# Three Hierarchs Greek Orthodox Church

Direct Archdiocesan District

SUNDAY WEEKLY BULLETIN September 27th, 2020
V. Rev. Archimandrite Eugene N. Pappas

## First Sunday of Luke

*Icon of the Catch of Fish (Luke 5:1-11)*

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**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 Second Letter to the Corinthians 6:1-10

Brethren, working together with him, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything

**Προκείμενον. Ήχος βαρύς. ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 28.11,1** Κύριος ἰσχὺν τῷ λαῷ αὐτοῦ δώσει.
Στίχ. Ἐνέγκατε τῷ Κυρίῳ υἱοὶ Θεοῦ, ἐνέγκατε τῷ Κυρίῳ δόξαν καὶ τιμήν.

Πρὸς Κορινθίους β' 6:1-10 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, συνεργοῦντες δὲ καὶ παρακαλοῦμεν μὴ εἰς κενὸν τὴν χάριν τοῦ θεοῦ δέξασθαι ὑμᾶς - λέγει γάρ, Καιρῷ δεκτῷ ἐπήκουσά σου, καὶ ἐν ἡμέρᾳ σωτηρίας ἐβοήθησά σοι· ἰδού, νῦν καιρὸς εὐπρόσδεκτος, ἰδού, νῦν ἡμέρα σωτηρίας - μηδεμίαν ἐν μηδενὶ διδόντες προσκοπήν, ἵνα μὴ μωμηθῇ ἡ διακονία· ἀλλ' ἐν παντὶ συνιστῶντες ἑαυτοὺς ὡς θεοῦ διάκονοι, ἐν ὑπομονῇ πολλῇ, ἐν θλίψεσιν, ἐν ἀνάγκαις, ἐν στενοχωρίαις, ἐν πληγαῖς, ἐν φυλακαῖς, ἐν ἀκαταστασίαις, ἐν κόποις, ἐν ἀγρυπνίαις, ἐν νηστείαις, ἐν ἁγνότητι, ἐν γνώσει, ἐν μακροθυμίᾳ, ἐν χρηστότητι, ἐν πνεύματι ἁγίῳ, ἐν ἀγάπῃ ἀνυποκρίτῳ, ἐν λόγῳ ἀληθείας, ἐν δυνάμει θεοῦ, διὰ τῶν ὅπλων τῆς δικαιοσύνης τῶν δεξιῶν καὶ ἀριστερῶν, διὰ δόξης καὶ ἀτιμίας, διὰ δυσφημίας καὶ εὐφημίας· ὡς πλάνοι καὶ ἀληθεῖς· ὡς ἀγνοούμενοι, καὶ ἐπιγινωσκόμενοι· ὡς ἀποθνῄσκοντες, καὶ ἰδού, ζῶμεν· ὡς παιδευόμενοι, καὶ μὴ θανατούμενοι· ὡς λυπούμενοι, ἀεὶ δὲ χαίροντες· ὡς πτωχοί, πολλοὺς δὲ πλουτίζοντες· ὡς μηδὲν ἔχοντες, καὶ πάντα κατέχοντες.

**Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 5:1-11 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα**

At that time, as Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all who were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἑστὼς ὁ Ἰησοῦς παρὰ τὴν λίμνην Γεννησαρέτ, καὶ εἶδε δύο πλοῖα ἑστῶτα παρὰ τὴν λίμνην· οἱ δὲ ἁλιεῖς ἀποβάντες ἀπ' αὐτῶν ἀπέπλυναν τὰ δίκτυα. ἐμβὰς δὲ εἰς ἓν τῶν πλοίων, ὃ ἦν τοῦ Σίμωνος, ἠρώτησεν αὐτὸν ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς ἐπαναγαγεῖν ὀλίγον· καὶ καθίσας ἐδίδασκεν ἐκ τοῦ πλοίου τοὺς ὄχλους. ὡς δὲ ἐπαύσατο λαλῶν, εἶπε πρὸς τὸν Σίμωνα· ἐπανάγαγε εἰς τὸ βάθος καὶ χαλάσατε τὰ δίκτυα ὑμῶν εἰς ἄγραν. καὶ ἀποκριθεὶς ὁ Σίμων εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ἐπιστάτα, δι' ὅλης τῆς νυκτὸς κοπιάσαντες οὐδὲν ἐλάβομεν· ἐπὶ δὲ τῷ ῥήματί σου χαλάσω τὸ δίκτυον. καὶ τοῦτο ποιήσαντες συνέκλεισαν πλῆθος ἰχθύων πολύ· διερρήγνυτο δὲ τὸ δίκτυον αὐτῶν. καὶ κατένευσαν τοῖς μετόχοις τοῖς ἐν τῷ ἑτέρῳ πλοίῳ τοῦ ἐλθόντας συλλαβέσθαι αὐτοῖς· καὶ ἦλθον καὶ ἔπλησαν ἀμφότερα τὰ πλοῖα, ὥστε βυθίζεσθαι αὐτά. ἰδὼν δὲ Σίμων Πέτρος προσέπεσε τοῖς γόνασιν Ἰησοῦ λέγων· ἔξελθε ἀπ' ἐμοῦ, ὅτι ἀνὴρ ἁμαρτωλός εἰμι, Κύριε· θάμβος γὰρ περιέσχεν αὐτὸν καὶ πάντας τοὺς σὺν αὐτῷ ἐπὶ τῇ ἄγρᾳ τῶν ἰχθύων ᾗ συνέλαβον, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ Ἰάκωβον καὶ Ἰωάννην, υἱοὺς Ζεβεδαίου, οἳ ἦσαν κοινωνοὶ τῷ Σίμωνι. καὶ εἶπε πρὸς τὸν Σίμωνα ὁ Ἰησοῦς· μὴ φοβοῦ· ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν ἀνθρώπους ἔσῃ ζωγρῶν. καὶ καταγαγόντες τὰ πλοῖα ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν, ἀφέντες ἅπαντα ἠκολούθησαν αὐτῷ.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE**: that as prescribed by monastic tradition, the first of each month commences with the CONSECRATION of HOLY WATER. ( A G I A S M O S ) which is both consumed and sprinkled for blessing places and objects to the service of the Lord. This week THURSDAY – OCTOBER 1st, this special service will be offered from 11:00 AM to 11:30 A.M. Bottles of Holy Water will be available for distribution. At this same service, those seeking recovery in spiritual and physical health may be anointed with EUCHELAION upon request.

**U.P.K CLASSES**: of our school will be closed tomorrow MONDAY, September 28th, by directive of the New York City Department of Education for Jewish religious observance for that day. Classes resume on Tuesday morning.

**PHILOPTOCHOS LADIES**: will commence the new ecclesiastical year with an afternoon meeting of the membership on MONDAY, September 28th in WHITEHALL at 1:00 P.M. All women of the parish community are cordially invited to attend. Refreshments will be served as usual. SEE YOU THERE?

**NEXT SUNDAY**: October 4th our Three Hierarchs CHOIR will observe CHURCH MUSIC SUNDAY and the honoring of their Patron Saint ROMANOS with an artoklasia for the faithful.

**NEXT SUNDA**Y: October 4th, we will have the pleasure of receiving ARCHBISHOP DANIEL of the UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE to address our faithful at the conclusion of the 10:30 Divine Liturgy. Archbishop Daniel is a long time friend and guest of our church faith community for many years. WELCOME YOUR EMINENCE! GOD GRANT YOU MANY YEARS

**ALTAR BOY SOCIETY**: of Saint Stephanos has come back strong to servicing the Sacred and Divine Liturgy on Sunday mornings. We have received overwhelming satisfaction and approval from those in church at worship and those via the live-streaming of our Sunday worship that their presence is inspiring and encouraging to return to church Sunday worship in person! Will we see you soon?

**BOY SCOUTS, CUB SCOUTS, GIRL SCOUTS** are all in full operation this month with each TROOP meeting on FRIDAY EVENINGS at 7:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M. in the community center. Are your children signed up? WHY NOT? It's a wondrous experience for them.

**GREEK SCHOOL**: is open with registration filled for the students return or just beginning their HELLENIC EDUCATION in language, religion, history, literature and culture. Young children can and do adapt to second languages easily if they are given the learning opportunity. We salute our faculty of renown MRS. ZOE ANASTASAKOS, MRS. MARIA HALKIAS, and our newly appointed teacher MS. EMMANUELLA KATSIBATAKIS from GREECE. Our P.T.A. PRESIDENT is MRS. SILVIA RAPTIS who continues to expend time, talent and treasure for the benefit of our school and students. AXIOI OLOI!

**MEMORIAL TRIBUTE NEXT WEEK:** will be offered for + EUGENIA COSMOS RALLIS on 40th day anniversary of her passing. May her memory be eternal.

**SENIOR CITIZEN CLUB**: will meet for the first time this season on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7th, in WHITEHALL at 1:00 P.M. With all the traditional events of birthdays, holidays, lunches, sweets and treats,……and ……B I NG O ! You're all invited! Come on down any Wednesday and join in the fun, fellowship and relaxation of your generation.

***A conference call is the best way for a dozen people to say "bye" 300 times.***

**THE SCOUTMASTER** asked, "How could you get lost? Didn't you have your compass?"

"Yes," the Scout replied, "but it kept pointing north when I wanted to go south!"

**WHAT DID** the pirate say when he turned 80? "Aye matey!"

**PROGRESS** is made by lazy people who are looking for an easier way to do things.

**A WOMAN** was taking care of a neighbor's little girl one morning. She arrived in time for breakfast and sat down at the table.

"Mommy always makes me hot muffins for breakfast," the girl said. Eager to please, the woman went into the kitchen and prepared a tin of hot, fresh muffins.

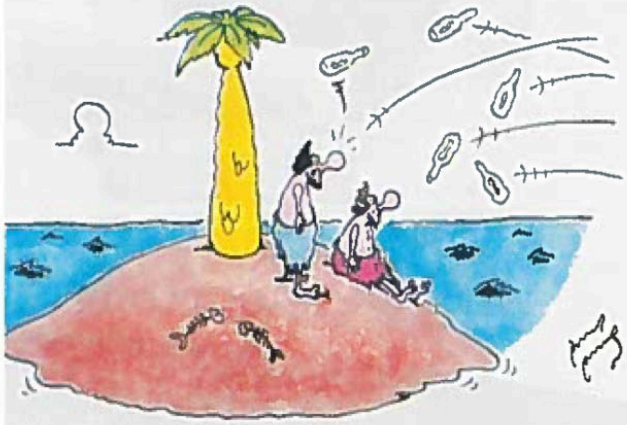
"No, thank you," the girl said when they were brought to her. The surprised woman replied, "I thought you said your mother always has muffins for breakfast."

"She does, but I don't eat them."

**WHEN A JOB APPLICATION** asks who is to be notified in case of emergency, I always write, "A very good doctor."

**WHEN TEMPTED** to fight fire with fire, remember that the fire department usually uses water.

**WHICH ARM** is the Statue of Liberty holding over her head? The one with the torch.



"These are the comments from my last message."

"Got any more? I'm carb loading before I fly south."

**WHY DOES** a slight tax increase cost you $200 and a substantial tax cut save you 30 cents?

**TO THE PESSIMIST,** the glass is half empty. To the optimist, the glass is half full. To the engineer, the glass is twice as big as it needs to be.

**A POLICE DETECTIVE** presented himself at the door of a music academy. "Excuse me," he said, "but I hope you can cooperate and give me any information you have."

"On what?" the receptionist asked, puzzled.

"We got a tip from the house next door that somebody was murdering a Mr. Bach, and the chief sent me down here to work on the case."

**"THE SECOND DAY** of a diet is always easier than the first. By the second day, you're off it."

*– Buddy Hackett*

# ONE SET OF FOOTPRINTS

*One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the Lord. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand—one belonging to him and the other to the Lord. When the last scene had flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints and noticed that many times along the path there was only one set of footprints in the sand. He also noted that this happened during the lowest and saddest times in his life. This really bothered him and he questioned the Lord; "Lord, You said that once I decided to follow You, You would walk all the way, but I noticed that during the most troublesome times of my life, there was only one set of footprints. I don't understand why, when I needed You most, You deserted me." The Lord replied, "My precious, precious child, I love you and would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering when you saw only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you..."*

# 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 Ἱερὰ Μονὴ Ἁγίου Αὐγουστίνου Φλωρίνης – 531 00 ΦΛΩΡΙΝΑ – τηλ. 23850-28510 –imaxelia@yahoo.gr

| Περίοδος Δ΄ - Ἔτος ΛΖ΄<br>Φλώρινα - ἀριθμ. φύλλου 2326 | Κυριακὴ Α΄ τοῦ Λουκᾶ<br>27 Σεπτεμβρίου 2020 ἑσπέρας | Συντάκτης (†) ἐπίσκοπος<br>Αὐγουστῖνος Ν. Καντιώτης |
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# Καλλιστεῖα στὸ Πασαλιμάνι – Ἡ δίκη

*(Τὸ 1953 προκηρύθηκε ἀρχικὰ ἕνας προκριματικὸς διαγωνισμὸς τῶν εἰδωλολατρικῶν καλλιστείων ἀπὸ «Ρέζ» τῶν Ἀθηνῶν μὲ ἀποδοκιμασίες τῶν πιστῶν ἔξω ἀπὸ τὸ κινηματοθέατρο. Ἔπειτα, τὸ βράδυ τοῦ Σαββάτου 27 πρὸς Κυριακὴ 28 Ἰουνίου, ἔγινε ἡ κυρίως τελετὴ τῶν καλλιστείων στὸ παραθαλάσσιο κέντρο διασκεδάσεως «Ἀρζεντίνα» στὸ Καλαμάκι - Ἀθηνῶν, ὅπως εἴδαμε ἤδη. Αὐτὴ ἦταν ἡ κεντρικὴ καὶ ἐναρκτήρια ἐκδήλωση μὲ ἀρκετὴ μέτρα ἀσφαλείας. Κατόπιν ἀκολούθησαν ἄλλες τέτοιες ἐκδηλώσεις σὲ συνοικίες, ὅπως ἡ ἀκόλουθη. Στὶς 29 Αὐγούστου δηλαδή, Σάββατο βράδυ πρὸς Κυριακὴ 30 Αὐγούστου, θὰ γίνονταν καλλιστεῖα στὸν κινηματογράφο «Παλλάς» στὸ Πασαλιμάνι τοῦ Πειραιῶς. Οἱ διαμαρτυρίες ἐπαναλήφθηκαν καὶ ἐδῶ ἀπὸ ἐργαζόμενα παλληκάρια τοῦ Πειραιῶς, ποὺ συνελήφθησαν καὶ μετὰ ἀπὸ δύο μῆνες, τὸν Ὀκτώβριο, γινόταν ἡ δίκη τους, γιὰ τὴν ὁποία ὁ π. Αὐγουστῖνος ἔγραψε ἄλλο ἄρθρο στὴ «Σπίθα»)*

Ὁ πατὴρ Αὐγουστῖνος πονοῦσε γιὰ τὴν ἐκμετάλλευσι τῶν ἀνθρώπων καὶ εἰδικὰ τῶν γυναικῶν. Ἐκεῖνα τὰ χρόνια ἄρχιζαν νὰ καθιερώνωνται τὰ καλλιστεῖα. Ὁ Γέροντας τὰ ὠνόμαζε «ἐμπόριο λευκῆς σαρκός», καὶ ἄρχισε τὰ πύρινα κηρύγματα γιὰ τὴν ἀφύπνισι τοῦ λαοῦ, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὴ δρᾶσι μέσῳ συλλαλητηρίων γιὰ τὴ ματαίωσι τῶν καλλιστείων.

Περνώντας ὁ καιρὸς τὰ καλλιστεῖα φούντωσαν καὶ ὁ ἀγώνας ἄρχισε μὲ παλμό. Ἐγὼ ἤμουν ἐγγένης, δὲν μὲ περίμενε κανείς. Μποροῦσα νὰ συμμετέχω σὲ ὅλους τοὺς ἀγῶνες.

Συνεχίζαμε, λοιπόν, τοὺς ἀγῶνες ἐνάντια στὰ καλλιστεῖα.

* * *

Θυμᾶμαι συγκεκριμένα γιὰ τὰ καλλιστεῖα ποὺ θὰ γίνανταν στὸ παραθαλάσσιο κέντρο «Ἀρζεντίνα». Στὶς διαμαρτυρίες συμμετεῖχε πλῆθος λαοῦ, γι' αὐτὸ ἡ κυβέρνησι ἔλαβε σκληρὰ μέτρα. Ἂς σημειωθῇ, ὅτι τὰ καλλιστεῖα θὰ τὰ παρακολουθοῦσε ὁ πρωθυπουργὸς τῆς χώρας Κωνν/νος Καραμανλῆς. Ἡ κυβέρνησι, φοβούμενη τὸ πλῆθος τοῦ λαοῦ, ἐπιστράτευσε ἀστυνομία, στρατό, καὶ τὸ πολεμικὸ ναυτικὸ ἀπὸ τὴ θάλασσα. Ὅλα αὐτὰ γιὰ τὴν ἀσφάλεια τῶν καλλιστείων. Ὁ λαὸς ποὺ ἀκολουθοῦσε τὸν Γέροντα ἦταν χιλιάδες. Ἔγιναν μεγάλες ἐπιθέσεις, φασαρίες καὶ συλλήψεις. Πρῶτος ὅμως μεταξὺ τῶν κρατουμένων ὁ πατὴρ Αὐγουστῖνος.

Τὴν ἑπομένη ἡμέρα ὁ χρονογράφος Δημήτρης Ψαθᾶς ἔγραψε στὸν Καραμανλῆ·

–Εἶναι φοβερό· κατέβασες τὴν ἀστυνομία, τὸ ναυτικὸ καὶ τὸ στρατό· μόνο τὴν ἀεροπορία δὲν κατέβασες…

Ὡστόσο, παρὰ τοὺς ἀγῶνες μας, ἐκεῖνοι συνέχιζαν.

* * *

Εἶχαν βγάλει διαφημίσεις γιὰ νὰ ἐκλέξουν τὴν «Μὶς Σαρωνικός». Τὰ καλλιστεῖα ὡρίστηκε νὰ γίνουν στὰ Πασα - Λιμάνι τοῦ Πειραιᾶ, στὸν θερινὸ κινηματογράφο «Παλλάς», λόγῳ καλοκαιριοῦ. Κομφερανσιὲ ἦταν ὁ Ἴκαρος, ὁ πιὸ δοξασμένος στὴ δουλειά του.

Πῆγα λοιπὸν στὸν Γέροντα καὶ τὸν ἐνημέρωσα. Τὸν παρακάλεσα ταπεινά, αὐτὴ τὴ φορὰ νὰ δράσουμε κάπως ἀλλιῶς. Νὰ μὴ διοργανώσῃ συλλαλητήριο. Γιατί, παρὰ τὶς παλαιπωρίες ποὺ περνούσαμε (συλλήψεις, ξύλο, δίκες), τὰ καλλιστεῖα δὲν ματαίωναν τὶς παραστάσεις. Τὸν θερμοπαρακάλεσα νὰ μὴν πῇ πουθενὰ τίποτα, οὔτε ἀκόμα στοὺς Ἀθηναίους ἀγωνιστάς. Νὰ ἀφήσῃ μόνο ἐμᾶς τοὺς Πειραιῶτες νὰ μποῦμε μέσα στὴν αἴθουσα, ὁ καθένας μὲ εἰσιτήρια κανονικά, ὡς θεατής, καὶ ἐκεῖ μέσα νὰ δώσουμε τὴ μάχη γιὰ τὴ ματαίωσι. Τὸ δέχτηκε, μὲ τὴ συμβουλή·

–Νὰ εἶστε φρόνιμοι.

* * *

Ἦρθε ἡ Κυριακὴ τῶν καλλιστείων. Πήγαμε διακριτικὰ καὶ καλοντυμένοι περίπου 70 νέοι, ναυπηγοί, μηχανικοὶ καὶ ἐργάτες, ὅλα τίμια καὶ γενναῖα παιδιά. Τὰ χέρια ὅλων, ὅταν σὲ χαιρετοῦσαν, νόμιζες ὅτι ἦταν ξύλινα· τόσο δουλεμένα ἦταν.

Ἄρχισε ἡ μουσική. Καὶ ὁ Ἴκαρος, ἐμπειρότατος κομφερασιέ, ἄρχισε τὰ καλαμπούρια του καὶ τὴν παρουσίασι τῶν ἐπισήμων καλεσμένων. Μετὰ ἔστησαν τὴν ἑλλανόδικη ἐπιτροπή, καὶ ὁ Ἴκαρος μᾶς ἔδωσε τὸ δικαίωμα νὰ φωνάζουμε καὶ νὰ ἐπιδοκιμάζουμε τὶς κρίσεις τῆς ἐπιτροπῆς.

Ἀστυνομία δὲν ὑπῆρχε, ἀλλὰ γνωρίζαμε ὅτι ἅπου ὑπάρχει μεγάλη συγκέντρωσι, πάντα ὑπάρχουν καὶ οἱ ἄνθρωποι τῆς ἀσφάλειας, ἀκόμα καὶ μπράβοι τοῦ ὑπόκοσμου.

Προχωροῦσαν λοιπὸν μία - μία οἱ ὑποψηφίες καὶ ὁ κόσμος χειροκροτοῦσε καὶ ἐπιδοκίμαζε. Ἀφοῦ προχώρησαν ἀρκετά, ἀρχίσαμε ἀπὸ διαφορετικὲς θέσεις ἐμεῖς νὰ φωνάζουμε «Αἴσχος». Ὁ Ἴκαρος ἀγρίεψε καὶ εἶπε σταῦς μπράβους νὰ προσέχουν. Οἱ μπράβοι κάτω ἀπὸ τὴ σκηνὴ δοσοῦς ἐπιχειροῦσαν ν' ἀνέβουν τοὺς ξυλοκοποῦσαν. Ἀλλὰ ἐμεῖς ἤμασταν σκληραγωγημένοι ἅλοι. Κάναμε σάλτο στὴ σκηνὴ καὶ τὰ σκηνικὰ διαλύθηκαν. Ἡ ἑλλανόδικος ἐπιτροπὴ πλήρωσε ὅπως τῆς ἔπρεπε. Ὁ Ἴκαρος λιποθύμησε. Οἱ ἀσφα-

λῖτες, ποὺ ἄρχισαν νὰ χτυποῦν μὲ τὰ πολιτικά, ἔφαγαν ἀρκετὸ ζύλο, διότι δὲν τοὺς γνωρίζαμε. Εἰδοποιήθηκε ἡ ἀστυνομία καὶ ἔκλεισε τὶς πόρτες. Οἱ ὑποψήφιες κοπέλλες μάζεψαν στὴν ἀγκαλιά τους τὰ ροῦχα πανικόβλητες. Ἦρθαν πυροσβεστικές, ἀφύριζαν μὲ τὶς σειρῆνες, ὅλος ὁ Πειραιᾶς ἔτρεχε νὰ δῆ τί συμβαίνει.

* * *

Ὁ Γέροντας ἀπὸ νωρὶς ἔστειλε ὡρισμένους νέους ἐμπειρους νὰ παρακολουθοῦν ἀπ' ἔξω καὶ νὰ τὸν εἰδοποιήσουν.

Σπάσαν οἱ τζαμαρίες τοῦ μπάρ. Ἡ ἀστυνομία ἄρχισε τὶς συλλήψεις. Τὰ καλλιστεῖα διαλύθηκαν ἄδοξα.

Τὰ μεσάνυχτα ἄνοιξαν τὶς πόρτες καὶ ὅλοι περνοῦσαν ἀπὸ ἔλεγχο. Συνέλαβαν 12 ἄτομα. Μᾶς κατέβασαν στὴ μεγάλη χειμερινὴ αἴθουσα καὶ μᾶς πέρασαν χειροπέδες. Βλαστημοῦσαν καὶ μᾶς χτυποῦσαν. Πήγαμε στὸ τμῆμα μὲ τὰ πόδια.

Ὁ Γέροντας στὶς 3 μετὰ τὰ μεσάνυχτα τηλεφώνησε στὸν ἐπίσκοπο ταῦ Πειραιᾶ. Τὸν ξύπνησε καὶ τοῦ εἶπε·

–Κοιμᾶσαι, εὐλογημένε; Σήμερα ἑορτάζουν οἱ 12 μάρτυρες, ποὺ μαρτύρησαν στὸ τάδε θέατρο γιὰ τὰ ἀντίχριστα καμώματα.

–Γι' αὐτὸ μὲ ξύπνησες;

–Ὄχι, ἀλλὰ τὰ παιδιά σου, τὰ παιδιὰ τοῦ Πειραιᾶ, εἶναι φυλακισμένα στὸ τμῆμα. Πήγαινε νὰ δῆς τὰ ποίμνιό σου.

Ὁ δεσπότης ἦρθε στὸ τμῆμα καὶ μᾶς ρώτησε τί κάναμε. Ταῦ εἴπαμε ὅ,τι ἔγινε· ἀλλὰ τὰ παράπονό μας ἦταν, ὅτι ἀκόμα καὶ στὰ τμῆμα οἱ ἀστυνομικοὶ βλαστημοῦσαν τὰ θεῖα. Πῆγε στὰ γραφεῖο τοῦ διοικητοῦ καὶ ἐγγυήθηκε γιὰ μᾶς, ὅτι θὰ παρουσιασταῦμε στὰ δικαστήρια καὶ δὲν θὰ ἐξαφανιστοῦμε, καὶ μᾶς ἄφησαν ἐλεύθερους.

### Ἡ δίκη μας

Ὅταν ὡρίστηκε τὸ δικαστήριο ἐνεργήσαμε γιὰ νὰ βροῦμε δικηγόρο. Εἴπαμε στὸν κ. Μόσχο, ποὺ ἦταν στέλεχος τῆς «Ζωῆς» (ἐκείνη τὴ χρονιὰ ἦταν ἀντιπρόσωπος στὸ συνέδριο τῶν ἐκκλησιῶν). Ἡ ἀπάντησί του ἦταν·

–Δὲν ὑποστηρίζω ποτὲ χριστιανοὺς ποὺ ἀγωνίζονται στὰ πεζοδρόμια.

Εἴπαμε στὸν κ. Ψαρουδάκη καὶ μᾶς εἶπε·

–Δὲν ἔρχομαι, γιατὶ δὲν θὰ κάνουμε τίποτα.

Οἱ κατηγορίες ἦταν πάρα πολλές· ματαίωση τῶν καλλιστείων, μεγάλες ζημιὲς στὸ μπάρ, ξυλοδαρμὸς ἀστυνομικῶν κ.ἄ.. Ὁ Γέροντας, ἀφοῦ δὲν δεχόταν κανένας νὰ μᾶς ὑπερασπιστῆ, εἶπε ὅτι θὰ ἔρθη ἐκεῖνος·

–Στὸν Πειραιᾶ δίκασαν καὶ τὸν «Παπουλάκο», καὶ δὲν ἔβαλε συνήγορο· καὶ ἅταν τὸν ρώτησε ὁ πρόεδρος, ἀπάντησε ὅτι συνήγορο ἔχει τὸν Κύριο ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστό.

* * *

Ἐκείνη τὴν ἐποχὴ δὲν ὑπῆρχε δικαστικὸ μέγαρο στὸν Πειραιᾶ, γιατὶ εἶχε καταστραφῆ στὸν πόλεμο. Ἡ δίκη μας θὰ γινόταν σ' ἕνα πολὺ μεγάλο κατάστημα παραπλεύρως ἀπὸ τὴν πλατεῖα τῆς Τερψιθέας. Τὸ δικαστήριο ἦταν πενταμελές. Ἡ αἴθουσα ἦταν γεμάτη ἀσφυκτικά. Μέσα στὴν αἴθουσα ἔτυχε νὰ εἶναι παρὼν ὁ Σῖμος, ὁ ἀρχηγὸς τῶν ὑπαρξιστῶν. Ἔτρωγε κουλούρι, καὶ ὁ πρόεδρος διέταξε νὰ τὸν βγάλουν ἔξω λόγῳ ἀνάρμοστης συμπεριφορᾶς.

Ἦρθε ἡ ὥρα. Μᾶς φώναξαν ἕναν - ἕναν καὶ τοὺς 12, ἀλλὰ δὲν ὑπῆρχε χῶρος καὶ βολευτήκαμε ὄρθιοι. Μᾶς ρώτησε ὁ κ. πρόεδρος ἂν εἴχαμε δικηγόρο. Ὅταν ἀπαντήσαμε ἀρνητικά, πετάχτηκε ὁ παπᾶ Αὐγουστῖνος, λιτὰς καὶ ἀσκητικὸς ὅπως ἦταν πάντα. Παρουσιάστηκε μπροστὰ καὶ ἀνέλαβε ὅλη τὴν εὐθύνη ἐπάνω του. Ὁ κ. πρόεδρος τὸν ρώτησε τί γράμματα ξέρει.

–Τὰ γράμματα τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.

Ξαφνικὰ ἕνας ἡλιὸς ἡλικιωμένος καὶ ἐπιβλητικὸς κύριος, ποὺ ἦτανε δικηγόρος καὶ ἔτυχε νὰ βρίσκεται στὴν αἴθουσα ἐκείνη γιὰ μιὰ ἄλλη ὑπόθεσι, πῆρε τὸ λόγο καὶ εἶπε·

–Εἶναι περιττὸ νὰ συστηθῶ, γιατὶ μὲ γνωρίζετε πολὺ καλά. Ἄκουσα ποὺ διαβάζατε τὸ τρομερὸ κατηγορητήριο τῶν 12 νέων καὶ λαχτάρησα. Ἂν καὶ βρίσκομαι στὸ τέλος τῆς καριέρας μου, εὐχαριστῶ τὸν Θεὸ ποὺ μοῦ δίδεται ἡ μοναδικὴ εὐκαιρία νὰ ὑπερασπισθῶ τοὺς ἀξίους αὐτοὺς νέους, ἀνιδιοτελῶς. Πιστέψτε εἰς τὴν τιμή μου, ὅτι οὐδόλως γνωρίζω τὸν παπουλάκο καὶ τοὺς χαριτωμένους νέους κατηγορουμένους. Εἶναι ἡ εὐτυχέστερη ἡμέρα τῆς καριέρας μου, γιατὶ στὴν οὐσία θὰ ὑπερασπισθῶ τὸν Κύριο ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστό...

Θὰ χρειαζόταν βιβλίο ὁλόκληρο γιὰ νὰ γραφῆ ἡ ἀγόρευσί του. Συγκινήθηκε ὅλα τὸ ἀκροατήριο. Ἡ αἴθουσα ἦταν γεμάτη μέχρι τὸ πεζοδρόμιο. Ἐκεῖ βρισκόταν ἕνας κουλαρᾶς καθηλωμένος μὲ τὸν ταβλᾶ στὸ κεφάλι του καὶ ἄκουγε δακρυσμένος. Ὁ εὐαγγελίας, ὅταν εἶδε τὰ δάκρυα ταῦ κουλουρᾶ (διότι ἡ ἕξέδρα τῶν δικαστῶν ἦταν ψηλή), μὲ συγκίνησι καὶ ἐκεῖνος σηκώθηκε ὄρθιος καὶ εἶπε·

–Συγκινεῖται ὁ λαός μας. Συγκινημένος καὶ ὁ κουλουρᾶς, μὲ τὸ βάρος τῆς τάβλας πάνω στὸ κεφάλι του, καθηλωμένος τρεῖς ὧρες, ἀψηφώντας ὅτι θὰ τοῦ μείνουν ἀπούλητα τὰ κουλούρια του.

Ἀνέφερε ἀκόμη ὅτι ἦταν καὶ ὁ ἴδιος συγκινημένος, γιατὶ καὶ ὁ ἀδελφός του πέθανε στὴν Ἀλβανία ὑπερασπιζόμενος τὴν πίστι καὶ τὴν πατρίδα.

Στὸ τέλος τῆς δίκης ζανασηκώθηκε πάλι ὄρθιος καὶ εἶπε·

–Εἶμαι ὑποχρεωμένος νὰ κρίνω μὲ τὸ ρωμαϊκὸ δίκαιο. Ἀψηφώντας τὴν ἔκθεσι ποὺ θὰ μοῦ κάνουν, θὰ κρίνω μὲ τὸ χριστιανικὸ δίκαιο. Κρίνω λοιπὸν ἀθῷους τοὺς νεαροὺς κατηγορουμένους. Καὶ προτρέπω τὴ νεολαία μας ν' ἀκολουθήση μὲ γενναιότητα τὸν Χριστό, γιὰ νὰ δῆ ἡ πατρίδα μας καλύτερες μέρες.

Ἡ ἀγόρευσι ταῦ δικηγόρου μᾶς κατέπληξε. Τρεῖς ὧρες κράτησε! Χειμάρρος ὁρμητικός, καὶ χωρὶς νὰ ἔχη ἑτοιμαστῆ, διότι δὲν μᾶς γνώριζε – τὸν Γέροντα τὸν γνώριζε μόνο ἐξ ἀκοῆς.

Ὅταν τελείωσε ἡ δίκη, ὁ σεβαστὸς Γέροντας ἀνέβηκε μαζί μας στὴν πλατεῖα Τερψιθέας. Τυχαῖα τότε κάποιος φωτογράφος μᾶς φωτογράφισε τὴν ὥρα ποὺ βαδίζαμε μαζί του. Αὐτὴ τὴ φωταγραφία αὖς τὴν ἀποστέλλω. Μὲ τὴν πρώτη εὐκαιρία ὁ Γέροντας ἔβγαλε τὴν «Σπίθα» μὲ τὸν τίτλο *«Τὸ δάκρυ ταῦ λαοῦ»* (φ. 149/Ὀκτ. 1953).

**(†) Ἀντώνιος Π. Ἰωαννίδης**

(Δημοσιεύθηκε ἀπὸ ἀγνωστο δημοσιογράφο στὴν ἐφημερίδα «Ἔθνος», Ἀθῆνα, φφ. 470 & 471/Ἀνδρόνικος, Μάρτιος 2009 αν. 2.2 – 18.7.2010)

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: $300 PER YEAR**

**SINGLE MEMBERSHIP: $250 PER YEAR**

**SENIOR CITIZEN INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP $200 PER YEAR**

**SENIOR CITIZEN HUSBAND & WIFE MEMBERSHIP: $225 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 2020 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

***Christ Continues to Catch People***

He told Simon and his companions to sail off a little from the land and to let down the net for a draught. But they replied that they had been toiling the whole night and had caught nothing. However, in the name of Christ, they let down the net, and immediately it was full of fish. By a visible sign and by a miraculous type and representation, they were fully convinced that their labor would be rewarded, and the zeal displayed in spreading out the net of the gospel teaching would be fruitful. Within this net they should most certainly catch the shoals of the heathen. But note that neither Simon nor his companions could draw the net to land. Speechless from fright and astonishment for their wonder had made them mute, they beckoned to their partners, to those who shared their labors in fishing, to come and help them in securing their prey.

For many have taken part with the Holy Apostles in their labors, and still do so, especially those who inquire into the meaning of what is written in the holy Gospels. Yet besides them there are also others: the pastors and teachers and rulers of the people, who are skilled in the doctrines of truth. For the net is still being drawn, while Christ fills it, and calls to conversion those who, according to the Scripture phrase, are in the depths of the sea, that is to say, those who live in the surge and waves of worldly things.

*Saint Cyril of Alexandria*

**RADIO MINISTRY: Each Saturday at 1:15 PM Fr. Eugene hosts the radio broadcast MATTERS OF CONSCIENCE *NOW IN ITS 22nd 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 radio)**

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