



DIRECT ARCHDIOCESAN  
DISTRICT

# THREE HIERARCHS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

SUNDAY WEEKLY BULLETIN July 30th 2017  
V. Rev. Archimandrite Eugene N. Pappas

## EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST EIGHTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW



*Icon of Saints Silas, Silvanos and Others-- July 30th*

St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 1:10-17

Prokeimenon. Grave Mode.

Psalm 28.11,1

The Lord will give strength to his people.

Verse: Bring to the Lord, O sons of God, bring to the Lord honor and glory.

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 1:10-17

BRETHREN, I appeal to you by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissensions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brethren. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius; lest any one should say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized any one else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

Προκείμενον. Ἦχος βαρύς.

ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 28.11,1

Κύριος ἰσχὺν τῷ λαῷ αὐτοῦ δώσει.

Στίχ. Ἐνέγκατε τῷ Κυρίῳ υἱοὶ Θεοῦ, ἐνέγκατε τῷ Κυρίῳ δόξαν καὶ τιμὴν.

Πρὸς Κορινθίους α' 1:10-17 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα εἶναι ἀπο

Ἀδελφοί, παρακαλῶ δὲ ὑμᾶς, ἀδελφοί, διὰ τοῦ ὀνόματος τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, ἵνα τὸ αὐτὸ λέγητε πάντες, καὶ μὴ ᾗ ἐν ὑμῖν σχίσματα, ἥτε δὲ κατηρτισμένοι ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ νοῖ καὶ ἐν τῇ αὐτῇ γνώμῃ. Ἐδηλώθη γάρ μοι περὶ ὑμῶν, ἀδελφοί μου, ὑπὸ τῶν Χλόης, ὅτι ἔριδες ἐν ὑμῖν εἰσιν. Λέγω δὲ τοῦτο, ὅτι ἕκαστος ὑμῶν λέγει, Ἐγὼ μὲν εἰμι Παύλου, Ἐγὼ δὲ Ἀπολλῶ, Ἐγὼ δὲ Κηφᾶ, Ἐγὼ δὲ Χριστοῦ. Μεμέρισται ὁ Χριστός; Μὴ Παῦλος ἐσταυρώθη ὑπὲρ ὑμῶν, ἢ εἰς τὸ ὄνομα Παύλου ἐβαπτίσθητε; Εὐχαριστῶ τῷ θεῷ ὅτι οὐδένα ὑμῶν ἐβάπτισα, εἰ μὴ Κρίσπον καὶ Γάϊον· ἵνα μὴ τις εἴπῃ ὅτι εἰς τὸ ἐμὸν ὄνομα ἐβάπτισα. Ἐβάπτισα δὲ καὶ τὸν Στεφάνῃ οἶκον· λοιπὸν οὐκ οἶδα εἴ τινα ἄλλον ἐβάπτισα. Οὐ γὰρ ἀπέστειλέν με Χριστὸς βαπτίζειν, ἀλλ' εὐαγγελίζεσθαι· οὐκ ἐν σοφίᾳ λόγου, ἵνα μὴ κενωθῇ ὁ σταυρὸς τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

The Gospel According to Matthew 14:14-22

At that time, Jesus saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Then he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἐξελθὼν ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶδε πολὺν ὄχλον, καὶ ἐσπλαγχνίσθη ἐπ' αὐτοῖς καὶ ἐθεράπευσε τοὺς ἀρρώστους αὐτῶν. ὡπίας δὲ γενομένης προσῆλθον αὐτῷ οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ λέγοντες· ἔρημός ἐστιν ὁ τόπος καὶ ἡ ὥρα ἤδη παρήλθεν· ἀπόλυσον τοὺς ὄχλους, ἵνα ἀπελθόντες εἰς τὰς κώμας ἀγοράσωσιν ἑαυτοῖς βρώματα. ὁ δὲ Ἰησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· οὐ χρειαν ἔχουσιν ἀπελθεῖν· δότε αὐτοῖς ὑμεῖς φαγεῖν. οἱ δὲ λέγουσιν αὐτῷ· οὐκ ἔχομεν ὥδε εἰ μὴ πέντε ἄρτους καὶ δύο ἰχθύας. ὁ δὲ εἶπε· φέρετέ μοι αὐτοὺς ὧδε. καὶ κελεύσας τοὺς ὄχλους ἀνακλιθῆναι ἐπὶ τοὺς χόρτους, λαβὼν τοὺς πέντε ἄρτους καὶ τοὺς δύο ἰχθύας, ἀναβλέψας εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν εὐλόγησε, καὶ κλάσας ἔδωκε τοῖς μαθηταῖς τοὺς ἄρτους, οἱ δὲ μαθηταὶ τοῖς ὄχλοις. καὶ ἔφαγον πάντες καὶ ἐχορτάσθησαν, καὶ ἦσαν τὸ περισσεῦον τῶν κλασμάτων δώδεκα κοφίνους πλήρεις. οἱ δὲ ἐσθίοντες ἦσαν ἄνδρες ὡσεὶ πεντακισχίλιοι χωρὶς γυναικῶν καὶ παιδίων. Καὶ εὐθέως ἠνάγκασεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς τοὺς μαθητὰς αὐτοῦ ἐμβῆναι εἰς τὸ πλοῖον καὶ προάγειν αὐτὸν εἰς τὸ πέραν, ἕως οὗ ἀπολύσῃ τοὺς ὄχλους.

<b>DEVOTIONS THIS WEEK:</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>August 01st,</b>	<b>Agiasmos ( Holy Water)</b>	<b>11:00</b>	<b>A.M.</b>
	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>August 01st,</b>	<b>Paraklesis</b>	<b>7:30-</b>	<b>8:30 P.M.</b>
	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>August 02nd,</b>	<b>Paraklesis</b>	<b>7:30-</b>	<b>8:30 P.M.</b>
	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>August 05th,</b>	<b>Vesper Transfiguration</b>	<b>7:00-</b>	<b>9:00 P.M.</b>
		<b>Corona –Queens</b>			
	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 06th,</b>	<b>Transfiguration feast</b>	<b>10:00-</b>	<b>11:30 A.M.</b>
		<b>THREE HIERARCHS</b>			

**AGAPE COFFEE HOUR :** is being hosted today in Whitehall. Please join us for coffee and sweets.

**TODAY:** we are observing the FEAST of APOSTLE SAINT SILAS with the procession of the Sacred icon for veneration.

**UP – COMING COMMEMORATIONS:**

Monday	August 07th, Paraklesis	7:30- 8:30	P.M.
Tuesday	August 08th, Paraklesis	7:30-8:30	P.M.
Wednesday	August 09th , Prayer and Healing	6:30-7:30	P.M.
Wednesday	August 09th,, Paraklesis	7:30-8:30	P.M.

**UKRAINIAN ARCHBISHOP ANTHONY** will make an Episcopal Hierarchal Liturgy at Three Hierarchs Sunday August 13th from 12 noon to 2:PM. on the occasion of the Feast of Saint Panteleimon. A reception to meet the ARCHBISHOP will follow at 2:00 P.M.

**PASTOR’S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION** was hosted in Whitehall for ‘everyone ‘ in the congregation last Sunday – JULY 23rd. The hall was decorated most festively with party favors, balloons, banners mardi gras hats to the joy of young and old alike. Two dozen large pizzas, two enormous sheet cakes, cookies, candies, coke sodas, coffee filled the tables.

**SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT IS MADE TO THE ORGANIZERS, MELINDA NAMATH, FR. MYKOLA of the Ukrainian Community, Tatiana Migdal of the Russian Community , Angela Sakkas, Georgia Bourzakis, Julia Demakakos, Maya and Dennis. Three Star’s Steve Lambros and George Kouyros , Maria Notaro of Alliotts Bakery, T L I G Members, Gordon Heiser, Irene Olska, Eva Giannoulakis, Bernice Walters, Robert Agge, Robert Malfi, Alexandra and George Diolis, Helen Pavlides and SENIORS Helen Kokis ,Gus Savaros, Alex, Maria, Yelena and Stanley Bezugly, George, Ann and Chris Annis, Aphrodite and Deno Trivlis, Philoptochos Ladies, Zoe Tatkow, Evangelos, Regina and Elizabeth, St. John University Alumni, Coreen, Dominick Aluotto, Frank Rouke, and the Russian Community: TEODOZIA, FLORYNA, ALLA, TEIMURAZ GIORGI, MICHAEL, IVAN , TETVANA, and VASILIIY, ELENA, OLGA, and PETER, SOPHIA ROUMANIA, TATY and MANANA, GEORGE, ELENA and MARIA, PAVEL and OLGA, NEONILA, IRINA, LYUDMIL and LEONID, SOPHIA , NINA, BORIS, LARSA and IRINA, ANDREY, MARIA ,NADEZHDA and ALEXANDER, OKSANA, TATYANA, ANDREY, TATYANA, ALEXANDER, GENNADIY, TATYANA, NELYA, EVDOKIYA, INESSA.**

**ON SUNDAY, JULY 23RD, MRS . APHRODITE TRIVLIS ( Life long member of Three Hierarchs Parish ) celebrated her ONE HUNDRETH BIRTHDAY ..... according to her records, she’s really ‘ 103 ‘ YEARS OLD !.... and she proved it historically. Family members gathered with her sons Deno and Chris to mark the joyous occasion at YIASOU RESTAURANT in Sheepshead bay.**

**ARTOKLASIES** are being registered for the two main feasts of AUGUST, Transfiguration (META-MORPHOSIS) on the 6th and Assumption of the Virgin Mary (REPOSE-KOIMISIS THEOTOKOU) on the 15th. Those celebrating their name-day include SOTIRIOS, SOTIRIA, MARIA, MARY, MARIO, PANAGIOTIS, PANAGIOTA, DESPINA. Chronia Polla to all celebrants!

**RADIO MINISTRY:** Each Saturday at 1:15PM Fr. Eugene hosts and produces the radio broadcast **MATTERS OF CONSCIENCE NOW IN ITS 19<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](http://LIVESTREAMINGPLAYER) . The website address. [W.W.W.gaepis.org](http://W.W.W.gaepis.org) ([Click live audio](#))

**EARLY REGISTRATIONS; PRE- K FOR ALL :** Any child 4 years of age is eligible for FREE enrollment at our school operated by the New York City Department of Education. Classes are held each day from 8:00 A.M. through 3:00 P.M. with free lunch served by the City. IT’S ALL YOURS FREE FOR THE ASKING AND TAKING. DON’T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUR CHILDREN /GRANDCHILDREN! Call now: (347) 729-0446 . TWO “OPEN-HOUSE” RECEPTION DAYS ARE WEDNESDAY FEB 8TH, 4P.M-7P.M AND MARCH 08TH 4P.M. – 7 P.M.

**MEMORIALS TODAY:** + RUFUS JACOB DANIELS + GEORGIA MARKOGIANNISMEMORIALS  
**NEXT WEEK MEMORIAL:** + PETER ( PANAGIOTIS) GREGOROPOULOS





Father Eugene's Birthday # 72  
was a superb party with all the trimmings, hats, favors and balloons





**Aphrodite Trivlis hosts the family at Yiasou with Fr. Eugene (same birthdate) although "she" admits it's her 103rd!**





# ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ

## ΣΥΝΤΟΜΟΝ ΚΗΡΥΓΜΑ



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

Ἐκδίδεται ἀπὸ τὴν Κανονικὴ Γυναικίᾳ Ἱερὰ Μονὴ Ἁγίου Αὐγουστίνου Φλωρίνης - 531 00 ΦΛΩΡΙΝΑ - τηλ. 23850-28610 - [imsaflo@yahoo.gr](mailto:imsaflo@yahoo.gr)

Περίοδος Δ' - Ἔτος ΛΔ'  
Φλώρινα - ἀριθμ. φύλλου 2029

Κυριακὴ Η' (Η' Ματθ.) (Α' Κορ. 1,10-17)  
30 Ἰουλίου 2017

Συντάκτης (†) ἐπίσκοπος  
Αὐγουστίνος Ν. Καντιώτης

## Τὸ ἀγκάθι τῆς διχονοίας

«Ἐριδες ἐν ὑμῖν εἰσι... Μεμέρισται ὁ Χριστός;» (Α' Κορ. 1,11,13)

Ἐπάρχει, ἀγαπητοί μου, στὸν κόσμον ποὺ ζοῦμε διαφθορά, ὑπάρχει πρὸ παντὸς ἀπιστία. Κάτι μορφωμένοι, ποὺ λένε πῶς ξέρουν γράμματα, σοὺ λένε εἰρωνικά: Τί νὰ κάνουμε ἐμεῖς στὴν ἐκκλησία, τί ν' ἀκούσουμε; εὐαγγέλια - ἀποστόλους; Αὐτὰ πάλιωσαν ἦταν χρῆσιμα σὲ κάποια ἄλλη ἐποχὴ, τώρα ποὺ ἡ ἐπιστήμη προώδευσεν ἐμεῖς δὲν τὰ ἔχουμε ἀνάγκη...

**Πάλιωσε, δηλαδὴ, τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο;** Πόσο σφάλουν! Τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο εἶνε βέβαια τὸ πιὸ ἀρχαῖο βιβλίον· μὰ ὅταν τὸ πιάσης καὶ τὸ διαβάσης με πίστι, θὰ δῆς ὅτι εἶνε σὰν νὰ βγῇκε χθές· νομίζεις ὅτι γράφτηκε γιὰ τοὺς σημερινούς ἀνθρώπους, γιὰ ὅλα τὰ ζητήματα ποὺ ἀπασχολοῦν καὶ σήμερον τὸν κόσμον. Ὅπως δὲν παλιώνει ὁ ἥλιος, ὁ ἀέρας, τὸ νερό, ἔτσι κ' ἡ ἁγία Γραφή.

Θέλετε ἀποδείξει; Νά ἡ **σημερινὴ περικοπὴ τοῦ ἀποστόλου** (βλ. Α' Κορ. 1,11-17). Προσέξατε τί λέει: Ἀπὸ τότε ποὺ ὁ ἀπόστολος Παῦλος ἔγραψε τὴν ἐπιστολὴ αὐτή, πέρασαν αἰῶνες, κι ὅμως νομίζεις ὅτι γράφτηκε γιὰ μᾶς, ὅτι μέσ' στὸ γράμμα αὐτὸ εἶνε ἡ φωτογραφία ὅλων καὶ ἰδιαιτέρως ἡμῶν τῶν Ἑλλήνων. Μὰ πῶς εἶνε δυνατὸν αὐτό; Ἀκούστε τὸ ἱστορικόν.

\*\*\*

Ὁ ἀπόστολος Παῦλος ἔγραφε στοὺς Χριστιανούς τῆς Κορίνθου, μιὰς ἀπὸ τίς μεγαλύτερες καὶ πλουσιώτερες πόλεις τῆς Ἑλλάδος. Γιατί; **τί συνέβη στὴν Κόρινθο;**

Συνέβη τότε **ἓνα δυστύχημα**. Τί; ἀρρώστια, χολέρα, φωτιά, σεισμός; Κάτι χειρότερο. Κι αὐτὸ ποὺ εἶνε χειρότερο ἀπ' ὅλα -καὶ ὁ Θεὸς νὰ μᾶς φυλάξῃ- ποῖό εἶνε; Τὸ λέει τὸ ἱερὸ κείμενο, μὰ ποῖός προσέχει; «**Ἐρις**» (Α' Κορ. 1,11· βλ. καὶ 33), δηλαδὴ φιλονικία, διχόνοια. Αὐτὸ ἔκανε τὸν ἀπόστολο Παῦλον νὰ γράψῃ με πόνον καὶ δάκρυα. Μὰ **γιατί μάλωναν οἱ Κορίνθιοι;**

Πάντοτε βέβαια εἶνε φίλερι (ἀγαπᾷ τίς ἔριδες) τὸ γένος τῶν Ἑλλήνων· ἀλλ' αὐτὴ τὴ φορὰ δὲν μάλωναν γιὰ οἰκόπεδα, γιὰ ἀμπέλια, γιὰ

ἐλαιοστάσια, γιὰ λεφτά· μάλωναν γιὰ κάτι ἄλλο. Ποιό; Εἶχαν χωριστῇ σὲ μερίδες, σὲ τέσσερα - πέντε κόμματα. Τὸ ἓνα κόμμα εἶχε ἀρχηγὸ τὸν Παῦλον, τὸ ἄλλο εἶχε τὸν Πέτρο, τὸ ἄλλο τὸν Ἀπολλῶ, καὶ τὸ ἄλλο, τὸ αὐθαδέστερο, ἔλεγε ὅτι ἀρχηγὸ ἔχει τὸ Χριστό· ἔκαναν δηλαδὴ καὶ τὸν Κύριον ἀρχηγὸ ἐνὸς κόμματος. Ἔτσι ἐγίναν κομμάτια, **κομματιάστηκε ἡ Χριστιανικὴ κοινωνία** τῆς Κορίνθου. Ὅταν ἔμαθε ὁ ἀπόστολος Παῦλος, ὅτι μέσα στὴν πρώτη χριστιανικὴ κοινωνία παρουσιάστηκε τέτοιο ἀγκάθι, αὐτὴ ἡ διαίρεσις, αὐτὸ τὸν ἔκανε νὰ λυπηθῇ πολὺ καὶ νὰ γράψῃ τὰ λόγια αὐτά. Γιατί αὐτὸ ποὺ συνέβαινε, αὐτὴ ἡ διχόνοια, ἦταν κατὰ ἀντίθετον μετὰ τὸ πνεῦμα τοῦ Εὐαγγελίου, ἀνατροπὴ τῆς θεμελιώδους ἐντολῆς τοῦ Χριστοῦ «**Ἀγαπᾶτε ἀλλήλους**» (βλ. 13,34· 13,32·17)· ἦταν ἓνας δυναμίτης.

Αὐτὸ κατὰ τὸν ἀπόστολο Παῦλον εἶνε **ἐγκλημα** χειρότερο ἀπὸ ἐκεῖνο ποὺ ἔκαναν Ἑβραῖοι καὶ Ῥωμαῖοι ὅταν σταύρωναν τὸν Κύριον. Γιατί αὐτοὶ κάρφωσαν μὲν τὰ χέρια καὶ τὰ πόδια του καὶ λόγχισαν τὴν πλευρά του, μὰ δὲν τεμάχισαν τὸ σῶμα του· δὲν ἔθραυσαν οὔτε ἓνα κοκκαλάκι του. Δὲν τὸν διαμέλισαν, νὰ βρεθοῦν ἄλλοι τὰ χέρια, ἄλλοι τὰ πόδια, ἄλλοι τὸ ὑπόλοιπο σῶμα· ὅχι, τὸν ἄφησαν ἀκέραιον κατὰ τὴν προφητικὴ ἐντολὴ «**ὅσοι οὐ συντρίψετε ἀπ' αὐτοῦ**» (Ἐφ. 12,18· 1α 13,36). Αὐτὸ λοιπὸν ποὺ δὲν ἔκαναν οἱ Ἑβραῖοι, τὸν διαμελισμὸ τοῦ Χριστοῦ, τολμοῦμε νὰ τὸ κάνουμε ἐμεῖς; Γιατί ἡ Ἐκκλησία εἶνε τὸ σῶμα τοῦ Χριστοῦ (βλ. Εφ. 1,22· καὶ 1,16,24)· καὶ ὅπως προκαλεῖ φρίκη νὰ πάρῃ κανεὶς μαχαίρι καὶ νὰ λιανίσῃ τὸ σῶμα τοῦ Χριστοῦ, ἔτσι εἶνε φρικαλέο ν' ἀφήνουμε τὸ διάβολο νὰ βάζῃ τὸ μαῦρο μαχαίρι του, τὴ διχόνοια, γιὰ νὰ κἀν κομμάτια τὴν Ἐκκλησίαν, μιὰ κοινωνία ποὺ πρέπει νὰ 'νε ἐνωμένη ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ.

«**Μεμέρισται ὁ Χριστός;**» ρωτᾷ ὁ Παῦλος (Α' Κορ. 1,13). Τί κάνετε, κληρικοὶ καὶ κήρυκες καὶ ἀρχιεροὶ παρατάξεων; πῆρατε τὸ μαχαίρι τοῦ

ξδου καὶ γιὰ τὰ κέφια καὶ τὰ συμφέροντά σας, γιὰ τὶς ἰδιοτροπίες καὶ φιλοδοξίες σας, πᾶτε νὰ κομματιάσετε τὸ σῶμα τοῦ Χριστοῦ; Ὅχι, εἶνε μεγάλη ἁμαρτία νὰ ἐπιχειρήσῃς μὲ τὴ διαγωγή σου νὰ προκαλέσῃς διαίρεσι τῆς ἐνιαίας κοινωνίας, τῆς Ἐκκλησίας τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

\*\*\*

Δὲν ξέρω, ἀγαπητοί μου, τότε ποῦ εἶπε τὰ λόγια αὐτὰ ὁ ἀπόστολος Παῦλος πῶς τ' ἄκουσαν οἱ Κορίνθιοι καὶ ἂν ἐνώθησαν. Ἀλλὰ ἐγὼ φεύγω τώρα ἀπὸ τὴν ἐποχὴ ἐκείνη. Ἔρχομαι στὰ σημερινὰ χρόνια καὶ βλέπω, ὅτι τὰ λόγια τοῦ ἀποστόλου Παύλου ταιριάζουν καὶ σ' ἐμᾶς. Γιατὶ ἐδῶ, στὸν τόπο αὐτόν, ἀπὸ ἀρχαιοτάτης ἐποχῆς, ἀπὸ τοῦ Ὁμήρου ἀκόμη, φυτρώνει ἐνα ἀγκάθι, ποῦ κάνει τὸν τόπο μας νὰ πονῇ καὶ νὰ ματώνῃ ἡ **Ἑλληνικὴ διχόνοια**. «Μῆνιν αἰεὶ δὲ, θεά...», λέει ὁ Ὀμηρος ἀρχίζοντας τὴν Ἰλιάδα· ἔλα, λέει, νὰ τραγουδήσουμε μὲ κλάματα τὴ φιλονικία, ποῦ ἄρχισε μεταξὺ τῶν δύο μεγάλων ἀνδρῶν τοῦ Τρωικοῦ πολέμου, τοῦ Ἀγαμέμνονος καὶ τοῦ Ἀχιλλέως.

Αὐτὴ ἡ «μῆνις», αὐτὸ τὸ πάθος, αὐτὴ ἡ «ἔρις» ποῦ λέει ὁ ἀπόστολος Παῦλος, ἐνδημεῖ δυστυχῶς στὸν τόπο μας. Εἴμαστε λαὸς ἐριστικός, μέσα μας ὑπάρχει ἡ διχόνοια, τὸ μικρόβιο αὐτό. Κι ἂν ἦταν σήμερα ἀνάμεσά μας ὅπως τότε ὁ ἀπόστολος Παῦλος, μ' αὐτὸ τὸ ἐπίμαχο ζήτημα ποῦ ταλανίζει βαθεῖα τὸν Ἕλληνα θὰ καταγινοῦσαν – ἔξω ὅμως ἀπὸ κόμματα! ἀφοῦ ὁ ἐργάτης τοῦ εὐαγγελίου καλεῖται νὰ μένῃ πάνω ἀπὸ τὶς ἀνθρωπίνες μικρότητες, νὰ μὴ ταυτίζεται μὲ καμμία ἀπὸ τὶς ἀλληλοσυγκρουόμενες παρατάξεις, νὰ παίξῃ πάντοτε ρόλο ἐνωτικό. Εἴμαστε ὑπεράνω ὅλων καὶ ζητοῦμε ὅλος ὁ κόσμος, ἀνεξαρτήτως κοινωνικῆς καταστάσεως καὶ πολιτικῶν φρονημάτων, νὰ ἐνωθῇ κάτω ἀπὸ τὶς φτερούγες τῆς μᾶς ἀγίας καθολικῆς καὶ ἀποστολικῆς Ἐκκλησίας τοῦ Χριστοῦ.

Δυστυχῶς ὅπου νὰ πῆς ἀκοῦς «ἐριδες», ὅπου τεντώσῃς τὸ αὐτί σου θ' ἀκούσῃς καυγά. Μὰ γιατί μαλώνουν οἱ ἄνθρωποι; **ποιὰ εἶνε τὰ αἶτια**; Τὰ αἶτια εἶνε πολλά· εἶνε ἡ κακία, εἶνε ὁ φθόνος (Γιατὶ αὐτὰ νὰ τὰ ἔχῃς ἐσὺ καὶ νὰ μὴν τὰ ἔχω ἐγώ;), εἶνε ἡ φιλοδοξία (ποῦ κάνει τὸν ἄνθρωπο νὰ πατάῃ ἐπάνω σὲ πτώματα, σὲ πυραμίδες κρανίων, γιὰ ν' ἀνεβῇ σὲ ἀξιώματα), εἶνε ἡ ζήλεια, εἶνε ἡ πλεονεξία, εἶνε ἡ φιλαργυρία, εἶνε... Κυκλοφορεῖ καὶ μιὰ νέα θεωρία·

– Ὅχι, παπούλη, λάθος κάνεις, λένε. Αἰτία δὲν εἶνε αὐτά· αἰτία εἶνε ἡ **φτώχεια**! Ἄν ἀφαιρέσουμε τὴ φτώχεια, τὸν οἰκονομικὸ δηλαδὴ παράγοντα, οἱ ἄνθρωποι ὅλοι θ' ἀγαπηθοῦν.

Συμφωνῶ ὅτι ἡ φτώχεια εἶνε κακὸς σύμβου-

λος, προκαλεῖ γκρίνια καὶ ἐπαναστάσεις· εἶνε ὁμως ἀφέλεια νὰ νομίσουμε πῶς ἅμα λείψῃ ἡ φτώχεια θὰ πάψουν τὰ δεινά. Νομίζετε ὅτι καὶ τὸ χρῆμα δὲν προκαλεῖ διχόνοια; Διάβαζα αὐτὲς τὶς μέρες τὸ ἐξῆς. Στὴν Ἀγγλία, **σ' ἓνα χωριὸ τῆς Σκωτίας, ζοῦσε ἓνα ἀντρώγουνο**. Ἦταν ἀγαπημένοι, ἐπὶ δεκαπέντε χρόνια πικρὴ κουβέντα δὲν ἀντάλλαξαν. Ξαφνικὰ ὅμως ἄλλαξαν. Τί ἐγινε· κέρδισαν στὸ Προ-πὸ ἓνα μεγάλο ποσό, ἑκατὸν σαραντατρεῖς χιλιάδες στερλίνες λίρες, δηλαδὴ δώδεκα ἑκατομμύρια. Καὶ τί συνέβη· δὲν πέρασαν δυὸ μέρες καὶ τσακώθηκαν μεταξύ τους· διαφώνησαν στὸ πῶς νὰ διαθέσουν τὰ χρήματα. Μόλις παρουσιάστηκε ὁ διάβολος – τὸ χρῆμα, χάθηκε ἡ ἀγάπη. Μάλωσαν, χτυπήθηκαν, πῆγαν στὸ δικαστήριον, ὁ ἄντρας δικάστηκε, πῆραν διαζύγιο, τοὺς πέθανε τὸ ἓνα παιδί, τὸ ἄλλο πῆρε τοὺς δρόμους. Τέλος ὁ πατέρας γυρίζει τώρα σὰν τρελλὸς στὸ μικρὸ του χωριὸ καὶ λέει· **Καταραμένη ἡ μέρα ποῦ κέρδισα ἐκεῖνα τὰ λεφτά!...**

Μπορεῖ, ἀγαπητέ μου, νὰ κάθῃσαι στὸ χωριὸ σου καὶ νὰ 'σαι πιὸ εὐτυχισμένος κι ἀπὸ τὸ βασιλιά· καὶ μπορεῖ νὰ 'σαι μέσ' στὶς πολυκατοικίες μὲ ὅλες τὶς ἀνέσεις καὶ ν' αὐτοκτονῇς. **Αἰτία τῆς διχονοίας δὲν εἶνε ἡ ἔλλειψι χρήματος**· κάτι ἄλλο λείπει, κάτι βαθυύτερο. Καὶ γι' αὐτὸ ἀκριβῶς φωνάζει ὁ ἀπόστολος Παῦλος.

\*\*\*

**Διηρημένοι εἴμαστε καὶ σήμερα**, ἀγαπητοί μου. Ἐνας φιλέλληνας διάβασε τὴν ἱστορία μας καὶ τὸ συμπέρασμά του ἦταν· Ἔχετε πολλὰ προτερήματα οἱ Ἕλληνες, ἀλλὰ ἔχετε καὶ μιὰ μεγάλη κατάρρα, τὴ διχόνοια. Ἄν δὲν εἶχατε τὴ διχόνοια, θὰ κυριαρχούσατε στὸν κόσμον.

**Ἡ διχόνοια** ποῦ μᾶς ἔκανες κομμάτια! ποῦ μᾶς ἔκανες νὰ χάσουμε τὴ Μικρὰ Ἀσίαν κ' ἐγίνεν ὁ τάφος τοῦ Κυπριακοῦ ἀγῶνος!

Εἶμαι μικρὸς καὶ ἐλάχιστος, ἓνας ταπεινὸς καλόγερος· πέρασα φουρτοῦνες καὶ τρικυμίες, ἔζησα μέσα στὸν ἐμφύλιον σπαραγμὸ, ἀνέβηκα στὰ ψηλὰ βουνά. Γι' αὐτὸ λοιπὸν σὰς παρακαλῶ, γονατίστε καὶ **παρακαλέστε τὴν Παναγίαν νὰ μᾶς φυλάξῃ ἀπὸ τὴν κατάρρα αὐτή**. Δὲν ὑπάρχει χειρότερο κακὸ.

**«Ἄνω σχῶμεν τὰς καρδίας»!** **«Στῶμεν καλῶς»** ὅλοι. Μιὰ κολυμβήθρα μᾶς γέννησε, ἔνα Χριστὸ καὶ μιὰ Παναγία ἔχουμε, ἓνα χῶμα θὰ μᾶς δεχθῇ στοὺς τάφους. Πέτρες, βουνά, λαγκάδια μᾶς φωνάζουν· Ἕλληνες, ἐνωθῆτε!

**Ἐνωθῆτε!** τὸ φωνάζει ὁ Χριστὸς, ὁ Κύριος καὶ Θεός· ὃν ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε, μόνον αὐτόν, εἰς αἰῶνας αἰώνων· ἀμήν.

(†) **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 2017 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

### *From the Acts of the Apostles*

Then the apostles and presbyters, in agreement with the whole church, decided to choose representatives and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. The ones chosen were Judas, who was called Barsabbas, and Silas, leaders among the brothers. This is the letter delivered by them: "The apostles and the presbyters, your brothers, to the brothers in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia of Gentile origin: greetings. Since we have heard that some of our number [who went out] without any mandate from us have upset you with their teachings and disturbed your peace of mind, we have with one accord decided to choose representatives and to send them to you along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. So we are sending Judas and Silas who will also convey this same message by word of mouth: 'It is

the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us not to place on you any burden beyond these necessities, namely, to abstain from meat sacrificed to idols, from blood, from meats of strangled animals, and from unlawful marriage. If you keep free of these, you will be doing what is right. Farewell."

And so they were sent on their journey. Upon their arrival in Antioch they called the assembly together and delivered the letter. When the people read it, they were delighted with the exhortation. Judas and Silas, who were themselves prophets, exhorted and strengthened the brothers with many words. After they had spent some time there, they were sent off with greetings of peace from the brothers to those who had commissioned them. (Acts 15:22-33)

Visit [www.ecpubs.com](http://www.ecpubs.com) for more publications.

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