



DIRECT ARCHDIOCESAN  
DISTRICT

## THREE HIERARCHS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

SUNDAY WEEKLY BULLETIN May 14th , 2023

V. Rev. Archimandrite Eugene N. Pappas

### SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN



*Icon of the Samaritan Woman*

## Prokeimenon. Mode 4 Psalm 103.24,1 .

The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 11:19-30

In those days, those apostles who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to none except Jews. But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number that believed turned to the Lord. News of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad; and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose; for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a large company was added to the Lord. So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul; and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church, and taught a large company of people; and in Antioch the disciples were for the first time called Christians. Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. And one of them named Agabos stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world; and this took place in the days of Claudius. And the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brethren who lived in Judea, and they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

## Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἔρχεται ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἰς πόλιν τῆς Σαμαρείας λεγομένην Συχάρ, πλησίον τοῦ χωρίου ὃ ἔδωκεν Ἰακώβ Ἰωσήφ τῷ υἱῷ αὐτοῦ· ἣν δὲ ἐκεῖ πηγή τοῦ Ἰακώβ. Ὁ οὖν Ἰησοῦς κεκοπιακῶς ἐκ τῆς ὁδοπορίας ἐκαθέζετο οὕτως ἐπὶ τῇ πηγῇ· ὥρα ἦν ὥσει ἔκτῃ· Ἐρχεται γυνὴ ἐκ τῆς Σαμαρείας ἀντλήσαι ὕδωρ. Λέγει αὐτῇ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· δός μοι πιεῖν. Οἱ γὰρ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ ἀπεληλύθεισαν εἰς τὴν πόλιν ἵνα τροφὰς ἀγοράσωσι. Λέγει οὖν αὐτῷ ἡ γυνὴ ἡ Σαμαρεῖτις· Πῶς σὺ Ἰουδαῖος ὢν παρ' ἐμοῦ πιεῖν αἰτεῖς, οὗσης γυναικὸς Σαμαρεῖτιδος; Οὐ γὰρ συγχρῶνται Ἰουδαῖοι Σαμαρεῖταις. Ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῇ· Εἰ ᾗδεις τὴν δωρεάν τοῦ Θεοῦ, καὶ τίς ἐστὶν ὁ λέγων σοι, δός μοι πιεῖν, σὺ ἂν ᾗτησας αὐτόν, καὶ ἔδωκεν ἂν σοι ὕδωρ ζῶν. Λέγει αὐτῷ ἡ γυνή· Κύριε, οὔτε ἀντλημα ἔχεις, καὶ τὸ φρέαρ ἐστὶ βαθύ· πόθεν οὖν ἔχεις τὸ ὕδωρ τὸ ζῶν; Μὴ σὺ μείζων εἶ τοῦ πατρὸς ἡμῶν Ἰακώβ, ὃς ἔδωκεν ἡμῖν τὸ φρέαρ, καὶ αὐτὸς ἐξ αὐτοῦ ἔπιε καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ αὐτοῦ καὶ τὰ θρέμματα αὐτοῦ; Ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῇ· Πᾶς ὁ πίνων ἐκ τοῦ ὕδατος τούτου διψήσει πάλιν· ὃς δ' ἂν πίῃ ἐκ τοῦ ὕδατος οὗ ἐγὼ δώσω αὐτῷ, οὐ μὴ διψήσει εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, ἀλλὰ τὸ ὕδωρ ὃ δώσω αὐτῷ, γενήσεται ἐν αὐτῷ πηγὴ ὕδατος ἀλλομένου εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον. Λέγει πρὸς αὐτόν ἡ γυνή· Κύριε, δός μοι τοῦτο τὸ ὕδωρ, ἵνα μὴ διψῶ μηδὲ ἔρχωμαι ἐνθάδε ἀντλεῖν. Λέγει αὐτῇ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· Ὑπάγε φώνησον τὸν ἄνδρα σου καὶ ἐλθὲ ἐνθάδε. Ἀπεκρίθη ἡ γυνὴ καὶ εἶπεν· Οὐκ ἔχω ἄνδρα. Λέγει αὐτῇ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· Καλῶς εἶπας ὅτι ἄνδρα οὐκ ἔχω· πέντε γὰρ ἄνδρας ἔσχες, καὶ νῦν ὃν ἔχεις οὐκ ἔστι σου ἀνὴρ· τοῦτο ἀληθὲς εἶρηκας. Λέγει αὐτῷ ἡ γυνή· Κύριε, θεωρῶ ὅτι προφήτης εἶ σύ. Οἱ πατέρες ἡμῶν ἐν τῷ ὄρει τούτῳ προσεκύνησαν· καὶ ὑμεῖς λέγετε ὅτι ἐν Ἱεροσολύμοις ἐστὶν ὁ τόπος ὅπου δεῖ προσκυνεῖν. Λέγει αὐτῇ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· Γύναι, πιστεύσόν μοι ὅτι ἔρχεται ὥρα ὅτε οὔτε ἐν τῷ ὄρει τούτῳ οὔτε ἐν Ἱεροσολύμοις προσκυνήσετε τῷ πατρί. Ὑμεῖς προσκυνεῖτε ὃ οὐκ οἴδατε, ἡμεῖς προσκυνοῦμεν ὃ οἶδαμεν· ὅτι ἡ σωτηρία ἐκ τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἐστίν. Ἀλλ' ἔρχεται ὥρα, καὶ νῦν ἐστίν, ὅτε οἱ ἀληθινοὶ προσκυνηταὶ προσκυνήσουσι τῷ πατρί ἐν πνεύματι καὶ ἀληθείᾳ· καὶ γὰρ ὁ πατὴρ τοιούτους ζητεῖ τοὺς προσκυνοῦντας αὐτόν. Πνεῦμα ὁ Θεός, καὶ τοὺς προσκυνοῦντας αὐτόν ἐν πνεύματι καὶ ἀληθείᾳ δεῖ προσκυνεῖν. Λέγει αὐτῷ ἡ γυνή· Οἶδα ὅτι Μεσσίας ἔρχεται ὁ λεγόμενος Χριστός· ὅταν ἔλθῃ ἐκεῖνος, ἀναγγελεῖ ἡμῖν πάντα. Λέγει αὐτῇ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· Ἐγὼ εἰμι ὁ λαλῶν σοι. Καὶ ἐπὶ τούτῳ ἦλθον οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐθαύμασαν ὅτι μετὰ γυναικὸς ἐλάλει· οὐδεὶς μὲντοι εἶπε, τί ζητεῖς ἢ τί λαλεῖς μετ' αὐτῆς; Ἀφῆκεν οὖν τὴν ὑδρίαν αὐτῆς ἡ γυνὴ καὶ ἀπῆλθεν εἰς τὴν πόλιν, καὶ λέγει τοῖς ἀνθρώποις· Δεῦτε ἴδετε ἄνθρωπον ὃς εἶπέ μοι πάντα ὅσα ἐποίησα· μήτι οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ Χριστός; Ἐξῆλθον οὖν ἐκ τῆς πόλεως καὶ ἤρχοντο πρὸς αὐτόν· Ἐν δὲ τῷ μεταξύ ἡρώτων αὐτόν οἱ μαθηταὶ λέγοντες· Ῥαββί, φάγε. Ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· Ἐγὼ βρώσιν ἔχω φαγεῖν, ἣν ὑμεῖς οὐκ οἴδατε. Ἐλεγον οὖν οἱ μαθηταὶ πρὸς ἀλλήλους· Μὴ τις ἤνεγκεν αὐτῷ φαγεῖν; Λέγει αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς· Ἐμὸν βρώμά ἐστιν ἵνα ποιῶ τὸ θέλημα τοῦ πέμψαντός με καὶ τελειώσω αὐτοῦ τὸ ἔργον. Οὐχ ὑμεῖς λέγετε ὅτι ἔτι τετράμηνός ἐστι καὶ ὁ θερισμὸς ἔρχεται; Ἰδοὺ λέγω ὑμῖν, ἐπάρατε τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς ὑμῶν καὶ θεάσασθε τὰς χώρας, ὅτι λευκαὶ εἰσι πρὸς θερισμὸν ἤδη. Καὶ ὁ θερίζων μισθὸν λαμβάνει καὶ συνάγει καρπὸν εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον, ἵνα καὶ ὁ σπείρων ὁμοῦ χαίρῃ καὶ ὁ θερίζων. Ἐν γὰρ τούτῳ ὁ λόγος ἐστὶν ὁ ἀληθινός, ὅτι ἄλλος ἐστὶν ὁ σπείρων καὶ ἄλλος ὁ θερίζων. Ἐγὼ ἀπέστειλα ὑμᾶς θερίζειν ὃ οὐχ ὑμεῖς κεκοπιάκατε· ἄλλοι κεκοπιάκασιν, καὶ ὑμεῖς εἰς τὸν κόπον αὐτῶν εἰσεληλύθατε. Ἐκ δὲ τῆς πόλεως ἐκείνης πολλοὶ ἐπίστευσαν εἰς αὐτόν τῶν Σαμαρειτῶν διὰ τὸν λόγον τῆς γυναικὸς, μαρτυρούσης ὅτι εἶπέ μοι πάντα ὅσα ἐποίησα. Ὡς οὖν ἦλθον πρὸς αὐτόν οἱ Σαμαρεῖται, ἡρώτων αὐτόν μεῖναι παρ' αὐτοῖς· καὶ ἔμεινεν ἐκεῖ δύο ἡμέρας. Καὶ πολλῶν πλείους ἐπίστευσαν διὰ τὸν λόγον αὐτοῦ, τῇ τε γυναικὶ ἔλεγον ὅτι οὐκέτι διὰ τὴν σὴν λαλίαν πιστεύομεν· αὐτοὶ γὰρ ἀκηκόαμεν, καὶ οἶδαμεν ὅτι οὗτός ἐστιν ἀληθῶς ὁ σωτὴρ τοῦ κόσμου ὁ Χριστός.



## GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA ARCHDIOCESAN DISTRICT

Coffee Fellowship is being hosted and sponsored by the Ladies Philoptochos Society today. Everyone is invited to Whitehall for the reception.

### HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY

Today we honor all the mothers, grandmothers, God-mothers and significant women in our life. The tribute signals our love, respect and admiration for these individuals. The T.H.Y. youngsters will be distributing carnations to all the ladies of the congregation today as a sign of our admiration. The Blessed Virgin Mary as maternal image to all will be invoked in prayerful supplication also.

The WOMAN OF THE YEAR will be announced at the conclusion of TODAY'S Liturgy.

WOMAN of the YEAR 2023 committee met for the selection by ballot for this coveted award and honor. 19 Ladies representing various organizations, philanthropies, fraternal organizations, youth groups and school outreach will participate in the selection. The entire project is overseen by the clergy. WHO WILL IT BE IN 2023? The honoree will be given tribute TODAY (MOTHER'S DAY) at the Divine Liturgy 12 noon. The entire procedure is held in secret to surprise the woman of choice.

Next Sunday: May 21<sup>st</sup> is the Feast Day of Saints Constantine and Helen. We extend to every Constantine, Gus, Deno, Dean, Elena, Elaine, Helen Chronia Polla on this festive occasion. Artoklasies are most welcomed as we celebrate the holy day. Please register your personal 'artoklasia' with the church office in order to secure 'ypsomata' during the liturgical rite.

Congratulations are extended to CHRIS VELLIOS who will be united in Holy Matrimony to Ms. FLORA NICHOLAUDIS on Saturday, June 03<sup>rd</sup>, at the Brooklyn Cathedral of Saints Constantine and Helen at 3:00 P.M. We wish the young couple KALA STEPHANA and welcome to our Parish Community!

ARCHDIOCESAN SERVANT LEADERSHIP AWARDS BANQUET: is scheduled for Tuesday June 6<sup>th</sup> at the Greentree Country Club, in New Rochelle, New York with a cocktail reception at 6:00 P.M. and the festive dinner at 7:00 P.M. Each parish of the Archdiocesan District ( 70 parishes ) is to honor 'ONE' of their own dedicated volunteers who expend time, talent and treasure for the well-being and progress of the faith community. By UNANIMOUS CONSENT our FIRST HONOREE for this coveted award is STELLA ( ANASTASAKOS ) OBERLE who is the editor, graphic and lay-out designer of our Sunday Bulletin and all organizational flyers and colorful announcements. Stella has dutifully served in this time-consuming effort for many years. We salute her voluntary contribution that we each look forward to on Sunday mornings! BRAVA! BRAVA! AXIA! STELLA.....

Up-coming Holy Days:	ASCENSION THURSDAY – MAY 25 <sup>TH</sup> , Divine Liturgy	9:30 A.M.
	PSYCHOSABBATON – JUNE 03 <sup>RD</sup> , (SATURDAY)	8.30 A.M.
	PENTECOST SUNDAY – JUNE 04 <sup>TH</sup> Liturgy	9:30 A.M.

Kneeling Prayers intoned for redemption

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW: PARISH GENERAL ASSEMBLY – Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 P.M.

UKRAINIAN FESTIVAL: Our sister community of Saint Panteleimon which worships with us at Three Hierarchs will host their Annual Festival on JUNE 03<sup>RD</sup> and 4<sup>TH</sup> from 3:00 PM each day to the evening.

BROOKLYN GREEK FESTIVAL – Two three day week-ends  
Friday, Saturday, Sunday JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup>, 10<sup>TH</sup>, AND 11<sup>TH</sup> /  
JUNE 16<sup>TH</sup>, 17<sup>TH</sup>, 18<sup>TH</sup>,

MEMORIALS TODAY:	+ PAULINE PAPPAS	+ VIOLET BIGELOW ROURKE
MEMORIALS NEXT SUNDAY:	+ DEMETRIOS (Jimmy) PANTELIDES 40 <sup>TH</sup> day.	

May the Lord have mercy on the faithful departed in Christ.





Three Hierarchs Senior Club made a solemn pilgrimage to the WORLD TRADE CENTER SAINT NICHOLAS SHRINE CHURCH last week. This interior view of the sanctuary evidences the magnificent iconography painted by Father Loukas of Mount Athos. Special detail is seen in the apse over the altar where OUR LADY of NEW YORK shelters lower Manhattan on the day of the cataclysm 9/11. Partial view is the prominence of the THREE HIERARCHS ICON ON THE WALL behind the altar. They are our PATRON SAINTS!







In these photos we see His Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew presenting the architectural miniature of the 'shrine' to Saint Nicholas in whose name the edifice is dedicated. This is a Byzantine cultural tradition often seen in major cathedrals. Father Eugene had the august privilege to present the reliquary of the HAND of SAINT NICHOLAS to the faithful for veneration. The Patriarch carried the relic from Constantinople to New York City for the THYRANOIXIA opening of the church doors. Notice the Resurrection icon on the altar frontal which includes fire-fighters, police officers, E.M.T.s and other civilian casualties.





# ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ

## ΣΥΝΤΟΜΟΝ ΚΗΡΥΓΜΑ



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

Ἐκδίδεται ἀπὸ τὴν Καινοβιακὴ Γυναικεία Ἱερὰ Μονὴ Ἁγίου Αὐγουστίνου Φλωρίνης - 531 03 ΦΛΩΡΙΝΑ - τηλ. 23850-28610 - [info@yghoa.gr](mailto:info@yghoa.gr)

Περίοδος Γ' - Ἔτος ΙΣΤ'  
Ἀριθμ. φύλλου 680\*

Κυριακὴ τῆς Σαμαρείτιδος (Ἰω. 4,5-42)  
14 Μαΐου 2023 (1999)

Συντάκτης (†) ἐπίσκοπος  
Αὐγουστίνος Ν. Καντιώτης

## Μίλα γιὰ τὸ Χριστὸ

«Ἀπῆλθεν εἰς τὴν πόλιν, καὶ λέγει τοῖς ἀνθρώποις· Δεῦτε ἴδετε ἄνθρωπον ὃς εἶπέ μοι πάντα ὅσα ἐποίησα» (Ἰω. 4,28-29)

**Κ**άτω στοὺς Ἁγίους Τόπους, ἀγαπητοί μου, ὄχι μακριὰ ἀπὸ τὸν Ἰορδάνη ποταμό, ἦταν μία πόλι πού ὠνομαζόταν **Σιχάρ**. Κατοικοῦνταν ἀπὸ **Σαμαρεῖτες**.

Οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι μισοῦσαν τοὺς Σαμαρεῖτες. Τοὺς θεωροῦσαν **νόθα παιδιὰ**. Οὔτε στὰ σπίτια τοὺς πῆγαιναν, οὔτε τὰ κορίτσια τοὺς ἐπαιρναν νύφες, οὔτε ἕνα ποτήρι νερό δὲν δέχονταν ἀπ' αὐτούς, οὔτε καλημέρα ἢ καλησπέρα δὲν τοὺς ἔλεγαν. Δὲν περνοῦσαν οὔτε ἀπὸ τὰ χωράφια τοὺς. Καὶ ἂν τύχαινε νὰ περάσῃ κανεὶς, τίνανε τὰ παπούτσια του.

Ὁ Χριστὸς ὅμως, νάτος, μπήκε στὴ Σαμάρεια. Οἱ κάτοικοι αὐτῆς τῆς πόλεως δὲν εἶχαν ἀκούσει τίποτα γι' αὐτόν· **δὲν ἤξεραν τίποτα γιὰ τὸ Χριστό**. Ποιὸς τοὺς ἔφερε κοντά Του; Οὔτε παπᾶς, οὔτε δεσπότης, οὔτε ἱεροκλήρυκας, ἀλλὰ **μιὰ γυναίκα**.

Μήπως αὐτὴ ἡ γυναίκα ἦταν καμμιὰ δασκάλα, καμμιὰ καθηγήτρια, καμμιὰ μορφωμένη πού ἤξερε πολλὰ γράμματα; Ὁχι. Ἦταν **μιὰ ἀγράμματη καὶ μάλιστα ἁμαρτωλὴ** γυναίκα. Πολὺ ἁμαρτωλὴ. Ἦταν ἕνα **κάρβουνο** τοῦ διαβόλου, καὶ ὁ Χριστὸς τὸ ἔκανε **διαμάντι**. Τί μεγάλα θαύματα κάνει ὁ Χριστὸς! Καὶ σήμερὰ σ' ὅλες τὶς ἐκκλησίες αὐτὴ τὴ γυναίκα τὴν ἀγράμματη καὶ ἁμαρτωλὴ τιμοῦμε ὅλοι, παπᾶδες καὶ δεσποτάδες. Αὐτὴ, μόλις γνώρισε τὸ Χριστό, ἔτρεξε καὶ εἶπε·

—Ἐλάτε, συγχωριανοί μου, νὰ δῆτε κάποιον, πού **μοῦ εἶπε ὅλα τὰ μυστικά τῆς καρδιᾶς μου**. Μήπως εἶνε αὐτὸς ὁ Χριστός;

Ἐτρεξε ὅλο τὸ χωριὸ στὸ Χριστό, καὶ δὲν χόρταινε ν' ἀκούῃ τὰ λόγια του. Ἐπесαν στὰ πόδια του παρακαλώντας τον νὰ μείνῃ κοντά τους. Καὶ **ἔμεινε ὁ Χριστὸς ἐκεῖ δυὸ μέρες**. Καὶ πίστεψε ὅλο σχεδὸν τὸ χωριὸ τους.

Αὐτὰ λέει σήμερὰ μὲ ἀπλὰ καὶ σύντομα λόγια τὸ εὐαγγέλιο (βλ. Ἰω. 4,5-42).

Καὶ ἡ **Σαμαρείτισσα** τί ἔγινε;

Ἀπὸ τὴν ἡμέρα πού πίστεψε στὸ Χριστό ἄλλαξε ζωὴ. Ἀπὸ Σαμαρείτισσα ἔγινε **Φωτεινὴ**. Ἀπὸ σκοτάδι ἔγινε φῶς, ἀπὸ σκοτεινὴ ἔγινε φωτεινὴ. Καὶ τί ἔκανε; Τ' ἄφησε ὅλα, πῆρε ἕνα ῥαβδί καὶ περπατοῦσε σὲ βουνὰ καὶ ῥεματιές **κηρύττοντας τὸ Χριστό**, μὲ φλόγα. Ὅταν ἔλεγε τὸ ὄνομα τοῦ Χριστοῦ ἔκλαιγε.

Μετὰ τὴν σταυρικὴ θυσία τοῦ Χριστοῦ πῆγε σὲ πολλὰ μέρη. **Κατέληξε στὴ Σμύρνη**. Κήρυξε καὶ ἐκεῖ τὸ Χριστό, βαπτίστηκαν πολλοὶ καὶ ἔγιναν Χριστιανοί.

Γι' αὐτὸ οἱ Σμυρنيῶτες πρὸς τιμὴν τῆς ἔχτισαν τὴν πιὸ ὁμορφὴ ἐκκλησία πού ὑπῆρχε στὴ Μικρὰ Ἀσία. **Ὁ ναὸς τῆς Ἁγίας Φωτεινῆς** ἦταν ὁ πρῶτος μετὰ τὴν Ἁγία Σοφία τῆς Κωνσταντινουπόλεως. Στὴν ἐκκλησία τῆς Ἁγίας Φωτεινῆς λειτούργησε γιὰ τελευταία φορὰ ὁ **Χρυσόστομος Σμύρνης τὸ 1922**, καὶ μετὰ ἔβαλαν φωτιά οἱ Τουρκαλάδες καὶ τὴν ἔκαψαν. Δὲν ὑπάρχει πιὰ.

Ποιὸς λοιπὸν **ἔφερε τόσο κόσμον στὸ Χριστό**; Μιὰ γυναίκα, ἡ ἁγία Φωτεινὴ.

Γι' αὐτὸ **ὅ,τι ἔκανε ἡ ἁγία Φωτεινὴ, νὰ κάνουμε κ' ἐμεῖς**.

—Μπᾶ; θὰ μοῦ πῆτε, ν' ἀφήσουμε τὰ σπίτια μας, τὰ χωράφια μας καὶ τὶς δουλειές μας, νὰ πάρουμε ἕνα ῥαβδί καὶ νὰ τρέχουμε γιὰ νὰ κηρύττουμε τὸ Χριστό; Μὰ **τρελλάθηκες**; Ἐχουμε γυναῖκα καὶ παιδιὰ...

Δὲν σοῦ λέω νὰ πᾶς νὰ κηρύξεις τὸ Χριστό κάτω στὸ Νεῖλο ποταμὸ καὶ στὶς Ἰνδίες. **Ἐδῶ**, στὸ χωριὸ σου καὶ στὴν πόλι σου **νὰ τὸν κηρύξεις**. Θὰ μοῦ πῆς·

—**Μὲ ποιὸ τρόπο;**

Θὰ σοῦ πῶ. Ἀπὸ τὸ πρῶτὸ πού σηκώνεσαι μέχρι τὸ βράδυ ἡ γλῶσσα σου δὲν σταματᾷ.

Κουβεντιάζεις με τη γυναίκα σου, με τὰ παιδιά σου, με ὅλους. Κουβεντιάζεις στὸ καφφενεῖο, στὴν πλατεῖα, παντοῦ. Ἄν μετρήσω τὶς λέξεις πού λές ἀπ' τὸ πρωὶ ὡς τὸ βράδι, εἶνε χίλιες λέξεις. Ἄν ψάξω μέσα στὶς χίλιες αὐτὲς λέξεις, θὰ βρῶ τὸ διαμάντι; Γιατὶ οἱ λέξεις πού λένε οἱ ἄνθρωποι εἶνε χαλίκια καὶ ἄμμος. Διαμάντι εἶνε ὁ Χριστός. **Εἶπες μιὰ λέξι γιὰ τὸ Χριστό; Μπᾶ!**

Ὅταν βάπτισα στὴ Φλώρινα τοὺς τσιγγάνους, ρωτῶ ἕναν ἐξυπνο γύφτο ἀπ' αὐτούς·

—Τόσα χρόνια, πού μένεις ἐδῶ στὴ Φλώρινα, δὲν μοῦ λές, **ἀκουσες ποτέ κανένα νὰ μιλάει γιὰ τὸ Χριστό;**

—Ναί, μοῦ λέει, ἀκουσα· **ὅταν τὸν βλαστημᾶνε!**

Σ' αὐτὴ τὴν κατάντια φτάσαμε· τὸ ὄνομα τοῦ Χριστοῦ καὶ τῆς Παναγίας ν' ἀκούγεται μόνο στὶς βλαστημίες.

Γιὰ καλὸ ἢ λέξι Χριστὸς δὲν βγαίνει ἀπὸ τὰ χεῖλη σου. Κουβεντιάζεις γιὰ ὅλα· γιὰ τὰ γίδια, γιὰ τὰ χωράφια, γιὰ τὰ λεφτά, γιὰ τὶς καταθέσεις, γιὰ τὶς παντρεῖες καὶ τὰ διαζύγια. **Γιὰ τὸ Χριστό δὲν μιλάς.**

Τὸ νὰ μὴ μιλάς γιὰ τὸ Χριστό, πού σοῦ δίνει τὸ φῶς, τὸν ἀέρα, τὸ ψωμί, τὰ πάντα, εἶνε ἁμαρτία, **ἀχαριστία.**

Ὅπως, λοιπόν, ἡ ἀγία Φωτεινὴ μιλοῦσε γιὰ τὸ Χριστό, ἔτσι **νὰ μιλάς κ' ἐσύ γι' αὐτόν.**

Νὰ μιλάς μέσα στὸ σπίτι. Εἶσαι πατέρας; Ὅταν βραδιάση, φώναξε τὴ γυναίκα καὶ τὰ παιδιά σου, καὶ μίλα τους γιὰ τὸ Χριστό. **Πάρε καὶ διάβασε τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο.**

Θὰ πεθάνης μιὰ μέρα, καὶ ὅλα θὰ τὰ ξεχάσουν τὰ παιδιά, καὶ τὰ λεφτά καὶ τὰ πλούτη. Ἐνα δὲν θὰ ξεχάσουν ποτέ· ὅτι τοὺς μιλοῦσες γιὰ τὸ Χριστό. **Δὲν θὰ ξεχάσουν ποτέ** τὴ μάνα, τὸν πατέρα καὶ τὴ γιαγιά, πού τοὺς μιλοῦσαν γιὰ τὸ Χριστό.

Δάκρυα μοῦ ἔρχονται στὰ μάτια ὅταν θυμᾶμαι **τὸ πατρικὸ μου σπίτι.** Μᾶς μιλοῦσαν γιὰ τὸ Χριστό.

Στὴ **Ῥωσία** ἄθεοι ἦταν. Καμπάνα δὲν χτυποῦσε, κήρυγμα δὲν ἐπιτρεπόταν, τὸ κατηχητικὸ ἀπαγορευόταν. Παιδάκι νὰ πησιάζη παπᾶς δὲν τολμοῦσε. Στὰ σχολεῖα πολεμοῦσαν τὴν πίστι. Πῶς κρατήθηκε ἡ Ἐκκλησία; **Ποιὸς διδασκε τὰ παιδιά γιὰ τὸ Χριστό;** Οἱ Ῥωσιῶδες **μανάδες** καὶ οἱ **γιαγιάδες!** Μακάρι νὰ πιστεύαμε ἐμεῖς ἐδῶ ὅπως ἐκεῖνες. Τὴ νύχτα, τὰ μεσάνυχτα, ἔπαιρναν τὰ παιδιά, τὰ γονάτιζαν μπροστὰ στὴν εἰκόνα τοῦ Χριστοῦ καὶ **τοὺς ἔκαναν μάθημα.**

Στὸ ἄθεο ἐκεῖνο καθεστῶς ἔβλεπες στρα-

τιῶτες καὶ ἀξιωματικοὺς καὶ δικαστὰς πού πίστευαν στὸ Χριστό. Καὶ ἀποροῦσαν οἱ ἄπιστοι, **ποιὸς τοὺς διδάξε τὴ θρησκεία!**

Ὅχι μόνο δὲν ἔσβησε ἡ πίστι στὴ Ῥωσία, ἀλλὰ καὶ **θριάμβευσε.** Γιατί; Γιατὶ ὑπῆρχαν οἱ Σαμαρεῖτισσες.

Πάρτε λοιπόν κ' ἐσεῖς τὰ παιδιά σας καὶ μιλήστε τους γιὰ τὸ Χριστό.

Θὰ γεράσης μιὰ μέρα καὶ θὰ πεθάνης. Ἄλλ' **ὅταν σὲ θυμᾶται τὸ παιδάκι,** θὰ λέη· Ἄχ, καλὴ μου μάνα, πού μοῦ σταύρωνες τὰ χεράκια καὶ με μάθαινες τὴν προσευχή, εὐλογημένη νά 'σαι!

Ἐγὼ δὲν σᾶς λέω νὰ πᾶτε στὴν Ἀφρική καὶ νὰ κηρύξετε τὸ Χριστό, ἀλλὰ **μέσα στὸ σπίτι σας.**

**Σοῦ ἔδωσε τὴ γλῶσσα ὁ Θεὸς γιὰ νὰ μιλάς γιὰ τὸ Χριστό.** Καὶ ἡ μαῖμου ἔχει γλῶσσα, ἀλλὰ δὲν μπορεῖ νὰ μιλήσῃ. Καὶ τὸν παπαγάλο μπορεῖς νὰ τὸν μάθης δυὸ - τρεῖς λέξεις, ἀλλὰ δὲν τὶς καταλαβαίνει. Ἀπ' ὅλα τὰ ζωντανὰ μόνο ὁ ἄνθρωπος μιλάει. Καὶ εἶνε μεγάλο προνόμιο αὐτό.

Σοῦ ἔδωσε τὴ γλῶσσα ὁ Θεός, ὄχι γιὰ νὰ βρίζης, νὰ καταριέσαι καὶ νὰ στέλνης τὸ παιδί σου στὸ διάβολο· ὄχι γιὰ νὰ βλαστημᾶς καὶ νὰ κοτσομπολεύης, ὄχι γιὰ νὰ συκοφαντῇς καὶ νὰ αἰσχρολογῇς. Ὅχι γιὰ νὰ κάθεσαι μὲ τὶς ὥρες στὰ καφφενεῖα καὶ στὶς τηλεοράσεις καὶ νὰ συζητᾷς τὰ αἶσχη πού βλέπεις. Γιατὶ τότε **δὲν εἶσαι ἄνθρωπος, ἀλλὰ κτῆνος.**

Σοῦ ἔδωσε τὴ γλῶσσα ὁ Θεός, γιὰ νὰ πῇς μόλις σηκωθῇς τὸ πρωί· **Εὐχαριστῶ, Θεέ μου,** πού μοῦ ἔδωσες τὸ φῶς. Κι ὅταν ἔρθῃ τὸ μεσημέρι νὰ πῇς· Σ' εὐχαριστῶ, Θεέ μου, πού μοῦ ἔδωσες τὸ ψωμί. Καὶ ὅταν βραδιάση νὰ πῇς· Σ' εὐχαριστῶ, Θεέ μου, πού με φύλαξες ὅλη τὴν ἡμέρα.

Δὲς **τὰ πουλάκια,** πού κελαῖδανε καὶ λένε· Θεέ μου, σ' εὐχαριστῶ.

Σήκω **τὴν Κυριακὴ νὰ πᾶς στὴν ἐκκλησία** καὶ νὰ ὑμνήσης τὸ Θεό.

Νὰ μιλάς γιὰ τὸ Χριστό καὶ μόνο γιὰ τὸ Χριστό. Μὲ τὴ ζωὴ σου καὶ τὸ παράδειγμά σου. **Τότε θὰ εἶσαι Χριστιανός.** Ἀλλιῶς, δὲν θὰ εἶσαι Χριστιανός, ἀλλὰ θὰ εἶσαι χειρότερος ἀπὸ τοὺς Σαμαρεῖτες καὶ χειρότερος ἀπὸ τοὺς Τούρκους, χειρότερος ἀπ' ὅλους.

Εἶθε ὁ Θεὸς τὰ λίγα αὐτά, πού εἶπαμε μὲ ἀπλὰ λόγια, νὰ μᾶς φωτίσῃ νὰ τὰ κατανοήσουμε, καὶ μιμούμενοι κ' ἐμεῖς τὴ Σαμαρεῖτισσα νὰ εἴμαστε πιστὰ καὶ ἀφωσιωμένα τέκνα τῆς ἀγίας μας Ἐκκλησίας· ἀμήν.

(†) **ἐπίσκοπος Αὐγουστῖνος**



The Lord gives us once again an opportunity to express our solidarity by becoming a supporting and registered member of the parish. We can only urge you to do so because your sustaining membership keeps this parish functioning and responding to the needs of all the faithful. Don't wait until some insignificant date on the calendar. Register with the Church Office **TODAY** and garner all the benefits of being a supporter of Christ's mission on earth.

**FAMILY REGISTRATION FOR HUSBAND & WIFE: \$300 PER YEAR**

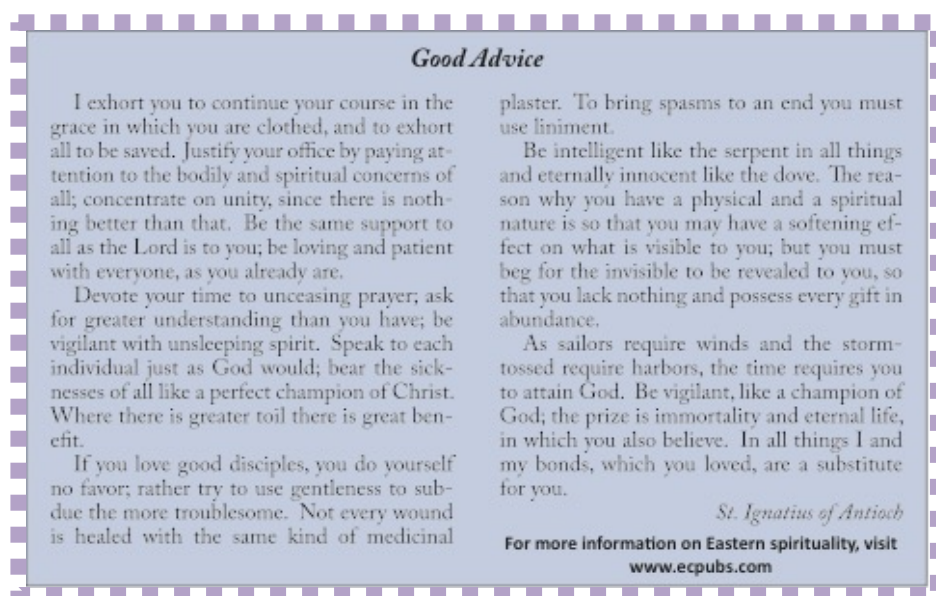
**SINGLE MEMBERSHIP: \$250 PER YEAR**

**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 2023 commitment **TODAY!** The benefits you shall receive beyond grace include the satisfaction and knowledge that this Church and community thrive thanks to your outreach.



**RADIO MINISTRY:** Each Saturday at 1:15 PM Fr. Eugene hosts the radio broadcast **MATTERS OF CONSCIENCE NOW IN ITS 25th 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** address we can forward Bulletin Information to you personally.

See :Website: [www.threehierarchsbrooklynny.org](http://www.threehierarchsbrooklynny.org)