

THREE HIERARCHS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

SUNDAY WEEKLY BULLETIN June 26h, 2016 V. Rev. Archimandrite Eugene N. Pappas

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS OF FIOT HAVTEC Icon of All Saints

1724 Avenue P Brooklyn, New York 11229-1206 Tel: (718) – 339- 0280 Web site: www.threehierarchsbrooklynny.org E-mail: info@threehierarchsbrooklyn.org

St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 11:33-40; 12:1-2

Prokeimenon. Mode 4.

Psalm 67.35,26

God is wonderful among his saints.

Verse: Bless God in the congregations.

BRETHREN, all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy - wandering over deserts and mountains and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

Πρὸς Έβραίους 11:33-40, 12:1-2

Προκείμενον. ή Τχος δ.

ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 67.35,26

Θαυμαστὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἐν τοῖς Άγίοις αὐτοῦ.

Στίχ. Έν Ἐκκλησίαις εὐλογεῖτε τὸν Θεὸν.

Αδελφοί, οι Άγιοι πάντες διὰ πίστεως κατηγωνίσαντο βασιλείας, εἰργάσαντο δικαιοσύνην, ἐπέτυχον ἐπαγγελιῶν, ἔφραξαν στόματα λεόντων, ἔσβεσαν δύναμιν πυρός, ἔφυγον στόματα μαχαίρας, ἐνεδυναμώθησαν ἀπὸ ἀσθενείας, ἐγενήθησαν ἰσχυροὶ ἐν πολέμω, παρεμβολὰς ἔκλιναν ἀλλοτρίων. Ἔλαβον γυναῖκες ἐξ ἀναστάσεως τοὺς νεκροὺς αὐτῶν· ἄλλοι δὲ ἐτυμπανίσθησαν, οὐ προσδεξάμενοι τὴν ἀπολύτρωσιν, ἵνα κρείττονος ἀναστάσεως τύχωσιν· ἔτεροι δὲ ἐμπαιγμῶν καὶ μαστίγων πεῖραν ἔλαβον, ἔτι δὲ δεσμῶν καὶ φυλακῆς· ἐλιθάσθησαν, ἐπρίσθησαν, ἐπειράσθησαν, ἐν φόνω μαχαίρας ἀπέθανον· περιῆλθον ἐν μηλωταῖς, ἐν αἰγείοις δέρμασιν, ὑστερούμενοι, θλιβόμενοι, κακουχούμενοι - ὧν οὐκ ἦν ἄξιος ὁ κόσμος - ἐν ἐρημίαις πλανώμενοι καὶ ὅρεσιν καὶ σπηλαίοις καὶ ταῖς ὀπαῖς τῆς γῆς. Καὶ οὖτοι πάντες, μαρτυρηθέντες διὰ τῆς πίστεως, οὐκ ἐκομίσαντο τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν, τοῦ θεοῦ περὶ ἡμῶν κρεῖττόν τι προβλεψαμένου, ἵνα μὴ χωρὶς ἡμῶν τελειωθῶσιν. Τοιγαροῦν καὶ ἡμεῖς, τοσοῦτον ἔχοντες περικείμενον ἡμῖν νέφος μαρτύρων, ὄγκον ἀποθέμενοι πάντα καὶ τὴν εὐπερίστατον ἀμαρτίαν, δι᾽ ὑπομονῆς τρέχωμεν τὸν προκείμενον ἡμῖν ἀγῶνα, ἀφορῶντες εἰς τὸν τῆς πίστεως ἀρχηγὸν καὶ τελειωτὴν Ἰησοῦν.

The Sunday of All Saints

The Gospel according to Matthew 10:32-33; 37-38; 19:27-30

The Lord said to his disciples, "Every one who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny him before my Father who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me." Then Peter said in reply, "Lo, we have left everything and followed you. What then shall we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of man shall sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, and the last first."

The Sunday of All Saints

Κατά Ματθαῖον 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30

Εἶπεν ὁ Κὐριος τοῖς ἑαυτοῦ μαθηταῖς· Πᾶς οὖν ὅστις ὁμολογήσει ἐν ἐμοὶ ἔμπροσθεν τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ὁμολογήσω κἀγὼ ἐν αὐτῷ ἔμπροσθεν τοῦ πατρός μου τοῦ ἐν οὐρανοῖς. ὅστις δ' ἂν ἀρνήσηταί με ἔμπροσθεν τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ἀρνήσομαι αὐτὸν κἀγὼ ἔμπροσθεν τοῦ πατρός μου τοῦ ἐν οὐρανοῖς. Ὁ φιλῶν πατέρα ἢ μητέρα ὑπὲρ ἐμὲ οὐκ ἔστι μου ἄξιος· καὶ ὁ φιλῶν υἰὸν ἢ θυγατέρα ὑπὲρ ἐμὲ οὐκ ἔστι μου ἄξιος· καὶ ος οὐ λαμβάνει τὸν σταυρὸν αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀκολουθεῖ ὀπίσω μου, οὐκ ἔστι μου ἄξιος. Τότε ἀποκριθεὶς ὁ Πέτρος εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ἰδοὺ ἡμεῖς ἀφήκαμεν πάντα καὶ ἡκολουθήσαμέν σοι· τί ἄρα ἔσται ἡμῖν; ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι ὑμεῖς οἱ ἀκολουθήσαντές μοι, ἐν τῇ παλιγγενεσίᾳ, ὅταν καθίσῃ ὁ υἰὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἐπὶ θρόνου δόξης αὐτοῦ, καθίσεσθε καὶ ὑμεῖς ἐπὶ δώδεκα θρόνους κρίνοντες τὰς δώδεκα φυλὰς τοῦ Ἰσραήλ. καὶ πᾶς ος ἀφῆκεν οἰκίας ἢ ἀδελφοὺς ἢ ἀδελφὰς ἢ πατέρα ἢ μητέρα ἢ γυναῖκα ἢ τέκνα ἢ ἀγροὺς ἔνεκεν τοῦ ὀνόματός μου, ἐκατονταπλασίονα λήψεται καὶ ζωὴν αἰώνιον κληρονομήσει. Πολλοὶ δὲ ἔσονται πρῶτοι ἔσχατοι καὶ ἔσχατοι πρῶτοι.

DEVOTIONS THIS WEEK:

Tuesday	June 28th,	GREAT VESPER of SAINTS PETER and PAUL	7:00 P.M.
•		Hempstead Cathedral and Bronx – Saint Petros	
Wednesday	June 29th,	SAINT PETER and PAUL and HOLY APOSTLES	9:00 A.M.
		Three Hierarchs Liturgy, Church	9:30 A.M.
Thursday	June 30th,	OBSERVED (Holy Apostles on 29th) by anticipation	
Friday	July 01st.	AGIASMOS (Blessing of Holy Water)	11:00 A.M.
Sunday	July 03rd	INDEPENDENCE DAY OBSERVANCE	12:00 NOON

AGAPE COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Will be hosted by the Parish Council at the GENERAL ASSEMBLY at 12:30 P.M. Please join us.

ARTOKLASIA TODAY: is being offered in thanksgiving to GOD by JIMMY KOKOTAS and his spouse KALLIOPI for all the Lord's benefices. ALLELUJIA!

TODAY: the CATECHETICAL Sunday School will honor a group of children who have excelled in attendance ad leaning. May God bless their parents who nurture their 'spirit' and the Administrators Ms. CHRISTINE HANTZOPOULOS AND MS. MARIA APERGIS WHO CULTIVATE THEIR 'MIND'. BRAVO!!

CLERGY LAITY CONGRESS: of the National Church will convene from Sunday, July 03rd, through Friday morning July 08th. Father Eugene will represent the parish community at the Congress with Ladies from the Philoptochos Chapter of the Church.

GREEK SCHOOL and P.T.A. parents and students with faculty enjoyed a day in the sun at Coney Island's DENO'S WONDER WHEEL PARK on the rides and a sumptuous dinner at TOM'S ON THE BOARDWALK. Many thanks are extended to the VOURDERIS BROTHERS (Dennis and Steve) and of course of AHEPA President Jimmy Kokotas, proprietor of TOM'S ON THE BOARDWALK. new school year commence right after LABOR DAY – (Monday, September 05th) ENROLL YOUR CHILD!

HAIL and FAIRWELL: to our beloved CHOIR MEMBERS and MAESTRA Katie Hambas as they enjoy their summer 'hiatus' – vacation from the choir loft. The entire community of believers is grateful for the untiring efforts of the choristers who grace our services all year long. Our choir will resume singing on SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 11TH. (PATRIOT DAY) at the 10:30 a.m. Liturgy. Have a safe summer!

GENERAL ASSEMBLY: Today, June 26th. at 1:00 P.M. in Whitehall. All registered stewards of the parish are encouraged to attend the deliberations regarding future projects of the community. We traditionally end within the hour! ARE YOU REGISTERED?

GREEK NIGHT: at Brooklyn Cyclones Stadium, Friday, July 01st, at 7:00 P.M. More details next week if you are interested.

SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB: will meet for festivities every Wednesday through June. They meet at 1:00 P.M. in WHITEHALL for refreshments and games. OPEN TO ALL! COME ON DOWN! Each Wednesday is an adventure.

THANK YOU A.H.E.P.A. Coney Island Chapter that hosted a B.B. Q. on the Church Plaza Last Monday (June 20th)evening. Everyone had a wonderful time as guests of the AHEPANS. Great Effort guys!

SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB: will host their final meeting before the summer recess this Wednesday, June 29th. wine, cheeses, fruits and WATERMELON GALORE will celebrate the occasion. B I N G O and fun for all. You haven't joined us yet? EVERY WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AT 1:00 – 4:00 P.M. IN WHITEHALL. Give the elders in your home a 'DAY OUT' with their friends.

THREE HIERARCHS U.P.K. OBSERVATION REPORT from the City of New York earned ABOVE AVERAGE RATING in overall score to program structure. Hence we have ONE of the BEST U.P.K. PROGRAMS IN THE city. DO YOU HAVE CHILDREN OR GRAND-CHILDREN 4 YEARS OF AGE IN SEPTEMBER THAT CAN BE ENROLLED? This program 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. DAILY --- is TUITION FREE. There is no COST to the parents. It is a service offered by the city department of education. SIGN UP NOW!

SEND US YOUR E MAIL ADDRESS: and we will send the weekly bulletin to your home. Going to Greece? Show the bulletin to your family in your old home town. What a treat.....and it's FREE! Call the office 718 339-0280 and speak to Effic.

RADIO MINISTRY: Each Saturday at 1:15PM Fr. Eugene hosts and produces the radio broadcast MATTERS OF CONSCIENCE NOW IN ITS 16TH YEAR OF BROADCASTING LIVE ON WNYE 91.5 COSMOS FM, with listener telephone participation. subjects of interest regarding Greek Orthodox theology, faith and practice, as well as secular topics confronting the nation and the world are discussed. Tune in and join the dialogue by calling 718-204-8900. Check our live audio at LIVESTREAMINGPLAYER. The website address. W.W.W.gaepis.org (Click live audio)

MEMORIAL TODAY: +SVIATOSLAV RUMIANTSEV

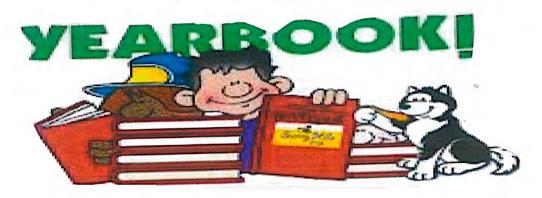
Miss Jessica's Class



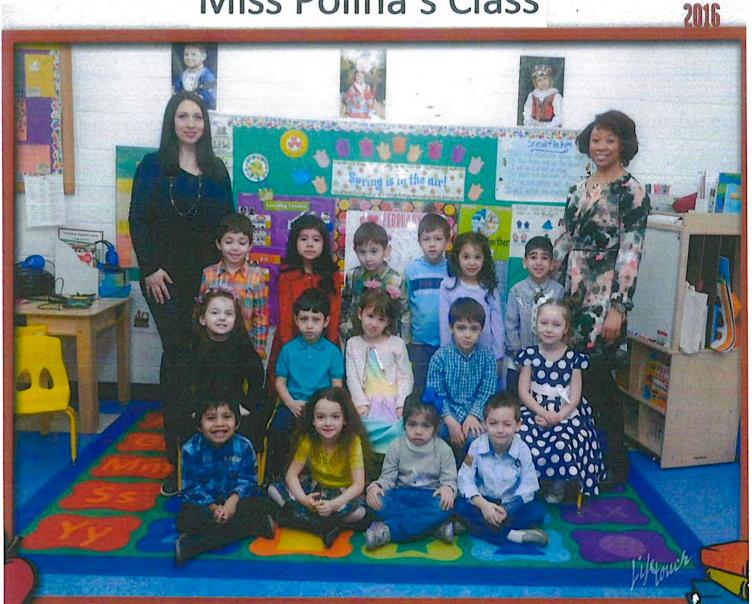
Free Greek Three Hierarchs UPK

Ms. Jessica Moir Ms. Maria Sakkas

Our U.P.K. Administration and staff are to be congratulated for an academic year, Principal EUGENIA J. NEARCHOU, Staff: GEORGIA BOUZAKIS, POLINA ROBBINS, JESSICA M. MOIR, KYLIA D. PIERRE and MARIA B. SAKKAS. Axies! Axies! Axies!



Miss Polina's Class



Ms. Polina Robbins Ms. Kylia Pierre

Free Greek Three Hierarchs UPK

We are proud of our U.P.K School children who completed a year of Universal Pre-Kindergarten under the aegis of the New York City Department of Education. Congratulations to the CLASS of 2016!







«Έγενόμην έν Πνεύματι έν τή Κυριακή ήμέρα καί ήκουσα φωνήν όπίσω μου μεγάλην ιος σάλτηνγος» (Άπ. 1,10)

Περίοδος Γ'- Έτος ΙΣΤ Άριθμ. φύλλου 682*

Κυριακή Α΄ τοῦ Ματθαίου 26 'louviou 2016 (1999)

Συντάκτης (†) επίσκοπος Λύγουστίνος Ν. Καντιώτης

Ή άγάπη

«Ό φιλῶν πατέρα ἢ μητέρα ὖπὲρ ἐμὲ οὐκ ἔστι μου ἄξιος» (Μστθ. 10,37)

έν θα πῶ, ἀναπητοί μου, δέν θα πῶ λόγια τω λόγια δικά του

Καλότυχος αύτος πού έχει τ' αύτια του άνοιχτά. Γιατί πολλοί είνε έκεῖνοι πού τα έχουν Βουλωμένα καὶ δὲν θέλουν ν' ἀκούσουν τὰ λόγια τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

Άπό τούς άκροστάς άλλοι μέν είνε σάν τόσφουγγάρι που ρουφάει το νερό, κι άλλοι σὰν τὰ ξύλο πού δέν τραβάει τίποτε.

Υπάρχουν ἄνθρωποι πού **ρουφούν** τα λόγια του Χριστού όπως το παιδάκι που θηλάζει άπὸ τὸ μαστά τῆς μάνας του, σάν τὸ ἄρνακι στό μαστό τῆς προβατίνας, σὰν τὸ μοσχαράκι πού ρουφάει τὸ γάλα της ἀγελάδας.

"Ω τὰ λόγια τοῦ Χριστοῦ! εἶνε γάλα καθαρό, είνε κριιστάλλινο νερό είνε χρυσάφι και διαμάντι έχουν ἄπειρη άξια. Εὐτυχισμένοι ὅσοι στὸν αίωνα αὐτόν, της διαφθοράς, της άπιστίας, της πλάνης του σατανά, έχουν τ' αὐτιά τους άνοιχτά γιά να άκοῦνε τὰ λόγια τοῦ Κυρίου.

"Ενα λόγο του Χριστού θα έρμηνεύσω, όγαπητοί μου, μία λέξι. Τί λέει ὁ Χριστός:

"Αν πάρης τὰ ἄγια βιβλία, τὰ εὐαγγέλια, τούς άποστόλους, τὰ ἄλλο ἶερὰ βιβλία, ὅλα λένε μία λέξι, πού έμεῖς δὲν εἶμαστε ἄξιοι νὰ τήν ποθμε, γιατί εἴμαστε άμαρτωλοί. Μιά λέξι, πού δὲν τὴ νιώσαμε ἀκόμα. "Αν τὴ νιώσουμε καί την έφαρμόσουμε στη ζωή μας, ο κόσμος θά γίνη τρισευτυχισμένος.

Ποιά είνε ή λέξι αὐτή, Μόνο μικρά παιδάκια, τὰ ἀθώα, πού εἶνε σάν τούς άγγέλους, μπορούν να την πούν. Και αύτη είνε η λέξι **άγάπη**.

«Ayanāre», oxi μισείτε, είπε ο Χριστός Μπί Ευρριζώστε μέσα ἀπ' τίς ψυχές σας τὸ μῖσος, που είνε σαν άγκάθι και άγκυλώνει.

Μγαπήστε το Θεό. Μγαπήστε και «τον πλησίον» ώς έαμτόν Νπε 230.

Είσαι παιδί; "Υστερα άπό τὸ Θεὸ ποιόν πρέιδικά μου: θὰ πάρω ἄπὸ τὸ Χριστὸ καί θὰ πει ν' ἀγαπᾶς: τον πατέρα σου καί τη μητέρα σου. Γιατί ο πατέρας καὶ ή μητέρα είνε σὰν μικροί θεοί έπί της γης «Τίμα τὸν πατέρα σου καὶ τὴν μητέρα σου, ἵνα εὖ σοι γένηται, καὶ ἴνα μακραχρόνιος γένη έπι της γης» Ε.Σ.Ο.

> Θέλεις να προοδεύσης, θέλεις να πιάνης χώμα καὶ νά γίνεται μάλαμα; Άγάπα τη μάνα πού σὲ γέγνησε, ἀγάπα τὸν πατέρα σου. Πάρε την εύχη τους και διάβαινε το θάνατο. Δεν τους άγαπας: Τόνε είσαι θεριό, και κάτι χειρότερο.

> Μιά μέρα ήρθε στη μητρόπολι κάποιος καί. μού είπε κλαίνοντας:

- Έχω καημό μεγάλο.

-Τί σού συμβαίνει; τοῦ είπα.

 Έχω ἔνα παιδί ἔνα ἀγόρι. Τὸ σπούδασα. έκανα τὸ πᾶν γι' αὐτό. Καὶ χθές τὸ Βράδι πῆ ρε ένα ξύλο και με χτύπησε...

"Ω γενεά άχαριστίας και σκληρότητος! Τέτοια χέρια, πού χτυπούν πατέρα καί μάνα, είνε κατηρομένας δέν θα βρούν προκοπή.

Άγάπα λοιπόν τόν πατέρα καί τη μητέρα σου. Έπειτα, ήλθες σε γάμο, πηρες γυναϊκα: Νὰ τὴν ἀγαπᾶς σὰν τὴ μόνα σου, καὶ παραπάνω άπὸ τη μάνα σου. Αὐτὰ λέει τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο

Γι' αύτὸ οἱ πεθερές δέν πρέπει να στενοχωρούνται όταν βλέπουν τὸ παιδί τους ν' άγαπάη. τη γυναϊκά του παραπάνω άπ' αύτες. Είνε άπ' τα Θεό αὐτό. Άλλοίμονο στίς πεθερές έκεῖνες ποὺ μὲ τὴ ζήλεια τους μπαίνουν στή μέ ση καί χωρίζουν τὰ ἀντρόγονα, Άμαρτάνουν φρικτά και δέν θα δούνε βασιλεία ούρανων.

Λοιπόν παντρεύτηκες, Άγάπα τη γυναϊκα σου. Καὶ ἀλλοίμονο στὸν Ανδρα ποὺ δέν ἀνα πάει άλλα χτυπάει τη γυναίκα του

Πού φτάσομε τώρα! ὁ ἄντρας να χτυπάη τη γυναϊκα, και ή γυναίκα να βρίζη τον άντρα...

Άντρα, χτυτιάς τη γυναϊκά σου; είσαι άνό-

ξιος σύζυγος. Γιναίκα, βρίζεις τον άντρα σου δέν είσαι άξια να λέγεσαι γυναίκα του: Παιδιά πού δέν άκουτε τους γονείς καὶ τούς πληγώνετε, δέν είστε άξια να λέγεστε παιδιά τους.

Καὶ προχωρεῖ ὁ Χριστός, ἀγαπητοί μου, Άκοῦτε τὰ λέει; Παραπάνω ἀπὸ τὴ γυναῖκα, ποραπάνω ἀπὸ τὴ μάνα, παραπάνω ἀπὸ τὸν ποτέρα, παραπάνω ἀπὸ τὰ παιδιά, πρέπει νὰ άγαπᾶμε τὸ Θεό

Γιατί πρέπει παραπάνω άπ' δλους νά άγαπούμε τὸ Θεό; Έμένα ρωτάτε; Ρωτήστε τα σύννεφα, ρωτήστε τὰ ποτάμια καὶ τὶς θάλασσες, τὰ πουλιά καὶ τὰ δάση: ρωτήστε τὶς πέτρες καὶ τὰ βουνά: ρωτήστε τοὺς ἀγγέλους καὶ τοὺς ἀρχαγγέλους: ρωτήστε τὰ μνήματα.

Ποιός τὰ ἔκανε όλα αὐτά, τὰ ὁρατὰ καὶ άδρατα; "Ολοι οἱ ἐπιστήμονες νὰ μαζευτοῦνε, οῦτε τὸ ἐλάχιστο. ἔνα μυρμηγκάκι, μιὰ μέλισσα. ἔνα Φύλλο δέν κάνουν "Ολα τὰ ἔκανε ὁ Θεός.

Καί παραπάνω άπ' όλα έκανε τὸν ἀνθρωπο. Τοῦ ἔδωσε μάτια γιὰ νὰ βλέπη, τοῦ ἔδωσε αὐ τιὰ γιὰ νὰ ἀκούη, τοῦ ἔδωσε χέρια γιὰ νὰ δουλεύη, ταῦ ἔδωσε πόδια γιὰ νὰ περπατάη. Τοῦ ἔδωσε ἀκόμα γλῶσσα γιὰ νὰ μιλάη – μόνο ὁ ἄνθρωπος μιλάςι στὸν κόσμο. Τοῦ ἔδωσε τέλος μυαλά. "Αν δέν σοῦ ἔδινε μυαλό ὁ Θεός, τί θὰ ἔκανες; "Όλα αὐτὰ ποὺ βλέπετε (αὐτοκίνητα, τραῖνα, ἀεροπλάνα, τρακτέρ, δορυφόροι, κομπιοῦτερ, τηλεοράσεις, ῥαδιόφωνα, ὅλα τὰ ἐπιστημονικὰ έπιτεύγματα) τὰ ἔκανε ὁ ἄνθρωπος, δέν τὰ ἔκανε ὁ πίθηκος καὶ ἡ μαίμοῦ καὶ ἡ ἀρκούδα. Σοῦ ἔδωσε λοιπὰν ὁ Θεὸς μυαλό, γιὰ νὰ γίνης μαθηματικός, ἀστρονόμος, φυσικὸς ἐπιστήμονας κ τ.λ.

Καὶ μόνο αὐτό, 'Ω Χριστέ μου! Γιά ακεφτήτε το, δέν τὸ νιώθουμε. Κατέβηκε ὁ Ιδιας ἀ Θεός! ναὶ ὁ Ιδιος ὁ Θεός, κατέβηκε ἐδῶ κάτω στὴ Γῆ καὶ ἔγινε ἄνθρωπος, καὶ κήρυξε καὶ πόνεσε καὶ σταυρώθηκε! Γιὰ ποιόν: Γιὰ μῶς τὰ σκουλήκια, ποὺ γιὰ τὴ συμπεριφορά μας θὰ ἔπρεπε ν' ἀνοίξη ἡ γῆ καὶ νὰ μᾶς καταπιῆ

Μᾶς ἀγάπησε ὁ Χριστός καὶ μᾶς ἔκανε παιδιά του. Καὶ τώρα μᾶς περιμένει. Ναὶ, μᾶς περιμένει πάνω στοὺς οὐρανούς, ἐκει ὅπου δέν ὑπάρχει δάκρυ, δὲν ὑπάρχει πόνος, συκοφαντία, διαβαλή, ψευτιά ἐκεῖ ὅπου δέν ὑπάρχει ἀρρώστια καὶ θάνατος, δὲν ὑπάρχουν ἰατρεῖα καὶ φάρμακα, ψυλακές καὶ μπουντρούμια, ἐγ-«ληματίες καὶ τύραννοι... Τόσο μας ἀγάπησε.

Ποιός άλλος έκανε τόσα πράγματα για μας: Πώς να μήν τον άγαπήσουμε κ' έμεῖς:

Γε αὐτὸ τὴν ὧρα πού παίρνεις τὸ ποτήρι νὰ πης νερό θυμήσου το Χριστό καὶ πές Χριστέ, σ' εὐχαριστώ. Τὴν ὧρα πού πặς νὰ βάλης ψωμι στο ατόμα σου, μὴν τὸ φặς ἄν δέν πῆς. Χριστέ μου ἄφέντη μου, σ' εὐχαριστώ, ποῦ μᾶς δίνεις τὸ ψωμί. Τὴν ὧρα ποῦ βλέπεις τὴ γυναϊκα σου καὶ τὰ παιδιά σου, πές: Χριστέ μου, σ' εὐχαρι στώ ποῦ μοῦ 'δωσες μιὰ καλή γυναϊκα, σ' εύχαριστώ ποῦ μοῦ 'δωσες τὰ παιδάκια, τὴν αὐριανή ελπίδα, "Όταν βγαίνεις ἔξω καὶ βλέπεις τὸν ἡλιο πές Σ' εὐχαριστώ, Θεέ μου, ποὰ μοῦ 'δωσες σύτὸ τὰ φῶς. "Όταν βλέπεις τ' ἄστέρια, τὴ θάλασσα, ὅλα τὰ ώραῖα, πὲς εὐχαριστώ στὸ Θεό,

Μύρια εύχαριστώ έπρεπε νά τοῦ λέμε. Τὰ λξμε: Άντι για εύχαριστώ ἀνοίγουμε τὰ στόματά μας καί βλαστημάμε τὰ Χριστὰ καί Θεό μας

Γι΄ αὐτὸ ὅλοι ἐσείς ποὺ ζῆτε στὸν εὐλογημένο αὐτὸ τόπο, στὰ ἄγια χώματα τῆς πατρίδος μας, φροντίστε, οὐτε ἔνας νὰ μἡ βλαστημάῃ ἔδῶ τὸ Θεό. Καὶ ὅχι μόνο νὰ μὴν τὸν βλαστημόμε, ὁλλά καὶ νὰ τὸν ἀγαποῦμε παραπάνω ἀπ' ὅλα, Μὰ χτυπάῃ ἡ καρδιά μας ὅταν ἀκοῦμε τὸ ὄνομα τοῦ Θεοῦ μας.

Έχεις παιδιά; θέλεις νὰ ζήσουν τὰ παιδιά σου; Έχεις γυναϊκα ἢ ἄντρα; θέλεις νὰ ζήση ἡ γυναϊκα σου ἢ ὁ ἄντρας σου; "Αν αὐτὸ θέλης, τότε νὰ ἀγαπήσης τὸ Χριστὸ παραπάνω ἀπό τὴ γυναϊκα σου, παραπάνω ἀπὸ τὸν ἄντρα σου, παραπάνω ἀπὸ τὸν ἄντρα σου, παραπάνω ἀπὸ τὸν ἀγαπήσης λιγώτερο. "Ακου αὐτὰ λόγια μου καὶ βάλ" τα στὴν καρδιά σου.

Εσείς μανάδες, αν δέν άγαπατε τό Θεό παραπάνω άπό τὰ παιδιά σας, θὰ τὰ πάρη ὁ Θεός. Κ' ἐσείς ἀντρες, ᾶν δέν ἀγαπατε τὸ Χριστό παραπάνω ἀπό τἰς γυναίκες σας, κ' ἐσείς γυναίκες, ᾶν δέν ἀγαπατε τὸ Χριστό παραπάνω ἀπὸ τούς ἄντρες σας, θὸ τοὺς πάρη ὁ Θεός.

Δὲν εἶνε λόγια δικά μου αὐτά. Ἀνοῖξτε καὶ διαβάστε τη Γραφή. Τὶ λέει ἐκεῖ ὁ Θεός: «Ἐαν θέλητε καὶ εἰσακούσητέ μου», ἃν ἀνοίξετε τ' αὐτιὰ σας καὶ μ' ἀκούσετε, «τὰ άγαθὰ τῆς γῆς φαγεσθε», θὰ ἔχετε κάθε εὐλογια μου: ἄν ὅ μως δὲν θελήσετε νὰ μ' ἀκούσετε. ἄν φύγετε ἀπ' τὸν ἶσιο δρόμο, ᾶν μὲ βλαστημᾶτε καὶ μὲ ὑβρίζετε, «μάχαιρα ὑμάς κατέδεται», θὰ σᾶς φάη τὸ μαχαίρι Ἡ ἩΧΝ.

'Αδέρφια μου, σᾶς μιλῶ μὲ πόνο, "Όλα εἶνε ψέματα, όλα εἶνε μάταια, "Ένα εἶνε ἀληθινό· ὁ Κύριος ήμων Ίησοῦς Χριστός, Αὐτόν ν' ἀγαπέρ σουμε καὶ νὰ πλησιάσουμε στὴν Έκκλησῖο του

Μὲ τὴν ἐλπίδα αὐτὴ εὖχομαι νὰ εἶστε εὐλογημένοι, ὑπακσύοντες εἰς τὸν Κύριον ἡμῶν 1ησούν Χριστόν, ὡ ἡ δάξα καὶ τὰ κράτος εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας- ἀμήν.

(†) ἐπίσκοπος Αύγουστίνος

The Lord gives us once again an opportunity to express our solidarity by becoming a supporting and registered member of the parish. We can only urge you to do so because your sustaining membership keeps this parish functioning and responding to the needs of all the faithful. Don't wait until some insignificant date on the calendar. Register with the Church Office **TODAY** and garner all the benefits of being a supporter of Christ's mission on earth.

FAMILY REGISTRATION FOR HUSBAND & WIFE: \$275 PER YEAR SINGLE MEMBERSHIP: \$225 PER YEAR SENIOR CITIZEN INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP \$150 PER YEAR SENIOR CITIZEN HUSBAND & WIFE MEMBERSHIP: \$200 PER YEAR WE DO NEED YOUR HELP!

Registering with your local parish is not so much a duty or obligation as it is a **PRIVILEGE.** By registering and offering your annual stewardship, you become an integral member of the living body of Christ as a faith community. By virtue of your Baptism, Chrismation (Confirmation), and Holy Eucharist (Communion), you claim to be a follower of Christ, a witness for Christ, and a practitioner for Christ. May we ask you then to live up to these promises by making your 2016 commitment **TODAY!** The benefits you shall receive beyond grace include the satisfaction and knowledge that this Church and community thrives thanks to your outreach.

YOU ARE PART OF THE GREAT FRESCO OF FAITH

Saintly Wisdom

"You have become imitators of the Lord," says the Apostle, "by receiving the word amidst much oppression, with the joy of the Holy Spirit." Oppression in what pertains to the body, but joy in the spirit. You wonder, perhaps, how that can be. Well, what happened was distressing for you, but not so what came of it: the Holy Spirit does not allow it to be. On the one hand, you cannot be joyful while suffering for your sins; but on the other, you can find joy even in being scourged, when you suffer for Christ.

For that is how the joy of the Spirit shows itself: it brings gladness in place of what seemed like affliction. They have oppressed you, he says, and persecuted you, but the Spirit has not for-saken you all the while. Just as the three young men were refreshed in the fiery furnace, so it has been with you in your oppression. Whereas

it is not in the nature of fire to refresh, but of the revivifying Spirit, it is likewise not in the nature of oppression to beget joy and gladness; that comes of suffering for Christ, and of the revivifying Spirit bringing relief even through the furnace of trials and temptations ...

On the other hand, let no one pondering all this slacken off, on learning that everything can be put right in a short while. For the future is always unclear, and the day of the Lord is like a thief that comes upon us suddenly as we sleep. But if we are not asleep, it will not come upon us like a thief, or take us all unaware. For if we stay awake and keep watch, it will arrive not like a thief, but like a royal messenger calling us to the good things prepared for us.

St. John Chrysastom

For more information on Eastern spirituality, visit www.ecpubs.com

WEB-SITE: information is **ALWAYS ON LINE** ready to see and read. If you submit <u>YOUR E-MAIL</u> address we can forward Bulletin Information to you personally. See: Website: www.threehierarchsbrooklynny.org