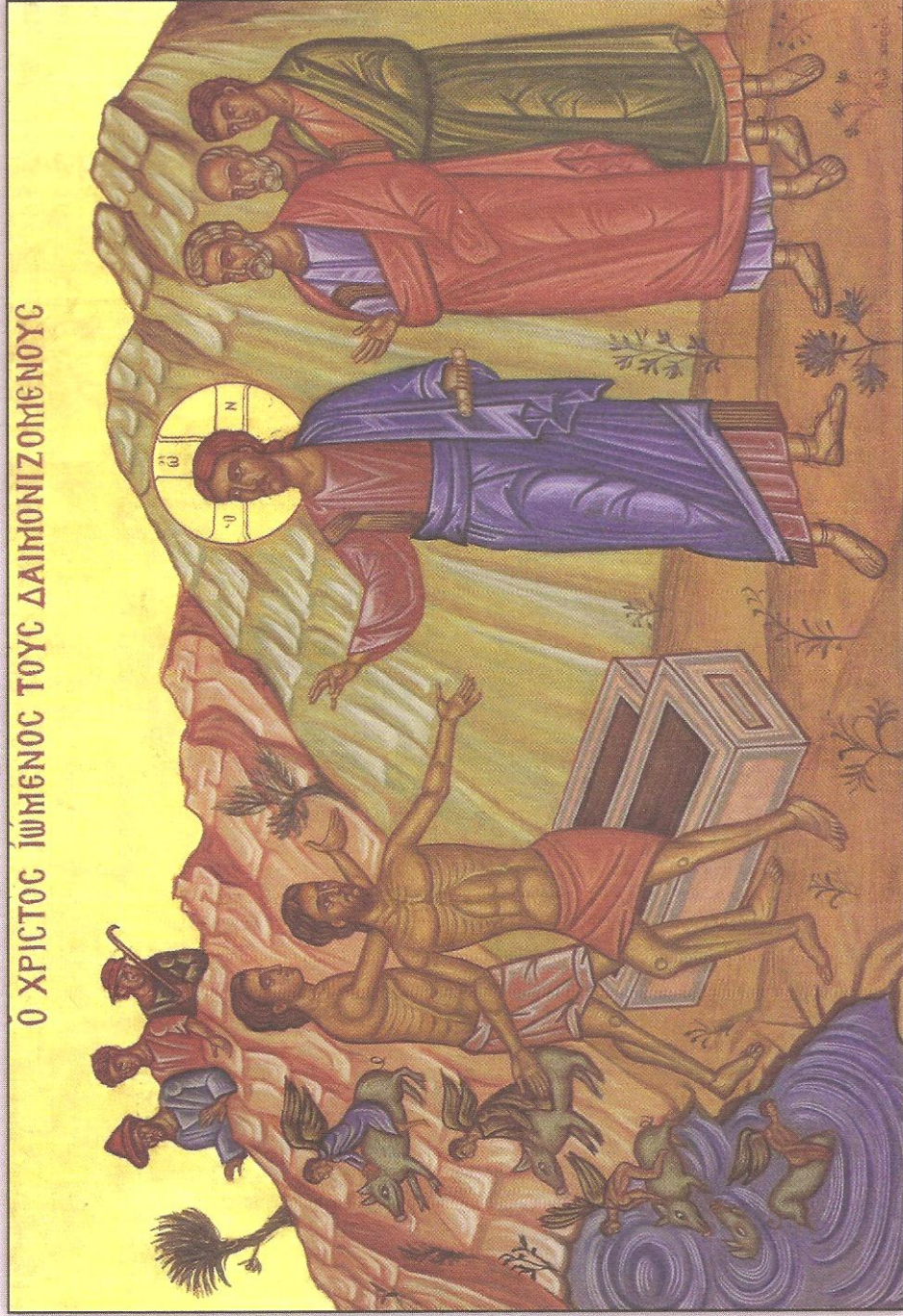


FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Ο ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΙΩΜΕΝΟΣ ΤΟΥΣ ΔΑΙΜΟΝΙΖΟΜΕΝΟΥΣ



Icon of the Gadarene Demoniacs

Asking Jesus to Leave

Of all the miracle stories of Jesus, the one recorded in today's Gospel reading stands out as unique. In most other occasions when Jesus healed or cured, the result was that more people came and asked to be cured. However, in the case of Jesus expelling demons from the man in the Gadarene territory, the result was that the whole village came out and asked Jesus to leave that area! (Matthew 8:34)

Ingratitude is certainly not the reaction we would expect the townsfolk to have since a member of their community restored to his right mind by the command of Jesus. Previously, he was prone to fits of madness and the source of his madness was understood to be demonic possession. Jesus commanded the demons to leave the man and restored the man to his right mind. Had this been the end

of the story, perhaps the people would have been filled with gratitude. However, Jesus sent the demons into a herd of swine, which then jumped over a cliff and drowned.

Why did Jesus send the demons into the swine? According to Jewish law, pork is considered to be an unclean product. Jews were to have no contact with pork. Because of this, the Jews of that town were breaking their own religious law.

By expelling the demons into the swine, Jesus not only healed a man, but also reestablished a forgotten value system in a town. Unfortunately, the inhabitants were not ready to receive this lesson. It is no surprise, then, why they met Jesus with such ingratitude and asked Him to leave their district.

Rev. Dr. Ronald Popivchak
Pastor

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"Glory to Jesus Christ!"
"Slava Isusoo Khristoo!"

June 23, 2013
Fifth Sunday.

OUR PARISH PATRONAL FEAST, that of SS. Peter and Paul will be celebrated next weekend in our Church. We will honor our namesake Apostles both Saturday evening and Sunday morning, June 29-30, as well as our founding fathers and mothers, who established our parish on this feastday in 1924, some 89 years ago. It is only because of the love and work of our pioneers and the spiritual guidance of SS. Peter and Paul that our parish is the shining light today for all to see and admire atop Union Hill here in Bridgeport.

WE WILL HONOR AND GIFT all our parish graduates next weekend at the Holy Liturgy. Please inform us of any grads, both highschool and college, in your family so that we can commend them and gift them in church. Our list to date includes: Katie Breitbarth (La Salle U.), Kristina Maruszczak (Pitt U.), Melanie Klufas (Downingtown HS).

WE HAVE CONTRACTED with the Eagleville Fence Co. to install the new fencing at the Cemetery, damaged by a negligent truck-driver in May. The total cost for the repair will be \$6700.00, the amount we have already received from the insurance company of the wayward driver.

TO BE MARRIED NEXT SATURDAY: Katherine Macelko and Christopher Margherita, Douglassville, PA. We all pray that our Lord Jesus Christ will bless this young pair with love and health and a great family for many good years - MNOHAYA LEETA!

OUR PARISH IS TRULY BLESSED to have such support people who come to our aid out of the goodness in their heart. We are especially thankful to Jack Strouse, our faithful landscaper; Roman Koropey, ESQ., of Bryn Mawr for all his lawyerly help for our parish; and to Jim Dougherty, our parish printer for making available all our bulletines and church brochures every week. God bless all these fine folks.

WE ARE SO VERY GRATEFUL to our parishioners Frank Katarynick and Dr. John Solar, as well as all our church collectors and counters. Dr. John pays all our parish bills every week, while Frank oversees all our church income. God bless and love all these fine fellows!

DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, 6 pm For all the Fiathful
Sunday, 9 am +Michael and Agnes Fonock (Marlene, Ron, Bridget, Pat, Joan)
Thursday, 7 am +Stella Krysko (Deanna and Arianna)
Friday, 7 am Health of the Family (Helen Brady)
Saturday, 8 am +Mamie Budick (Georgeanne Pizzo)
Saturday, 6 pm +John and Mary Dudas (The Dudas Family)
Sunday, 9 am +Peter Martinick (Wife Barbara & Kathy, Barb, Debbie, Carol)

TODAY'S TROPAR: When the women disciples of the Lord learned the glad tidings of the Resurrection, and had cast aside the condemnation of their forefathers, they called out to the Apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting great mercy to all the world."

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER...

TODAY'S KONTAK: My Savior and Redeemer, in that He was God, rose from earthborn bonds. He shattered the gates of hell and as Lord He rose up after the third day.

TODAY'S PROKIMEN: O Lord, Your works are glorious, for in wisdom You have created all things.

J. Ronald