

SUNDAY BULLETIN

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7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Holy Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils

(July 26th, 2020)



BLESSED FEAST!

GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR BELOVED!!!

Liturgical Readings:

THE PROKEIMENON IN TONE VI: *O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance!*

Verse: *O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance!*

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THE PROKEIMENON IN TONE VI: *Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name forever!*

ROMANS 15:1-7

If our faith is strong, we should be patient with the Lord's followers whose faith is weak. We should try to please them instead of ourselves. We should think of their good and try to help them by doing what pleases them. Even Christ did not try to please himself. But as the Scriptures say, "The people who insulted you also insulted me." And the Scriptures were written to teach and encourage us by giving us hope. God is the one who makes us patient and cheerful. I pray that he will help you live at peace with each other, as you follow Christ. Then all of you together will praise God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Honor God by accepting each other, as Christ has accepted you.

HEBREWS 13:7-16

Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation. Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever. Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines: for it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited those who have been occupied therein. We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle. For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp. Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach. For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come. By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

MATTHEW 9:27-35

At that time, as Jesus passed by, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread his fame through all that district. As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons. And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

JOHN 17, 1-13

These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come: glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: as thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me. I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but ye are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the Scripture might be fulfilled. And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION - TONE VI:

The angelic powers were at Your tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Your grave, seeking Your most pure body. You took captive hell, not being tempted by it. You came to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord, Who rose from the dead, glory to You.

TROPARION TO THE FATHERS - TONE VIII:

You are most glorious, O Christ our God! You have established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth. Through them You have guided us to the true Faith. O greatly compassionate One, glory to You!

RESURRECTIONAL KONTAKION - TONE VI:

When Christ God the Giver of Life, raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand, He bestowed resurrection on the human race. He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all!

Glory... KONTAKION TO THE FATHERS - TONE VIII:

In asceticism you were revealed to be an earthly Angel, continually enlightening the thoughts of the faithful with divine signs. Therefore we honor you with faith, venerable Sisoes.

Now and ever... HYMN TO THE MOTHER OF GOD - TONE SIX:

Steadfast Protectress of Christians and constant advocate before the Creator, do not despise the cry of us sinners; but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith. Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you!

Homily by Fr Rodney Torbic

These words spake Jesus, and lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: As thou hast given Him power over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given Him. And this is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. I have glorified Thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify thou Me with thine own self with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was. I have manifested Thy name unto the men which thou gavest Me out of the world: Thine they were, and Thou gavest them Me; and they have kept thy word. Now they have known that all things whatsoever Thou hast given Me are of Thee. For I have given unto them the words which Thou gavest Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from Thee, and they have believed that Thou didst send Me. I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which Thou hast given Me; for they are Thine. And all Mine are Thine, and Thine are Mine; and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to Thee. Holy Father, keep through Thine own name those whom Thou hast given Me, that they may be one, as We are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Thy name: those that Thou gavest Me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled. And now come I to Thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have My joy fulfilled in themselves. (KJV)

We gather in God's Holy Church today for the benefit of our souls. We come seeking the Kingdom of God and to be nourished by the Lord Jesus Christ. The Holy Gospel fills our hearts, minds and souls.

The blind men healed by the Lord in today's Gospel were greatly appreciative. Jesus told them to keep the healing to themselves. The men's joy and appreciation were so great, they felt compelled to tell others about Jesus.

Many believers through the centuries unto today have been healed by Jesus Christ. Believers healed by Christ do well to tell others of Jesus' healing power. When Jesus' healing power is told, others will benefit and turn to Christ in faith.

Jesus recognized and responded to the blind men's faith. Attentive listeners to today's Gospel learn of the value of strong faith and the direct connection with the healing of blindness.

Many of us today are spiritually blind. Strong faith in Jesus Christ will open our eyes and clear our vision to see the presence of God in daily life. The hunger of our souls will be addressed by our faith in the healing power of Jesus Christ.

The devil may inhibit some of us from being able to speak in ways pleasing to the Lord. Today's Gospel tells of Jesus enabling a possessed man to be freed from the devil and able to speak. The multitudes present marveled at Jesus.

When we are at a loss for words and when the devil has a hold on us, let us turn to the Lord God for healing. When our vision of life is dark and cloudy and we feel spiritually blind, let us look to Christ for healing and clear vision.

We know of Christ's complete love for us by His death on the Cross and His glorious Resurrection. We know of the indomitable joy emanating from the Resurrection. No darkness, no blindness can subdue the joy of the Resurrection.

No virus or political gloominess can darken the Light of Christ. The Psalmist reminds us: "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." (Ps. 117.118:24)

Believers desire eternal life. God's Holy Church is where to learn about the paths to follow. The Church is where to learn from the wisdom of God and the miracles and teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ

The Church preserves the guiding words in Jeremiah: "Thus saith the Lord, 'Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. (Jer. 6:16)

Never become weary of life in Christ. Never consider the trials and tribulations of life to be too great. The good, merciful and loving God is ever-present to guide the believer through periods of pain, tumult and darkness.

The first Great and Holy Friday was filled with great darkness. (Mt. 27:45, Mk.15:33) That darkness of that first Great and Holy is still remembered to this very day after the passing of twenty centuries.

The darkness and gloom of the first Great and Holy Friday while remembered, has not dominated the minds of believers. The dominate thought of serious believers prevailing through the centuries is Christ's Resurrection.

Serious believers are ever mindful and embrace the words: "Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him."(Mk.16:6 KJV)

During the difficult times of life when spiritual blindness arises and events occur that inhibit description, savor and rejoice in the all-healing and heart-filing message of Jesus Christ's Resurrection.

DONATIONS RECEIVED ON JULY 19TH

Thank you for your continuing financial support! Please, remember that without our fund raisers and fish fries that we cannot hold at this time, your contributions are more important than ever.

Offering \$532.00; Candles \$17.00

BELL TOWER FUND - \$18,794.60

\$100 in memory of Michael & Evelyn Raich from Michael & Mary Raich; \$50 in memory of Judy Raich from Michael & Mary Raich; \$50 in memory of Judy Raich from Tom & Ann Luy; \$250 in memory of Michael & Evelyn Raich from Tom & Ann Luy, Ev & Steve King and Mike & Mary Raich

Large Candle Donations

In memory of Joseph Kondash Jr(Brother) from Rick Kondash

In memory of Damjena & Lazo Gjurich from Dianne Tomak & Family

In memory of Bosa & Lazo Gjurich from Dianne Tomak & Family

In memory of Charles Bulich, Christina Bulich, Mary Dadey, & Louis Daley from Olga Bulich

In memory of parents Nikola Davich, Sara Davich & brother Nickola from Carol McAllister & Family

WE ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR THE LARGE CANDLES (\$25)

THANK YOU!

UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY at 7:45 PM – Evening Prayer through the Conference call (339) 207-6529

TODAY (July 26th)

7:00 PM - “Orthodoxy Live” on FB Page Diocese of Eastern America of the SOC

Director of Christian Education, Pdn. Dr. Jovan Anicic

The lecture “Orthodox Parenting: Integrating Orthodox Ethos in our Children’s Upbringing”

SATURDAY (August 1st)

6:00 PM – Great Vespers

SUNDAY (August 2nd) – 8th Sunday after Pentecost – Holy Glorious Prophet Elijah

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

Liturgical Readings: Epistle (1. Cor 1, 10-18 & Jac 5, 10-20); Gospel (Matthew 14, 14-22 & Lk. 4, 22-30)

Dear ones,

Please, keep in your hearted prayers our beloved brothers and sisters in Christ

- who suffer of cancer: Jenifer, Linda, Sandy (Simko)
- who pray the God for the restoration of health: Irine (Martinovich), Grace (Vuckovich), Ranka (Banda), Edward (Gartell), George (Momcilovic), Nektarios