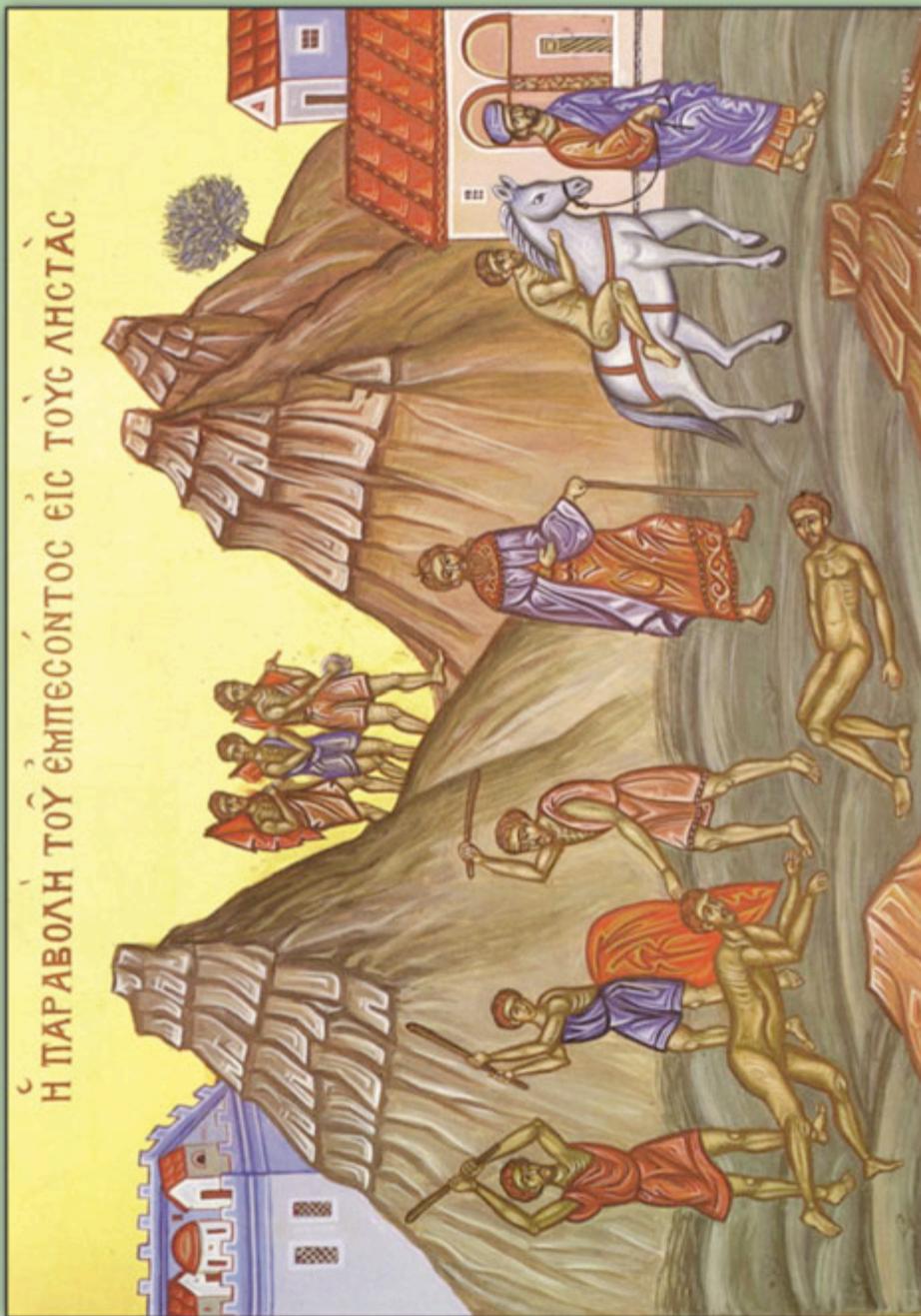


EIGHTH SUNDAY OF LUKE



Icon of the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)

Prokeimenon. Mode Plagal 2.

Psalm 27.9,1

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.

Verse: To you, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 2:4-10

Brethren, God who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God: not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Προκείμενον. Ήχος πλ. β'.

ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 27.9,1

Σῶσον, Κύριε τὸν λαὸν σου καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου.

Στίχ. Πρὸς σέ, Κύριε, κεκράξομαι ὁ Θεός μου.

Πρὸς Ἐφεσίους 2:4-10 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, ὁ θεός, πλούσιος ὢν ἐν ἐλέει, διὰ τὴν πολλὴν ἀγάπην αὐτοῦ ἦν ἠγάπησεν ἡμᾶς, καὶ ὄντας ἡμᾶς νεκροὺς τοῖς παραπτώμασιν συνεζωοποίησεν τῷ Χριστῷ - χάριτί ἐστε σεσωσμένοι - καὶ συνήγειρεν, καὶ συνεκάθισεν ἐν τοῖς ἐπουρανίοις ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ· ἵνα ἐνδείξηται ἐν τοῖς αἰῶσιν τοῖς ἐπερχομένοις τὸν ὑπερβάλλοντα πλοῦτον τῆς χάριτος αὐτοῦ ἐν χρηστότητι ἐφ' ἡμᾶς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ· τῇ γὰρ χάριτί ἐστε σεσωσμένοι διὰ τῆς πίστεως, καὶ τοῦτο οὐκ ἐξ ὑμῶν· θεοῦ τὸ δῶρον· οὐκ ἐξ ἔργων, ἵνα μὴ τις καυχῆσθαι. Αὐτοῦ γὰρ ἐσμεν ποίημα, κτισθέντες ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ ἐπὶ ἔργοις ἀγαθοῖς, οἷς προητοίμασεν ὁ θεός, ἵνα ἐν αὐτοῖς περιπατήσωμεν.

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."

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· ἄνθρωπός τις κατέβαινε ἀπὸ Ἱερουσαλὴμ εἰς Ἱεριχώ, καὶ λησταῖς περιέπεσεν· οἱ καὶ ἐκδύσαντες αὐτὸν καὶ πληγὰς ἐπιθέντες ἀπῆλθον ἀφέντες ἡμιθανῆ τυγχάνοντα. κατὰ συγκυρίαν δὲ ἱερεὺς τις κατέβαινε ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ ἐκείνῃ, καὶ ἰδὼν αὐτὸν ἀντιπαρῆλθεν. ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ Λευῖτης γενόμενος κατὰ τὸν τόπον, ἐλθὼν καὶ ἰδὼν ἀντιπαρῆλθε. Σαμαρεῖτης δὲ τις ὁδεύων ἦλθε κατ' αὐτόν, καὶ ἰδὼν αὐτὸν ἐσπλαγχνίσθη, καὶ προσελθὼν κατέδησε τὰ τραύματα αὐτοῦ ἐπιχέων ἔλαιον καὶ οἶνον, ἐπιβιβάσας δὲ αὐτὸν ἐπὶ τὸ ἴδιον κτῆνος ἤγαγεν αὐτὸν εἰς πανδοχεῖον καὶ ἐπεμελήθη αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἐπὶ τὴν αὔριον ἐξεληθὼν, 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.

TODAY CHURCHING: NOVEMBER 15th, 'DEMI' the newborn daughter of Sal and Susan (Sullivan) MELORE. Babies always give us hope! NA SAS ZESE! Congratulations.

TODAY GREEK SCHOOL PROGRAM: Originally designed for the OXI-DAY OBSERVANCE was postponed for Sunday, November 15th. Students from the Greek Afternoon School will present the national commemoration of the GREEK NATION rebuking the AXIS POWERS (Germany and Italy) in the invasion of Greece during World War 11. The brave and powerful resistance to the Nazis and fascists help to detain the German forces from invading Russia (U.S.S.R.) until the winter months. This postponed invasion determined the failed invasion of Russia and the inevitable defeat of Hitler's Nazi forces. ZHTO H ELLADA!

TODAY: An Artoklasia in honor and tribute to SAINT NEKTARIOS (Patron Saint of cancer patients) will be offered by the Steve and Sylvia Raptis Family whose children, nephews and family members bear the 'middle' name NEKTARIOS!

TODAY: Our Pastor, Father Eugene will offer prayers and salutations at the Floyd Bennett Post 1060 of the AMERICAN LEGION. As a former officer and chaplain in the United States Army. Fr. Eugene is a lifetime member of the AMERICAN LEGION. The ceremony will commence at 3:00 P.M. Among the favored readings will be the 7th, HOUR TOAST.

TODAY SUNDAY LIGHTING: is still a service rendered by the Parish Council for those who are unable to attend church services personally. Please visit the church WEB SITE at www.threehierarchsbrooklynny.org There you will find all proper direction to have your candles lighted for that LITURGY! Make yourself spiritually present through the light of faith ----your candle!

CONGRATULATIONS: to our Russian Orthodox Priest here at Three Hierarchs FR. MYSTISLAV who will have his first grandson 'LUCA VINCENT' baptized next Saturday by Fr. Eugene. Congratulations to the parents and grand-parents. NA SAS ZESE!

THANKSGIVING 2020: will be celebrated at our Divine Liturgy on Sunday November 22nd. Traditional American pilgrim hymns will be sung as the history of this noble day of prayer for our nation and its people is remembered. Join us and give thanks for all blessings that from heaven flow!

CHRISTMAS CARD APPEAL: Have you registered your name in the triptych Iconographed Christmas card that will be posted to 1,000 eyes for the Nativity Feast? For a donation of only \$20.00 (twenty-dollars) your greeting and name will be printed for all to see and enjoy. Don't miss the opportunity. SEND your check today: 1724 Avenue 'P' Brooklyn, New York 11229. Wishing you all a most holy and healthful holiday season.

RED ZONE LOCKDOWN; Please come back to church. We long to see you again. Simply call us and inform us how many will be with you for seating.

MEMORIALS TODAY: NOVEMBER 15TH:

+ VASYLI CHERNENKO + NICOLITA THEOPHILUS

+ ALEXANDER GIORGADZE + FRANGOULA (Frances) VORIAS + IRAKLIS AGGELOPOULOS

MEMORIALS for NOVEMBER 22nd:

+NANCY FAYE VARDAKIS + MARITSA KONSTAS

+EPIDA & + ELIAS BASSAKYROS

MEMORIALS NOVEMBER 29th,

+WILLIAM VAFAKOS

+ELENI PAPADATOS

Make Disciples and Change Lives

In 1987, fifteen Orthodox communities in Kenya, with no house of worship, received the first Orthodox Mission Team, which helped them construct their church. Since then, Mission Teams have built churches, schools, clinics; offered medical care; taught the Faith; and organized youth camps.

For over 30 years, the Orthodox Christian Mission Center has offered short-term Mission Teams to put your faith into action. Now it's your opportunity to witness and fulfill the Lord's mandate to "go to all nations".

Share your faith by presenting a visible expression of His love around the world; teach the Orthodox Faith; provide labor to Orthodox communities; and increase awareness of the unending needs in the mission field. Team members receive support to prepare for service, fund raising and guidelines for participation.

Participation

Mission Teams need volunteers who are culturally sensitive, motivated to learn and serve, and active in the Church; and at least 18 years of age (children permitted with at least one parent participating). All hard workers wishing to serve are welcomed!

- Complete Mission Team application with a recommendation from an Orthodox Priest.
- Travel on scheduled dates and cover costs of participation.*
- Pray continuously: before, during and after!

**Team dates, costs, locations and project details are subject to change. Domestic travel to orientation and international airfare is not included. Team members are encouraged to raise support, create awareness and engage others as participants in the work of missions.*

COVID-19 Safety

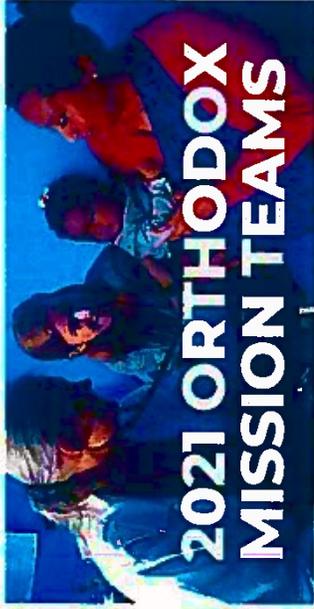
OCMC is committed to following local, federal and international safety regulations related to COVID-19 in the US and throughout the world and is closely monitoring the situation. Dates and locations are subject to change, in concert with these regulations. Our goal is to continue to send Mission Teams in the safest way possible.

2021

ORTHODOX

MISSION TEAMS





Alaska

Youth

Akhiok – Work with village elders in this scenic village to lead a youth camp. Reserved for Edinboro, PA parish.

June 25 - July 4, 2021. Cost: \$1235

Pilot Station – Impact the youth of the surrounding areas at an annual wilderness camp that the Church hosts.

July 22–31, 2021. Cost: \$1165

Newhalen – Strengthen youth ministry efforts in the Iliamna region at an annual Camp. Reserved for Lincolnshire, IL parish.

August 6–17, 2021. Cost: \$1165

Albania

Youth

Tirana – Be part of a young adult outreach for the Orthodox Church in Albania and work with OCMC missionaries.

March 19 – March 28, 2021. Cost: \$985

Shen Vlash – Participate in an annual English language youth camp at the Home of Hope.

June 15-30, 2021. Cost: \$1255

Apply Today!

220 Mason Manatee Way
St. Augustine, FL 32086

Teaching

Korce – Lead a retreat and assist with monastery renovations at the historic Monastery of Voskopojë.

August 16-27, 2021. Cost: \$1220

Colombia

Teaching

Cerete – Visit and teach the Orthodox faith to this young community. Spanish speakers needed.

March 1-12, 2021. Cost: \$1400

Ghana

Teaching

Accra – Be part of the continuing education of church leaders at a clergy retreat. Clergy needed.

July 26 - August 6, 2021. Cost: \$1270

Youth

Larteh – Participate in the annual youth camp and provide teaching to both counselors and campers.

August 3–17, 2021. Cost: \$1620

Guatemala

Health care

Aguacate – Provide for the health care needs of others at the Fr. Andres Giron Clinic. Health Care providers needed.

March 5–14, 2021. Cost: \$1460

November 5–14, 2021. Cost: \$1460

Outreach

Huehuetenango – The Missions Institute of Orthodox Christianity offer a study of missiology and practicum. Reserved for students of Orthodox seminaries.

May 15 – 24, 2021. Cost: \$1090

Teaching

Nueva Concepcion – Offer catechism and encourage the faithful who hunger to learn more about their faith.

June 16–29, 2021. Cost: \$1365

Indonesia

Teaching

Bali – Develop relationships and teach about the Orthodox Christian understanding of spirituality, prayer, and family life.

June 21–July 3, 2021. Cost: \$1370

Kenya

Youth

Nyeri – Touch the lives of children at the St. Mark School in Meru. Reserved for Wichita, KS parish.

July 18–28, 2021. Cost: \$1475

Uganda

Teaching

Gulu – Assist with various teaching ministries to clergy, church leaders, adults and youth.

May 24–June 5, 2021. Cost: \$1275



<https://www.ocmc.org/teams>



teams@ocmc.org

1-877-463-6784





ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ

ΣΥΝΤΟΜΟΝ ΚΗΡΥΓΜΑ



«Εγενόμην ἐν Πνεύματι ἐν τῇ Κυριακῇ ἡμέρῳ καὶ ἤκουσα φωνὴν ὁπίσω μου μεγάλην ὡς σάλπιγγος» (Απ. 1,10)

Ἐκδίδεται ἀπὸ τὴν Κοινοβιακὴ Γραμματεία τῆς Μονῆς Ἁγίου Αἰγυθίου τοῦ Φιλιππῶνα - 531 00 ΦΙΛΙΠΠΩΝΑ - τηλ. 23850-23610 - imsaflo@yahoo.gr

Περίοδος Γ' - Ἔτος ΙΣΤ' Ἀριθμ. φύλλου 699'	Κυριακὴ Η' Λουκᾶ (Λουκ. 10,25-37) 15 Νοεμβρίου 2020 (1999)	Συντάκτης (†) ἐπίσκοπος Αἰγυθίου Ν. Καντζιώτης
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Ποιός ἄλλος τόσο «πλησίον» ὅσο ὁ Χριστός;

«Τίς οὖν τούτων τῶν τριῶν πλησίον δοκεῖ σοι γεγενῆσθαι;... Ὁ ποιήσας τὸ ἔλεος μετ' αὐτοῦ» (Λουκ. 10,36)

Ἀκούσατε, ἀγαπητοί μου, τὸ ἱερό καὶ ἅγιο εὐαγγέλιο. Πρὶν διαβάσῃ ὁ ἱερεὺς τὸ εὐαγγέλιο λέει: «*Σοφία ὀρθοί...*». Τί σημαίνει αὐτό; Σημαίνει, ὅτι αὐτὸ ποῦ θὰ διαβάσῃ εἶνε σοφὸ, εἶνε ἀληθινὸ, δὲν ἔχει μέσα τίποτε τὸ ψευδές. **Τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο εἶνε καθαρὸ χρυσάφι.**

Γι' αὐτὸ **νὰ ἀκούμε** τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο **μὲ προσοχή** καὶ **νὰ τὸ ἐφαρμόζουμε** στὴ ζωὴ μας. Τὸ ἐφαρμόζουμε; Ἄν τὸ ἐφαρμόζαμε, τότε ἡ γῆ αὐτὴ θὰ ἦταν παράδεισος. Τώρα ποῦ δὲν τὸ ἐφαρμόζουμε, ἡ γῆ αὐτὴ ἐγίνε κόλασις.

Σήμερα, ἀδελφοί μου, τὸ εὐαγγέλιο (βλ. *Λουκ. 10,25-37*) εἶνε **μιὰ ἀπὸ τίς ὠραιότερες παραβολές** ποῦ εἶπε ὁ Κύριος. Τί λέει ἡ παραβολὴ αὐτή;

Κάποιος Ἰουδαῖος, λέει, ξεκίνησε ἀπὸ τὴν πρωτεύουσα τοῦ Ἰσραήλ, τὰ Ἱεροσόλυμα, καὶ βάδιζε νὰ πάη στὴν Ἱεριχώ. Στὸ δρόμο ὁμοῦ ποῦ πῆγαινε ἦταν κάπου κρυμμένοι **λησταί**. Πετάχτηκαν μπροστά του, τὸν σταμάτησαν, τὸν χτύπησαν, τὸν πλήγωσαν, τὸν ἔρριξαν κάτω, τὸν ἔψαξαν, βρῆκαν τὰ χρήματα ποῦ εἶχε, τὰ πήραν ὅλα, καὶ μετὰ τὸν ἔφησαν ἐκεῖ νὰ βογγᾶ στὸ χῶμα ἀπὸ τὸν πόνο, κι αὐτοὶ ἐξαφανίστηκαν μέσα στὸ ἀγριο δάσος.

Ὁ **τραυματίας** εἶχε ἀνάγκη βοήθειας καὶ φώναζε: **Βοήθεια! βοήθεια!**...

Κάποια ὥρα φάνηκε νὰ ἔρχεται ἓνας καβάλλα στὸ δρόμο του. Ἦταν **ἱερεὺς**, ἄνθρωπος τοῦ Θεοῦ. Εἶδε τὸν πληγωμένο, ἀλλὰ δὲν στάθηκε: προσπέρασε γρήγορα - γρήγορα.

Βοήθεια! φωνάζει πάλι ὁ τραυματίας. Σὲ λίγο πέρασε ἓνας **λευίτης**, δηλαδὴ διάκονος ποῦ ὑπηρετοῦσε στὸ θυσιαστήριο τοῦ ναοῦ. Τὸν κοίταξε, ἀλλὰ ἔφυγε κι αὐτός.

Ἐνῶ ὁ τραυματίας κινδύνευε νὰ πεθάνη, νὰ κ' ἔρχεται τώρα κάποιος ἄλλος. Τὸν βλέπει ὁ χτυπημένος. Ὄχι, σκέφτηκε, χάθηκα!

Ἦταν ἐχθρὸς του, **Σαμαρείτης**. Τώρα πιά περιμένα νὰ τοῦ δώσῃ αὐτὸς τὴν χαριστικὴ βολή καὶ νὰ τὸν ἀποτελειώσῃ. Ἄλλ' αὐτὸς τὸν πλησίασε. Κατέβηκε ἀπὸ τὸ ζῶο του. Τὸν περιποιήθηκε. Τοῦ ἔπλυνε τίς πληγές μὲ κρασί καὶ τίς ἄλειψε μὲ λάδι. Κ' ἐκεῖ στὸν ἔρημο τόπο ἔσχισε τὸ ποκάμισό του, ἔκανε ἐπίδεσμο καὶ μ' αὐτὸν τοῦ ἔδεσε τίς πληγές. Μετὰ τὸν ἀνέβασε στὸ ζῶο του καὶ τὸν πήγε σ' ἓνα πανδοχεῖο, σ' ἓνα χάνι. Ἐκεῖ ἔμεινε ὅλη τὴ νύχτα στὸ προσκέφαλό του. Τὸ πρωί, ὅταν θὰ ἔφευγε, ἔφησε ἐντολὴ στὸν ξενοδόχο νὰ περιποιηθῇ τὸν τραυματία, καὶ ὁ, τι ξεοδέψῃ ἀνέλαβε νὰ τὰ πληρώσῃ αὐτός.

Αὐτὴ εἶνε ἡ παραβολὴ. Ἀλλὰ ἡ παραβολὴ ἄλλα λέει κι ἄλλα ἐννοεῖ. Ποιὸς εἶνε ὁ ἄνθρωπος ποῦ ἔπεσε στοὺς ληστές; Ποιοὶ εἶνε οἱ λησταί; Ποιὸς εἶνε ὁ ἱερεὺς; Ποιὸς εἶνε ὁ λευίτης; Ποιὸς εἶνε ὁ Σαμαρείτης; **Αὐτὰ θέλουν ἐρμηνεία.** Ἄς ἀπαντήσουμε πολὺ σύντομα.

Αὐτὸς ποῦ ἔπεσε στοὺς ληστές, **τὸ θῦμα**, δὲν εἶνε ἓνας συγκεκριμένος, εἶνε ὁ **καθένας** μας. Εἶνε τὰ ἑκατομμύρια τῶν ἀνθρώπων. Ὅλοι ἀνεξαιρέτως οἱ ἄνθρωποι, ὅλη ἡ ἀνθρωπότης, εἶνε ὁ τραυματίας τῆς παραβολῆς.

Βάδιζε τὸ δρόμο τῆς εἰρηνικῆς ἡ ἀνθρωπότης ψάλλοντας στὸ Δημιουργὸ τὸ ἀλληλοῦια. Ἄλλ' ἐνῶ βάδιζε στὸ δρόμο τοῦ Θεοῦ, ἔπεσε σὲ ληστές. Ποιοὶ εἶνε αὐτοὶ οἱ **λησταί**; Ἀρχιληστής εἶνε ὁ **διάβολος**. Αὐτὸς μισεῖ τὸν ἄνθρωπο, θέλει νὰ τὸν ἐξοντώσῃ, καὶ μεταχειρίζεται κάθε τρόπο γι' αὐτό. Οὐρλιάζει σὰν λιοντάρι, λέει ἡ Γραφή, ζητώντας ποῖον νὰ κατασπαράξῃ: «*ὡς λέων ὠρυόμενος περιπατεῖ ζητῶν τίνα καταπίη*» (1 Πέτρ. 5,8).

Λησταὶ ἐπίσης εἶνε οἱ **δαίμονες** καὶ οἱ **κακοὶ - δαιμονικοὶ ἄνθρωποι**, τὰ ὄργανα τοῦ διαβό-

λου, πού κι αυτοί κάνουν κακό. Και όσο κακό μπορεί να κάνει ένας άνθρωπος κακός, δεν μπορούν να κάνουν χίλιοι δαίμονες.

Ληστής όμως είχε και **ο έαυτός μας**. Τόν βλέπεις εκείνον; Μπορούσε να ζήσει 100 χρόνια, και δε ζή ούτε 30. Τα 70 χρόνια ποιός τὰ λήστεψε; Ο έαυτός του, τὰ ναρκωτικά... Τόν βλέπεις εκείνο τόν άλλο, πού πίνει μπουκάλια ολόκληρα ούισκου και άλλα ποτά; Σκοτώνεται μόνος του με τὸ αλκοόλ. Τόν βλέπεις εκείνο τόν άλλο, πού έπεσε στὰ άκατονόμαστα πάθη τῆς σαρκός; Ληστεύει κι αυτός τόν έαυτό του. Τις μεγαλύτερες ζημιές μᾶς τις κάνει ο έαυτός μας, με τὰ διάφορα πάθη. Λησται τὰ **πάθη**, λησται και οί άμαρτωλοί **λογισμοί**.

Και ἡ άνθρωπότης ζητεῖ βοήθεια. **Ποιός θά σώση τόν άνθρωπο** από τὸ σατανά; Ποιός θά τόν σώση από τούς δαίμονες και τούς κακούς ανθρώπους; Ποιός θά τόν σώση από τόν έαυτό του, τὰ πάθη και τούς άμαρτωλούς λογισμούς; Ο Ιερεύς; Ο λευίτης; Οί σοφοί; Οί ρήτορες; Τὰ διάφορα θρησκευάματα;

Ένας είχε **ο Σωτήρας τοῦ κόσμου**, και έδώ είχε τὸ κέντρο τῆς παραβολῆς. Μπροστά στο δρᾶμα τῆς άνθρωπότητος παρουσιάζονται διάφοροι σωτήρες, **ψευδοσωτήρες**. Άλλ' ένας μόνο μπορεί να δώση τὴ λύτρωσι. Είχε εκείνος πού προσκυνούν οί άγγελοι. Και αν έμεῖς σιωπήσουμε, και οί πέτρες θά φωνάξουν, **δι «Εἶς άγιος, εἶς Κύριος, Ἰησοῦς Χριστός, εἶς δόξαν Θεοῦ Πατρὸς- άμήν»** (Μκ. 2, 11 και θ. Ιεπ.).

Ο Χριστός είχε **ο Σαμαρείτης**. Αὐτός κατέβηκε από τὰ οὐράνια, πλησίασε τόν άνθρωπο, βρέθηκε κοντά του. Και τόν θεράπευσε με τὴ θεία διδασκαλία του, με τὰ θαύματά του, και με τὸ τίμιο αίμα του.

Ποιό είχε, άγαπητοί μου, με λίγα λόγια τὸ **νόημα τῆς παραβολῆς**;

Υπάρχει κάτι, τὸ όποιο χρειάζεται ἡ άνθρωπότητα άπαραιτήτως. Όπως τὸ οξυγόνο για τόν άνθρωπο κι όπως τὸ νερό για τὸ ψάρι κι όπως ὁ άέρας για τὸ πουλί, έτσι και **για τόν άνθρωπο τὸ αναγκαίό είχε ἡ άγάπη**. Διψᾷ για άγάπη· δεν μπορεί να ζήσει χωρίς αὐτήν. Πλάστηκε ν' άγαπᾷ, ὄχι να μισῇ. Ο άνθρωπος είχε ὄν κοινωνικό. Ο Θεός τόν έβαλε μέσα στην κοινωνία, για να ζήσει μαζί με άλλους. Μιά κοπέλα τί λαχταράει; Ν' άποκτήση έναν άντρα. Είνε μέσα στη φύσι τῆς γυναίκας. Να τόν εχη συντροφιά μέρα - νύχτα, στη χαρὰ στη λύπη στον πόνο, να τόν αισθάνεται κοντά, να τόν εχη προστασία και στήριγμα. Και ὁ νέος τί λαχταράει; Ν' άποκτήση μία γυναίκα, πού να 'νε

στο πλευρό του όλες τις ἡμέρες τῆς ζωῆς του, να 'νε ἡ χαρὰ και ἡ άγαλλίασί του. Κι ὁ κάθε άνθρωπος τί ζητάει; Ν' άποκτήση ένα φίλο, να 'νε πάντα πιστός κοντά του, να τόν ενισχύει, να τόν υποστηρίξει, να τόν υπερασπίζεται.

Και έρωτώ. **Υπάρχει τώρα αὐτή ἡ άγάπη**; Δεν υπάρχει. Τὴ βλέπεις παντρευτήκε, κι αντί να 'νε εὐτυχισμένη, τὴν τρώει ἡ θλίψι. Γιατί αντί να βρῆ άγάπη βρῆκε μίσος, αντί να βρῆ παρηγοριά βρῆκε στενοχώριες· και ένῳ τρῶνε μαζί και ένῳ κοιμούνται στο ἴδιο κρεβάτι, είχε χωρισμένοι όσο ἡ άνατολή από τὴ δύσι. Μπορεῖ σωματικά να 'νε ένωμένοι, αλλά ψυχικά βρίσκονται μακριά ὁ ένας από τόν άλλον και μισεῖ ὁ ένας τόν άλλο. Και βλέπουμε σήμερα τραγικά γεγονότα· να σκοτώνη ὁ ένας τόν άλλον από ένα μίσος άγριο. Τόν βλέπεις τόν άλλον; Άνατρέφει τὰ παιδιά με μία έλπίδα, όταν γεράση τὰ παιδιά να τοῦ δείξουν κάποια άγάπη. Και τώρα τί συμβαίνει· τὰ παιδιά δεν δείχνουν στοργή. **Άγρίεψε ὁ κόσμος**.

Ἦρθε στη μητρόπολι κάποτε μία γριά έβδομόμηνα περίπου έτών. Κλάμα ἡ γιαγιά!

—Δέσποτα, λέει, θ' αυτοκτονήσω.

—Τί έχεις; τί σοῦ λείπει;

—Έπαθα τὴν πιὸ μεγάλη συμφορά. Γέννησα επτά παιδιά. Κοπίασα και μόχθησα. Τὰ πάντρεψα όλα. Τώρα πού γέρασα και δεν μπορῶ να δουλέψω στα χωράφια, με διώχνουν...

Ταλαίπωρε κόσμε, έγκαταλειμμένη, πού **διψᾷς άγάπη**· τὴν άγάπη δεν θά τὴ βρῆς πουθενά άλλοῦ παρά **μόνο κοντά στο Χριστό**.

Ο Χριστός μόνο είχε κοντά στον άνθρωπο. Ποτέ δεν τόν αφήνει. Κι όπως λέει ὁ ποιητής, «κι αν δεν μού μείνη έντός τοῦ κόσμου πού ν' άκουμπήσω, πού να σταθῶ, εκεί ψηλά εἶν' ὁ Θεός μου.

Πῶς ἡμπορῶ ν' άπελπισθῶ;».

Ο Χριστός είχε **ο πραγματικός «πλησίον»** τοῦ ανθρώπου. Είνε κοντά μας ὁ Χριστός; άμα είχε κοντά μας, παράδεισο εχουμε. Είνε μακριά ὁ Χριστός; εἴμαστε δυστυχισμένοι.

Λέει μία **προφητεία** τοῦ Εὐαγγελίου, πού πραγματοποιεῖται στις ἡμέρες μας: «**Ψυγῆσεται ἡ άγάπη**», **ἡ άγάπη θά ψυχρανθῆ** (Ματθ. 24, 12). Σήμερα πλέον δεν υπάρχει άγάπη. Μίσος επικρατεῖ στον κόσμο.

Μόνο ὅπου υπάρχει άγάπη, εκεί αναπαύεται ὁ άνθρωπος. Και τὴν άγάπη τὴ δίνει ὁ Χριστός, πού είχε ἡ ένσάρκωσι τῆς άγάπης και τοῦ έλέους και τῶν οίκτιρμῶν· ὄν, παῖδες, ὑμνεῖτε και υπερευψοῦτε εἰς πάντας τούς αἰῶνας· άμήν.

(†) **ἐπίσκοπος Αὐγουστίνος**

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

Do We See Jesus?

If you wish to honor the Eucharistic Victim, offer your own soul for which the Victim was immolated. Make your own soul all of gold. If your soul remains viler than lead or clay, what good does it do to have a golden chalice? Do you wish to honor the Body of Christ? Then do not disdain Him when you see Him in rags.

After having honored Him in church with silken vestments, do not leave Him to die of cold outside for lack of clothing. For it is the same Jesus Who says, "This is my Body" and Who says "I was hungry but you would not feed me. Whenever you refused to help one of these least important ones, you refused to help me."

The Body of Christ in the Eucharist demands pure souls, not costly garments. But in the poor He demands all our care. Let us act wisely; let us honor Christ as He Himself wishes to be honored; the most acceptable honor to one whom we would honor is the honor which He desired, not that we ourselves imagine.

Peter thought he was honoring his Master by not letting the Lord wash his feet; and yet it was just the opposite. Give Him the honor which He Himself has asked for, by giving your money to the poor. Once again, what God wants is not golden chalices, but golden souls.

Saint John Chrysostom

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)**

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