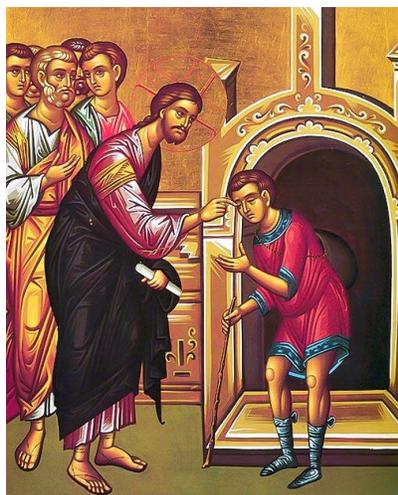


2. JUNE. 2019. 6-th. SUNDAY OF PASCHA. TONE-5. SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN.

2. ЧЕРВЕНЬ. 2019. НЕДІЛЯ 6-та. ПО ПАСЦІ. ГОЛОС-5. ПРО СЛІПОГО.



### **Icon of the Sunday of the Blind Man**

The icon of the Sunday of the Blind Man depicts the biblical story of Christ healing the man who was blind since birth. Our Lord is shown placing the clay on the eyes of the man. He is with his disciples who are questioning Christ about the source of the man's affliction. The blind man is shown with his hand outstretched toward Christ expressing his faith and willingness to receive healing and grace from the Son of God. Our Lord has in His hand a scroll, which directs us to His statements, "I am the light of the world," (John 9:5), and "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to

### **TROPAR OF SUNDAY IN TONE-5.**

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation of the Virgin. For in His Good Will He was lifted up on the Cross in the flesh to suffer death and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

**GLORY** to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed," (Luke 4:18). These are clear statements of the Gospel of salvation that comes through Christ. The scroll may also represent the role of Christ as Judge as depicted in Matthew and Revelation, and also later in the same passage on the healing of the blind man (John 9:39), Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind."

### **Orthodox Christian Celebration of the Feast of the Sunday of the Blind Man**

The Sunday of the Blind Man is celebrated with the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom. On this Sunday and throughout the Paschal period until the Apodosis or leave-taking of Pascha, the day before the Feast of the Ascension, the services begin with the chanting of the troparion of Pascha, "Christ is risen..." This is the last Sunday of the Paschal period before the Feast of the Ascension, which will follow on Thursday of this week. The Apodosis or Leave-taking of the Feast of Pascha is on Wednesday, a day which is free of fasting and celebrated with the joy and brightness of the Feast of Feasts.

### **ТРОПАР НЕДІЛЬНИЙ НА ГОЛОС 5-ий.**

Співбезпочаткове Слово Отцеві і Духові, від Діви народжене на спасіння наше, оспівуймо, вірні, і поклонімося, бо Він благозволив Тілом зійти на хрест і смерть перетерпіти, і воскресити померлих славним Воскресінням Своїм. **СЛАВА** Отцю і Сину і Святому Духові.

**KONDAK OF THE BLIND MAN IN TONE-4.**

I come to You, my Christ, blind from birth in my spiritual eyes, and call to You in repentance: You are the most radiant light for those in darkness.

**NOW AND FOREVER** and to the ages of ages. Amen.

**KONDAK OF THE RESURRECTION IN TONE-8.**

You did descend into the tomb, O Immortal One and destroyed the power of Hades. You did arise a victor, O Christ God, proclaiming to the Myrrh-Bearing Women, "Rejoice"! You granted peace to Your Apostles and bestowed Resurrection upon the fallen.

**READER :** " **PROKIMEN IN TONE – 8.** Pray and give glory to the Lord our God."

**CHOIR :** " Pray and give glory to the Lord our God."

**READER :** " In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel."

**CHOIR :** " Pray and give glory to the Lord our God."

**READER :** " Pray and give glory."

**CHOIR :** " To the Lord our God."

**КОНДАК СЛІПОГО НА ГОЛОС 4-ий.**

З осліпленими душевними очима до Тебе, Христе, приходжу, як Сліпий від народження, в покаянні взиваючи до Тебе. Ти Світло пресвітле для сущих у темряві.

**І НИНИ** і повсякчас і на віки вічні, Амінь.

**КОНДАК ВЕЛИКОДНЯ НА ГОЛОС 8-ий.**

Хоч і до гробу зійшов еси, Безсмертний, проте пекельну переміг Ти силу, і воскрес еси, як переможець, Христе Боже, що жінкам мироносицям сказав, "Радуйтеся", і спокій дарував Твоїм Апостолам, а впавшим, подав воскресіння.

**ЧИТ. :** " **ПРОКИМЕН НА ГОЛОС 8-ий.**

Помоліться і хвалу віддайте Господеві Богу нашому."

**ХОР. :** " Помоліться і хвалу віддайте Господеві Богу нашому."

**ЧИТ. :** (СТИХ) " Відомий Бог в Юдеї, в Ізраїлі велике Ім'я Його."

**ХОР. :** " Помоліться і хвалу віддайте Господеві Богу нашому."

**ЧИТ. :** " Помоліться і хвалу віддайте."

**ХОР. :** " Господеві Богу нашому."

**EPISTLE: Acts 16 : 16 – 34.**

<sup>16</sup> Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup> This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying, "These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." <sup>18</sup> And this she did for many days.

But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And he came out that very hour. <sup>19</sup> But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged *them* into the marketplace to the authorities.

<sup>20</sup> And they brought them to the magistrates, and said, "These men, being Jews, exceedingly trouble our city; <sup>21</sup> and they teach customs which are not lawful for us, being Romans, to receive or observe." <sup>22</sup> Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off

their clothes and commanded *them* to be beaten with rods. <sup>23</sup> And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw *them* into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. <sup>24</sup> Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

<sup>25</sup> But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup> Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed.

<sup>27</sup> And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. <sup>28</sup> But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here."

<sup>29</sup> Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup> And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

<sup>31</sup> So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." <sup>32</sup> Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house.

<sup>33</sup> And he took them the same hour of the night and washed *their* stripes. And immediately he and all his *family* were baptized. <sup>34</sup> Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.

**READER :** " ALLELUIA IN TONE – 8.  
Alleluia."  
**CHOIR :** " Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia."

**ЧИТ. :** " Аलिлуя на голос 8-ий. Алилугя."  
**ХОР. :** " Алилугя, Алилугя, Алилугя."

**READER :** " Look upon me and have  
mercy on me. Alleluia."  
**CHOIR :** " Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia."

**ЧИТ. :** " Зглянься на мене й помилуй  
мене. Алилугя."  
**ХОР. :** " Алилугя, Алилугя, Алилугя."

**READER :** " Direct my steps according to  
Your Word. Alleluia."  
**CHOIR :** " Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia."

**ЧИТ. :** " Стопи мої спрамуг за словом  
Твоїм. Алилугя."  
**ХОР. :** " Алилугя, Алилугя, Алилугя."

**GOSPEL: John 9 : 1 – 38.**

<sup>9</sup> Now as *Jesus* passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" <sup>3</sup> *Jesus* answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup> I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; *the* night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

<sup>6</sup> When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. <sup>7</sup> And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing. <sup>8</sup> Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, "Is not this he who sat and begged?"

<sup>9</sup> Some said, "This is he." Others *said*, "He is like him." He said, "I am *he*." <sup>10</sup> Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" <sup>11</sup> He answered and said, "A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and I received sight." <sup>12</sup> Then they said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know."

<sup>13</sup> They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. <sup>14</sup> Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup> Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see."

<sup>16</sup> Therefore some of the Pharisees said, "This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. <sup>17</sup> They said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." <sup>18</sup> But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight. <sup>19</sup> And they asked them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?"

<sup>20</sup> His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; <sup>21</sup> but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself." <sup>22</sup> His parents said these *things* because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed *that He was Christ*, he would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup> Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

<sup>24</sup> So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, "Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner." <sup>25</sup> He answered and said, "Whether He is a sinner *or not* I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see." <sup>26</sup> Then they said to him again, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" <sup>27</sup> He answered them, "I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear *it* again? Do you also want to become His disciples?"

<sup>28</sup> Then they reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. <sup>29</sup> We know that God spoke to Moses; *as for this fellow*, we do not know where He is from."

<sup>30</sup> The man answered and said to them, "Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes! <sup>31</sup> Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. <sup>32</sup> Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. <sup>33</sup> If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing."

<sup>34</sup> They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out. <sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?"

<sup>36</sup> He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" <sup>37</sup> And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you." <sup>38</sup> Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him.

**INSTEAD OF: “ IT IS TRULY WORTHY...”**

The angel cried to the Lady Full of Grace: Rejoice, O Pure Virgin.

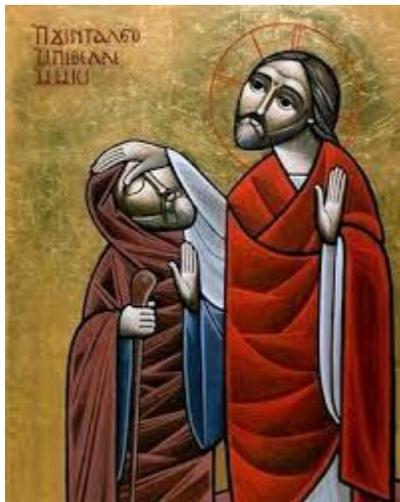
Again I say: Rejoice. Your Son is risen on the third day from the tomb, and He has raised up all the dead: Rejoice, all you people.

**IRMOS:** Shine forth, Shine forth, O New Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has shone upon you. Exult now and be glad O Zion, and rejoice, O pure Theotokos, in the Rising of the One born of you.

**COMMUNION VERSE:**

“ Receive the body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.”

“ Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.”



Before his meeting with Christ the blind man had never seen anything. Everything was dark, he had to guess at things, to explore them by touch, to use his imagination. He had no clear authentic image of things. Then he met Christ, and Christ opened his eyes. And what was the

**ЗАМІСТЬ ДОСТОЙНО.** Ангел звістив Благодатній: “ Чистая Діво, радуйся,” і ще раз кажу: “Радуйся” Твій Син воскрес на третій день із гробу і мертвих  
воздвигнув, люди, веселіться.  
Світися, світися, Новий Єрусалиме, слава бо Господня над Тобою зійшла. Радій нині і веселися, Сіоне, а Ти Чистая, красуйся, Богородице, бо Воскрес Народжений Тобою.

**ПРИЧАСНИЙ.** “ Тіло Христове прийміте, життя безсмертного вкусіте.  
Алилуя, Алилуя, Алилуя.”  
“ Хваліть Господа з небес, хваліть його в небі.  
Алилуя, Алилуя, Алилуя.”

first thing this man saw? The face of Christ, His gaze; the face of God become man, the divine gaze full of attentive, compassionate love resting on him, on him alone out of the whole crowd. After that the man probably surveyed everything around him, and what he had known by description, by hearsay, became reality — "now I see".

It happens at the present time also; it can happen to each one of us. Like the man born blind we live most of our lives on alms, we sit like beggars at the roadside holding out a hand in the hope that someone will notice, if not us at least our hand, and give us something to sustain us for the next few hours at any rate. Such sustenance comes for us in the form of a friendly gaze resting upon us, a word spoken to us, a kindness done to us. But all this still leaves us by the roadside, blind and begging for help.

If only we could realise how blind we are. If only we could remember what the Saviour tells us about the beauty and the glory of both eternal and earthly life and not be satisfied with our blindness, how earnestly would we try to detain Christ, so that He might pierce us with His gaze and speak His sovereign, healing, life-giving word to us. Then indeed we might see the astonishing beauty of Christ's face, the fathomless beauty of the divine gaze resting upon us with mercy and compassion and tenderness. We use our eyes so easily, but we see little, and that superficially. Let us seek the vision

that can be ours only, when our hearts become bright and pure. Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God; and in the brilliance of God's presence we might see each other, each one either illuminated by God's love, shining with the glory of eternal life, or else wounded, darkened, expecting from us not just alms but the surrender of our whole life through love in order that he might receive sight, that to him also the Kingdom of Heaven might already be revealed on earth. Metropolitan Anthony of Sourozh *19 May 1974*



**Saints Constantine and Helen, also known as Constantine and Helen, Equal-to-the-Apostles and Emperor Constantine and**

**Empress Helen**, made early and important contributions to the Orthodox Christian Church. Learning about the saints is an important part of being an Orthodox Christian and each saint is regularly celebrated throughout the year as part of the church calendar. Each saint has his or her own feast day. Saints Constantine and Helen are two of those saints and they share a feast day. They are celebrated on June 3 of each year.

***Emperor Constantine***

Referred to as a “sovereign to the Christians” Emperor Constantine was the son of Constantius Chlorus, a ruler of a portion of the Roman Empire, and Helen, the Empress who was also a Christian alongside her son. Constantine was born 272 and he became Emperor when his father died in 306. In 312, he learned that his opponent, Maxentius, began marching to Italy. Shortly after that, Jesus Christ appeared to him in a dream and told Constantine about the cross and its significance. After the dream, Constantine ordered that his victory banner be inscribed with the Holy Cross and the Name of Jesus Christ. On October 28, he officially marched and entered battle against Maxentius and won. Under Constantine’s rule, Christianity took root in the Empire.

***Empress Helen***

Helen’s story with Christianity really begins after Constantine emerged victorious from the battle against Maxentius. During this time, she traveled to the Holy Lands in Jerusalem. During her travels, she is credited with finding the True Cross. Legend says that she was tipped off to the cross’s existence because she found the aromatic herb, basil, growing in the shape of a cross. Each year Orthodox Christians remember the cross on the Feast Day of the Elevation of the Cross by taking home some fresh basil.