

## **CHURCH MONTHLY BULLETIN.**

**THE 4-TH SUNDAY AFTER PASCHA.**

**DUMINICA A IV-A DUPA PASTI.**

**THE PARALYTIC / SLABANOGULUI.**

**CHRIST IS RISEN! HRISTOS A INVIAT!**

*In today's Gospel lesson, Jesus comes to the pool of Bethesda. He observes the great multitudes plagued with various illnesses, waiting to be moved into the water for healing. Suddenly, He notices a poor creature who seems more needy than all of the rest, and tenderly, He asks: "Do you want to be healed?" The helpless paralytic looks up and answers, "Sir, I have no man to put me in the pool when the water is troubled. Thirty-eight years I have waited. Sir, I have no man". How well he knew the pain of loneliness.*

*One of the deepest causes of loneliness is a hunger for God. Loneliness, basically, is a sense of incompleteness that draws us toward the One who can make us complete. It is a hunger that only a relationship with God can satisfy. May it not be that God makes us lonely that we may realize the emptiness of life without Him? Loneliness, then, is an inner emptiness, craving to be filled by the only One who can satisfy it, the Lord Jesus Christ! Only He can give us a sense of the importance and worth of life, a sense of direction and a source of power that never fails.*

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*Sfantul Maxim Marturisitorul, vorbind despre aceasta minune a Mintuitorului nostru Iisus Hristos, spune ca scaldatoarea in care venea ingerul si tulbura apa, si-n care se silea omul sa intre primul, este virtutea capabila de cunostinta. Virtutea inseamna o tarie sufleteasca, o deprindere in bine. Si ce face virtutea, daca o ai? Te apropie de Dumnezeu si este in stare sa te duca sa-L cunosti pe Dumnezeu. Stim ca Domnul Hristos s-a rugat inainte de Sfintele sale Patimiri asa : « Iar viata vesnica aceasta este : Sa Te cunoasca pe Tine, singurul Dumnezeu adevarat, si pe Iisus Hristos, pe Care L-ai trimis ». Ce este viata vesnica? Este cunostinta de Dumnezeu, sa-L cunosti pe Dumnezeu, sa-L cunosti pe Domnul Hristos. La viata vesnica se poate ajunge prin virtute, adica prin deprinderi in bine. Unii oameni sunt deprinsi in rele, iar altii sunt deprinsi in bine. Sunt oameni care au putere sa faca bine si sa nu faca rau, si aceia au virtutea care-i duce la cunostinta de Dumnezeu.*

*Dpa ce omul s-a intilnit cu Domnul nostru Iisus Hristos, acel bolnav a primit putere. Si Sfantul Maxim Marturisitorul, vorbind despre puterea sufleteasca, zice ca om puternic este acela care*

uneste cunostinta cu faptuirea. Inseamna ca lucrurile pe care le cunosti sa le si infaptuiesti cu fapta. De pilda, Domnul Hristos ne invata sa iertam pe cei care ne-au gresit. Intr-una din scrierile lui Isaac Sirul, se spune asa : « Ferice de cel ce-si cunoaste neputinta si nestiinta ». In Postul Pastilor este o rugaciune la Liturghia darurilor mai inainte sfintite, in care se spune asa : « ... sa calcam peste capetele nevazutilor balauri ». Adica, sunt niste rautati, niste desprinderi in rau, ca niste balauri. Adica , ca sa scapam de suferinta, trebuie sa scapam de pacat. Dupa ce omul acela vindecat s-a intilnit cu Domnul in templu, i-a zis : « Iata, te-ai facut sanatos, de acum sa nu mai gresesti, ca sa nu ti se intimple ceva mai rau ». Aici se face o legatura intre suferinta si pacat.

Dar nu intotdeauna este o legatura intre suferinta si pacat. De exemplu, dreptul Iov, a suferit fara sa fi pacatuit. Sfantul Apostol Pavel a fost un om de cinste, un om extraordinar, si totusi a avut de suferit. De ce? Pentru ca a vrut Dumnezeu sa sufere, ca sa fie un exemplu de om care sufera, de om cu credinta care sufera. Dumnezeu vrea ca sa nu fie pacat in sufletul nostru, sa scapam de pacate, prin marturisirea lor. A Domnului fie slava in vecii vecilor. Amin!

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**Church services :** - **Baptisms** - **Lucas Gabriel Ene and Elena Victoria Ene**, the twin brother and sister, the children of Mr. & Mrs. **Alex & Veronica Ene**, who were born on Dec. 21-st, 2012, were baptized and confirmed into the Orthodox faith in our Cathedral on Sat. May 11-th, 2013 having as Godparents: Mr. & Mrs. **Dorel and Valentina Radoiu**. We would like to congratulate the newly baptized ones, and their parents and God parents, with good health, happiness and joy. May God bless them always. La multi si fericiti ani!

**Memorial Services:** - On Sat. May 11-th, 2013, Mrs. **Mihaela Petrescu** and her family had brought a loving memorial in remembering her husband, **Nicolae**, at two years departure of this life. May God rest his soul in peace and his memory be eternal. Dumnezeu sa-l odihneasca in pace si vesnica fie pomenirea sa.

- On Sat. May 18-th, 2013, Mr. **Constantin Nicolae** had brought a memorial at one departure of this life of his mother, **Tudora**. May God rest her soul in peace and her memory be eternal. Dumnezeu s-o ierte si vesnica fie pomenirea sa.

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**Meet our new member :** - Dorim sa felicitam familia D-I si D-na **Hagop Apelian** pentru devenirea a noi membri ai Catedralei noastre. Bunul Dumnezeu sa-i binecuvinteze mereu. Le uram un bun venit in mijlocul nostru. La multi si fericiti ani!

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**THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD.**

*(June 13-th, 2013)*

*Ascension Thursday falls on the fortieth day after Easter. After His Resurrection, the Lord appeared many times to several of His apostles, preaching to them, and teaching to them concerning Himself.*

*Each of the eleven gospel selections read on successive Sunday mornings during the Orthodox service of morning prayer, has as its subject one of the appearances of the Risen Lord to His disciples. After forty days had passed, Christ took leave of His disciples in the manner described in the Apostle, (Acts 1, 1-12) and Gospel, (Luke 24, 36-53) appointed to be read on the Feast of the Ascension. Then, He returned to His Father, leaving His Holy disciples and apostles to await the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. (this year, June 23-rd).*

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**HOLY PASCHA - 2013** - *Many thanks* are given to those whose voluntary and personal efforts helped us to enhance our Cathedral's Lenten Journey, and the celebration of Holy Pascha in the joy of the Feast of Feasts, we pray that the Risen Lord will bless them always!

- *The dedicated members of the Cathedral's Choir, who sacrificed many extra hours for rehearsals, and beautifully led the responses at all liturgical services.*
- *De asemenea multumim doamnelor din Reuniunea de Doamne ce au pregatit colaceii, ce au fost donati in noaptea Invierii impreuna cu Sf. Paste si oualele donate de catre doamne.*
- *Multumim custodianului nostru, Mr. Nick Postelnicu pentru efortul aratat in a pastra Sf. locas de inchinaciune, curat si in ordine.*
- *Multumim doamnelor **Gina Visan, Olga Sosa, Angelica Magliaro** pentru donarea sf. lumanari de Inviere, din Vinerea Mare si din duminica Floriilor.*
- *We would like to thank Mrs. **Vicky Kines** and Ms. **Virginia Khalaf** for donating the pussy willows and the palms for the Palm Sunday.*
- *Our sincere thanks, once again to Mrs. **Eleanore Oncea**, her daughters, nieces and Mrs. **Marie Donison** for decorating and arranging the flowers for the Lord's holy Tomb, for the Good Friday Vespers.*
- *To all, our sincere thanks, who responded to our call to participate in the liturgical services, to frequently and regularly receive the holy Sacraments and to those who contributed financially for the well being of our Cathedral.*

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**CARROUSEL OF NATIONS - CARUSELUL NATIUNILOR 2013.**

*We are getting closer to the Carrousel of Nations, Sat. June 15-th, 2013, from noon to midnight. This year we will celebrate the 15-th anniversary of our Carrousel. Let us join our tireless team of volunteers, chaired by our Council president, Mrs. **Monica Mihalceanu** and Mr. **Marius Mihalceanu**. We need your help in order to put our efforts for this tradition and fundraising event. **Caruselul Romanesc** se apropie, fiind sambata 15 Iunie 2013, de la amiaza la miezul noptii. Va rugam sa ajutati si sprijiniti acest eveniment cultural, patriotic si Romanesc la aniversarea a 15 ani, cu spirit Romanesc, traditional si crestinesc. Va rugam luati legatura cu D-na **Monica Mihalceanu**. Multumiri anticipate si cu Dumnezeu inainte! Hristos a Inviat!*

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