR Gaus, Samuel Gaus, Josie Hacker, Brigid and Marlena Hess, Ellen Hitchens, Janet Hitchens, Fr Robert Hitchens, Oksana Horszynska, Ihor Hulawyj, Sarah Kelt, Dixie Lane, Catherine Luckey, Destiny Makins, Michael Marshner & Family, Bridget McDonald, Laura McMahon, Vince McLaughlin, Thomas Pavick, Phillip Rexrode, Ivanna Richardson & Family, Chris Saboe, Betsy Sayre, Truman L Sayre, Jr, CJ & Theresa Sidrow, Amy Smith, Karena Tapsak, and Fr George Worschak.

*Teresa Fedoryka is our prayer coordinator; please email bulletin prayer requests to ssjoachimandannaucc@gmail.com*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast**  
*Divine Liturgy of St. Basil is celebrated*

**Troparion, Tone 5 (p. 345).** Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word,\* co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,\* and born of the Virgin for our salvation.\* For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to suffer death\* and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

*+Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.*

**Kontakion, Tone 4 (p. 622).** The time for action is now revealed;\* the Judge is at the door.\* Let us rise and keep the fast,\* offering tears of contrition with alms and crying aloud:\* our sins are more numerous than the sands of the sea,\* but forgive us, O Maker of all, that we may receive incorruptible crowns.

**Prokeimenon, Tone 5 (p. 623).** You, O Lord, will guard us\* and will keep us\* from this generation\* and forever. *verse:* Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer left a just man. (Psalm 11:8,2)

**Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3.** Brothers and Sisters, “In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end.” But to which of the angels has he ever said, “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet”? Are not all angels spirits in the divine service, sent to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation? Therefore we must pay greater attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it. For if the message declared through angels was valid, and every transgression or disobedience received a just penalty, how can we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? It was declared at first through the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him.

**Alleluia, Tone 5 (p. 348).** *verse 1:* Your mercies, O Lord, I will sing for ever; from generation to generation I will announce Your truth with my

mouth. *verse 2:* For You have said: Mercy shall be built up for ever; in the heavens Your truth shall be prepared. (Psalm 88:2,3)

**Gospel: Mark 2:1-12.** At that time, Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, and it was reported that he was at home. So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, “Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?” At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, “Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Stand up and take your mat and walk?’ But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he said to the paralytic — “I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home.” And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”

*After the Creed we pray the Anaphora of St Basil the Great, p. 287.*

**Hymn to the Mother of God (p. 293-5).** In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices: the angelic ranks and all the human race. Sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, virgins’ pride and boast, from whom God is made flesh and became a little Child; and He who is our God before all ages, He made your womb a throne, and He made it wider than all the heavens. In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices. Glory be to you.

**Communion Verse.** Praise the Lord from the heavens;\* praise Him in the highest.\* Alleluia, alleluia,\* alleluia. (Psalm 148:1)

**Alternate ambo prayer, p. 624.**