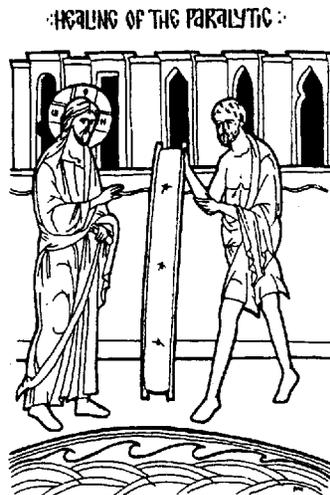


Excerpt from “Thoughts for Each Day of the Year” by St. Theophan the Recluse
Romans 12:6-14; Matthew 9:1-8

The Lord forgives the sins of the man sick of the palsy. One should rejoice; but the evil mind of the learned scribes says: *This man blasphemes* (Matthew 9:3). After the miracle of the healing of the man sick of the palsy—a confirmation of the comforting truth that *the Son of man has power on earth to forgive sins* (Matthew 9:6) - the people glorified God. But nothing is said about the scribes, probably because they continued to weave their deceitful questions even after such a miracle. The mind without faith is a schemer; it constantly hammers out its evil suspicions and weaves blasphemy against the whole realm of faith. As for miracles—it either does not believe in them, or it demands a tangible one. But when a miracle is given that would obligate one to submit to the Faith, this mind is not ashamed to turn away from it, distorting or slandering the miraculous works of God. It treats irrefutable evidence of God’s truth in the same way. Such a mind is sufficiently and cogently presented with both experiential and intellectual proof, but it covers even this with doubt. Sort out all that it produces and you will see that in this there is only deceit, although its own language calls it cleverness and deceit are one and the same. In the realm of faith the Apostle says, *We have the mind of Christ* (I Corinthians 2:16). Whose mind is outside of the realm of faith? The evil one’s. That is why deceit has become his distinguishing characteristic.



Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



SAINTS CONSTANTINE & HELEN
GREEK ORTHODOX
CATHEDRAL OF THE PACIFIC

50TH
Anniversary
1965-2015

July 12, 2015

6th Sunday of Matthew

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July 12, 2015
6th Sunday of Matthew

Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

Ton sinanarhon Logon (Hymn of the Day) Tone 5

Ton Farason ton gonon (St. Paisios) Tone 1
*O believers, let us honor that offspring of Farasa, * the pride and joy of Athos, and a vessel full of gifts of grace, * Paisios, the peer of the devout * monastic saints for imitating them. * He protects from all distress and from worldly grief * the people who cry out with faith: * Glory to Christ who gave you His might; * glory to Him who put a crown on you; * glory to Him who through you is working cures for all.*

Tu Stavru su ton tipon (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 Tone 2
Prostasia ton Hristianon
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 Romans 12:6-14

BRETHREN, having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; he who teaches, in his teaching; he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who contributes, in liberality; he who gives aid, with zeal; he who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

Gospel Reading Matthew 9:1-8

At that time, getting into a boat Jesus crossed over and came to his own city. And behold, they brought to him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus,

knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say 'Rise and walk?' But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins" he then said to the paralytic -- "Rise, take up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

Announcements

Today

✘ SUN, 7/12– *6th Sunday of Matthew; Sunday School Meeting*

This Week.

✘ TUE, 7/14—Book Club 6:30 to 8 p.m.

✘ WED, 7/15– Parish Council Meeting 5:30 p.m.

✘ SAT, 7/18– Slide Presentation: Photographic Journey to Holy Sites by Dr. Carlos Moreno 5 p.m.

✘ SUN, 7/19– *Sunday of the Holy Fathers*

Pearls of Wisdom from the Holy Fathers

"When there is a respect for small things, there will be an even greater respect towards the bigger things. When there is no respect for small things, then neither will there be for the bigger ones. This is how the Fathers maintained Tradition."

"Struggle with all your power to gain Paradise. And do not listen to those who say that everyone will be saved. This is trap of Satan so that we won't struggle."

"I wish you many years — but not for them to be too happy, because happiness in the world isn't really so healthy. When a man is too happy in this world, he forgets God and forgets death."

+ **Elder Paisios**

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.