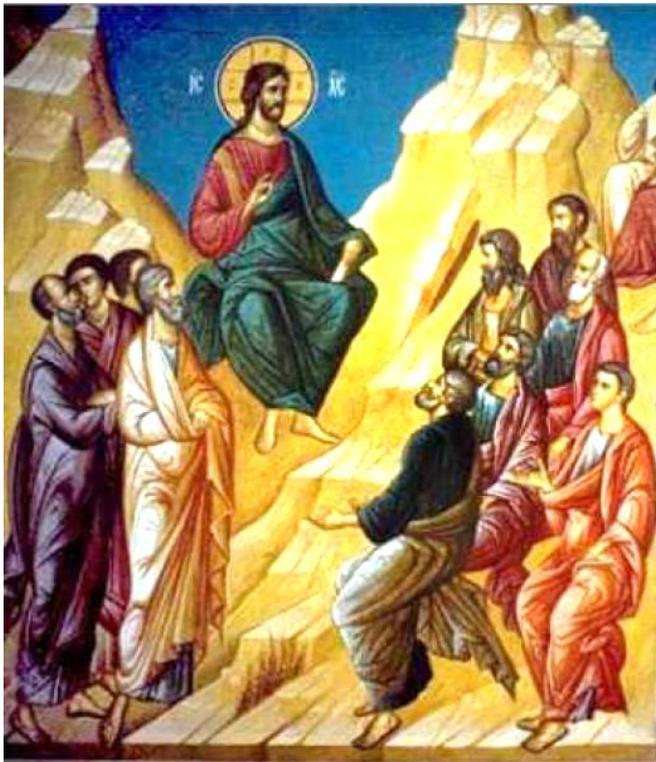




PARISH BULLETIN

HOLY ARCHANGHEL MICHAEL'S ROMANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

No. **116**/17 June 2018



Third Sunday after Pentecost

Resurrectional Apolytikion Tone 2

*When Thou didst descend unto death,
O Life Immortal, then didst Thou slay
Hades with the lightning of Thy
Divinity. And when Thou didst also
raise the dead out of the nethermost
depths, all the powers in the Heavens
cried out: O Life-giver, Christ our God,
glory be to Thee.*

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 2. Psalm 117.14,18

*The Lord is my strength and my song.
Verse: The Lord has chastened me sorely.*

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the
Romans 5:1-10

Brethren, since we are justified by
faith, we have peace with God
through our Lord Jesus Christ.
Through him we have obtained
access by faith to this grace in which
we stand, and we rejoice in our hope
of sharing the glory of God. More
than that, we rejoice in our

sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man -- though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.



The Gospel According to
Matthew 6:22-33

The Lord said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is not sound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If

then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows you need them all. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."



Word of the week – Reflection

Elder Cleopa of Romania, one of the greatest spiritual figures of 20th century Orthodoxy. Many times in his life the authorities sought to arrest him and he would flee to the wilderness. His words are filled with reference to the Scriptures and bear the weight of an authentic life.

Teaching on the Eight Means of Temptation and the Struggle Against Them

The Holy Fathers say (this is how Fr. Cleopa began to express concisely his spiritual experience to us, inherited from the Holy Fathers and personally experienced by him, as every one of his words clearly confirms) that on the path of salvation one is tempted by the devil from eight sides: from the front, from behind, from the left, from the right, from above, from below, from inside, and from the outside.

These, then, are the eight means by which everyone is tempted, regardless of whether one is in the world or in seclusion.

[Note: The completed list of all eight means by which one is tempted will be included in July Bulletin]

Against each of these temptations – from behind, from the front, from the left, from the right, from above,

from below, from inside, and from the outside – one must fight by means of watchfulness (the Elder used precisely this Slavonic word [trezvenie]), that is, attentiveness, carefulness, and wakefulness of soul and body; wakefulness and vigilance of spirit; sobriety and discernment; attention to one's thoughts and actions; or, in a word: judgment. On the other hand, by means of constant prayer that invokes the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, that is, through unceasing prayer. (Here Fr. Petronius added in Greek: "Prosochi kai prosefchi" – that is, as the Holy Fathers put it, "by attention and prayer.")

In other words (the Elder added), the Holy Fathers said that the battle against all temptations and passions consists in the following: guarding all one's mind, soul, and body from temptation – this is our ascetic struggle, from our human point of view; from the Divine side, one must continuously and prayerfully call upon the help of the All-Merciful Lord Jesus Christ – and this is that unceasing and primary prayer of the hesychasts called the Jesus Prayer: "Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, a sinner!"





Liturgical Schedule for this week

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| Wednesday <i>June,20</i> | 6:00 pm | Paraklesis |
| Friday <i>June,22</i> | 6:00 am | Akathist |
| Saturday <i>June,23</i> | 9:00 am 6:00 pm | Divine Liturgy followed by Memorial Service Vespers |
| Sunday <i>June,24</i> | 10:00 am | Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas Albanian Church |

Announcements:

- Happy father's day!
- Congratulations to **Maria Mironidis** for High School **graduation** and we wish her best of luck in College!
- **St. Nicholas Albanian's church Festival June 24th**, 12:00 – 5:00pm. Fr. John will serve the Divine liturgy in St. Nicholas church on that day. So no services in our church June 24.
- **Saturday, June 29, St. Peter and Paul** - fr. John will attend our Archdiocese annual Congress in Chicago. No liturgy on Saturday morning.
- **Coffee hours** – sponsored by Sam and Debby Yanka.

