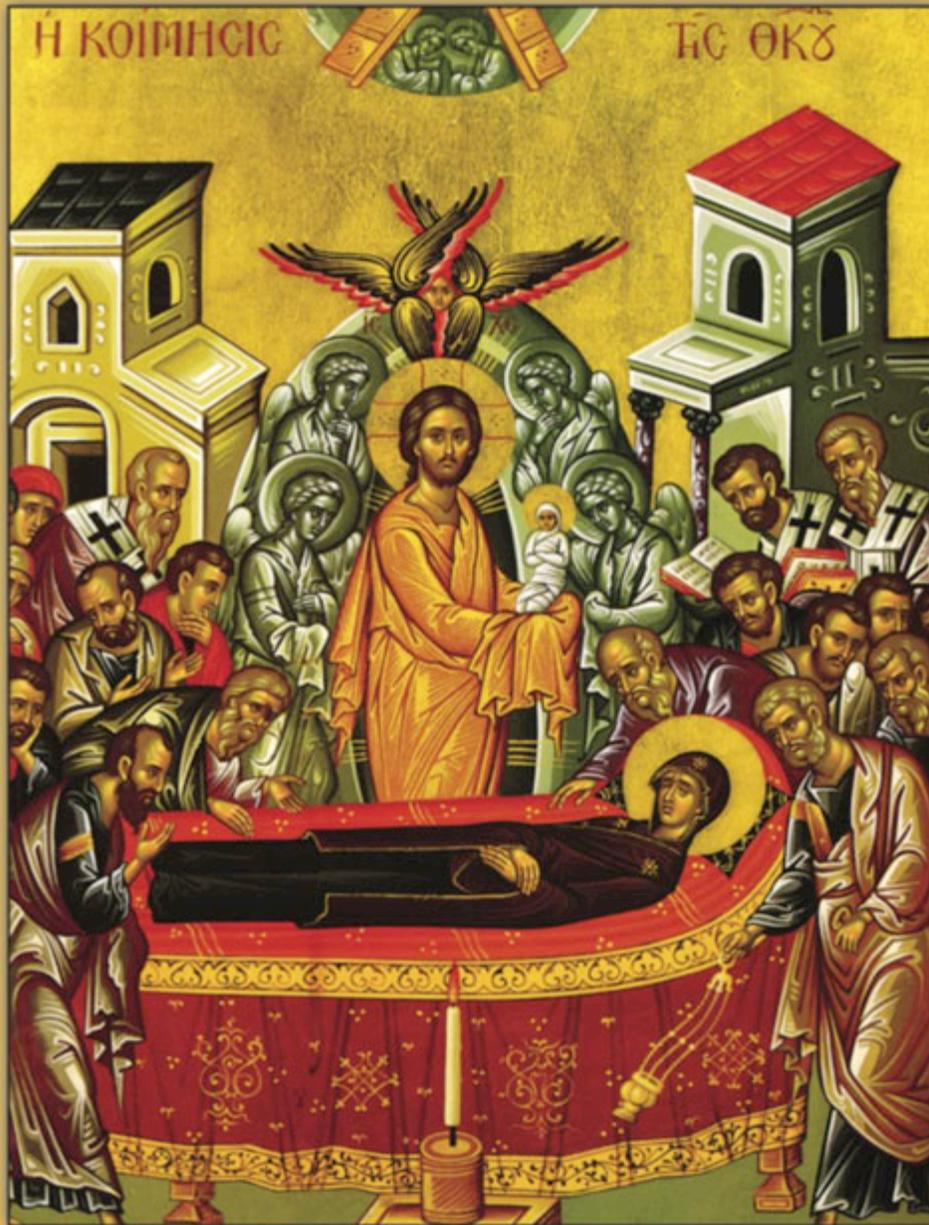


SUNDAY WEEKLY BULLETIN August 15, 2021  
V. Rev. Archimandrite Eugene N. Pappas

## DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS



*Icon of the Dormition of the Theotokos*

**Prokeimenon. Mode 3.**

**Luke 1: 46-48**

**My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

**Verse: For he has regarded the humility of his servant.**

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians 2:5-11

Brethren, have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Προκείμενον. Ἦχος γ'.**

**Λουκᾶν 1:46-48**

**Μεγαλύνει ἡ ψυχὴ μου τὸν Κύριον, καὶ ἠγαλλίασε τὸ πνευμά μου ἐπὶ τῷ Θεῷ τῷ σωτήρῳ μου.**

**Στίχ. Ὅτι ἐπέβλεψεν ἐπὶ τὴν ταπείνωσιν τῆς δούλης αὐτοῦ.**

Πρὸς Φιλιππησίους 2:5-11 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, τοῦτο γὰρ φρονεῖσθω ἐν ὑμῖν ὃ καὶ ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ· ὃς ἐν μορφῇ θεοῦ ὑπάρχων, οὐχ ἄρπαγμὸν ἠγήσατο τὸ εἶναι ἴσα θεῷ, ἀλλ' ἐαυτὸν ἐκένωσεν, μορφὴν δούλου λαβὼν, ἐν ὁμοιώματι ἀνθρώπων γενόμενος· καὶ σχήματι εὐρεθεὶς ὡς ἄνθρωπος, ἐταπείνωσεν ἐαυτὸν, γενόμενος ὑπήκοος μέχρι θανάτου, θανάτου δὲ σταυροῦ. Διὸ καὶ ὁ θεὸς αὐτὸν ὑπερύψωσεν, καὶ ἐχαρίσατο αὐτῷ ὄνομα τὸ ὑπὲρ πάντων ὀνομάτων· ἵνα ἐν τῷ ὀνόματι Ἰησοῦ πάντων γόνυ κάμψῃ ἐπουρανίων καὶ ἐπιγείων καὶ καταχθονίων, καὶ πάντα γλώσσα ἐξομολογήσῃται ὅτι κύριος Ἰησοῦς Χριστός, εἰς δόξαν θεοῦ πατρὸς.

**The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary**

At that time, Jesus entered a village; and a woman called Martha received him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve you alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her." As he said this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts that you sucked!" But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

**Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 10:38-42, 11:27-28 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα**

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, εἰσῆλθεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἰς κώμην τινά· γυνὴ δὲ τις ὀνόματι Μάρθα ὑπεδέξατο αὐτὸν εἰς τὸν οἶκον αὐτῆς. καὶ τῆδε ἦν ἀδελφὴ καλουμένη Μαρία, ἣ καὶ παρακαθίσασα παρὰ τοὺς πόδας τοῦ Ἰησοῦ ἤκουε τὸν λόγον αὐτοῦ. ἡ δὲ Μάρθα περισπᾶτο περὶ πολλὴν διακονίαν· ἐπιστᾶσα δὲ εἶπε· Κύριε, οὐ μέλει σοι ὅτι ἡ ἀδελφὴ μου μόνην με κατέλιπε διακονεῖν; εἰπέ οὖν αὐτῇ ἵνα μοι συναντιλάβηται. ἀποκριθεὶς δὲ εἶπεν αὐτῇ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· Μάρθα Μάρθα, μεριμνᾷς καὶ τυρβάζῃ περὶ πολλά· ἐνός δὲ ἐστὶ χρεία· Μαρία δὲ τὴν ἀγαθὴν μερίδα ἐξελέξατο, ἣτις οὐκ ἀφαιρεθήσεται ἀπ' αὐτῆς. Ἐγένετο δὲ ἐν τῷ λέγειν αὐτὸν ταῦτα ἐπάρασά τις γυνὴ φωνὴν ἐκ τοῦ ὄχλου εἶπεν αὐτῷ· μακαρία ἡ κοιλία ἡ βαστάσασά σε καὶ μαστοὶ οὓς ἐθήλασας. αὐτὸς δὲ εἶπε· μενοῦνγε μακάριοι οἱ ἀκούοντες τὸν λόγον τοῦ Θεοῦ καὶ φυλάσσοντες αὐτόν.

**TODAY:** We are honored to present the Blessed Virgin Mary ARTOKLASIES of THANKSGIVING by MARIA LAMBRIANAKOS FISHER, MARY NICHOLAS, MARINA GRIGORYAN, SOPHIA DROUVALAKIS, EVA GIANNOULAKIS.

Sacramental wine from JOHN and ELEUTHERIA THEOLOGIS.

**TODAY** The Holy Mother Church welcomes and embraces the new born daughter “CAROLINE DEMI” child of Demetrios and Kathy (nee Gurnevich) GROSSOS.

NA SAS ZESE!

**OLD CALENDAR FEAST of HOLY TRANSFIGURATION** will be observed by the Ukrainian Orthodox faithful by Father Vasyl Shak on Thursday, August 19th, at 10:30 A.M.

**Saint Phanourios Feast Day** is on the horizon: Prepare to attend the Liturgy honoring the patron saint of lost objects, lost hopes, lost encounters and lost loved ones. The sacred icon will be venerated in procession with the presentation of ‘offering cakes’ (phanouropites) baked by the faithful in thanks giving and distributed to the congregation in attendance. It is truly a glorious event of genuine THANKSGIVING. Call upon the name of SAINT PHANOURIOS and supplicate your intentions to him as an advocate and intercessor. **IT ALWAYS WORKS!**

Gratitude is extended to so many for their extension of sharing during the 15days of the Blessed Virgin’s Feast and Fast (AUGUST 1-15 ). Artoklasies, incense, prosphora, grapes, flowers and MARIGOLDS – MARIGOLDS – MARIGOLDS were presented for the sacred observance of the REPOSE of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, ( Assumption). Marigold flowers are presented because they are ‘ MARY’S – GOLD ‘,the flower that is in full bloom during the featal period.

**THE BOYS ARE BACK:** After two full weeks in the wilderness (CAMP TEN MILE RIVER-NEW JERSEY) our Boy Scout Troop #531 has returned successfully turning lads into young men. Congratulations to all the scout leaders who made the adventure into nature and experience that these youngsters will never forget. Scouts were able to commune with God, with Nature and with THEMSELVES, learning their strengths and weaknesses. We salute DEAN VEROUTIS, NICHOLAS PARAS, JOHN LAMBRAKIS, JAMES VEROUTIS, BILLY APOSTOULOU, THEODORE VEROUTIS, ANTHONY VALLONE, GEORGE KRASANAKIS, ANTHONY BRINN, KRYSYTIAN GARGAS, MARIO DANIL, NICK KANELLOPOULOS, CHRIS KASAPIDIS, DINO PAPAZACHARIAS, MATTHEW MINA, NICK ZHUPA, GUS ARNIOTIS, JOE ARNIOTIS, NICK FILIPPAKIS, CHRIS PARAS, GEORGE APERGIS.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:** Each month on the FIRST (01st) or if it be a SUNDAY, then the very next day...02nd, the AGIASMOS SERVICE ( thirty minutes) is offered with fresh holy water to take home, to share with others, to bless graves and homes.....and automobiles. This water you may drink and sprinkle on your threshold, beds, and doorways for protection and dedication in the name of JESUS CHRIST. See you on the first from 11:00 -11:30 A.M.

Traditionally on the middle WEDNESDAY EVENING of the month we host the PRAYER AND HEALING study, witnessing, prayer and spiritual healing DOES TAKE PLACE, from 6:30-8:00 P.M. You should join us and receive the Divine Grace of the HOLY SPIRIT’S presence.

MEMORIAL TODAY: + JOHN PAPOUTSAKIS

MEMORIAL NEXT WEEK: + MARK MIGDAL

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**UNIVERSAL PRE- PRE-KINDERGARTEN (U.P.K. SCHOOL)** at Three Hierarchs Church is expanding its outreach to community children aged 3 and 4 years old. **SIX CLASSES** are open for full registration **FREE OF CHARGE** by the New York City Department of Education. Are there 3 or 4 year olds in your family which deserve a full head start in education ? **REGISTER FREE** at **THREE HIERARCHS** by calling (347) 729 0446 and ask for **GEORGIA BOUZAKIS** ( school Secretary) or **POLINA ROBBINS** (school Director)for full information. Take advantage of this excellent opportunity for the kids and working parents. **CALL NOW!**



The ' GOLDEN GREEKS BOY SCOUT TROOP, #531 is here photographed with some of their scout leadership as they enjoy (two) full weeks of camping experience in nature under God's heavens at TEN MILE RIVER CAMP, NEW JERSEY. It was an adventure into God's creative power and the wonders of nature. It's the type of lesson in life that any youngster will long remember and cherish. IS YOUR YOUNG LAD A CANDIDATE FOR SCOUTING? Call the Church Office for direction and details to contact the scouting leadership. CALL 718-339 - 0280 TODAY!





# 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 Γυναικεῖα Τερτῆ Μονῆ Ἁγίου Αὐγουστίνου Φλωρίνης - 531 00 ΦΛΩΡΙΝΑ - τηλ. 23850-26610 - [ima@io@yahoo.gr](mailto:ima@io@yahoo.gr)

Περίοδος Δ' - Ἔτος ΛΗ'	Κοίμησις Θεοτόκου (Λκ. 10,38-42· 11,27-28)	Συντάκτης (†) ἐπίσκοπος Αὐγουστίνος Ν. Καντιώτης
Φλώρινα - ἀριθμ. φύλλου 2401	Κυριακὴ 15 Αὐγούστου 2021	

## Φροντίστε καὶ γιὰ τὴν ψυχὴ!

«Μάρθα Μάρθα, μεριμνᾷς καὶ τυρβάζῃ περὶ πολλά· ἐνὸς δέ ἐστι χρεία» (Λουκ. 10,41-42)

**Α**κούσατε, ἀγαπητοί μου, τὸ ἱερὸ εὐαγγέλιο (βλ. Λουκ. 10,38-42· 11,27-28). Ἀλλὰ δὲν πρέπει μόνο νὰ τὸ ἀκοῦμε· πρέπει καὶ νὰ τὸ καταλαβαίνουμε, καὶ πρὸ παντὸς νὰ τὸ ἐφαρμόζουμε. Τί μᾶς διηγεῖται λοιπὸν τὸ σημερινὸ εὐαγγέλιο;

Ὅτι ὁ Χριστὸς ἔκανε τὴν ἐπίσκεψί του σὲ ἕνα ἀγαπητό του σπίτι· εἶνε τὸ σπίτι τοῦ φίλου του Λαζάρου (τοῦ Λαζάρου ποὺ λίγο πρὸ τοῦ σωτηρίου πάθους του θὰ ἀσθενήσῃ «πρὸς θάνατον» [βλ. 11,4] καὶ θὰ τὸν ἀναστήσῃ ἐκ νεκρῶν). Ὁ Λάζαρος εἶχε δύο ἀδελφές, τὴ Μάρθα καὶ τὴ Μαρία. Φαντάζεται λοιπὸν κανεὶς πόση θὰ ἦταν τώρα ἡ χαρὰ στὸ σπίτι αὐτό! Καὶ ἕνας βασιλιάς ἀκόμη ἂν τοὺς ἐπισκεπτόταν, δὲν θὰ εἶχαν τέτοια ἀγαλλίασι ὅση ἔχουν τώρα ποὺ εἶνε κοντὰ τους ὁ Χριστὸς· ὁ Διδάσκαλος, ὁ Σωτήρας, ὁ Προστάτης τους.

Χαίρονται καὶ τὸ δεῖχνουν μὲ κάθε τρόπο. Θέλουν νὰ ἐκφράσουν τὴν ἀγάπη τους καὶ τὸ κάνουν ὅπως μποροῦν. Ἡ μία ἀδελφή, ἡ **Μάρθα** τρέχει στὴν κουζίνα κι ἀρχίζει νὰ ἐτοιμάζῃ ὅ,τι καλύτερο ἔχει, φαγητὰ καὶ γλυκύσματα· ἔτσι νομίζει ὅτι θὰ εὐχαριστήσῃ τὸν Ἰησοῦ. Ἡ ἄλλη ἀδελφή, ἡ **Μαρία**, παίρνει ἕνα σκαμνὶ καὶ κάθεται κοντὰ στὸν Κύριο ποὺ διδάσκει.

Σὲ μιὰ στιγμὴ ἐρχεται ἡ Μαρία καὶ λέει μὲ παράπονο· Διδάσκαλε δὲν μὲ λυπᾶσαι; ἡ ἀδερφή μου μ' ἄφησε μόνη, ἡ ὥρα γιὰ φαγητὸ πλησιάζει κ' ἐγὼ δὲν προλαβαίνω· σὲ παρακαλῶ πές της νὰ μὲ βοηθήσῃ. Καὶ ὁ Κύριος ἀπαντᾷ· «**Μάρθα Μάρθα, μεριμνᾷς καὶ τυρβάζῃ περὶ πολλά· ἐνὸς δέ ἐστι χρεία**» [Λουκ. 10,41-42]. Γιατί κοπιᾶζεις καὶ φροντίζεις τόσο πολὺ; **Δὲν χρειάζονται πολλὰ φαγητὰ.** Δὲν ἦρθα στὸ σπίτι σου γιὰ νὰ μοῦ στρώσῃς βασιλικὸ τραπέζι. **Ἦρθα γιὰ νὰ διδάξω,** ἦρθα γιὰ νὰ σᾶς ἀνοίξω τὰ μάτια τῆς ψυχῆς, ἦρθα γιὰ νὰ σᾶς σώσω.

...

«**Μάρθα Μάρθα...**». Ὁ Χριστὸς ἠλεγξε τὴ Μάρθα ποὺ ἄφησε τὴ διδασκαλία καὶ πῆγε

στὴν κουζίνα. Ἀλλὰ πόσοι καὶ πόσοι σήμερα δὲν ἀρμόζει ν' ἀκούσουμε αὐτὸ τὸν ἔλεγχο τοῦ Χριστοῦ! Μεριμνοῦμε, φροντίζουμε, κοπιᾶζουμε γιὰ ὅλα· γιὰ ἕνα μόνο δὲν φροντίζουμε, γιὰ τὴ σωτηρία τῆς ψυχῆς μας. Ποῦ δαπανοῦμε τὸ χρόνο καὶ τὶς δυνάμεις μας;

✓ Ἄλλοι φροντίζουν γιὰ τὰ πλοῦτη. Τρέχουν καὶ κοπιᾶζουν νὰ μαζέψουν χρήματα. Πῶς τὸ 1 νὰ τὸ κάνουν 10, πῶς τὰ 10 νὰ τὰ κάνουν 100 κ.ο.κ.. Μέρα - νύχτα τὸ χρήμα σκέπτονται. Ὅλο τὸ χρόνο τῆς ζωῆς τους τὸν ξοδεύουν γιὰ τὸ μαμωνᾶ. Γιὰ τὴν Ἐκκλησία δὲν προλαβαίνουν. Ποῦ εὐκαιροῦμε ἐμεῖς; σοῦ λένε. Δὲν σκέπτονται ὅτι ὑπάρχει καὶ ἄλλη ζωὴ, κρίσις καὶ ἀνταπόδοσις. Δὲν βλέπουν μπροστά τους τίποτε ἄλλο παρὰ μόνο τὸ χρήμα. Αὐτὸ εἶνε ὁ θεὸς τους· αὐτὸ λατρεύουν, αὐτὸ προσκυνοῦν. Χάριν αὐτοῦ καὶ τὴ ζωὴ τους θυσιάζουν. Ὁ σατανᾶς ἐξουσιάζει ἐπάνω στὶς ψυχές. Τοὺς ἔχει κλείσει τὰ μάτια, τοὺς ἔχει δέσει στὸ μαγγανοπήγαδο τῆς φιλαργυρίας, κι αὐτοὶ δὲν κάνουν τίποτε ἄλλο παρὰ νὰ γυρίζουν τὸ μαγγανοπήγαδο. Σὲ ὄλους αὐτοὺς λοιπὸν, ποῦ ἔχουν παραδώσει τὶς ψυχές τους στὸ χρήμα καὶ λατρεύουν τὴ χρυσοῦ εἰκόνα τοῦ μαμωνᾶ, λέει ὁ Χριστὸς σήμερα· Ἄνθρωποι, «**μεριμνᾶτε καὶ τυρβάζετε περὶ πολλά· ἐνὸς δέ ἐστι χρεία**». Τὰ χρήματα χάνονται, τὰ σπίτια ρημάζουν, οἱ τράπεζες χρεωκοποῦν. Ἐνα μόνο δὲν χάνεται, δὲν καταστρέφεται καὶ θὰ ζῆσῃ αἰωνίως· ἡ ψυχὴ σας. Γι' αὐτὴν πρέπει νὰ ἐνδιαφερθῆτε, νὰ φροντίσετε. Ἀλλὰ οἱ ἄνθρωποι δὲν ἀκοῦνε τὴ φωνὴ τοῦ Χριστοῦ. Σκυμμένοι ἐπάνω στὶς ὑποθέσεις δὲν σηκώνουν τὸ βλέμμα τους νὰ δοῦν τὸν οὐρανό.

✓ Ἄλλοι, σὰν τρελλοὶ αὐτοί, ἔχουν παραδοθῆ στὶς **διασκεδάσεις**· ἡ ἔγνοια τους εἶνε πῶς θὰ περάσουν ἀπολαυστικὰ τὴ ζωὴ. Τὸ πρόγραμμά τους εἶνε «**Φάγωμεν καὶ πίωμεν, αὔριον γὰρ ἀποθνήσκομεν**» [1η Κορ. 15,32].

Ἀρέσκονται νὰ κυλιῶνται σὰν τοὺς χοίρους στὴ λάσπη τῆς ἁμαρτίας. Μὰ ὁ ἄνθρωπος δὲν εἶνε μόνο στομάχι καὶ κοιλιά, σάρκες καὶ κόκαλα. Δὲν εἶνε μόνο ὕλη· εἶνε καὶ ψυχὴ. Αὐτὸ ἀντελήφθησαν σοφοὶ τῆς ἀρχαιότητος, αὐτὸ μᾶς βεβαίωσε ὁ Χριστὸς, αὐτὸ μᾶς λέει σήμε-ρα τὸ εὐαγγέλιο. Σ' αὐτοὺς ποὺ νομίζουν πῶς μόνος σκοπὸς τοῦ βίου εἶνε ἡ γλυκεῖα ζωὴ, ὁ Χριστὸς λέει· Γιατί βουλιάζεστε στὶς ἁμαρτίες; γιατί λατρεύετε τὴ σάρκα; Ἡ σάρκα θὰ μαρα-θῆ ὅπως τὸ τριαντάφυλλο. Ὁ νέος θὰ γίνῃ γέ-ρος, ἡ νέα θὰ γίνῃ γριά. Μαραίνονται τὰ κάλ-λη. Ἐνας τάφος, λίγο χῶμα μᾶς περιμένει. Ἐ-κεῖ θὰ ταφοῦν ὅλοι οἱ ἔρωτες καὶ οἱ ἡδονές.

✓ Ἄλλοι πάλι κυνηγοῦν τὴ **δόξα**. Θέλουν ἀ-ναγνώρισι καὶ θαυμασμό, τοὺς ἐπαίνους καὶ κολακεῖες τῶν ἄλλων, ἐπιδιώκουν ἀξιώματα καὶ τιμές, θέλουν νὰ 'νε πρῶτοι καὶ νὰ ἀκού-γυνται. Ὅλα ὅμως αὐτὰ εἶνε ἐφήμερα· ἰσχύ-ει γι' αὐτὰ ὁ θεόπνευστος λόγος «*Ματαιότης ματαιότητων, τὰ πάντα ματαιότης*» (Ἐβ. 12: 23). Οἱ θρόνοι ἀνατρέπονται, τὰ ἀξιώματα ἀφαι-ροῦνται, τὰ διάσημα ξηλώνονται, οἱ ἐπευφη-μίες καὶ τὰ χειροκροτήματα σιγοῦν, ἡ φήμη λησμονεῖται ἢ μεταβάλλεται σὲ δυσφημία, ἡ δόξα σβήνει καὶ συχνὰ μεταπίπτει σὲ ἀδοξία.

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Μέσα σ' αὐτὴ τὴν παραζάλη, ἀδελφοί μου, δι-αφεύγει τὴν προσοχὴ τῶν πολλῶν ὅτι ἡ σπου-δαίστερη ἀπ' ὅλες τὶς ὑποθέσεις εἶνε ἡ **σωτηρία τῆς ψυχῆς**, ὅτι ἐκεῖνο ποὺ πάνω ἀπὸ ὅ,τιδήποτε ἄλλο ἔχουμε ἀνάγκη εἶνε ὁ Χριστὸς. Ἄν αὐτὸ δὲν τὸ καταλάβουμε τώρα, θὰ ἔρθῃ μέρα ποὺ θὰ μετανοιώσουμε πικρά, μὰ θὰ 'νε ἄργα.

Ξέρετε πῶς μοιάζουμε; Εἴμαστε σὰν μικρὰ παιδιὰ ποὺ παίζουν στὴν ἀκρογιαλιά καὶ γεμίζ-ουν τὰ καλαθάκια τους μὲ χαλίκια. Χαλίκια καὶ ἄμμος εἶνε ὅλα ὅσα θαυμάζουμε· ἡ δόξα, οἱ δι-ασκεδάσεις, τὰ πλούτη. Τὸ διαμάντι μὲ τὴν αἰῶ-νια ἀξία εἶνε ἡ ψυχὴ. Γι' αὐτὴν ἀεῖζει νὰ φροντί-σουμε· νὰ φροντίσουμε τόσο ὅσο τούλαχι-στον καὶ γιὰ τὸ σῶμα. **Τί κάνεις γιὰ τὸ σῶμα;**

✓ Τὸ σῶμα τὸ **τρέφεις** καθημερινῶς, ὅχι μιὰ φορὰ τὸ χρόνο. Καὶ τὴν ψυχὴ λοιπὸν πρέπει νὰ τὴν τρέφουμε. Καὶ τροφὴ τῆς ψυχῆς εἶνε ἡ προσευχή, ἡ μελέτη, ἡ ἐγκράτεια, ὁ ἐκκλησια-σμός, ἡ θεία κοινωνία. Γιὰ τὸ σῶμα δὲν λές, Δὲν εὐκαιρῶ νὰ φάω. Μὴ λές λοιπὸν καὶ γιὰ τὴν ψυχὴ. Δὲν εὐκαιρῶ νὰ προσευχηθῶ.

✓ Τὸ σῶμα τὸ **ντύνεις**, δὲν τ' ἀφήνεις γυμνὸ. Στόλισε λοιπὸν καὶ τὴν ψυχὴ σου μὲ ὠραῖο φό-ρεμα. Ὅχι ἀπ' αὐτὰ ποὺ τρώει ὁ σκόρος καὶ γίνονται κουρέλια, ἀλλὰ μὲ ἔργα πίστεως καὶ ἀρετῆς, ποὺ μένουν αἰωνίως.

✓ Γιὰ τὸ σῶμα χτίζεις **σπίτι** νὰ τὸ στεγάσῃς. Ἡ ψυχὴ σου ποὺ θὰ στεγαστῇ; Μεριμνήσε νὰ τῆς ἐτοιμάσῃς σκῆνωμα. Δὲν μακαρίζω ἐκεῖ-νους ποὺ κατοικοῦν σὲ μέγαρα καὶ παλάτια, ποὺ μιὰ μέρα τ' ἀφήνουν καὶ φωλιάζουν ἐκεῖ κουκουβάγιες· ζηλεύω αὐτοὺς ποὺ προνοοῦν νὰ βροῦν «*οἰκοδομήν ἐκ Θεοῦ... οἰκίαν ἀχει-ροποίητον αἰώνιον ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς*» (Ἐφ. 2: 21).

✓ Τὸ σῶμα, ὅταν **ἄρρωσταῖν**, φροντίζεις νὰ θεραπευθῇ· ζητῆς γιὰτρό, παίρνεις φάρμακα, ἐφαρμόζεις δίαιτα, ὑποβάλλεσαι σὲ ἐγχειρή-σεις, κάνεις τὰ πάντα. Γιὰ τὴν ἄρρωστη ψυχὴ σου –καὶ ἀσθένεια τῆς ψυχῆς εἶνε ἡ ἁμαρτία– καθόλου δὲν νοιάζεσαι νὰ γίνῃ καλά;

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Μέχρι τώρα, ἀγαπητοί μου, φροντίσαμε γιὰ ὅλα· γιὰ τὰ σπίτια μας, τὰ χωράφια μας, τὰ ζῶα μας, τὶς μηχανές μας... Καιρὸς εἶνε νὰ φροντίσουμε καὶ γιὰ τὴν ψυχὴ μας. Εἶνε ὁ **σπουδαιότερος θησαυρὸς** ποὺ ἔχουμε.

Πῶς νὰ σὲς παραστήσω τὴν ἀξία τῆς; Φαν-ταστῆτε **μία ζυγαριά**. Κρεμάστε τὴν ἀπὸ τὸ θόλο τοῦ οὐρανοῦ. Ἐπειτα στὸν ἕνα ζυγὸ μα-ζέψτε ὅλα τ' **ἀγαθὰ τοῦ κόσμου**· χρυσάφι, ἀ-σήμι, πολύτιμα μέταλλα, νομίσματα, κοσμη-ματα... Καὶ ἀπὸ τὸ ἄλλο μέρος τῆς ζυγαριᾶς τί νὰ βάλουμε; Νὰ βάλουμε **μιὰ ψυχὴ**· τὴν ψυ-χὴ ὅχι ἐνὸς βασιλιᾶ, ὅχι ἐνὸς πλουσίου, ὅχι ἐνὸς νέου· νὰ βάλουμε τὴν ψυχὴ τοῦ πιδ ἀ-σήμου, φτωχοῦ, ἀσθενοῦς ἀνθρώπου. Τί βλέ-πουμε· ἡ ζυγαριὰ κλίνει πρὸς τὸ μέρος ποὺ εἶνε ἡ ψυχὴ. Τόσο μεγάλη εἶνε ἡ ἀξία τῆς. Γι' αὐτὸ ὁ Χριστὸς εἶπε· «*Τί ὠφελήσει ἄνθρωπον ἐὰν κερδήσῃ τὸν κόσμον ὅλον καὶ ζημιωθῇ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ; ἢ τί δώσει ἄνθρωπος ἀν-τάλλαγμα τῆς ψυχῆς αὐτοῦ;*» (Ματ. 16: 26).

Γι' αὐτὸ ν' ἀκούσουμε τὴ φωνὴ τοῦ Θεοῦ καὶ νὰ ἐργαστοῦμε γιὰ τὸ θησαυρὸ τῆς ψυχῆς· αὐτὸς μόνος θὰ μείνῃ. Διαφορετικά, θ' ἀποδει-χθοῦμε ἀνόητοι, **οἱ πιδ ἀνόητοι ἄνθρωποι**.

Υπόδειγμα σήμερα ἔχουμε τὴν **Παναγία**, τῆς ὁποίας τὴν ἱερὰ μνήμη ἐορτάζουμε. Ἐκεῖ-νη ἀγάπησε τὸν Κύριο, στόλισε τὴν ψυχὴ τῆς, ἐτοιμάστηκε νὰ πάῃ κοντά του, καὶ τώρα με-τέχει στὴν αἰώνια δόξα του. Πριγκίπισσες λη-σμονήθηκαν, ἀρχόντισσες ξεχάστηκαν, πλου-σιες ἐσβησαν· ἡ Παναγία μένει ἐνδοξη, βασι-λισσα τοῦ κόσμου, κυρία τῶν ἀγγέλων.

Ἄς βαδίσουμε κ' ἐμεῖς τὸ δρόμο τῆς πίστε-ως καὶ τῆς ἀρετῆς, γιὰ νὰ εἴμαστε **μαζὶ** μὲ τὴν Παναγία καὶ τὶς ψυχῆς τῶν δικαίων, ὑμνοῦν-τες καὶ δοξολογοῦντες ἡμέρα καὶ νύχτα τὴ δόξα τῆς ἁγίας Τριάδος εἰς αἰῶνας αἰώνων.

(†) **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: \$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**

### *Explanation to the Emperor*

There is nothing in the holy, inspired Scripture about the death of Mary, the holy Mother of God. But we know from ancient and wholly reliable tradition that at the time she so gloriously fell asleep, all the holy Apostles, who were traveling the world for the salvation of the peoples, were lifted up in a single instant of time and were gathered at Jerusalem; and as they stood by her, they saw a vision of angels, and heard the divine chanting of the higher powers ... Her body, which had been God's dwelling place, was brought for burial amidst the singing of the angels and the Apostles, and laid to rest in a coffin in Gethsemane; and the angelic dancing and singing continued without pause in that place for three days. But after three days, the song of the angels ceased; the Apostles were there, and since one of them, Thomas, had not been present (for her burial and came at the end of three days) and

wished to reverence that body which had housed God, they opened the coffin. And they could not find her body, which had been the object of such praise; all that they found were her burial wrappings. And being overcome by the ineffable fragrance that came out of the wrappings, they closed the coffin again. Amazed by this miraculous discovery, they could only draw a single conclusion: the one Who had deigned to become flesh in her own person, and to take His humanity from her, the one Who willed to be born in human flesh as God the Word, the Lord of glory, and Who had preserved her virginity intact even after childbirth, now chose, after her departure from this world, to honor her immaculate and pure body with the gift of incorruptibility, and with a change of state even before the common, universal resurrection.

*St. Juvenal, Patriarch of Jerusalem*

**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-MAILING