

Why Go To Church When I Can Pray At Home?

by St. John Chrysostom

They say:

'We can pray at home.'

Thou art deceiving thyself, O man! Of course, one can pray at home. But it is impossible to pray there as in church, where such a multitude of hearts are uplifted to God, merging into one unanimous cry. Thou wilt not be so quickly heard while praying to the Master by thyself, as when praying together with thy brethren, for here in church there is something greater than thy room: Agreement, unanimity, the bond of love, and finally here are the prayers of the priests.

The priests stand before us, then, so that the prayers of the people, being weak, would be united to their more powerful prayers and together with them ascend to heaven. The Apostle Peter was freed from prison, thanks to the common prayers offered for him...If the Church's prayer was so beneficial for the Apostle Peter and delivered such a pillar of the faith from prison, why, tell me, dost thou disdain its power and what kind of justification canst thou have for this?

Hearken unto God Himself, Who says that the multitude of people who pray to him with fervor moves Him to have mercy. He says to the Prophet Jonah:

'Shall I not spare Nineveh, that great city, in which dwell more than 120 thousand people.'

He did not simply mention the multitude of people but that thou mightest know that prayer together has great power.

Source: *Mystagogy*

Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



SAINTS CONSTANTINE & HELEN
GREEK ORTHODOX
CATHEDRAL OF THE PACIFIC

50TH
Anniversary
1965-2015

September 27, 2015

1st Sunday of Luke

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September 27, 2015

1st Sunday of Luke

Commemoration of: Kallistratos the Martyr & his 49 Companions; Mark, Aristarchos, & Zenon, Apostles of the 70; Akylina the New Martyr of Thes.

Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

Ex ipsus katilthes (Resurrection Hymn) Tone 8

I martires su Kirie (Martyrs) Tone 4

*Your Martyrs, O Lord, were worthily awarded by You * the crowns of incorruption, in that they contested for You our immortal God. * Since they possessed Your power, they defeated the tyrants, * dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance. * O Christ God, at their fervent entreaties, save our souls.*

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 are the lover of mankind.

Kontakion

Prostasia ton Hristianon Tone 2

O Protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation to the Creator immovable. Do not overlook, the pleading voices of those in sin, but be in time as a kind one to our help, who in faith cry out to You: Hasten to intercede, and be quick to beseech, You who always protect, Theotokos, those who honor You.

Epistle Reading

2nd Corinthians 6:16-18; 7:1

BRETHREN, you are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."

Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

Gospel Reading

Luke 5:1-11

At that time, Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. And 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.

Activities & Announcements

Today

SUN, 9/27– 1st Sunday of Luke

- ✕ Students Visit from Leeward Community College
- ✕ Farewell Luncheon for Mary Book
- ✕ Adult Religious Education– "Biblical Basis for Icons" instructed by Dr. Robert Arakaki in the Bookstore 12 to 12:45 p.m.

This Week

FRI, 10/2– Arrival of His Grace Bishop Apostolos @ HNL 1:49 p.m.; International Lenten Potluck 6:30 p.m.

SAT, 10/3– 50th Anniversary Luncheon at Oahu Country Club 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Great Vespers 5:30 p.m.; Greek Glendi following Great Vespers

SUN, 10/4– 2nd Sunday of Luke; No Adult Religious Education today; Luau following services

MON, 10/5– Bishop Apostolos departs from HNL at 12:55 p.m.

Wisdom of the Holy Fathers

As the Holy Trinity, our God is One Being, although Three Persons, so, likewise, we ourselves must be one. As our God is indivisible, we also must be indivisible, as though we were one man, one mind, one will, one heart, one goodness, without the smallest admixture of malice - in a word, one pure love, as God is Love. That they may be one, even as We are One"(John 17:22)."

~St. John of Kronstadt

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.*