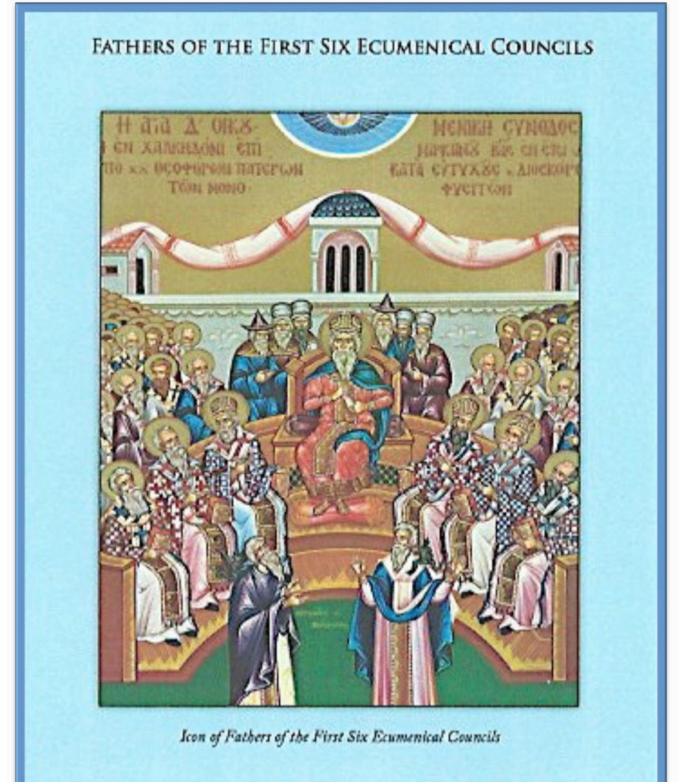


Three Hierarchs Greek Orthodox Church

DIRECT ARCHDIOCESAN DISTRICT SUNDAY WEEKLY BULLETIN July 17th, 2016 V. Rev. Archimandrite Eugene N. Pappas



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

St. Paul's Letter to Titus 3:8-15

Prokeimenon. Mode Plagal 2.

Psalm 31.11,1

Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous.

Verse: Blessed are they whose transgressions have been forgiven.

TITUS, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned.

When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

Πρός Τίτον 3:8-15

Προκείμενον. ^{*}Ηχος πλ β'. ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 31.11,1

Εὐφράνθητι ἐπὶ Κύριον, καὶ ἀγαλλιᾶσθε δίκαιοι.

Στίχ. Μακάριοι, ὧν ἀφέθησαν αἱ ἀνομίαι.

Πιστὸς ὁ λόγος, καὶ περὶ τούτων βο ύλομαί σε διαβεβαιοῦσθαι, ἵνα φροντίζωσιν καλῶν ἔργων προΐστασθαι οἰ πεπιστευκότες θεῷ. ταῦτά ἐστιν καλὰ καὶ ἀφέλιμα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις · μωρὰς δὲ ζητήσεις καὶ γενεαλογίας καὶ ἔριν καὶ μάχας νομικὰς περιΐστασο, εἰσὶν γ ὰρ ἀνωφελεῖς καὶ μάταιοι. αιἑετικὸν ἄνθρωπον μετὰ μίαν καὶ δευτέραν νουθεσίαν παραιτοῦ, εἰδὼς ὅτι ἐξέστραπται ὁ τοιοῦτος καὶ ἀμαρτάνει, ὣν αὐτοκατάκριτος. Ὅταν πέμψω Ἀρτεμᾶν πρὸς σὲ ἢ Τυχικόν, σπούδασον ἐλθεῖν πρός με εἰς Νικόπολιν, ἐκεῖ γὰρ κέκρικα παραχειμάσαι. Ζηνᾶν τὸν νομικὸν καὶ Ἀπολλῶν σπουδαίως πρόπεμψον, ἵνα μηδὲν αὐτοῖς λείπῃ. μανθανέτωσαν δὲ καὶ οἱ ἡμέτεροι καλῶν ἔργων προΐστασθαι εἰς τὰς ἀναγκαίας χρείας, ἵνα μὴ ὦσιν ἄκαρποι. Ἀσπάζονταί σε οἱ μετ ἰἐμοῦ πάντες. Ἄσπασαι τοὺς φιλοῦντας ἡμᾶς ἐν πίστει. ἡ χάρις μετὰ πάντων ὑμῶν.

Sunday of the Holy Fathers

The Gospel according to Matthew 5:14-19

The Lord said to his disciples, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

Sunday of the Holy Fathers Κατὰ Ματθαῖον 5:14-19

Εἶπεν ὁ Κὐριος τοῖς ἑαυτοῦ μαθηταῖς· Ύμεῖς ἐστε τὸ φῶς τοῦ κόσμου. οὐ δύναται πόλις κρυβῆναι ἐπάνω ὄρους κειμένη· οὐδὲ καίουσι λύχνον καὶ τιθέασι αὐτὸν ὑπὸ τὸν μόδιον, ἀλλ' ἐπὶ τὴν λυχνίαν, καὶ λάμπει πᾶσι τοῖς ἐν τῆ οἰκία. οὕτω λαμψάτω τὸ φῶς ὑμῶν ἕμπροσθεν τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ὅπως ἴδωσιν ὑμῶν τὰ καλὰ ἕργα καὶ δοξάσωσι τὸν πατέρα ὑμῶν τὸν ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς. Μὴ νομίσητε ὅτι ἦλθον καταλῦσαι τὸν νόμον ἢ τοὺς προφήτας· οὐκ ἦλθον καταλῦσαι, ἀλλὰ πληρῶσαι. ἀμὴν γὰρ λέγω ὑμῖν, ἕως ἂν παρέλθῃ ὁ οὐρανὸς καὶ ἡ γῆ, ἰῶτα ἕν ἢ μία κεραία οὐ μὴ παρέλθῃ ἀπὸ τοῦ νόμου ἕως ἂν πάντα γ ένηται. ὃς ἐὰν οὖν λύσῃ μίαν τῶν ἐντολῶν το ὑτων τῶν ἐλαχίστων καὶ διδάξῃ, οὗτος μέγας κληθήσεται ἐν τῇ βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν.

DEVOTIONS THIS WEEK:	July 19th, July 20th,	Tuesday Wednesday	Prayer and Healing (Anointing) Divine Liturgy of Prophet Elias	6:30 - 8:00 P.M. 9:30 -11:00 A.M.		
UP - COMING HOLY DAYS: mark your calendars						
Major saints observed:	July 17th,	Sunday	Saint Marina			
	July 20th,	Wednesday	Saint Elias			
	July 22nd,	Friday	Saint Mary Magdalene and S	aint Marcella		
	July 26th,	Tuesday	Saint Paraskeve			
	July 27th,	Wednesday	Saint Panteleimon			
	July 31st,	Sunday	Saint Joseph Arimathea			
CHECK THE BU	LLETIN FOI	R LITURGY	SCHEDULING AND HOURS OF S	ERVICES!		

ARTOKLASIES are welcomed for NAME-DAY HOLIDAY observances. Please register your artoklasia with the Church Office for proper announcements.

TODAY: we honor the blessed memory of SAINT MARINA the patroness of the DIPLATANOS SOCIETY, many of whose members are parishioners of our THREE HIERARCHS CHURCH! Chronia Polla to all named MARIO and MARINA.

AGAPE COFFEE FELLOWSHIP Is only hosted during the summer months JULY and AUGUST, through the courtesy

and generosity of individual sponsors. For \$125, (ONE HUNDRED TWENTY – FIVE DOLLARS) you can host the coffee fellowship as a birthday, anniversary tribute or memorial recognition any Sunday with coffee, tea, bagels and smears. Our committee will do the serving upon request. Call: 718-339-0280. Share the recognition of 'THE DAY' with others through fellowship.

NEXT SUNDAY: July 24th , Father Eugene will host the coffee and cake fellowship as he observes his ageless birthday celebration. You are all invited to WHITEHALL for the festivities. Many thanks to the volunteers who will assist in the serving of the delights.

AGAPE COFFEE HOUR: Is looking for hosts. Why not extend your fellowship to others and let them share in your happy observances (birthday, name-day, anniversary) or a memorial tribute to a loved one in repose. Check with the church office for available dates and occasions. Call Father Eugene at 718-339-0280 or Angela or Effie.

PRAYER and HEALING: the monthly service of witnessing, scripture, prayer and anointing will be held THIS TUESDAY evening form 6;30 – 8:00 P.M. with a coffee and sweets reception immediately following for all. Please join us and share in spiritual enlightenment and renewal. Saint Panteleimon THE GREAT HEALER is celebrated July 27th, Wednesday. Anointing will be administered during the LITURGY 9:30 A.M.

ELEVATOR PROJECT: is on the rise..... donations are always welcomed as we inch by inch look forward to the finalization of this much needed accessibility for our 'senior citizen' members. You may <u>NOT</u> be one today, but surely will be one tomorrow. MAKE A DONATION. THANK YOU!

ALTAR BOYS EXCURSION: The Saint Stephanos Society of Altar Servers will enjoy their 'SECOND' treat of the summer at the 'CYCLONES' baseball game at Cyclone Park in Coney Island on MONDAY evening, July 25th, starting at 6:00 P.M. Many thanks to those who support the boys in their summer fellowship, especially MRS. ELAINE WISHNOWER!

SPECIAL THANKS is extended to MR. LEONIDAS KOUTSOUFLAKIS and MRS. ELIZABETH PERLEGIS for their able and dedicated service at the ' analogion ' chanting the various services during the choir's summer respite!

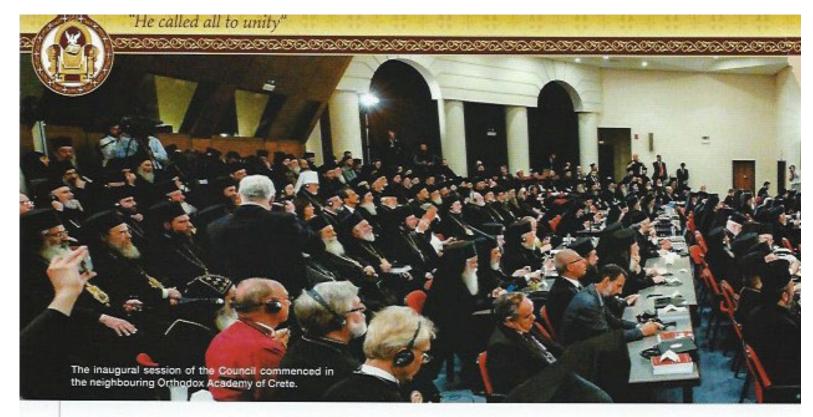
FLORAL THANKS are hailed to those who supply our beautiful church with flower tributes at the altar week after week and to the donor of the beautiful potted plants at the outdoor shrine mosaic of the HOLY THREE HIERARCHS. God indeed sees what you do, EVEN in hiding, BLESS YOU one and all for loving the beauty of HIS house!

SUMMER HOURS: Please take note that through the months of July and August until after LABOR DAY, the parish complex closes at 4:00 P.M. without exceptions. All organizational leaders are apprised that NO MEETINGS will take place after hours unless previously sanctioned by the administrative office. Please cooperate and observe the rule. THANKS. A secure complex is our goal.

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 Effie.

RADIO MINISTRY: Each Saturday at 1:15PM Fr. Eugene hosts and produces the radio broadcast **MATTERS OF CONSCIENCE NOW IN ITS 18TH 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 (<u>Click live audio</u>)

MEMORIALS NEXT WEEK:+ CHRIS and CHRYSSI COSTANTAKOS+ STAVROS KALOGIANNIS+ ANGELOS RAVANOS+ HELEN COSTANTOPOULOS+ YAROSLAVA SOMKAYLO





The Orthodox Church addresses herself to young people who seek for a plenitude of life replete with freedom, justice, creativity and also love. She invites them to join themselves consciously with the Church of Him who is Truth and Life. To come, offering to the ecclesial body their vitality, their anxieties, their concerns and their expectations. Young people are not only the future, but also the dynamic and creative present of the Church, both on a local and on a world-wide level.

The Holy and Great Council has **opened our horizon** towards the contemporary diverse and multifarious world. It has emphasised our responsibility in place and in time, ever with the perspective of eternity. The Orthodox Church, preserving intact her Sacramental and Soteriological character, is sensitive to the pain, the distress and the cry for justice and peace of the peoples of the world. She "proclaims day after day the good tidings of His salvation, announcing His glory among the nations and His wonders among all peoples" (Psalm 95).

Let us pray that "the God of all grace, who has called us to his eternal glory in Christ, will, after we have suffered a little, Himself restore, establish, and strengthen and settle us. To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen" (1 Peter 5.10-11).

[Signed by the Heads of the participating Autocaphalous Orthodox Churches and Delegations attending the Holy and Great Council]

During his introductory speech at the Opening Session on June 20, His All-Holiness, pictured left, expressed his joy at the eager participation of ten Churches, namely Alexandria, Jerusalem, Serbia, Romania, Cyprus, Greece, Poland, Albania, Czech and Slovakia. At the same time, however, he expressed his bitter disappointment at the non-participation of four Churches at the Council, even though these, namely the Churches of Antioch, Russia, Bulgaria and Georgia, had co-operated in all stages of preparation of the topics for discussion, with great willingness, and made an important contributions. Therefore, his disappointment at their absence, for no specific reason, was even greater since two of them had agreed on and signed all of the texts of the Council at the recent Synaxis of the Primates of the most Holy Local Orthodox Churches. In this spirit, at the conclusion of the deliberations of the Council on June 17 - and with the common consent of all the Primates - an invitation was sent out to the Primates of the non-participating Churches, to participate in the Concelebration of the Sunday of Pentecost, or in that of the Sunday of All Saints (June 26).







«Έγενόμην έν Πνεύματι έν τῆ Κυριακῆ ἡμέρα καὶ ἦκουσα φωνὴν ὁπίσω μου μεγάλην ὡς σάλπιγγος» (Ἀπ. 1,10)

Περίοδος Δ΄ - Έτος ΑΓ΄	Τῆς ἀγίας μεγαλομάρτυρος Μαρίνης	Συντάκτης (†) ἐπίσκοπος
Φλώρινα - άριθμ. φύλλου 1960	Κυριακὴ 17 Ἰουλίου 2016	Αύγουστίνος Ν. Καντιώτης

Ο Χριστὸς ἐτίμησε τὴν γυναῖκα

Σήμερα, άγαπητοί μου, είνε έορτή, έορτάζει ή άγία Μαρίνα. Έορτάζουν ναοὶ κτισμένοι πρὸς τιμήν της, ἑορτάζουν καὶ γυναϊκες ποὺ φέρουν τὸ ὄνομά της.

Τιμοῦμε μία γυναίκα. Άλλὰ καὶ στὴν Καινὴ Διαθήκη συχνὰ γίνεται λόγος γιὰ γυναϊκες. Τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο μιλάει γιὰ τὴν αἰμορροοῦσα (). Μέκ. 52434, τὴν ὅποία θεράπευσε ὅ Χριστός. Ὁ ἀπόστολος Παῦλος λέει, ὅτι ἀνάμεσα στὴ γυναϊκα καὶ τὸν ἄντρα δὲν ὑπάρχει διαφορὰ στὴν ἀξία: ἄντρας καὶ γυναίκα εἶνε ἴσοι, ὅ,τι ὅικαιώματα ἔχει ὁ ἄντρας ἔχει καὶ ἡ γυναίκα. «Ούκ ἕνι ἄρσεν καὶ θῆλυ», λέει, «πάντες γὰρ ὑμεῖς εἶς ἐστε ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ» (Γα.328). Τὰ λόγια αὐτὰ πρέπει νὰ τὰ ποῦμε πιὸ ἀπλά, νὰ τὰ «κάνουμε λιανά».

Δέν ξέρω οἱ ἄντρες πόσο ἀγαποῦν τὸ Χριστό, ἀλλὰ οἱ γυναῖκες πρέπει νὰ τὸν ἀγαποῦν περισσότερο· ἐὰν οἱ ἄντρες τὸν ἀγαποῦν μιὰ φορά, οἱ γυναῖκες πρέπει νὰ τὸν ἀγαποῦν χίλιες φορές. Γιατί; Ύπάρχει εἰδικὸς λόγος.

Ξέρετε τί ήταν ή γυναίκα πρό Χριστοῦ; 'Ο άντρας τὴν ἕκανε ὅ,τι ῆθελε· τὴν ἕκλεινε μέσα, δὲν τῆς ἑπέτρεπε νὰ βγῇ. Τὰ παιδιὰ ποὺ γεννοῦσε δὲν τὰ ἑξουσίαζε αὐτὴ ἀλλὰ ὁ ἄντρας· ἂν ῆθελε τὰ σκότωνε. Τὴν ἴδια τὴν κακομεταχειριζόταν, τὴν εἶχε σὰν ζῷο. Τὴν κρατοῦσε ἕνα διάστημα καὶ μετὰ τὴν ἑδιωχνε· ἔπαιρνε ἄλλη, ἄλλη..., ὅσες ῆθελε. "Ετσι ἡ γυναίκα ἦταν δυστυχισμένη. Σὲ κάποια μέρη εἶνε ἔτσι ἀκόμη καὶ σήμερα. Στὶς Ἰνδίες π.χ., ποὺ δὲν πίστεψαν ἀκόμα στὸ Χριστό, ἡ γυναίκα δὲν ἔχει καμμιά ἀξία. Πέθανε ὁ ἀντρας; εἶνε ὑποχρεωμένη νὰ θαφτῃ μαζί του· δὲν πρέπει νὰ ζῇ, καὶ τὴ θάβουν κοντά του στὸ ἴδιο μνῆμα.

Αὐτὴ ἦταν ἡ κατάστασι τῆς γυναίκας. Πότε ἄλλαξε; ποιός τὴν τίμησε; Μόνο ὀ Χριστός.

Πῶς ὁ Χριστὸς τίμησε τὴ γυναϊκα;

 Μὲ τὴν πλάσι της. Ἡ ἁγία Γραφὴ λέει, ὅτι δὲν ὑπάρχει διαφορὰ στὴν ἀξία· τὸν ἄντρα τὸν ἔπλασε ὁ Θεὸς ἁπὸ τὸ χῶμα(/ir.2,), ἀλλὰ τὴ γυναϊκα δέν την ἕπλασε ἀπὸ χῶμα, την ἕπλασε άπὸ τὸν ἄντρα. Πῆρε ἕνα τμῆμα ἀπὸ τὸ σῶμα του, γιὰ νὰ δείξη ὅτι συγγενεύει μὲ τὸν ἄντρα. Άλλὰ τὸ τμῆμα αὐτὸ δὲν ἦταν οὕτε ἀπὸ τὸ κεφάλι οὕτε ἀπὸ τὰ πόδια. Δὲν ἦταν ἀπ' τὸ κεφάλι, γιατί δὲν θέλει νά 'νε ή γυναίκα ἀφέντρα τοῦ άνδρός οῦτε ήταν ἀπὸ τὰ πόδια, γιὰ νὰ μὴν είνε ή γυναίκα σκλάβα και την καταπατα ό άντρας. Πήρε τὸ τμήμα αὐτὸ ἀπὸ τὴν πλευρά ἐἰ 23-23, ποὺ σκεπάζει την καρδιά, για να δείξη ότι ή γυναίκα πρέπει νὰ εἶνε δίπλα, πλάι του, σύντροφος τοῦ άντρὸς σὲ ὅλη τὴ ζωή, στὴ χαρά καὶ στὴ λύπη. Τίμησε ό Χριστός τὴ γυναϊκα μὲ τὴν ἐνανθρώπησί του. Μποροῦσε σὰν Θεὸς νὰ μὴ γεννηθή ἀπὸ γυναϊκα. "Αλλωστε οῦτε ὁ πρῶτος ἄνθρωπος, ό Άδάμ, οῦτε οἱ ἄγγελοι γεννήθηκαν ἀπὸ γυναϊκα. Θὰ μποροῦσε λοιπὸν καὶ ὁ Χριστὸς νὰ ἔρθῃ στὸν κόσμο κατ' ἄλλο τρόπο. Καὶ ὅμως γεννήθηκε ἀπὸ γυναϊκα, τὴν ὑπεραγία Θεοτόκο καὶ ἀειπάρθενο Μαρία. Γιατί; Γιὰ νὰ τιμήσῃ τὴ γυναϊκα. Γεννήθηκε ἀπὸ παρθένο, γιὰ νὰ τιμήσῃ τὴν παρθενία· γεννήθηκε άπὸ ἀρραβωνιασμένη, γιὰ νὰ τιμήσῃ τὸ γάμο. Τίμησε λοιπὸν ὁ Χριστὸς τὴ γυναϊκα. Καὶ ἀκριβώς γι' αὐτὸ καὶ οἱ γυναῖκες ἦταν μέχρι τέλους κοντά του, ὅπως οἰ Μυροφόρες, ἡ Μαγδαληνή καὶ οἱ ἄλλες. Καὶ τὸ σπουδαῖο καὶ ἄξιο προσοχής είνε ότι, μετά την Άνάστασι, τό πρώτο «Χριστός άνέστη» δέν τ' ἄκουσαν ἄντρες, όχι· γυναίκα δέχτηκε πρώτη τὸ χαρμόσυνο μήνυμα.

"Ετσι τίμησε ὁ Χριστὸς τὴ γυναϊκα· γι' αὐτὸ καὶ οἱ γυναϊκες τὸν ἀγάπησαν πολύ. Μία ἀπὸ αὐτὲς εἶνε καὶ ἡ ἀγία Μαρίνα ποὺ ἑορτάζουμε σήμερα. Τί ἦταν ἡ ἀγία Μαρίνα; "Ηταν ἕνα ὡραῖο καὶ πλούσιο κορίτσι 15 - 16 ἐτῶν. Μποροῦσε νὰ πάρῃ τὸν καλύτερο γαμπρό. Καὶ παρουσιάστηκε γαμπρός, ποὺ εἶχε σπίτια χωράφια καὶ δύναμι. Ἀλλ' αὐτὴ εἶπε ὅτι, Παραπάνω ἀπὸ ἀνθρώπους προτιμάω τὸ Χριστό. Καὶ ἕμεινε μέχρι θανάτου πιστὴ σ' αὐτόν.

Νά λοιπὸν αὐτὸ ποὺ λέει ὁ ἀπόστολος: δὲν

ύπάρχει διαφορά ἀνάμεσα στὴ γυναϊκα καὶ τὸν ἄντρα, εἶνε ἴσοι· κι αὐτὸ ποὺ ὥρισε ὁ Χριστός, αὐτὸ διδάσκει καὶ ἡ ἀγία του Ἐκκλησία.

.....

Άς φύγουμε τώρα, ἀγαπητοί μου, ἀπὸ τὰ παλιὰ χρόνια κι ἂς ἔρθουμε στὰ σημερινά· νὰ δοῦμε, σήμερα ή γυναίκα εἶνε ὅπως λέει ὁ Χριστός; εἶνε ἴση μὲ τὸν ἄντρα; Ἐγὼ ἀμφιβάλλω.

Ποῦ θέλετε νὰ πᾶμε; στὴν Ἀθήνα, στὸ Παρίσι, στὴ Νέα Ύόρκη, σὲ ἄλλες μεγάλες πολιτεῖες; Ἐκεῖ συμβαίνει τὸ ἀντίθετο· ἐκεῖ ἡ νυναίκα, ὄχι ή καλή άλλὰ ή διεφθαρμένη γυναίκα, αύτή έξουσιάζει τὸν ἄντρα. Βλέπεις ἐκεῖνον ποὺ κάνει τὸ μεγάλο, τὸ σοΦὸ καθηγητὴ πανεπιστημίου ἢ τὸ στρατηγὸ ποὺ τὸν τρέμει ό κόσμος, καὶ τὸν κυβερνἅ μία πόρνη. Δὲν ὑπονοῶ κάποιο ὡρισμένο πρόσωπο, μιλῶ γενικά. "Αν διαβάσετε την ίστορία, θα δητε ότι πολλές φορές γυναϊκες διεφθαρμένες ἕσερναν άπὸ τὴ μύτη ἰσχυροὺς ἄντρες, ὅπως ὁ άρκουδιάρης την άρκούδα μὲ τὸ χαλκά. Τέτοιες γυναϊκες είνε τοῦ διαβόλου ἀφέντρες. Σατανᾶς δὲν ἕκανε τόσο κακὸ στὸν κόσμο δσο ἕκανε μία κακὴ γυναίκα. Μιὰ τέτοια γυναίκα είνε σατανάς· χωρίζει άντρόγυνα, προκαλεϊ έγκλήματα, άνατρέπει πολιτεΐες.

Άν ὅμως φύγουμε ἀπὸ τἰς μεγάλες πολιτεῖες καὶ γυρίσουμε στὰ χωριά, ἐκεῖ ἡ γυναίκα, ἡ σεμνὴ γυναίκα, δἐν εἶνε ἀφέντρα· συχνὰ εἶνε σκλάβα τοῦ ἄντρα. Ἐχω περιοδεύσει πολλὰ χωριὰ ὡς ἱεροκήρυκας καὶ θ' ἀναφέρω μερικὰ παραδείγματα ἀπὸ ὅσα εἶδα.

 Μπαίνοντας σ' ἕνα χωριὸ τί βλέπω· ἕναν ἄντρα καβάλλα στὸ ἄλογο, σὰν ἀφέντη, ἐνῷ ἀπὸ πίσω περπατοῦσε ἡ γυναίκα φορτωμένη στὴν πλάτη τὰ ξύλα καὶ μὲ τὸ μωρὸ στὴν ἀγκαλιά.
Μπράβο, ὡραία εὐγένεια! Στὰ χρόνια τῆς Κατοχῆς, ὅταν οἱ Γερμανοὶ εἶδαν ἕνα τέτοιο περιστατικό, κατέβασαν τὸν ἄντρα κάτω μὲ τὸ βούρδουλα κι ἀνέβασαν στὸ ζῷο τὴ γυναϊκα.
Εἶδα σὲ ἄλλο χωριὸ ἄντρες νὰ τεμπελιάζουν στὰ καφφενεῖα παίζοντας κομπολόι, ἐνῷ οἰ γυναϊκες δούλευαν στὰ χωράφια· καὶ τὸ βράδυ νά 'ρχεται στὸ σπίτι ὁ ἄντρας καὶ νὰ ζητάῃ μὲ φωνὲς φαὶ ἀπὸ τὴν κατάκοπη γυναϊκα.

Μιὰ φορὰ γύριζα νύχτα στὴ μητρόπολι καὶ περνώντας ἀπ' τὸ Ἀρμενοχώρι τί νὰ δῶ· τέσσερις ἄνθρωποι μετέφεραν σηκωτὸ ἕναν ἄντρα κι ἀκολουθοῦσε μιὰ γυναίκα. Φοβήθηκα θὰ πέθανε, λέω. Σταμάτησα καὶ κατέβηκα. Τί ἦ-ταν, πεθαμένος; Όχι. Μακάρι νὰ ἦταν πεθαμένος. Νέος ἄνθρωπος, εἰχε μεθύσει, καὶ τὸν πήγαιναν στὸ σπίτι. Πίσω ἡ νιόπαντρη σύζυγός του ἕκλαιγε· – Ἐτσι μοῦ τὸν φέρνουν κάθε βράδυ...

Θέλετε ἄλλη σκλάβα; Προχτές ήρθε στὸ γραφεῖο μιὰ γυναίκα μὲ τέσσερα παιδάκια καὶ μοῦ εἶπε μὲ κλάματα· –Ό ἄντρας μου εἶνε στὴ Γερμάνια καὶ ἕνα χρόνο τώρα μάταια περιμέ-νω νὰ στείλῃ κανένα μάρκο· δουλεύω δεξιὰ κι ἀριστερὰ νὰ τὰ βγάλω πέρα. Ἐχει μπλέξει μὲ μιὰ Γερμανίδα. Χθὲς ἕλαβα γράμμα κ` ἕγραφε· Μὴν τὸν περιμένεις πιά...

 Άλλο παράδειγμα. Πέθανε κάποιος στὸ χωριό, π.χ. ὁ πατέρας; –στὴν Πρέσπα τό 'χουν αὐτὸ τὸ κακό- γυναίκα καὶ κορίτσι δὲν πατάει στὴν ἐκκλησία. Λὲς καὶ εἶνε ἄλλος ἄνθρωπος ἡ γυναίκα, λὲς καὶ ἡ ἐκκλησία εἶνε μόνο γιὰ τοὺς ἄντρες καὶ ὅχι καὶ γιὰ τὶς γυναῖκες.

Θέλετε ἄλλο ἀκόμη χειρότερο; Μιὰ γυναίκα ἕκλαιγε στὴ μητρόπολι. –Τί ἕχεις; –Τὴ νύχτα ὁ ἄντρας μου μ' ἕδιωξε ἀπ' τὸ σπίτι. –Γιατί; ἕκα-νες κανένα κακό; –Όχι, μόνο τοῦ εἶπα «εἶμαι ἕγκυος». –Θὰ πäμε αῦριο στὴν κλινική, λέει, νὰ τὸ ῥίξης. –Ὅχι, δὲν τὸ ῥίχνω... Καὶ πάνω ἐκεῖ πιαστήκαμε, μοῦ δίνει μιὰ κλωτσιὰ καὶ μὲ πέ-ταξε ἕξω... Ποῦ καταντήσαμε!

Είχα πάει στὶς Πρέσπες, στὸ Βροντερό, καὶ μιλοῦσα σὲ λίγους τσοπάνηδες. Τὴν ὥρα ἐκείνη συνέπεσε νὰ 'ρθῇ ἐκεῖ μὲ ἑλικόπτερο ὁ στρατηγὸς ἀπὸ τὴν Κοζάνη. – "Ελα ἐδῶ, στρατηγέ, λέω· πές μας τὴν καταγωγή σου – κι ἀκούγανε οἱ χωριάτες. –Ό πατέρας μου ἦταν φτωχαδάκι, ἑλιὲς φύτευε καὶ κλάδευε ἀμπέλια. –Πόσα παιδιὰ εἶχε; –Δώδεκα. –Καὶ τί σειρὰ ἕχεις ἐσύ; –Τελευταῖος, δωδέκατος! Κατάλαβες; Τὰ παιδιὰ εἶνε σὰν τὰ λαχεῖα. Κι ὁ ἄλλος, ἀντὶ νὰ χαρῇ καὶ νὰ δοξάσῃ τὸ Θεό, πέταξε ἕξω τὴ γυναῖκα του νιατὶ ἔχει παιδί. Τὰ παιδιὰ εἶνε εὐλογία.

* *

Σκλάβα ή γυναίκα, ἀγαπητοί μου, καὶ ἀντικείμενο αἰσχρᾶς ἐκμεταλλεύσεως, εἴτε στὸ γάμο εἴτε ἕξω ἀπ' τὸ γάμο. Στὸ γάμο, ὅσο τίμια κ' ἐργατικὴ καὶ ἂν εἶνε, ἂν δὲν ἔχῃ προῖκα δὲν μπορεῖ νὰ παντρευτῇ. Ἀλλὰ ὁ ἄτιμος καὶ διεφθαρμένος κόσμος δὲν σκέπτεται γάμο· μὲ μύριους σατανικοὺς τρόπους, ὅπως π.χ. τὰ ἄθλια καλλιστεῖα, ἔγδυσε τὴ γυναῖκα καὶ ἐμπορεύεται τὴ σάρκα της, σὰν τὸ χασάπη ποὺ κρεμάει τὰ κρέατα στὸ τσιγγέλι. Διαμαρτυρηθήκαμε - ἀγωνιστήκαμε ἐναντίον αὐτῶν, καὶ γι' αὐτὸ μᾶς εἶπαν τρελλούς. Ἀλλὰ μιὰ προφητεία τὸ εἶπε· ὅταν δῆτε τὴ γυναίκα νὰ περπατάŋ ἕξω γυμνή, ἔρχεται τὸ τέλος τοῦ κόσμου.

Ο Χριστὸς τίμησε τὴ γυναϊκα, ἡ Ἐκκλησία ἀνέδειξε ἅγιες γυναϊκες ὅπως ἡ ἀγία Μαρίνα. Καὶ μὲ τὴ σημερινὴ ἑορτὴ διδάσκει γυναϊκες καὶ ἄντρες νὰ ζοῦμε ὅλοι μὲ καθαρότητα καὶ τιμή.

(†) ἑπίσκοπος Αὐγουστῖνος

Απορογισταφωνεριώνε άριλία, ή όποίο Ξρικε στον ζ. νοό Χη. Μαρίντης Αγ. Μαρίντης - Φλαρίνης την Τρίτη 17.7.1973 κρωί ρέ άλλο τίτδο. Καταγραφή και αδιτίρησας 13-6-2010.

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

Boast Only of the Lord

The wise man must not boast of his wisdom, nor the strong man of his strength, nor the rich man of his riches. What then is the right kind of boasting? What is the source of man's greatness? Scripture says: The man who boasts must boast of this, that he knows and understands that I am the Lord.... Boasting of God is perfect and complete when we take no pride in our own righteousness but acknowledge that we are utterly lacking in true righteousness and have been made righteous only by faith in Christ.

Paul boasts of the fact that he holds his own righteousness in contempt and seeks the righteousness in faith that comes through Christ and is from God. He wants only to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and to have fellowship with His sufferings by taking on the likeness of his death, in the hope that somehow he may arrive at the resurrection of the dead.

Here we see all arrogant pride laid low. Hu-

manity, there is nothing left for you to boast of, for your boasting and hope lie in putting to death all that is your own and seeking the future life that is in Christ. Since we have its first fruits we are already in its midst, living entirely in the grace and gift of God. It is God who is active within us, giving us both the will and the achievement, in accordance with his good purpose.

God rescues us from dangers beyond all human expectation. We felt within ourselves that we had received the sentence of death, so that we might not trust ourselves but in God, who raises the dead; from so great a danger did He deliver us, and does deliver us; we hope in Him, for He will deliver us again.

St. Basil the Great

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: <u>www.threehierarchsbrooklynny.org</u>