

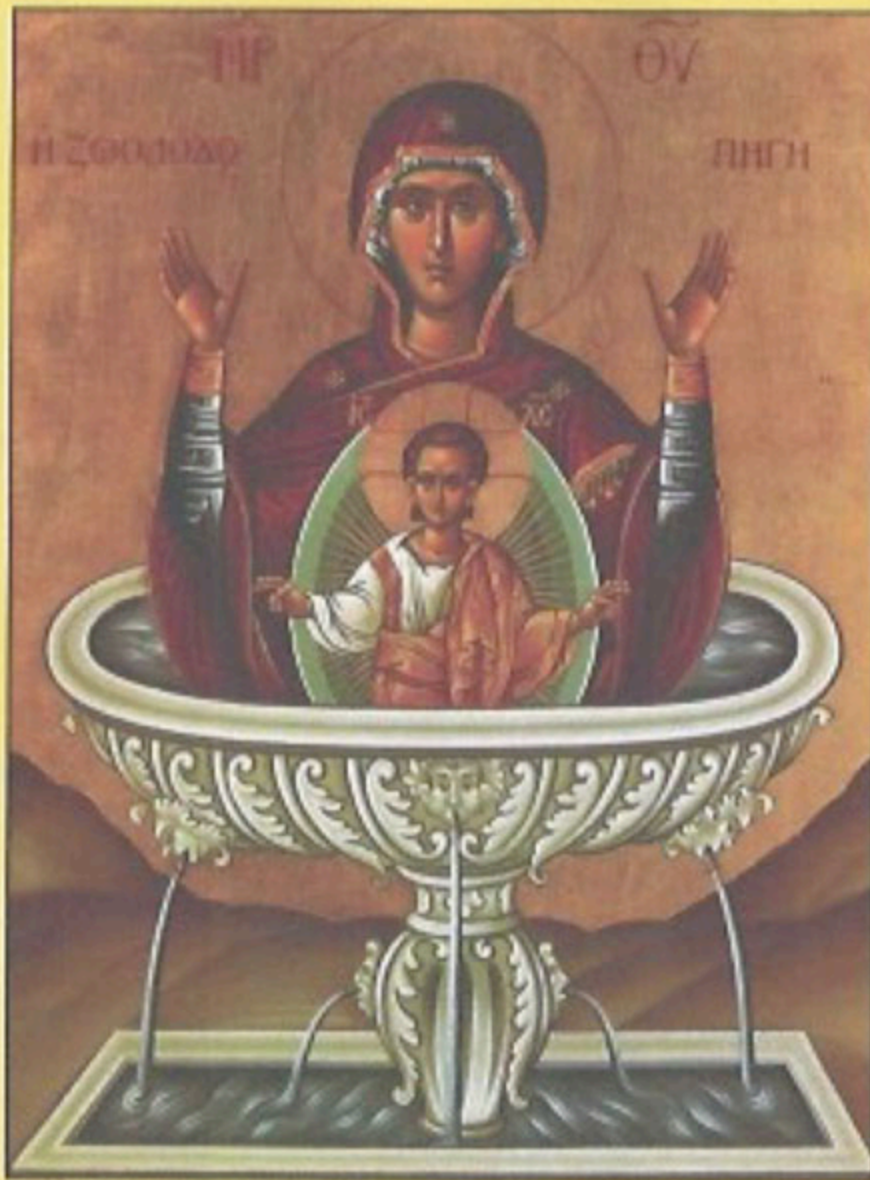


DIRECT ARCHDIOCESAN
DISTRICT

THREE HIERARCHS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

SUNDAY WEEKLY BULLETIN December 10th, 2017
V. Rev. Archimandrite Eugene N. Pappas

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
TENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE



Icon of the Fountain of the Mother of God

**Prokeimenon. Mode 2.
Psalm 117.14,18**

The Lord is my strength and my song.

Verse: The Lord has chastened me sorely.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 6:10-17

Brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand, therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the equipment of the gospel of peace; besides all these, taking the shield of faith, with which you can quench all the flaming darts of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

**Προκείμενον. Ύμνος β'.
ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 117.14,18**

Ἴσχύς μου καὶ ὕμνησίς μου ὁ Κύριος.

Στίχ. Παιδεύων ἐπαίδευσέ με ὁ Κύριος.

Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους 6:10-17 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα εἶναι ἀπο

Ἀδελφοί, ἐνδυναμοῦσθε ἐν κυρίῳ, καὶ ἐν τῷ κράτει τῆς ἰσχύος αὐτοῦ. Ἐνδύσασθε τὴν πανοπλίαν τοῦ θεοῦ, πρὸς τὸ δύνασθαι ὑμᾶς στήναι πρὸς τὰς μεθοδείας τοῦ διαβόλου. Ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν ἡμῖν ἡ πάλη πρὸς αἷμα καὶ σάρκα, ἀλλὰ πρὸς τὰς ἀρχάς, πρὸς τὰς ἐξουσίας, πρὸς τοὺς κοσμοκράτορας τοῦ σκότους τοῦ αἰῶνος τούτου, πρὸς τὰ πνευματικὰ τῆς πονηρίας ἐν τοῖς ἐπουρανίοις. Διὰ τοῦτο ἀναλάβετε τὴν πανοπλίαν τοῦ θεοῦ, ἵνα δυναθῆτε ἀντιστήναι ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῆς πονηρᾶς, καὶ ἅπαντα κατεργασάμενοι στήναι. Στήτε οὖν περιζωσάμενοι τὴν ὀσφὸν ὑμῶν ἐν ἀληθείᾳ, καὶ ἐνδυσάμενοι τὸν θώρακα τῆς δικαιοσύνης, καὶ ὑποδησάμενοι τοὺς πόδας ἐν ἐτοιμασίᾳ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου τῆς εἰρήνης· ἐπὶ πᾶσιν ἀναλαβόντες τὸν θυρεὸν τῆς πίστεως, ἐν ᾧ δυνήσεσθε πάντα τὰ βέλη τοῦ πονηροῦ τὰ πεπυρωμένα σβέσαι. Καὶ τὴν περικεφαλαίαν τοῦ σωτηρίου δέξασθαι, καὶ τὴν μάχαιραν τοῦ πνεύματος, ὃ ἔστιν ῥῆμα θεοῦ·

10th Sunday of Luke

The Gospel According to Luke 13:10-17

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 13:10-17 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, Ἦν δὲ διδάσκων ἐν μιᾷ τῶν συναγωγῶν ἐν τοῖς σάββασι. καὶ ἰδοὺ γυνὴ ἦν πνεῦμα ἔχουσα ἀσθενείας ἔτη δέκα καὶ ὀκτώ, καὶ ἦν συγκύπτουσα καὶ μὴ δυναμένη ἀνακῦσαι εἰς τὸ παντελές. ἰδὼν δὲ αὐτὴν ὁ Ἰησοῦς προσεφώνησε καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῇ· γύναι, ἀπολέλυσαι τῆς ἀσθενείας σου· καὶ ἐπέθηκεν αὐτῇ τὰς χεῖρας· καὶ παραχρῆμα ἀνωρθώθη καὶ ἐδόξαζε τὸν Θεόν. ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ ὁ ἀρχισυνάγωγος, ἀγανακτῶν ὅτι τῷ σαββάτῳ ἐθεράπευσεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς, ἔλεγε τῷ ὄχλῳ· ἔξ ἡμέραι εἰσὶν ἐν αἷς δεῖ ἐργάζεσθαι· ἐν ταύταις οὖν ἐρχόμενοι θεραπεύεσθε, καὶ μὴ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τοῦ σαββάτου. ἀπεκρίθη οὖν αὐτῷ ὁ Κύριος καὶ εἶπεν· ὑποκριτά, ἕκαστος ὑμῶν τῷ σαββάτῳ οὐ λύει τὸν βοῦν αὐτοῦ ἢ τὸν ὄνον ἀπὸ τῆς φάτνης καὶ ἀπαγαγὼν ποτίζει; ταύτην δέ, θυγατέρα Ἀβραάμ οὖσαν, ἦν ἔδησεν ὁ σατανᾶς ἰδοὺ δέκα καὶ ὀκτώ ἔτη, οὐκ ἔδει λυθῆναι ἀπὸ τοῦ δεσμοῦ τούτου τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τοῦ σαββάτου; καὶ ταῦτα λέγοντος αὐτοῦ κατησχύνοντο πάντες οἱ ἀντικείμενοι αὐτῷ, καὶ πᾶς ὁ ὄχλος ἔχαιρεν ἐπὶ πᾶσι τοῖς ἐνδόξοις τοῖς γινομένοις ὑπ' αὐτοῦ.

DEVOTIONS THIS WEEK:

Tuesday,	December 12th,	The Feast of Saint Spyridon was observed on the 10th.	
		The sacred icon will be on exposition for	all day.
Wednesday,	December 13th,	DIVINE LITURGY of SAINT EUGENE at	9:30 A.M.
		Our beloved Pastor will celebrate his Patron Saint Day with coffee and sweets at	11:00 A.M.
Friday,	December, 15th,	Feast of Saint Eleutherios will be observed with Divine Liturgy	10:30 A.M.
		on SUNDAY. Artoklasies are most welcomed.	
Sunday,	December 17th,	Liturgy of Saint Dionysios	10:30 A.M.
		Feast of the Prophet Daniel	

AGAPE COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: this Sunday is being hosted by Evanthea Karounos in Memory of * Penelope Chrisomalis Mendelson and + Theone (Toni) Panagakos

TOMORROW: Monday , December 11th , the LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY will host their annual Christmas SOCIAL in Whitehall at 7;30 P.M. All members are invited.

AHEPA NEWS: The Annual Men’s Society CHRISTMAS DINNER will be hosted by the Coney Island Chapter #200 at ‘ PERRY’S ‘ ON MONDAY EVENING DECEMBER 18TH , AT 7:00 P.M.

CHOIR NEWS: All Choir members and their spouse are invited to the CHRISTMAS DINNER on Thursday evening, December 21st at 7:00 PM.

WINE: (altar supply) is very limited. We are grateful for any and all donations for the purchase of the appropriate wine. Please see Father Eugene or visit KINGSWAY LIQUORS – our supplier.

GREEK SCHOOL PAGEANT : STUDENTS OF THE THREE HIERARCHS GREEK SCHOOL WILL PRESENT THEIR nativity program next Sunday December 17th. in the Church proper. Let’s encourage our students with your presence,

MANY THANKS: EVCHARISTO ! MERCI! GRAZIE ! GRACIAS ! DANKE! SPASIBA !
to an anonymous lady in the Parish who hosts the Prayer and Healing Service coffee sweets each month. The ‘ home made ‘ sweets and treats (Grecian delights) are enjoyed by all. May our Lord continue to extend grace abundantly to her!

GEORGIAN ORTHODOX BASKETBALL: The Georgian Consulate has established a basketball league TRAINING SESSION for young boys and girls which meet on Monday and Thursday evenings at Three Hierarchs gymnasium from 5:30 to 8:00 P.M. Interested youths may see the coach GEORGI at any session.


TOY DRIVE is still in operation with, anonymous boy and girl ‘toys’ ranging from infants to 12 years old (UNWRAPPED) These gifts may be placed at the icon of the Virgin Mary before the altar. The collected items are distributed to deserving children outside the parish community who are less fortunate God bless the cheerful giver. There’s a child in all of us.

RADIO MINISTRY: Each Saturday at 1:15PM Fr. Eugene hosts and produces the radio broadcast **MATTERS OF CONSCIENCE NOW IN ITS 19TH 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](#))


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 .

MEMORIALS TODAY: + FOTIOS and +KALLIOPE LOUZAKOS
CALLIOPE HOURMOUZIS +PENELOPE CHRISOMALIS MENDELSON

MEMORIALS NEXT WEEK: + JAMES PAVLIDES + VASILIKI PALOYMPIS



Good Bye 2017, Hello 2018



TROOP 531 - "THE GOLDEN GREEKS" PRESENT:

NEW YEARS EVE

Sunday, December 31, 2017
At 9:00PM

Three Hierarchs Greek Orthodox Church
1724 Avenue P, Brooklyn, NY, 11229

21 and Older: \$125.00
Under 21: \$80.00

For Reservations, Please Call 347-305-5332

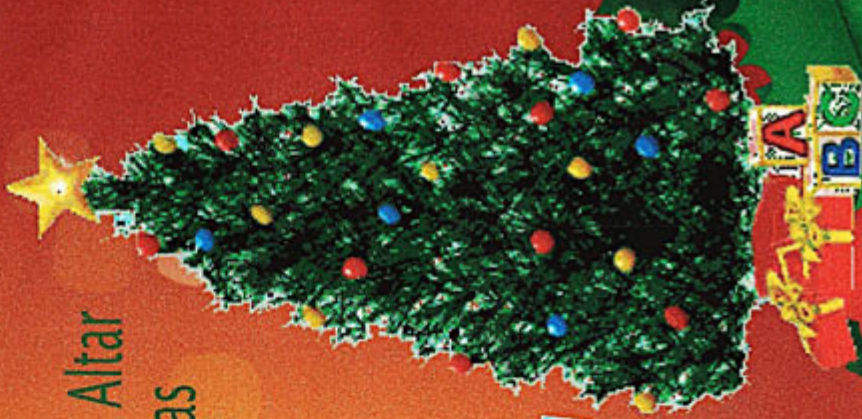
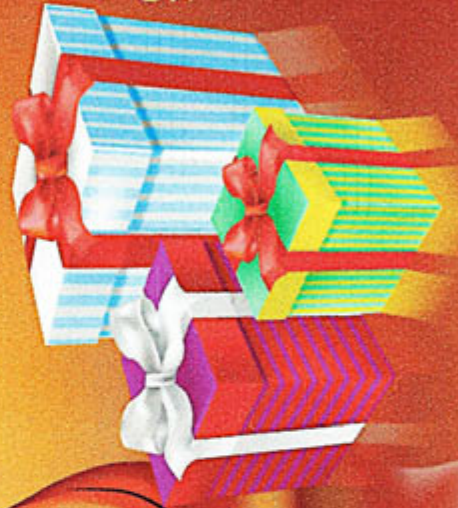
Price Includes:

Top Shelf Open Bar All Night
Gourmet Foods
Live DJ and Lighting



Toys for Tots

Place your unwrapped toys
at the foot of the Virgin Mary Icon by the Altar
Bring A smile to a Child this Christmas





ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ

ΣΥΝΤΟΜΟΝ ΚΗΡΥΓΜΑ



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

Ἐκδίδεται ἀπὸ τὴν Κοινοβιακὴ Γυναικεία Τετρὴ Μονὴ Ἁγίου Αὐγουστίνου Φλωρίνης - 531 00 ΦΛΩΡΙΝΑ - τηλ. 23850-28610 - imsafl@yahoo.gr

Περίοδος Δ' - Ἔτος ΛΔ'
Φλώρινα - ἀριθμ. φύλλου 2055

Κυριακὴ ΚΖ' [Γ' Λκ] (Ἔφ. 6,10-17)
10 Δεκεμβρίου 2017

Συντάκτης (†) ἐπίσκοπος
Αὐγουστίνος Ν. Καντιώτης

«Κοσμοκράτορες τοῦ σκότους»

«Οὐκ ἔστιν ἡμῖν ἡ πάλη πρὸς αἷμα καὶ σάρκα, ἀλλὰ ...πρὸς τοὺς κοσμοκράτορας τοῦ σκότους τοῦ αἰῶνος τούτου...» (Ἔφ. 6,12)

Εν πρώτοις, ἀγαπητοί μου, εὐχαριστῶ τὸν Κύριο ποῦ μ' ἀξίωσε νὰ ἔλθω σήμερα στὸ ναό. Θὰ σᾶς παρακαλέσω νὰ κάνετε ὑπομονὴ ν' ἀκούσετε ἕναν ἀδέξιο ἱεροκήρυκα, ὁ ὁποῖος θὰ σᾶς πῇ **λίγα λόγια** ἀλλὰ βγαλμένα ἀπὸ **καρδιά ποῦ πιστεύει στὸ Θεό**.

Ἀκούσατε τὸν ἀπόστολο; Εἶνε πάνω - κάτω 120 λέξεις. Ἄλλὰ ποιός μπορεῖ νὰ ζυγίσῃ τὰ νοήματά του; Κάθε λέξι κ' ἕνα ἀστέρι ποῦ φωτίζει. Ἀπ' ὅλες τὶς λέξεις θὰ πάρουμε μία μόνο. Γιατὶ φτάνει καὶ μία μόνο λέξι τῆς Γραφῆς νὰ φωτίσῃ καὶ νὰ σώσῃ. Ἡ λέξι αὐτὴ εἶνε **«κοσμοκράτορες»** (Ἔφ. 6,12). Τί νὰ σημαίῃ ἄραγε ἡ λέξι αὐτή; ποιοί νὰ ἔναι οἱ «κοσμοκράτορες»; τί εἶδους κοσμοκράτορες εἶνε αὐτοί; καὶ ποιά θέσι πρέπει νὰ λάβουν οἱ Χριστιανοὶ ἀπέναντι τοῦ κοσμοκράτορος καὶ τῶν κοσμοκρατόρων;

Κοσμοκράτωρ, ἀγαπητοί μου, εἶνε κυρίως ὁ **Θεός**: αὐτὸς ποῦ «ἐποίησε τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ τὴν γῆν» (Ἰά. 1,1), αὐτὸς ποῦ ἔφτειαξε καὶ κυβερνᾷ τὸν κόσμον, ὄρατὰ καὶ ἀόρατα. Ἄν κάποιος πῇ ὅτι τὸ ρολοὶ σας φύτρωσε στὸ χωράφι, θὰ πῆτε Αὐτὸς τρελλάθηκε· ἔ, πολὺ πιὸ τρελλὸς εἶνε αὐτὸς ποῦ λέει ὅτι αὐτὸ τὸ ἄπειρο σύμπαν ποῦ λειτουργεῖ σὰν ρολοὶ ἔγινε μόνο του.

Ἄλλ' ἐκτὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ κοσμοκράτορες λέγονται καὶ ὁ **σατανᾶς** μετὰ τὰ ὄργανά του. Τὸ προσδιορίζει ἀκριβῶς ὁ σημερινὸς ἀπόστολος. Ἔχουμε πόλεμον, λέει, ἔχουμε νὰ δώσουμε μάχη μετὰ τοὺς «κοσμοκράτορας τοῦ σκότους τοῦ αἰῶνος τούτου» (Ἐφ. 6,12) μ' αὐτὸν δηλαδὴ ποῦ τὸν γέννησε τὸ σκοτάδι, ποῦ κυλιέται μέσ' στὸ σκοτάδι, ποῦ ζῆ καὶ θὰ ζῆ μέσ' στὸ σκοτάδι. Ποιὸ σκοτάδι; Ὅχι τὸ φυσικὸ, αὐτὸ ποῦ φέρνει ἡ δύσις τοῦ ἡλίου καὶ τὸ ὁποῖο εἶνε εὐεργετικὸ· ὑπάρχει ἕνα ἄλλο σκοτάδι, σκοτάδι ἠθικὸ, ποῦ εἶνε φοβερό· κι αὐτὸ τὸ δημιουργεῖ ἡ **ἁμαρτία**, τὸ ψέμα, ἡ ἀπάτη, ἡ πλάνη. Εἶνε «τὸ σκότος τὸ ἐξώτερον»,

γιὰ τὸ ὁποῖο μιλάει συχνὰ τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο (Ματθ. 8,12 2,18 25,33). Μέσα στὸ σκοτάδι αὐτὸ ζῆ καὶ κινεῖται ὁ διάβολος, ὁ πρωτεργάτης τοῦ ψεύδους, ὁ δημιουργὸς τοῦ ἠθικοῦ καὶ πνευματικοῦ σκότους.

Στὴ μοντέρνα τώρα ἐποχὴ μας δὲν θέλουν ν' ἀκούνε τὴ λέξι σατανᾶς. Ἄν διαβάσουμε δμως τὸ **Εὐαγγέλιο** ἀπ' ἀρχῆς μέχρι τέλους, θὰ δοῦμε ὅτι μιλάει περὶ **διαβόλου, σατανᾶ, ὄφεις, πνευμάτων πονηρῶν**. Καὶ ὁ σημερινὸς ἀπόστολος ἀκριβῶς λέει: Δὲν ἔχουμε νὰ παλέψουμε «πρὸς αἷμα καὶ σάρκα, ἀλλὰ πρὸς τὰς ἀρχάς, πρὸς τὰς ἐξουσίας, πρὸς τοὺς κοσμοκράτορας τοῦ σκότους τοῦ αἰῶνος τούτου» (Ἔφ. 6,12).

—Μὰ τώρα, στὴν ἐποχὴ τῆς ἐπιστήμης καὶ τῶν πυραύλων θὰ μᾶς μιλᾶς περὶ σατανᾶ;...

Δὲν ἔχω καιρὸ, νὰ σᾶς ἀποδείξω καὶ μετὰ λογικὲς καὶ μετὰ φιλοσοφικὲς καὶ μετὰ ἐπιστημονικὲς ἀκόμη ἀποδείξεις, ὅτι **ὑπάρχει σατανᾶς**. Ἔνα μόνο σᾶς λέω, ὅτι ὅσο εἶνε βέβαιο ὅτι ὑπάρχει νύχτα, ἄλλο τόσο βέβαιο εἶνε ὅτι ὑπάρχει σατανᾶς. Τὸ βεβαιώνουν τὸ κακὸ - τὰ ἐγκλήματα ποῦ γίνονται, τὸ βεβαιώνει πρὸ παντὸς ὁ λόγος τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ καὶ τῆς ἁγίας Γραφῆς. Ἐκεῖ ὁ σατανᾶς καὶ τὰ ὄργανά του ὀνομάζονται **«κοσμοκράτορες»**.

—Μὰ γιατί ὁ διάβολος λέγεται κοσμοκράτορας; **τί ἐξουσιάζει;** Καὶ τί δὲν ἐξουσιάζει! ὁ θυμολογὸς λαός μας σὲ κάθε σκοτεινὴ ὑπόθεσι λέει: «ὁ διάβολος ἔβαλε τὴν οὐρά του». Παντοῦ λοιπὸν βάζει τὴν οὐρά του, παντοῦ διεισδύει.

● Πρῶτα - πρῶτα **στὸ σπῆτι**. Τί κάνει ἐκεῖ; Κλείνει καὶ ἀνοίγει τὰ μάτια τῶν συζύγων· δηλαδὴ, ἄλλοτε βάζει τυφλοπᾶνι καὶ κρύβει τὰ προτερήματα τοῦ ἑνὸς ἀπὸ τὸν ἄλλο, καὶ ἄλλοτε μεγαλοποιεῖ τὰ ἐλαττώματά τους καὶ «κάνει τὴν τρίχα τριχιά». Βάζει ἔτσι τὸ ἀντρόγυνο σὲ κατάστασι ἐκνευρισμοῦ, φιλονικίας καὶ μίσους. Βάζει καὶ τὰ παιδιὰ νὰ μὴν ὑπακούουν στοὺς γονεῖς καὶ τοὺς γονεῖς νὰ ἐξοργίζονται

έναντίον τῶν παιδιῶν. Βάζει τὴ νύφη καὶ τὴν πεθερὰ νὰ φιλονικοῦν. Λίγα σπίτια σήμερα ἔχουν ὁμόνοια· κυριαρχεῖ τὸ πονηρὸ πνεῦμα.

● Καὶ μόνο στὸ σπίτι; Καὶ **στὸ σχολεῖο**. Εἶνε μαρτύριο νὰ ἔνε κανεῖς δάσκαλος· χρειάζεται ἥρωισμό. Ἐκεῖνα τὰ μικρά, τώρα μάλιστα ποὺ ἀπαγορεύεται νὰ τοὺς τραβήξῃ τὸ αὐτί, ἔρχονται ἀπὸ τὸ σπίτι κακομαθημένα. Ἐννοια σας, μανάδες, ποὺ τὰ χαϊδολογεῖτε ὅταν λένε φέμα ἢ βλαστημοῦν, καὶ δὲν τὰ τιμωρεῖτε ὅπως οἱ παλιὲς γιαιγιάδες οἱ ἀγράμματες· αὐτὰ τὰ παιδιάκια μιὰ μέρα θὰ γίνουν θηριάκια. Ὁ κοσμοκράτωρ στὸ σχολεῖο βάζει τὰ παιδιά νὰ τυραννοῦν τὸ δάσκαλο, βάζει καὶ ὠρισμένους δασκάλους, ποὺ δὲν πιστεύουν στὸ Θεό, νὰ σταλάζουν μέσα στὴς καρδιὲς τῶν παιδιῶν τὸ φαρμάκι τῆς ἀπιστίας καὶ ἀθείας.

● Μετὰ τὸ σπίτι καὶ τὸ σχολεῖο ποὺ ἄλλοῦ νὰ πᾶμε· **στὰ δικαστήρια**. Εὐχομαι νὰ μὴ χρειαστῇ νὰ βρεθῆτε ἐκεῖ. Προτιμῆστε νὰ ζημιωθῆτε μερικὰ χρήματα παρὰ νὰ καταφύγετε στὰ δικαστήρια. Μόλις μπῆς ἐκεῖ, σὲ παρέλαβε ὁ μεγάλος ἑωσφόρος μὲ πρῶτο ἁμάρτημα τὸν ὄρκο. Καὶ ἀλήθεια ἀκόμα νὰ πῆς, εἶνε ἁμαρτία, γιατί τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο λέει «μὴ ὁμόσαι ὄλω» (Ματθ. 5,34), δὲν πρέπει νὰ ὀρκίζεσαι καθόλου. Ἐπειτα ἔρχονται τὰ ψέματα, οἱ ψευδομάρτυρες, οἱ σοφιστεῖες δικηγόρων ποὺ προσπαθοῦν νὰ κάνουν τὸ ἄσπρο μαῦρο καὶ τὸ μαῦρο ἄσπρο. Τὸ δικαστήριό σήμερα εἶνε κολαστήριό. Μολονότι ὑπάρχει ἐκεῖ τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο καὶ ἡ εἰκόνα τοῦ Χριστοῦ, βασιλεύει τὸ πονηρὸ πνεῦμα.

● Εἶδαμε τὸν κοσμοκράτορα στὸ σπίτι, στὸ σχολεῖο, στὸ δικαστήριό. Νὰ πᾶμε τώρα **στὸ στρατό**; Μόλις καταταγῆς καὶ ντυθῆς ἐσὺ ὁ Χριστιανός, θὰ δῆς ἕνα δεκανέα ἢ ἕνα λοχία νὰ σοῦ βλαστημᾷ τὰ θεῖα, τὸ Χριστό, τὴν Παναγία, τὰ πάντα· ὀργιάζει ἢ βλασφημᾷ ἀπὸ τοὺς μικροὺς μέχρι τοὺς μεγάλους· ἔχουν στὸ κεφάλι τὸ ἐθνόσημο μὲ τὸν τίμιό σταυρό, καὶ τὸν βλαστημᾶνε· τί προκοπὴ περιμένουν νὰ δοῦν;

● Ὁ κοσμοκράτωρ ἔχει ἀκόμα ὑπὸ τὴν ἐξουσία του ἀνώτατες σχολὲς καὶ **πανεπιστήμια**. Γι' αὐτὸ κάποιος, ποὺ τὰ ζύγιζε καλὰ τὰ πράγματα, εἶπε ὅτι τὸ πανεπιστήμιο πρέπει νὰ λέγεται ὄχι πανεπιστήμιο ἀλλὰ «πανσκοτιστήριό», γιατί ἐκεῖ δὲν βασιλεύει τὸ φῶς τῆς ἐπιστήμης. Πρὸ Χριστοῦ ὁ Πλάτων εἶχε πεῖ· «*πᾶσα ἐπιστήμη χωριζομένη δικαιοσύνης καὶ τῆς ἄλλης ἀρετῆς, πανουργία καὶ οὐ σοφία φαίνεται*» (Μενέξενος 246ε-247α περ. «Ἐλληνοχριστιανικὴ ἑταιρεία», 540/ἑρ. 2007, σ. 112). Ἡ ἐπιστήμη δὲν εἶνε κακὴ· ἀλλ' ὅταν ἀφαιρέσετε ἀπὸ αὐτὴν τὸ Θεό, καταντᾷ διαβολοεπιστήμη. Κι ὅπως εἶπε προφητικὰ ὁ Παπουλά-

κος, «τὰ ἄθεα γράμματα θὰ καταστρέψουν τὸν κόσμο». Αὐτὸ βλέπουμε σήμερα.

● Ἐκεῖ ὁμως ποὺ ἡ ἐξουσία τοῦ κοσμοκράτορος κυριολεκτικῶς καταδυναστεύει εἶνε τὰ σπίτια τῆς ἁμαρτίας, οἱ **οἴκοι ἀνοχῆς**. Πρέπει νὰ ντρεπώμαστε, πῶς μὲ τόση σοφία, παιδεία καὶ πολιτισμό, μὲ τόσοις κληρικοῦς, μὲ ἀστυνομί-ες καὶ δικαστήρια, ὑπάρχουν ἀκόμα αὐτὰ τὰ σπίτια. Οἱ ὑποκριταὶ καταργήσαμε τάχα τὰ κόκκινα φανάρια, καὶ γέμισαν οἱ πόλεις ἀπὸ τέτοια σπίτια, ποὺ ἐμπορεύονται τὸ ἀνθρώπινο σῶμα· φθάσαμε νὰ λένε, ὅτι ἐδῶ ὅλα εἶνε ἀκριβὰ καὶ τὸ μόνο φτηνὸ εἶνε ἡ γυναικεῖα σάρκα.

● Ὑπὸ τὴν ἐξουσία τοῦ κοσμοκράτορος εἶνε ἀκόμη τὰ **χαρτοπαίγνια**, τὰ **καζίνα**, τὰ **χοροδιδασκαλεῖα** (ὁ ἅγιος Χρυσόστομος λέει· «*ὅπου χορός, ἐκεῖ διάβολος*»), **θέατρα**, **κινηματογράφοι**, **κάθε ὀθόνη**· κατήντησαν «**σχολεῖα ἐγκληματος**», ἐκπαιδεύουν ἐγκληματίες μὲ δίπλωμα, ὅπως π.χ. αὐτὸς ποὺ σκότωσε τὸν Κέννεντυ (ἦταν τακτικὸς θαμνῶνας τῶν ταινιῶν).

—Μ' αὐτὰ ποὺ εἶπες μᾶς ἀπογοήτευσες, θὰ πῆτε· ὁ διάβολος λοιπὸν εἶνε παντοκράτορας;

Ἦχι ὄχι, μὴν τὸ πῆτε. Ἔνας εἶνε ὁ παντοκράτωρ, ὁ **Κύριος ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦς Χριστός**. Ὁ διάβολος εἶνε κοσμοκράτορας, ἀλλ' ὄχι σ' αὐτοὺς ποὺ βαπτίστηκαν, ποὺ ἐξομολογοῦνται, ποὺ διαβάζουν τὴ Γραφή, ποὺ πιστεύουν. Ἄμα πιστεύης, τί φοβάσαι; «Ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ ἦρθε, γὰρ νὰ διαλύσῃ τὰ ἔργα τοῦ διαβόλου» (1^η 1^η 3,8). Τί εἶπε ὁ Χριστός ὁ Κύριος; Ἦρθα στὸν κόσμον νὰ βάλω φωτιὰ (βλ. Λουκ. 12,49), νὰ γκρεμίσω τὰ κάστρα τοῦ ἐχθροῦ. «Ὁ οὐρανὸς καὶ ἡ γῆ παρελεύσονται, οἱ δὲ λόγοι μου οὐ μὴ παρέλθωσι» (Ματθ. 24,35. Μάρκ. 13,31. Λουκ. 21,33). Ὅποιος πιστεύει σ' ἐμένα, «τοῦ δίνω τὴν ἐξουσία νὰ πατᾷ ἐπάνω σὲ φίδια καὶ σκορπιούς, νὰ καταπατῇ ὅλη τὴ δύναμι τοῦ ἐχθροῦ» (Λουκ. 10,19). Ποιοὶ εἶνε τὰ φίδια καὶ οἱ σκορπιοί; αὐτὰ ἀκριβῶς ποὺ εἶπαμε, τὰ ὄργανα τοῦ σατανᾶ κ' οἱ πλανεμένους ιδέες τους. **Ἔχει, δηλαδὴ, δύναμι ὁ πιστός.**

Ἔλα λοιπὸν κοντὰ στὸ Χριστὸ καὶ **μὴ φοβάσαι** οὔτε μάγους οὔτε μάγισσες· δὲν μποροῦν νὰ σοῦ κάνουν τίποτε ἀπολύτως. Ὅλοι οἱ δαίμονες νὰ μαζευτοῦν —πιστέψτε με, ἀδελφοί μου—, κι ἂν ἀκόμα ἀνοιξοῦν οἱ «πύλες τοῦ Ἶδου» (βλ. Ματθ. 16,18) καὶ βγοῦν ὅλοι οἱ δαίμονες, καὶ ἂν γεμίσῃ ἡ γῆ καὶ τὰ κεραμίδια τῶν σπιτιῶν καὶ οἱ στρατώνες κι ὅλος ὁ τόπος, ἔχετε θάρρος. Δὲν θὰ νικήσῃ ὁ διάβολος, **θὰ νικήσῃ ὁ Χριστός** (βλ. 1^η 1^η 6,2)! ὄν, παῖδες, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ υπερυψοῦτε εἰς πάντας τοὺς αἰῶνας· 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

The Word Made Flesh Makes Us Divine

Our faith is not founded upon empty words; nor are we carried away by mere caprice or beguiled by specious arguments. On the contrary, we put our faith in words spoken by the power of God, spoken by the Word himself at God's command. God wished to win men back from disobedience, not by using force to reduce him to slavery but by addressing to his free will a call to liberty.

The Word spoke first of all through the prophets, but because the message was couched in such obscure language that it could be only dimly apprehended, in the last days the Father sent the Word in person, commanding Him to show Himself openly so that the world could see Him and be saved.

We know that by taking a body from the Virgin He re-fashioned our fallen nature. We know that his manhood was of the same clay as our own; if this were not so, He would hardly

have been a teacher who could expect to be imitated. If He were of a different substance from me, He would surely not have ordered me to do as He did, when by my very nature I am so weak. Such a demand could not be reconciled with His goodness and justice.

No. He wanted us to consider Him as no different from ourselves, and so He worked, He was hungry and thirsty, He slept. Without protest He endured His passion, He submitted to death and revealed His resurrection. In all these ways He offered His own manhood as the first fruits of our race to keep us from losing heart when suffering comes our way, and to make us look forward to receiving the same reward as He did, since we know that we possess the same humanity.

St. Hippolytus of Rome

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