

On Stewardship and Giving

Stewardship is our response to God's grace and moves us from grace to gratitude. Just as we love because God first loved us (1 John 4:14), we give because God first gave to us. The question of the Psalmist "What shall I give to the Lord in return for all His benefits towards me?" (Ps 116:2), is answered in every liturgy when the celebrant calls us to "commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God."

Pearls of Wisdom from the Holy Fathers

"Fire and water do not mix, neither can you mix judgment of others with the desire to repent. If a man commits a sin before you at the very moment of his death, pass no judgment, because the judgment of God is hidden from men. It has happened that men have sinned greatly in the open but have done greater deeds in secret, so that those who would disparage them have been fooled, with smoke instead of sunlight in their eyes."

~St. John Climacus

"God is a fire that warms and kindles the heart and inward parts. Hence, if we feel in our hearts the cold which comes from the devil—for the devil is cold—let us call on the Lord. He will come to warm our hearts with perfect love, not only for Him but also for our neighbor, and the cold of him who hates the good will flee before the heat of His countenance."

~St. Seraphim of Sarov

"Remember, never to fear the power of evil more than your trust in the power and love of God."

~Hermas, one of the Seventy

Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



October 6, 2013

3rd Sunday of Luke

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3rd of Luke

Commemoration of: Thomas the Apostle of the 12; Cindeos, Monk-Martyr of Cyprus; Eroteis of Cappadocia; Makarios of Chios

Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

Anglike thinamis (Resurrection Hymn) Tone 6
When the angelic powers appeared at Your tomb and those who guarded You became as though dead, and standing by Your sepulcher was Mary seeking Your pure and sacred body. For You did vanquish Hades and uncorrupted by its touch You came unto the virgin woman, bestowing the gift of life O You who rose from the dead. Lord we give glory to You.

Apostole ayie Thoma (Thomas the Apostle) Tone 3
O holy Apostle Thomas, make intercession to our merciful God, that He grant our souls forgiveness of offenses.

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 you guard in peace forever, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, for You alone love mankind.

Kontakion

Prostasia ton Christianon Tone 2
Champion of Christians not put to shame, advocate before the Maker always steadfast, do not spurn sinners' voices raised in prayer. In your goodness respond to bring help to us who devoutly petition you. Hasten your intercession and urgently make entreaty; for you unfailingly defend, O Theotokos, those who honor you.

Epistle Reading 2nd Corinthians 4:6-15

BRETHREN, it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but

not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believed, and so we speak, knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into His presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

Gospel Reading 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!"

Activities & Announcements

- ✘ **Memorial**– Today's Memorial is held in remembrance of Choir Members who have fallen asleep in the Lord and for the handmaid of God, Marika A. Sirianos (6 yrs.), beloved mother of Alexandra Helene. May their memory be eternal!
- ✘ **Youth Choir Concert**– Today our Youth Choir will present us with a concert of liturgical hymns and folk songs. Our youngsters have been working very hard on the music. Please lend them your attentive ears!
- ✘ **Adult Religious Education**– We will begin having our Adult Religious Education with Fr. Alex. Meeting place will be announced.
- ✘ **Byzantine Music Instruction**- Saturday, October 12, 5 to 6 pm.
- ✘ **Great Vespers**– Saturday, October 12, 6:30 pm.

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.*