



PARISH BULLETIN

HOLY ARCHANGHEL MICHAEL'S ROMANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Third Sunday of Luke

Troparion (Resurrection), Tone 1

When the stone was sealed by the Jews and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life unto the world. For which cause powers of heaven cried out to Thee, O Life - giver: Glory to Thy resurrection, O Christ. Glory to Thy Kingdom. Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Friend of man.

Seasonal Kontakion, Tone 2

O Protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the creator most constant: O despise not the voices of those who have sinned; but be quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in

faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession and speed thou to make supplication, O thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

**Prokeimenon. Mode 4.
Psalm 18.4,1**

Their voice has gone out into all the earth.
Verse: The heavens declare the glory of God.

The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 9:6-11

Brethren, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be

enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.



The Gospel According to Luke 7 : 11-16

At that time, Jesus went to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large crowd from the city was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." And he came and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." And the dead man sat up, and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!"



Word of the week

The Spiritual Life and How to be attuned to it by St. Theophan the Recluse

Continuation from September 17 Bulletin, when we presented the first aspect of our active life.

To examine yourself well, you must turn your attention to the three aspects of our active life. These aspects are 1) the actions, those isolated acts which are performed at a given time in a given place and under given circumstances; **2) the disposition of the heart and the characteristics tendencies which are concealed beneath the actions; and 3) the general character of life.**

Actions do not provide full knowledge of the self. It is necessary to look more deeply into oneself and to examine what your heart is like, paying more attention to this than to actions. Suppose a man who is normally kind-hearted happens to behave stubbornly on a single occasion. Then you encounter another person who behaves in the same way, not just by chance, but because he is stingy by nature. On the surface, both actions are identical, but going by the inner disposition of the actors, there is a big difference between them. Acts are actions isolated in time and in place, while dispositions signify

permanent inclinations of the heart by which the character and way of life of a person are defined, and from which come all his greatest desires and the direction of his acts. The good dispositions are called virtues, while the worst are called vices, depraved inclinations and passions.

Christ the Savior indicates which dispositions a Christian must have in his heart. These are humility, contrition, meekness, love of righteousness and truth, mercifulness, pure heartedness, love of peace, and patience. The Apostle St. Paul indicates the following blessed Christian dispositions of the heart, which are **the fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance** (Gal. 5:22,23). In another place he writes, Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering: Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrell against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts..(Col. 3:12-15).

In contrast to these dispositions are the vices or passions, the sources of all the evil deeds that ruin us. The

main ones are pride, vanity, selfishness, intemperateness, anger, hatred, envy, idleness, desire for sensual pleasures, gloom, despair.

Please examine yourself thoroughly to see if you have any bad inclinations and passions. Everyone possesses each one of them to a small degree, but they are not deeply rooted or permanent. And **everyone has one main passion around which all the others entwine themselves. You must take care to seek this one out above all.** Although because of your youth such a passion will not be obvious, there should be perceptible traces if you probe. After you have found it, assess the others: find the one that is closest to it, and the one that is farthest. **And you will understand the structure of your heart.** What a valuable acquisitions! Because after this, when you purge yourself of passions and bad inclinations, then it will be apparent to you where to direct your effort and strength, namely, at your main passion. Then you will overcome it, and all the others will disperse in and of themselves. As in war, once the main enemy force has been shattered, you have only to pursue the others and rout them without any trouble. **It is easy to correct deeds. Just do not do it. The heart, however, cannot be transformed and corrected all at once. A struggle lies ahead.**

Liturgical Schedule for this week

Wednesday <i>October, 11</i>	6:00pm	Paraklesis of Theotokos
Saturday <i>October, 14</i>	8:30am 6:00pm	Divine Liturgy, St. Paraschiva of Romania Vespers
Sunday <i>October, 15</i>	9:00am 10:00am	Matins Divine Liturgy

Announcements:

- **Saturday, October 14** – 3:00pm, **Religious Wedding** of Dave and Briana Haddad.
- **October 16, Miraculous Hawaiian Myrrh-steaming Iveron icon** will visit St. Constantine & Helen Church in Webster. People are welcome to come at **5:00pm. Akathist Hymn starts at 6:00pm**
- Thursday - **October 19, 5:30pm - 8:30pm** – **11th Annual Food and Wine fest**, benefit for **Holy Trinity Nursing & Rehabilitation Center** - St. George Orthodox church, Worcester.
- Saturday - **October 27 – Turkey Shoot.**
- A GIFT BASKET RAFFLE For St. Nicholas Church Shewsberry is an additional fundraiser at their Holiday Marketplace on Saturday, November 18th. They are asking for donations of NEW items all centered on a theme to be assembled into gift baskets. They also welcome cash donations. All items must be received by November 5th. Questions? contact Tim Rucho (tjrucho@verizon.net)
- PROF. CANDACE HETZNER, of Boston College, will deliver the Bishop Flanagan Lecture at Assumption College on Wednesday, October 18th at 7:00 pm. The title of her talk will be: "An Orthodox College?" She will address the question as to why has Christian Orthodoxy done so little to establish institutions of higher learning in the United States. Admission is free. Location: Testa Science Center, Room 006, Fuller Auditorium.
- **Coffee hours** sponsored by Andrew and Rebecca Tanacea.



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