



St. Moses the Black Orthodox Church
Rev. Paul Abernathy, Pastor
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**Sunday, May 21, 2017 – Sunday of the Blind Man;
Equals-to-the-Apostles Constantine and Helen Constantine**
Prince of Murom, and his sons Michael and Theodore, the Wonderworkers

The Priest begins Divine Liturgy with “Blessed is the Kingdom” and the choir responds “Amen.” Bearing the Paschal Candle, the Priest then leads the singing of the Paschal Apolytikion and censes the west side of the Altar Table.

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death; and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

The Choir then sings this twice, and the Liturgy continues with the Great Litany.

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

Verse: Shout with joy to God, all the earth; sing to His Name, give glory to His praises.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Verse: Say to God: How awesome are Thy works; let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee. Let it sing a song to Thy Name, O Most High. **(Refrain)**

Glory... Both now... **(Refrain)**

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

Verse: May God have mercy upon us, and bless us, and may He cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy upon us.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Verse: That Thy way may be known upon earth, Thy salvation among all nations; let the people give thanks to Thee, O God, let all the people give thanks to Thee. **(Refrain)**

Verse: May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear Him. **(Refrain)**

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Verse: Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let those who hate Him flee from before His face.

Refrain: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

Verse: As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish, as wax melts before the fire. **(Refrain)**

Verse: So let sinners perish before the face of God, and let the righteous be glad. **(Refrain)**

Verse: This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. **(Refrain)**

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF PASCHA In the gathering places bless ye God the Lord, from the springs of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

• **Now sing these apolytikia in the following order.**

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FIVE Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

APOLYTIKION OF SS. CONSTANTINE AND HELEN IN TONE EIGHT Having seen the image of Thy Cross in Heaven, and, like Paul, having received the call not from men, Thine apostle among kings, Constantine, entrusted the commonwealth to Thy hand, O Lord. Keep us always in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, O only Lover of mankind.

- Now sing the apolytikion of the patron saint or feast of the temple.

KONTAKION OF PASCHA IN TONE EIGHT O Immortal One, when Thou didst descend into the tomb, Thou didst destroy the power of Hades; and Thou didst rise victorious, O Christ God. Thou hast said to the ointment-bearing women: Rejoice! And Thou gavest peace to Thy Disciples, O Bestower of Resurrection to those Who had fallen.

THE EPISTLE

Their voice has gone out into all the earth. The heavens declare the glory of God.

The Reading from the Acts of the Saintly and Pure Apostles. (26:1, 12-20)

In those days, King Agrippa said to Paul, "You have permission to speak for yourself." Then Paul stretched out his hand and made his defense: "I journeyed to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. At midday, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining round me and those who journeyed with me. And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It hurts you to kick against the goads.' And I said, 'Who art Thou, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus Whom you are persecuting. But rise and stand upon your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and bear witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, delivering you from the people and from the Gentiles, to whom I send you to open their eyes, that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.' Wherefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those at Damascus, then at Jerusalem and throughout all the country of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and perform deeds worthy of their repentance."

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (9:1-38)

At that time, when Jesus was passing, He saw a man blind from his birth. And His Disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. I must work the works of Him Who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As He said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" [which means Sent]. So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for He does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about Him, since He has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether He is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become His disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are His disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where He comes from, and yet He opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, He could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found

him He said, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered, "And Who is He, Sir, that I may believe in Him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen Him, and it is He who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped Him.

MEGALYNARION FOR PASCHA IN TONE ONE The angel spake to her that is full of grace, saying, O pure Virgin, rejoice; and I say also, Rejoice; for thy Son is risen from the tomb on the third day. Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem; for the glory of the Lord hath risen upon thee. Rejoice and exult now, O Zion, and thou, O pure one, Theotokos, rejoice at the Resurrection of thy Son.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF PASCHA IN TONE EIGHT Receive ye the body of Christ; taste ye the Fountain of immortality.

- Instead of "We have seen the true light," sing "Christ is Risen" once.
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SERVICE SCHEDULE

May 24th – 6:00 PM – Vespers Divine Liturgy for Ascension

May 27th – 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM FAMILY Day & **5:00 PM** – GREAT VESPERS

May 28th – 9:30 AM – Matins and Divine Liturgy

June 3rd – NO GREAT VESPERS

June 4th – 9:30 AM – Matins and Divine Liturgy – PENETCOST

PRAYER LIST - Please contact Pres. Kristina Abernathy via email at Kristina.nicole@me.com or via text or call at 724.493.7213 to add living or departed names to the prayer list.

LIVING– Patriarch John, Metropolitan Boulous, Archbishop Johana, Archpriest Elias, Archpriest Jason & Family, Archpriest James, Kh. Linda, Archpriest Patrick, Kh. Vanessa, Archpriest Joseph, Priest Joseph, Kh. Arleen, Hiromonk Michael, The Sisterhood of St. Nina Monastery, The Sisterhood of Pandanassa Monastery, Gregory, Justin, Christopher, Joseph, Rodger, Sister Janice, John, Aksana, Nicholas, The Painter Family, The Boozer Family, The Wells Family, The Horne Family, The Focus Family, Pearl, Brandon, Isabella, Ashley, Carmen, Timothy, Marcella, Cassie, Cami, George, Eva, The Elderkin Family, Decoda, Ainsley, Destiny, Zachary, Billy, Michael, Sophie, Mary, Larry, Daniel, Leisa, Kane, Beverly, Deborah, Jace

DEPARTED – Archpriest John, Kh. Joanne, Monica, Andre, Joey, Lillian

CONFESSIONS and HOUSE BLESSINGS By Appointment - Please contact Rev. Paul Abernathy via calling at 412.254.6281 to schedule confession or a meeting.

DONATIONS

Please make your offerings to St. Moses the Black as follows: Checks made payable to St. George Orthodox Church with St. Moses the Black in the memo line. Checks or cash can be either given to Pres. Kristina or mailed to the following address: St. George Orthodox Church, Attn: St. Moses the Black, 610 Dewey Avenue, Bridgeville, PA 15017.