

## WELCOME TO ST. SOPHIA

440 Whitehall Rd., Albany, New York

Welcome to the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. The glass-enclosed narthex is designated for parents with infants and young children. Everyone is asked to remain in the narthex during the “*Small Entrance*,” “*Great Entrance*,” “*Epistles*,” and “*Gospel Readings*”. Also, please remember to turn off all cell phones and electronic devices. Also know that there is a wheelchair and a walker available to those who have mobility needs. Please ask a Parish Council member at the Pangari.

If you are a visitor or newcomer, we are pleased to have you with us. Please introduce yourself to a parish council member at the Pangari and also sign the guest book. Remember that only those who are baptized or chrismated in the Eastern Orthodox faith may participate in the Holy Sacraments including Holy Communion. Following church services, everyone is invited to attend the fellowship hour in the parish hall.

Our website is <http://stsophia.net>

### Today: Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

One of the most ancient cities of the Promised Land was Shechem, also called Sikima, located at the foot of Mount Gerazim. There the Israelites had heard the blessings in the days of Moses and Jesus of Navi. Near to this town, Jacob, who had come from Mesopotamia in the nineteenth century before Christ, bought a piece of land where there was a well. This well, preserved even until the time of Christ, was known as Jacob's Well. Later, before he died in Egypt, he left that piece of land as a special inheritance to his son Joseph (Gen. 49:22). This town, before it was taken into possession by Samaria, was also the leading city of the kingdom of the ten tribes. In the time of the Romans it was called Neapolis, and at present Nablus. It was the first city in Canaan visited by the Patriarch Abraham. Here also, Jesus of Navi (Joshua) addressed the tribes of Israel for the last time. Almost three hundred years later, all Israel assembled there to make Roboam (Rehoboam) king.

When our Lord Jesus Christ, then, came at midday to this city, which is also called Sychar (John 4:5), He was wearied from the journey and the heat, and He sat down at this well. After a little while the Samaritan woman mentioned in today's Gospel passage came to draw water. As she conversed at some length with the Lord and heard from Him secret things concerning herself, she believed in Him; through her many other Samaritans also believed.

40-Day Memorial for the late†  
Arthur Anton

40-Day Memorial for the late†  
Mary Sarris

Coffee Fellowship Sponsored in their Memory

40-Day Memorial for the late†  
Gary (Kyriakos) Zabel

Coffee Fellowship Sponsored in his Memory

May their Memory be Eternal!

### Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

May 6, 2018 – May 12, 2018

6 Sunday	9:30 am Divine Liturgy 12:00 pm Festival Meeting–Fr. Pat's Conference Room 12:00 pm DOP District Meeting–Cultural Room
7 Monday	11:00 am Senior Exercise 4:30 pm Greek School 6:00 pm AHEPA–Gateway Diner 6:30 pm Basketball
8 Tuesday	11:00 am Chair Yoga 12:30 pm Senior Program 3:15 pm Greek School
9 Wednesday	11:00 am Senior Exercise 12:30 pm Knitters 4:15 pm Greek School
10 Thursday	12:30 pm Seniors 5:30 pm Adult Greek
11 Friday	11:30 am Senior Exercise 5:00 pm Greek School

### News & Events

- ▶ Well, hard to believe but it really is right around the corner. Our Festival weekend begins in just eleven days. It's lot of fun. And a lot of good food. And there's entertainment and so much more. If you have any time to offer, please see Jordan Moises during the coffee fellowship and sign up for volunteer work. Also, take flyers and/or postcards to share at work or with friends and neighbors.
- ▶ Special discounted admission tickets for parishioners will be sold today and in the office during the week. Instead of the regular price of \$3, tickets for parishioners will be \$1. However, they are sold only in packs of five. Gift them to friends, neighbors, and coworkers.
- ▶ The 2018 St. Sophia Scholarship applications are now available in the church office. There are two applications: one for graduating high school students; one for current college students/participants in institutions of higher education. Note: You *must* add your name and contact information to the sign-up sheet. Contact Frosine Stolis at (518) 527-9103 or [frosnjim@aol.com](mailto:frosnjim@aol.com) with questions.

## **Gospel Reading**

### **Sunday of the Samaritan Woman**

#### **The reading is from John 4:5-42**

At that time, Jesus came to a city of Samaria, called Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and so Jesus, wearied as he was with his journey, sat down beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep; where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and he whom you now have is not your husband; this you said truly." The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain; and you say that Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ); when he comes, he will show us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

Just then his disciples came. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but none said, "What do you wish?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" So the woman left her water jar, and went away into the city and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" They went out of the city and were coming to him.

Meanwhile the disciples besought him, saying "Rabbi, eat." But he said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." So the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought him food?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me, and to accomplish his work. Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see how the fields are already white for harvest. He who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor; others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony. "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of your words that we believe, for we have heard ourselves, and we know that this is indeed Christ the Savior of the world."

### **Apolytikion of Great and Holy Pascha in the Plagal First Mode**

Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs  
He has granted life.

### **Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Fourth Mode**

Having learned the joyful proclamation of the Resurrection from the Angel, and having cast  
off the ancestral condemnation, the women disciples of the Lord spake to the Apostles  
exultantly: Death is despoiled and Christ God is risen, granting great mercy to the world.

### **Apolytikion for Mid-Pentecost in the Plagal Fourth Mode**

At Mid-feast give Thou my thirsty soul to drink of the waters of piety; for Thou, O Saviour,  
didst cry out to all: Whosoever is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Wherefore, O Well-  
spring of life, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

### **Apolytikion (Hymn) for the Church in the Plagal Fourth Mode**

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast made manifest the fishermen as most wise,  
By sending down upon them the Holy Ghost, And by them hast drawn the world into Thy  
net. O Lover of mankind, glory to Thee.

### **Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal Fourth Mode**

Though You went down into the tomb, You destroyed Hades' power, and You rose the  
victor, Christ God, saying to the myrrh-bearing women, "Hail!" and granting peace to Your  
disciples, You who raise up the fallen.