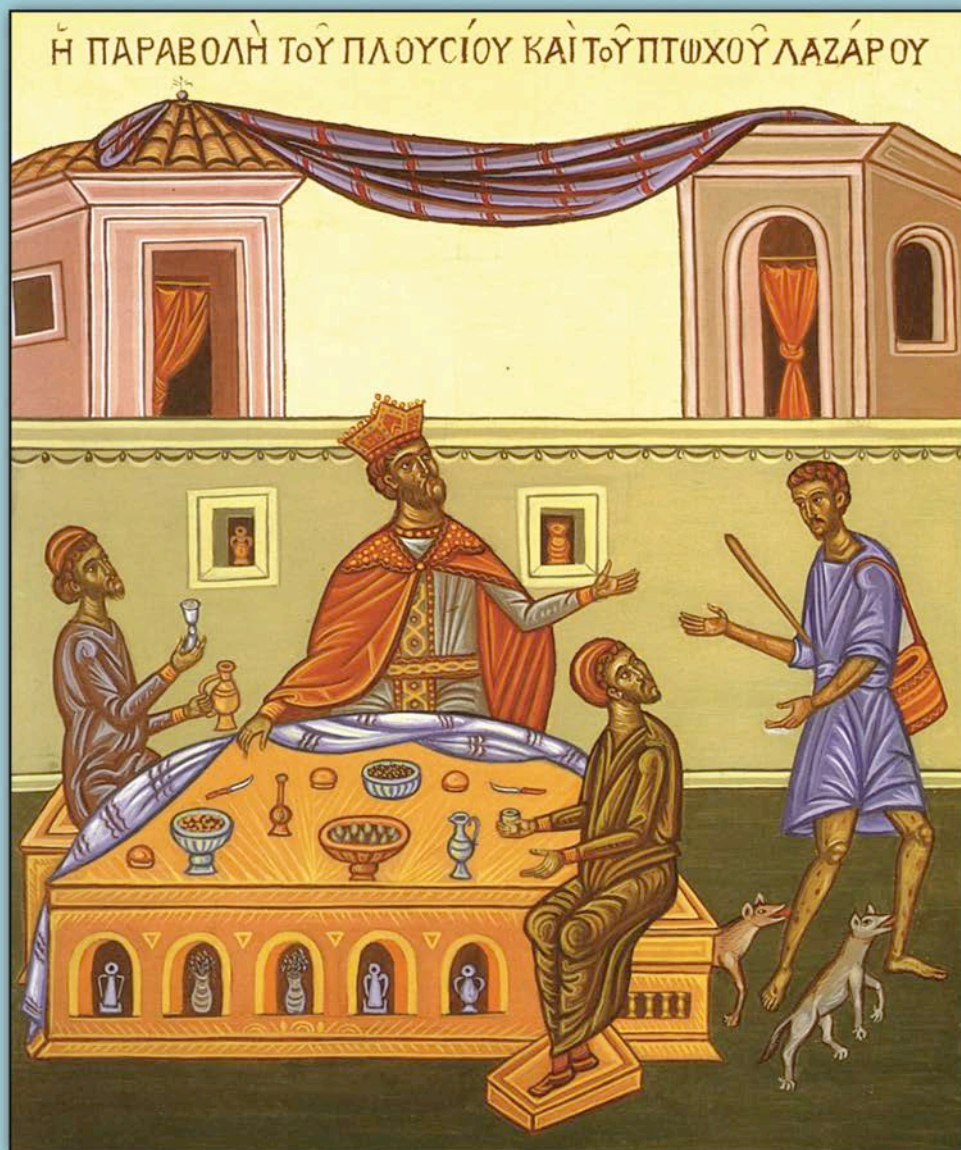


SUNDAY WEEKLY BULLETIN NOVEMBER 05TH, 2023

V. Rev. Archimandrite Eugene N. Pappas

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LUKE



Icon of the Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31)

Prokeimenon. Mode Plagal 1

Psalm 11.7,1

You, O Lord, shall keep us and preserve us.

Verse: Save me, O Lord, for the godly man has failed.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 6:11-18

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

Προκείμενον. Ἦχος πλ. α'

ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 11.7,1

Σὺ Κύριε, φυλάξαις ἡμᾶς καὶ διατηρήσῃς ἡμᾶς.

Στίχ. Σῶσον με, Κύριε, ὅτι ἐκέλειπεν ὁσῖος.

Πρὸς Γαλάτας 6:11-18 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, ἴδετε πηλίκους ὑμῖν γράμμασιν ἔγραψα τῇ ἐμῇ χειρί. Ὅσοι θέλουσιν εὐπροσώπησαι ἐν σαρκί, οὗτοι ἀναγκάζουσιν ὑμᾶς περιτέμεσθαι, μόνον ἵνα μὴ τῷ σταυρῷ τοῦ Χριστοῦ διώκωνται. Οὐδὲ γὰρ οἱ περιτετμημένοι αὐτοὶ νόμον φυλάσσουσιν, ἀλλὰ θέλουσιν ὑμᾶς περιτέμεσθαι, ἵνα ἐν τῇ ὑμετέρᾳ σαρκὶ καυχῶσινται. Ἐμοὶ δὲ μὴ γένοιτο καυχᾶσθαι εἰ μὴ ἐν τῷ σταυρῷ τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ· δι' οὗ ἐμοὶ κόσμος ἐσταύρωται, καὶ γὰρ τῷ κόσμῳ. Ἐν γὰρ Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ οὔτε περιτομὴ τι ἰσχύει, οὔτε ἀκροβυστία, ἀλλὰ καινὴ κτίσις. Καὶ ὅσοι τῷ κανόνι τούτῳ στοιχίσουσιν, εἰρήνη ἐπ' αὐτούς, καὶ ἔλεος, καὶ ἐπὶ τὸν Ἰσραὴλ τοῦ θεοῦ. Τοῦ λοιποῦ, κόπους μοι μηδεὶς παρεχέτω· ἐγὼ γὰρ τὰ στίγματα τοῦ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ ἐν τῷ σώματί μου βαστάζω. Ἡ χάρις τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ μετὰ τοῦ πνεύματος ὑμῶν, ἀδελφοί. Ἀμήν.

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 16:19-31 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

The Lord said, "There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' But Abraham said, 'They have Moses, and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if some one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to them, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if some one should rise from the dead.'"

Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 16:19-31 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος· Ἄνθρωπος δὲ τις ἦν πλούσιος, καὶ ἐνεδιδύσκετο πορφύραν καὶ βύσσον εὐφραινόμενος καθ' ἡμέραν λαμπρῶς. πτωχὸς δὲ τις ἦν ὀνόματι Λάζαρος, ὃς ἐβέβλητο πρὸς τὸν πυλῶνα αὐτοῦ ἡλκωμένος καὶ ἐπιθυμῶν χορτασθῆναι ἀπὸ τῶν ψιχίων τῶν πιπτόντων ἀπὸ τῆς τραπέζης τοῦ πλουσίου· ἀλλὰ καὶ οἱ κύνες ἐρχόμενοι ἀπέλειχον τὰ ἔλκη αὐτοῦ. ἐγένετο δὲ ἀποθανεῖν τὸν πτωχὸν καὶ ἀπενεχθῆναι αὐτὸν ὑπὸ τῶν ἀγγέλων εἰς τὸν κόλπον Ἀβραάμ· ἀπέθανε δὲ καὶ ὁ πλούσιος καὶ ἐτάφη. καὶ ἐν τῷ ᾄδει ἐπάρας τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτοῦ, ὑπάρχων ἐν βασάνοις, ὤρᾳ τὸν Ἀβραάμ ἀπὸ μακρόθεν καὶ Λάζαρον ἐν τοῖς κόλποις αὐτοῦ. καὶ αὐτὸς φωνήσας εἶπε· πάτερ Ἀβραάμ, ἐλέησόν με καὶ πέμψον Λάζαρον ἵνα βάψῃ τὸ ἄκρον τοῦ δακτύλου αὐτοῦ ὕδατος καὶ καταψύξῃ τὴν γλῶσσάν μου, ὅτι ὀδυνῶμαι ἐν τῇ φλογὶ ταύτῃ. εἶπε δὲ Ἀβραάμ· τέκνον, μνήσθητι ὅτι ἀπέλαβες σὺ τὰ ἀγαθὰ σου ἐν τῇ ζωῇ σου, καὶ Λάζαρος ὁμοίως τὰ κακά· νῦν δὲ ὦδε παρακαλεῖται, σὺ δὲ ὀδυνᾷσαι· καὶ ἐπὶ πᾶσι τούτοις μεταξὺ ἡμῶν καὶ ὑμῶν χάσμα μέγα ἐστήρικται, ὅπως οἱ θέλοντες διαβῆναι ἔνθεν πρὸς ὑμᾶς μὴ δύνωνται, μηδὲ οἱ ἐκεῖθεν πρὸς ἡμᾶς διαπερῶσιν. εἶπε δὲ· ἐρωτῶ οὖν σε, πάτερ, ἵνα πέμψῃς αὐτὸν εἰς τὸν οἶκον τοῦ πατρὸς μου· ἔχω γὰρ πέντε ἀδελφούς· ὅπως διαμαρτύρηται αὐτοῖς, ἵνα μὴ καὶ αὐτοὶ ἔλθωσιν εἰς τὸν τόπον τοῦτον τῆς βασάνου. λέγει αὐτῷ Ἀβραάμ· ἔχουσι Μωϋσέα καὶ τοὺς προφήτας· ἀκουσάτωσαν αὐτῶν. ὁ δὲ εἶπεν· οὐχί, πάτερ Ἀβραάμ, ἀλλ' ἐάν τις ἀπὸ νεκρῶν πορευθῇ πρὸς αὐτούς, μετανοήσουσιν. εἶπε δὲ αὐτῷ· εἰ Μωϋσέως καὶ τῶν προφητῶν οὐκ ἀκούουσιν, οὐδὲ ἐάν τις ἐκ νεκρῶν ἀναστῇ πεισθήσονται.



PAULETTE POULOS (beloved daughter of our parish) and Executive Director of the Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Fund will be honored by G.A.E.P.I.S. COSMOS FM RADIO with the 28th. PHIDIPPIDES AWARD for her personal life achievement and passionate advocacy of Hellenism and Christian Orthodoxy. This tribute most deserved will be hosted on **THURSDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 09th 6:30 P.M** at the **NEW YORK CITY UNION LEAGUE CLUB**. Join us as we salute one of our 'own'! **AXIA! AXIA! AXIA!**

Two major feast days are celebrated back to back. The Holy Archangels Michael and Gabriel and the other Archangels, Raphael, Uriel, Muriel on Wednesday, **NOVEMBER 8TH**, and the wonder working **TWENTIETH CENTURY** hierarch and patron to cancer patients, beloved **SAINT NEKTARIOS** (of Aegina, Greece) **ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 09TH**. A **JOINT OBSERVANCE** will be celebrated for Archangels and Saints on **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 09TH, 10:00 A.M.** Liturgy and 11:00 AM Artoklasia. This is so special for each of us knows a relative, friend, co-worker of ourselves who is suffering this insidious disease plaguing the world. Come and supplicate, come and give thanksgiving, come and give honoring tribute to those who intercede. **ARTOKLASIES ARE MOST WELCOMED AND APPROPRIATE ON THIS OCCASION. WILL WE SEE YOU?**

ARTOKLASIA TODAY: In a Tribute to Saint Damian the Un-Mercenary Physician is offered by Yiayia Larissa for her altar boy grandson **DAMIAN**. Na Mas Zesi!

Next Saturday is the National Observance of **VETERANS DAY** - November 11th. We are committed as a nation, a people, a democracy to remember the horror of the **FIRST WORLD WAR 1914- 1918** that devastated Western Europe and the U.S.A. That 'war', that 'holocaust of terror', that meaningless' reign of absurdity' did NOT win a victory for anyone of the contenders. It was a **TRUCE** that ended the infamous hostilities on the **ELEVENTH** month, (11) on the 11th day (11) at the **ELEVENTH** hour (11) (11-11-11) – in the year of the Lord 1918! **SUNDAY – November 12th**, we salute our heroes. The Golden Greek Troop #531 of the Boy Scouts of America will enhance our Divine Liturgy with the traditional color guard of flags of tribute and the wreath of remembrance at our parish **WAR MEMORIAL** in the front garden of our Church.

PRAYER and HEALING SERVICE hosted on the **MIDDLE WEDNESDAY** of each month is scheduled for **WEDNESDAY – NOVEMBER 15th**. The theme will be ' **TRY TO REMEMBER , LEST WE FORGET !**' Our fellowship begins at 6:00 P.M. and ends with refreshments at 800 P.M. Prayers, healings, testimonies, homilies, scriptural exegesis and anointing take place. Give it a **TRY!** You **MAY** be missing something that you truly need. See you there!

Archbishop Elpidophoros' Patronal Name-day Dinner is **TODAY, NOVEMBER 5TH**. In New York City. 5 P.M.

CLOCKS GO BACK! YES THEY DO! TODAY November 5th. We revert one hour as **DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME.....ends**. Set your clocks back an hour before you retire on Saturday evening..... or else you **WILL** be early to church on Sunday....that will be a first.!

Exercise your right and privilege to **VOTE** on **ELECTION DAY**, Tuesday, November 07th.

Check out **SENIOR CLUB SCHEDULE** of activities each Wednesday afternoon from 1-5 P.M. Everyone is invited to socialize, break bread and enjoy a fellowship of happy **BINGO** winners. Each week there is a new theme with lots to learn and recall. Come on down to **ROSEHALL** And share the fun.

AUTUMN GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the Parish Membership (**STEWARDS**) is convened on Sunday November 12th directly after the Divine Liturgy 1:00 P.M. The agenda has been posted to all registered with the church. **ARE YOU?** Please attend and learn of our progress and plans for future projects. We are alive and well! Upward and Onward!

MEMORIALS TODAY: + **FOTIOS** and + **CALLIOPE LOUZAKOS** + **MICHAEL SEKAS**
Eternal be the memory of the faithfully departed!

UP- COMING MEMORIAL: Sunday : November 19th . + **IRENE PETERS** AND + **STEVE (Stavros) KRITSAS**.



Happay 30th
Anniversary
DOP Demetria
Chapter #33





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 Γυναικεία Ἱερὰ Μονὴ Ἁγίου Αὐγουστίνου Φλωρίνης - 531 00 ΦΛΩΡΙΝΑ - τηλ. 23850-28610 - info@yahoo.gr

Περίοδος Δ' - Ἔτος ΙΖ'
Φλώρινα - ἀριθμ. φύλλου 734²

Κυριακὴ Ε' Λουκᾶ (Λουκ. 16,19-31)
5 Νοεμβρίου 2023 (2000)

Συντάκτης (†) ἐπίσκοπος
Αὐγουστίνος Ν. Καντιώτης

Ἡ ἀξία τῆς ἁγίας Γραφῆς στὴ ζωὴ μας

«Ἐχουσι Μωϋσέα καὶ τοὺς προφῆτας» ἀκουσάτωσαν αὐτῶν» (Λουκ. 16,29)

Δὲν ὑπάρχει ἄλλη ζωὴ. Δὲν ὑπάρχει ἄλλος κόσμος...». Μὴ παραχθῆτε. Δὲν τὰ λέμε ἐμεῖς αὐτά, ἀγαπητοί μου. Τὰ λένε οἱ **ἄθεοι καὶ ἄπιστοι**. Καὶ ἓνας ἀντιπρόσωπος τῶν ἀνθρώπων αὐτῶν εἶνε ὁ **πλούσιος** τῆς σημερινῆς παραβολῆς (βλ. Λουκ. 16,19-32), ὁ ὁποῖος «**ἐνεδιδύσκετο πορφύραν καὶ βύσσον εὐφραϊνόμενος καθ' ἡμέραν λαμπρῶς**» (βλ. 16,19).

Ἀλλὰ πόσο ἔπασσε ἔξω στὸ λογαριασμό του! Ὅταν ὁ χάρος τὸν πῆρε στὸν ἄλλο κόσμο, τότε ἀνοιξαν τὰ μάτια του. **Μετανόησε**. Ἀλλὰ «**ἐν τῷ ᾧ οὐκ ἔστι μετάνοια**». Καὶ μέσα στὸ πῦρ τῆς κολάσεως ὁ πλούσιος ὑπέβαλε **δύο αἰτήσεις** στὸν πατριάρχη Ἀβραάμ.

Ἡ μία. Σὲ παρακαλῶ, **ᾤφησε τὸ Λάζαρο νὰ μὲ δροσίῃ** μὲ τὸ νερὸ τοῦ παραδείσου. Ὁ Ἀβραάμ ἀπαντᾷ, ὅτι ἡ αἴτησις ἀπορρίπτεται. Γιατί ὑπάρχει, λέει, μεταξὺ παραδείσου καὶ κολάσεως **χάσμα μεγάλο**, ποὺ δὲν μπορεῖς νὰ τὸ γεφυρώσης. Εἶνε ἀδύνατο νὰ φύγῃ ὁ ἓνας ἀπὸ τὴ θέσι του καὶ νὰ πάῃ στὴν ἄλλη θέσι.

Ἡ ἄλλη αἴτησι. Κάτω στὴ γῇ ὑπάρχουν πέντε ἀδέρφια μου, πέντε οἰκογένειες, ποὺ ἀκολουθοῦν τὸ ἴδιο δρομολόγιο ποὺ εἶχα κ' ἐγώ. Ζοῦν βίο ὑλιστικὸ πρόγραμμα τῆς ζωῆς των ἔχουν «**Φάγωμεν καὶ πῖωμεν, αὖριον γὰρ ἀποθνήσκομεν**» (Ψαλμ. 22,13 = Κ' Κορ. 15,32). Σὲ παρακαλῶ, **ᾤφησε τὸ Λάζαρο νὰ πάῃ νὰ τοὺς φωνάξῃ** νὰ μετανοήσουν. Ὁ Ἀβραάμ ἀπαντᾷ, ὅτι δὲν εἶνε ἀνάγκη. Ἐχουν, λέει, τὸν «**Μωϋσέα καὶ τοὺς προφῆτας**» ἀκουσάτωσαν αὐτῶν» (Λουκ. 16,29). Ἐχουν τὰ βιβλία τὰ ἁγία ἄς τ' ἀνοίξουν κι ἄς διαβάσουν. Ἐάν, λέει ὁ πλούσιος, ἀναστηθῇ κάποιος ἀπὸ τὰ μνήματα, θὰ πιστέψουν. Καὶ ὁ Ἀβραάμ ἀπαντᾷ Ὅχι· ἐάν δὲν ἀκούνε αὐτὰ ποὺ λένε τὰ ἁγία βιβλία, **ἡ ἁγία Γραφή** δηλαδή, οὔτε «**ἐάν τις ἐκ νεκρῶν ἀναστῇ**», θὰ πεισθοῦν (βλ. 16,31).

Τί μᾶς διδάσκει ἡ παραβολὴ αὐτή; Μεταξὺ τῶν ἄλλων μᾶς διδάσκει τὴ μεγάλη ἀξία ποὺ ἔχει στὴ ζωὴ μας ἡ ἁγία Γραφή.

Πολλοὶ λένε· Ποιὸς τὰ εἶδε αὐτά; ποιὸς ἦρθε ἀπὸ τὸν κάτω κόσμο;... Θέλουν ν' ἀναστηθῇ κανεὶς γιὰ νὰ πιστέψουν. Καὶ ὁμως **ἦρθαν ἀπὸ τὸν κάτω κόσμο**. Ποιὸς ἦρθε;

Ἦρθε ὁ **Λάζαρος**. Ὅχι αὐτὸς τοῦ σημερινοῦ Εὐαγγελίου, ἀλλὰ ὁ ἄλλος Λάζαρος, ποὺ ἐορτάζουμε τὸ Σάββατο πρὸ τῶν Βαΐων. Ὁ Χριστὸς τὸν ἀνέστησε μὲ τὴ φωνὴ «**Λάζαρε, δεῦρο ἔξω**» (βλ. 11,43). Κι αὐτὸς βγήκε ἔξω, καὶ τὸν εἶδαν. Πίστεψαν οἱ γραμματεῖς καὶ φαρισαῖοι; Ὅχι. Ὅχι μόνο δὲν πίστεψαν, ἀλλὰ ἤθελαν καὶ νὰ τὸν φονεύσουν, γιατί μαρτυροῦσε ὅτι ὑπάρχει ἓνας ἄλλος κόσμος.

Ποιὸς ἄλλος ἦρθε ἀπ' τὸν κάτω κόσμο; Τὴν ἡμέρα ποὺ ἐσεῖσθη ὁ Γολγοθᾶς, κοντὰ στὰ ἄλλα σημεῖα τῆς Μεγάλης Παρασκευῆς, λέει τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο (βλ. Μτθ. 27,52-53) ὅτι **ἀνοιξαν τὰ μνήματα καὶ βγήκαν πολλοί**, καὶ πολλοὶ τοὺς εἶδαν. Καὶ ὁμως δὲν πίστεψαν κι αὐτοί.

Ἀλλὰ παραπάνω ἀπ' ὅλες τὶς μαρτυρίες, γιὰ μᾶς, εἶνε ἡ ἁγία Γραφή. Naί! Μέσα στὴ Γραφή εἶνε ἡ μεγαλύτερη μαρτυρία γιὰ τὸν ἄλλο κόσμο. **Δίνει ἡ ἁγία Γραφή ἀπάντησι** στὰ πιὸ μεγάλα ἐρωτήματα, ἀπάντησι ποὺ δὲνμποροῦσαν νὰ δώσουν καὶ οἱ πιὸ μεγάλοι σοφοί. Ἀπαντᾷ μὲ τὸ στόμα τῶν ἀλίων, ἀνθρώπων ἀγραμμάτων, ποὺ ἐφώτισε τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιο «**τὸ λαλήσαν διὰ τῶν προφητῶν**» (Πρὸς Ρωμ. 1,2). Ἀπαντᾷ λοιπὸν σὲ **ἐρωτήματα ὅπως τὰ ἐξῆς**.

● **Τί εἶνε ὁ Θεός;** Δὲν μποροῦν ν' ἀπαντήσουν οἱ φιλόσοφοι. Ἀνοίγουμε τὴ Γραφή καὶ μᾶς λέει· «**Ὁ Θεὸς ἀγάπη ἐστίν**» (1^η 4,8), καὶ «**πνεῦμα ὁ Θεός, καὶ τοὺς προσκυνοῦντας**

αὐτὸν ἐν πνεύματι καὶ ἀληθείᾳ δεῖ προσκυνεῖν» (Ἰω. 4,24).

● **Τί εἶνε ὁ ἄνθρωπος;** Εἶνε ἀπλῶς μόνο ὕλη, χῶμα; «Γῆ εἶ καὶ εἰς γῆν ἀπελεύσῃ», λέει ἡ Γραφή (Γέν. 3,19). Μέσα ὁμοῦς στὸ λίγο αὐτὸ χῶμα κρύβεται μιὰ ἄυλη καὶ ἀθάνατη οὐσία, μιὰ εἰκόνα τοῦ Θεοῦ, σύμφωνα μὲ τὸ λόγο τοῦ Χριστοῦ· «Τί ὠφελεῖται ἄνθρωπος ἐὰν τὸν κόσμον ὅλον κερδήσῃ, τὴν δὲ ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ ζημιωθῇ; ἢ τί δώσει ἄνθρωπος ἀντάλλαγμα τῆς ψυχῆς αὐτοῦ;» (Ματθ. 16,26).

● **Τί εἶνε ὁ κόσμος;** Τὸ λέει ἡ Γραφή· «Ὁ κόσμος παράγεται» (Ἰω. 2,17· πρβλ. καὶ Ἀ' Κορ. 7,31). Ὁ κόσμος μὲ τὰ πλοῦτη, τὶς δόξες του, τὰ στέμματα, τὶς ἡδονές του, ὁ κόσμος «παράγεται», φεύγει σὰν σκιά καὶ ὄνειρο καὶ ἄνθος ἔαρινό. Τί μένει; «Ὁ ποιῶν τὸ θέλημα τοῦ Θεοῦ μένει εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα» (Ἰω. 6,29).

● **Τί εἶνε ζωὴ;** Γλέντι, ἀπόλαυσι, διασκέδασι; Ἀπαντᾷ ἡ Γραφή· «Αὕτη ἐστὶν ἡ αἰώνιος ζωὴ, ἵνα γινώσκωσιν σε τὸν μόνον ἀληθινὸν Θεὸν καὶ τὸν ἀπέστειλας Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν» (Ἰω. 17,3). Ζωὴ εἶνε, νὰ γνωρίζουμε τὸν μόνον ἀληθινὸ Θεὸ καὶ τὸν Χριστὸ ποῦ ἐκεῖνος ἔστειλε.

● **Πῶς θὰ σωθῇ ὁ κόσμος;** Μέσα στὴν ἀγία Γραφή γιὰ τὴν ἄρρωστη ἀνθρωπότητα ὑπάρχει συνταγή, ὑπάρχει καὶ φάρμακο. Ποιά εἶνε ἡ συνταγή; Δύο λέξεις· «Ἀγαπᾶτε ἀλλήλους» (Ἰω. 13,34). Καὶ ποιό εἶνε τὸ φάρμακο; Μία λέξη· «Μετανοεῖτε» (Ματθ. 3,2· 4,17).

● **Ποιὸς σώζει τὸν ἄνθρωπο;** Πολλὰ ὀνόματα λατρεύει ὁ κόσμος. Ἀλλὰ στὴν ἀγία Γραφή διαβάζουμε· «Οὐκ ἔστιν ἐν ἄλλῳ οὐδενὶ ἡ σωτηρία· οὐδὲ γὰρ ὄνομά ἐστιν ἕτερον ὑπὸ τὸν οὐρανὸν τὸ δεδομένον ἐν ἀνθρώποις ἐν ᾧ δεῖ σωθῆναι ἡμᾶς» (Πράξ. 4,12). Ὅσο καὶ νὰ ψάξης, δὲν ὑπάρχει ἄλλο ὄνομα ἱκανὸ νὰ σώσῃ παρὰ μόνον τὸ ὄνομα τοῦ Χριστοῦ μας.

Ἀδελφοί μου! Ἡ ἀγία Γραφή εἶνε ἓνα κουβάρι μεταξωτοῦ νήματος. Ἐγὼ μόνο τὴν ἄκρη τοῦ κουβαρίου ἔπιασα. Δὲν ἔχω καιρὸ νὰ ξετυλίξω τὸ κουβάρι μπροστά σας, γιὰ νὰ σᾶς δείξω τὰ ἄπειρα μεγαλεῖα της.

Ἀφοῦ ὁμοῦς ἡ ἀγία Γραφή εἶνε τέτοιο βιβλίον, θὰ ἔπρεπε νὰ τὸ ἀγαποῦμε, νὰ εἶνε μέσα στὰ σπιτία μας σὰν τὸ ἀλάτι καὶ τὸ ψωμί. Ὅπως δὲν ὑπάρχει σπιτί χωρὶς ἀλάτι καὶ ψωμί, ἔτσι μέσα στὰ ἑλληνικὰ σπιτία, τὶς καλύβες καὶ τὰ ἀνάκτορα, τὰ δικαστήρια καὶ τοὺς στρατώνες, παντοῦ, ὅς ὑπάρχη τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο. Θὰ ἔπρεπε νὰ τὸ διαβάζουμε. Τὸ διαβάζουμε; Ἀπὸ τίς χίλιες γλώσσες τοῦ κόσμου, ἐκεῖνη

ποῦ διάλεξε ὁ Θεὸς νὰ γραφῇ τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο εἶνε ἡ ἑλληνική. Καὶ θὰ ἔπρεπε ἡμεῖς οἱ Ἕλληνες νὰ διαβάζουμε τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο, τὴν ἀγία Γραφή, περισσότερο ἀπὸ κάθε ἄλλο λαό.

Ἄς φιλοτιμηθοῦμε ἀπὸ τοὺς ξένους. Πρὸ καιροῦ ἔγραψαν οἱ ἐφημερίδες, ὅτι στὸ Λονδῖνο οἱ ἄνθρωποι ἔκαναν οὐρά. Τί ἔδιναν, ψωμί; Κάτι ἀνώτερο. Ἐβλεπες ἔξω ἀπ' τὰ βιβλιοπωλεῖα οὐρά. Τί ν' ἀγοράσουνε; Τὴν ἀγία Γραφή! Μόλις εἶχε τυπωθῇ, κ' ἔγινε ἀνάρπαστη. Καὶ σ' ἓνα ἄλλο μικρὸ ἔθνος, τὴν Ἑλβετία, ὅταν γίνεται γάμος, ὁ δήμαρχος τῆς πόλεως ἐπισκέπτεται τοὺς νεονύμφους. Καὶ τί τοὺς προσφέρει ὡς δῶρο, χρυσάφι καὶ ἀσήμι; Ὅχι. Τοὺς προσφέρει μιὰ Καινὴ Διαθήκη. Σὰν νὰ τοὺς λέῃ· Θέλετε εὐτυχία, θέλετε νὰ περάσουν τὰ χρόνια σας μὲ ἐνότητα; Βάλτε θεμέλιο στὸ σπιτί σας τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο.

Ἀγαπητοί μου! Δυὸ καράβια βγαίνουνε στὸ πέλαγος τῆς ζωῆς. Τὸ ἓνα εἶνε ὑπερωκεάνιο, τὸ ἄλλο εἶνε μιὰ βαρκούλα. Ποιό θὰ φτάσῃ στὸ λιμάνι; Τὸ ὑπερωκεάνιο εἶνε ὁ πλούσιος τῆς παραβολῆς, ἡ βαρκούλα εἶνε ὁ φτωχὸς Λάζαρος. Ἀλλὰ τὸ ὑπερωκεάνιο, ὁ πλούσιος, ξαφνικὰ συνετρίβη καὶ βούλιαξε, ἐνῶ ἡ βαρκούλα, ἀφοῦ πέρασε τρικυμίες καὶ τυφῶνες, ἔφθασε κ' ἔρριξε ἄγκυρα στὸν παράδεισο. Γιατί τὸ ἓνα πνίγηκε, καὶ γιατί τὸ ἄλλο ἔφτασε; Τὸ ἓνα εἶχε Θεό. Ὁ Λάζαρος διάβαζε τὰς Γραφάς, ἡ βαρκούλα του εἶχε τιμόνι. Ἐτσι ἔφτασε στὴ βασιλεία τοῦ Θεοῦ. Τὸ ἄλλο; Τί νὰ τὸ κάνῃς; Κατάρτια εἶχε, πολυτέλεια εἶχε, τὰ πάντα εἶχε. Δὲν εἶχε τιμόνι. Καὶ πλοῖο χωρὶς τιμόνι θὰ πελαγοδρομῇ καὶ θὰ γίνῃ κομμάτια πάνω στὰ βράχια.

Τιμόνι, ἀδελφοί μου! Ἀγοράστε τιμόνι. Ταξιδεύουμε ἀπὸ τὴ γῆ πρὸς τὸν οὐρανὸ. Μακρὺ τὸ ταξίδι. Καὶ τὸ τιμόνι, ποῦ πρέπει νὰ ἔχουμε, εἶνε ἡ ἀγία Γραφή. Ἄς ἀγαπήσουμε τὴν ἀγία Γραφή. Σᾶς παρακαλῶ, νὰ πᾶτε στὰ σπιτία σας καὶ νὰ βάλετε φωτιά στὰ ἄθλια περιοδικὰ καὶ νὰ τὰ κάψετε. Νὰ πάψετε πλέον νὰ διαβάζετε ἀκάθαρτα περιοδικὰ. Καὶ μετά, πάρτε στὰ χέρια σας τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο, τὸ Γράμμα τοῦ οὐρανοῦ, ποῦ εἶνε γραμμένο μὲ τὸ αἷμα τοῦ Χριστοῦ μας. Διαβάστε μικροὶ καὶ μεγάλοι τὸ Εὐαγγέλιο τοῦ Χριστοῦ. Τὰ λόγια τοῦ Χριστοῦ μας θὰ μείνουν αἰώνια· «Ὁ οὐρανὸς καὶ ἡ γῆ παρελεύσονται, οἱ δὲ λόγοι μου οὐ μὴ παρέλθωσι» (Ματθ. 24,35).

(†) 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.

The Rich Man vs. Lazarus

Lazarus, the beggar, is called by his name because he was a saint, but the man who is rich and proud is not deemed worthy of a name. ... The meaning of Lazarus' name is boethoumenos, one who has been helped; he is not a helper, but one who has been helped. He was a poor man and, in his poverty, the Lord came to his assistance. "Who lay at his gate, covered with sores." The rich man, in purple splendor, is not accused of being avaricious, nor of carrying off the property of another, nor of committing adultery, nor, in fact, of any wrongdoing; the evil alone of which he is guilty is pride. Most wretched of men, you see a member of your own body lying there outside at your gate, and have you no compassion? If the precepts of God mean nothing to you, at least take pity on your own plight, and be in fear lest you become such as he. Why do you save what is superfluous to your pleasures? Give in alms to your own

member what you waste. I am not telling you to throwaway your wealth. What you throw out, the crumbs from your table, offer as alms.

"Who lay at his gate." He was lying at the gate in order to draw attention to the cruelty paid to his body and to prevent the rich man from saying, "I did not notice him; he was in a corner; I could not see him; no one announced him to me." He lay at the gate; you saw him every time you went out and every time you came in. When your throngs of servants and clients were attending you, he lay there full of ulcers. If your eyes disdained to look upon putrid flesh, did not your ears, at least, hear his plea? "Who lay at his gate, covered with sores." He did not have just one sore, his whole body was sores, so that the magnitude of his suffering might arouse your utmost compassion.

St. Jerome

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.

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