

EPISTLE Romans 5:1-11

BRETHREN, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man -- though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. Not only so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received our reconciliation.

TODAY'S READER: JEANNE KITSOULIS

GOSPEL Matthew 6:22-33

The Lord said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is not sound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows you need them all. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."



PRAYER BEFORE VACATION OR A JOURNEY

Lord Jesus Christ my God, be my Companion, guide and protector during my journey. Keep me from all danger, misfortune and temptation. By Your divine power grant me a peaceful and successful journey and safe arrival. In You I place my hope and trust and You I praise, honor and glorify, together with Your Father and Holy Spirit now and forever and ever. Amen. Lord Jesus, You traveled with the two disciples after the resurrection and set their hearts on fire with Your grace. Travel also with me and gladden my heart with Your presence. I know, Lord, that I am a pilgrim on this earth, seeking the citizenship which is in heaven. During my journey surround me with Your holy angels and keep me safe from seen and unseen dangers. Grant that I may carry out my plans and fulfill my expectations according to Your will. Help me to see the beauty of creation and to comprehend the wonder of Your truth in all things. For You are the way, the truth and the life, and to You I give thanks, praise and glory forever. Amen



WHY DO WE WORRY?

Jesus in today's Gospel brings across a pointed lesson: worrying about the things of this life is useless. *Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you!* Why therefore do we worry and become anxious? **We worry because deep down we do not trust that God will take care of us** as Jesus promised. Why do we not trust? We do not trust God, in a literal and concrete sense, **because He is not real to us.** He is an "idea", a far off entity to whom we pay proper respect, but who we never imagine is viscerally engaged in our life and living. And why is God not "real" to us? Because we are weak in talking to Him in prayer and above all else, weak in listening to Him talk to us. Our prayer life may be catch as catch can—quick and then on to other important things. We perhaps do not read His word in Sacred Scripture *everyday*. Our attendance at Divine Liturgy may be sporadic, or if we do attend regularly, we may not have the proper disposition or may use the time to visit our neighbors. If God remains a virtual stranger to us, deep down, in our heart of hearts, we will find it hard to trust that He will see us through life's problems and struggles. Thus, **we worry — because we believe that somehow it is all up to us.** How do we grow to trust that His promise is true for us? We become determined to pray more and with greater fervor,, to read His word everyday, to keep the fast, to attend Divine Liturgy every week, to develop the ability to be quiet in His presence and listen for His voice. **In short, we**

come to know the Living God in an intimate way, as lovers do. By knowing God in this way, He becomes REAL for us. — not simply a concept. In becoming real for us, we learn to trust Him and trust the fact that, even if things don't always go our way, He will take care of us. This is how we eliminate most of the worry in our lives. **Remember the sequence: do the works of ascetic struggle, God becomes more real to us, we learn to trust in His promise to take care of us, and we eliminate more and more worry from our lives.** **"Seek ye FIRST the Kingdom of God and His righteousness — and all these things will be added unto you!"** How seriously do you want to get rid of worry and anxiety in YOUR life?

CHALLENGE LITURGY

The monthly Challenge Liturgy and Fellowship will be this coming Saturday, June 19, at 9:30 a.m. Please join our intellectually and physically challenged brothers and sisters for worship and fellowship.

40 DAY BLESSING

A 40 Day Blessing will be given today to Theodore Demetrius, son of Demetrius and Adrienne Elefantis. May God grant him many years!

MEMORIALS

A Memorial Service will be offered today for **Catherine Duble (40 Days)**, requested by her daughters, Michelle Duble and Valli Ruiz, and her grandchildren and for **Steven Dennis Jobe (40 Days)**, requested by his wife Mary Ann, and his children Christina and Michael. May their memories be eternal!

PRAYER LIST: Antonia "Nitsa" Kempf, Connie Kanaris, Diana Lazar, George Markomanolakis, Argie Palaos, Katherine Panagakos, Priscilla Preuss, George Virvan, Sylvia Basdekas, George Speris, Mariah Smiley, Doris Webb, the child Camille Feruzzi who is gravely ill, the child Heather Greene, Irene Pappas, Marty Levine, Lindsey Reijsoo, the child Ashley Lyvers, the child Alexis Ross, Joseph Papadakis, Marilyn Kauffman, the child Joseph Saxon, Francine Bruggeman, Estrella Grandea Ocampo, Stephanie Skanderis, Georgia Haldas, Eric Ricasa, Theodosia Karmiris, and Robert Shriver. **US ARMED FORCES:** (Col.) Fr. Alexander Webster, Rev. Fr. John Kalantzis, Lt. Nicholas Karnaze, Spc. Spiro Nino, John Xanthakos, Colonel James Karas, and Gary Hogman (Iraq) and his wife Cindy, and 2nd Lt. Phillip Natsios

PASTORAL VISITATIONS

Please inform the Church Office 301-469-7990 (ext 300) of any loved ones who are hospitalized or “shut-ins,” so they may be visited and receive the grace of Holy Communion.

SPECIAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING

There will be a Special Parish Assembly Meeting this Wednesday, June 16, at 7:00 p.m. in the Founders’ Hall. At this meeting a vote will be taken on the Special Needs Housing Proposal that was discussed at last week’s Spring General Assembly.

GOYA ACTIVITIES

GOYA elections (**TODAY AFTER DIVINE LITURGY**)- Any current GOYAns who are interested in being on the GOYA board for the year 2010-2011 should come to church on June 13th. Elections will be held immediately after divine liturgy. Location in church will be announced soon. GOYA Father’s Day Honors (June 20th)- Sunday June 20th GOYA will honor the fathers of our parish with readings by GOY-Ans and more. Bring your dad to church to make him feel special this Father’s Day!

SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Camp Good Shepherd, which is the summer camp of the Metropolis of New Jersey and located in Branchville, NJ, will be holding two sessions for GOYA aged persons (12-18) and one session for JOY aged children (7-11). The first GOYA session is from July 11-17 and the second session is from July 18-24. The JOY session is from July 25-31. For further information and for registration forms, please visit the Metropolis of New Jersey website: www.nj.goarch.org, or contact Fr. George: frgeorge@stgeorge.org.

Ionian Village, the official summer camp of our Archdiocese, will be holding two summer sessions for GOYA aged youths. Session 1 will be held from July 1-20 and session 2 from July 25 through August 15. For further information and registration forms, please visit the website www.ionianvillage.org, or contact Fr. George: frgeorge@stgeorge.org.

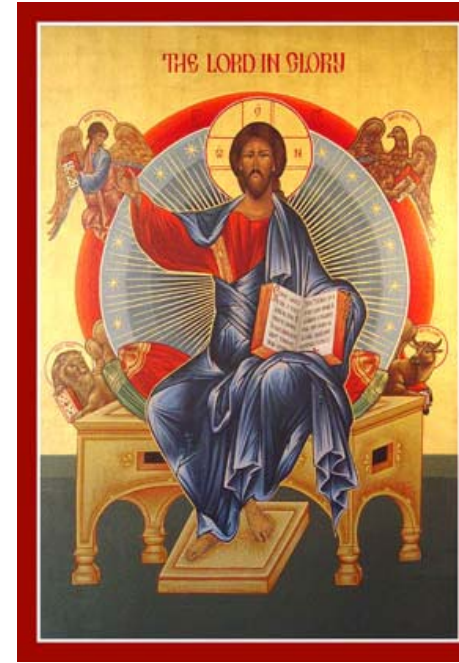
Orthodox Youth Day will be held at Paramount’s Kings Dominion on Thursday, June 24th. All GOYA groups from the Greek Orthodox parishes in DC, Maryland, and Virginia will be participating. What a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and fun. If you are interested in attending, please contact Fr. George ASAP at frgeorge@stgeorge.org

A REMINDER

When you make your stewardship offerings by check, PLEASE REMEMBER TO WRITE ON THE MEMO LINE “2010 STEWARDSHIP.” Checks are coming in without ANY identification or with “Donation” written on them. Please assist our financial staff by indicating that your offering is TOWARDS STEWARDSHIP — otherwise the offerings will be placed in the general fund rather than under your stewardship pledge. Many thanks!

ST. GEORGE BULLETIN

**THIRD SUNDAY OF
ST. MATTHEW
JUNE 13, 2010**



While worrying seems to be a natural human trait, Jesus in today’s Gospel tells us that it will not help our spiritual development at all. There is one thing that should be our primary concern: *“Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all things shall be given unto you as well.”* Simply put, amidst all the worries of our daily life, **GOD MUST COME FIRST**. Seeking His Kingdom must be our chief work. That means tending our spiritual life EVERYDAY—through prayer, fasting, and spiritual study. It means reaching out to others in love through concrete and specific ways. *Honestly — is GOD the first priority in your life?* Are you as concerned about your soul as much as you are about everything else? Serious questions for serious times!

Resurrectional Apolytikion

When You descended unto death, O Lord who yourself are immortal Life, then did You mortify Hades by the lightning flash of Your Divinity. Also when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the Powers of the heavens were crying out: O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory be to You.

Resurrectional Kontakion

You rose from the tomb, O Savior all-powerful, * and Hades beheld the marvel and was struck with fear, * and the dead were rising up, and creation beholds and rejoices with You, * and Adam is also exultant; O my Savior, and the world ever sings Your praise.

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