

The Eucharist as a Continuous Sacrifice

The King James Version of Hebrews 10:12 and 10:14 reads as follows:

But He, when He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God.

For by one offering He had perfected forever them that are sanctified.

The Greek word here translated in the KJV as well as other English versions of the Bible as “forever” is the word “διηνεκες», which denotes something to be “continuous” or “perpetual”. In fact, never does the word διηνεκες mean “forever”. Hence, the passages above are mistranslated in English versions of the New Testament, including Roman Catholic translations.

Protestant translators mistranslate this text to fit their soteriology. They believe that the one sacrifice of Christ on the Cross is sufficient without need of partaking of the Eucharist, which many believe to be a mere remembrance of the crucifixion without any real transformation taking place. However, Orthodox Christians believe what Holy Scripture truly teaches, that the sacrifice offered once on the Cross by the Lamb of God is *continuously* repeated on the sacrificial altars of Orthodox churches through the mysterious transformation of the bread and wine into the very Body and Blood of Christ, through the invocation of the Holy Spirit by the priest sacrificing. That Christ Himself affirms that this sacrifice ought to be done continuously, we read in John 6:53: “Truly, truly I say unto you, except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink His blood, ye have no life in you.” In the Greek this sentence implies a continuous action. This illuminates Hebrews 10:14 as well, which should say: “For by one offering He hath perfected them continuously that are sanctified.” In other words, the sanctification due to the sacrifice on the Cross is *continued* by the repeated sacrifice that takes place through the sacrament of the Eucharist.

From Mystagogy online blog

To Our Visitors:

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. Just a reminder, however: the Sacrament of Holy Communion is a manifestation of the *unity of the Body of Christ*. As such, only those who are members in spiritual good standing of the Orthodox Church – and who have prepared themselves for the Sacrament – may partake of the Holy Chalice. However, *everyone* is welcome to come up with our people at the end of the service to receive blessed bread.

Please be sure to join us at Coffee Hour following Services.

Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



June 24, 2018

Nativity of the Forerunner John the Baptist

930 Lunalilo Street, Honolulu, HI 96822

(808) 521-7220 www.greekorthodoxhawaii.org

Office: office@greekorthodoxhawaii.org

Father Alexander Leong: fralexanderleong@yahoo.com

June 24, 2018

Nativity of the Forerunner John the Baptist

Commemoration of: St. Elizabeth, Mother of the Forerunner;
Panagiotis the New Martyr

Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

Effrenestho ta urania (Hymn of the Day) Tone 3

Let the heavens rejoice, let all the earth be glad, for the Lord has shown His might with His arm, the Lord has shown His might with His arm. He has trampled death down by death becoming first to be born of the dead, from the depths of Hades He has delivered us, and He granted to the world His great mercy. (Translation as sung by the Choir)

Profita ke Prothrome (Forerunner) Tone 4

*O Prophet and Forerunner of the appearance of Christ, * with longing we honor you, although we have not the means * of extolling you worthily. * Your birth, which was exalted * and most glorious, ended * the barrenness of your mother and the muteness of your father; * and unto the world it announced * the Incarnation of God the Word.* (Translation from AgesInitiatives.com)

Tu Stavru su ton tipon (Hymn of the Church) Tone 8

Having seen in the sky the form of Your Cross and, like Paul, having received his calling not from men, Your apostle among Kings, Lord, placed his reigning city in Your hand, which forever you guard in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, for You alone are the lover of mankind. (Translation as sung by the Choir)

Kontakion Tone 2

Prostasia ton Hristianon

O protection of Christians that can not be put to shame, mediation to the Creator immovable. Do not over look, the pleading voices of those in sin, but be in time as a kind one to our help, who in faith cry out to You: Hasten to intercede and be quick to beseech. You who always protect, Theotokos, those who honor You. (Translation as sung by the Choir)

Epistle Reading Romans 13:11-14; 14:1-4

BRETHREN, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for God is able to make him stand.

Gospel Reading Luke 1:1-25, 57-68, 76-80

Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things which have been accomplished among us, just as they were delivered to us by those who from the beginning were eye-witnesses and ministers of the word, it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may know the truth concerning the things of which you have been informed. In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah; and he had a wife of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. But they had

no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years. Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, according to the custom of the priesthood, it fell to him by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense. And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. And Zacharias was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth; for he will be great before the Lord, and he shall drink no wine nor strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. And he will turn many of the sons of Israel to the Lord their God, and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared." And Zacharias said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God; and I was sent to speak to you, and to bring you this good news. And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things come to pass, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time." And the people were waiting for Zacharias, and they wondered at his delay in the temple. And when he came out, he could not speak to them, and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple; and he made signs to them and remained dumb. And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home. After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she hid herself, saying, "Thus the Lord has done to me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among men." Now the time came for Elizabeth to be delivered, and she gave birth to a son. And her neighbors and kinsfolk heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. And on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; and they would have named him Zacharias after his father, but his mother said, "Not so; he shall be called John." And they said to her, "None of your kindred is called by this name." And they made signs to his father, inquiring what he would have him called. And he asked for a writing tablet, and wrote, "His name is John." And they all marveled. And immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God. And fear came on all their neighbors. And all these things were talked about through all the hill country of Judea; and all who heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, "What then will this child be?" For the hand of the Lord was with him. And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying, "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people. And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways." And the child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness till the day of his manifestation to Israel.

Announcements

Today

✦ SUN, 6/24– *Nativity of the Forerunner John the Baptist; Malick Family Memorial*

This Week

✦ FRI, 6/29– *Holy Apostles: Orthros 8:30 a.m., Liturgy 9:30 a.m.; Family Movie Night– Food 6:30 p.m., Movie 7 p.m.*

✦ SUN, 7/1– *5th Sunday of Matthew; Slideshow on Mount Athos 11:45 a.m.*

Pearls of Wisdom from the Holy Fathers

“The goodness of God is so rich in graces, that it seeks a cause to have mercy on a person. Every minute God forgives us, and we should thus forgive one another. This is the greatest virtue, if you say, ‘May God forgive my brother for whatever he did to me.’”

~ St. Anthimos of Chios