

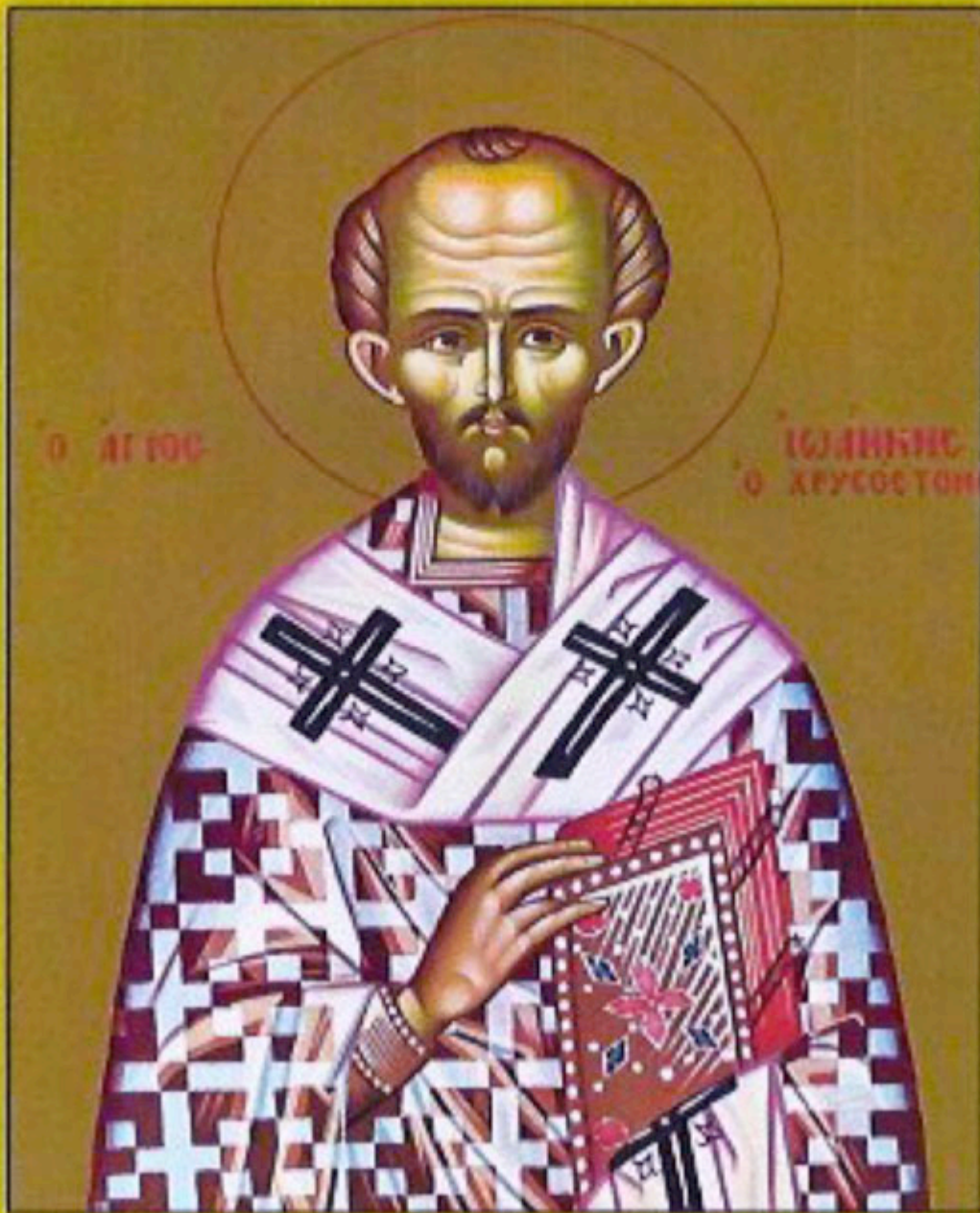


DIRECT ARCHDIOCESAN  
DISTRICT

# THREE HIERARCHS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

SUNDAY WEEKLY BULLETIN November 13, 2016  
V. Rev. Archimandrite Eugene N. Pappas

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
EIGHTH SUNDAY OF LUKE



*Icon of Saint John Chrysostom -- November 13th*

## St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 7:26-28; 8:1-2

Prokeimenon. Mode 1.

Psalm 48.3,1

My mouth shall speak wisdom and the meditation of my heart shall bring forth understanding.

Verse: Hear this all you nations.

Brethren, it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, unstained, separated from sinners, exalted above the heavens. He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people; he did this once for all when he offered up himself. Indeed, the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect for ever. Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, a minister in the sanctuary and the true tent which is set up not by man but by the Lord.

## Πρὸς Ἑβραίους 7:26-28, 8:1-2

Προκείμενον. Ἦχος α΄.

ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 48.3,1

Τὸ στόμα μου λαλήσει σοφίαν καὶ ἡ μελέτη τῆς καρδίας μου σύνεσιν.

Στίχ. Ακουσατε ταῦτα, πάντα τὰ ἔθνη.

Ἀδελφοί, τοιοῦτος γὰρ ἡμῖν ἔπρεπεν ἀρχιερεὺς, ὁσιος, ἄκακος, ἀμίαντος, κεχωρισμένος ἀπὸ τῶν ἁμαρτωλῶν, καὶ ὑψηλότερος τῶν οὐρανῶν γενόμενος· ὃς οὐκ ἔχει καθ' ἡμέραν ἀνάγκην, ὥσπερ οἱ ἀρχιερεῖς, πρότερον ὑπὲρ τῶν ἰδίων ἁμαρτιῶν θυσίας ἀναφέρειν, ἕπειτα τῶν τοῦ λαοῦ· τοῦτο γὰρ ἐποίησεν ἐφάπαξ, ἑαυτὸν ἀνενέγκας. Ὁ νόμος γὰρ ἀνθρώπους καθίστησιν ἀρχιερεῖς, ἔχοντας ἀσθένειαν· ὁ λόγος δὲ τῆς ὀρκωμοσίας τῆς μετὰ τὸν νόμον, υἱὸν εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα τετελειωμένον. Κεφάλαιον δὲ ἐπὶ τοῖς λεγομένοις· τοιοῦτον ἔχομεν ἀρχιερέα, ὃς ἐκάθισεν ἐν δεξιᾷ τοῦ θρόνου τῆς μεγαλωσύνης ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς, τῶν ἁγίων λειτουργός, καὶ τῆς σκηνῆς τῆς ἀληθινῆς, ἣν ἔπηξεν ὁ κύριος, καὶ οὐκ ἄνθρωπος·

## 8th Sunday of Luke

### The Gospel according to Luke 10:25-37

At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live."

But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

## 8th Sunday of Luke

### Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 10:25-37

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, νομικός τις ἀνέστη ἐκπειράζων αὐτὸν καὶ λέγων· διδάσκαλε, τί ποιήσας ζωὴν αἰώνιον κληρονομήσω; ὁ δὲ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτόν· ἐν τῷ νόμῳ τί γέγραπται; πῶς ἀναγινώσκεις; ὁ δὲ ἀποκριθεὶς εἶπεν· ἀγαπήσεις Κύριον τὸν Θεόν σου ἐξ ὅλης τῆς καρδίας σου καὶ ἐξ ὅλης τῆς ψυχῆς σου καὶ ἐξ ὅλης τῆς ἰσχύος σου καὶ ἐξ ὅλης τῆς διανοίας σου, καὶ τὸν πλησίον σου ὡς σεαυτόν· εἶπε δὲ αὐτῷ· ὀρθῶς ἀπεκρίθης· τοῦτο ποιεῖ καὶ ζήσῃ. ὁ δὲ θέλων δικαιοῦν ἑαυτὸν εἶπε πρὸς τὸν Ἰησοῦν· καὶ τίς ἐστί μου πλησίον; ὑπολαβὼν δὲ ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν· ἄνθρωπος τις κατέβαινεν ἀπὸ Ἱερουσαλὴμ εἰς Ἱεριχώ, καὶ λησταῖς περιέπεσεν· οἱ καὶ ἐκδύσαντες αὐτὸν καὶ πληγὰς ἐπιθέντες ἀπῆλθον ἀφέντες ἡμιθανῆ τυγχάνοντα. κατὰ συγκυρίαν δὲ ἱερεὺς τις κατέβαινεν ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ ἐκείνῃ, καὶ ἰδὼν αὐτὸν ἀντιπαρήλθεν. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ Λευίτης γενόμενος κατὰ τὸν τόπον, ἐλθὼν καὶ ἰδὼν ἀντιπαρήλθε. Σαμαρεῖτης δὲ τις ὁδεύων ἦλθε κατ' αὐτόν, καὶ ἰδὼν αὐτὸν ἐσπλαγχνίσθη, καὶ προσελθὼν κατέδησε τὰ τραύματα αὐτοῦ ἐπιχέων ἔλαιον καὶ οἶνον, ἐπιβίβασας δὲ αὐτὸν ἐπὶ τὸ ἴδιον κτῆνος ἤγαγεν αὐτὸν εἰς πανδοχεῖον καὶ ἐπεμελήθη αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἐπὶ τὴν αὔριον ἐξελθὼν, ἐκβαλὼν δύο δηνάρια ἔδωκε τῷ πανδοχεῖ καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ἐπιμελήθητι αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὅ τι ἂν προσδαπανήσῃς, ἐγὼ ἐν τῷ ἐπανέρχεσθαί με ἀποδώσω σοι. τίς οὖν τούτων τῶν τριῶν πλησίον δοκεῖ σοι γεγονέναι τοῦ ἐμπεσόντος εἰς τοὺς ληστὰς; ὁ δὲ εἶπεν· ὁ ποιήσας τὸ ἔλεος μετ' αὐτοῦ. εἶπεν οὖν αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· πορεύου καὶ σὺ ποιεῖ ὁμοίως.

**DEVOTIONS THIS WEEK:**

<b>SUNDAY, November 13th,</b>	<b>Patronal Feast Of St. John Chrysostomos</b>	<b>10:30 A.M.</b>
<b>Sunday, November 13th,</b>	<b>VETERAN'S DAY OBSERVANCE</b>	<b>12:00 P.M.</b>
<b>Honoring the deceased and living members of G.A.V.A. GREEK AMERICAN VETERANS' ASSOCIATION</b>		
<b>Wednesday, November 16th,</b>	<b>PRAY and HEALING Service</b>	<b>6:30 P.M.</b>
	<b>Observance of SAINT MATTHEW the APOSTLE</b>	<b>7:30 P.M.</b>

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW! FRIDAY EVENING: DECEMBER 02nd, 8:00 P.M.**

Our Parish's 87th, ANNUAL DINNER DANCE will honor the **50TH PRIESTLY ORDINATION OF V. REV. EUGENE N. PAPPAS** as our PASTOR these past 35 years of ministerial service to the LORD. Please make an effort to join at the EL CARIBE CATERERS in Mill Basin, dining, dancing and tributes. History is being made and recorded.

**TODAY:** Agape Coffee Fellowship is being hosted in blessed memory of +JIMMY CATAMAS through the generous thoughtfulness of Helen Kokis. Please join us for refreshments after Divine Liturgy in WHITEHALL.

**TODAY: Father Eugene** will be an honored guest of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese at the 'EL CARIBE COUNTRY CLUB' for the 150th ANNIVERSARY of St. Stephen/Sacred Hearts of Carroll Gardens. Bishop Nicholas Di Marzio and Monsignor Guy Massie are hosts.

**TODAY:** we are grateful for the presence and participation of the BOY SCOUT and CUB SCOUT Troops #531 'GOLDEN GREEKS' for their service as acolytes, color guard and wreath laying honor guard. Special recognition to SCOUT LEADER Mr. GUS CHRISTAKOS and fellow associates.

**PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY:** will host their monthly meeting on MONDAY – NOVEMBER 14th The early date of the meeting is due to the Thanksgiving Week holiday. See you in Whitehall a -7:00 P.M.

**MR. MRS. AND MS. CLUB:** will host a 'POT LUCK THANKSGIVING DINNER' ON TUESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 15TH. Whitehall 7:00 P.M. Support SYLVIA VELLIOS for all her efforts: COME, EAT, DRINK and CELEBRATE FRIENDS!

**SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB:** Will host a Pre-Thanksgiving Observance with a WINE and CHEESE FEST on Wednesday, November 16th. 1:00 P.M. BINGO is always a part of the Afternoon. TWO TURKEYS will be raffled FREE to all in attendance by ASSEMBLYMAN CYMBROWITZ. Be there and secure your TICKET for the RAFFLE--- FREE!

**NEW FLAGS NEEDED:** As the winter approaches NEW, NYLON heavy duty large flags are needed for the Plaza Flag Poles! Three flags are needed for donation AMERICAN, GREEK, CYPRIOT. The offering is approximately \$150 per flag with hoisting cords and proper grommets. Please see Father Eugene to designate your preference and place the order.

**JOURNAL ADS:** are needed for this year's 87th, JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY of our PARISH. The journal traditionally is presented at the end of the year. PLEASE SECURE YOUR MEMORIAL TRIBUTE, CONGRATULATORY NOTE, ANNIVERSARY – BIRTHDAY GREETING or BUSINESS ADVERTISEMENT ..... now. We do so much appreciate it.

**TOYS FOR TOTS :** Christmas appeal for those children outside the parish in need will commence SUNDAY. November 27th. Think of your childhood and what you as little boy or girl desired MOST! Anonymously, unwrapped gifts may be left at the foot of the Blessed Virgins ICON for proper handling distribution.

**PLEASE PLACE A JOURNAL AD NOW! THESE HISTORICAL VOLUMES ARE ARCHIVED WITH YOUR FAMILY NAME, HISTORY AND RECORD MEMORIAL TRIBUTES ARE WELCOMED.**

**RADIO MINISTRY:** Each Saturday at 1:15PM Fr. Eugene hosts and produces the radio broadcast **MATTERS OF CONSCIENCE NOW IN ITS 18<sup>TH</sup> 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](http://W.W.W.gaepis.org) ([Click live audio](#))

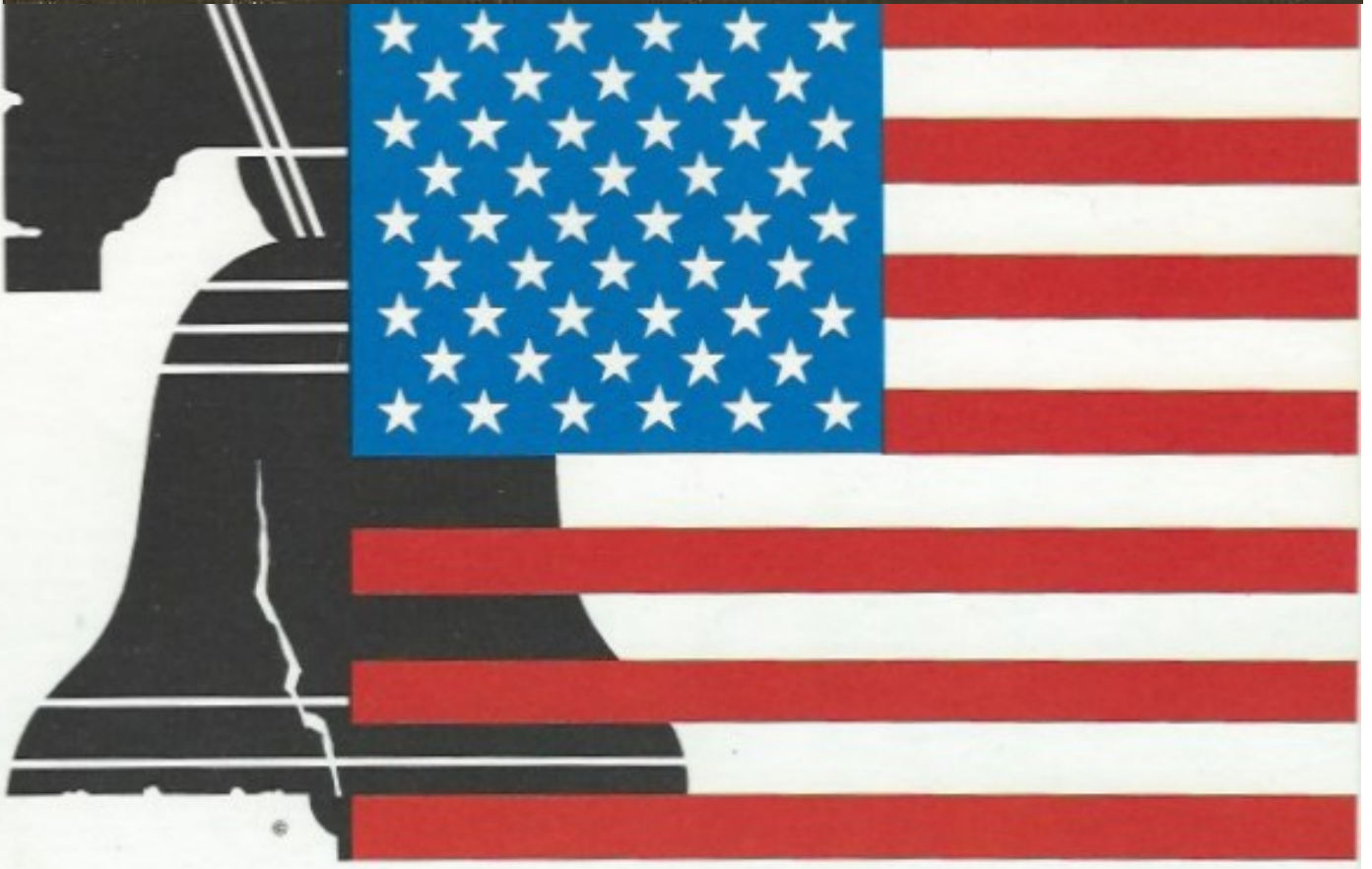
**MEMORIALS TODAY :**

- + DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE GREEK AMERICAN VETERANS' ASSOCIATION
- + **BORIS SINKAR** + **JOHN LAMBRIANAKOS** + **MARY** and + **MICHAEL BOUZAKIS**
- + **MARIA CHARMIS** + **JIMMY CATAMAS** + **ARISTIDIS IGNATIADIS**

**MEMORIALS NEXT WEEK:**

- + **GEORGE** and + **NICHOLAS YANAKAS**
- + **EFROSINI (Florence) KONTOS**
- + **NICHOLAS** and + **ANNA SARRIS**





*Three Hierarchs Salutes Our G. A. V. A. Veterans Here and everywhere.  
Greek American Veterans' Association*



*Three Hierarchs Greek Orthodox  
Church and the Parish Council*

*request the pleasure of your company as we*

*Honor our Spiritual Father the*

*V. Rev. Eugene N Pappas*

*for his dedicated and selfless service to*

*Three Hierarchs Church and the Orthodox Faithful for  
over Fifty Years at their*

*Annual Gala Fundraiser*

*Full Cocktail Hour, Open Bar, Dinner & Dancing  
Entertainment by Yianni Papastefanou & Orchestra*

*Proceeds will be applied to the much needed  
repairs, renovations and elevator fund*

*Friday,*

*December 2, 2016*

*7:30 in the evening*

*El Caribe Caterers*



*5945 Strickland Ave*

*Brooklyn, New York*

*Dress Your Best*

*For Table Reservations please call 718-339-0280*

*Adults \$125 ~~~Under 12 \$50*







# ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ

## ΣΥΝΤΟΜΟΝ ΚΗΡΥΓΜΑ



«Ἐγενόμην ἐν Πνεύματι ἐν τῇ Κυριακῇ ἡμέρᾳ καὶ ἤκουσα φωνὴν ὀπίσω μου μεγάλην ὡς σάλπιγγος» (Ἀπ. 1,10)

Περίοδος Δ' - Ἔτος ΛΓ' Φλώρινα - ἀριθμ. φύλλου 1978	Κυριακὴ Η' Λουκᾶ (Λουκ. 10,25-37) 13 Νοεμβρίου 2016	Συντάκτης (†) ἐπίσκοπος Αύγουστίνος Ν. Καντιώτης
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## Τὸ πανδοχεῖο τοῦ Θεοῦ

«Ἐπιβίβασας δὲ αὐτὸν ἐπὶ τὸ ἴδιον κτῆνος ἤγαγεν αὐτὸν εἰς πανδοχεῖον καὶ ἐπεμελήθη αὐτοῦ» (Λουκ. 10,34)

Ἡ παραβολή, ἀγαπητοί μου, ἡ ὡραία **παραβολὴ τοῦ καλοῦ Σαμαρείτου** ποὺ ἀκούσαμε σήμερα, διηγεῖται, ὅτι ὁ ἄνθρωπος αὐτός, τὸν ὁποῖον ὁ Χριστὸς προβάλλει μπροστά μας ὡς παράδειγμα, ὑποβλήθηκε σὲ ἐξαιρετικούς κόπους γιὰ νὰ σώσῃ τὸν ταλαίπωρο τραυματία, ποὺ οἱ λησταὶ τὸν ἄφησαν στὴ μέση τοῦ δρόμου σὲ ἐλεεινὴ κατάστασι. Τὸν περιποιήθηκε ὅσο μπορούσε· ἔπλυνε τὶς πληγές του μὲ οἶνον (κρασί ποὺ περιέχει οἶνοπνευμα καὶ ἀπολυμαίνει τὶς πληγές), τὶς ἄλειψε μὲ *ἐλαιον* (λάδι ποὺ καταπραίνει καὶ ἐπουλώνει τὰ τραύματα), τὶς ἔδεσε πρόχειρα μὲ αὐτοσχέδιους ἐπιδέσμους, καὶ ἔπειτα, ἀφοῦ τὸν βοήθησε νὰ ἀνεβῆ στὸ ζῶο του, τὸν ὠδήγησε ὁ ἴδιος σὲ ἓνα **πανδοχεῖον** (μικρὸ ξενοδοχεῖο ἀπὸ ἐκεῖνα ποὺ ὑπῆρχαν τὴν παλιὰ ἐποχὴ σὲ διάφορα σημεῖα τῶν δρόμων, νὰ σταθμεύουν οἱ κουρασμένοι ταξιδιώτες γιὰ διανυκτέρευσι καὶ ἀνεφοδιασμό), ὥστε ἐκεῖ ὁ τραυματίας ν' ἀναπαυθῆ, νὰ λάβῃ τροφή, νὰ θεραπευθῆ, ν' ἀνακτήσῃ πάλι τὶς δυνάμεις του καὶ νὰ συνεχίσῃ τὴν πορεία του.

Ἄλλ' ἀφοῦ γνωρίζουμε ὅτι ὁ Κύριος κάτω ἀπὸ τὰ πρόσωπα καὶ πράγματα τῶν παραβολῶν του ἔκρυβε μεγάλες ἀλήθειες καὶ σπουδαῖα διδάγματα, ἄς ρωτήσουμε: Ποιὸ εἶνε τὸ νόημα τῆς παραβολῆς αὐτῆς; τί εἰκονίζει τὸ **πανδοχεῖον** ποὺ ἀναφέρει ἡ παραβολή;

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*Πανδοχεῖον*, ἀγαπητοί μου, κατὰ τὴν ἑρμηνεία τῶν ἁγίων πατέρων καὶ διδασκάλων μας, εἶνε ἡ **Ἐκκλησία τοῦ Χριστοῦ**. Αὕτη εἶνε ὁ οὐράνιος σταθμός, τὸν ὁποῖον ἴδρυσεν καὶ στερῶσε μέσα στὴν ἔρημο τῆς παρουσίας ζωῆς ἢ ἀγαθότης τοῦ Θεοῦ. Ἡ θύρα τῆς εἶνε ἀνοιχτὴ γιὰ κάθε ἄνθρωπο, ἀρκεῖ αὐτὸς νὰ συναίσθανθῆ ὅτι εἶνε ψυχικὰ τραυματισμένος καὶ ἔχει ἀνάγκη τῆς θεραπείας, καὶ νὰ ζητήσῃ

μόνος του, ἐλεύθερα, νὰ καταφύγῃ στὸν οἶκον τοῦ Θεοῦ.

Ἡ Ἐκκλησία δὲν ἐξετάζει ἐὰν ἐκεῖνος ποὺ καταφεύγει σ' αὐτὴν εἶνε Ἰουδαῖος ἢ Ἕλληνας, μαῦρος ἢ λευκός, ἄντρας ἢ γυναίκα, ἐπιστήμονας ἢ ἀγράμματος, πλούσιος ἢ φτωχός, βασιλιάς ἢ στρατιώτης. «*Δεῦτε πρὸς με πάντες οἱ κοπιῶντες καὶ πεφορτισμένοι, κάγω ἀναπαύσω ὑμᾶς*», ἀκούγεται νὰ λέῃ συνεχῶς ἡ Ἐκκλησία, ἐπαναλαμβάνοντας αὐτοῦσια τὴ φωνὴ τοῦ Χριστοῦ· «*Σ' ἐμένα ἐλάτε ὅλοι οἱ κουρασμένοι καὶ φορτωμένοι βάρη, κ' ἐγὼ θὰ σᾶς χαρίσω τὴν ἀνάπαυσι*» (Ματθ. 11,28). Ἐνῶ οἱ διάφορες φιλοσοφικὲς σχολὲς τῆς ἀρχαιότητος, ποὺ ὑπόσχονταν τὴν ἠθικὴ ἀνάπλασι τῆς κοινωνίας, δέχονταν ὠρισμένο μόνο ἀριθμὸ μαθητῶν καὶ ὁπαδῶν καὶ τοὺς ὑπόλοιπους τοὺς ἀπέκλειαν, ἡ Ἐκκλησία ἀνοίγει τὴν ἀγκάλη τῆς κ' εἶνε ἕτοιμη νὰ συμπεριλάβῃ στοὺς κόλπους τῆς **καθένα** ποὺ θὰ πῆ εἰλικρινὰ στὸ Χριστό· «*Κύριε, εἶμαι πληγωμένος, ζητῶ τὴ βοήθειά σου, ἔχω ἀνάγκη ἀπὸ τὴ δική σου θεραπεία· Κύριε, σῶσε με*».

Ἀπὸ τὴ στιγμὴ, τώρα, ποὺ ὁ ἁμαρτωλὸς θὰ γίνῃ δεκτὸς καὶ θὰ εἰσέλθῃ στὴν Ἐκκλησία, στὸ **πανδοχεῖον** αὐτὸ τῆς θείας ἀγαθότητος, θὰ ὑποβληθῆ σὲ **εἰδικὴ θεραπεία καὶ καθωρισμένη δίαιτα**. Δὲν θὰ κἀνῃ πλέον ὅ,τι θέλει. Ὅπως ἓνας ἀσθενὴς ποὺ ἔκανε εἰσαγωγή σὲ κάποιο νοσοκομεῖο καὶ ἄρχισε ἐκεῖ τὴν θεραπεία εἶνε ὑποχρεωμένος ν' ἀκούῃ καὶ ν' ἐκτελῇ τὶς ἐντολὲς τῶν γιατρῶν, καὶ παίρνει καὶ τὰ πιὸ ἀηδιαστικὰ φάρμακα καὶ ὑποβάλλεται ἀκόμη καὶ σὲ ὀδυνηρὲς ἐγχειρήσεις, ἔτσι καὶ ὁ ἁμαρτωλός.

Νοσηλεύεται καὶ αὐτὸς στὸ **πανδοχεῖον**, στὸ ἱατρεῖο τοῦ Χριστοῦ. Ἐκεῖ ἔμπειροὶ γιατροί, οἱ πνευματικοὶ πατέρες, θὰ τὸν ἐξετάζουν τακτικὰ, θὰ «ἀκτινοσκοποῦν» τὴν ψυχὴ

του, θα κάνουν **διάγνωση** τῶν παθῶν καὶ τῶν ἐλαττωμάτων ἀπὸ τὰ ὁποῖα πάσχει. Ἔτσι θὰ ὀρίζουν τὴν **δαίτά του**, τί πρέπει δηλαδή νὰ λαμβάνη ἡ ψυχὴ του ὡς πνευματικὴ τροφή, καὶ ποιὲς ἀκατάλληλες τροφὲς πρέπει ν' ἀποφεύγη ποὺ μπορεῖ νὰ δημιουργήσουν ἐπιπλοκὲς καὶ νὰ προκαλέσουν τὸν ψυχικὸ θάνατο. Οἱ γιατροὶ ἐπίσης θὰ χύνουν ἐπάνω στὶς πληγὲς **ἔλαιον** μὲ τὴν γλυκυτάτη δηλαδή διδασκαλία τοῦ Χριστοῦ θὰ προσπαθοῦν νὰ παρηγορήσουν τὴν καρδιά του, ποὺ τραυματισμένη ἀπὸ τὰ πλήγματα τῶν παθῶν θὰ ὑποφέρει μὲ τὴν ἀνάμνησι τοῦ προηγουμένου ἁμαρτωλοῦ βίου. Θὰ χύνουν ἀκόμη **οἶνον** ἐπάνω στὶς πληγὲς· θὰ χρησιμοποιήσουν δηλαδή τὸν ἔλεγχο καὶ τὴν ἐπιτίμησι, ἂν διακρίνουν ὅτι ἡ ψυχὴ ἀρχίζει νὰ κωφεύη στὴν παιδεία τοῦ Κυρίου, νὰ ἀναισθητῆ καὶ νὰ πωρώνεται. Τέλος θὰ κάνουν καὶ **ἐγχειρήσεις**· ὁ ἔστι μεθερμηνευόμενον, δὲν θὰ διστάσουν νὰ ὑποδείξουν στὸν ἁμαρτωλὸ ὅτι πρέπει νὰ θυσιάσῃ ἔμπαθεῖς ἀπολαύσεις, νὰ ἀλλάξῃ παγιωμένες συνήθειες, νὰ σπάσῃ μακροχρόνιους δεσμούς, νὰ διακόψῃ φιλίες καὶ σχέσεις μὲ περιβάλλοντα καὶ ἀνθρώπους φαύλους καὶ ἀμετανόητους, ἐὰν δὲν θέλῃ νὰ σαπίσῃ κι αὐτὸς μαζί τους καὶ νὰ πεθάνῃ πνευματικά.

*Πανδοχεῖον*, ἰατρεῖο καὶ θεραπευτήριον τοῦ Χριστοῦ εἶνε ἡ Ἐκκλησία. Ὅποιος ἐπισκέπτεται τὰ **μεγάλα νοσοκομεῖα**, θαυμάζει τὴν διοργάνωσίν τους, τὴ λειτουργία τῶν τμημάτων τους καὶ τὴ συνεργασία τῶν ὑπηρεσιῶν τους. Διοικητικὰ στελέχη μεριμνοῦν καὶ κατευθύνουν ὅλο τὸν ὀργανισμό. Γιατροὶ ὄλων τῶν εἰδικότητων βρίσκονται ἐκεῖ ἔτοιμοι νὰ ἐξετάσουν καὶ ν' ἀντιμετωπίσουν κάθε περίπτωσι ἀσθενείας. Ἐκπαιδευμένο νοσηλευτικὸ προσωπικὸ ὑπηρετεῖ ὅλο τὸ εἰκοσιτετράωρο τοὺς ἀσθενεῖς ἀγρυπνώντας κοντὰ τους, καὶ μάλιστα στοὺς νοσηλευομένους σὲ εἰδικὲς μονάδες ἐντατικῆς θεραπείας. Ποικίλο ἄλλο βοηθητικὸ καὶ τεχνικὸ προσωπικὸ καλύπτει τίς συναφεῖς ἀνάγκες σὲ φάρμακα, ὕλικὸ νοσηλείας, ἐργαστήρια, σίτισι, καθαριότητα, ἠλεκτρικὴ ἐνέργεια, καύσιμα κ.τ.λ.. Θάλαμοι, κλῖνες, λουτρά, ὅλα εἶνε ἐν τάξει. Καταβάλλεται κάθε προσπάθεια ὥστε ὅλοι οἱ ἀσθενεῖς νὰ θεραπευθοῦν καί, εἰ δυνατόν, κανεὶς νὰ μὴ βγῆ νεκρὸς ἀπὸ ἐκεῖ. Στὰ νοσοκομεῖα αὐτὰ διεξάγεται πράγματι ἕνας ἐντονος καὶ συστηματικὸς ἀγώνας κατὰ τῶν διαφόρων νόσων τοῦ ἀνθρωπίνου ὀργανισμοῦ.

Ἄλλ' ἐὰν εἶνε ἀξιοθαύμαστη ἡ διοργάνωσι τῶν νοσοκομείων αὐτῶν, πολὺ πιὸ θαυμαστὴ

εἶνε ἡ διοργάνωσι τῆς Ἐκκλησίας, τοῦ ψυχικοῦ αὐτοῦ θεραπευτηρίου τοῦ κόσμου. Εἶνε ἀνώτερη ἡ διοργάνωσι τῆς Ἐκκλησίας· διότι τὰ μὲν νοσοκομεῖα καὶ τὰ ἄστυλα τῶν νοσοῦντων τὰ διοργανῶναι ἡ ἀτελής καὶ πεπερασμένη διάνοια τῶν ἀνθρώπων, τὴν Ἐκκλησίαν ὁμοῦ τὴν ἴδρυσεν, τὴν διοργανῶναι καὶ τὴν συντονίζει καθημερινῶς ὄχι κάποιος ἀνθρώπος, ἀλλ' αὐτὸ τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον, ἡ ἴδια ἡ ἁγία Τριάς. Μέσα στὸ οὐράνιον αὐτὸ νοσοκομεῖον ἡ Θεῖα Πρόνοια γιὰ τὴν θεραπεία τῶν ψυχικῶν νοσημάτων χρησιμοποιεῖ τέτοια καὶ τόσο μεγάλη μέσα, ὥστε μένουσιν ἐκθαμβὰ τὰ μάτια ὄχι πλέον τῶν πιστῶν ἀνθρώπων, ἀλλὰ τὰ μάτια καὶ αὐτῶν ἀκόμη τῶν ἀγγέλων καθὼς παρακολουθοῦν τὴν μεγαλειώδη καὶ «**πολυποικίλη**» **ἐργασία τῆς Ἐκκλησίας γιὰ τὴν σωτηρία ψυχῶν**.

Ἐνας ἀπὸ τοὺς ἀσθενεῖς, ποὺ ὄχι μόνον θεραπεύθηκε στὸ θεραπευτήριον τῆς Ἐκκλησίας ἀλλ' ἐν συνεχείᾳ ἔγινε καὶ θεραπευτὴς ἄλλων μέσα σ' αὐτό, εἶνε ὁ **ἀπόστολος Παῦλος**. Αὐτὸς γράφει γιὰ τὴν Ἐκκλησίαν, ὅτι κάνει καὶ τοὺς ἀγγέλους στὰ ἐπουράνια νὰ θαυμάζουν γιὰ τὴν ἀποτελεσματικότητά τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ θεραπείας μὲ τὴν πολυποικίλη σοφία τοῦ Θεοῦ· «...*ἵνα γνωρισθῆ*», λέει, «*νῦν ταῖς ἀρχαῖς καὶ ταῖς ἐξουσίαις ἐν τοῖς ἐπουρανίοις διὰ τῆς ἐκκλησίας ἡ πολυποικίλος σοφία τοῦ Θεοῦ*» (Ἐφ. 3,10).

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Ὅταν, ἀγαπητέ μου, ἀσθενήσῃς ἀπὸ κάποια σοβαρὴ ἀσθένεια, φροντίζεις νὰ εἰσαχθῆς σὲ νοσοκομεῖον ποὺ ἔχει καλὴ φήμη ὅτι περιποιεῖται τοὺς ἀσθενεῖς, ἔχει καλοὺς ἐπιστήμονες, διαθέτει τὰ καλύτερα μηχανήματα, κάνει ἐπιτυχημένες ἐγχειρήσεις καὶ προσφέρει ἀποτελεσματικὴν θεραπείαν. Ἄλλὰ μὴ λησμονεῖς, ὅτι καὶ ἡ **ψυχὴ σου ἀσθενεῖ**. Ἐπαναλαμβάνω ἐκεῖνο ποὺ καὶ ἄλλοτε εἶπαμε· ὅτι ἡ **ἁμαρτία εἶνε ἡ χειρότερη ἀσθένεια**, ποὺ γεμίζει μὲ τραύματα, μὲ ἔλκη καὶ κακοήθεις ὄγκους τὴν ταλαίπωρη ψυχὴ μας. Πληγωμένη, ἠλκωμένη, ἐλεεινὴ καὶ ἀξιοθρήνητη ἡ ψυχὴ μας ζητάει θεραπείαν, ζητάει θεραπευτήριον. Ποῦ θὰ τὴν ὀδηγήσουμε; **Ἡ Ἐκκλησία**, νὰ τὸ αἰώνιον θεραπευτήριον τῶν ψυχῶν μας.

Εἶθε στὸ θεραπευτήριον αὐτό, ὅσο τὸ δυνατόν συντομώτερα, **ἐκεῖ νὰ ὀδηγήσουμε τίς ψυχὰς μας**, ὅπως ὁ καλὸς Σαμαρεῖτης ὠδήγησε τὸν τραυματία του στὸ *πανδοχεῖον*, ὅπου ὁ τραυματίας ἀναπαύθηκε, ἀνέλαβε δυνάμεις καὶ σώθηκε.

(†) **ἐπίσκοπος Αὐγουστῖνος**

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**

### *Our Faith and Christ's Action*

The liturgical service takes place on earth, but it belongs to the realm of heavenly realities. In fact, it was not instituted by a human being or an angel, but by the Spirit himself, so that those who are still living in the flesh should think of performing the service of angels.

O what mercy, O what love of God for human beings! Christ who is seated with the Father in highest heaven is at that moment grasped by the hands of all and does not hesitate to give Himself to anyone who wants to embrace Him and be bound to Him.

He whom the eyes of faith perceive is possessed by everyone.

You remember how Elijah was surround-

ed by a great crowd and had in front of him the victim for sacrifice placed on the stone (see 1 Kings 18). Everyone stood stock still. The silence was complete. Only the prophet raised a prayer. Suddenly from heaven came down fire on the victim. It was a marvelous spectacle that filled everyone with amazement.

Here, however, something much more than a marvelous spectacle is unfolded. Something is happening that is greater than any marvel. Here the priest draws down not fire but the Holy Spirit Himself.

*St. John Chrysostom*

For more information on Eastern spirituality, visit  
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