

WHAT SEASON ARE YOU IN?

A few years ago, a Swiss physician named Dr. Paul Tournier wrote a book entitled “The Seasons of Life.” In it, he compared the stages of life to the seasons of the year that we all enjoy so much. The comparisons are quite obvious: spring corresponds to our childhood, summer to our youth and the early years of adulthood, fall to our “mature years” and winter to those senior citizen days that everyone likes to call the “golden years.” Each of us lives with the hope and expectation of experiencing all of life’s four seasons. It seems like the natural progression of life, but it doesn’t always happen that way. Death can break the “cycle of the seasons” at any time. Pick up a newspaper on any given day, and we will certainly find a story about someone dying in each of these stages.

It has been written that the mystery of life is that each man, though he sees others dying all around him, never believes that he himself will die. Indeed, thoughts of our own demise are usually exiled to the outer recesses of our mind. Yet a Christian is called upon to live totally within the particular season we find ourselves, fully realizing that we may not have the opportunity automatically pass into the next. The Church constantly reminds us that at any time, our earthly existence may come to an end, be it spring, summer, fall or winter. The Scriptures bluntly tell us: “For what is your life? It is but a vapor that soon passes away quickly.” There is no one among us that is invincible or immortal.

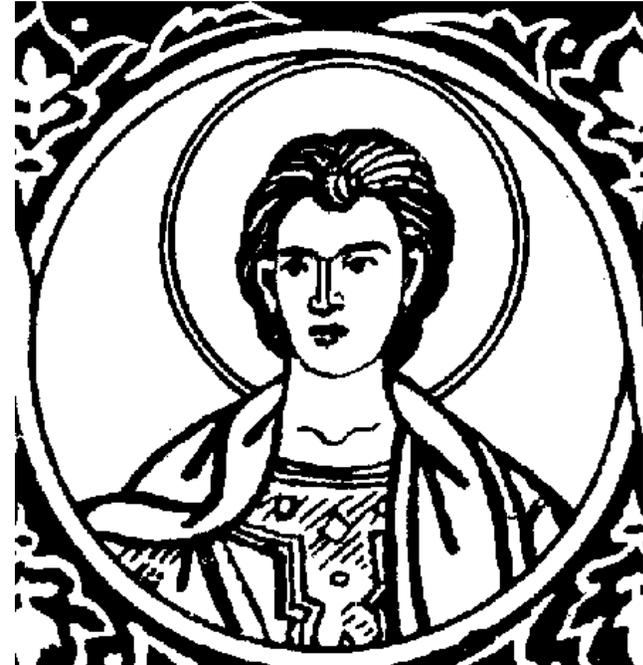
We must also remember that whenever death does call us, we will pass into a new “season.” THE SEASON OF ETERNITY. Our place there will be determined by how our faith grew and developed throughout the course of our lives.

To Our Visitors:

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. Just a reminder, however: the Sacrament of Holy Communion is a manifestation of the *unity of the Body of Christ*. As such, only those who are members in spiritual good standing of the Orthodox Church – and who have prepared themselves for the Sacrament – may partake of the Holy Chalice. However, *everyone* is welcome to come up with our people at the end of the service to receive blessed bread. *Please be sure to join us at Coffee Hour following Services.*

Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



October 26, 2014

6th Sunday of Luke/St. Demetrios the Myrrhbearer

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Commemoration of: Demetrios the Myrrhbearer & Great Martyr of Thessaloniki; Commemoration of the Great Earthquake in Constantinople

Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

Effrenestho ta urania (Resurrection Hymn) Tone 3

O epivlepon epi tin yin (The Great Earthquake) Tone 8
Christ our God, who look upon the earth and make it tremble, deliver us from the dread threat of earthquake; and send down upon us your rich mercies, at the prayers of the Mother of God, O lover of mankind.

Megan evrato (St. Demetrios) Tone 3
*All the world has you, its mighty champion, *fortifying us in times of danger, *and defeating our foes, O Victorious One. * So, as you humbled Lyaios's arrogance * by giving courage to Nestor in the stadium, * thus, O holy Great Martyr Demetrios, * to Christ our God pray fervently, * beseeching Him to grant us His great mercy.*

Tou Stavrou Sou (Hymn of the Church) Tone 8
Having seen in the sky the form of Your Cross and, like Paul, having received his calling not from men, Your apostle among Kings, Lord, placed his reigning city in Your hand, which forever you guard in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, for You alone love mankind.

Kontakion

Prostasia ton Hristianon Tone 2
O Protection of Christians unshamable, mediation with the Creator immovable, we sinners beg you, do not despise the voices of our prayers, but anticipate, since you are good, and swiftly come unto our aid as we cry out to you with faith: Hurry to intercession, and hasten to supplication, O Theotokos who defend now and ever those who honor you.

Epistle Reading 2 Timothy 2:1-10

TIMOTHY, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier on service gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to satisfy the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hardworking farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will grant you understanding in everything.
Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David, as

preached in my gospel, the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing fetters like a criminal. But the word of God is not fettered. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain salvation in Christ Jesus with its eternal glory.

Gospel Reading

Luke 8:26-39

At that time, as Jesus arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, there met him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes and he lived not in a house but among the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech you, do not torment me." For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them leave. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned. When the herdsmen saw what happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country. Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gadarenes asked him to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but he sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

Activities & Announcements

Today

6th Sunday of Luke/St. Demetrios the Myrrh-streamer; Presentation by Mr. Robert Arakaki and Discussion on "Orthodox Christians at Buddhist Funerals" from 12 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. in the Book Store.

We welcome into our midst today, **Father Konstantinos** and **Presbytera Sophie Skoumbourdis** from Thebarton, South Australia. They are celebrating their 20th Wedding Anniversary here on the Islands!

This Week

THU, 10/30– Book Club 6:30 to 8 p.m. Our topic: Wounded by Love

SAT, 11/1– Sts. Kosmas & Damian the Holy Unmercenaries: Orthros 8:30 a.m.; Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.

SUN, 11/2– 5th Sunday of Luke; Fall General Assembly

Upcoming Events

✘ **Fall General Assembly**– Sunday, November 2, 2014; Budget is now available in the Social Hall and narthex of the Church.