

# St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church

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Pastor

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

On the web: [www.stjohnchrysostom.com](http://www.stjohnchrysostom.com), on Facebook and Instagram

Live Streaming: [www.youtube.com/c/StJohnChrysostomByzantineCatholicHouston](http://www.youtube.com/c/StJohnChrysostomByzantineCatholicHouston)

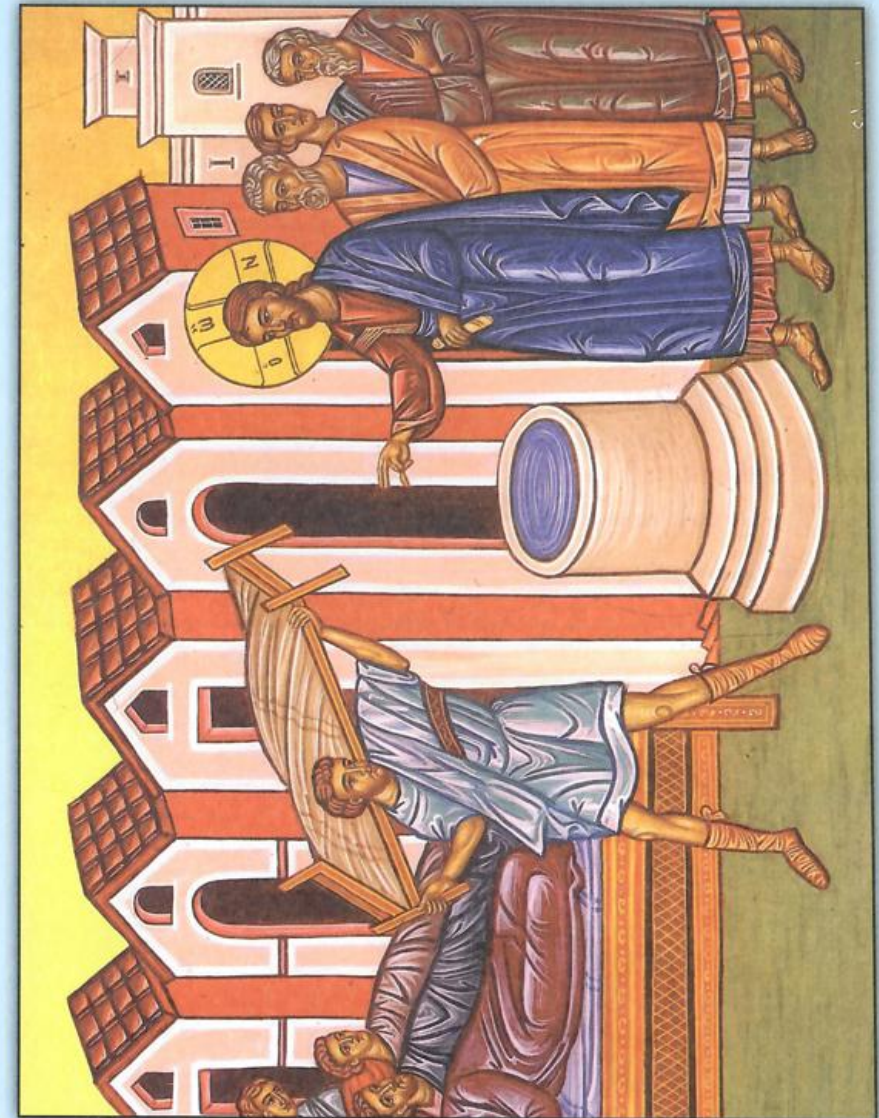
## *They Marveled and Glorified God*

Do you see how He is shown to be Creator of both souls and bodies? He heals the paralysis in both soul and body. The healing of the soul is made evident through the healing of the body, even while the body still remains a creature crawling on the ground. The crowds were slow to recognize who He was: "When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to humans." ... He proceeded by His daily actions to arouse them and lift up their thinking. It would have been no small thing for Him to be thought greater than all others, as having come from God. If they had established this adequately in their own minds, they would have known in due order that He was indeed the Son of God.

But they did not grasp these things clearly. Because of this they did not come close to recognizing who He was. For again they were saying, "This man is not from God! How can this man be from God?" Their minds churned over these statements continuously. Which thing many now also do; and thinking to avenge God, fulfill their own passions, when they ought to go about all with moderation. For even the God of all, having power to launch His thunderbolt against them that blaspheme Him, makes the sun to rise, and sends forth the showers, and affords them all other things in abundance; whom we ought to imitate, and so to entreat, advise, admonish, with meekness, not angry, not making ourselves wild beasts.

*St. John Chrysostom*

## SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



*Icon of Healing the Paralytic*



## Bulletin for July 5<sup>th</sup> & July 12<sup>th</sup> 2026

|                                                                                          |                                                                |                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday, July 5 <sup>th</sup><br>6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost                   | Rom 12:6-14; Mt 9:1-8; Tone 5                                  | Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM<br>+Bill Gremillion by<br>Theresa Colbert                               |
| Sunday, July 12 <sup>th</sup><br>7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost                  | Rom 15:1-7; Mt 9:27-35; Tone 6                                 | Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM<br>Wedding Anniversary, Ted &<br>Pat Bojczuk and<br>Greg & Joan Chapman |
| Sunday, July 19 <sup>th</sup><br>Sunday of the Fathers of the<br>Six Ecumenical Councils | 1 Cor 1:10-18; Mt 14:14-22 or: Heb 13:7-16; Jn 17:1-13; Tone 7 | Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM                                                                         |
| Sunday, July 26 <sup>th</sup><br>9 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost                  | 1 Cor 3:9-17; Mt 14:22-34; Tone 8                              | Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM                                                                         |
| Sunday, August 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost                | 1 Cor 4:9-16; Mt 17:14-23; Tone 1                              | Divine Liturgy (S, H), 10 AM                                                                         |
| <b>Thursday</b> , August 6 <sup>th</sup><br>Transfiguration of Our Lord                  | 2 Pet 1:10-19; Mt 17:1-9                                       | Divine Liturgy (S, H), 6 PM                                                                          |

(S) Streamed (O) Obligation (H) Third Hour at 9:30 AM (M) Matins 9:00 AM (V) Vespers

### Welcome to our Guests and Visitors!

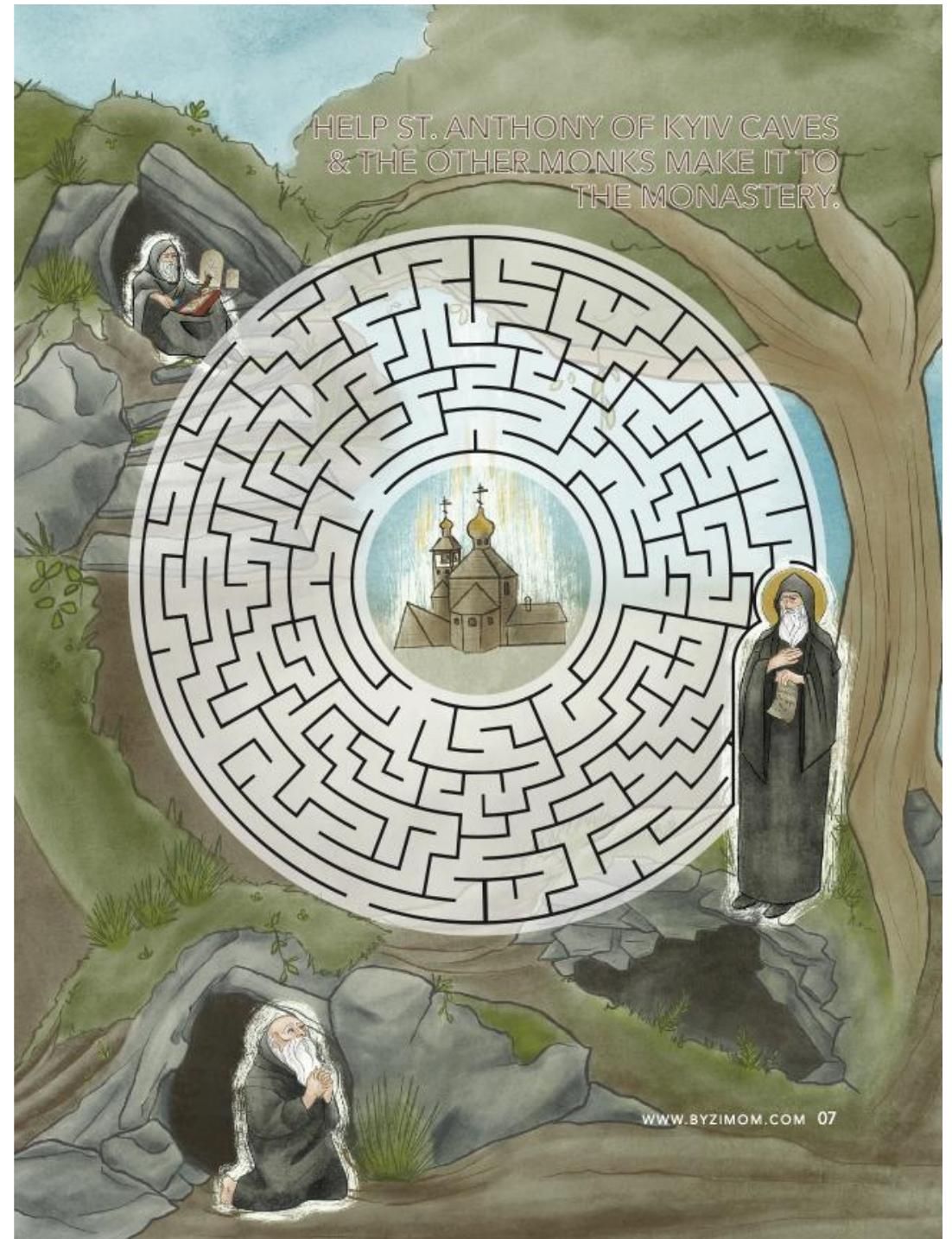
A warm welcome to our guests and visitors. Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in the social hall after Divine Liturgy today

### Pray for our Sick & Homebound

Barbara Veres, Bill Torma, Leslie Bohannon, Kathryn Kowalik,  
Marianne Oprisko, Malak Bakkal, Sr. Sandy Atha,  
Ted Bojczuk, Michael & Brenda Rosko

### New to St. John?

Please go to [www.stjohnchrysostom.com](http://www.stjohnchrysostom.com) & click *Register*.  
We will keep you informed of events in the life of the parish.



## Our Conscience

“Hence it is never lawful to go against our conscience ... This view of conscience, I know, is very different from that ordinarily taken of it, both by the science and literature, and by the public opinion, of this day. It is founded on the doctrine that conscience is the voice of God, whereas it is fashionable on all hands now to consider it in one way or another a creation of man. Of course, there are great and broad exceptions to this statement. It is not true of many or most religious bodies of men; especially not of their teachers and ministers. When Anglicans, Wesleyans, the various Presbyterian sects in Scotland, and other denominations among us, speak of conscience, they mean what we mean, the voice of God in the nature and heart of man, as distinct from the voice of Revelation. They speak of a principle planted within us, before we have had any training, although training and experience are necessary for its strength, growth, and due formation ... They consider it, as Catholics consider it, to be the internal witness of both the existence and the law of God. They think it holds of God, and not of man, as an Angel walking on the earth would be no citizen or dependent of the Civil Power. They would not allow, any more than we do, that it could be resolved into any combination of principles in our nature, more elementary than itself; nay, though it may be called, and is, a law of the mind, they would not grant that it was nothing more; I mean, that it was not a dictate, nor conveyed the notion of responsibility, of duty, of a threat and a promise, with a vividness which discriminated it from all other constituents of our nature.

This, at least, is how I read the doctrine of Protestants as well as of Catholics. The rule and measure of duty is not utility, nor expedience, nor the happiness of the greatest number, nor State convenience, nor fitness, order, and the *pulchrum*. Conscience is not a long-sighted selfishness, nor a desire to be consistent with oneself; but it is a messenger from Him, who, both in nature and in grace, speaks to us behind a veil, and teaches and rules us by His representatives. Conscience is the aboriginal Vicar of Christ, a prophet in its informations, a monarch in its peremptoriness, a priest in its blessings and anathemas, and, even though the eternal priesthood throughout the Church could cease to be, in it the sacerdotal principle would remain and would have a sway...

Now let us see what is the notion of conscience in this day in the popular mind. There, no more than in the intellectual world, does "conscience" retain the old, true, Catholic meaning of the word. There too the idea, the presence of a Moral Governor is far away from the use of it, frequent and emphatic as that use of it is. When men advocate the rights of conscience, they in no sense mean the rights of the Creator, nor the duty to Him, in thought and deed, of the creature; but the right of thinking, speaking, writing, and acting, according to their judgment or their humour, without any thought of God at all. They do not even pretend to go by any moral rule, but they demand, what they think is an Englishman's prerogative, for each to be his own master in all things, and to profess what he pleases, asking no one's leave, and accounting priest or preacher, speaker or writer, unutterably impertinent, who dares to say a word against his going to perdition, if he like it, in his own way. Conscience has rights because it has duties; but in this age, with a large portion of the public, it is the very right and freedom of conscience to dispense with conscience, to ignore a Lawgiver and Judge, to be independent of unseen obligations. It becomes a licence to take up any or no religion, to take up this or that and let it go again, to go to church, to go to chapel, to boast of being above all religions and to be an impartial critic of each of them. Conscience is a stern monitor, but in this century it has been superseded by a counterfeit, which the eighteen centuries prior to it never heard of, and could not have mistaken for it, if they had. It is the right of self-will."

From a letter addressed to the Duke of Norfolk, by St. John Henry Newman:  
<https://www.newmanreader.org/works/anglicans/volume2/gladstone/section5.html>

## Thank you!

Many thanks to all who made this year's Father's Day lunch a success! *Dad joke winners: 1<sup>st</sup> Place:* Will Colbert; *2<sup>nd</sup> Place:* David Augustini; *3<sup>rd</sup> Place:* Willie Peacock

## Evening Prayer of St. Basil the Great (330-379 AD)

Blessed are you, O Almighty Master, for you have lighted the day with the brilliance of the sun and the night with the fiery stars. You have counted us worthy of the length of this day and to come to the beginning of night. Hear our prayer and forgive the voluntary and involuntary sins of all your people. Accept our evening prayers and send down in return the greatness of your mercy and kindness upon us, your inheritance. Guard us with your holy angels, clothe us in righteousness as a defense, protect us in your truth, and keep us in your strength. Deliver us from all our enemies and their hostile attacks. Grant that this evening and the approaching night and all the days of our life may be perfect, holy, peaceful, sinless, without violence, and free of nightmares. Through the prayers of the holy Theotokos and of all the saints who from all ages have been pleasing to you. Amen.

## 11 American Saints

There are 11 American saints: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. John Neumann, St. Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Katharine Drexel, St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, St. Isaac Jogues, St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, St. Theodore Guerin, St. Damien de Veuster of Molokai, St. Marianne Cope, St. Junipero Serra. *As we celebrate 250 years since our country's founding, let us thank God for these beautiful saints and ask that we may become a saint too. All you saints, pray for us!*

## Scriptural Inspiration for the Week

*"We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ."* (John 1:1-3).

## Sunday Collection

June 21<sup>st</sup>: \$2,542; June 28<sup>th</sup>: \$3,341

*Thank you for your generosity!*



# A Moment with the Catechism – The Holy Mysteries

## Blessings

505 A blessing is an action of God for the good of human persons and their salvation. God blesses Adam and Eve so that they might grow and multiply (see Gn 1:28); and after the Flood he blesses Noah (see Gn 9:1). God blesses Abraham to become a blessing for all the nations of the earth (see Gn 12:2-3). This divine blessing is realized in Jesus Christ (see Gal 3:14-16). Through the liturgical act of blessing, the Church communicates the blessing of Christ to the whole world. When the priest blesses with his hand, he configures his fingers to form the letters IC XC, which is the Greek abbreviation for “Jesus Christ.” This means that through the priest it is the Lord who blesses, “because it is not the human being that blesses, but God who blesses by his hand and words.”

506 The Church, as a caring Mother, embraces persons with prayers and blessings on the very first day that they come into the world. She then prays on the eighth day after birth, when they receive their name, and also blesses the mother and child with special prayers on the fortieth day. When children begin going to school the Church blesses their educational endeavors. If a couple does not have children, the Church blesses them for fertility with a blessing of the nuptial bed. Those striving on the path of sanctification in marriage are blessed by the Church on the twenty-fifth and fiftieth anniversaries of their marriage. When people are sick, the Church prays at their bedside; and she accompanies the dying with “Prayers at the Soul’s Separation from the Body.”

507 When people suffer from drought, intemperate weather, or other natural calamities, the Church appeals to God for help in these trials. In that which concerns the procuring of “daily bread,” the Church blesses the circumstances and means of people’s labor: fields, buildings, and farms. Desiring that people might possess material means according to their needs, the Church blesses bread, wheat, wine, and oil during the Lytia service of Vespers. In the past, these gifts were distributed to the needy on the eve of Church feasts, so that they too might be able to participate in the celebration.

## Prayers and Devotions

### Prayer for Faith and Freedom

Dear Lord,  
We thank You for the blessings of faith and freedom that call us to serve one another with generous hearts. Strengthen our nation to uphold the dignity of every person and inspire us to be faithful witnesses of Christ’s love. Bless all who share their gifts with those who suffer for their Faith. Through their compassion, may hope spread to those in need throughout the world. Amen

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| <div><h3>Evangelization Corner</h3><p><i>Evangelization</i> /ĭ-văn’jə-līz- ā’shən”/:<br/>The proclamation of Christ and his Gospel (Greek: <i>evangelion</i>) by word and the testimony of life, in fulfillment of Christ’s command.</p></div> | <div><p>“Our journey on this earth is marked from the beginning: we are all invited to take up our cross and climb Golgotha”</p><p><b>St. Carlo Acutis</b></p></div> |
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## Quote of the Week – On Listening to the Gospel and Jesus

“If you listen to it in silence, in prayer, seeking help in understanding what it means for your life from the wise counsel of your priests and teachers, then you will meet Christ and you will follow him, spending your lives day by day for him!

It is Jesus in fact that you seek when you dream of happiness; he is waiting for you when nothing else you find satisfies you; he is the beauty to which you are so attracted; it is he who provokes you with that thirst for fullness that will not let you settle for compromise; it is he who urges you to shed the masks of a false life; it is he who reads in your hearts your most genuine choices, the choices that others try to stifle. It is Jesus who stirs in you the desire to do something great with your lives, the will to follow an ideal, the refusal to allow yourselves to be grounded down by mediocrity, the courage to commit yourselves humbly and patiently to improving yourselves and society, making the world more human and more fraternal.”

**St. John Paul II** (*World Youth Day Address August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2000*)

Bulletin Questions, Comments, Suggestions: [Bulletin@stjohnchrysostom.com](mailto:Bulletin@stjohnchrysostom.com)