

**Russian Orthodox Church of the
Resurrection of Christ**

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Вознесся еси во славе, Христе
Боже наш, радость сотворивый
учеником.

Schedule for the Week of June 2 - 8, 2019

Sunday Jun 2	Sunday of the Blind Man / Нед. о Слепом
Wednesday Jun 5	Vigil for Ascension 6:30 PM
Thursday Jun 6	Ascension of the Lord / Вознесение Господне 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy / Лиругия
Saturday Jun 8	5:30 PM Vigil
Sunday Jun 9	Fathers of 1st Ecumen. Council Свв. Отец 1-го Вселенского Собора 8:15 AM Nocturns, Hours, Confessions 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy / Литургия

Позже на его развалин была возведена стена высотой два метра, а в центре над самым камнем Вознесения поставлена небольшая восьмиугольная часовня, которую мы находим на этом месте сейчас.

След стопы Христовой «стопочки», как называют его русские паломники, окружен мраморной рамкой.

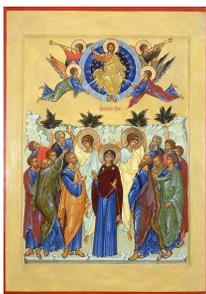
Неоднократно рассказывается в Евангелии о совершенных Спасителем чудесах над слепыми. Они уже не могли оставаться вдали от Даровавшего им зрение, их неудержимо влекло к Нему, куда бы Он ни шел.

Итак, когда духовные очи наши открываются к истине, мы уже не можем оставаться во мраке, нас влечет к свету, к Христу.

Пойдем и мы туда, куда пошли прозревшие слепцы. Господь совершает и над нами то же чудо. Он открывает наши духовные очи, озаряет Своим светом нашу душу. Пойдем же и мы за Ним, оставив за собой всю нашу греховную жизнь и тот мрак, в котором мы блуждали до сих пор.

Для прозревших, взирающих на Него, путь всегда будет светел и ясен и приведет к тихому пристанищу, к царству вечной любви. (*Дневник православного священника, 1909 г.*)

Место вознесения Спасителя



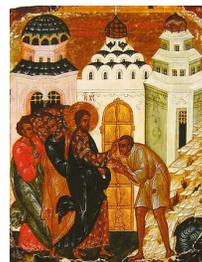
Елеонская гора, на западном склоне которой лежит Гефсиманский сад, является самой высокой из холмистых вершин, окружающих Иерусалим. На этой горе Господь молился ночами, здесь учил молитве учеников, беседовал с ними о конце

мира; с этой горы Он вознесся на небо, чтобы сесть одесную Отца.

На месте Вознесения был построен величественный храм, круглый, без купола, в котором молящиеся могли созерцать на храма то самое небо, где облако взяло Его из вида учеников (Деян. 1,9).

Камень на месте Вознесения, на котором по преданию, отпечаталась стопа Спасителя, был окружен золотой решеткой. Персы во время нашествия в VII в. не пощадили это здание.

The Blind Man



One of the brightest examples of faith is the Blind Man, to whom the sixth paschal Sunday is dedicated. The Lord once came upon a man, blind from birth, who sat and begged for alms. Knowing that this man had been born blind for the sole reason that God might be glorified through him, Christ spat on the ground, made clay

of the spittle, and anointed the eyes of the blind man with this clay. Then He said to the blind man: go and wash in the pool of Siloam. The blind man went and washed and came back seeing. The Pharisees, who observed the law of Moses with hypocritical strictness, did not believe in the healing and went out of their way to discredit the miracle. At first they expressed doubt that the blind man had actually been born blind, and so they questioned his parents extensively, and later questioned the man himself. Then they began saying that whoever healed the blind man could not have come from God, since he did not observe the Sabbath (i.e. Jesus healed the blind man on a Sabbath!), that only Moses communicated with God, and they did not know from whence this man came. The man who had been blind was not afraid of the Pharisees, but boldly answered them: "It is truly amazing that you do not know from whence He comes, and yet He has opened my eyes; from the beginning of time it has never been heard that any man opened the eyes of one who was born blind, so if this man were not from God, he could do nothing." Then the Pharisees became enraged and cast him out. Jesus Christ, hearing that the blind man had been cast out, found him and said to him: Do you believe in the Son of God? The blind man asked: And who is He, Lord, that I might believe in Him? Jesus said: You have seen Him and it is He Who is speaking with you. Then the blind man exclaimed: Lord, I believe! and worshipped Him.

This moving story shows us the example of a man who through his faith received total sight -- both physical and spiritual. He earned this miracle by suffering and patiently enduring his blindness for many years, and now suddenly both his physical and his spiritual eyes were opened, and he simultaneously saw the sun in nature and the spiritual Sun, the Lord Jesus Christ. Moreover, the blind man was not afraid to declare his faith openly, fearing neither any man, nor harassment, nor persecution for his faith. *In this he shows us the way, since we, too, live in a world that is just as hostile to Christ and to true faith in God as were the Pharisees who cast the blind man out from their midst.*

The story of the blind man also gives us great comfort: it clearly indicates to us that innate physical defects are not specifically given as punishment for sins, but often to demonstrate God's grace. When the disciples asked Christ: Master, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind, the Lord said to them: *neither this man sinned, nor his parents, but this was given so that the works of God should be manifest in him.*

In his MENAION, St Demetrius of Rostov calls the blind man St Celidonius.

The Holy Day of the Ascension of the Lord, is a very ancient feast day, since the Bible specifically mentions it. It has been observed as a Holy Day from the beginning of the Church. Eusebius mentioned it as a separate feast as early as 341. St. Gregory of Nyssa in 394 and St. John Chrysostom in 407 preached sermons on it. These sermons are interesting not only for their early appearance but also for their content. The Church celebrated the day not as much for its historical significance, but because of its theological reason for being. St. John Chrysostom expressed it in these words: *"Through the mystery of the Ascension we, who seemed unworthy of God's earth, are taken up into heaven... Our very nature, against which Cherubim guarded the gates of paradise, is enthroned today high above all Cherubim."*

In many rural areas, processions with the cross and candles take place. The faithful pray and sing while walking through fields and pastures, accompanying the priest who blesses their plot of ground.

This Holy Day is often referred to as "fulfilled salvation", or "Spasovo", because as St. Gregory of Nyssa expressed it, *"The Ascension of Christ is the consummation and fulfillment of all other feasts and the happy conclusion of the earthly sojourn of Jesus Christ."*

We ask in the Amvon Prayer for the day: "Number us with those who will be taken up into the clouds to meet Thee coming to judge the world in righteousness, that with them we may be full of joy forever."