

JULY 20, 2025

MYOCN PEW PALS



6th Sunday of Matthew

In today's Gospel, Jesus shows us something amazing. A group of friends brought a man who could not walk to Jesus. They had great faith that Jesus could help him. Jesus looked at their hearts and first said something surprising: ***"Take heart, your sins are forgiven."***

People were shocked! Only God can forgive sins. But Jesus showed that He really does have that power—He told the man to get up, take his mat, and walk—and he did! This reminds us that Jesus doesn't just heal our bodies—He heals our hearts, too. And when we have faith and help others come closer to Jesus, He sees our love and responds.

Family Homework



Light a Candle for Someone: Choose someone in need and light a candle together at church. Pray for them, just like the friends prayed for their paralyzed friend.

Carry the Mat Family Challenge: Use a large towel or small blanket and carry a stuffed animal to represent the paralyzed man. Talk about how friends in Gospel worked together and had faith that Jesus would help.

Memory Verse

"Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."

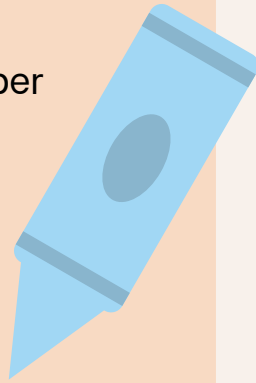
—James 5:16



CRAFT – Prophet Elias’ Chariot of Fire

MATERIALS:

- Paper or Foam Cup
- Red, Orange & Yellow Tissue Paper
- Scissors
- Glue or Tape
- Markers or Crayon
- Small Prophet Elias Printout
- String



INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Watch the Video to see how you cut out your chariot cart from the paper cup.
2. Decorate the Chariot –use markers/crayons and write on it “Prophet Elias’ Chariot of Fire”
3. Make the Flames – Cut strips or flames of yellow, red or orange construction paper. Glue them onto the chariot so they look like flames shooting out.
4. Add Two Wheels – Cut out circles of paper or cardboard and attach them onto the sides near the bottom.
5. Optional – print out a picture of Propet Elias and glue him in the chariot.
6. Tape the string on both side facing the front, to create a loop to pull your chariot.



DISCUSSION PROMPT

Why do you think Jesus forgave the man’s sins before He healed his legs? Which do you think is more important – healing our bodies or healing our hearts?

SAINT STORIES

PROPHET ELIAS (ELIJAH)

Prophet Elias (Elijah) was a great man of God who lived many years before Jesus. He was very brave and loved God with all his heart.

- He prayed to God, and God listened to him.
- One time, there was no rain for a long time because people forgot God, but Elias prayed, and God sent rain again.
- He showed people that there is only one true God.
- He was taken up to heaven in a chariot of fire—he didn’t die like other people!

Because he was so close to God, we remember him as a great prophet and saint. In the Orthodox Church, we celebrate him on July 20. **Prophet Elias teaches us to be brave for God, pray faithfully, and trust God even when times are hard**