



***Saint George The Great Martyr
Eastern, Orthodox Church***

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37th Sunday after Pentecost Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee [Beginning of the Lenten Triodion]

Christ is in our midst, he is and forever shall be. Hope all is well with you dear loved brothers and sisters. As we officially enter the Lenten Triodion and start preparing for the journey of great lent and the passion and Holy week and the ultimate victory over death, by the death and the most Glorious Resurrection of our lord. One needs to look at this journey not as a burden, but receive it with great joy! In the Orthodox Church, Great Lent is not a season of morbidity and gloominess. On the contrary, it is a time of joyfulness and purification. We are called to “anoint our faces” and to “cleanse our bodies as we cleanse our souls. Almsgiving, fasting and prayers are all great deeds! But if they are not done with (Love) for God and neighbor, then they won’t bare fruits! Great love dear ones demand sacrifices! So let us sacrifice our time, talents and everything else in us, that we may be accounted worthy to bare fruits which is the Grace of God in Christ Jesus. And let us pray to God and the most Holy Theotokos for her intercession and to Guide us: (Open to me the doors of repentance, O Life-giver. For my spirit rises early to pray towards Thy holy temple, bearing the temple of my body all defiled. But in Thy compassion, purify me by the loving kindness of Thy mercy. Lead me on the paths of salvation, O Mother of God, For I have profaned my soul with shameful sins, and have wasted my life in laziness. But by your intercessions, deliver me from all impurity. When I think of the many evil things I have done, wretch that I am, I tremble at the fearful day of judgement. But trusting in Thy living kindness, like David I cry to Thee: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy great mercy.

Tone 4 Troparion (*Resurrection*)

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: “Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen,// granting the world great mercy!”

Troparion Saint George You were Bound for Good Deed.....

Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Tone 4 Kontakion (*from the Lenten Triodion*)

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee! Let us learn humility from the Publican's tears! Let us cry to our Savior: “Have mercy on us, // O only merciful One!”

Kontakion Saint George: God RaisedNow and ever...Steadfast protectors

Tone 4 Prokeimenon (*Resurrection*)

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works; / in wisdom hast Thou made them all. (*Ps. 103:26*) **V. Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, Thou art very great! (Ps. 103:1)**

Epistle (296) 2 Timothy 3:10-15

Tone 4 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! **V. Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth! (Ps. 44:3b) V. For Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest iniquity. (Ps. 44:6)**

02/21/21

Gospel (89) Luke 18:10-14

Communion Hymn Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps. 148:1*) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Quotes from the Saints

“Fasting, prayer, alms, and every other good Christian deed is good in itself, but the purpose of the Christian life consists not only in the fulfillment of one or another of them. The true purpose of our Christian life is the acquisition of the Holy Spirit of God. But fasting, prayer, alms and every good deed done for the sake of Christ is a means to the attainment of the Holy Spirit. Note that only good deeds done for the sake of Christ bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit. Everything else that is not done for the sake of Christ, even if it is good, does not bring us a reward in the life to come, nor does it bring the grace of God in this life. This is why our Lord Jesus Christ said, ‘Whoever gathereth not with me scattereth’ (Matt. 12:30). + **St. Seraphim of Sarov** This kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.” [Matthew 17:14-23] If this kind goes out by the prayer and fasting of another person, then it is even less able to enter one who fasts and prays. What protection!

Although there are a slew of demons and all the air is packed with them, they cannot do anything to one who is protected by prayer and fasting. Fasting is universal temperance, prayer is universal communication with God; the former defends from the outside, whereas the latter from within directs a fiery weapon against the enemies. The demons can sense a faster and man of prayer from a distance, and they run far away from him so as avoid a painful blow. Is it feasible to think that where there is no fasting and prayer, there already is a demon? Yes, it is. The demons lodging in a person, do not always reveal their presence, but lurk there, stealthily teaching their host every evil and turning him away from every good thing; so this person is certain that he is doing everything on his own, but meanwhile he is only fulfilling the will of his enemy. Just commence prayer and fasting and the enemy will immediately depart, then wait on the side for an opportunity to somehow return again. And he truly will return, as soon as prayer and fasting are abandoned. + **St. Theophan the Recluse**

prayers for the livings: Luca Nicholas, Grace and her parents, Daniel, Abbot Tryphon, the child of God Monika, Nick, Sam, Marleen and thier Family, Anne, Ruth, Debrutu, Alex Janice and their family Janice, Elizabeth, Daniel and their children, Vaso, Angela, Sonya and Dragosh, Timothy, Eric & Betsy and their Children, Zayden, Michael, Eva, Sandra & Al, Fr. Paul, Sharalyn.

Prayers for the Departed: all the orthodox that lies here and there sleep in the Lord. Especially the newly departed servant of God Nick, and the servant of God protoprebyter Daniel

REMINDER

***** Fr. Dionisie will be serving the Divine Liturgy this weekend.**

***** it's with great joy, I announce to you that our beloved hierarch and father in Christ Arch Bishop Benjamin has decided to resume his traveling and visiting his flocks in Christ. And he informed me that he will be visiting our parish in April 17th and 18th. I'm already looking forward to his visit and blessing.**

*****FACE MASK IS MANDATORY! Don't forget we are meeting at 5:00 PM Saturday for choir practice and Reader Vesper at 6:00PM love to see you there. In Christ always.**