

ARCHANGEL MICHAEL CHURCH

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SUNDAY JULY 14, 2024 | SUNDAY OF THE FOURTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL | Mode 2 Eothinon 3

METROPOLITAN SOTIRIOS ON TODAY'S FEAST

Today we celebrate the "Synaxis of All the Saints of Pisidia, Side and Antalya, along with the "Holy Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council of Chalkidon. This common celebration was approved by the Holy Synod of our Ecumenical Patriarchate for two reasons: Firstly, because among the Fathers who took part in the Fourth Ecumenical Council, there were also several Bishops of the Metropolises of Pisidia, Side and Antalya. Secondly, because today, just as in previous days and those that follow, we celebrate the memory of over 15,000 Martyrs and various other Saints of our Greater Metropolitan District.

Our Church has established today's reading to be taken from the last part of the Epistle sent by Apostle Paul to his Disciple Titus, whom he had placed as Bishop of Crete. One may wonder, why. Because in this passage, St. Paul advises the new Bishop to do what all other Bishops and Saints had applied in their lives, and whose memory we celebrate today: that is, love in action. He writes to Titus: "Those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men." (verse 8).

In the preceding verses, the Apostle writes that our God has been compassionate to us and saved us through Holy Baptism, and by His Grace He blessed us to inherit eternal life (verses 5-6). That is why the faithful, who have so much benefited from God, must imitate Him and be beneficial to their fellow human beings. Not only should they themselves benefit others through their good works, but also, they should encourage others to play a leading part in good works.

That is, those who believe in Christ should not support the notion that only by believing in God is enough for us to be considered genuine Students of Christ. "Faith without works is dead" (James 2:20) writes St. James, Brother of the Lord. He also addresses anyone who thinks that he will be saved by faith alone, without good works: "Show me your faith without your works, I will show you my faith by my works" (James 2, 18). Let us, therefore, not turn a sympathetic ear to those who, by misinterpreting the meaning of the passages of the Holy Bible, argue that man can be saved by faith only. It is necessary for the Christian to confirm his faith in Christ with works pleasing to God; his faith ought to produce beneficial fruits. The believer's main care should be charity.

Moreover, a Christian believer should not expect someone to knock on his door and ask for help; instead, he should seek himself to create opportunities to do good works. And he should also motivate others toward this direction. This way, not only does he benefit those whom he helps and shows compassion, but also those who do good works with him. For by doing so, he helps them also be rewarded by Christ in His Second Coming! (Matthew 25:34). The Apostle Paul places no limits in his advice on good works. At the end of his Epistle to Bishop Titus, he urges him to make specific manifestations of love: "Send Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey with haste, that they may lack nothing" (verse 13). And on the occasion of this preparation, by your exhortation and example, "let our people also learn to maintain good works, to meet urgent material needs, so that their lives may not be fruitless "(verse 14). Not only does St. Paul, but also our Lord Jesus Christ compare Christians who lack works of love with fruitless trees. Let us remember the fig tree that had no fruit but leaves only and Jesus made it dry up (Matthew 21:19). Awakening are the words of the hymnographer: "Feering the sentence of the fruitless fig tree, brethren, let us bring forth fruits ... to Christ" (Holy Monday Aposticha)

Dear Brothers and Sisters, let us understand this very well: The soul of the believer who lacks works of love and charity eventually becomes dried up. Even "faith without works is dead", we heard Saint James saying. And those who will appear in front of "the terrible Seat of Christ" on Judgement Day with empty hands of works of love, Jesus has warned us that He will tell them: "Depart from me" (Matth. 25:41). My beloved, may all of us, who today honor the memory of thousands of our Saints, imitate them, both in their faith and in the holiness of their lives as well as in their true love and good works, so that we may, too, be blessed to be with them around the heavenly throne of God's grace. Amen.

Άντίφωνον Α΄. Ήχος β΄.

Στίχ. α΄. Εὐλόγει, ἡ ψυχή μου, τον Κύριον, και πάντα τα ἐντός μου το ὄνομα το ἄγιον αὐτοῦ.

Ταῖς πρεσβείαις τῆς Θεοτόκου, Σῶτερ, σῶσον ἡμᾶς.

Στίχ. β΄. Εὐλόγει, ἡ ψυχή μου, τον Κύριον, και μη ἐπιλανθάνου πάσας τας ἀνταποδόσεις αὐτοῦ.

Στίχ. γ΄. Κύριος ἐν τῷ οὐρανῷ ἡτοίμασε τον θρόνον αὐτοῦ, και ἡ Βασιλεία αὐτοῦ πάντων δεσπόζει.

Στίχ. δ'. Δόξα Πατρι και Υίῷ και ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι. Και νῦν και ἀεί, και εἰς τους αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

Άντίφωνον Β΄. Ήχος β΄.

Στίχ. α΄. Αἴνει, ἡ ψυχή μου, τον Κύριον· αἰνέσω Κύριον ἐν τῆ ζωῆ μου· ψαλῶ τῷ Θεῷ μου ἔως ὑπάρχω.

Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱε Θεοῦ, ὁ ἀναστας ἐκ νεκρῶν,ψάλλοντάς σοι, ἀλληλούϊα.

Στίχ. β΄. Μακάριος οὖ ὁ Θεος Ἰακωβ βοηθος αὐτοῦ, ἡ ἐλπις αὐτοῦ ἐπι Κύριον τον Θεον αὐτοῦ.

Στίχ. γ΄. Βασιλεύσει Κύριος εἰς τον αἰῶνα, ὁ Θεός σου, Σιών, εἰς γενεαν και γενεάν.

Στίχ. δ'. Δόξα Πατρι και Υίῷ και ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι. Και νῦν και ἀεί, και εἰς τους αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

Άντίφωνον Γ΄. Ήχος α΄.

Στίχ. α΄. Αὔτη ἡ ἡμέρα, ἣν ἐποίησεν ὁ Κύριος· ἀγαλλιασώμεθα και εὐφρανθῶμεν ἐν αὐτῆ.

Ότε κατῆλθες...

Εἰσοδικόν. Ήχος β΄.

Δεῦτε προσκυνήσωμεν και προσπέσωμεν Χριστῷ.Σῶσον ἡμᾶς Υἱε Θεοῦ, ὁ ἀναστας ἐκ νεκρῶν, ψάλλοντάς σοι, Άλληλούϊα.

ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΑ

Ήχος β.

Ότε κατήλθες προς τον θάνατον, ή ζωη ή άθάνατος, τότε τον άδην ένέκρωσας, τή άστραπή τής θεότητος ότε δε και τους τεθνεῶτας, έκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αὶ δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον Ζωοδότα Χριστέ, ὁ Θεος ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

Ήχος πλ. δ΄.

Ύπερδεδοξασμένος εἶ, Χριστε ὁ Θεος ἡμῶν, ὁ φωστῆρας ἐπι γῆς τους Πατέρας ἡμῶν θεμελιώσας, και δι' αὐτῶν προς την ἀληθινην πίστιν, πάντας ἡμᾶς ὁδηγήσας πολυεύσπλαγχνε, δόξα σοι.

Ήχος πλ. δ΄

Μνήσθητι Κύριε, ώς άγαθος τῶν δούλων σου, και ὅσα ἐν βίῳ ἤμαρτον συγχώρησον· οὐδεις γαρ ἀναμάρτητος, εἰ μη Συ ὁ δυνάμενος, και τοῖς μεταστᾶσι δοῦναι τήν ἀνάπαυσιν.

Ήχος δ΄

Τῶν οὐρανίων στρατιῶν Ἀρχιστράτηγοι, δυσωποῦμεν ὑμᾶς ἡμεῖς οἱ ἀνάξιοι, ἴνα ταῖς ὑμῶν δεήσεσι, τειχίσητε ἡμᾶς, σκέπη τῶν πτερύγων, τῆς ἀΰλου ὑμῶν δόξης, φρουροῦντες ἡμᾶς προσπίπτοντας, ἐκτενῶς και βοῶντας· Ἐκ τῶν κινδύνων λυτρώσασθε ἡμᾶς, ὡς Ταξιάρχαι τῶν ἄνω Δυνάμεων.

Antiphon 1. Mode 2

Verse 1: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and everything within me, bless His holy name.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Savior, save us.

Verse 2: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His rewards.

Verse 3: The Lord prepared His throne in heaven, and His Kingdom rules over all.

Verse 4: Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Antiphon 2. Mode 2

Verse 1: Praise the Lord, O my soul! I shall praise the Lord while I live; I shall sing to my God as long as I exist.

Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia.

Verse 2: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob; his hope is in the Lord his God.

Verse 3: The Lord shall reign forever; your God, O Zion, to all generations.

Verse 4: Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Both now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Antiphon 3. Mode 1

Verse 1: This is the day the Lord made; let us greatly rejoice and be glad therein.

When You descended...

Entrance Hymn. Mode 2.

Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ.Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia.

APOLYTIKA

Mode 2

When You descended unto Death, O Lord, You who are immortal Life put Hades to death, by the lightning of Your divinity. And when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the hosts of heaven sang aloud to You, "O Christ God, Giver of life, glory to You!"

Mode Plagal 4

Supremely blessed are You, O Christ our God. You established the holy Fathers upon the earth as beacons, and through them You have guided us all to the true Faith, O greatly merciful One, glory be to You.

Mode Plagal 4

Remember, Lord, as the Good One, your servants, and forgive them in whatever they have sinned in life. No one is without sin, except for you the Mighty One, and show rest to the departed.

Mode 4

O Chief Commanders of the heavenly armies, we the unworthy now entreat you in earnest, to fortify us by your supplications to the Lord, and shelter us beneath the wings of your spiritual glory, guarding us who run to you and fervently entreat you: As the Commanders of the hosts on high, rescue us faithful from dangers of every kind.

Ήχος β΄.

Προστασία τῶν Χριστιανῶν ἀκαταίσχυντε, μεσιτεία, προς τον Ποιητην ἀμετάθετε, μη παρίδης, ἀμαρτωλῶν δεήσεων φωνάς, ἀλλα πρόφθασον, ὡς ἀγαθή, εἰς την βοήθειαν ἡμῶν, τῶν πιστῶς κραυγαζόντων σοι Τάχυνον εἰς πρεσβείαν, και σπεῦσον εἰς ἰκεσίαν, ἡ προστατεύουσα ἀεί, Θεοτόκε, τῶν τιμώντων σε.

ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ

Προκείμενον. Ήχος πλ. δ΄. Ψαλμος 31.

Εὐφράνθητε έπι Κύριον και ἀγαλλιᾶσθε, δίκαιοι. Στίχ. Μακάριοι ὧν ἀφέθησαν αἱ ἀνομίαι.

Τιτ 3:8 - 15

Τέκνον Τίτε, πιστος ὁ λόγος και περι τούτων βούλομαί σε διαβεβαιοῦσθαι, ἵνα φροντίζωσι καλῶν ἔργων προΐστασθαι οἱ πεπιστευκότες τῷ Θεῷ. ταῦτά ἐστι τα καλα και ώφέλιμα τοῖς άνθρώποις· μωρας δε ζητήσεις και γενεαλογίας και έρεις και μάχας νομικας περιΐστασο· είσι γαρ άνωφελεῖς και μάταιοι. αἰρετικον ἄνθρωπον μετα μίαν και δευτέραν νουθεσίαν παραιτοῦ, είδως ὅτι ἐξέστραπται ὁ τοιοῦτος και αμαρτάνει ών αὐτοκατάκριτος. Όταν πέμψω Άρτεμᾶν πρός σε ἢ Τυχικόν, σπούδασον έλθεῖν πρός με εἰς Νικόπολιν ἐκεῖ γαρ κέκρικα παραχειμάσαι. Ζηνᾶν τον νομικον και Άπολλω πρόπεμψον, ἵνα μηδεν σπουδαίως αὐτοῖς μανθανέτωσαν δε και οἱ ἡμέτεροι καλῶν ἔργων προΐστασθαι είς τας άναγκαίας χρείας, ίνα μη ωσιν άκαρποι. Άσπάζονταί σε οἱ μετ' ἐμοῦ πάντες. ἄσπασαι τους φιλοῦντας ἡμᾶς ἐν πίστει. Ἡ χάρις μετα πάντων ὑμῶν ἀμήν.

Άλληλούϊα. Ήχος δ΄. Ψαλμος 43.

Άλληλούϊα. Άλληλούϊα. Άλληλούϊα.

Στίχ. α΄. Ὁ Θεός, ἐν τοῖς ώσιν ἡμῶν ἠκούσαμεν

Στίχ. β΄. "Εσωσας γαρ ἡμᾶς ἐκ τῶν θλιβόντων ἡμᾶς.

ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ

 $M\tau 5:14 - 19$

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τοῖς ἑαυτοῦ μαθηταῖς· Ύμεῖς ἑστε το φῶς τοῦ κόσμου. οὐ δύναται πόλις κρυβῆναι ἐπάνω ὄρους κειμένη· οὐδε καίουσι λύχνον και τιθέασι αὐτον ὑπο τον μόδιον, ἀλλ΄ ἐπι την λυχνίαν, και λάμπει πᾶσι τοῖς ἐν τῆ οἰκία. οὕτω λαμψάτω το φῶς ὑμῶν ἔμπροσθεν τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ὅπως ἴδωσιν ὑμῶν τα καλα ἔργα και δοξάσωσι τον πατέρα ὑμῶν τον ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς. Μη νομίσητε ὅτι ἦλθον καταλῦσαι τον νόμον ἢ τους προφήτας· οὐκ ἦλθον καταλῦσαι, ἀλλα πληρῶσαι. ἀμην γαρ λέγω ὑμῖν, ἔως ἄν παρέλθη ὁ οὐρανος και ἡ γῆ, ἱῶτα ἐν ἢ μία κεραία οὐ μη παρέλθη ἀπο τοῦ νόμου ἔως ἄν πάντα γένηται. ὂς ἐαν οὖν λύση μίαν τῶν ἐντολῶν τούτων τῶν ἐλαχίστων και διδάξη οὔτω τους ἀνθρώπους, ἐλάχιστος κληθήσεται ἐν τῆ βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν· ὂς δ΄ ἀν ποιήση και διδάξη, οὖτος μέγας κληθήσεται ἐν τῆ βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν.

Mode 2

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.

EPISTLE

Prokeimenon. Mode pl. 4. Psalm 31.

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice greatly, O righteous ones. **Verse:** Blessed are those whose transgressions are forgiven.

Tit. 3:8 - 15

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

Alleluia. Mode 4. Psalm 43.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,

Verse 1: O God, we heard with our ears.

Verse 2: For You saved us from those who afflict us.

GOSPEL

Mt. 5:14 - 19

The Lord said to his disciples, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

SYNAXARION

July 14 - St. Aquila of the 70

July 15 - St. Vladimir, Equal to the Apostles

July 16 - St. Athenogenes of Heracleopolic

July 17 - St. Marina (icon below)

July 18 - St. Emilianos of Bulgaria

July 19 - St. Macrina, Sister to St. Basil

July 20 - Elias the Prophet



LITURGIES

Today, Sunday, July 14, 2024 VIGIL FOR SAINT KYRIKOS (See Flyer - His Relics are in our Altar Table)

Saturday, July 20, 2024

Feast of the Prophet Elias

Orthros & Divine Liturgy 8:00AM

Sunday, July 21, 2024 Orthros & Divine Liturgy 8:00AM

Friday, July 26th & Saturday July 27th

Feasts of St Paraskevi & St Panteleimon
Orthros & Divine Liturgy 8:00AM

Sunday, July 28th

Feast of St. Irene Chrysovalantou
Orthros & Divine Liturgy 8:00AM

MEMORIALS

1 Year for Ioannis Pikramenos 1 Year for Christos Sakelos

In Commemoration of the Departed Members of the Pan-Icarian Brotherhood of America and those lives lost fighting for Iarian Independence on July 17, 1912

May their Memory be Eternal!

EVENTS

New FESTIVAL Dates!

Thursday, September 26th through Sunday, September 29th!



FEAST OF SAINT KYRIKOS

EVENING VIGIL - RELICS ARE IN OUR ALTAR

SUNDAY JULY 14

SERVICES BEGIN AT 9:00PM

VESPERS | MATINS | DIVINE LITURGY