

St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

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Confessions 8:15 AM to 9:00 AM Sundays or Upon Request

On the web: www.stjohnchrysostom.com, on Facebook and Instagram

Live Streaming: www.youtube.com/c/StJohnChrysostomByzantineCatholicHouston



Altar Flowers

The flowers for the altar for today's Divine Liturgy are donated by SimplyBeautifulFlorist.com, 14520 Memorial Dr.

Call 281 558-0333 or email Sbflowers101@gmail.com

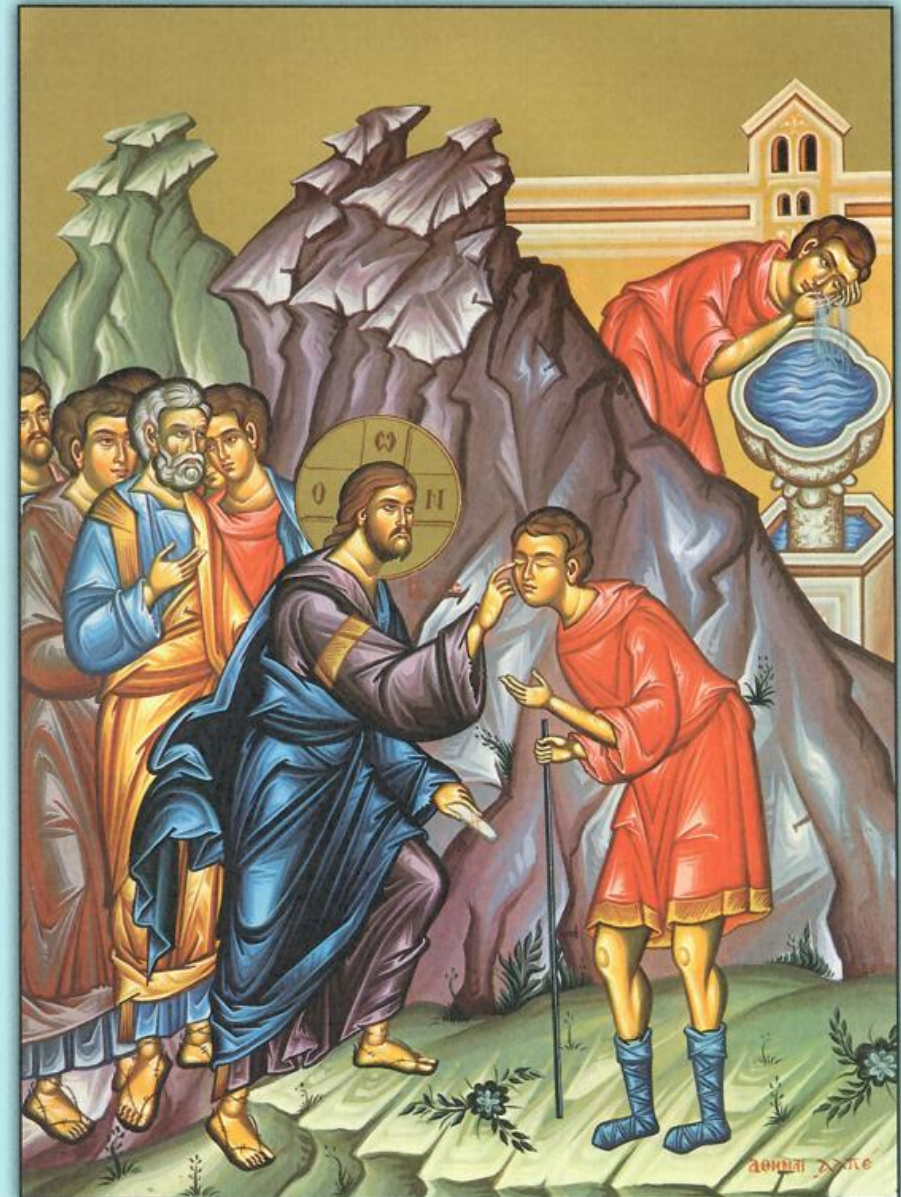
A Link to Baptism

The cure of the blind man also symbolizes mankind's means for its recovery from its blindness. It symbolizes the Sacrament of Baptism. Baptism is called holy enlightenment. Those who have been recently baptized are called the newly enlightened. This gospel from Saint John was read in the ancient Church on Holy Saturday when Catechumens were baptized. As this man is cured of his blindness when he washes in the waters of the pool of Siloam, as Jesus tells him to do, so are we brought out of darkness into a new life when we are baptized as Christ instructed us to be. Jesus restores His creation, mankind, with the potential to become what it was meant to be before the fall of Adam.

We also hear in the reading that after this man was cured many of those who knew him before did not recognize him. He is still the same man

but something has significantly changed about him. He is no longer blind. So when we are illuminated we are also new persons, though our outward appearance might be the same. To symbolize this newness a white garment is put on us to show the purity with which we start this new existence. We must, however, become different and unrecognizable in our inward and outward actions also. We must manifest our new existence to those around us through these actions. We must radiate this new found light to others by the way we live our lives. We must say to the world, "I am he who was blind but now my eyes are opened." Credit must be given to Him who has cured us of our darkness by living our lives according to the lessons of the illumination we have received and the continued guidance we get with the reception of the Holy Spirit.

SUNDAY OF THE MAN BORN BLIND



Icon of the Gospel of the Man Born Blind

Bulletin for May 25th & June 1st 2025

Sunday, May 25 th Sunday of the Man Born Blind	Acts 16:16-34; Jn 9:1-38; Festal Tone	Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM +Rita Crabbe By Anthony Lozano
Thursday , May 29 th Ascension of Our Lord	Acts 1:1-12; Lk 24:36-53; Festal Tone	Divine Liturgy (S, O), 6 PM Our Parish Family
Sunday, June 1 st Sunday of the Fathers of the 1 st Ecumenical Council	Acts 20:16-18 & 28-36; Jn 17:1-13; Festal Tone	Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM +Anne O'Conner By Marcella Colbert
Sunday, June 8 th Pentecost Sunday	Acts 2:1-11; Jn 7:37-52 & 8:12; Festal Tone	Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM Our Parish Family
Sunday, June 15 th Sunday of All Saints	Heb 11:32-12:2a; Mt 10:32-33, 37-38 & 19:27-30; Tone 8	Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM Fathers & Men of our Parish
Sunday, June 22 2 nd Sunday After Pentecost	Rom 2:10-16; Mt 4:18-23; Tone 1	Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM Our Parish Family
Sunday, June 29 3 rd Sunday After Pentecost Peter and Paul Prime Apostles	Rom 5:1-10 & 2 Cor 11:21-12:9; Mt 6:22-34 & Mt 16:13-19; Tone 2	Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM Our Parish Family

(S) Streamed. (O) Obligation. (H) Third Hour at 9:30 AM

Pray for our Sick & Homebound

Barbara Veres, Bill Torma, Elizabeth Van Den Heuvel, Leslie Bohannon, Kathryn Kowalik, Marianne Oprisko, Malak Bakkal, Sr. Sandy Atha, Ted & Pat Bojczuk, Margaret Hays, Winnie Pizzitola, Michael & Brenda Rosko

New to St. John?

Please go to www.stjohnchrysostom.com & click *Register*.
We will keep you informed of events in the life of the parish.

Welcome to our Guests and Visitors!

A warm welcome to our guests and visitors. Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in the social hall after Divine Liturgy today.

Youth Corner



Theotokos - God Bearer

By Lucinda Wells, age 13

Pope Leo XIV Address to Eastern Churches

“*Christ is risen. He is truly risen!* I greet you in these words that Eastern Christians in many lands never tire of repeating during the Easter season, as they profess the very heart of our faith and hope. It is very moving for me to see you here during the Jubilee of Hope, a hope unshakably grounded in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Welcome to Rome! I am happy to be with you and to devote one of the first audiences of my pontificate to the Eastern faithful.

You are precious in God’s eyes. Looking at you, I think of the diversity of your origins, your glorious history and the bitter sufferings that many of your communities have endured or continue to endure. I would like to reaffirm the conviction of Pope Francis that the Eastern Churches are to be “cherished and esteemed for the unique spiritual and sapiential traditions that they preserve, and for all that they have to say to us about the Christian life, synodality, and the liturgy. We think of early Fathers, the Councils, and monasticism... inestimable treasures for the Church” (*Address to Participants in the Meeting of Aid Agencies for the Oriental Churches [ROACO], 27 June 2024*).

I would also like to mention Pope Leo XIII, the first Pope to devote a specific document to the dignity of your Churches, inspired above all by the fact that, in his words, “the work of human redemption began in the East” (cf. Apostolic Letter *Orientalium Dignitas*, 30 November 1894). Truly, you have “a unique and privileged role as the original setting where the Church was born” (SAINT JOHN PAUL II, *Orientalis Lumen*, 5). It is significant that several of your liturgies – which you are now solemnly celebrating in Rome in accordance with your various traditions – continue to use the language of the Lord Jesus. Indeed, Pope Leo XIII made a heartfelt appeal that the “legitimate variety of Eastern liturgy and discipline... may redound to the great honor and benefit of the Church” (*Orientalium Dignitas*). His desire remains ever timely. In our own day too, many of our Eastern brothers and sisters, including some of you, have been forced to flee their homelands because of war and persecution, instability and poverty, and risk losing not only their native lands, but also, when they reach the West, their religious identity. As a result, with the passing of generations, the priceless heritage of the Eastern Churches is being lost.

Over a century ago, Leo XIII pointed out that “preserving the Eastern rites is more important than is generally realized”. He went so far as to decree that “any Latin-Rite missionary, whether a member of the secular or regular clergy, who by advice or support draws any Eastern-Rite Catholic to the Latin Rite” ought to be “dismissed and removed from his office” (*ibid*). We willingly reiterate this appeal to preserve and promote the Christian East, especially in the diaspora. In addition to establishing Eastern circumscriptions wherever possible and opportune, there is a need to promote greater awareness among Latin Christians. In this regard, I ask the Dicastery for the Eastern Churches – which I thank for its work – to help me to define principles, norms, and guidelines whereby Latin Bishops can concretely support Eastern Catholics in the diaspora in their efforts to preserve their living traditions and thus, by their distinctive witness, to enrich the communities in which they live.

The Church needs you. The contribution that the Christian East can offer us today is immense!”

The above is a quote taken from
<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2025/05/14/250514a.html>
(Full address is here too)

Events Calendar

Summer	Sunday School (ECF – Eastern Christian Formation) – Off for Summer
May 29	Ascension of Our Lord Divine Liturgy at 6 PM (Holy Day of Obligation)
June 15	Father’s Day Celebration – after Divine Liturgy

Radio Interview

Exciting news! Fr. Deacon Dave was recently interviewed by a local Catholic radio station, Guadalupe Radio Network. He had the opportunity to explain some of the history and significance of Eastern Catholic Churches as well as share his own vocation story. If you’d like to listen, you can find it on the GRNOnline website (under the Catholic Lunch Break show for May 19th [radio link](#)) or watch it on the GRNOnline YouTube channel, which is at the following link: [youtube video interview](#)

What I viewed on FORMED: Littlest Saints by Pani Mary
The Littlest Saints are short films about saints where children are the actors. There are seven episodes that are 14-23 min. in length. The saints portrayed are St Elizabeth of Hungary, Martyrs of the early church, St Therese, St David the warrior, Ss Benedict and Scholastica, St Augustine and Our Lady of Guadalupe



Easter Lilies — The Easter lilies this year were donated for the health and happiness of Margaret Hays by her family. They were a beautiful adornment around our new tomb. Thank you!

Sunday Collection:

May 11th: \$2,016; May 18th: \$1,744

Thank you for your generosity!

A Moment with the Catechism – The Holy Mysteries of Christian Life

The Mystical Life of the Church

407 Through Baptism, Chrismation, and the Eucharist, called the Mysteries of Christian Initiation, a person becomes a member of the Body of Christ and is enabled to participate in Christ's priesthood, kingship, and prophetic mission. Through the Mysteries of Repentance and Anointing, called Mysteries of Healing, we receive both spiritual and physical healing. Through the Mysteries of Service, Priesthood and Marriage, Christians are consecrated to the service of the ecclesial community or to the domestic church.

The Holy Mysteries of Christian Initiation

408 Participation in the life of the Most Holy Trinity becomes a reality for us through the Holy Mysteries of Baptism, Chrismation, and Eucharist. In other words, we partake of God's life by being united to Christ, receiving the seal of the Holy Spirit, and sharing the Body and Blood of Christ in the community called Church. As a person after birth begins to breathe and then receives nourishment in order to live, so the newly baptized, born to new life in the baptismal font, begins to breathe by the Holy Spirit and receives the nourishment of Holy Communion in order to grow in Christ. Through the prayers and sacred actions of the liturgical rite of each of these Mysteries, the Church leads the faithful (the Greek Fathers speak of mystagogy—leading into the mystery) into an understanding of the Mystery and perceiving it as a single, unified action of God's grace. This is why in the tradition of the Eastern Church, these three Holy Mysteries are celebrated together.

Prayers and Devotions

Collect of the Ascension (Roman Rite Ordinary Form)

Gladden us with holy joys, almighty God, and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving, for the Ascension of Christ your Son is our exaltation, and, where the Head has gone before in glory, the Body is called to follow in hope. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen



Evangelization Corner

Evangelization /ĭ-văn'jə-līz- ā'shən"/:
The proclamation of Christ and his Gospel (Greek: *evangelion*) by word and the testimony of life, in fulfillment of Christ's command.

"You have made us for yourself, O Lord and our hearts are restless until they rest in You."

St. Augustine of Hippo

Storm Damage – Update

- **Dome on Church has been replaced!**
- Minor repairs to school/rectory roof Pending
- Rectory skylights replacement (leaks) Pending.

Thank you to all who have contributed to cover what is not covered by insurance. If you would like to contribute to the repairs, you may do so online (<https://stjohnchrysostom.com/donate>) by selecting, “**Special Collections**”. You may also put your repair donation in the collection. Mark your check, “**For Repairs**”.



Quote of the Week – *Seek Truth and Serve Truth*

“No one in the world can change Truth. What we can do and should do is to seek truth and to serve it when we have found it. The real conflict is the inner conflict. Beyond armies of occupation and the hecatombs of extermination camps, there are two irreconcilable enemies in the depth of every soul: good and evil, sin and love. And what use are the victories on the battlefield if we are ourselves are defeated in our innermost personal selves?”

- St Maximilian Kolbe (1894-1941)

Bulletin Questions, Comments, Suggestions: Bulletin@stjohnchrysostom.com