



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

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**38<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, Sunday of the Prodigal Son**

Christ is in our midst dear brothers and sisters, he is and forever shall be. Hope this finds you all well! As we are coming closer to great lent, I wanted to share a thought with you: At the heart of our spiritual lives lies the mystery of sacrifice. We choose who or what we prioritize in our lives, and we make sacrifices in line with that priority. It is not simply a matter of religious devotion, but involves where we focus our energy and attention. For human beings, it is not a matter of whether or not we engage in worship, but rather, a question of what we deem worthy of our devotion. The very meaning of the word, “worship,” derives from “worth-ship” – what we see as worthy of our sacrifice.

True worship of God consists in the realization that God alone is above all – He alone do we worship with our whole heart, mind, and soul. To Him alone are we to present our very selves as “living sacrifices,” for He stands above all other devotions, all other pursuits, all other values.

The widow, placing her two copper pennies into the Temple treasury, gives all she possesses to God, emblematic of the total offering of herself to God. The rich merely give a portion of their abundance, holding back the rest. Theirs is not a worthy sacrifice like the widow’s, for in giving all she had, she worships God above all other priorities. Like Abel, her sacrifice is proper and pleasing to God. Her offering is not merely an outward display, or a self-justifying act. It is the sacrifice of herself to the One to whom she owes her life. May we follow her example. “He who has ears let him hear.”

**Tone 5 Troparion (Resurrection)**

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead//by His glorious Resurrection.

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

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

**Tone 3 Kontakion (from the Lenten Triodion)**

I have recklessly forgotten Thy glory, O Father; and among sinners I have scattered the riches which Thou gavest me. And now I cry to Thee as the Prodigal: “I have sinned before Thee, O merciful Father; receive me as a penitent, //and make me as one of Thy hired servants!”

**Kontakion Saint George: God Raised .....Now and ever...Steadfast protectors**

**Tone 5 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)**

Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us / and preserve us from this generation forever. (Ps. 11:7)

**V. Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly! (Ps. 11:1a)**

**Epistle (135) 1 Corinthians 6:12-20**

**Tone 5 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! V. I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation. (Ps. 88:1-2) V. For Thou hast said: Mercy will be established forever; Thy truth will be prepared in the heavens. (Ps. 88:3)**

**Gospel (79) Luke 15:11-32**

02/28/21

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

## Quotes from the Saints

The man who has found love eats and drinks Christ every day and hour and so is made immortal.

'Whoever eats of this bread', He says, 'which I will give him, will never taste death.' Blessed is he who consumes the bread of love, which is Jesus! He who eats of love eats Christ, the God over all, as John bears witness, saying, 'God is love.'" + *St. Isaac the Syrian* You

may find yourself hampered by someone who sows tares of despondency. He tries to prevent you from climbing to such heights of holiness by discouraging you with various thoughts. For instance, he will tell you that it is impossible for you to be saved and to keep every single one of God's commandments while you live in this world. When this happens you should sit down in a solitary place by yourself, collect yourself, concentrate your thoughts and give good counsel to your soul, saying: "Why, my soul, are you dejected, and why do you trouble me? Put your hope in God, for I will give thanks to Him; for my salvation lies not in my actions but in God (cf. Ps. 42:5). Who will be vindicated by actions done according to the law (cf. Gal 2:16)? No living person will be vindicated before God (cf. Ps. 143:2). Yet by virtue of my faith in God I hope that in His ineffable mercy He will give me salvation. Get behind me, Satan (cf. Matt. 16:23). I worship the Lord my God (cf. Matt. 4:10) and serve Him from my youth; for He is able to save me simply through His mercy. Go away from me. The God who created me in His image and likeness will reduce you to impotence." + *St. Symeon the New Theologian*

**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. Boris 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 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. I'm already looking forward to his visit and blessing. \*\*\* Dear Mom & Dad, after liturgy and before we do the thanks Giving prayers. I would like to Talk to all the Kids in the presence of all regarding fasting (for Kids) \*\*\*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.**