

# THREE HIERARCHS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

SUNDAY WEEKLY BULLETIN March 24th  
V. Rev. Archimandrite Eugene N. Pappas

## FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY



*Icon of the Holy Images*

**Prokeimenon. Mode 4 Daniel 3.26,27**

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers.

Verse: For you are just in all you have done.

the reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-40

Brethren, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered abuse suffered for the Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he looked to the reward.

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets -- who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign enemies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated -- of whom the world was not worthy -- wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

**Προκείμενον. Ἦχος δ' Δανιήλ 3.26-27**

Εὐλογητὸς εἶ, Κύριε, ὁ Θεὸς τῶν Πατέρων ἡμῶν.

Στίχ. "Ὅτι δίκαιος εἶ ἐπὶ πᾶσιν, οἷς ἐποίησας ἡμῖν.

Πρὸς Ἑβραίους 11:24-26, 32-40 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Ἀδελφοί, πίστει Μωϋσῆς μέγας γενόμενος ἡρνήσατο λέγεσθαι υἱὸς θυγατρὸς Φαραώ, μᾶλλον ἐλόμενος συγκαουχεῖσθαι τῷ λαῷ τοῦ θεοῦ ἢ πρόσκαιρον ἔχειν ἀμαρτίας ἀπόλαυσιν· μείζονα πλοῦτον ἡγησάμενος τῶν Αἰγύπτου θησαυρῶν τὸν ὀνειδισμόν τοῦ Χριστοῦ· ἀπέβλεπεν γὰρ εἰς τὴν μισθαποδοσίαν. Καὶ τί ἔτι λέγω; Ἐπιλείπει γὰρ με διηγούμενον ὁ χρόνος περὶ Γεδεών, Βαράκ τε καὶ Σαμψών καὶ Ἰεφθάε, Δαυὶδ τε καὶ Σαμουὴλ καὶ τῶν προφητῶν· οἱ διὰ πίστεως κατηγωνίσαντο βασιλείας, εἰργάσαντο δικαιοσύνην, ἐπέτυχον ἐπαγγελιῶν, ἔφραξαν στόματα λεόντων, ἔσβεσαν δύναμιν πυρός, ἔφυγον στόματα μαχαίρας, ἐνεδυναμώθησαν ἀπὸ ἀσθενείας, ἐγενήθησαν ἰσχυροὶ ἐν πολέμῳ, παρεμβολὰς ἔκλιναν ἀλλοτρίων. Ἔλαβον γυναῖκες ἐξ ἀναστάσεως τοὺς νεκροὺς αὐτῶν· ἄλλοι δὲ ἐτυμπανίσθησαν, οὐ προσδεξάμενοι τὴν ἀπολύτρωσιν, ἵνα κρεῖττονος ἀναστάσεως τύχωσιν· ἕτεροι δὲ ἐμπαιγμῶν καὶ μαστίγων πείραν ἔλαβον, ἔτι δὲ δεσμῶν καὶ φυλακῆς· ἐλιθάσθησαν, ἐπρίσθησαν, ἐπειράσθησαν, ἐν φόνῳ μαχαίρας ἀπέθανον· περιήλθον ἐν μηλωταῖς, ἐν αἰγείοις δέρμασιν, ὑστερούμενοι, θλιβόμενοι, κακουχούμενοι - ὧν οὐκ ἦν ἄξιος ὁ κόσμος - ἐν ἐρημίαις πλανώμενοι καὶ ὄρεσιν καὶ σπηλαίοις καὶ ταῖς ὁπαῖς τῆς γῆς. Καὶ οὗτοι πάντες, μαρτυρηθέντες διὰ τῆς πίστεως, οὐκ ἐκομίσαντο τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν, τοῦ θεοῦ περὶ ἡμῶν κρεῖττόν τι προβλεψαμένου, ἵνα μὴ χωρὶς ἡμῶν τελειωθῶσιν.

**Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Ἰωάννην 1:44-52 Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα**

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and he said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ἠθέλησεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐξελθεῖν εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν· καὶ εὕρισκε Φίλιππον καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ· ἀκολούθει μοι. ἦν δὲ ὁ Φίλιππος ἀπὸ Βηθσαιδᾶ, ἐκ τῆς πόλεως Ἀνδρέου καὶ Πέτρου. εὕρισκε Φίλιππος τὸν Ναθαναὴλ καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ· ὃν ἔγραψε Μωϋσῆς ἐν τῷ νόμῳ καὶ οἱ προφῆται, εὕρήκαμεν, Ἰησοῦν τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ Ἰωσήφ τὸν ἀπὸ Ναζαρέτ. καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ Ναθαναὴλ· ἐκ Ναζαρέτ δύναται τι ἀγαθὸν εἶναι; λέγει αὐτῷ Φίλιππος· ἔρχου καὶ ἴδε. εἶδεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς τὸν Ναθαναὴλ ἐρχόμενον πρὸς αὐτὸν καὶ λέγει περὶ αὐτοῦ· ἴδε ἀληθῶς Ἰσραηλῆτης, ἐν ᾧ δόλος οὐκ ἔστι. λέγει αὐτῷ Ναθαναὴλ· πόθεν με γινώσκεις; ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· πρὸ τοῦ σε Φίλιππον φωνῆσαι, ὄντα ὑπὸ τὴν συκὴν εἰδόν σε. ἀπεκρίθη Ναθαναὴλ καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ· ῥαββί, σὺ εἶ ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, σὺ εἶ ὁ βασιλεὺς τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ. ἀπεκρίθη Ἰησοῦς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· ὅτι εἰπόν σοι, εἰδόν σε ὑποκάτω τῆς συκῆς, πιστεύεις; μείζω τούτων ὄψει. καὶ λέγει αὐτῷ· ἀμὴν ἀμὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, ἀπ' ἄρτι ὄψεσθε τὸν οὐρανὸν ἀνεωγμένον, καὶ τοὺς ἀγγέλους τοῦ Θεοῦ ἀναβαίνοντας καὶ καταβαίνοντας ἐπὶ τὸν υἱὸν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου.

**TODAY:** is the first Sunday of LENT. Orthodox Sunday represents the witnessing of the faith to the world in the proper recitation of the Creed, the FAITH COMMENTARY and the restoration of the sacred images (ICONS) to the church veneration and adoration in worship. The solemn presentation of the icons will process around the church nave and the saint names will be intoned.

**OPEN-HOUSE COMMUNION BREAKFAST** will be offered, served free to one and all in WHITEHALL after the morning ceremonies. Please join us and the GOLDEN GREEK CUB SCOUT PACK as we breakfast together. Many thanks to CUB-MASTER ANDREAS PAPAMANOUSAKIS and the leadership of the PACK! What a great way to share.

**TOMORROW: MARCH 25<sup>th</sup>** is a double header holiday and holy day! It is the Feast of the Holy Annunciation of Archangel Gabriel to the Blessed Virgin Mary declaring the sacred conception of the LOGOS INCARNATE (Christ Jesus). Note that exactly 9 months from this day we celebrate the NATIVITY of the LORD – December 25<sup>th</sup>.

The second part of this honorable day is the DECLARATION of INDEPENDENCE of the HELLENIC NATION and PEOPLE from the 400 year tyrannical yoke of the Ottoman Turkish oppression. 1821 resounds in the ears of all free Hellenes! This date of March 25<sup>th</sup> was selected deliberately to share the salvation of mankind through the birth of the Messiah as we acknowledge the RENAISSANCE of the HELLENIC STATE. Both events are freedom and liberty calls to spiritual and physical liberation from terror and enslavement. Join us in celebration by singing our national hymn,

**DIVINE LITURGY** will be celebrated TOMORROW MORNING at 10:00 A.M. Chronia Polla are extended to all celebrating their name-day: EVANGELOS, ANGELO, EVANGELIA. ARTOKLASIES are most welcomed to observe the feast properly. Ypsomata will be distributed to the donors.

**THIS WEEK: WEDNESDAY – March 27<sup>th</sup>**, Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 6:00 - 7:00 P.M. POT LUCK DINNER hosted and served by the Ladies Philoptochos Society (LENTEN DELIGHTS FREE! ) in WHITEHALL at 7:00 P.M.

**FRIDAY – March 29<sup>th</sup>**, SECOND SALUTATIONS to the Blessed Virgin Mary at 7:00 – 8:00 P.M.

**NEXT SUNDAY:** Our Greek School children will present the ANNUAL Greek Independence and Annunciation Feast Program in Church. It's always an inspirational moment.

The coffee Fellowship will be offered by NICHOLAS and KATINA GIOUZELIS in loving memory of their good-friend +NIKI TRIVLIS of blessed repose. Join us in WHITEHALL for refreshments.

**POT LUCK DINNER** is scheduled for Lent in concert with the EVENING PRE SANCTIFIED LITURGY! APRIL 17<sup>th</sup> by the Daughters of Penelope - 7:00 P.M. FREE!

Mark your calendar for this delicious Grecian delight Lenten buffets hosted by our gracious ladies: We thank our 'church ladies' who are always at the helm of the ship of faith encouraging the people of God to participate in the breaking of bread. COME! SHARE! EAT! REJOICE!

**CENTERFOLD APPEAL:** Our beloved College and Seminary of HOLY CROSS in Brookline Massachusetts is appealing to all for consideration of a donation to this noble school of higher Orthodox Christian learning. Thousands of theologians and clergy have been educated here for the earthly mission of the CHURCH. Every dollar donated goes to the support of the student body and upkeep of the Institution. Please consider making a love offering at will.

**LENTEN SCHEDULE** was posted by mail to all church stewards. Did you get yours? Copies are available in the Church Office upon request. SIGN UP TODAY!

**NAME SHEETS** for the three Saturday of Souls LITURGIES are included with this bulletin. Please Inscribe the names to be commemorated, enclose the donation offering and submit for the particular Saturday proposed. Names are read at the Altar and Prothesis.

**MEMORIALS TODAY:** + IRENE PETERS + DOROTHY FLORIS  
**MEMORIAL NEXT SUNDAY:** + NIKI TRIVLIS





## When you sign up to be an Advocate

you are signing up for these benefits that correspond with your chosen monthly giving range:

We are facing unprecedented challenges today. Our society is rapidly changing and increasingly secular. We need a strong Orthodox school of higher learning to prepare leaders to meet the evolving needs of our faithful.

**90% of priests serving Greek Orthodox parishes in America are HCHC graduates.**

By supporting HCHC, you are supporting our mission of educating and equipping those who strengthen Orthodox communities and transform lives — now and forever!

### MONTHLY GIVING AMOUNTS

ANNUAL BENEFITS	\$10-19	\$20-49	\$50-99	\$100-249	\$250-499	\$500-999	\$1,000+
Advocate Honor Roll listing (electronic)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Advocate lapel pin	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Invitation to HCHC events in your area		+	+	+	+	+	+
Christmas ornament				+	+	+	+
Invitation to on campus events					+	+	+
2 tickets to President's Luncheon						+	+
Advocate plaque							+

Sign up for Advocate recurring payment by visiting:  
<https://www.hchc.edu/give/advocate/>

Be sure to select "recurring payment" next to your chosen donation amount to allow for automatic monthly transactions. Alternately, you may fill out the form to the right and return it to HCHC Advocates for processing.

For more information or any questions, please call 617.850.1265 or send an email to:

[advancement@hchc.edu](mailto:advancement@hchc.edu)

#### DONOR DETAILS:

Name

Street Address

City, State, Zip

Phone  Email

#### DONATION INFORMATION:

Date of First Donation

Monthly on the: ☐ 1st ☐ 15th Amount (\$)

#### PAYMENT DETAILS:

Payment Method ☐ Bank Account ☐ Credit Card  
 (attach voided check)

Credit Card Number

Name on Card

CV Code  Exp. Date (MM/YY)

Signature (Required)





**Make giving easy by enrolling in the HCHC Advocate monthly donor program!**

We are facing unprecedented challenges today. Our society is rapidly changing and increasingly secular. We need a strong Orthodox school of higher learning to prepare leaders to meet the evolving needs of our faithful.



**90% of priests serving Greek Orthodox parishes in America are HCHC graduates.**

By supporting HCHC, you are supporting our mission of educating and equipping those who strengthen Orthodox communities and transform lives — now and forever!

**It only takes a few minutes to become an Advocate and your monthly donation can be automatically withdrawn from your bank or credit card account.**

Donations can be given at any level and updating your payment information is quick and easy if changes ever need to be made. HCHC has been providing exemplary clergy and lay leaders to communities across America and throughout the world for over 85 years with the support of our generous donors!

Hellenic College Holy Cross  
Greek Orthodox School of Theology  
50 Goddard Avenue, Brookline, MA 02445  
617-731-3500  
www.hchc.edu

## MONTHLY GIVING AMOUNTS

ANNUAL BENEFITS	\$10-19	\$20-49	\$50-99	\$100-249	\$250-499	\$500-999	\$1,000+
Advocate Honor Roll listing (electronic)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Advocate lapel pin		+	+	+	+	+	+
Invitation to HCHC events in your area			+	+	+	+	+
Christmas ornament				+	+	+	+
Invitation to on campus events					+	+	+
2 tickets to President's Luncheon						+	+
Advocate plaque							+

Sign up for Advocate recurring payment by visiting  
<https://www.hchc.edu/give/advocate/>

Be sure to select "recurring payment" next to your chosen donation amount to allow for automatic monthly transactions. Alternately, you may fill out the form to the right and return it to HCHC Advocates for processing.



# ΚΥΡΙΑΚΗ

## ΣΥΝΤΟΜΟΝ ΚΗΡΥΓΜΑ



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

Ἐκδόεται ἀπὸ τὴν Κοινοβιακή Γυναικεία Τμήτῃ Μονῇ Ἁγίας Αἰγυψίου Ἐκκλησίας – 531 05 ΠΑΤΡΙΣΙΑ – τηλ. 23853-23810 – [info@kyriaki.gr](mailto:info@kyriaki.gr)

Περίοδος Δ' - Ἔτος ΜΑ' Φλώρινα - ἀριθμ. φύλλου 2606	Κυριακή Α' Νηστειῶν - τῆς Ὁρθοδοξίας 24 Μαρτίου 2024 πρωί	Συντάκτης (†) ἐπίσκοπος Αἰγυψίου Ν. Καντιώτης
--	--	--

## Ὁρθοδοξία, τὸ καύχημά μας

**Ἡ** πατρίδα μας, ἀγαπητοί μου, εἶνε χώρα φτωχή, μικρὴ σὲ ἔκταση καὶ πληθυσμό. Μεγάλαι κράτη, πλούσια καὶ ἰσχυρά, μὲς ὑποτιμοῦν μὲς λένε ὑποσκαπτικοῦς. Ἀλλὰ κάνουν λάθος· ἡ ἀξία ἐνὸς ἔθνους δὲν ἐξαρτᾶται ἀπὸ τὸν ὄγκο. Ὅπως ἓνα διαμαντάκι ἀξίζει περισσότερο ἀπὸ ἓνα βουνὸ πέτρες καὶ ἓνα ἀηδονάκι ἀξίζει περισσότερο ἀπὸ ἓνα γύπα ἢ ἓνα κόρακα, ἔτσι κατὰ τὸν ποιητὴ καὶ

*«Ὁ μεγάλων τῶν λαῶν δὲν μετρεῖται μὲ τὸ σπέρμα,  
μὲ τῆς καρδίας τὸ πνεῦμα μετρεῖται καὶ μὲ τὸ αἶμα» (Κ. Πάρις).*

Ἡ ταπεινὴ πατρίδα μας ἔχει κάτι ποῦ δὲν τὸ ἔχουν ἄλλα μεγάλα κράτη, κάτι ποῦ σήμερὰ ὑποτιμᾶται, περιφρονεῖται. Ποιὸ εἶν' αὐτό; **Ἡ Πίστι μας!** «*Ἀλλ' ἔστιν ἡ νίκη ἢ νικῆσας τὸν κόσμον, ἡ πίστις ἡμῶν*» (Κ. Πάρις)· ἡ πίστις ἡ Ὁρθόδοξος, αὕτη εἶνε τὸ καύχημά μας, αὕτη δίνει περιεχόμενο, βάθος, ἀξία στὸ γένος μας. Δυστυχῶς ἀκόμα κ' ἐμεῖς οἱ ἴδιοι δὲν ἔχουμε ἐκτιμῆσει πρεπόντως αὐτὸ τὸν πολὺτιμο θησαυρὸ, αὕτη τὴν ἱερὰ παρακαταθήκη ποῦ μὲς ἔδωσαν οἱ πρόγονοί μας. Μοιάζουμε σὰν ἓνα χωριό ποῦ βρῆκε ἓνα λαλεῖο, δὲν ἤξερε νὰ τὸ διαβάσῃ, τὸ πέρασε γιὰ ἀχρηστο χαρτάκι, τὸ ἄχισε καὶ τὸ ὀρίξε στὴ φωτιά· κι ὅμως ἐκεῖνο κέρδιζε τὸν πρῶτο λαχνό. Ἔτσι καὶ σ' ἐμᾶς ἔλαχε κλήρος, ὁ μεγάλος κλήρος, ἡ μεγάλη ἀποστολὴ ποῦ λέγεται Ὁρθοδοξία.

Τὸ 98% τῶν Ἑλλήνων εἶνε βέβαια βαπτισμένοι «εἰς τὸ ὄνομα τῆς ἁγίας Τριάδος», ἡ ταυτότητά τους λέει «Χριστιανὸς Ὁρθόδοξος». Ἀλλὰ πολλοὶ ἀκόμα κι ἀπὸ τοὺς ἐγγράμματους καὶ σπουδασμένους μας δὲν γνωρίζουν τὴν Πίστι μας· δεῖ ἔμβαν τὸσα ἄλλα, ἀπὸ Ὁρθοδοξία οὔτε τὸ ἀλφαβητάριό της δὲν ξέρουν. Γι' αὐτὸ περιφρονᾶμε αὐτὸ τὸν θησαυρὸ.

Ἄς μιλήσουμε λοιπὸν σήμερὰ γιὰ τὴν Ὁρθοδοξία. Ἄς ἐξηγήσουμε γιατί ἀξίζει νὰ καυχώμαστε γι' αὐτήν. Μήπως τὸ καύχημά μας αὐτὸ εἶνε κενό, μάταιο; ἢ ἔχει λόγο καὶ περιεχόμενο; Καυχώμαστε γιὰ τὴν Ἐκκλησίαν μας. Γιατί;

\*\*\*

● Πρῶτον, διότι ἡ Ὁρθόδοξος Ἐκκλησία μας εἶνε ἡ ἀρχαία Ἐκκλησία. Δηλαδή: Εἶνε ἡ ρίζα τῶν πρώτων πατριαρχείων· ἐδῶ στὰ χῶματα τῆς Ἀνατολῆς ἀπλώθηκε ἡ Ὁρθοδοξία.

Τὸ Πατριαρχεῖο Ἱεροσολύμων εἶνε τὸ πρῶτο, ἡ «μήτηρ Σιών» (Μκ. 8,3). Ἐκεῖ, στὴ Ναζαρέτ, «ἀγγελοῦς πρωτοστάτης οὐρανῶθεν ἐπέμφθη εἰπεῖν τῇ Θεοτόκῃ τὸ Χαῖρε!» (Μκ. 1,6): στὰ βλεῖθρα τοῦ Ἰορδάνου βαπτίσθηκε ὁ Κύριος, στὰ βουνὰ καὶ τὰ λαγκάδια περπάτησε, στὸ Ἱεροσόλυμα ἐτέλεσε τὸν Μυστικὸ Δείπνο, βάδισε τὴν ὁδὸ τοῦ Γολγοθᾶ· καὶ ἐκεῖ ἀκούστηκε τὸ πρῶτο μῆνυμα τῆς Ἀναστάσεως· ἐκεῖ ἔγινε καὶ

τὸ θαῦμα τῆς Πεντηκοστῆς μὲ τῆς πύρινες γλώσσες στοὺς ἁγίους ἀποστόλους.

Στὴν Ὁρθοδοξία ἐπίσης ἀνήκει τὸ Πατριαρχεῖο Ἀντιοχείας. Ἐκεῖ γιὰ πρώτη φορὰ οἱ μαθηταὶ τοῦ Χριστοῦ πῆραν τὸ ὄνομα Χριστιανοί (Μκ. 16,7). Ἐκεῖ ἀργότερα κήρυξε ὁ μεγαλύτερος ἱεροκήρυκας, ἐκεῖ κελεύθηκε τὸ ἀηδὸνι τοῦ ἀμβωνος, ὁ ἁγιος Ἰωάννης ὁ Χρυσόστομος.

Τὸ ἐπόμενο ἐκκλησιαστικὸ κέντρο εἶνε τὸ Πατριαρχεῖο Ἀλεξανδρείας μὲ τὸς γνωστοὺς ποιμένες τοὺς οἰκουμενικοὺς πατέρες καὶ διδασκάλους μέγα Ἀθανάσιον καὶ Κύριλλον.

Ὅπως κάθε σπῆτι ἔχει λίκνο - κούνια κ' ἐκεῖ μεγαλώνει τὸ νεογέννητο παιδί, ἔτσι καὶ ἡ Ὁρθοδοξία μας ἔχει κούνια, ὅπου μεγάλωσε ὁ Χριστιανισμός· λίκνο της εἶνε ἡ Μικρὰ Ἀσία. Ἐκεῖ, ὅπου νὰ πῆς, εἶνε ἁγία μέρη. Στὴ Σμύρνη μαρτύρησε ὁ ἁγιος Παύλος καὶ Πέτρος. Στὶς πόλεις Νίκαια, Νεοκαισάρεια, Χαλκηδὼνα, Ἐφέσο, Γάγγρα, Ἄγκυρα, Λαοδίκεια συνήλθαν τοπικὲς καὶ οἰκουμενικὲς Σύνοδοι. Στὸν Πόντο εἶνε ἡ Σεβάστεια, ὅπου μαρτύρησαν οἱ 40 Μάρτυρες στὴν παγωμένη λίμνη. Στὴν Καππαδοκία βλέπεις σπηλιεὶς ἁγίων ὁσκητῶν μέσα στὰ βράχια. Στὴν Καισάρεια ἔλαμψε ὁ μέγας Βασίλειος. Στὴν Τραπεζοῦντα συναντᾷς μεγάλα μοναστήρια ὅπως τῆς Σουμελά, τοῦ Βασιλῶνος, τοῦ Περικατερέωτα. Ὅποιος θέλει νὰ δεῇ τὴν ἀρχὴ τῆς Ὁρθοδοξίας στὴ Μικρὰ Ἀσία, δεῖ διαβάσῃ τὴν Ἀποκάλυψη, ὅπου ὁ ἁγιος Ἰωάννης ὁ Θεολόγος ἀναφέρει τῆς ἐκκλησίας τῶν ἐπὶ πόλεων (Ἐφέσου, Σμύρνης, Περγᾶμου, Θυατείρων, Σάρδεων, Φιλαδελφείας καὶ Λαοδικείας) ποῦ φώτιζαν τὸν κόσμον (Μκ. 1,6).

Ὅταν ὁ ἀπόστολος Παῦλος ἦρθε στὴν κεντρικὴ Ἑλλάδα, ἵδρυσε τῆς ἐκκλησίας τῶν Φιλίππων (Καβάλας), τῆς Θεσσαλονίκης, τῆς Βεροίας, τῶν Ἀθηνῶν καὶ τῆς Κορίνθου.

Ὅλα αὐτὰ ἀποτελέσαν ποίμνιο τοῦ ὁρθοδόξου Πατριαρχείου Κωνσταντινουπόλεως, ποῦ χίλια ὀκτακλῆρα χρόνια ἦταν φάρος σὲ Ἀνατολὴ καὶ Δύση. Ἀπὸ τὸ πατριαρχεῖο αὐτὸ βγήκαν μεγάλοι διδασκαλοὶ καὶ πατέρες, καθὼς καὶ ἱεραπόστολοι ποῦ ἀπὸ τὰ Βαλκάνια ἐφύλασαν μέχρι τὸ Δούναβι καὶ τὸ Οὐράλμα δρε, βάπτισαν πλήθη καὶ τοὺς ἔκαναν Χριστιανούς· Σέρβοι, Βούλγαροι, Ρουμῶνες, Ρῶσοι, ὅλα αὐτὰ τὰ ἔθνη βαπτίστηκαν στὴν κολυμβήθρα τῆς Κωνσταντινουπόλεως.

● Ἡ Ὁρθοδοξία λοιπὸν εἶνε ἡ ἀρχαία Ἐκκλησία. Καὶ δὲν εἶνε μόνο ἡ Ἐκκλησία τῶν πατριαρχείων, ἀλλὰ εἶνε καὶ ἡ Ἐκκλησία τῶν παραδόσεων. Μένει πιστὴ στὶς παραδόσεις, σύμφωνα τὸ λόγο τοῦ ἀποστόλου Παύλου «*Στήκετε, καὶ κρατεῖτε τὰς παραδόσεις*» δεῖ





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 2024 commitment **TODAY!** The benefits you shall receive beyond grace include the satisfaction and knowledge that this Church and community thrive thanks to your outreach.

### *Icons Show the Human Face of God*

In recent months my Sunday reflections have frequently focused on our Christian brothers and sisters of the East. Wishing as it were to embrace their rich tradition of faith in a single glance, today I would like to refer once again to the sense of mystery which is apparent in their icons. The East and the West vie with each other to put their art at the service of the faith.

But from the East, where icons had to be defended with bloodshed in the iconoclast crisis of the eighth and ninth centuries, comes a particular call jealously to preserve the religious nature of this art. It is based on the mystery of the Incarnation, in which God chose to assume a human face. In the last analysis, sacred art seeks to transmit something of the mystery of that face.

This is why the East firmly insists on the spiritual qualities which must characterize the artist,

to whom Simeon of Thessalonica, the great defender of Tradition, addresses this important exhortation: "Teach with words, write with letters, paint with colors, in conformity with Tradition; the painting is true, as is the writing of books; and the grace of God is present in them, because what is represented there is holy."

By contemplating icons in the whole context of liturgical and ecclesial life, the Christian community is called to grow in its experience of God, and to become more and more a living icon of the communion of life between the Three Divine Persons.

*Pope John Paul II*

For publications on Eastern spirituality, visit  
[www.ecpubs.com](http://www.ecpubs.com)

**RADIO MINISTRY:** Each Saturday at 1:15 PM Fr. Eugene hosts the radio broadcast **MATTERS OF CONSCIENCE NOW IN ITS 26th 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)