



# PARISH BULLETIN

HOLY ARCHANGHEL MICHAEL'S ROMANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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First Sunday of Luke

## Resurrectional Apolytikion Tone Eight

*From the heights didst Thou come down, O Compassionate One. And Thou didst submit to three-day burial that from the passions Thou might deliver us. O our Life and Resurrection, O Lord, glory be to Thee.*

## Seasonal Kontakion Tone 2

*O Protection of Christians that never falls, intercession with the Creator that never fails, we sinners beg you, do not ignore the voices of our prayers. O good Lady, we implore you, quickly come unto our aid, when we cry to you with faith. Hurry to intercession, and hasten to supplication, O Theotokos who protect now and ever those who honor you.*

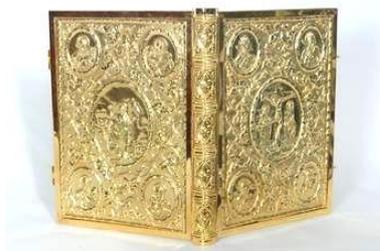
## Prokeimenon. Mode 1. Psalm 32.22,1

*Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us.  
Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.*

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 for ever." 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 5:1-11**

At that time, as Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the

nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all who were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.



### **Word of the week – Reflection on Saint Silouan the Athonite (September 24)**

#### **The way of the Church**

"It is given to our Orthodox Church through the Holy Spirit to fathom the mysteries of God, and she is strong in the holiness of her thought and her patience."

The mystery of God of the Church understands in the Holy Spirit is the love of Christ.

The holy thought of the Church is that all men should be saved. And the path she treads towards this holy end is the path of patience – that is, of sacrifice.

In preaching the love of Christ to the world, the Church calls all men to the fulness of Divine life but people do not understand her call, and repudiate it. When she bids men keep Christ's commandment and love their enemies, the Church finds herself caught between conflicting forces who naturally vent their anger upon her when she crosses their course. But the Church, actualising Christ's mission on earth – the salvation of the whole world – purposely takes upon herself the world's anger, just as Christ took upon Himself the sins of the world. And as Christ was persecuted in this world of sin, and had to suffer, so the true Church of Christ must also be persecuted and suffer.....

And this is always and everywhere so in the whole world, where only sin exists.

“Blessed are the peace-makers for they shall be called the children of God.” What the Lord says here is that those who preach the peace of God shall be like Him, the only-begotten Son of God – like Him in all things, not only in His glory and His resurrection but also in His humiliation and death. The Scriptures

often make mention of this and so those who truly preach Christ's peace should never lose sight of Golgotha either.

And all this only because of the bidding – Love your enemies. “Ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you”, says Christ to the Jews. And the Church's preaching., which is the same – “Love your enemies” – is not accepted by the world, and so all down the centuries the world has persecuted the true Church, slain and will continue to slay her servants.

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### **On the Difference between Christian Love and the Justice of men**

People usually interpret justice in the juridical sense. We reject the idea of laying one man's guilt on another – it is “not fair”. It does not accord with our idea about equity. But the spirit of Christian love speaks otherwise, seeing nothing strange but rather something natural in sharing the guilt of those we love – even in assuming full responsibility for their wrongdoing. Indeed, it is only in this bearing of another's guilt that the authenticity of love is made manifest and develops into full awareness of self.

From the Book: *Saint Silouane the Athonite*  
by Archimandrite Sophrony (Sakharov)



## Liturgical Schedule for this week

<b>Sunday</b> <i>September 23</i>	<b>10:00 pm</b>	<b>Vigil for St. Silouan – Vespers, Litia, Matins</b>
	<b>12:00am</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy for St. Silouan</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> <i>September 26</i>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy for St. John the Theologian</b>
	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Paraklesis</b>
<b>Saturday</b> <i>September 29</i>	<b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>Vespers and Litia</b>
<b>Sunday</b> <i>September 30</i>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Matins</b>
	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy</b>
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Akatist of Holy Protection</b>
<b>Monday</b> <i>October 1</i>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy – Protection Theotokos</b>

### Announcements:

- **Happy name day (St. John the Theologian, September 26)** to Fr. John, Yannis Mironidis, Yannis Penna, and John DeAngelis.
- **The Autumn Chicken BBQ** is Saturday, October 6, at 4:30pm. Please see Spiro or Luke if you are interested.
- **The Thanksgiving Turkey Raffle** is Friday, October 26, at 5:30pm. Please see Luke if you are interested.
- **Coffee hour** – Please see Debbie Thomo if you are interested in volunteering, or sign-up in the hall.
- **Today's Coffee hour** sponsored by Tom and Mary Dowling.



16 Romanian Avenue, Southbridge, Massachusetts, 01550, P.O. Box 823 (508) 765-5276

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