

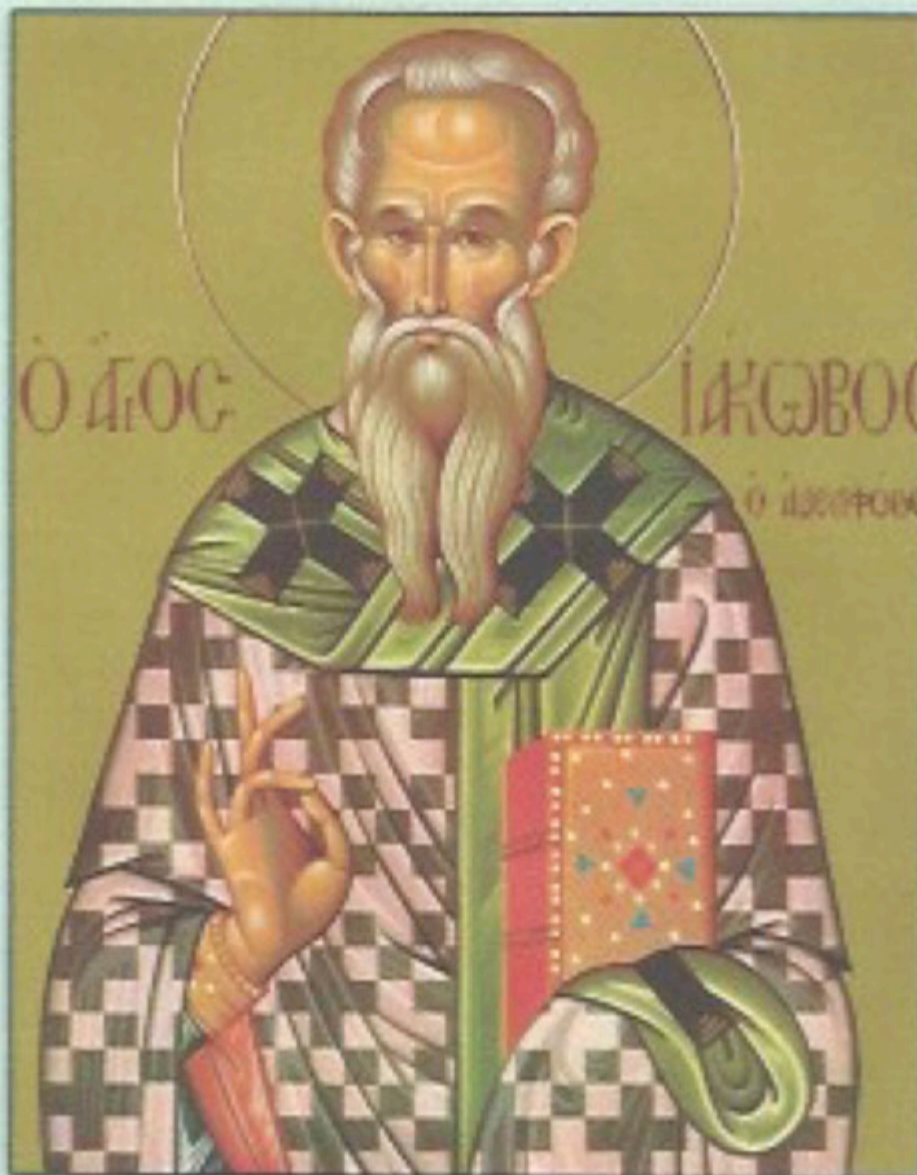


DIRECT ARCHDIOCESAN
DISTRICT

THREE HIERARCHS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

SUNDAY WEEKLY BULLETIN October 21st, 2018
V. Rev. Archimandrite Eugene N. Pappas

SIXTH SUNDAY OF LUKE



Icon of Saint James — October 23

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 Galatians 2:16-20

Prokeimenon. Mode 4.

Psalm 103.24,1

O Lord, how manifold are your works. You have made all things in wisdom.

Verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 2:16-20

Brethren, knowing that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me

Προκείμενον. Ήχος δ'.

ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 103.24,1

Ὡς ἐμεγαλύνθη τὰ ἔργα σου Κύριε, πάντα ἐν σοφίᾳ ἐποίησας.

Στίχ. Εὐλόγει ἡ ψυχὴ μου τὸν Κύριον.

Πρὸς Γαλάτας 2:16-20 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα εἶναι ἀπο

Ἀδελφοί, εἰδότες ὅτι οὐ ὁ δικαιοῦται ἄνθρωπος ἐξ ἔργων νόμου, ἐὰν μὴ διὰ πίστεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, καὶ ἡμεῖς εἰς Χριστὸν Ἰησοῦν ἐπιστεύσαμεν, ἵνα δικαιωθῶμεν ἐκ πίστεως Χριστοῦ, καὶ οὐκ ἐξ ἔργων νόμου· διότι οὐ δικαιωθήσεται ἐξ ἔργων νόμου πᾶσα σὰρξ. Εἰ δέ, ζητοῦντες δικαιωθῆναι ἐν Χριστῷ, εὐρέθημεν καὶ αὐτοὶ ἁμαρτωλοί, ἄρα Χριστὸς ἁμαρτίας διάκονος; Μὴ γένοιτο. Εἰ γὰρ ἂ κατέλυσα, ταῦτα πάλιν οἰκοδομῶ, παραβάτην ἐμαυτὸν συνίστημι. Ἐγὼ γὰρ διὰ νόμου νόμῳ ἀπέθανον, ἵνα θεῶ ζήσω. Χριστῷ συνεσταύρωμαι· ζῶ δέ, οὐκέτι ἐγώ, ζῆ δέ ἐν ἐμοὶ Χριστός· ὁ δὲ νῦν ζῶ ἐν σαρκί, ἐν πίστει ζῶ τῆ τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ θεοῦ, τοῦ ἀγαπήσαντός με καὶ παραδόντος ἑαυτὸν ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ.

The Gospel According to Luke 8:26-39

At that time, as Jesus arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, there met him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes and he lived not in a house but among the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech you, do not torment me." For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them leave. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned. When the herdsmen saw what happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country. Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gadarenes asked him to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but he sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 8:26-39 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἐλθόντι τῷ Ἰησοῦ εἰς τὴν χώραν τῶν Γαδαρηνῶν, ἣτις ἐστὶν ἀντίπερα τῆς Γαλιλαίας. ἐξελθόντι δὲ αὐτῷ ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν ὑπήντησεν αὐτῷ ἀνὴρ τις ἐκ τῆς πόλεως, ὃς εἶχε δαιμόνια ἐκ χρόνων ἰκανῶν, καὶ ἱμάτιον οὐκ ἐνεδιδύσκετο καὶ ἐν οἰκίᾳ οὐκ ἔμενεν, ἀλλ' ἐν τοῖς μνήμασιν. ἰδὼν δὲ τὸν Ἰησοῦν καὶ ἀνακράξας προσέπεσεν αὐτῷ καὶ φωνῆ μεγάλης εἶπε· τί ἐμοὶ καὶ σοί, Ἰησοῦ, υἱὲ τοῦ Θεοῦ τοῦ ὑψίστου; δέομαί σου, μὴ με βασανίσῃς. παρηγγεῖλε γὰρ τῷ πνεύματι τῷ ἀκαθάρτῳ ἐξελθεῖν ἀπὸ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου. πολλοῖς γὰρ χρόνοις συνηρπάκει αὐτόν, καὶ ἐδεδεσμεῖτο ἄλύσει καὶ πέδαις φυλασσόμενος, καὶ διαρρήσσων τὰ δεσμὰ ἠλαύνετο ὑπὸ τοῦ δαίμονος εἰς τὰς ἐρήμους. ἐπηρώτησε δὲ αὐτόν ὁ Ἰησοῦς λέγων· τί σοὶ ἐστὶν ὄνομα; ὁ δὲ εἶπε· λεγεών· ὅτι δαιμόνια πολλὰ εἰσῆλθεν εἰς αὐτόν· καὶ παρεκάλει αὐτόν ἵνα μὴ ἐπιτάξῃ αὐτοῖς εἰς τὴν ἄβυσσον ἀπελθεῖν. ἦν δὲ ἐκεῖ ἀγέλη χοίρων ἰκανῶν βοσκομένων ἐν τῷ ὄρει· καὶ παρεκάλουν αὐτόν ἵνα ἐπιτρέψῃ αὐτοῖς εἰς ἐκεῖνους εἰσελθεῖν· καὶ ἐπέτρεψεν αὐτοῖς. ἐξελθόντα δὲ τὰ δαιμόνια ἀπὸ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου εἰσῆλθον εἰς τοὺς χοίρους, καὶ ὤρμησεν ἡ ἀγέλη κατὰ τοῦ κρημοῦ εἰς τὴν λίμνην καὶ ἀπεπνίγη. ἰδόντες δὲ οἱ βόσκοντες τὸ γεγενημένον ἔφυγον, καὶ ἀπήγγειλαν εἰς τὴν πόλιν καὶ εἰς τοὺς ἀγρούς. ἐξῆλθον δὲ ἰδεῖν τὸ γεγονός, καὶ ἦλθον πρὸς τὸν Ἰησοῦν καὶ εἶρον καθημένον τὸν ἄνθρωπον, ἀφ' οὗ τὰ δαιμόνια ἐξεληλύθει, ἱματισμένον καὶ σωφρονούντα παρὰ τοὺς πόδας τοῦ Ἰησοῦ, καὶ ἐφοβήθησαν. ἀπήγγειλαν δὲ αὐτοῖς οἱ ἰδόντες πῶς ἐσώθη ὁ δαιμονισθεὶς. καὶ ἠρώτησαν αὐτόν ἅπαν τὸ πλῆθος τῆς περιχώρου τῶν Γαδαρηνῶν ἀπελθεῖν ἀπ' αὐτῶν, ὅτι φόβῳ μεγάλῳ συνείχοντο. αὐτὸς δὲ ἐμβὰς εἰς τὸ πλοῖον ὑπέστρεψεν. ἐδέετο δὲ αὐτοῦ ὁ ἀνὴρ, ἀφ' οὗ ἐξεληλύθει τὰ δαιμόνια, εἶναι σὺν αὐτῷ· ἀπέλυσε δὲ αὐτόν ὁ Ἰησοῦς λέγων· ὑπόστρεφε εἰς τὸν οἶκόν σου καὶ διηγοῦ ὅσα ἐποίησέ σοι ὁ Θεός. καὶ ἀπῆλθε καθ' ὅλην τὴν πόλιν κηρύσσων ὅσα ἐποίησεν αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς.

DEVOTIONS THIS WEEK:

Sunday	October 21st,	Saint Hilary (HILARION) the Great	10:30 A.M.
Thursday	October 25th,	Great Vesper of Saint Demetrios	7:00 P.M.
		Festal services are held in JAMAICA, ASTORIA NEW YORK CITY, MERRICK.	
Friday	October 26th,	LITURGY of GREAT MARTYR SAINT DEMETRIOS	
		Three Hierarchs Parish	9:30 A.M.
		Artoklasies	11:00 A.M.
Sunday	October 28th	GREEK NATIONAL OBSERVANCE of 'OXI-DAY'	
		Dedicated prayers to the Holy Theotokos	
		Greek School Students Program	11:30 A.M.

AGAPE COFFEE FELLOWSHIP : Is being hosted and served at the Daughter's of PENELOPE LUNCHEON in Whitehall at 1:00 P.M. Please support the ladies in their philanthropic works. All proceeds are directed to charity. **HAVE A GREAT LUNCH!**

DAUGHTERS of PENELOPE, DEMETRA CHAPTER #33 will host and serve their **ANNUAL LUNCHEON** in honor of their Patron Saint Demetrios **TODAY** in **WHITEHALL** at 1:00 P.M. A beautiful Grecian Meal with wine and soda, topped off with greek pastries and coffee, will be a delight for everyone. A grande raffle with **MANY PRIZES** will highlight the afternoon. Please see the **FLYER** attached for all details. **SEE YOU THERE?**

GREEK SCHOOL P.T.A. held its first meeting of the academic year and elected new officers for the organization as follows:

MRS. SYLVIA RAPTIS - PRESIDENT
MRS. APHRODITE STOILAS - VICE PRESIDENT
MRS. MARIA PLEVITIS - TREASURER

The Oath of Office will be invoked on Sunday , October 28th at the **OXI - DAY OBSERVANCE** in Church. **Best Wishes to All!**

GREEK SCHOOL RAFFLE: The children of our school through the P.T.A. will be hosting a raffle at the minimum cost of \$1;00 (ONE DOLLAR EACH) for a magnificent mounted wood icon of the **CHRIST PANTOKRATOR** of **CEFALU**. The drawing which will take place at Graduation in June will be solicited **ALL YEAR LONG** at each school program. Support the effort with a purchase of a **BOOK** of **SIX** raffles for \$5.00 . Every dollar counts! An image of the icon is on the centerfold insert. It is a large representation including the Holy Virgin Theotokos and the Archangels.

FATHER EUGENE : is privileged with the honor of being appointed by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios to serve for the next two year term on the **NATIONAL ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL**. He was also elected to serve on the Archdiocese of **NEW YORK** for the next two years. We are proud of this honor to our parish acknowledging the services and efforts of our pastor.

Open House Reception for His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America

On Friday, October 26th, His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, will be celebrating his Name Day, on the occasion of the Feast Day of his patron St. Demetrios the Myrrh-Streamer. In light of this most auspicious celebration, an Open House reception will be held Friday evening, October 26th 2018 at the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America (10 East 79th Street) in Manhattan. There will be a Doxology service beginning at 5:45 P.M. for the continued good health and blessed service of His Eminence , followed by a reception from 6:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

ST. MICHAEL'S HOME

On Sunday November 11th, 2018 St. Michael's will be hosting its Annual Name Day Gala at the Metropolitan Club in Manhattan Held in conjunction with the feast day of the Archangels. This event is an opportunity to herald the quality care that is being offered to our Greek Orthodox community and to raise critically needed funds. St. Michael's presents the annual Archangel Michael Award, an honor bestowed upon those who embody the finest qualities of the Greek Orthodox heritage and tradition. We are very proud to announce that this years recipient is **Madeline Singas, Nassau County District Attorney** . Your participation and support is critical to honor the legacy and heritage of the Home's contribution to the elderly community.

RADIO MINISTRY: Each Saturday at 1:15PM Fr. Eugene hosts and produces the radio broadcast **MATTERS OF CONSCIENCE NOW IN it's 20TH 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; + **ALLA ALEXEEVA**

Daughters of Penelope
Demetra Chapter #33



Luncheon

Today, Sunday October 21st, 2018

1:00 P.M. after Divine Liturgy

Three Hierarchs Church
Whitehall
1724 Avenue P
Brooklyn, New York

MENU

Roast Chicken with
Roast Potatoes, Salad
Wine & Soda
Coffee and Greek Pastries

Raffles!

WINNER!
!!!



All proceeds will
benefit the Daughters
of Penelope Projects

\$20.00 donation

For Information Please Call
Church Office
(718) 339-0280

LIFE OF SAINT DEMETRIOS

October 26,
Saints Demetrios and Nestor

Demetrios was a native of the city of Thessalonike, the city founded by Alexander the Great. Demetrios honed his keen oratorical power in the public forum. Thessalonike had a reputation for providing the brightest intellectuals and the most fearsome gladiators in the arena. In both the power of Demetrios was to find expression. Demetrios was in military service as well as a devout Christian. It came to the attention of the Emperor Maximianus, who had come for an annual exhibition of gladiatorial prowess in the arena. Demetrios met with royal displeasure. Demetrios was stripped of his military rank and cast into prison to await an uncertain fate.

It was at this point that the friendship of Nestor came to light. as great personal risk Nestor visited his friend in prison. One of the favorites of the arena, admired particularly by the emperor, was a giant man named Lyaaios, a seven-foot brute .

Nestor heard from Demetrios that the power of the Lord could be transmitted through him to any man and him invincible against any foe in the arena.

Buoyed by the assurance of Demetrios, Nestor stepped into the arena and shouted his defiance in the name of the Lord JESUS CHRIST.

The pagan crowd, thinking this some practical joke, roared with laughter. Nestor strode to the royal box of Maximinus and heard the young man invoke the name of Demetrios and the awesome power of God . Lyaaios was also brought into the pit. The crowd was brought to their feet in disbelief when the gladiator who had never tasted defeat was killed by Nestor. Nestor scorned the thumbs down signal of the mob who now screamed for death. The young Christian walked away from his prostrated foe..



The frustrated emperor ordered the deaths of both Christian companions Demetrios and young Nestor. They were executed without delay by the Roman soldiers. Many who left the Arena converted to JESUS CHRIST.



ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ

ΣΥΝΤΟΜΟΝ ΚΗΡΥΓΜΑ



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

Ἐκδίδεται ἀπὸ τὴν Κοινοβιακὴ Γραμματεία Ἐπεὶ Μονὴ Ἁγίου Αἰγυυστίου Φλωρίνης - 531 00 ΦΛΩΡΙΝΑ - τηλ. 23850-28610 - imazflo@yahoo.gr

Περίοδος Δ' - Ἔτος ΑΕ'
Φλώρινα - ἀριθμ. φύλλου 2127

Κυριακὴ ΣΤ' τοῦ Λουκᾶ (Λουκ. 8,26-39)
21 Ὀκτωβρίου 2018

Συντάκτης (†) ἐπίσκοπος
Αἰγυυστίνος Ν. Καντιώτης

Λεγεῶν δαιμονίων

«*Τί σοί ἐστιν ὄνομα; ὁ δὲ εἶπε· Λεγεῶν· ὅτι δαιμόνια πολλὰ εἰσῆλθεν εἰς αὐτόν*» (Λουκ. 8,30)

Πολλοὶ νομίζουν σήμερα ὅτι δὲν ὑπάρχουν δαιμόνια. Θὰ ἤθελα κ' ἐγώ, ἀγαπητοί μου, νὰ μὴν ὑπάρχουν· ἀλλὰ δυστυχῶς ὑπάρχουν, εἶνε μία σκληρὴ πραγματικότης. Ὑπάρχουν πνεύματα ἀκάθαρτα, ποὺ ἐπηρεάζουν μὲ πολλοὺς τρόπους τὸν ἄνθρωπο. Ἡ σελήνη καὶ ὁ ἥλιος ἀσκοῦν ἐπίδρασι ἐπάνω στὴ γῆ· ἐκτὸς ὁμῶς ἀπὸ τὰ οὐράνια αὐτὰ σώματα ὑπάρχουν κι ἄλλοι κόσμοι, ἀόρατοι, ποὺ ἡ ἐπιστήμη δὲν μπορεῖ νὰ τοὺς ἀντιληφθῇ· ἐκτὸς ἀπὸ τὰ φυσικὰ ὑπάρχουν καὶ ὑπερφυσικὰ φαινόμενα, ποὺ ἡ ἐπίδρασί τους εἶνε μεγάλη στὴ ζωὴ μας.

Θὰ ἤθελα νὰ συστήσω στοὺς διανοουμένους ποὺ ἀμφιβάλλουν γιὰ τὴν ὑπαρξὶ δαιμόνων· ἂς μὴ διαβάσουν τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο, ἂς διαβάσουν τὸ ἔργο τοῦ Ῥώσου λογοτέχνου Ντοστογιέφσκυ «*Δαιμονισμένοι*». Θὰ δοῦν ἐκεῖ, ὅτι μερικὰ ἐγκλήματα, ἀσύλληπτα στὴ φαντασία, μίᾶ μόνο ἐξήγησι ἔχουν· ὅτι ὁ ἄνθρωπος, καὶ ὁ ἅγιώτερος ἀκόμη, μερικὲς στιγμὲς διατελεῖ ὑπὸ τὸ κράτος δαιμονικῆς ἐπηρείας. Θεὸς φυλάξοι! «*Μὴ εἰσενέγκῃς ἡμᾶς εἰς πειρασμόν*» (Ματθ. 6,13). Πρὸ ἡμερῶν στὸ κακουργοδικεῖο Θεσσαλονικῆς δικαζόταν κάποιος γιὰ ἐγκλημα, ἐνῶ ἡ προηγούμενη ζωὴ του ἦταν ἀνεπίληπτη. Κλαίγοντας εἶπε· Πῶς τό 'κανα! δὲν μπορῶ νὰ καταλάβω πῶς ἔφτασα στὸ κακό· θόλωσε τὸ μυαλό, σὰν κάποια ἄλλη δύναμι νὰ μ' ἔσπρωχνε...

Εἶνε λοιπὸν **γεγονὸς ἐξακριβωμένο**, ὄχι μόνο ἀγιογραφικῶς ἀλλὰ καὶ φιλοσοφικῶς καὶ ψυχολογικῶς, ὅτι ἐρχονται στιγμὲς ποὺ οὔτε τὸ λογικὸ οὔτε ἡ συνείδησις ἀλλὰ μίᾶ ἄλλη δύναμις ὠθεῖ τὸν ἄνθρωπο στὸ «γκρεμό».

Ἄν κάποιος ἐξακολουθῇ νὰ ἀμφιβάλλῃ, ἂς πάῃ **στὴν Κεφαλονιά ὅταν γιορτάζει ὁ ἅγιος Γεράσιμος** (20 Ὀκτωβρίου). Θὰ δῆ ἐκεῖ, ἄνθρωποι ποὺ τοὺς πειράζουν τὰ δαιμόνια, μόλις φανῇ τὸ λείψανο τοῦ ἁγίου, νὰ σπαράζουν σὰν τὸ φᾶρι καὶ νὰ κραυγάζουν «Μᾶς ἔκαψες, καψά-

λη!»· καὶ νὰ θεραπεύονται μὲ τὴ δύναμι τοῦ σταυροῦ τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.

Ὑπάρχουν λοιπὸν πονηρὰ πνεύματα. Καὶ ὡς ἐδῶ μὲ ἀκούσατε· **θὰ μὲ ἀκούσετε ὄραγε καὶ στὴ συνέχεια;**

Ἐρχόμαστε τώρα, ἀγαπητοί μου, ἀπὸ τὴν περικοπὴ τοῦ σημερινοῦ εὐαγγελίου στὴ σημερινὴ κατάστασι τῆς κοινωνίας μας. Φαντάζομαι τὸν Κύριό μας νὰ ἐρχεται στὴν πατρίδα μας κι ὅπως τότε ρώτησε τὸν ταλαίπωρο ἐκεῖνον ἄνθρωπο, «*Τί σοί ἐστιν ὄνομα;*» (Μακ. 1,30), ἔτσι τώρα ρωτᾶει καὶ τὸν καθένα ἀπὸ μᾶς, τοὺς νέους καὶ νέες, μικροὺς - μεγάλους, γέρους καὶ παιδιά, καὶ λέει· «*Ποιὸ εἶνε τὸ ὄνομά σου;*».

Ἔχουμε ἀσφαλῶς ὅλοι ἀπὸ τὸ βάπτισμά μας **ὀνόματα** χριστιανικὰ καὶ ἑλληνικὰ, ὀνόματα ἁγίων· ἄλλος ὀνομάζεται Ἀνδρέας, ἄλλος Νικόλαος, ἄλλος Κωνσταντῖνος..., καὶ οἱ γυναῖκες ἄλλη Ἐλένη, ἄλλη Αἰκατερίνη..., καὶ ἄλλη ἔχει τὸ ὄνομα Μαρία τῆς Παναγίας Παρθένου· καὶ φτάνει μόνο τὸ ὄνομά μας, ὄνομα ἑλληνικὸ καὶ ὀρθόδοξο, νὰ μᾶς διδάξῃ. Ἔχουμε λοιπὸν καθένας τὸ δικό του ὄνομα. Ὅπως ὁμῶς τότε ὁ ἄνθρωπος τοῦ εὐαγγελίου δὲν ἀπήντησε λέγοντας τὸ ὄνομά του, ἀλλ' ἀποκρίθηκε «*Λεγεῶν*» (ἐλ), φοβάμαι, ἀγαπητοί μου, ἂν κἀνὴ ὁ Κύριος σήμερα τὸ ἐρώτημα «*Ποιὸ εἶνε τ' ὄνομά σου;*», μήπως λάβῃ παρομοία ἀπάντησι· ὅτι δηλαδὴ **καὶ σ' ἐμᾶς**, παρὰ τὴν ἐξωτερικὴ ἐμφάνισι, τὴ μόρφωσι ἢ τὰ πλοῦτη, **ὑπάρχουν πλήθη δαιμονίων**· καὶ τότε, ἀνάλογα μὲ τὸν ἀριθμὸ τους, σὲ γλώσσα στρατιωτικῆ, θ' ἀκούγεται ἢ ἀπάντησι· ἄλλος θ' ἀπαντήσῃ· *Τ' ὄνομά μου εἶνε «Διμοιρία», ἄλλος Τ' ὄνομά μου εἶνε «Λόχος», ἄλλος «Διλοχία», ἄλλος «Τάγμα», ἄλλος «Ταξιαρχία», ἄλλος «Μεραρχία».*

Μάλιστα. Ὅχι ἓνα καὶ δύο ἀλλὰ πλήθος δαιμόνια φωλιάζουν σήμερα μέσα στοὺς ἀνθρώ-

πους που φέρουν χριστιανικά ονόματα. Μή ξυπάξεστε, μην τρομάξετε. Και έξηγοῦμαι.

✓ Τὸν βλέπετε ἐκεῖνον; Ἀπ' τὸ πρῶι, πρὶν ν' ἀνατεῖλι ὁ ἥλιος, ἀντὶ νὰ πάη στὴ δουλειά ἢ στὸν οἶκο τοῦ Θεοῦ, ἡ πρώτη του ἐπίσκεψι εἶνε στὸ καπηλειό - οἶνοπωλεῖο, στὴν ταβέρνα, μαγαζιά που πλημύρισαν τὴν πατρίδα μας. Ἡ Ἑλλάδα ἔρχεται ἀπ' τοὺς πρώτους στὰ Βαλκάνια σὲ κατανάλωσι ἀλκοόλ, πάθος που καλλιεργεῖται καὶ μεταδίδεται ἀπὸ γενεὰ σὲ γενεά, καὶ θά 'πρεπε τὸ κράτος νὰ ἀσκή αὐστηρὸ ἔλεγκο καὶ νὰ τιμωρῆ κάθε παραβάτη. Ὁ δοῦλος τοῦ ἀλκοόλ θὰ πιῆ τὸ πρῶι, θὰ πιῆ τὸ μεσημέρι, θὰ πιῆ τὸ βράδυ. Τὰ χέρια του τρέμουν, τὰ πόδια του τρικλίζουν, συχνὰ δὲν περπατάει μὲ τὰ δύο πόδια, πέφτει μὲ τὰ τέσσερα, γίνεται τετράποδο ὅπως ὁ χοῖρος τοῦ σημερινοῦ εὐαγγελίου. Εἶνε ἀξιοθρήνητος· ἔχει τὸ δαιμόνιο τοῦ **ἀλκοολισμοῦ**.

✓ Τὸν βλέπετε τὸν ἄλλον ἢ τὴν κυρία τῆς ἀριστοκρατίας; Ὅπως οἱ νυχτερίδες, που κινοῦνται στὰ σκοτεινά, ἔτσι κι αὐτοὶ μόλις νυχτώση βγαίνουν καὶ ἡ πηγαίνουν σὲ καζίνο μὲ τυχερὰ παιχνίδια, ἢ μαζεῦονται σὲ ὠρισμένα σπίτια κ' ἐκεῖ, γύρω ἀπ' τὸ πράσινο τραπέζι μὲ τὶς τράπουλες στὰ χέρια, παίζουν ὡς τὶς πρωινὲς ὥρες, καὶ πολὺ συχνὰ φεύγουν ἀπένταροι. Ἔχουν τὸ δαιμόνιο τῆς **χαρτοπαιξίας**.

✓ Ἄλλο δαιμόνιο που ταλανίζει τὴν ἀγαπητή μας πατρίδα. Τὸν βλέπετε ἐκεῖνον τὸν ἄλλο; Μέσα στὸ κεφάλι του, ἀν τ' ἀνοίξης, δὲν θὰ δῆς οὔτε πατρίδα οὔτε θρησκεία· θὰ δῆς μόνο λεφτὰ καὶ τίποτ' ἄλλο. Ἔγινε ἕνας μπεζαχτᾶς, ἕνας ἄνθρωπος που μετράει μόνο τὰ δολλάρια καὶ χρυσὲς λίρες. Αὐτὸς πάσχει ἀπὸ τὸ δαιμόνιο τῆς **φιλαργυρίας**, ἡ ὁποία ἐξώθησε ἕνα προδότη νὰ πουλήσῃ τὸν Κύριό του.

✓ Βλέπετε κ' ἐκεῖνο τὸ νέο, που κάποτε ἦταν ἀριστοῦχος στὸ σχολεῖο καὶ στὶς σπουδές; Τώρα πιά δὲν προβιβάζεται, μένει καθυστερημένος, αἰώνιος φοιτητής. Τί ἔπαθε; Τὸν ξεμύαλισε ὁ ἔρωτας καὶ ἡ σαρκικὴ ἡδονή. Καὶ ὄχι μόνο ἔξεχασε τὴν ἐπιστήμη του, ἀλλὰ κινδυνεύει νὰ χάσῃ καὶ τὴν υγεία καὶ τὴ ζωὴ του καὶ νὰ πεθάνῃ μέσα στὰ ἄστυλα τῶν ἀνιάτων. Τὸ κυριεύει τὸ δαιμόνιο τῆς **ἀκολασίας**.

✓ Νὰ κ' ἐκεῖνος μὲ τὰ γκρίζα μαλλιά, που ἔχει παιδιὰ καὶ ἐγγόνια. Τὸν βλέπετε μιά μέρα κ' ἐγκαταλείπει τὴν ὑπέροχη τίμα γυναῖκα του καὶ τὰ χαριτωμένα παιδιὰ του, καὶ σμίγει μὲ ἄλλες γυναῖκες, ἄτιμες. Τί ἔπαθε αὐτός; Τὸν ἔδεσε τὸ δαιμόνιο τῆς **πορνείας** καὶ **μοιχείας**.

✓ Τὴ βλέπετε κ' ἐκεῖνη τὴν ἄλλη, που πετὰει τὰ ρούχα τῆς καὶ περπατάει γυμνὴ κ' ἐπι-

δεικνύει τὶς σάρκες τῆς λὲς κ' εἶνε κρέατα Ἀργεντινῆς; Αὐτὴ ἔχει τὸ ἴδιο δαιμόνιο μὲ τὸν ἄνθρωπο τοῦ σημερινοῦ εὐαγγελίου που ἔβγαζε τὰ ρούχα του, τὸ δαιμόνιο τοῦ **γυμνισμοῦ**.

Μακρὺς εἶνε ὁ κατάλογος τῶν δαιμονίων. Καὶ στὸ ἐρώτημα «Ποιὸ εἶνε τ' ὄνομά σας;» ἢ ἀπάντησι που ἀνταποκρίνεται στὴν πραγματικότητα εἶνε πάλι «Λεγεών». Κι ὄχι μόνο γιὰ **ἄτομα**, ἀλλὰ καὶ γιὰ **χωριὰ** ὁλόκληρα καὶ **πόλεις** ἢ ἴδια ἀπάντησι ἀρμόζει. Ἀθήνα, Θεσσαλονίκη, Πάτρα, Βέρροια..., ποιὸ εἶνε τ' ὄνομά σας; Ἔχετε ὠραῖα ὀνόματα, που ὑπενθυμίζουν ἕνα ἔνδοξο παρελθὸν τῆς ἱστορίας σας· ἀλλ' ἐὰν ἀπαντήσουν οἱ ταβέρνες, τὰ χαρτοπαιγνία, τὰ διαζύγια, οἱ ληστείες, τὰ ἐγκλήματα, τ' ἁμαρτωλὰ σπίτια, ἢ ἀπιστία καὶ διαφθορά, τότε χάθηκαν πλέον τὰ ἱστορικὰ ὀνόματα καὶ ἕνα ὄνομα ἀπέμεινε· «Λεγεών»!

* * *

Ὅσοι ἀσχολοῦνται μὲ τὸν ἄνθρωπο (δάσκαλοι, καθηγηταί, παιδαγωγοί, κοινωνικοὶ λειτουργοί, γιατροί, ἀστυνομικοί, δικαστικοί, εἰσαγγελεῖς...), βλέπουν τὸ θηρίο τοῦ κακοῦ νὰ ὀργιάζῃ στὸν κόσμο. **Δὲν πᾶμε καλά**, ἀδελφοί μου. Λεγεών δαιμονίων ἐνέσκηψε καὶ στὴν ταλαίπωρη πατρίδα μας.

Ἄλλ' ἂς ἔχη δόξα ὁ Χριστός. Ἐγὼ ἀκούω τὴ θριαμβευτικὴ φωνή, τὸ θούριο, τὸν παιᾶνα. Δὲν τ' ἀκούτε σεις; **Νίκησε ὁ Χριστός!** Ποιὸν νίκησε; Στὴν ἀρχή, μετὰ τὴ βάπτισι του στὸν Ἰορδάνη, βγήκε στὴν ἔρημο, νήστεψε, προσευχήθηκε, πάλεψε ἐπὶ 40 μέρες μὲ τὸ διάβολο, κι ἀπέκρουσε τοὺς τρεῖς πειρασμούς μὲ τὸ «Ἔπαγε ὀπίσω μου, σατανᾶ» (Ματθ. 4, 10). Καὶ στὸ τέλος, στὴ Γεθσημανὴ καὶ στὸ Γολγοθᾶ, ἐκεῖ ἔγινε τὸ Βατερλώ τοῦ διαβόλου. Πάλεψε «στὰ μαρμαρένια ἁλώνια» μὲ τὸ χάρο καὶ νίκησε τὸ θάνατο. Συνέτριψε τὶς πύλες τοῦ ἔθου, ἐσκύλευσε τὴ δυνάμι του, τοῦ πήρε ὅλα τὰ λάφυρα.

Νίκησε ὁ Χριστός! τὸ φωνάζει σήμερα ὁ δαιμονιζόμενος, τὸ φωνάζει ὁ ληστής ἐπὶ τοῦ σταυροῦ, τὸ φωνάζουν οἱ ἁμαρτωλοὶ που ἀπὸ κάρβουνα ἔγιναν διαμάντια, **τὸ φωνάζουν οἱ μυριάδες τῶν σεσωσμένων**.

Καὶ σήμερα ἡ κοινωμία μας ἔχει ἕνα ποσοστὸ ντοστογιέφσκειου δαιμονισμοῦ. Ἀλλὰ «**ἦ Κύριος ὁ Θεός**»! Θὰ δώσουμε τὴ μάχη, τὴν πνευματικὴ, καὶ πιστεύω ὅτι ἡ λεγεών τῶν δαιμονίων θὰ φύγῃ. Καὶ τότε χαρὰ καὶ ἀγαλλίασι σὲ ὅλους, καὶ ἕνας ὕμνος θ' ἀναπέμπεται στὸν ἐν Τριάδι Θεό· **Δόξα στὸν Υἱό, δόξα στὸ Χριστό**, τὸ νικητὴ τῶν πνευμάτων. Σ' αὐτὸν ἡ λατρεία εἰς αἰῶνας αἰώνων· ἀμήν.

(†) **ἐπίσκοπος Αὐγουστῖνος**

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 2018 commitment **TODAY!** The benefits you shall receive beyond grace include the satisfaction and knowledge that this Church and community thrive thanks to your outreach.

YOU ARE PART OF THE GREAT FRESCO OF FAITH

James the Apostle, Brother of the Lord

This Saint James (Iakovos in Greek) is called the Less (Mark 15:4) by the Evangelists to distinguish him from James, the son of Zebedee and brother of Saint John, who was called the Great. He became the first Bishop of Jerusalem, elevated to this hierarchical rank by the Apostles, according to Eusebius (Ecl. Hist., Book II: 23), and was called Obliah, that is, the Just, because of his great holiness and righteousness. According to tradition, this Saint James ascended the crest of the Temple on the day of the Passover at the prompting of all, he bore testimony from there concerning his belief in Jesus, and he proclaimed with a great voice that Jesus sits at the right hand of the great power of God

and shall come again upon the clouds of heaven.

On hearing this testimony, many of those present cried, "Hosanna to the Son of David." But the Scribes and Pharisees cried, "So, even the just one has been led astray," and at the command of Ananias the high priest, the Apostle was cast down headlong from there. While being stoned to death, and while he prayed for his slayers, his head was crushed by the wooden club wielded by a certain scribe. The first of the Universal (General) Epistles written to the Jews in the Diaspora who believed in Christ was written by this Apostle James.

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