

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



September 27, 2020

1st Sunday of Luke

930 Lunalilo Street, Honolulu, HI 96822
(808) 521-7220 www.greekorthodoxhawaii.org
Office: office@greekorthodoxhawaii.org
Fr. Alexander Leong: fralexanderleong@yahoo.com

September 27, 2020

1st Sunday of Luke

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

Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

Katelas to Stavro (Hymn of the Day) Tone 7

O Lord by your Cross You abolished death and opened to the thief Paradise. The lamentation of the myrrh-bearers You turned to joy, and You commanded Your Apostles to proclaim that You had risen from the dead, O Christ our God, bestowing upon the world the great mercy.

I martires su Kirie (Saints/Martyrs of the Day) 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.*

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

Kontakion (to the Theotokos) Tone 2

Prostasia ton Hristianon (to the Theotokos)

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 out to you with faith. Hurry to intercession, and hasten to supplication, O Theotokos who protect now and ever those who honor you. (AgesInitiatives.com)

Epistle Reading

2 Corinthians 6:1-10

BRETHREN, working together with him, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Gospel Reading

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.

Announcements

Today

✕ SUN, 9/27– 1st Sunday of Luke Services via; Adult Religious Education via Zoom: "The Fruit of the Spirit" on "Love" Session 1- 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.; Greek Dance via Zoom 3 p.m.

This Week

✕ WED, 9/30– Young Adult Fellowship (Theme: Love) via Zoom @5:30 p.m.; Stewardship Seminar via Zoom 3:30 to 5:00 p.m.
✕ THU, 10/1–Prayer Ministry 11 a.m.
✕ SAT, 10/3– Great Vespers via zoom 5:30 p.m.
✕ SUN, 10/4–2nd Sunday of Luke; Adult Religious Education via Zoom: "The Fruit of the Spirit" on "Love" Session 2– 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.; Greek Dance via Zoom 3 p.m.

LAST CALL: Please help our church raise funds by making your church donations at Foodland Stores by 9/30.

Please use our church code **79005**. Your receipt will say SCHGOCP (Sts.



Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church of the Pacific). You must use your Maika'i card at the time of purchase/donation. Email or mail us a copy of your receipt to have your donation count towards your stewardship. For more information visit www.greekorthodoxhawaii.org and click on Give Aloha.