

Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church

2030 Old Alabama Road · Roswell, GA 30076
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Parish Office: 770-993-0973 or 404-227-5401

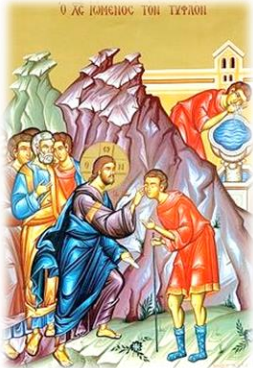
Fr. Deacon James Smith, Administrator • Fr. Philip Scott • Fr. Deacon Michael Tisma
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May 6, 2018 + Sunday of the Man Born Blind

Divine Liturgy	Saturday, 5:30 PM · Sunday, 10:00 AM · Holy Days, 7:30 PM
Confessions	Saturday, 4:30-5:00 PM · Sunday, 9:00-9:30 AM
Collection	Last week: \$2,086.00 . <i>God bless you for your generosity.</i>
Sunday Readings	Acts 16:16-34 + John 9:1-38
Sacramental Needs	Please call Fr. Deacon James 770-993-0973 or 404-227-5401

During the month of May, the Altar Lamp burns before our Lord in the tabernacle for the family of Alex Adekambi.

Christ is Risen! ✠ Indeed He is Risen!



For the **Sixth Sunday of Pascha**, the Byzantine tradition recalls the miracle of the healing of the man born blind. As the Paschal season comes to a close we again see what Christ brings to us as a result of His resurrection.

We are all born spiritually blind; we are turned away from God, our intellect darkened as a result. We are closed off from the light which enlightens all, creation ... the light of grace, the light of God. The light is always there; the world is enlightened by the light of Christ ... the light of God the Son since the very beginning.

But the darkness of sin which separated creation from God, the sin of the fallen angels and of our ancestors, has changed our human condition. Our spiritual senses, our ability to see, hear, encounter the spiritual realm of

existence, have all been lost.

When we encounter the risen Lord, the light of Christ shines bright upon us and brings us into glory ... the greater light of Christ, a light which brings us into a light where the higher, transcendent glory of God is fully experienced. **Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!**

Together in the Holy Trinity ... One Faith, One Church, One Future!

This Thursday, May 10, 2018 is the feast of the Glorious Ascension into Heaven of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is holy day of precept (obligation) for all Byzantine Catholics. The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 7:30 PM.

On the fortieth day after His Passover, Jesus ascended into heaven to be glorified with God the Father, Who had sent Him into the world to accomplish the work the Father gave Him to do. In the Ascension resides the meaning and fullness of Christ's Resurrection.

Having destroyed the power of death, the Lord now leaves us in order to glorify us with Himself, to "prepare a place" for us and to take us into the blessedness of God's presence in the "heavenly sanctuary ... the Holy Place not made by hands". He goes in order to send the Holy Spirit to bear witness to Him and His gospel in the world, making Him powerfully present in the lives of disciples.



Eternal Memory. Our friend and parishioner, **Gene Ferri**, fell asleep in the Lord on April 25, 2018. A *Panachida* will be offered for his blessed repose after the Sunday Liturgy on May 6.

Our New Pastor. His Grace, Bishop Kurt, has appointed **Father Lewis Rabayda** as our new full-time resident pastor. Father is very excited to come to Roswell from St. Gregory of Nyssa in Beltsville, Maryland; he will arrive the week of June 11 and celebrate his first Divine Liturgy with us the following **Sunday, June 17**. There will be no Saturday Liturgy on June 16 so that the entire parish family can worship together to welcome Father Lewis.



Rectory Renovations. Our rectory is in a serious state of decline and disrepair. It must be made ready over the next month so Father Lewis will have a proper and comfortable place to live. Please read the enclosed letter which details the project and the estimated costs.

We have spent a lot of time meeting with contractors to get the best prices possible for the work. We will be getting a lot of the material at discounted prices and much of the labor will be donated. Even still, the costs are very high.

We are entreating you to search your heart and be as generous as you can with time, talent and treasure to help us defer these costs. Please use the envelopes provided in the bulletin and in the narthex for your offering, which will be earmarked for the rectory. See one of our deacons for any questions or if you wish to visit the rectory.

God has answered our prayers and has now sent us a full-time resident pastor. It is our obligation, duty and responsibility to provide and care for him.