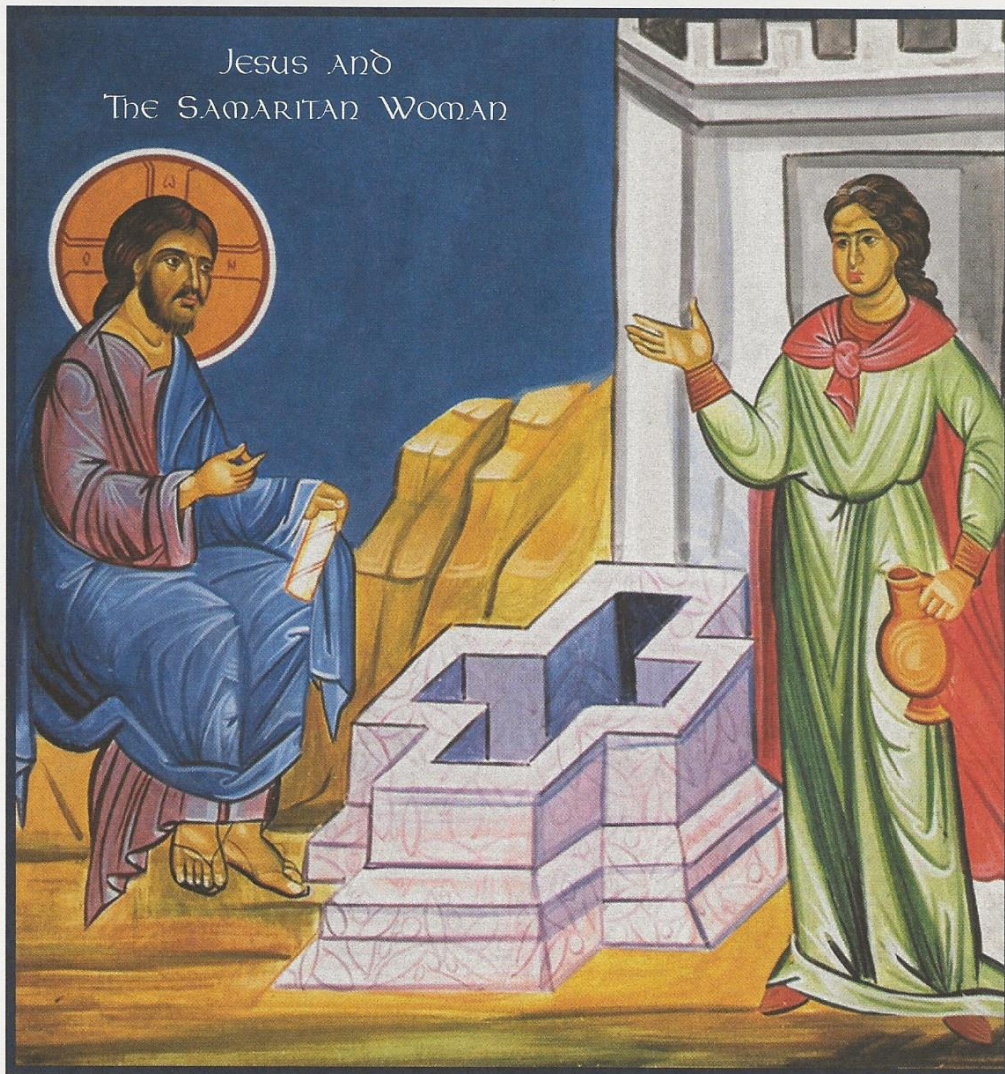




Jesus AND
The SAMARITAN WOMAN





ST. RAPHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the South

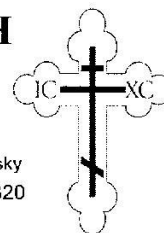
1277 N. Paul Dr., Inverness, FL 34453

Fr. Sergious Gerken, Parish Priest

Warden Barbara Aldunate, Co-Warden Joel Miller, Secretary Lydia Wilcox, Linda Labosky

Please Visit: **[www: straphaelchurch.org](http://www:straphaelchurch.org)** Church: 352-201-1320

Check our home page for new content, news and announcements



SUNDAY, MAY 30, 2021 - 5th SUNDAY OF PASCHA - Tone 4. Samaritan Woman.

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK	<i>Please bring a donation of food on Sunday for the Citrus County Family Resource Center.</i>	DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS
Sat: Great Vespers 4:00 PM	Confessions-Ask Fr. Sergious for a time	Mon: Acts 12:12-17, John 8:42-51
Sun: Reading of The Hours 9:45 AM		Tue: Acts 12:25-13:12, John 8:51-59
5 th Sunday of Pascha Samaritan Woman 10:00 AM		Wed: Acts 13:13-24, John 6:5-14
Thu: Akathist to St. Herman 4:00 PM		Thu: Acts 14:20-27, John 9:39-10:9
Happy Memorial Day		Fri: Acts 15:5-34, John 10:17-28
		Sat: Acts 15:35-41, John 10:27-38

+EPISTLE+ (Acts 11:19-26, 29-30) Brethren: Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord. Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea. This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

Choir Practice Sunday at 9 AM / No Choir Practice Tomorrow

+GOSPEL+ (John 4:5-42) is So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says 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 then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting 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 and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband,' for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly." The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such 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 Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He." And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why are You talking with her?" The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and said to the men, Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ? Then they went out of the city and came to Him. In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." Therefore the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest?' Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors." And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His own word. Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."

THE GIFTS - MAY 23

Attendance 43

Regular Offerings 1616
Candles 53
Myrrhbearers Hall 100

*We sincerely thank and bless
Charles and Lou Ellen Davis for
their ongoing generous donations.*

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

SD Paul Besserman & Judy - June 6
Ken & Margaret Wagner - June 9
MaryAnn & Charles Buettner - June 12
Harry & Lucia Jordhamo - June 15

VIGIL CANDLES - MAY 23

Nancy Kinley - Health of Bill, Julianna &
Family, Andrew & Family, Mary Ann H.,
Patricia, Joel, Judy, Patty, Pat & Nick,
Judith.

Nick Borick - Olga, Judy, Mary Ann H.,
Ryan, Pat & Nick.

"COULD THIS BE THE CHRIST?"

Although we usually hear about Christ's encounters with large groups of people, the setting for Sunday's Gospel is markedly different. Today, we find the Lord engaged in a one-on-one conversation with an unlikely individual. More than a few eyebrows must have been raised when Jesus enters into a lengthy dialogue with a SAMARITAN WOMAN. At that time, Jews and Samaritans were bitter enemies, and women were not considered important enough to participate in intellectual discussions!

The conversation begins innocently enough. Weary from a tiring journey, Christ sits down near a well in the town of Sichar and asks the Samaritan woman for a drink of water. After satisfying His PHYSICAL needs, Jesus proceeds to teach the woman about "living water," which can forever quench all of her SPIRITUAL longings. He patiently instructs her concerning how to worship God, and Who God really is. "God is spirit," Christ tells her, "And those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth."

The Samaritan woman is impressed with the wisdom Christ possesses, and she comments that she is aware that a Messiah is coming, "... Who will tell us all things." It is then that the Lord shares the greatest of truths with her: HE IS THE MESSIAH!

The Gospel concludes with a wonderful lesson for all of us. Many others from the village come out to meet Christ, and they recognize Him as the Saviour, not because of the woman's testimony, but because of what they heard for themselves. We ALL must come to know Jesus on our own.

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